

MARTYR PARASCEVA OF ROME

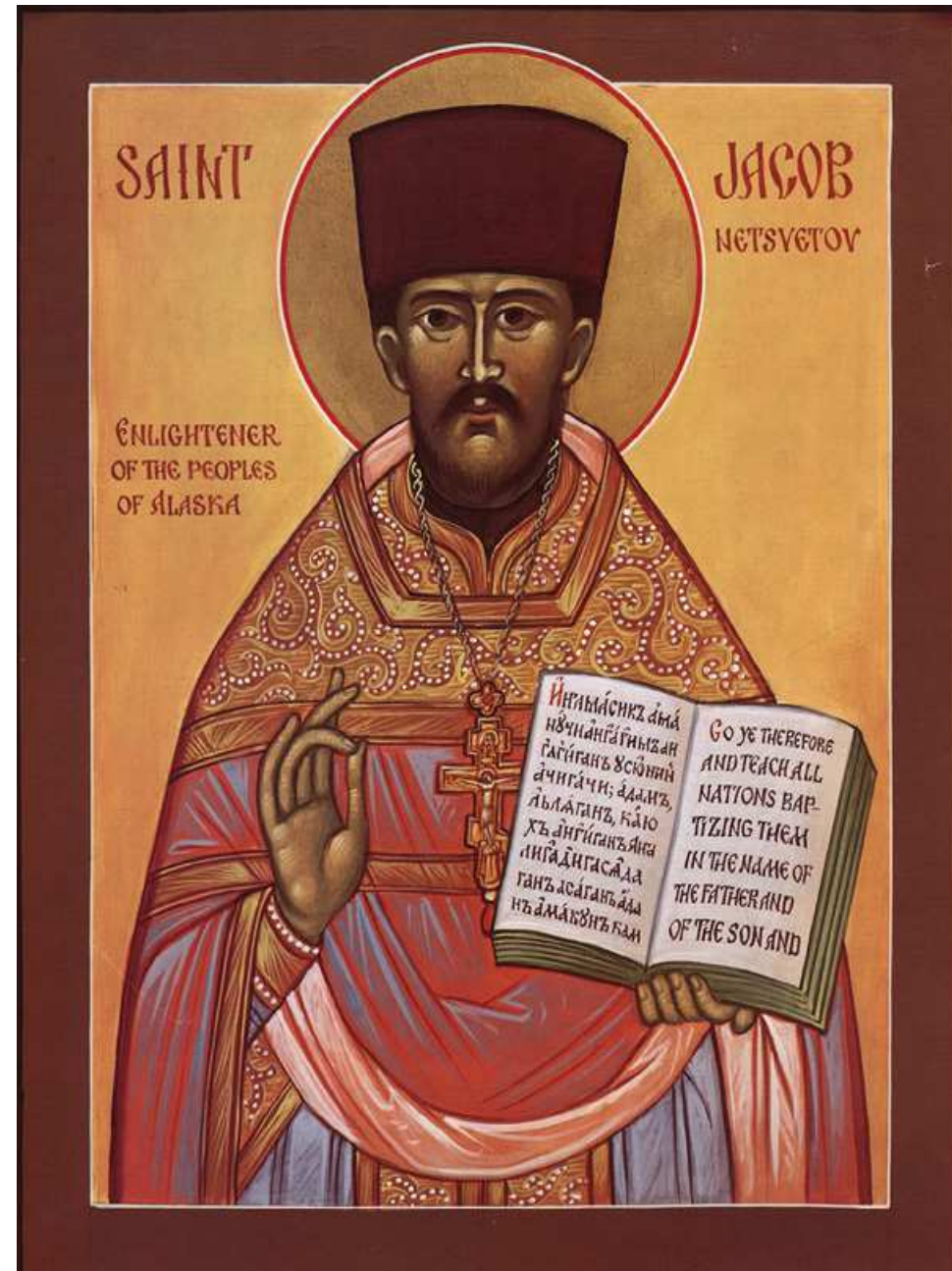
Holy Virgin Martyr Parasceva of Rome was the only daughter of Christian parents, Agathon and Politia, and from her early years she dedicated herself to God. She spent much of her time in prayer and the study of the Holy Scriptures. After the death of her parents, St. Parasceva distributed all of her inheritance to the poor and consecrated her virginity to Christ. Emulating the holy Apostles, she began to preach to the pagans about Christ, converting many to Christianity.

She was arrested during the reign of Antoninus Pius (138-161) because she refused to worship the idols. She was brought to trial and fearlessly confessed herself a Christian. Neither enticements of honors and material possessions nor threats of torture and death shook the firmness of the saint nor turned her from Christ. She was given over to beastly tortures. They put a red-hot helmet on her head and threw her in a cauldron filled with boiling oil and pitch. By the power of God the holy martyr remained unharmed. When the emperor peered into the cauldron, St. Parasceva threw a drop of the hot liquid in his face, and he was burned. The emperor began to ask her for help, and the holy martyr healed him. After this the emperor set her free.

Traveling from one place to another to preach the Gospel, St. Parasceva arrived in a city governed by Asclepius. Here again they tried the saint and sentenced her to death. They took her to an immense serpent living in a cave so that it would devour her. But St. Parasceva made the Sign of the Cross over the snake, and it died. Asclepius and the citizens witnessed this miracle and believed in Christ. St. Parasceva was set free and continued her preaching. In a city where the governor was Tarasius, the saint endured fierce tortures and was beheaded in the year 140.

Many miracles took place at the tomb of St. Parasceva: the blind received sight, the lame walked, and barren women gave birth to children. Not only in the past did the saint perform her miracles, but even today she helps those who call on her in faith.

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HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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THE TRINITARIAN

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V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

RECTORY: 963 John Glenn Drive, Seven Hills, Ohio 44131 Phone 216-524-8989

BULLETIN 39 - VOLUME LVII

TONE 6

JULY 26, 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Rest of St. Jacob Netsvetov, Enlightener of the Peoples of Alaska;
Hieromartyr Hermolaus and Martyrs Hermippus and Hermocrates at Nicomedia;
Martyr Parasceva of Rome;
Ven. Moses the Hungarian, of the Kiev Caves; Ven. Gerontius of St. Anne Skete;
The "EMVOLON" Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, in Constantinople*

"Righteous Father Jacob, adornment of Atka and the Yukon delta, offspring of Russian America, flower of brotherly unity, healer of sickness and terror of demons, you offered yourself as a living sacrifice to bring light to a searching people, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved!"

Troparion, Tone IV

"Wise and praiseworthy martyr of Christ, Parasceva: By accepting courage and rejecting feminine weakness, you conquered the devil! You put your torturer to shame by crying out: Come, rend my body with your sword and burn it with fire, for I go rejoicing to Christ, my bridegroom! By her prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!"

Troparion, Tone V

TODAY'S EPISTLE: ROMANS 15:1-7
PHILIPPIANS 3:7-14

TODAY'S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9:27-35
MARK 10:29-31,42-45

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Today, July 26	9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
	11:00 a.m. 40th Day Memorial Service for Joanne Podojil
Saturday, August 1	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, July 27	I Corinthians 9:13-18	Matthew 16:1-6
(Martyr Panteleimon)	II Timothy 2:1-10	John 15:17-16:2
Tuesday, July 28	I Corinthians 10:5-12	Matthew 16:6-12
Wednesday, July 29	I Corinthians 10:12-22	Matthew 16:20-24
Thursday, July 30	I Corinthians 10:28-11:7	Matthew 16:24-28
Friday, July 31	I Corinthians 11:8-22	Matthew 17:10-18
	Romans 13:1-10	Matthew 12:30-37
Saturday, August 1	I Corinthians 1:18-24	John 19:6-11,13-20,25-28,30-35
(Seven Maccabean Martyrs)	Hebrews 11:33-12:2	Matthew 10:32-36; 11:1

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, IS THE BEGINNING OF THE DORMITION FAST.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 39 - Volume LVII

July 26, 2020

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all parishioners for their continuing support during this pandemic. Even though attendance in church has diminished for health-concern reasons, the mailed-in donations have made it possible to pay the necessary bills and keep the parish functioning. In addition, your donations make it possible to do the needed repairs and projects which summer weather permits.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The Trinitarian covers today are offered in memory of Walter and Anna Karpowicz.

We appreciate those who are donating toward Trinitarian expenses by offering covers. There are many dates still open for donors; call the church office on Monday or Thursday mornings at 216-524-4859.

LA COUPOLE:

Although we are not able to have Sunday Coffee Hour or other social activities, access to our La Coupole store is possible for those who may want to purchase a good book or religious item. There is also a large selection of gift items. Contact Rita Bellack.

KITCHEN UPDATE:

Progress continues on renovations in the kitchen, which we hope to finish by the end of the summer. Your contributions are greatly appreciated! Please note "kitchen" when designating funds for this purpose in your weekly donation envelope.

FLOWERS:

Flowers have been offered by Jerry Petrykowski in memory of Daria.

SPECIAL APPEAL

For many years the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) has been a vital presence on college campuses throughout the country, providing young Orthodox students with support, fellowship and friendship.

We are proud that some of the young people who grew up at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church are now directly involved with the OCF. Andrew Gluntz, who was one of our great young subdeacons, is a standing member of the Student Leadership Board of OCF. His sister, Alexandra, is a Great Lakes rep to the Board.

For many of us, college is something of long-ago memories, but we certainly recall how important those experiences were. We also know that those years are so critical in spiritual development. We may not realize how difficult today's life's challenges are to young Orthodox college students. This is where the OCF can make a real difference. In addition to prayers, we can offer positive support in the form of financial contributions. The OCF is currently seeking donations, which will be matched up to \$25,000 by a generous benefactor. The deadline of it is August 4. Go to the OCF website to make your donation:

PLEASE REMEMBER:

All-OCA Church School is ongoing throughout 2020: High
School—Tuesdays at 3:30;
3-5th Grade — Wednesdays at 3:30;
6-8th Grade — Thursdays at 3:30
No registration is required for Church School.

Inner prayer is the attribute of the angels. It is the unceasing activity of the angelic hosts.

It is the bread, the life, the language of these immaterial beings and their way of expressing their love of God.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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THE SAINTS AMONG US -
SAINT JACOB NETSVETOV

The Sunday we commemorate St. Jacob Netsvetov, who reposed in the Lord on July 26, 1846. He was born in 1802 on Atka, one of the most distant of the Aleutian Islands. His father was a Russian trader and his mother a native Aleut. He had two brothers and a sister, who were educated in Russia and became successful in the Russian Navy and Russian-American Company. Jacob had a spiritual vocation. He studied in Siberia at the Irkutsk Theological Seminary, and after marriage was ordained there. That seminary was then known for cultivating missionaries. The great missionary, St. Innocent, also was a product of that school. He and St. Jacob would have occasions to interact several times throughout their lives. In 1829 St. Jacob returned to Atka as a missionary priest. His “parish” was in fact a number of the small Aleutian Islands, stretching out almost 2,000 miles in length. As he was bilingual, he was able to instruct the native populations effectively. His missionary work was truly outstanding. In the first six months of his work, he recorded that he baptized 16, chrismated 442, married 53. With only 8 funerals, his pastoral work qualifies as incredibly successful! By the end of his life, the number of people who were brought into the fold of Orthodox Christianity by St. Jacob was in the thousands.

It is hard for us to imagine just how difficult pastoral work was for St. Jacob. Travel then lacked any pretense of comfort, the climate was harsh, the natives were imbued with pagan beliefs and superstitions, there were inner conflicts caused by jealousy and ill-will. Here is an extract from the journal that St. Jacob kept:

“It is very difficult, almost impossible, to pray here, during such severe cold. I was able to do the Liturgy in the chapel because stones were heated red-hot outside, and then brought into the corner of the chapel. This made it somewhat bearable to conduct the service.”

His own health often affected him as well.

“Being in a state of illness, I even began to think that the Lord is angry with me, and that the end of my life approaches.”

But on Pascha he was rejoicing.

“This Bright and Shining Resurrection of Christ, I spent in inner satisfaction. The multitude of people, observed by many natives for the first time with many candles, made the celebration very impressive. Seeing them there praying, I experienced great joy within me and in my heart.”

After his wife died, St. Jacob thought of becoming a monastic, but St. Innocent encouraged him to remain active as an evangelical missionary. He continued to travel throughout Alaska, preaching, teaching, and serving. He also translated spiritual texts. Toward the end of his life, he was working with the stubborn Tlingit tribes in the region around Sitka, which is where the Lord called his worthy servant into the heavenly kingdom. St. Jacob is one of our wonderful local Saints, which is where he is found in our church on the rear wall, in the icon of the “Synaxis of the Saints of North America.”

Fr. Alexander Garklaus