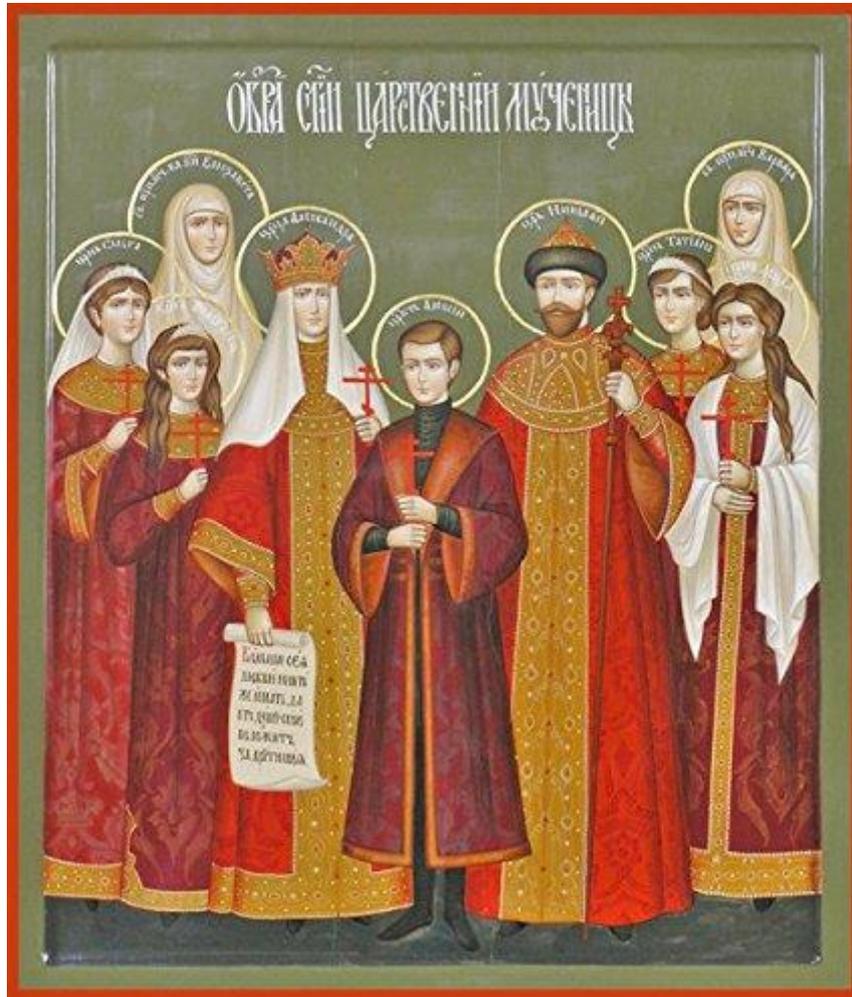




“Joy of All Who Sorrow”

No. 116 July 2018



The Centenary of the Royal Martyrs

After midnight on July 4/17, 1918, the Tsar, his wife and their five children, with their doctor and two faithful servants, were brought to the basement of the house of their confinement under the pretext of moving them. There they were brutally and mercilessly murdered, the children as well as the adults, under the cover of darkness - for "men loved the darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3.19). The Tsar was shot as he stood forward to defend his family. Tsaritsa Alexandra was able to make the sign of the Cross before she, too, fell. The first bullets did not bring death to the youngest ones, and they were savagely clubbed, bayoneted and shot at point-blank range. Those killed were: the Tsar (born 1868), the Tsaritsa (1872), Olga (both 1895), Tatiana (1897), Maria (born 1899), Anastasia (born 1901), Alexis (born 1904), the Tsar's physician Eugene Botkin, the Tsaritsa's chamber-maid Anna Demidova, the cook Kharitonov and the servant Trupp.

The sailor Clement Nagorny, who had looked after the Tsarevich since early childhood, and Sergius Sednev, the servant to the four girls, both of whom had defended the royal family from robbery and insults in Ekaterinburg, were taken away to prison and shot there. Those who were refused permission to stay with the royal family at Ekaterinburg, and who were also shot in prison, were General Elias Tatishchev and Prince Basil Dolgorukov. The maid-of-honour, Countess Anastasia Hendrikova, and the court teacher, Ekaterina Schneider, were taken to Perm and shot there. On August 21, just before Countess Hendrikova was shot, she was asked if she had voluntarily followed the Romanovs to Tobolsk. She stated that she had. When asked if she would return and continue to serve them if she were set free, she said: "Yes! Up to the last day of my life!"

Thus ended the life of the Tsar, as a sacrifice for the Orthodox Faith and for the Russian people, both of which he so fervently loved and believed in. Martyr-Great-Princess Olga Nikolayevna wrote from Tobolsk: "Father asks the following message to be given to all those who have remained faithful to him, and to those on whom they may have an influence, that they should not take revenge for him, since he has forgiven everyone and prays for everyone, that they should not take revenge for themselves, and should remember that the evil which is now in the world will be still stronger, but that it is not evil that will conquer evil, but only love..." And in the belongings of the same holy martyr were found the following verses by S. Bekhteyev:

Now as we stand before the gates of death,
Breathe in the lips of us Thy servants
That more than human, supernatural strength
To meekly pray for those that hurt us.

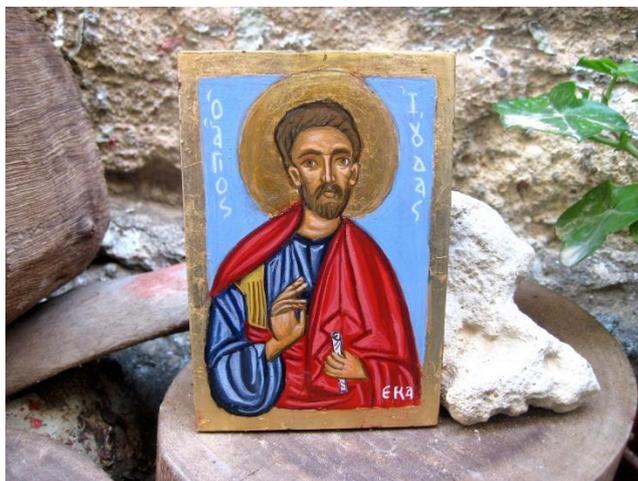
In 1917, Metropolitan Macarius of Moscow, who alone in the Church's hierarchy had refused to accept the Provisional Government because of his oath of allegiance to the Tsar, had the following revelation in a series of dreams: "I saw a field. The Saviour was walking along a path. I went after Him, crying, 'Lord, I am following You!' Finally, we approached an immense arch adorned with stars. At the threshold of the arch the Saviour turned to me and said: 'Follow Me!' And He went into a wondrous garden, and I remained at the threshold and awoke. Soon I fell asleep again and saw myself standing in the same arch, and with the Saviour stood Tsar Nicholas. The Saviour said to the Tsar: 'You see in My hands two cups: one which is bitter for your people and the other sweet for you.' The Tsar fell to his knees and for a long time begged the Lord to allow him to drink the bitter cup together with his people. The Lord did not agree for a long time, but the Tsar begged importunately. Then the Saviour drew out of the bitter cup a large glowing coal and laid it in the palm of the Tsar's hand. The Tsar began to move the coal from hand to hand and at the same time his body began to grow light, until it had become completely bright, like some radiant spirit. At this I again woke up. Falling asleep yet again, I saw an immense field covered with flowers. In the middle of the field stood the Tsar, surrounded by a multitude of people, and with his hands he was distributing manna to them. An invisible voice said at this moment: 'The Tsar has taken the guilt of the Russian people upon himself, and the Russian people is forgiven.'

On 5/18 July 1918, the night after the murder of the Tsar and his family, other royal prisoners, including the Tsarina's sister Elizabeth along with her fellow-nun Barbara, were thrown into a shaft at a disused iron mine. None of them were killed by the fall, but were preserved by God to audibly sing hymns. Even the attempts of the soldiers to finally end their lives using hand grenades were unsuccessful, and the singing continued for some time, despite burning brushwood being thrown down the shaft.

More than 70 events between February and December are planned to commemorate the great crime that took place in Ekaterinburg, reports the official site of the Ekaterinburg city administration, including the organization of the Cross procession in which 100,000 pilgrims from around the world are expected to participate. Municipal cultural institutions have prepared an extensive program of educational and cultural events for the memorial date, including lectures, concerts, exhibitions, excursions, and film screenings.

The local Ekaterinburg Diocese has proposed to deem the entirety of 2018 as the “Royal” or “Imperial” Year. Another major development in honour of the centenary is the development of an All-Russian pilgrimage route that will pass through Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kirov, Perm, and Tobolsk, also bringing travellers to the Church on the Blood in Ekaterinburg, built over the spot of the Ipatiev House, where the family was martyred. His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia intends to visit Ekaterinburg for the celebrations this year. The British royal family, which is blood-related to the Russian royal family, has also been invited to join in the celebrations.

The Holy Apostle Jude



The Holy Apostle Jude also had other names: the Evangelist Matthew terms him ‘Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddeus’. The Holy Evangelist Mark also calls him Thaddeus, and in the Acts of the Holy Apostles he is called Barsabas. This was customary at that time. One of the twelve apostles of Christ, he was the son of Righteous Joseph the Betrothed by his first wife. The Holy Apostle John the Theologian writes in his Gospel, “... neither did his brethren believe in Him” (John. 7:5). Saint Theophylact, Archbishop of Bulgaria, explains this passage. He says that at the beginning of the Lord Jesus Christ’s earthly ministry, Joseph’s sons, Jude among them, did not believe in His divine nature. Tradition says that when Saint Joseph returned from Egypt, he began to divide his possessions among his sons. He wanted to allot a share to Christ the Savior, born miraculously and incorruptibly from the All-Pure Virgin Mary. The brothers were opposed to this because Jesus was born of another mother. Only James, later called “The Brother of God,” offered to share his portion with Him. Jude came to believe in Christ the Saviour as the awaited Messiah, and he followed Him and was chosen as one of the twelve Apostles. Mindful of his sin, the Apostle Jude considered himself unworthy to be called the Lord’s brother, and in his Epistle he calls himself merely the brother of James.

After the Ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ, Saint Jude travelled about preaching the Gospel. He propagated the faith in Christ at first in Judea, Galilee, Samaria and Idumaia, and later in the lands of Arabia, Syria and Mesopotamia. Finally, he went to the city of Edessa. Here he finished the work that was not completed by his predecessor, Saint Thaddeus, Apostle of the Seventy. There is a tradition that Saint Jude went to Persia, where he wrote his Catholic Epistle in Greek. In the Epistle, much profound truth is expressed in a few words. It speaks about the Holy Trinity, the Incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the good and bad angels, and the dread Last Judgment. The Apostle urges believers to guard themselves against fleshly impurity, to be diligent in prayer, faith and love, to convert the lost to the path of salvation, and to guard themselves from the teachings of heretics. He also says that it is not enough just to be converted to Christianity, but faith must be demonstrated by good works. He cites the rebellious angels and men punished by God to support this. The Holy Apostle Jude died as a martyr around the year 80 near Mt. Ararat in Armenia, where he was crucified and pierced by arrows.

Notes & Jottings

SAINT BOTOLPH'S DAY

Saturday 30 June (17 June according to the Julian Calendar) was St Botolph's Day and we made our annual pilgrimage to Iken in honour of one of East Anglia's most glorious saints, who established a monastery at Iken, on the Suffolk coast, in the 7th Century. As is our custom, we served a Moleben and sang the Akathist to St Botolph in the ancient church. A special cake ("*Botolphopitta*") was blessed at the service and shared among the pilgrims at the buffet lunch. Fr Evgeny Selensky (Ipswich) served with us. We were also joined by Fr Alexander Haig (Colchester) and parishioners from both Ipswich and Colchester. The Vicar and churchwardens were welcoming, as always, and organised a beautiful lunch for the pilgrims. Even the weather was kind to us.

OIL TANK

When the Aga was serviced recently, the engineer checked the filters on the oil tank. In doing so, he noticed that the tank was leaking. Although it was not dripping much, the problem would have become more serious had it been left like that. The only responsible approach was to replace the 2,500 litre tank with a new one. The new tank has cost a staggering £1,320, but these things are never cheap.

NAMEDAYS

2 July – **St John the Wonderworker** - William John Stewart

9 July – **St Dionysii of Suzdal** – Didier (Dionysii) Dembri

12 July – **Holy Apostles Peter & Paul** – Archpriest Paul Elliott, Peter Bauer Smith, Peter Jermy

18 July – **New Martyr Saint Elizabeth** – Elizabeth Tattum-Smith

24 July – **St Olga, Princess of Rus** – Olga Ward. Oliga Jermy

30 July – **Great Martyr Marina of Antioch** – Marina Lock, Marina Andrews, Marina Randall.
Marina Jermy

We send our congratulations to everyone who is celebrating a nameday at this time & wish them:

MANY YEARS!



**COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
JOY OF ALL WHO SORROW**

JULY 2018

Sunday 1 July

10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy (Martyr Leontius)

7.30pm ~ Vigil

Monday 2 July

10.10am ~ Hours & Festal Liturgy (St John the Wonderworker)

Saturday 7 July

7.30pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 8 July

10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy (Nun Febronia)

Wednesday 11 July

7.30pm ~ Vigil

Thursday 12 July

10.10am ~ Hours and Festal Liturgy (Apostles Peter & Paul)

Saturday 14 July

7.30pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 15 July

**10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy
(Placing of the Honourable Robe at Blachernae & St Swithun)**

Saturday 21 July

7.30pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 22 July

10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy (Hieromartyr Pancratius)

Saturday 28 July

7.30pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 29 July

**10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy
(Fathers of the First 6 Oecumenical Councils)**



A rose grows out of the thorn. A rainbow usually appears after a thunderstorm. The storm must pass so that the stars become visible in the sky. Anyone who looks at suffering through the prism of eternity has already won.

Elder Ephraim of Arizona

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