

The Orthodox Parish of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross, Lancaster

Meeting at the Chaplaincy Centre of Lancaster University

Newsletter



*Ἐθρονος Χριστός, Ζωοδότης.
(Φ. Κόντογλου, 1962)*

*The Parish of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross,
belongs to the Antiochian Orthodox Deanery of the United Kingdom and Ireland,
which is part of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of Western and Central Europe.*

Our Metropolitan is His Eminence Archbishop John.

The Patriarchate of Antioch is third senior of the Orthodox Churches.

The Patriarch is His Beatitude Ignatius IV.

*The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch
(Acts 11:26)*

FIVE LANGUAGES

Mother Gavrilia (†1992) who was known to many who are still alive, has not been officially glorified by the Church, but is considered by many to be a Saint of our time.

Gavrilia arrived in India with one dress and a Bible (her only reading at that time) and stayed for five years, at first giving free physiotherapy to lepers and the poor at several clinics and ashrams.

The next passage is taken from her biography "Ascetic of Love", which has been translated into English and several other languages.

Once when I was there where I was, some foreign missionary came and said to me, "You may be a good woman, but you're not a good Christian."

I said, "Why?"

"Because you have been here so long and you only go about speaking English. What local languages have you learned?"

I said to him, "I haven't managed to learn any of the local languages, because I travel a great deal from place to place. As soon as I learn one dialect, they start speaking another. I've only learned 'Good morning' and 'Good evening.' Nothing else."

"Bah, you're no Christian. How can you evangelize? All the Catholics and Protestants learn all the local dialects in order to . . ."

Then I said, "Lord, give me an answer for him." I asked it with all my heart, and then I said, "Ah. I forgot to tell you. I know five languages."

"Really? What are these five?"

"The first is the smile; the second is tears. The third is to touch. The fourth is prayer, and the fifth is love. With these five languages I go all around the world."

Then he stopped and said, "Just a minute. Say that again so I can write it down."

With these five languages you can travel the whole earth, and all the world is yours. Love everyone as your own – without concern for religion or race, without concern for anything.



Source: <http://incommunion.org/?p=124>



STEPHEN HATHERLEY

Mission is the spirit of the early Church. What drives men and women to bring the Gospel of Christ to the world? It is the prompting of the Holy Spirit who moves us suddenly and unexpectedly with sufficient grace and power to make real the hope and faith that He has placed in our lives.

Father Stephen Georgeson Hatherley was such a man with a mission. He was an Englishman who converted to Orthodoxy in the late 19th century when it was difficult to do so. Such a move invited scorn and persecution from the prevailing intolerance of the establishment. He was ordained priest in Constantinople in about 1870 and was given the name of Timothy. Having been ordained a priest of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, he gathered around himself a group of English converts, opening a small church in my home town of Wolverhampton (now a City) in the industrial Midlands in 1873. It was one of the first Orthodox Churches (apart from Embassy Chapels) since the time of the Great Schism. His activities so displeased the Anglican authorities of the time however, that following the intervention of no less an authority than the British Foreign Office Father Stephen was forbidden to receive a single further person into Orthodoxy. When I was an Anglican clergyman in the Collegiate Church of St Peter, Wolverhampton I had access to some of these records which proved interesting reading and moving for me (in more than one way). The Orthodox Church in Wolverhampton was on the Waterloo Road near to the Molineux Football Ground of Wolverhampton Wanderers. The Church was closed and Fr. Stephen ended his days ministering to the community of

Greek merchant sailors in Cardiff upon which mission followed the building of the permanent church of St Nicholas of Myra in 1905. On every occasion that I pass the place where the Church was in Wolverhampton I make the sign of the cross and pray for the memory of Fr. Stephen - in his own way a pioneer and even a martyr to the mission of Orthodoxy. I am proud that it was my home town where the return to Orthodoxy began in England and it was God's providence that a fellow convert sowed the seed which was to grow in the heart of another one hundred years later.

The Church is not the building but the people of God, Fr. Stephen's (Timothy's) brief ministry was not without effect.

Fr. Jonathan

LITURGIES THIS MONTH

Sat. 4 th	RC, <u>10am</u>	Holy Liturgy
Sun. 12 th	QR, <u>10am</u>	Palm Sunday, Holy Liturgy
Thu. 16 th	RC, <u>6pm</u>	Great Thursday service
Fri. 17 th	RC, <u>12pm</u> <u>6pm</u>	Decoration of the Epitaph Vespers and the service of the Epitaph
Sat. 18 th	RC, <u>10am</u> <u>11pm</u>	Great Saturday, Holy Liturgy of St. Basil. Holy Light and Liturgy of the Resurrection
Sun. 26 th	QR, <u>10am</u>	Holy Liturgy followed by lunch

ST. INNOCENT OF ALASKA

St Innocent (Veniaminov), Metropolitan of Moscow and Kolomensk (August 26, 1797 - March 31, 1879) was born in the village of Anginsk in the Irkutsk diocese. He conducted great missionary work in Alaska. St. Innocent learned several native languages and was the author of many of the earliest scholarly works about the native people and their languages, as well as dictionaries and religious works in their languages.

The Apostle of America and Siberia proclaimed the Gospel "even to the ends of the earth": in the Aleutian islands (from 1823), in the six dialects of the local tribes on the island of Sitka (from 1834), among the Kolosh (Tlingit); in the remotest settlements of the extensive Kamchatka diocese (from 1853); among the Koryak, Chukchei, Tungus in the Yakutsk region (from 1853) and North America (in 1857); in the Amur and the Usturiisk region (from 1860).

Having spent a large part of his life in journeys, St. Innocent translated a Catechism and the Gospel into the Aleut language. In 1833, he wrote in this language one of the finest works of Orthodox missionary activity "Indication of the way to the Kingdom of Heaven".

In 1859, the Yakut first heard the Word of God and divine services in their native language. Twice (in 1860 and 1861) St Innocent met with St Nicholas the Apostle to Japan (February 3), sharing with him his spiritual experience.

A remarkable preacher, St Innocent said, "Whoever abounds in faith and love, can have mouth and wisdom, and the heart cannot resist their serving it."

Having begun his apostolic work as a parish priest, St Innocent completed it as Metropolitan of Moscow (January 5, 1868 - March 31, 1879). He obeyed the

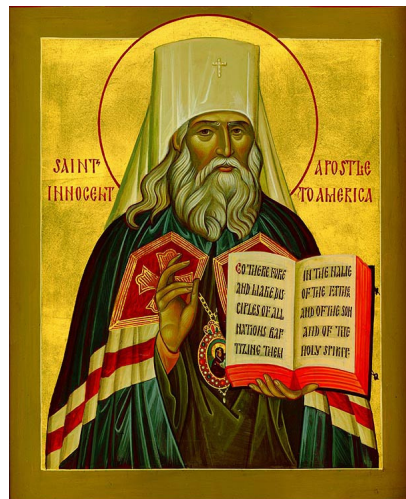
will of God all his life, and he left behind a theme for the sermon to be preached at his funeral: "The steps of a man are rightly ordered by the Lord".

St Innocent was glorified a Saint by the Russian Orthodox Church on October 6, 1977 and he is celebrated on the 31st of March.

Quotes by St. Innocent:

Prayer is the means itself and the most effectual of measures, for without prayer we cannot expect success even under the most perfect of circumstances.

Faith and love which are gifts of the Holy Spirit are such great and powerful means that a person who has them can easily, and with joy and consolation, go the way Jesus Christ went. Besides this, the Holy Spirit gives man the power to resist the delusions of the world so that although he makes use of earthly good, yet he uses them as a temporary visitor, without attaching his heart to them. But a man who has not got the Holy Spirit, despite all his learning and prudence, is always more or less a slave and worshipper of the world.





MAJOR CELEBRATIONS THIS MONTH

1st Apr: St. Maria of Egypt

11th Apr: Lazarus Saturday

12th Apr: Palm Sunday

16th Apr: Great Thursday

17th Apr: Great Friday

18th Apr: Great Saturday

19th Apr: Great and Holy Pascha

23rd Apr: St. George the Great Martyr and
Triumphant

25th Apr: St. Mark the Apostle and
Evangelist

26th Apr: Thomas Sunday

30th Apr: St. James the Apostle and
brother of St. John the Theologian

For the lives of Saints please visit the
Calendar of the Greek Orthodox Archdi-
ocese of America: www.calendar.goarch.org

“God cares for everyone. Despair is in effect a lack of faith”
- St. George Karslides -



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