



15th Sunday After Pentecost

Resource Overview for Parents

Scripture Readings

Epistle/Apostol:

2 Corinthians 4:6-15
Galatians 2:16-20

Gospel:

Matthew 22:35-46
Mark 8:34-9:1

Apolytikion/Troparion – T6/PI 2

The angelic powers were at Your tomb; the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Your grave, seeking Your most pure body.
You captured Hell, not being tempted by it.
You came to the Virgin, granting life.
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

Kontakion – Tone 6 / Plagal 2

When Christ God the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race.
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

This Week We Learned About

✠ Scripture

- 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 (Sun)
- Galatians 2:16-20 (Cross)
- Matthew 22:35-46 (Sun)
- Mark 8:34-9:1 (Cross)

✠ Liturgical Life

- The cross is our symbol of victory

✠ Feasts & Saints

- St. Juvenaly of Alaska was the first martyr in North America, he died for his belief in Jesus Christ.

✠ Daily Living

- This week we celebrate the Saints of Alaska and the arrival of Orthodox Christianity to this continent in 1794.

Questions for Your Kids

- Why do you think the cross is so important for us as Orthodox Christians?
- How does this show that God loves us?
- What can we do to be like God?

- What do we say when we make the sign of the cross on our body?
- What do our fingers represent when we make the sign of the cross?

- Why do you think St. Juvenaly is important for us today?
- What does it mean to be a martyr for Christ?
- Is there something about his life which really impresses you?

- Why is it special to have saints glorified in North America - as there are in Russia, Greece, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine, and other countries?
- How does it feel to know there are saints praying for us before the throne of God?

Learn and Discover Together

- Let's look at your baptismal cross and think about the meaning behind wearing it.
- How do our personal crosses differ from the cross which Father wears at church?

- If we bow down before the cross, Who are we worshipping? (Hint, it's not the cross....)
- How many places do we see the cross in church? at home? in our daily lives?

- Watch this video of the life of St. Juvenaly: <https://www.oca.org/media/video/juvenaly-and-his-native-guide-orthodox-martyrs-of-alaska>
- Or, read the life of St. Juvenaly here: <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/09/24/102714-martyr-juvenal-of-alaska>

- What can we do to be like the saints who labored here in North America?
- Who do we know that is godly and saintly in our lives?

Learn More...

Study guides for different age groups are available to accompany the "The Greatest Commandment" handout for the 14th Sunday after Pentecost.

Use as many or as few of the questions and discussion topics to help children learn about the feast while discovering how the Orthodox Faith can be a part of their daily life.

Ask open-ended questions which may lead the conversation to reveal their thoughts about God.

As parents, we may not readily have all the answers, but we have the ability to inspire a desire in children to love God, which can benefit them throughout their lives.

In the Week Ahead...

Normal Wednesday/Friday fasting (no meat) continues.

September 21: Leavetaking (Apodosis) of the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross

September 24: Feast of All Saints of Alaska, including St. Herman, first saint of North America, St. Innocent, St. Jacob, St. Juvenaly, and St. Peter the Aleut.



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