



# CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## BULLETIN OF OCTOBER 2, 2011

### Welcome Visitors

We warmly welcome all those who are visiting us today. It is good to have you all with us!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Parish Visitation to Carey Road Property – Sunday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>

We will have our second official visit of the parish to the 15.2 acre property at 10315 Carey Rd., Berlin, MD, which is being considered as our future parish center. Everyone is asked to come for this visit! Question, please see Fr. John.

### Special Parish Meeting – Sunday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>

On Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Special Parish Meeting to consider the purchase of the property listed above. Everyone is encouraged to attend but only those who have completed membership forms will be permitted to vote. Need a form or have questions, please see Fr. John.



### Annual Diocesan Assembly/Day – October 15<sup>th</sup>

is to be held with on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, at St. Luke's Orthodox Church in McClean, VA. A lay delegate is needed to accompany the priest. If you have any interest, please let Fr. John know as soon as possible. Thank you!

### Did You Know?

The Sunday bulletin and the monthly calendar are available on our website: [orthodoxdelmarva.org](http://orthodoxdelmarva.org). If you miss a Sunday and don't have the internet but would still like a copy of the bulletin please let Fr. John know and he will mail it to you. Extra copies of recent bulletins are also available for pickup in the back of the church, just ask one of the ushers.



### 2012 Calendars & Pocket Planners

can be ordered via the order sheet in the back of the church. The calendars are \$5.00 a piece and the pocket planners \$4.00. The order sheet will be in the back of the church for the next month or so.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Financial Summary

will be in next Sunday's bulletin. Sorry for the delay, and thank you for your patience!

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup>

#### 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

8:40a.m. Hours  
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
 Coffee Hour  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Official Parish  
 Visit to Carey Road

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup>

5:00p.m. Bible Study  
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>

#### 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

#### St. Tikhon, Apostle to America

8:40a.m. Hours  
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
 Coffee Hour  
 Special Parish Meeting

### READER SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>

Kathy Parrish

#### Sunday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>

Bruce Eckerd



**Prayer List:** Fr. Michael Mihalick, Fr. Alexander Atty, Fr. Christian, Mat. Dunia, Mat. Lisa, Kelly Elizabeth & child, Bill Parrish, Fa-zealle, Hayley, Tyler Pelesh, Jerrie Rife, Wallace & Michelle, Ryan & Kayla, Maleah Morsey, Victoria Kokkinos, Ed Tucker, Karen Nichols, Denise Royal, Simeon, Scott & Maryann, Roman Szwec, Garrett Cuppels, Jane Koshutko, Nicholas & Linda, Nina Gordon, Mirela & Chris, Troy Duker, Mary Miranda, Bruce Eckerd, Stella, Lilly Barnett, Amy F., Nedelina, Henrietta Stack.

OPERATING THRU 9/30/11			SEPTEMBER OPERATING			BUILDING FUND		
Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expenses	Net	Income	Goal	Difference
38,468	47,378	-8,910	4,605	4,788	-183	16,170	20,000	-3,830

## SAINT INNOCENT OF ALASKA (†1879)

Commemorated October 6<sup>th</sup>

Saint Innocent first arrived in America in 1821. Fr. John Veniaminov, as he was then known, had made the grueling 2200-mile journey from his home deep in Siberia together with his mother, his wife Elizabeth, their infant son Innocent, and his brother Stephan. There on desolate and wind-swept Unalaska Island, over a period of ten years the Veniaminovs were bitterly tried and ultimately found equal to all the challenges and privations which nature and a truly "frontier" life could throw against them.

A man of prodigious physical and mental strength, massively built and a natural jack-of-all-trades (carpenter, joiner, stone mason, clock-maker, naturalist, meteorologist, navigator and much more), Fr. John Veniaminov built or supervised the building virtually from nothing of everything his family and his village would need, including housing and a school—but first of all, a church. Dedicated to the deep and thorough Christianization of the souls entrusted to his care, he quickly mastered the difficult Aleut language, taught his people to read, and in time provided them a rich legacy of Christian literature in their own tongue. He translated the Gospel and catechism for them and went on to write the first original composition in their language, his remarkable Indication of the Pathway into the Kingdom of Heaven. In the course of his work he made ethnological and other scientific observations which still underlie much of the scholarly studies of the region. Furthermore, in yearly travels in frail native kayaks over long stretches of frigid ocean waters he placed his safety and comfort below his concern for the most isolated members of his flock, and even those who technically were not yet numbered among his flock. Above and beyond the call of duty, so to speak, he planted the precious seed of faith throughout the island district of Alaska.

In the end these labors took their toll. The contemporary reference to Fr. Veniaminov as a "Paul Bunyan in a cassock" indicates more the strength of his spirit than of his body, for long trips with his legs held immobile in frigid waters crippled them within a few years, and when he felt that he would no longer be able to adequately perform all the functions his ministry in the islands required, he asked with great sorrow to move on to a physically less demanding job in Sitka. There, in the capital city of Russian America he began the more challenging and difficult task of evangelizing the ever-hostile Tlingit Indians while continuing to polish his Aleut writings. Five more years thus passed before Fr. Veniaminov left Alaska in order to personally supervise publication of his works in Russia.

Extensive travel can surely be said to be a mark of "modern man," and St. Innocent certainly did his share. Having sent the rest of his family home to Irkutsk to await his return, he set sail with his youngest daughter on a round-the-world voyage which touched ashore at Honolulu, Tahiti, and Rio de Janeiro en route to St. Petersburg.

In the Russian capital, while awaiting permission to publish his theological works, Fr. Veniaminov received word from Siberia that his wife had died. His shock and grief passed long before his concern for his orphaned children, and it was only after their care and education was guaranteed by the tsar himself that his own future as a missionary could be arranged. He accepted monastic tonsure and was preparing to return to his work in Sitka when a surprise call to an even higher ministry came. On December 15, 1840, he was consecrated "Bishop of Kamchatka, the Aleutian and Kuril Islands," and on September 26, 1841, America met its first Orthodox hierarch.

Even then, at age 45 and in a new, exalted rank, he shunned all comfort and decorum to oversee personally the life of his far-flung diocese. By ship, by kayak, by dogsled, on the backs of reindeer and even bulls, he made his way, village by isolated village, among the people. And, as Russia's territorial holdings

### OCTOBER CONGRATULATIONS!



#### Anniversaries:

10/12 Kraig & Albena Diener

#### Birthdays:

10/2 Bruce John Eckerd  
10/8 Maleah Morsey  
10/10 Gabriella Jenkins  
10/13 Catherine Lupiwok  
10/23 Deborah Royal  
10/25 Sava Cook  
10/28 Alan Royal  
10/29 Nicholas Evanusa

#### Namesdays:

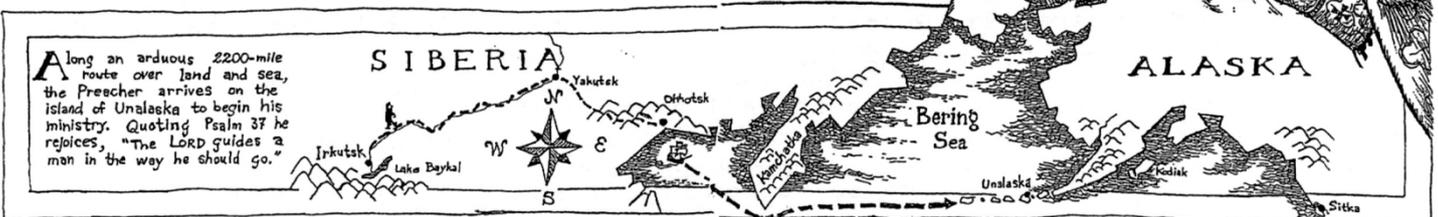
10/1 *St. Romanos the Melodist*  
Rob Barbarita  
10/6 *St. Innocent of Alaska*  
Fr. John Parsells  
10/9 *St. Athanasia*  
Deborah Wilson  
10/23 *St. James*  
Alan Royal

*Corrections? Please see Fr. John!*

along the Pacific seaboard continued to grow, so did the size of Innocent's diocese, bringing under his spiritual care peoples of new languages and customs. He continued to use his financial prowess, and whenever necessary his own hands and talents, to overcome the limitations which nature and government policies placed upon the region in order to further the spiritual and material well-being of his flock. His pace never slackened until he was well into his sixties. Then, only because blindness threatened to make him—he felt—a burden upon his flock, he made plans to retire quietly to a monastery in the capital. This, however, was not the will of God for him, for in 1868 the aged hierarch was appointed to the ancient see of Moscow as successor to his friend, the great Metropolitan Philaret.

The eleven years which St. Innocent spent in Moscow—where such elements of the "modern world" as rail transportation, anesthetic surgery and photography were gaining increasing prominence—were, amazingly, among his most fruitful for America. He supervised and guided the establishment of an independent see in San Francisco and founded the Orthodox Missionary Society, whose chapters throughout Russia provided for the financial needs of his former flock. By the time he died in 1879, St.

Innocent had laid the cornerstone for the Orthodox Church in America, financially (until, 1917) through his Society, and ideologically by his declaration in 1867 that as a mission to bring the Truth of Christ to all the peoples of America it should evolve into an English-speaking body, train English-speaking clergy, translate the service books into the language of the country, and come to grips with the problems and dynamics of the new society.



Along an arduous 2200-mile route over land and sea, the Prescher arrives on the island of Unalaska to begin his ministry. Quoting Psalm 37 he rejoices, "The LORD guides a man in the way he should go."

## ANCIENT FAITH RADIO KICKS OFF COVERAGE OF ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL WITH INTERVIEWS

From OCA.org

Ancient Faith Radio [AFR] has partnered with the Orthodox Church in America to offer the faithful informative podcasts before and during the 16th All-American Council October 31-November 4, 2011. In advance of the Council, AFR will release a weekly series of interviews with OCA leaders. Various topics related to this important gathering will be discussed.

AFR's staff will also be on-site at the Council and produce timely recordings of the Council's proceedings throughout the week.

In the first interview — now posted on the OCA's web site and AFR's web site, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah offers a brief history of the All-American Council, explaining its central purpose and his goals and hopes are for this year's gathering.

Visit:

[http://ancientfaith.com/specials/oca\\_aac16/the\\_road\\_to\\_seattle\\_part\\_1\\_metropolitan\\_jonah](http://ancientfaith.com/specials/oca_aac16/the_road_to_seattle_part_1_metropolitan_jonah).

During the first week of October, His Grace, Bishop Benjamin of San Francisco and the West, will discuss his role as host bishop and the significance of convening the Council in the Northwest.

In later podcasts, Archpriest Eric G. Tosi, OCA Secretary, will provide detailed information about the Council, Archpriest John Pierce will discuss Seattle's relationship to Orthodox Christianity, and Metropolitan Council member Priest John Vitko will outline the Strategic Plan.

For more information on the All-American Council, please visit:

<http://oca.org>



## ON THE PATH INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

*By St. Innocent of Alaska*

Without faith in Jesus Christ no one can return to God and enter the Kingdom of Heaven. No one, even though he believe in Jesus Christ, can regard himself to be His disciple and share His glory in Heaven if he does not act as Jesus Christ did. And no one is able to follow Jesus Christ if he does not receive help from the Holy Spirit.

To receive the Holy Spirit, we must use the means granted us by God.

We should remember that the path into the Kingdom of Heaven that has been opened to us by Jesus Christ is the only one, and there never was and never will be another path that leads to salvation. At times this path may appear difficult, but, again, you should remind yourself that this is the only one that leads toward your objective. At other times the Christian will encounter such consolations and delights on this path as cannot be found in any worldly thing. The Lord Jesus Christ assists us on this path. He gives us the Holy Spirit, He sends His angel to protect us, He provides instructors and leaders, and even He Himself takes us by the hand and leads us to salvation.

If the path into the Kingdom of Heaven seems difficult, then consider how incomparably more dreadful are the eternal torments in fiery Gehenna. If the path toward heavenly bliss seems difficult, compare it with the path toward earthly happiness, and you will see that the path toward earthly happiness is not really easier at all. Just observe how much people toil to amass earthly things, how many disappointments, fights, sleepless nights and deprivations they bear. Or remind yourself of how much effort and expenses it takes to achieve some meaningless and fleeting pleasure! And for what? Instead of the expected happiness, you are left with disappointment and weariness. When you carefully examine the heart of the matter, it becomes evident that people stay away from the Heavenly Kingdom not because the

path to it is more difficult than the other paths of this world, but because it appears that way to them. Besides, the devil, an experienced and crafty deceiver, misleads people into believing that the path to salvation is difficult and the paths to perdition are easy, and he often succeeds in this.

So, my brethren, in order to avoid eternal perdition, let us definitely concern ourselves with our future. We know that beyond the grave there awaits one of the following two outcomes: either

the Heavenly Kingdom or everlasting perdition in hell. There is no middle state, only everlasting bliss or everlasting torment. As there exist only two conditions past the grave, so there exist only two paths in this life. The one that seems wide and easy is taken by the majority. The other that seems narrow and thorny is taken by few. Those who follow the narrow path will be a hundredfold more happy than those who do not.

Brethren, if any of you who walk the wide path should suddenly die, what will happen to you? To whom shall you turn? To the Lord? You refuse to listen to Him now, so you must expect He will refuse to

listen to you then. Now He is your merciful Father; then He will be your righteous judge. Who will defend you against His righteous rage? Ah! How frightful it is to fall into the hands of the living God! Therefore, concern yourselves now with the salvation of your soul while you still have time!

Work for your salvation while it is still daylight, for the night will come in which there will be no chance to change anything. Strive for the Heavenly Kingdom while you can still walk. Walk even a little bit, even if by crawling, but do it in the right direction. Then in eternity you will truly rejoice for every step you have taken!

May the All-merciful Lord help us all in this! Glory and thanksgiving be to Him throughout the ages of ages. Amen.

