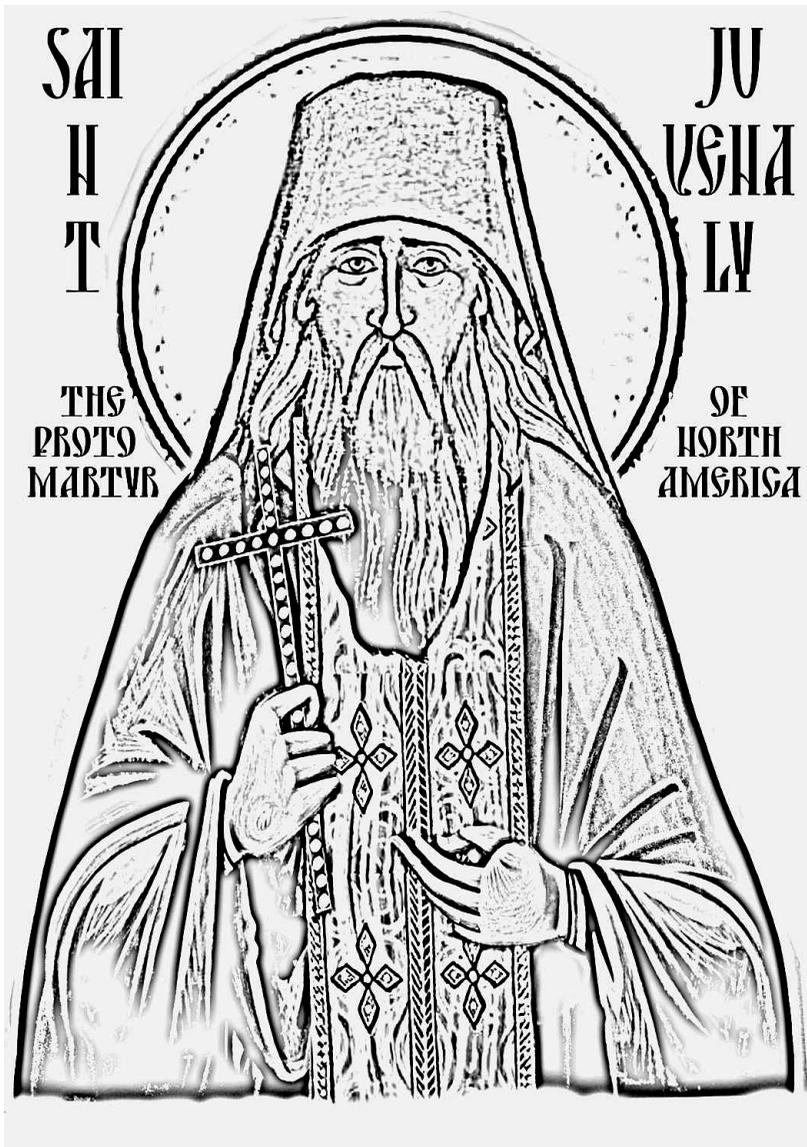


Saint Juvenaly, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2023 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at myocn.net.

# The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Volume 11, Issue 27

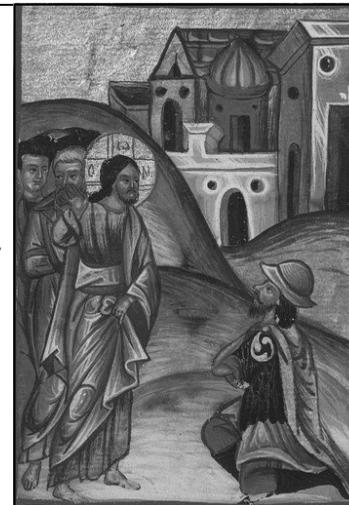
A Ministry of the  
Orthodox Christian Network



## I'm not worthy!

Have you ever met somebody really important? The principal at your school? A friend of your mother or father? Maybe even somebody famous?

In today's Gospel reading, we hear about an important man (an army officer) who asked Jesus for help. His servant was sick, and he needed somebody to help him...and fast! Jesus told the important man, "I will come and heal him." But even though everybody else thought *he* was important, the man answered Jesus, "I am not worthy for you to come under my roof!" Imagine that! This man knew that Jesus was even more important than he was.



Each time when we get ready for Holy Communion, we remember this Gospel story. There is a prayer we read that says, "I am not worthy, O Lord and Master, that You should enter under the roof of my soul; but since You, in Your love for men, wish to dwell in me, I take courage and I draw near."

Did you know that is how we should come to receive Holy Communion? We say, "I'm not worthy" to receive Christ into us, but God loves us so much that He wants to give Himself to us! He wants to help us, just like he wanted to help the man in the story today.

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

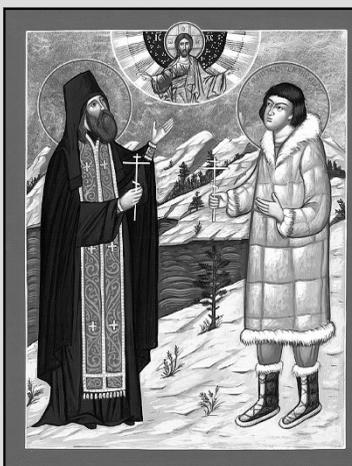
- Alaska
- Centurion
- Communion
- Eskimos
- Humility
- Important
- Juvenaly
- Martyr
- Prepare
- Worthy

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## WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

In this icon, you see Saint Juvenaly (the priest wearing vestments). He came to Alaska to preach.

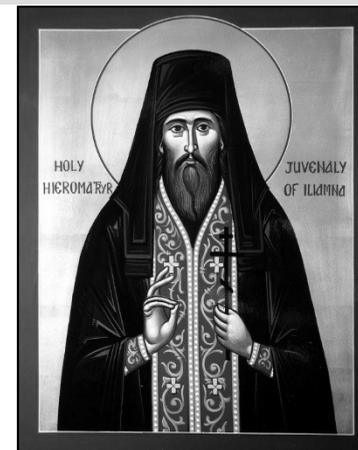
Where do you think the other saint came from? From Alaska! It's Saint Peter the Aleut, who learned about Jesus Christ from the missionaries!



## SAINT JUVENALY

### THE FIRST MARTYR IN AMERICA

**Have you ever noticed that we celebrate** a saint's nameday? Usually, it's the day that the saint died (so you'd think you'd be sad), but we *celebrate*. We're happy! That's because we know the person is with Christ, our Lord. So we know he or she is happy too!



Today we celebrate a saint who lived here in America (in Alaska, but before Alaska was part of the United States). Saint Juvenaly was a priest and monk who came from Russia to teach people about Jesus Christ. He worked very hard...in a very hard place to live. Thousands of native Eskimos came to believe in Christ, and they were baptized. Sometimes, Juvenaly would go to a village, and the native people there would believe in our one, true God right away. Other times, they would not believe. Sometimes they would even get angry at Juvenaly and the other missionaries. They would send him away.

In the year 1796, Juvenaly was killed by some of the native people. Nobody knows for sure what happened, but we do know that Juvenaly was killed because of his faith in God. He is called a martyr.

The hymn for Saint Juvenaly starts like this, "Today Alaska rejoices and America celebrates." That's because we know Saint Juvenaly is celebrating too...life with Jesus Christ forever!

**We celebrate the feastday of Saint Juvenaly today, July 2nd (OC: July 15th).**