

Dear Teachers,

*The Saints of South Canaan* is a mini unit, based on activities designed for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Tikhon Monastery, the oldest Orthodox monastery in the United States. The lessons are designed for 1 to 2 sessions, with activities for 2 more sessions. The additional activities will also enrich and enhance the unit. This unit can also be utilized for Vacation Church School, or special church school activities.



The purpose of this unit is to provide information to students about saints in America who lived in many parts of the United States, as well as their association with St. Tikhon Monastery, located in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The rich, 100 years of history of the monastery, as well as of the building-up of Orthodoxy in America, are highlighted in the lives four of the saints who lived and walked there:

St. Tikhon of Moscow  
St. Raphael of Brooklyn  
St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre  
St. Nicholai (Nikolai) of Zicha

The goal is to equip Orthodox youth with the knowledge of saints in America, as well as the historical significance of the times in which they lived. Further study of Orthodoxy can be made through the following resources, as well as the Focus units of *My Orthodox Family*, and *Monasticism*.

**Resources for this unit were from:**

*Orthodox America, 1794-1975*, John Ericson, Constance Tarasar (1975)  
*Portraits of American Saints*, Fr. George A. Gray (1994)

**This unit is the cooperative efforts of:**

OCA Department of Christian Education  
Department of Christian Education, Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania  
Department of Youth and Young Adult, and Campus Ministries  
Department of History and Archives  
St. Herman of Alaska Church, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
with the Blessings of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman  
Orthodox Church in America  
May 30, 2005

“The Saints of South Canaan”

A presentation in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Tikhon’s Monastery

Text: Myra Kovalak

Taken from: *Orthodox America, 1794-1975*, by John Erickson and Constance Tarasar (1975)  
and *Portraits of American Saints*, by George A. Gray (1994)

Special thanks to: Mr. Alexis Liberovsky, Director, Dept. of History and Archives

Illustrations: Kimberly Metz and Timothy Macura

Puzzles: Kathryn Kessler

Activities: Department of Christian Education, OCA, and  
St. Herman of Alaska Church, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Cover and Lay-out: Fr. Daniel Kovalak

Department of Religious Education, Diocese of Eastern PA

Department of Christian Education

Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries

Department of History and Archives

Orthodox Church in America

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman

May 30, 2005

# Saints of South Canaan

## Grades K-2 Level (40 minutes)

### Theme:

Saints of South Canaan, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Tikhon's Monastery

**Sub-Theme:** We are all called to be Champions of Faith, or saints.

There are saints who walk among us, and we are invited to be part of the procession. If we live the life in Christ which He calls us to do, we too can walk in righteousness. St. **Tikhon's** Monastery is home to four such righteous leaders of Orthodoxy in America: Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholai of Zicha. As we examine their lives, we learn of their contributions to the Orthodox faithful of America, and keep them as examples of Christian faith, love, humility, perseverance, and charity.

**Objectives:** By the end of this session students should be able to:

- Read and reflect upon the lives of the Saints of South Canaan, St. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis and Nicholas of Zicha
- Respond to reading by coloring and mounting line drawing icons of these saints in to a 'movie.'
- Respond to reading by completing word search puzzles containing key words
- Supplement reading by making a monk figurine.

**Materials:** (Have ready ahead of time)

- Large butcher/chart paper, pre-measured **60" in length**
- Crayons
- Markers
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Black Markers
- Empty toilet paper rolls
- Black construction paper
- Black yarn
- **Black felt (4" x 6")**
- **Pink construction paper cut into 1" squares**

**Resources:**

- Leveled Lesson Packet, "The **Saints of South Canaan**"
- **Wall poster photographs of historical scenes and saints St. Tikhon's Monastery**
- Video, *The History of St. Tikhon's Monastery*

(over)

## \*\*Teacher Background Reading:

Tarasar, Erickson, *Orthodox America*, Orthodox Church in America, Dept. of History and Archives, ([www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com))

Gray, *Lives of American Saints*, Dept. of Communications, Diocese of the West, Orthodox Church in America, 650 Micheltorena St. Los Angeles, CA 90026 (ISBN 0-9715363-0-9)

## Procedure:

### 1. Opening Prayer: (Sung/recited together--1 minute)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

### 2. Discussion Starter-Bridge: (5 minutes)

With a piece of butcher paper and black marker to write responses, begin by asking the following: *Who can tell me who a saint is?* (Answers should recall the attributes associated with saints—faith, humility, courage, good works, miracles.) As students answer, interject previously mentioned virtues, explaining their meanings. Ask: *Who can name a saint?* (Allow students time to give examples.) Continue by asking students to recall anything they know about saints they have identified. Ask: *Do you know there are four saints who lived and work here at St. Tikhon's Monastery?* (Allow time for students to react and give their impressions.) Say: *Today we are going to take a look at these Saints of South Canaan and make a movie about them. Let's gather our materials and take a look.*

### 3. Research: (10-15 minutes)

The research and activities can be done in the *Cooperative Learning Style*. Each student will be designated a position/task and will execute them in an organized and "cooperative" manner. The procedures can also be carried out by simply having students look at the lessons, and work on the coloring pages as they paste them to the butcher paper.

- Have supplies ready on foam plates for students to pick up (lesson booklets, markers, pencils, measured butcher paper for "movie" and materials for monk figurine (see above, Materials).
- One student can show lesson pages as they are read by teacher or students.
- One student can be near wall posters to point out pictures of the saints as they are being discussed
- Students can volunteer to read each of the lessons on Saints Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholai, while the students begin coloring the pictures.
- The teacher can review by asking guideline comprehension questions:

#### **St. Tikhon:**

- *Where did St. Tikhon travel to visit and help Orthodox people?* (United States)
- *What country did St. Tikhon come from?* (Russia)
- *Which monastery did St. Tikhon start?* (St. Tikhon's)

**St. Raphael:**

- *In what country was St. Raphael born?* (Lebanon)
- *In which country did St. Raphael study?* (Russia)
- *Why was he sent to America?* (to help Arab Orthodox people)

**St. Alexis:**

- *Where was St. Alexis a priest?* (Wilkes-Barre, PA)
- *What did he do to help people learn about the Orthodox Faith?* (Wrote a book)
- *Who gave him a special award?* (St. Tikhon)

**St. Nicholai:**

- *In what country was St. Nicholai born?* (Serbia)
- *Where did St. Nicholai help start many Orthodox parishes?* (U.S. and Canada)
- *Where did St. Nicholai spend the rest of his life teaching and writing?* (St. Tikhon's Seminary)

## 4. Activities:

### A. Movie: "Saints of South Canaan" (15-20 minutes)

Materials:

- Butcher paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Leveled lesson coloring pictures

Procedure:

1. A pre-measured roll of butcher paper has **6 frames (9" x 12")** drawn with smaller black rectangles drawn around each frame. These resemble celluloid film.
2. Students color their picture lessons of Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholai.
3. **Students label the first movie frame with the title "The Saints of South Canaan"** and their name.
4. When students have finished coloring their saint pictures, they can glue them in the frames of the movie.
5. The last frame could be: **a coloring of one of the St. Tikhon's scenes from their lesson packet**, a drawing of what they have learned, or a picture of one of the wall posters.

### B. Activity: Monk Figurine (10 minutes)

**Note:** Thanks to St. Herman of Alaska Church, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Materials:

- Empty toilet paper rolls
- Black construction paper (enough to cover toilet paper roll)
- Black yarn for belt
- **Black felt for headpiece (4" x 6")**
- **Pink construction paper for face (1" square)**
- Black crayon or markers
- Glue stick

(Over)

Procedure:

1. Glue construction black construction paper around the toilet paper roll
2. Glue back felt near top of roll and decorate face with crayon/marker
3. Fold and glue felt headpiece on top
4. Tie a piece of black yarn around the middle of each roll for a belt.

C. **Activity: Word Puzzles:** (10 minutes)

**Note:** Thanks to Kathryn Kessler, Holy Resurrection Cathedral, Wilkes-Barre, PA

- Some students will finish early and may work on the word search puzzles included in their lesson packet.

D. **Activity: Video:** (if time)

- Students may also view running video "The History of St. Tikhon's Monastery"

**5. Wrap-Up:** (1-2 minutes)

As students are cleaning up and preparing for closing prayer, ask the following:  
*What are some of the things about the Saints of South Canaan we learned today?* (Answers should reflect student understanding of love, courage, perseverance, and humility). *What did you **learn about St. Tikhon's Monastery**?* (Answers should reflect insight into how saints walked these grounds over the last 100 years, and we can all walk the same way) *How can we be "champions of our faith," like the Saints of South Canaan?* (Answers could include: Be kind to others, help others, talk about our church, **follow God's laws, etc.**).

**6. Closing Prayer:** (Sung together--1 minute)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

### Saint Raphael- Bishop of Brooklyn

(February 27)

Color **red** all the blocks that have an odd number (1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19). After all of the odd blocks have been colored, fill in the spaces with the remaining letters, in order, to reveal the message. Good Luck and have fun!

3 G	2 H	5 Y	1 M	8 O	11 A	2 L	7 W	11 H	8 Y
14 F	3 A	4 A	9 M	16 T	13 E	12 H	1 D	6 E	12 R
7 S	8 R	1 E	2 A	6 P	17 C	18 H	20 A	6 E	12 L
19 A	7 Z	5 J	14 P	9 H	5 E	6 R	13 L	4 A	4 Y
5 B	10 T	3 R	7 V	1 X	4 O	9 O	11 A	5 D	13 V
6 C	10 H	1 W	15 P	16 R	9 N	8 I	13 C	2 S	4 T
9 L	3 R	17 Y	19 B	18 O	9 X	4 U	5 A	15 A	10 R
7 Z	3 K	9 J	4 G	1 V	8 O	11 A	3 S	9 U	20 D
6 F	7 P	5 J	7 J	11 S	12 O	3 L	6 R	11 R	5 Z
15 Y	19 H	8 U	17 I	3 O	5 U	4 S	15 F	5 W	9 M

-----

-----

-----

Puzzle by: Kathryn Kessler

### Saint Raphael- Bishop of Brooklyn

(February 27) **Answer Key**

Color **red** all the blocks that have an odd number (1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19). After all of the odd blocks have been colored, fill in the spaces with the remaining letters, in order, to reveal the message. Good Luck and have fun!

<sup>3</sup> G	<sup>2</sup> H	<sup>5</sup> Y	<sup>1</sup> M	<sup>8</sup> O	<sup>11</sup> A	<sup>2</sup> L	<sup>7</sup> W	<sup>11</sup> H	<sup>8</sup> Y
<sup>14</sup> F	<sup>3</sup> A	<sup>4</sup> A	<sup>9</sup> M	<sup>16</sup> T	<sup>13</sup> E	<sup>12</sup> H	<sup>1</sup> D	<sup>6</sup> E	<sup>12</sup> R
<sup>7</sup> S	<sup>8</sup> R	<sup>1</sup> E	<sup>2</sup> A	<sup>6</sup> P	<sup>17</sup> C	<sup>18</sup> H	<sup>20</sup> A	<sup>6</sup> E	<sup>12</sup> L
<sup>19</sup> A	<sup>7</sup> Z	<sup>5</sup> J	<sup>14</sup> P	<sup>9</sup> H	<sup>5</sup> E	<sup>6</sup> R	<sup>13</sup> L	<sup>4</sup> A	<sup>4</sup> Y
<sup>5</sup> B	<sup>10</sup> T	<sup>3</sup> R	<sup>7</sup> V	<sup>1</sup> X	<sup>4</sup> O	<sup>9</sup> O	<sup>11</sup> A	<sup>5</sup> D	<sup>13</sup> V
<sup>6</sup> C	<sup>10</sup> H	<sup>1</sup> W	<sup>15</sup> P	<sup>16</sup> R	<sup>9</sup> N	<sup>8</sup> I	<sup>13</sup> C	<sup>2</sup> S	<sup>4</sup> T
<sup>9</sup> L	<sup>3</sup> R	<sup>17</sup> Y	<sup>19</sup> B	<sup>18</sup> O	<sup>9</sup> X	<sup>4</sup> U	<sup>5</sup> A	<sup>15</sup> A	<sup>10</sup> R
<sup>7</sup> Z	<sup>3</sup> K	<sup>9</sup> J	<sup>4</sup> G	<sup>1</sup> V	<sup>8</sup> O	<sup>11</sup> A	<sup>3</sup> S	<sup>9</sup> U	<sup>12</sup> D
<sup>6</sup> F	<sup>7</sup> P	<sup>5</sup> J	<sup>7</sup> J	<sup>11</sup> S	<sup>12</sup> O	<sup>3</sup> L	<sup>6</sup> R	<sup>11</sup> R	<sup>5</sup> Z
<sup>15</sup> Y	<sup>19</sup> H	<sup>8</sup> U	<sup>17</sup> I	<sup>3</sup> O	<sup>5</sup> U	<sup>4</sup> S	<sup>15</sup> F	<sup>5</sup> W	<sup>9</sup> M

HOLY    FATHER    RAPHAEL  
PRAY    TO    CHRIST    OUR  
GOD    FOR    US.

Puzzle by: Kathryn Kessler



The Feast of Saint Alexis

May 7th

K-2

Below, is the Prokeimenon, taken from Psalms, for the feastday of Saint Alexis, but the vowels are missing. Match the shapes with the letters and help us complete the verse. Good Luck and have fun!

♪ = i

■ = u

▲ = o

● = e

♥ = a

Th     r     g h t             s m     n



s h     l l r     j         c         n t h    



L     r d,     n d s h     l l s     t h     s



h     p         n h     m.



Puzzle activity by: Kathryn Kessler

The Feast of Saint Alexis

May 7th

K-2 Answer Key

Below, is the Prokeimenon, taken from Psalms, for the feastday of Saint Alexis, but the vowels are missing. Match the shapes with the letters and help us complete the verse. Good Luck and have fun!

♪ = i

■ = u

▲ = o

● = e

♥ = a

The rig h te o us man  
● ♪ ● ▲ ■ ♥

shall rej o ic e in the  
♥ ● ▲ ♪ ● ♪ ●

Lord, and shall set his  
▲ ♥ ♥ ● ♪

ho pe on him.  
▲ ● ▲ ♪

Puzzle activity by: Kathryn Kessler

**ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**Department of Christian Education**  
**The Saints of South Canaan**

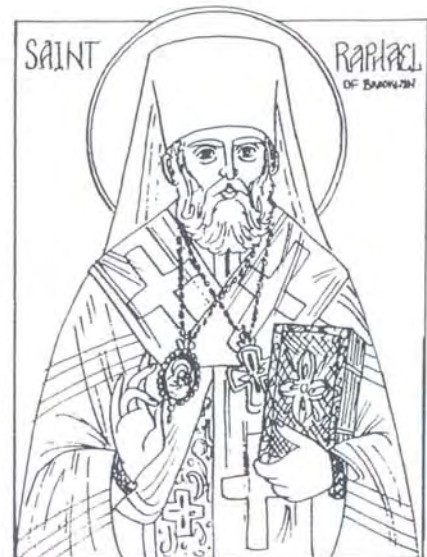
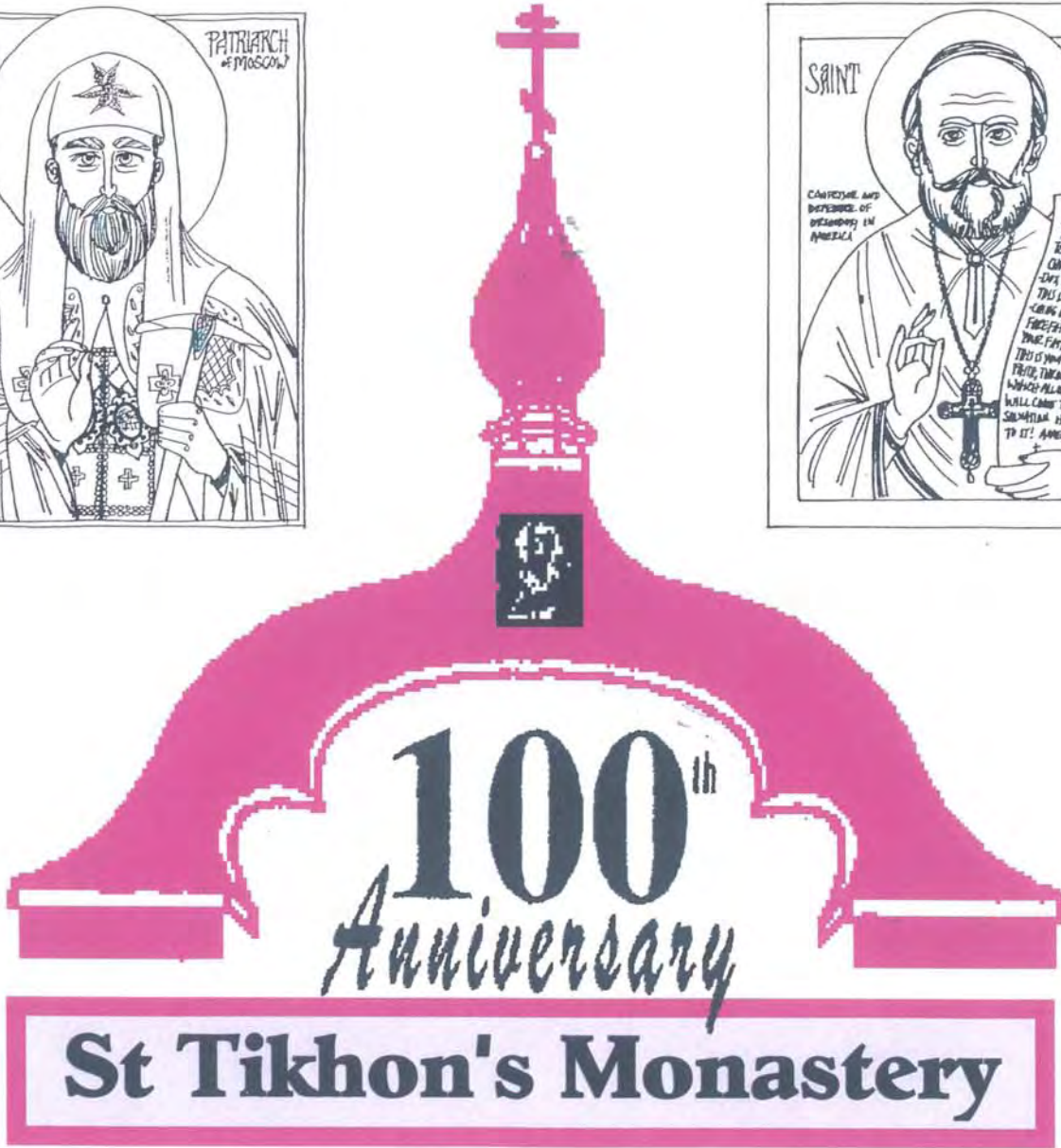
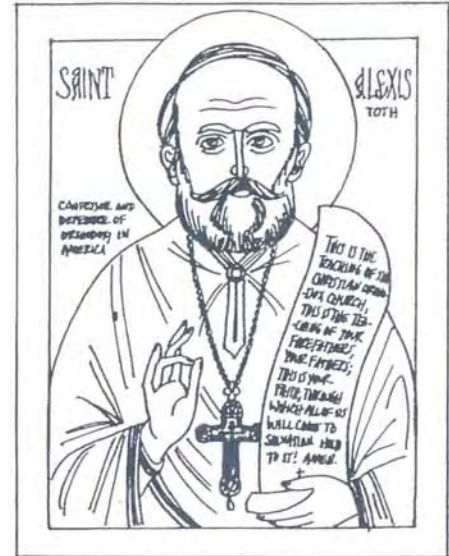
***Participant Sign-In Sheet: Grades K-2***

Instructors: \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity Description:** Movie of “Saints of South Canaan”

Students will listen to stories of Ss. Tikhon, Alexis, Nicholas, and Raphael. They can then color or draw pictures of saints and place them in squares drawn on butcher paper. The squares can look like the negatives of a movie reel. The first square is to be reserved for the child’s name and title, “The Saints of South Canaan.”

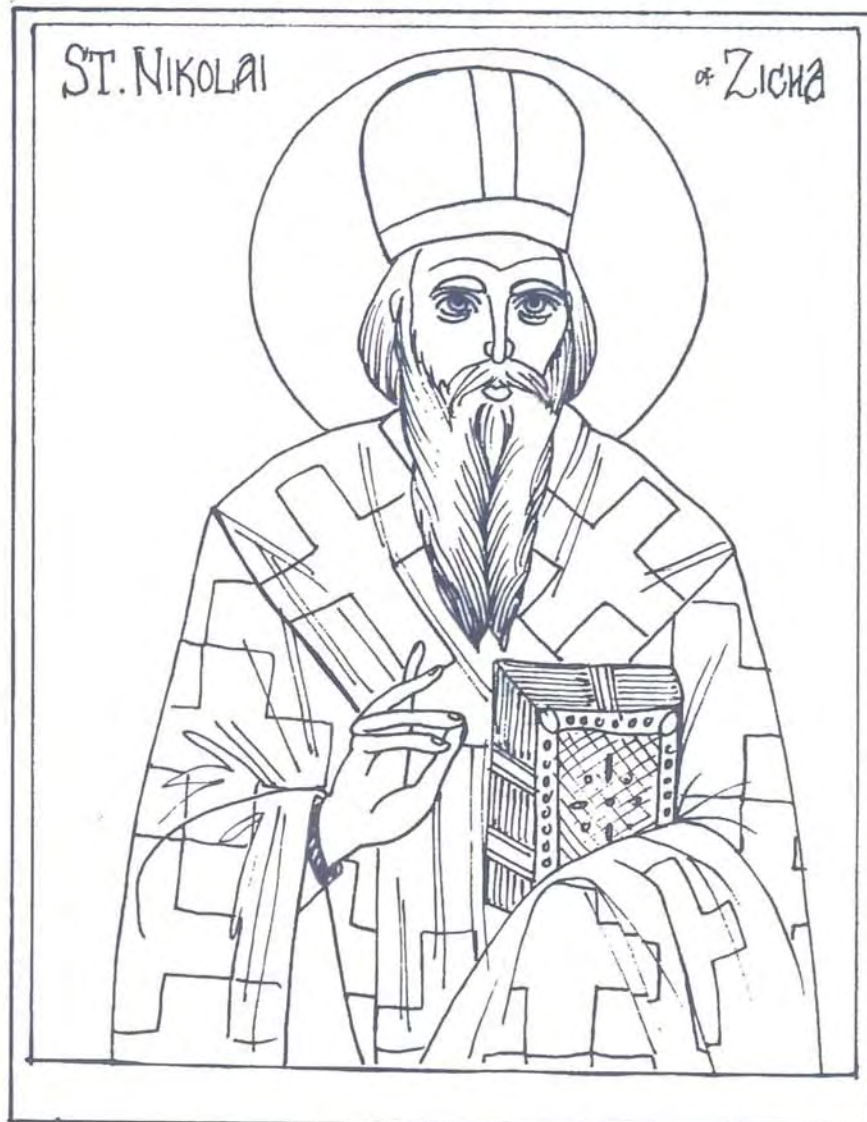
Participant’s Name	Signature	Time In	Time Out	Initial
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
22.				
23.				
24.				



May 30, 2005

# St Nicholai

K-2



St Nicholai was born in Serbia in 1880. He loved learning and studied in many countries. He lived and taught in England, Switzerland, and America. He became a bishop in 1919. He came to America in 1921 and helped start many Orthodox churches in the United States and Canada. He went back to Serbia and served as a bishop in Zicha. During World War II he was in a prison camp. He came back to America after the war. He was a teacher at St Tikhon's Seminary. He was remembered by many as a gentle man who wrote many books and loved to help people. He was made a saint in 1987.

- ♦ *What country was St Nicholai born in?*
- ♦ *Where did he help start may Orthodox churches?*
- ♦ *Where was he a teacher in the United States?*

# St Raphael

K-2

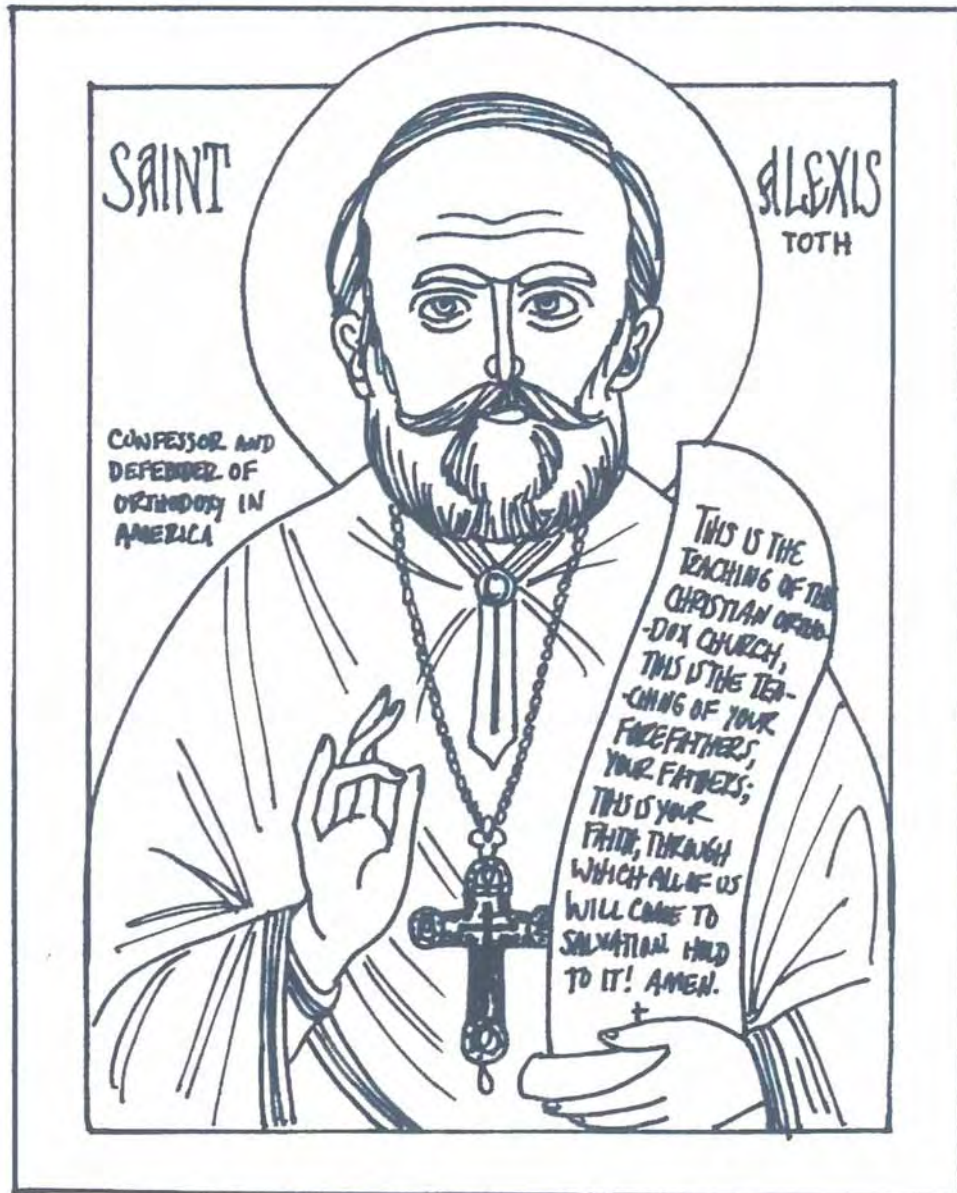


St Raphael was born in Lebanon in 1860. He loved school and became a monk and a teacher. He was invited to study in Russia. He spent time there writing and teaching. He was sent to America in 1895 to help the Arab Christian people in America. He was made a bishop by St Tikhon. He spent many years working with Orthodox Christians. He wrote several books and started a newspaper to help people learn about their faith. He was made a saint at St Tikhon's Monastery in 2000.

- *What country was St Raphael born in?*
- *What country did St Raphael study in?*
- *Why was St Raphael sent to America?*

# St Alexis

K-2

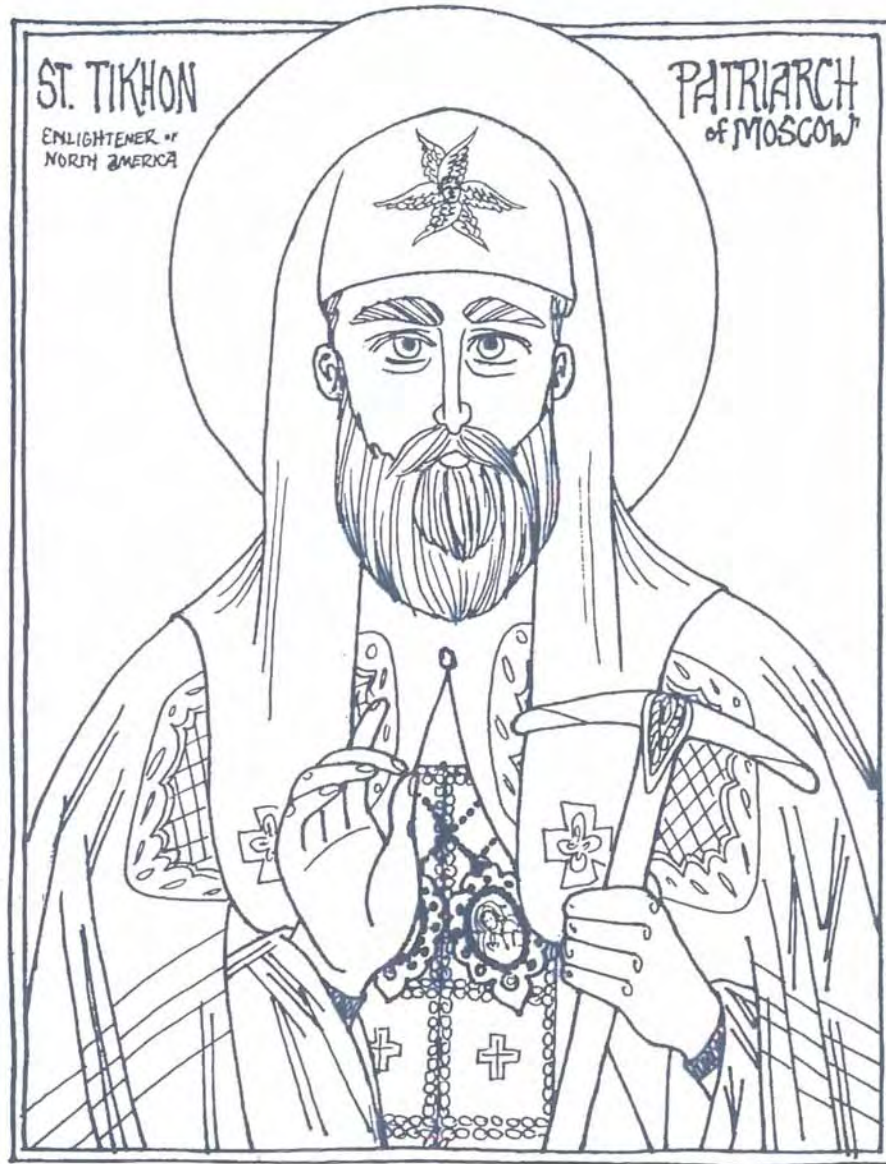


St Alexis was born in Slovakia in 1854. He came to America in 1889 to serve as a mission priest. He brought many people into the Orthodox faith. He was a priest in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and helped many people there. He wrote a book to help people know more about the Orthodox Church. He was given awards by many important people, including St Tikhon. He was made a saint at St Tikhon's Monastery in 1994.

- ◆ *Where was St Alexis a priest?*
- ◆ *What did he do to help people learn about the Orthodox faith?*
- ◆ *Who gave him a special award?*

# St Tikhon

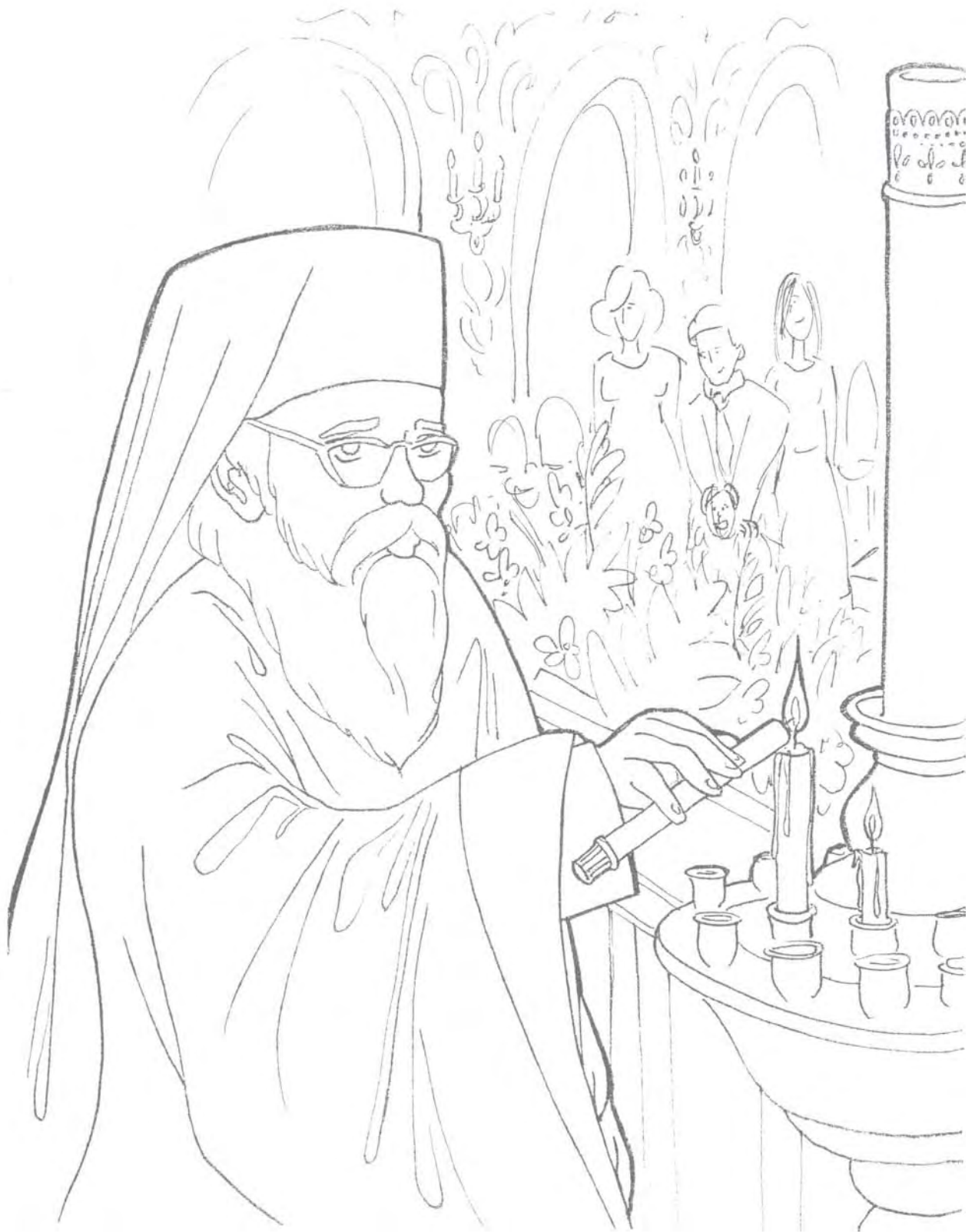
K-2



St Tikhon was born in Russia in 1865. He was one of the first Orthodox bishops in the United States. He traveled all over America and visited many Orthodox people. He started a seminary and also brought other bishops to America. He started St Tikhon's Monastery 100 years ago. It is the oldest Orthodox monastery in America. He was Patriarch of Russia. He was made a saint in 1989.

- ◆ *Where did St Tikhon travel to visit and help Orthodox people?*
- ◆ *What country did St Tikhon come from?*
- ◆ *Which monastery did St Tikhon start?*









# Saints of South Canaan

## Grades 3-4 Level (40-45 minutes)

### Theme:

Saints of South Canaan, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Tikhon's Monastery

**Sub-Theme:** We are all called to be Champions of Faith, or saints

There are saints who walk among us, and we are invited to be part of the procession. If we live the life in Christ which He calls us to do, we too can walk in righteousness. St.

**Tikhon's Monastery is home to four** such righteous leaders of Orthodoxy in America: Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholai of Zicha. As we examine their lives, we learn of their contributions to the Orthodox faithful of America, and keep them as examples of Christian faith, love, humility, perseverance, and charity.

### Objectives: By the end of this session students should be able to:

- Read and reflect upon the lives of the Saints of South Canaan, St. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis and Nicholai of Zicha
- Respond to reading by coloring and mounting line drawing icons of these saints in a triorama
- Add various media to triorama (clay figures, construction paper) to create a scene from the life of the Saints of South Canaan
- Respond to reading by completing word search puzzles containing key words

### Materials: (Have ready ahead of time)

- 4 sheets of heavy square paper (11" x 11") folded diagonally, and cut in one diagonal to center for triorama
- Crayons
- Markers
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Construction paper
- Glitter glue
- Modeling clay
- Pencils

### Resources:

- Leveled Lesson Packet, "The Saints of South Canaan"

### \*\*Teacher Background Reading:

Tarasar, Erickson, *Orthodox America*, Orthodox Church in America, ([www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com))  
Gray, *Lives of American Saints*, ([www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com))

(over)

## Procedure:

### 1. Opening Prayer: (Sung/recited together--1 minute)

Christ is Risen from the Dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

### 2. Discussion Starter-Bridge: (5 minutes)

Begin by asking the following: *Who can tell me who a saint is?* (Answers should recall the attributes associated with saints—faith, humility courage, good works, miracles.) As students answer, interject previous virtues. Ask: *Who can name a saint?* (Allow students time to give examples.) Continue by asking students to recall anything they know about saints they have identified. Ask: *Do you know there are four saints who lived and work here at St. Tikhon's Monastery?* (Allow time for students to react and give their impressions.) Say: *Today we are going to take a look at these Saints of South Canaan and describe what we've learned by making up four triangle-shaped stages call trioramas. Let's gather our materials and take a look.*

### 3. Research: (15 minutes)

The research and activities can be done in the *Cooperative Learning Style*. Each student will be designated a position/task and will execute them in an organized and **"cooperative" manner, working together as a unit**. The procedures can also be carried out by simply having students look at the lessons, and work on the clip art pages and trioramas.

- Have supplies ready on foam plates for students to pick up (lesson booklets, marker, pencils, triorama squares, scissors, along with other materials listed above).
- One student can show lesson pages as they are read by teacher or students.
- One student can be near wall posters to point out pictures of Saints as they are being discussed.
- Students can volunteer to read each of the lessons on Saints Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholas, while the students begin coloring the clip art pictures and put together the trioramas.
- The teacher can review by asking guideline comprehension questions:

#### **St. Tikhon:**

- *In what country was St. Tikhon born?* (Russia)
- *What did St. Tikhon do to help the Orthodox church when he came to America as a bishop in 1898?* (visit many Orthodox people started parishes, and a seminary)
- *St. Tikhon founded what monastery and named it after whom?* (St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, Russia)
- *Whom did St. Tikhon bring to America to help with the Orthodox Church?* (Bishop Innocent) *Whom did he consecrate a bishop in Brooklyn NY, who later became a saint?* (St. Raphael)
- *What happened to St. Tikhon when he was sent back to Russia?* (He was elected Patriarch of Russia)

**St. Raphael:**

- *In what country was St. Raphael born?* (Lebanon)
- *After he became a monk where was St. Raphael invited to study?* (Russia)
- *When he arrived in the United States, what did St. Raphael encourage Orthodox people from other countries to do?* (Come together to pray and build churches)
- *Who consecrated St. Raphael as bishop in 1904?* (St. Tikhon)
- *To which monastery did St. Raphael lead the first pilgrimage?* (St. Tikhon's)

**St. Alexis:**

- *In what country was St. Alexis born?* (Slovakia)
- *As a Greek Catholic priest, why was St. Alexis sent to America?* (to start new parishes)
- *While in Minneapolis, Minnesota, what did St. Alexis decide he must do?* (join the true faith, the Orthodox Church, and brought many people with him)
- *While a priest in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, what did St. Alexis do to help Orthodox people?* (wrote a book about the Orthodox faith, helped them when they first arrived in America)
- *Who gave him a special award?* (St. Tikhon)

**St. Nikolai:**

- *In what country was St. Nikolai born?* (Serbia)
- *Name one country where St. Nikolai studied and taught.* (England, Switzerland, Germany, Russia, France, United States)
- *What did St. Nikolai when he first arrived as a bishop in America* (helped established many Orthodox churches throughout the U.S. and Canada)
- *Where was St. Nikolai a teacher in the United States?* (St. Tikhon's Seminary)

**4. Activities:** (15-20 Minutes)

## A. Triorama: "Saints of South Canaan" (See Activity on page 5)

## Materials:

- 4 pieces of heavy paper, cut into 11" x 11" squares
- Markers
- Scissors
- Leveled lesson coloring pictures
- Construction paper
- Modeling clay
- Glitter glue
- Glue sticks
- Crayons
- Pencils

## Procedures: (See Activity on page 5)

1. Each square is folded in half diagonally, then opened and folded again diagonally, in the opposite direction.
2. Unfold the square and cut  $\frac{1}{4}$  of one corner of one of the diagonal folds to the center of the square.

3. Students fold their diagonals under each other until they form an inverted **triangle. This becomes a "stage" for a scene from the story of the Saints of South Canaan.** (See page 5)
4. Students color their picture clip art of Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis and Nicholai, and glue them to the back of each triorama stage.
5. Students can create a scene of the lives of each of the 4 saints on one of the triorama stages, using construction paper, modeling clay and any of the above materials.
6. Students can glue the four stages together, back-to-back, to form an inverted pyramid, and take home.

**B. Activity: Word Search Puzzles** (10 minutes)

**Note:** Thanks to Kathryn Kessler, Holy Resurrection Cathedral, Wilkes-Barre, PA

- Some students will finish early and may work on the word search puzzles included in their lesson packet

**C. Activity: Video:** (if time)

- Students may also view running video "The History of St. Tikhon's Monastery"

**5. Wrap-Up:** (1-2 minutes)

As students are cleaning up and preparing for closing prayer, ask the following: *What are some of the things about the Saints of South Canaan we learned today?* (Answers should reflect student understanding of love, courage, perseverance, and humility) *What did learn about St. Tikhon's Monastery?* (Answers should reflect insight into how saints walked these grounds over the last 100 years, and we can all walk the same way) *How can we be "champions of our faith," like the Saints of South Canaan?* (Answers could include: Be kind to others, help others, talk about our church, follow God's laws, etc.).

**6. Closing Prayer:** (Sung together--1 minute)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

**Scan in and add Champions Triorama page**



May 7<sup>th</sup>

Saint Alexis, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America

Below, is a verse taken from the first Old Testament reading for the Feast of Saint Alexis. Your job is to write the letter of the alphabet that comes right after the one shown. The letter " a " is given for you. Good luck and have fun!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

"I    \_\_\_\_\_ a    \_\_\_\_\_  
h    r    g    k    k

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_  
h    m    r    s    q    t    b    s    x    n    t

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_  
h    m    s    q    t    s    g    r    n

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ a    \_\_\_\_\_  
s    g    s    x    n    t    q    g    n    o    d

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_  
v    h    k    k    a    d    h    m    s    g    d

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ a    \_\_\_\_\_  
k    n    q    c    m    c    x    n    t

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ a    \_\_\_\_\_  
r    g    k    k    a    d    e    h    k    k    d    c

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_  
v    h    s    g    s    g    d    r    o    h    q    h    s ."

By: Kathryn Kessler

Proverbs

May 7<sup>th</sup>

Saint Alexis, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America

Below, is a verse taken from the first Old Testament reading for the Feast of Saint Alexis. Your job is to write the letter of the alphabet that comes right after the one shown. The letter "a" is given for you. Good luck and

have fun! **Answer Key**

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

"I S H a L L  
h r g k k

I N S T R U C T Y O U  
h m r s q t b s x n t

I N T R U T H, S O  
h m s q t s g r n

T H a T Y O U R H O P E  
s g s x n t q g n o d

W I L L B E I N T H E  
v h k k a d h m s g d

L O R D a N D Y O U  
k n q c m c x n t

S H a L L B E F I L L E D  
r g k k a d e h k k d c

W I T H T H E S P I R I T."  
v h s g s g d r o h q h s

By: Kathryn Kessler

Proverbs

**Saint Tikhon**  
**(April 7, October 9)**

We need your help! Please help us put the Word Bank words in ABC order. After the words are put in the right order, place them in the puzzle. The alphabet is here to help you. Careful, there are two words that begin with the same letter, so you will have to look at the second letter in the words in order to get them in the right spots. Good Luck and have fun!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

<u>Word Bank</u>	<u>Correct ABC order</u>
saint	1.
Orthodox	2.
America	3.
He	4.
seminary	5.
bishops	6.
Russia	7.
people	8.
Monastery	9.

St. Tikhon was born in \_\_\_\_\_ in 1865. He was one of the first  
7

Orthodox \_\_\_\_\_ in the United States. He traveled all over  
2

\_\_\_\_\_ and visited many Orthodox \_\_\_\_\_. He  
1 6

started a \_\_\_\_\_ and also brought other \_\_\_\_\_  
9 2

to America. He started St. Tikhon's \_\_\_\_\_ 100 years ago.  
4

It is the oldest \_\_\_\_\_ monastery in \_\_\_\_\_.  
5 1

\_\_\_\_\_ was Patriarch of Russia. He was made a \_\_\_\_\_ in 1989.  
3 8

Original Text by: Myra Kovalak

Set in puzzle form by: Kathryn Kessler

**Saint Tikhon**  
**(April 7, October 9)**

**Answer Key**

We need your help! Please help us put the Word Bank words in ABC order. After the words are put in the right order, place them in the puzzle. The alphabet is here to help you. Careful, there are two words that begin with the same letter, so you will have to look at the second letter in the words in order to get them in the right spots. Good Luck and have fun!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Word Bank

saint  
Orthodox  
America  
He  
seminary  
bishops  
Russia  
people  
Monastery

Correct ABC order

1. **America**  
2. **bishops**  
3. **He**  
4. **Monastery**  
5. **Orthodox**  
6. **people**  
7. **Russia**  
8. **saint**  
9. **seminary**

St. Tikhon was born in Russia in 1865. He was one of the first

7

Orthodox bishops in the United States. He traveled all over

2

America and visited many Orthodox people. He

1

6

started a seminary and also brought other bishops

9

2

to America. He started St. Tikhon's Monastery 100 years ago.

4

It is the oldest Orthodox monastery in America

5

1

He was Patriarch of Russia. He was made a saint in 1989.

3

8

Original Text by: Myra Kovalak  
Set in puzzle form by: Kathryn Kessler

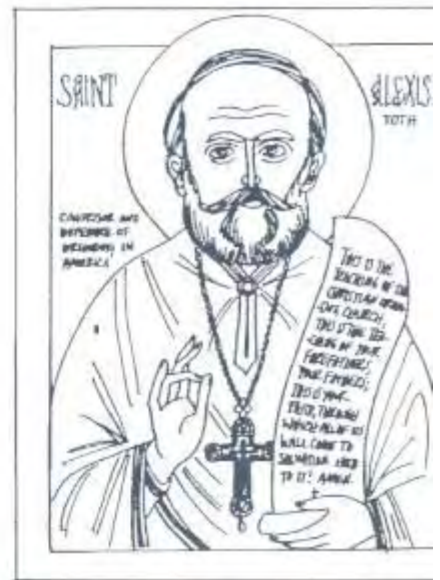
**ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**THE SAINTS OF SOUTH CANAAN**  
**Participant Sign-In Sheet: Grades 3-4**

Instructors: \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity Description:** Triorama of “Saints of South Canaan”

Students will read and/or discuss stories of Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis and Nicholas. Using various media, they will then decorate up to four inverted triangular “stages” with scenes from the lives of each “Saint of South Canaan.” The stages can be attached to for an inverted pyramid, of all four scenes.

Participant's Name	Signature	Time In	Time Out	Initial
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
22.				
23.				
24.				
25.				
26.				



**100<sup>th</sup>**  
*Anniversary*  
**St Tikhon's Monastery**



**May 30, 2005**



### **"The Saints of South Canaan"**

A presentation in honor of the 100th Anniversary of St. Tikhon's Monastery

Text: Myra Kovalak

Taken from: *Orthodox America, 1794-1975*, by John Erickson and Constance Tarasar (1975) and *Portraits of American Saints*, by George A. Gray (1994)

Special thanks to Mr. Alexis Liberovsky, Director, OCA Dept. of History and Arch

Illustrations: Kimberly Metz and Timothy Macura

Puzzles: Kathryn Kessler

Activities: OCA Department of Christian Education, and St. Herman of Alaska Church, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Cover and Lay-out: Fr. Daniel Kovalak

Department of Religious Education, Diocese of Eastern PA

Department of Christian Education

Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries

Department of History and Archives

Orthodox Church in America

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman

May 30, 2005

# St Tikhon

(April 7, October 9)

3-4



**St Tikhon** was born in Russia in 1865. He was made a bishop and came to the United States in 1898. He was the only Orthodox bishop on the United States continent. He traveled all over America visiting Orthodox people. He did many things to help the Orthodox Church in America grow. He opened the first Orthodox seminary in the United States. It was in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He also had other bishops come and help the Orthodox Church in America grow. One was Bishop Innocent and another was Bishop Raphael of Brooklyn who later became St. Raphael. St. Tikhon is the founder of St. Tikhon's Monastery (named after St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, Russia). St. Tikhon's Monastery is 100 years old and the oldest Orthodox monastery in America. St. Tikhon later was sent back to Russia and became Patriarch of the Orthodox Church in Russia. He suffered many hardships and died on Annunciation (March 25/April 7), 1925. He was made a saint in 1989.

## Tropar - Tone One

Let us praise Tikhon, patriarch of all Russia, and  
Enlightener of North America.

An ardent follower of the Apostolic traditions,  
And good pastor of the Church of Christ,  
Who was elected by divine providence,  
And laid down his life for his sheep.  
Let us sing to him with faith and hope,  
And ask for his hierarchical intercessions:  
Keep the church in Russia in tranquility,  
And the church in North America in peace.  
Gather her scattered children into one flock,  
Bring to repentance those who have renounced the  
True Faith.

Preserve our lands from civil strife,  
And entreat God's peace for all people!

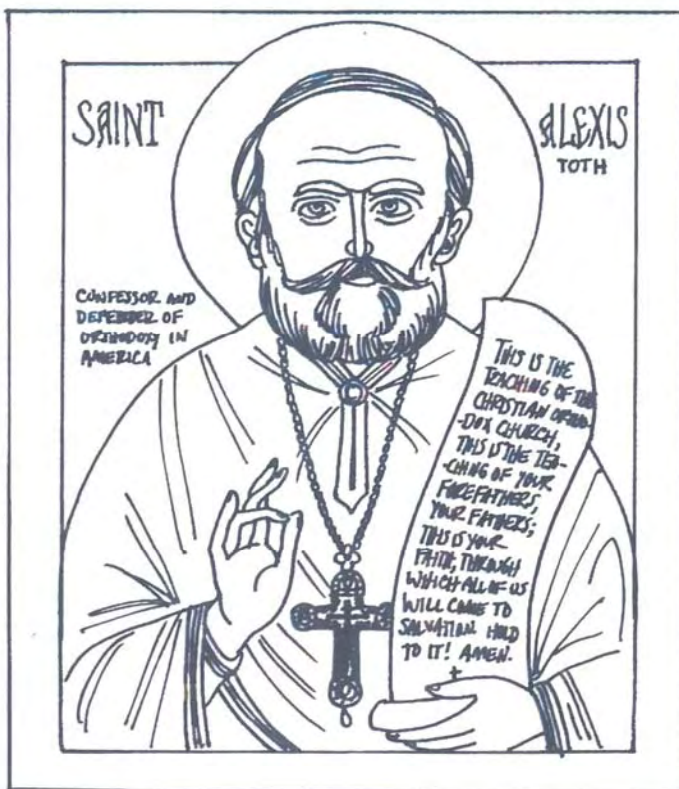
- *In what country was St. Tikhon born?*
- *What did St. Tikhon do to help the Orthodox church when he came to America as a bishop in 1898?*
- *St. Tikhon founded what monastery and named it after whom?*
- *Whom did St. Tikhon bring to America to help with the Orthodox Church?*
- *Whom did he consecrate in Brooklyn, who later became a saint?*
- *What happened when St. Tikhon was sent back to Russia?*



# St Alexis

(May 7)

3-4



**St. Alexis** was born in Slovakia in 1854. His father was a Greek Catholic priest. St. Alexis also became a priest. He came to America in 1889, to serve as a mission priest at St. Mary's Church in Minneapolis. There he decided to return to the true Orthodox Church. He also brought many people back into the Orthodox faith. St. Alexis then moved to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Through his hard work, many people joined the Orthodox Church, nearly 15,000. St. Alexis helped many people from Russia and other countries who came to live in America. He also wrote a book to help people understand their Orthodox faith. He received many awards for his work, including one from St. Tikhon. He died on May 7, 1909, and was buried at St. Tikhon's Monastery. He was made a saint at St. Tikhon's Monastery in May, 1994. His feast day is May 7.

## Tropar - Tone Four

O righteous Father Alexis,  
Our heavenly intercessor and teacher,  
Divine adornment of the Church of Christ,  
Entreat the Master of All  
To strengthen the Orthodox faith in America,  
To grant peace to the world  
And to our souls great mercy.

- In what country was St. Alexis born?
- As a Greek Catholic priest why was St. Alexis sent to America?
- While in Minneapolis, Minnesota, what did St. Alexis decide he must do?
- While a priest in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, what did St. Alexis do to help Orthodox people?
- Who gave him an award?

# St Raphael

(February 27)

3-4



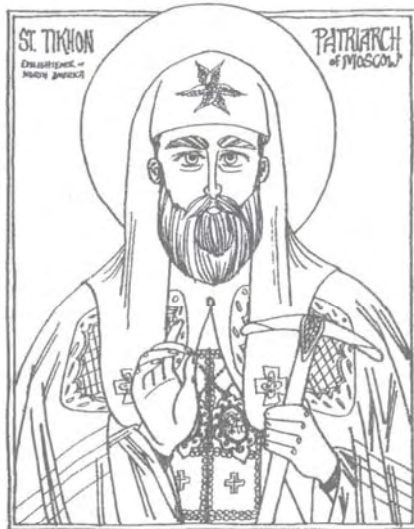
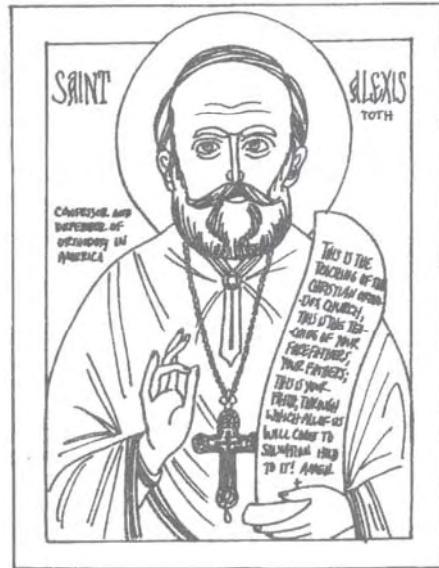
**St. Raphael** was born in Lebanon in 1860. At an early age he showed great talent in school. He was well educated and became a monk and teacher. He became well-known for his writing, and was invited to study in Russia. While he was there he helped other Syrian students come to Russia to study. He came to the United States in 1895 to help Arab Christians who had come to America. He started many churches around the United States, and encouraged Orthodox people from many countries to come together and build churches. He opened St. Nicholas Church in Brooklyn, NY. St. Tikhon consecrated St. Raphael a bishop in 1904. St Raphael continued educating and assisting many Orthodox people. He wrote books and even began a special newspaper to help educate people about their Orthodox faith. He had brought in some 25,000 faithful and established thirty parishes. He led the first pilgrimage to St. Tikhon's Monastery. He was also very friendly with other Christian churches, often speaking to them and inviting them to the Orthodox Church. Even though he was ill, he never stopped working. He died in 1915. He was canonized a saint at St. Tikhon's Monastery on May 29, 2000.

## Tropar - Tone One

Your proclamation has gone out throughout North America,  
Calling the scattered sheep into the unity of the church.  
Hearing your voice, they responded to your teaching,  
And through your writings you instructed them in piety.  
Now guided by your example, O Father Raphael,  
We sing hymns of praise unto Christ our God.  
Glory to Him who gave you strength!  
Glory to Him Who granted you a crown!  
Glory to Him Who through you grants healing to all!

- *Where was St. Raphael born?*
- *After he became a monk, where was St. Raphael invited to study?*
- *When he arrived in the United States, what did St. Raphael encourage Orthodox people from different countries to do?*
- *Who consecrated St. Raphael a bishop in 1904?*
- *At what monastery did he lead the first pilgrimage?*

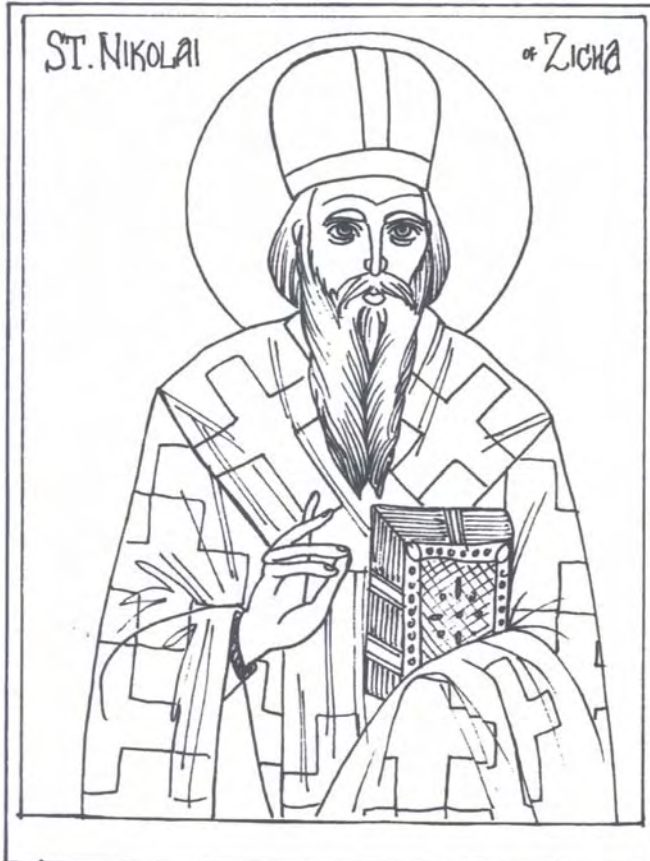
# Saints of South Canaan



# St Nicholai

(March 18)

3-4

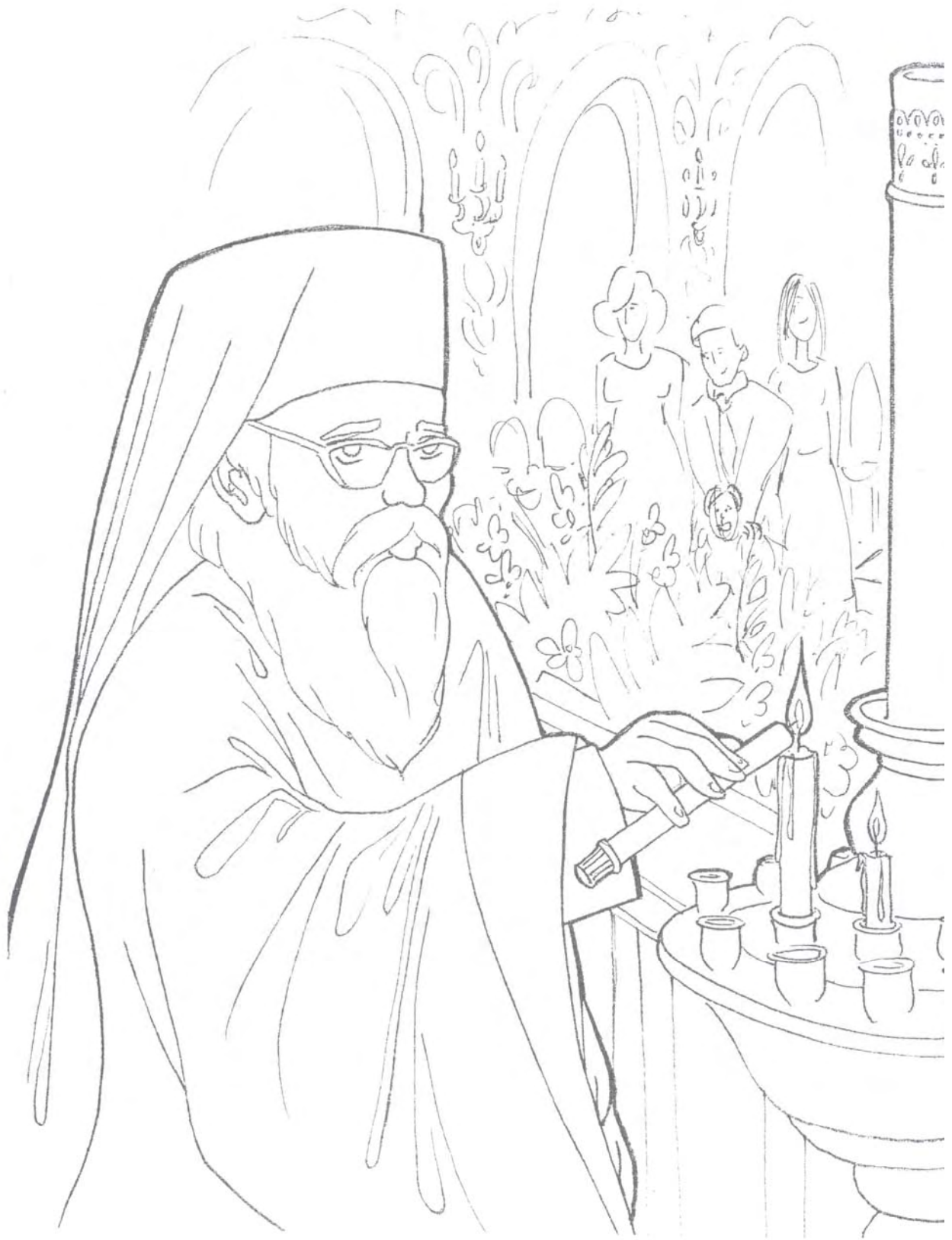


**St. Nicholai** was born in Serbia in 1880. He was a very bright student, who loved learning. He studied and taught in many different countries, including: England, Switzerland, Germany, Russia, France, and the United States. St. Nicholas became a bishop in 1919, serving in Zicha and Orhid in Serbia. In 1921 he arrived in America and helped establish many Orthodox churches throughout the United States and Canada. He returned to Serbia in 1934. When World War II broke out, St Nicholai, along with many Orthodox Christians, was sent to a concentration camp. When he was freed he was not able to return to Serbia, so he came back to America. He spent his life writing and teaching. His books of sermons and lives of the saints are famous all over the world. He lived and taught at the Serbian Orthodox Monastery in Illinois, and then at St. Tikhon's Seminary. He taught in English because he felt it was important that the church teach in the language of the country. He taught there until his death in 1956. He was made a saint in Serbia in 1987.

## Tropar - Tone Eight

Leaving your homeland you came as a patriot to  
secure aid for God's suffering children.  
And as a new Chrysostom you did preach to those in  
darkness.  
The rediscovery of the foundational rock, Christ the  
Lord,  
In the eternal homeland of God's kingdom;  
Your pastoral love for all, O Confessor Nicholai, was  
purified in captivity by the Godless.  
You demonstrated your commitment to the Truth  
and your people;  
Therefore, O venerable hierarch, you have attained  
the crown of eternal life.

- *In what country was St Nicholai born?*
- *Name one country where St. Nicholai studied and taught.*
- *What did St Nicholai do when he first arrived as a bishop in America?*
- *What happened to St. Nicholai during World War II?*
- *Where did St. Nicholai spend the rest of his life teaching and writing after World War II?*







## CHAMPIONS OF FAITH

Educational Materials for the 2005 OCAY/Holy Synod Theme

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

#### TRIORAMA

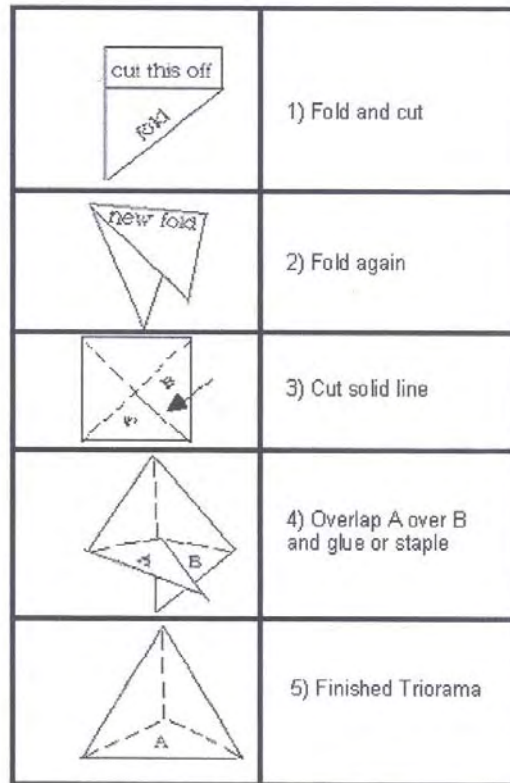
##### Materials Needed

- 11 x 14 paper, cut into squares, 4 or 8 per child
- Arts and crafts materials
- Markers
- Glitter glue
- Construction paper
- Scrap material
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Molding clay

##### Procedure

Each section is done with each session as saint and hero/champion is presented.

1. Fold each square diagonally, then open
2. Fold in opposite diagonal direction, then open
3. Cut  $\frac{1}{4}$  of diagonal fold to middle of square
4. Fold 2 diagonals under each other until you form an inverted triangle. This is the triangular "stage" for a scene from the story of saint/champion
5. Can color, decorate as you would a diorama
6. When four scenes are completed, you can tape them together to form an inverted triorama pyramid with all four scenes.
7. Can do one triorama for saints Champions of Faith and one for Champions or 2 and 2 in one triorama



For a comprehensive resource on the lives of the saints visit the OCA web site at [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org), and follow the link to the Lives of the Saints section.



# Saints of South Canaan

## Grades 5-6 Level (40-45 minutes)

### Theme:

Saints of South Canaan, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Tikhon's Monastery

**Sub-Theme:** We are all called to be Champions of Faith, or saints

There are saints who walk among us, and we are invited to be part of the procession. If we live the life in Christ which He calls us to do, we too can walk in righteousness. St.

**Tikhon's Monastery is home to four such righteous leaders of Orthodoxy in America: Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholai of Zicha.** As we examine their lives, we learn of their contributions to the Orthodox faithful of America, and keep them as examples of Christian faith, love, humility, perseverance, and charity.

### Objectives: By the end of this session students should be able to:

- Read and reflect upon the lives of the Saints of South Canaan, St. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis and Nicholai of Zicha.
- Respond to reading by coloring and mounting line drawing clip art icons of these saints and placing them in a character cluster.
- Respond to reading by adding descriptive adjectives of the saints to their character clusters with examples from the stories to support them.
- Write a short paragraph of each saint using the descriptive web they have created.
- Respond to reading by completing word search puzzles containing key.

### Materials: (Have ready ahead of time)

- 4 sheets of heavy paper (11" x 14") with Character Cluster template
- Character cluster worksheet in lesson packet
- Crayons
- Markers
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Glitter glue
- Pencils, pens

### Resources:

- Leveled Lesson Packet, "The Saints of South Canaan"

### \*\*Teacher Background Reading:

Tarasar, Erickson, *Orthodox America*, Orthodox Church in America, ([www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com))  
Gray, *Lives of American Saints*, ([www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com))

(over)

## Procedure:

### 1. Opening Prayer: (Sung/recited together--1 minute)

Christ is Risen from the Dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

### 2. Discussion Starter-Bridge: (5 minutes)

Begin by asking the following: *Who can tell me who a saint is?* (Answers should recall the attributes associated with saints—faith, humility courage, good works, miracles.) As students answer, interject previous virtues. Ask: *Who can name a saint?* (Allow students time to give examples.) Continue by asking students to recall anything they know about saints they have identified. Ask: *Do you know there are four saints who lived and worked at St. Tikhon's Monastery?* (Allow time for students to react and give their impressions.) Say: *Today we are going to take a look at these four Saints of South Canaan and make character clusters about them. Let's gather our materials and take a look.*

### 3. Research: (15 minutes)

The research and activities can be done in the *Cooperative Learning Style*. Each student will be designated a position/task and will execute it in an organized and **"cooperative" manner, working together as a unit.** The procedures can also be carried out by simply having students look at the lessons, and work on the clip art pages and trioramas.

- Have supplies ready on foam plates for students to pick up (lesson booklets, markers, pencils, triorama squares, scissors, along with other materials listed above).
- One student can show lesson pages as they are read by teacher or students.
- One student can be near wall posters to point out pictures of Saints as they are being discussed.
- Students can volunteer to read each of the lessons on Saints Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholas, while the students begin coloring the clip art pictures and put together the trioramas.
- The teacher can review by asking guideline comprehension questions:

#### **St. Tikhon:**

- *In what country was St. Tikhon born?* (Russia)
- *As the only Orthodox bishop in the continental U.S., what did St. Tikhon do to help the church when he arrived in 1898?* (visit many Orthodox people started parishes, encouraged Orthodox people from all backgrounds to worship together, started a seminary in Minneapolis)
- *St. Tikhon founded what monastery and named it after whom?* (St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, Russia)
- *Whom did St. Tikhon bring to America to help with the Orthodox Church?* (Bishop Innocent) *Whom did he consecrate a bishop in Brooklyn NY, who later became a saint?* (St. Raphael)
- *What happened to St. Tikhon when he was sent back to Russia?* (he was elected Patriarch of Russia)

- *What happened to St. Tikhon while he served as patriarch of Moscow and Russia?* (he suffered house arrest and many physical hardships at the hands of the communists)
- *When was he canonized a saint?* (1989)

**St. Raphael:**

- *In what country was St. Raphael born?* (Lebanon)
- *After showing much academic talent and becoming monk, where was St. Raphael invited to study?* (Kiev, Ukraine, and Kazan and Moscow, Russia)
- *Why was St. Raphael sent to America?* (to help Arab speaking Orthodox people start churches in the United States)
- *When he arrived in the U.S., what did St. Raphael encourage Orthodox people from different countries to do?* (come together to pray and to establish churches)
- *Who consecrated St. Raphael as bishop and where?* (St. Tikhon, at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Brooklyn, NY)
- *To which monastery did St. Raphael lead the first pilgrimage?* (**St. Tikhon's**)
- *When was St. Raphael canonized a saint?* (May 29, 2000)

**St. Alexis:**

- *In what country was St. Alexis born?* (Slovakia)
- *Where was St. Alexis sent to serve when he first came to America?* (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- *As a Greek Catholic mission priest in America, what did St. Alexis decide he must do?* (to turn to the true faith and become Orthodox; he brought many people with him into the Orthodox faith)
- *While a priest in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, what did St. Alexis do to help Orthodox people better understand their faith?* (wrote a book, *Where to Seek the Truth*)
- *Name the organization St. Alexis started to help Orthodox people coming to the U.S.* (Russian Orthodox Mutual Aid Society)
- *About how many people is it estimated St. Alexis brought into the Orthodox faith?* (15,000)
- *Where and when was St. Alexis canonized?* (**May, 1994, St. Tikhon's Monastery**)

**St. Nikolai:**

- *In what country was St. Nikolai born?* (Serbia)
- *Where did he first become bishop?* (Zicha and Ochrid)
- ***While in America as a bishop in the early 1920's, what did he accomplish?*** (established the Serbian Orthodox Dioceses of America and Canada, as well as many parishes)
- *When he returned to Serbia, what happened to St. Nikolai and Patriarch Gavrilo?* (they were sent to the concentration camp at Dachau)
- *After World War II, why could St. Nikolai not return to Serbia?* (Communism would not allow him to practice the Orthodox faith freely)
- *Where did St. Nikolai teach and write until his death?* (**St. Tikhon's Seminary**)
- *When was St. Nikolai canonized?* (1987)

**4. Activities:** (15-20 Minutes)

**A. Character Cluster: "Saints of South Canaan" (See Activity on page 5)**

**Materials:**

- 4 pieces of heavy paper, cut into 11" x 11" squares
- Markers
- Scissors
- Leveled lesson coloring pictures

- Glitter glue
- Glue sticks
- Crayons
- Pencils, pens

Procedures: (See Activity on page 5, and practice sheet in student lesson packet)

1. Students color and mount line drawing clip art icons of saints and place them in the center of the character clusters.
2. Students write descriptive adjectives of the saints on the line provided on their character clusters.
3. Students write examples from the stories to support their descriptive adjectives on the lines under each adjective.
4. Students write a short paragraph on each saint using the descriptive web they have created.
5. Students can continue decorating their character clusters to take home.

**B. Activity: Word Search Puzzles** (10 minutes)

Note: Thanks to Kathryn Kessler, Holy Resurrection Cathedral, Wilkes-Barre, PA

- Some students will finish early and may work on the word search puzzles included in their lesson packet

**C. Activity: Video:** (if time)

- Students may also view running video "The History of St. Tikhon's Monastery"

**5. Wrap-Up:** (1-2 minutes)

As students are cleaning up and preparing for closing prayer, ask the following: *What are some of the things about the Saints of South Canaan we learned today?* (Answers should reflect student understanding of love, courage, perseverance, and humility) *What did learn about St. Tikhon's Monastery?* (Answers should reflect insight into how saints walked these grounds over the last 100 years, and we can all walk the same way) *How can we be "champions of our faith," like the Saints of South Canaan?* (Answers could include: Be kind to others, help others, talk about our church, follow God's laws, etc.).

**6. Closing Prayer:** (Sung together--1 minute)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

## Character Clusters

You can learn a lot about a person or saint by what he or she, does, says, and thinks. One way to list the qualities of a character is to write them in a character cluster.

Create a word picture or character cluster of your favorite saint.

1. Draw a picture or paste and icon of your saint in the center of this page. Then draw lines from the picture.
2. On these lines, write a descriptive word (adjective) about him or her.
3. Underneath each descriptive word, draw two more lines. On these lines, give examples of each trait.

Before you begin, think of all the describing words about your saint. For example:

Caring

---

Visited many parishes

---

St. Tikhon

---

---

---

---

(Other Side)

Now try one of your own. Remember to think of all the describing words you can and then give an example.

Name of Saint: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Lived: \_\_\_\_\_

This is my favorite saint because...

---

---

---

# KWL Chart of Saints and Heroes

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Know

What I Want to Know

What I Learned

**Saint Tikhon**  
**(April 7, October 9)**

We need your help! Please help us put the Word Bank words in ABC order. After the words are put in the right order, place them in the puzzle. The alphabet is here to help you. Careful, there are two words that begin with the same letter, so you will have to look at the second letter in the words in order to get them in the right spots. Good Luck and have fun!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

<u>Word Bank</u>	<u>Correct ABC order</u>
saint	1.
Orthodox	2.
America	3.
He	4.
seminary	5.
bishops	6.
Russia	7.
people	8.
Monastery	9.

St. Tikhon was born in \_\_\_\_\_ in 1865. He was one of the first  
7

Orthodox \_\_\_\_\_ in the United States. He traveled all over  
2

\_\_\_\_\_ and visited many Orthodox \_\_\_\_\_. He  
1 6

started a \_\_\_\_\_ and also brought other \_\_\_\_\_  
9 2

to America. He started St. Tikhon's \_\_\_\_\_ 100 years ago.  
4

It is the oldest \_\_\_\_\_ monastery in \_\_\_\_\_.  
5 1

\_\_\_\_\_ was Patriarch of Russia. He was made a \_\_\_\_\_ in 1989.  
3 8

Original Text by: Myra Kovalak

Set in puzzle form by: Kathryn Kessler



**Saint Tikhon**  
**(April 7, October 9)**

**Answer Key**

We need your help! Please help us put the Word Bank words in ABC order. After the words are put in the right order, place them in the puzzle. The alphabet is here to help you. Careful, there are two words that begin with the same letter, so you will have to look at the second letter in the words in order to get them in the right spots. Good Luck and have fun!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Word Bank

saint  
Orthodox  
America  
He  
seminary  
bishops  
Russia  
people  
Monastery

Correct ABC order

1. **America**  
2. **bishops**  
3. **He**  
4. **Monastery**  
5. **Orthodox**  
6. **people**  
7. **Russia**  
8. **saint**  
9. **seminary**

St. Tikhon was born in Russia in 1865. He was one of the first

7

Orthodox bishops in the United States. He traveled all over

2

America and visited many Orthodox people. He

1

6

started a seminary and also brought other bishops

9

2

to America. He started St. Tikhon's Monastery 100 years ago.

4

It is the oldest Orthodox monastery in America

5

1

He was Patriarch of Russia. He was made a saint in 1989.

3

8

Original Text by: Myra Kovalak  
Set in puzzle form by: Kathryn Kessler

## Saint Alexis (May 7<sup>th</sup>)

St. Alexis was born in Slovakia in 1854. His father was a Greek Catholic priest. St. Alexis also became a priest. He came to America in 1889, to serve as a mission priest at St. Mary's Church in Minneapolis. There he decided to join the true Orthodox Church. He also brought many people into the Orthodox faith. St. Alexis then moved to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Through his hard work, many people joined the Orthodox Church, nearly 15,000. St. Alexis helped many people from Russia and other countries who came to live in America. He also wrote a book to help people understand their Orthodox faith. He received many awards for his work, including one from St. Tikhon. He died on May 7, 1909 and was buried at St. Tikhon's Monastery. He was made a saint at St. Tikhon's Monastery in May 1994. His feast day is May 7.

After reading about the life of St. Alexis, answer the questions below. If you are not sure about an answer, just read through the story again. After answering the questions, find and cross out the correct answers. After that, place the remaining words in the blanks. Good Luck and have fun!

1. In what country was St. Alexis born? \_\_\_\_\_
2. St. Alexis' father was a Greek \_\_\_\_\_ priest.
3. St. Alexis also became a \_\_\_\_\_, just like his father.
4. St. Alexis came to \_\_\_\_\_ in 1889.
5. What city did St. Alexis serve as a mission priest? \_\_\_\_\_.
6. St. Alexis decided to join the true Orthodox \_\_\_\_\_.
7. St. Alexis moved to Wilkes- Barre, \_\_\_\_\_.
8. St. Alexis helped many people from \_\_\_\_\_ and other countries who came to live in America.
9. St. Alexis wrote a \_\_\_\_\_ to help people understand their Orthodox \_\_\_\_\_.
10. St. Alexis received many awards, including one from St. \_\_\_\_\_.
11. St. Alexis was buried at St. Tikhon's \_\_\_\_\_.
12. St. Alexis was made a \_\_\_\_\_ in May 1994.
13. St. Alexis' feast day is \_\_\_\_\_ 7<sup>th</sup>.

Minneapolis  
 Tikhon  
 and  
 Pennsylvania  
 Slovakia  
 Russia  
 Orthodoxy  
 in  
 Monastery  
 Church  
 of  
 faith  
 Catholic  
 Confessor  
 Defender  
 book  
 book  
 May  
 priest  
 America  
 America

Saint Alexis is the:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Saint Alexis (May 7<sup>th</sup>)

St. Alexis was born in Slovakia in 1854. His father was a Greek Catholic priest. St. Alexis also became a priest. He came to America in 1889, to serve as a mission priest at St. Mary's Church in Minneapolis. There he decided to join the true Orthodox Church. He also brought many people into the Orthodox faith. St. Alexis then moved to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Through his hard work, many people joined the Orthodox Church, nearly 15,000. St. Alexis helped many people from Russia and other countries who came to live in America. He also wrote a book to help people understand their Orthodox faith. He received many awards for his work, including one from St. Tikhon. He died on May 7, 1909 and was buried at St. Tikhon's Monastery. He was made a saint at St. Tikhon's Monastery in May 1994. His feast day is May 7.

After reading about the life of St. Alexis, answer the questions below. If you are not sure about an answer, just read through the story again. After answering the questions, cross out the words. There are two words that appear twice, cross out only one. After that, place the remaining words in the blanks. Good Luck and have fun!

9. In what country was St. Alexis born? **Slovakia**
10. St. Alexis' father was a Greek **Catholic** priest.
11. St. Alexis also became a **priest**, just like his father.
12. St. Alexis came to **America** in 1889.
13. What city did St. Alexis serve as a mission priest? **Minneapolis**
14. St. Alexis decided to join the true Orthodox **Church**.
15. St. Alexis moved to Wilkes- Barre, **Pennsylvania**.
16. St. Alexis helped many people from **Russia** and other countries  
who came to live in America.
17. St. Alexis wrote a **book** to help people understand their Orthodox  
**faith**.
14. St. Alexis received many awards, including one from St. **Tikhon**.
15. St. Alexis was buried at St. Tikhon's **Monastery**.
16. St. Alexis was made a **saint** in May 1994.
17. St. Alexis' feast day is **May 7<sup>th</sup>**.

Minneapolis

Monastery

Confessor

Tikhon

and

Slovakia

Church

America

Pennsylvania

book

Defender

Russia

of

book

Orthodoxy

faith

May

priest

in

saint

Catholic

America

Saint Alexis is the:

Confessor

and

Defender

of

Orthodoxy

in

America.

Original Text by: Myra Kovalak

Set to Puzzle Activity by: Kathryn Kessler

# ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

## THE SAINTS OF SOUTH CANAAN

### Participant Sign-In Sheet: Grades 5-6

Instructors: \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity Description:** Character Clusters of “Saints of South Canaan”

Students will read and/or discuss the lives of Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholas. They will chose one and, using the Character Cluster semantic web, will list 6 descriptive adjectives with examples to support each. Then they will cut out and color a line drawing of the saint and place it in the center of the web. Or they may draw a picture of the saint in the center. Last, they will write a short paragraph describing why this is their favorite saint.

Participant's Name	Signature	Time In	Time Out	Initial
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
22.				
23.				
24.				
25.				
26.				
27.				
28.				

# Saints of South Canaan

**Grades 7-8 Level** (40-45 minutes)

## Theme:

Saints of South Canaan, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Tikhon's Monastery

**Sub-Theme:** We are all called to be Champions of Faith, or saints

There are saints who walk among us, and we are invited to be part of the procession. If we live the life in Christ which He calls us to do, we too can walk in righteousness. St.

**Tikhon's Monastery is home to four** such righteous leaders of Orthodoxy in America: Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholai of Zicha. As we examine their lives, we learn of their contributions to the Orthodox faithful of America, and keep them as examples of Christian faith, love, humility, perseverance, and charity.

## Objectives: By the end of this session students should be able to:

- Read and reflect upon the lives of the Saints of South Canaan, St. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis and Nicholai of Zicha.
- Respond to reading by coloring and mounting line drawing clip art icons of these saints and placing them in a character cluster.
- Respond to reading by adding descriptive adjectives of the saints to their character clusters with examples from the stories to support them.
- Write a short paragraph of each saint using the descriptive web they have created.
- Respond to reading by completing word search puzzles containing key.

## Materials: (Have ready ahead of time)

- 4 sheets of heavy paper (11" x 14") with Character Cluster template
- Character cluster worksheet in lesson packet
- Crayons
- Markers
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Glitter glue
- Pencils, pens

## Resources:

- Leveled Lesson Packet, "The Saints of South Canaan"

### \*\*Teacher Background Reading:

Tarasar, Erickson, *Orthodox America*, Orthodox Church in America, ([www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com))

Gray, *Lives of American Saints*, Dept. of Communications, Diocese of the West, ([www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com)).

## Procedure:

### 1. Opening Prayer: (Sung/recited together) 1 minute

Christ is Risen from the Dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

## 2. Discussion Starter-Bridge: (5 minutes)

Begin by asking the following: *Who can tell me who a saint is?* (Answers should recall the attributes associated with saints—faith, humility courage, good works, miracles.) As students answer, interject previous virtues. Ask: *Who can name a saint?* (Allow students time to give examples.) Continue by asking students to recall anything they know about saints they have identified. Ask: *Do you know there are four saints who lived and work here at St. Tikhon's Monastery?* (Allow time for students to react and give their impressions.) Say: *Today we are going to take a look at these four Saints of South Canaan and make character clusters about them. **Let's gather our materials** and take a look.*

## 3. Research: (15 minutes)

The research and activities can be done in the *Cooperative Learning Style*. Each student will be designated a position/task and will execute them in an organized and “cooperative” manner, working together as a unit. The procedures can also be carried out by simply having students look at the lessons, and work on the clip art pages and trioramas.

- Have supplies ready on foam plates for students to pick up (lesson booklets, markers, pencils, triorama squares, scissors, along with other materials listed above).
- One student can show lesson pages as they are read by teacher or students.
- One student can be near wall posters to point out pictures of Saints as they are being discussed.
- Students can volunteer to read each of the lessons on Saints Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholas, while the students begin coloring the clip art pictures and put together the trioramas.
- The teacher can review by asking guideline comprehension questions:

### **St. Tikhon:**

- *In what country was St. Tikhon born?* (Russia)
- *As the only Orthodox bishop in the continental U.S., what did St. Tikhon do to help the church when he arrived in 1898?* (visit many Orthodox people started parishes, encouraged Orthodox people from all backgrounds to worship together, started a seminary in Minneapolis)
- *St. Tikhon founded what monastery and named it after whom?* (St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, Russia)
- *Whom did St. Tikhon bring to America to help with the Orthodox Church?* (Bishop Innocent) *Whom did he consecrate a bishop in Brooklyn NY, who later became a saint?* (St. Raphael)
- *What happened to St. Tikhon when he was sent back to Russia?* (He was elected Patriarch of Russia)
- *What happened to St. Tikhon while he served as patriarch of Moscow and Russia?* (He suffered house arrest and many physical hardships at the hands of the communists)
- *When was he canonized a saint?* (1989)

### **St. Raphael:**

- *In what country was St. Raphael born?* (Lebanon)
- *After showing much academic talent and becoming monk, where was St. Raphael invited to study?* (Kiev, Ukraine, and Kazan and Moscow, Russia)
- *Why was St. Raphael sent to America?* (to help Arab speaking Orthodox people start churches in the United States)
- *When he arrived in the U.S., what did St. Raphael encourage Orthodox people from different countries to do?* (Come together to pray and to establish churches)



- *Who consecrated St. Raphael as bishop and where?* (St. Tikhon, at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Brooklyn, NY)
- *To which monastery did St. Raphael lead the first pilgrimage?* (St. Tikhon's)
- *When was St. Raphael canonized a saint?* (May 29, 2000)

**St. Alexis:**

- *In what country was St. Alexis born?* (Slovakia)
- *Where was St. Alexis sent to serve when he first came to America?* (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- *As a Greek Catholic mission priest in America, what did St. Alexis decide he must do?* (to turn to the true faith and become Orthodox; he brought many people with him into the Orthodox faith)
- *While a priest in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, what did St. Alexis do to help Orthodox people better understand their faith?* (wrote a book, *Where to Seek the Truth*)
- *Name the organization St. Alexis started to help Orthodox people coming to the U.S.* (Russian Orthodox Mutual Aid Society)
- *About how many people is it estimated St. Alexis brought into the Orthodox faith?* (15,000)
- *Where and when was St. Alexis canonized?* (May, 1994, St. Tikhon's Monastery)

**St. Nikolai:**

- *In what country was St. Nikolai born?* (Serbia)
- *Where did he first become bishop?* (Zicha and Ochrid)
- *While in America as a bishop in the early 1920's, what did he accomplish?* (established the Serbian Orthodox Dioceses of America and Canada, as well as many parishes)
- *When he returned to Serbia, what happened to St. Nikolai and Patriarch Gavriilo?* (They were sent to the concentration camp at Dachau)
- *After World War II, why could St. Nikolai not return to Serbia?* (Communism would not allow him to practice the Orthodox faith freely)
- *Where did St. Nikolai teach and write until his death?* (St. Tikhon's Seminary)
- *When was St. Nikolai canonized?* (1987)

**St. Alexander:**

- *Where was St. Alexander born? When?* (Volhynia, Russia, 1872)
- *When did he come to the United States?* (1895)
- *Where did he establish parishes?* (Yonkers, Philadelphia, Passaic, up and down the East Coast of U.S. and Canada)
- *What publication did he establish?* (*Russian Orthodox Messenger*)
- *What are mutual aid societies?* (organizations that financially assist immigrants)
- *Why was St. Alexander a spokesman for Orthodoxy to other faiths, and able to convert former Protestant Christians?* (He spoke English)
- *Where did St. Alexander serve as pastor while in Moscow?* (Christ the Saviour Cathedral)
- *Why was he arrested by the communists?* (refused to give up church artifacts, or stop serving people, called a "counter-revolutionary")
- *When was St. Alexander canonized?* (1994)

**4. Activities: Students may choose A or B** (15 Minutes)

**A. Character Cluster: "Saints of South Canaan"** (See Activity on page 5)

**Materials:**

- 4 pieces of heavy paper, cut into 11" x 11" squares
- Markers
- Scissors
- Leveled lesson coloring pictures

- Glitter glue
- Glue sticks
- Crayons
- Pencils, pens

Procedures: (See Activity on page 5, and practice sheet in student lesson packet)

1. Student color and mount line drawing clip art icons of saints and place them in the center of the character clusters.
2. Students write descriptive adjectives of the saints on the line provided on their character clusters.
3. Students write examples from the stories to support their descriptive adjectives on the lines under each adjective.
4. Students write a short paragraph of each saint using the descriptive web they have created.
5. Students can continue decorating their character clusters to take home.

**B. Activity: Internet Search** (15 minutes)

- Students surf the Orthodox web by logging on to: <http://omna.malf.net> (Monasteries of North America) or St. Philanthropia **Women's Monastery in Greece, which is also a world-class breast cancer research center** ([http://www.ormyliacenter.gr/index\\_fr.html](http://www.ormyliacenter.gr/index_fr.html)).
- **Students choose one of the monastery websites (including St. Tikhon's) and browse, answering the following questions:**
  - What is the name of the monastery?
  - Where is the monastery located?
  - What is the **monastery's mission**?
  - About how many monastics are located there?
  - What is the source of income for the monastery?
  - What is some of the historical background of the monastery?
  - Are there saints associated with this monastery?

**C. Activity: Video:** (if time)

- **Students may also view running video "The History of St. Tikhon's Monastery"**

**5. Wrap-Up:** (1-2 minutes)

As students are cleaning up and preparing for closing prayer, ask the following: *What are some of the things about the Saints of South Canaan we learned today?* (Answers should reflect student understanding of love, courage, perseverance, and humility) *What did learn about St. Tikhon's Monastery?* (Answers should reflect insight into how saints walked these grounds over the last 100 years, and we can all walk the same way) *How can we be "champions of our faith," like the Saints of South Canaan?* (Answers could include: Be kind to others, help others, talk about our church, follow God's laws, etc.).

**6. Closing Prayer:** (Sung together--1 minute)

Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

# Monastery Search

1. What is the name of the monastery?

---

2. Where is the monastery located?

---

3. What is the monastery's web site address?

---

4. What is the monastery's mission?

---

---

5. About how many monastics are located there?

---

6. What is the source of income for the monastery?

---

7. What is some of the historical background of the monastery?

---

---

---

8. Are there saints associated with this monastery? Name them.

---

---

---

### List of Monastery Web Sites:

1. St. Tikhon's Monastery (<http://stots.edu>)
2. Monasteries of North America (<http://omna.malf.net>)
3. Panagia (Saint) Philanthropini Women's Monastery, Greece ([http://www.ormyliacenter.gr?index\\_fr.html](http://www.ormyliacenter.gr?index_fr.html))

### List of Monastery Web Sites:

1. St. Tikhon's Monastery (<http://stots.edu>)
2. Monasteries of North America (<http://omna.malf.net>)
3. Panagia (Saint) Philanthropini Women's Monastery, Greece ([http://www.ormyliacenter.gr?index\\_fr.html](http://www.ormyliacenter.gr?index_fr.html))

### List of Monastery Web Sites:

1. St. Tikhon's Monastery (<http://stots.edu>)
2. Monasteries of North America (<http://omna.malf.net>)
3. Panagia (Saint) Philanthropini Women's Monastery, Greece ([http://www.ormyliacenter.gr?index\\_fr.html](http://www.ormyliacenter.gr?index_fr.html))

**Saint Nicholai of Zhicha**  
**March 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**Older group**

Below, there are some math problems to solve. Yes, this will be fun! After all of the math problems are solved, arrange the answers from lowest to highest on the numbered spaces, to find out the names of two books Saint Nicholai wrote. Make sure you also place the word with the number answer, so you may see the titles of the books. Careful, some of the answers will have with the same first number, for example the number 5, so you will have to look at the second number. It may also help to cross out each problem when you are finished. Have fun!

16 + 36 = \_\_\_\_\_ Life

15 + 15 = \_\_\_\_\_ from

24 + 18 = \_\_\_\_\_ Ochrid

71 + 13 = \_\_\_\_\_ Treasury

71 + 41 = \_\_\_\_\_ Serbian

25 + 32 = \_\_\_\_\_ of

14 + 54 = \_\_\_\_\_ St.

60 + 37 = \_\_\_\_\_ of

11 + 9 = \_\_\_\_\_ Prologue

58 + 12 = \_\_\_\_\_ Sava

44 + 36 = \_\_\_\_\_ A

43 + 80 = \_\_\_\_\_ Spirituality

29 + 19 = \_\_\_\_\_ The

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

and

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_,

9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_ 11. \_\_\_\_\_ 12. \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Puzzle Activity by: Kathryn Kessler for Memorial Day 2005**

Saint Nicholai of Zhicha

March 18<sup>th</sup>

Older group

Below, there are some math problems to solve. Yes, this will be fun! After all of the math problems are solved, arrange the answers from lowest to highest on the numbered spaces, to find out the names of two books Saint Nicholai wrote. Make sure you also place the word with the number answer, so you may see the titles of the books. Careful, some of the answers will have with the same first number, for example the number 5, so you will have to look at the second number. It may also help to cross out each problem when you are finished. Have fun!

16 + 36 = 52 Life

15 + 15 = 30 from

24 + 18 = 42 Ochrid

71 + 13 = 84 Treasury

71 + 41 = 112 Serbian

25 + 32 = 57 of

14 + 54 = 68 St.

60 + 37 = 97 of

11 + 9 = 20 Prologue

58 + 12 = 70 Sava

44 + 36 = 80 A

43 + 80 = 123 Spirituality

29 + 19 = 48 The

5. 20 Prologue

2. 30 from

3. 42 Ochrid

and

4. 48 The    5. 52 Life    6. 57 of    7. 68 St.    8. 70 Sava,

9. 80 A    10. 84 Treasury    11. 97 of    12. 112 Serbian

13. 123 Spirituality .

Puzzle Activity by: Kathryn Kessler for Memorial Day 2005

**Saint Raphael**  
**February 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Older group**

**We have a bunch of letters that do not belong with the others. Cross out the letters C, J, Q, X, and Z. After all of those letters are crossed out, fill in the blanks in order, with the remaining letters. Hint: the answer is the Prokeimenon for the feastday of Saint Raphael. Good Luck and have fun!**

X M Z Q J X Y M X O X C U X Z C T C C Z C  
Z C H C Q Q S H C J C J Z A C C L Q Z C Q L  
S Z Q P C X Z C E J J X A K Z Q Q W X Q Z I  
J J S Q C Z C D X O J X M A N Q J Z Z D Q X  
T X X J J H Z X C E M J C Z C E C J D I X Q J  
T A C C C Z T C Z I Q O N J Q O F C J X M C X  
X Y Q H C X Z Z Q E A X J Q R C X J T Q X Z  
Z C S J X H Q A X C L L Z B X Z Q X Q J E X  
Q C U Q C X X N X D C X Z C E J R X J C Q Z  
J S T C X J C A Z J Q N D Z C X I Q C N Z G

-----

-----

-----

-----

-----

**Puzzle activity by Kathryn Kessler**

Saint Raphael  
February 27<sup>th</sup>  
Older group

We have a bunch of letters that do not belong with the others. Cross out the letters C, J, Q, X, and Z. After all of those letters are crossed out, fill in the blanks in order, with the remaining letters. Hint: the answer is the Prokeimenon for the feastday of Saint Raphael. Good Luck and have fun!

X M Z Q J X Y M X O X C U X Z C T C C Z C  
Z C H C Q Q S H C J C J Z A C C L Q Z C Q L  
S Z Q P C X Z C E J J X A K Z Q Q W X Q Z I  
J J S Q C Z C D X O J X M A N Q J Z Z D Q X  
T X X J J H Z X C E M J C Z C E C J D I X Q J  
T A C C C Z T C Z I Q O N J Q O F C J X M C X  
X Y Q H C X Z Z Q E A X J Q R C X J T Q X Z  
Z C S J X H Q A X C L L Z B X Z Q X Q J E X  
Q C U Q C X X N X D C X Z C E J R X J C Q Z  
J S T C X J C A Z J Q N D Z C X I Q C N Z G

M Y M O U T H S H A L L  
S P E A K W I S D O M A N D  
T H E M E D I T A T I O N O F  
M H E A R T S H A L L B E  
U N D E R S T A N D I N G.

Puzzle activity by Kathryn Kessler



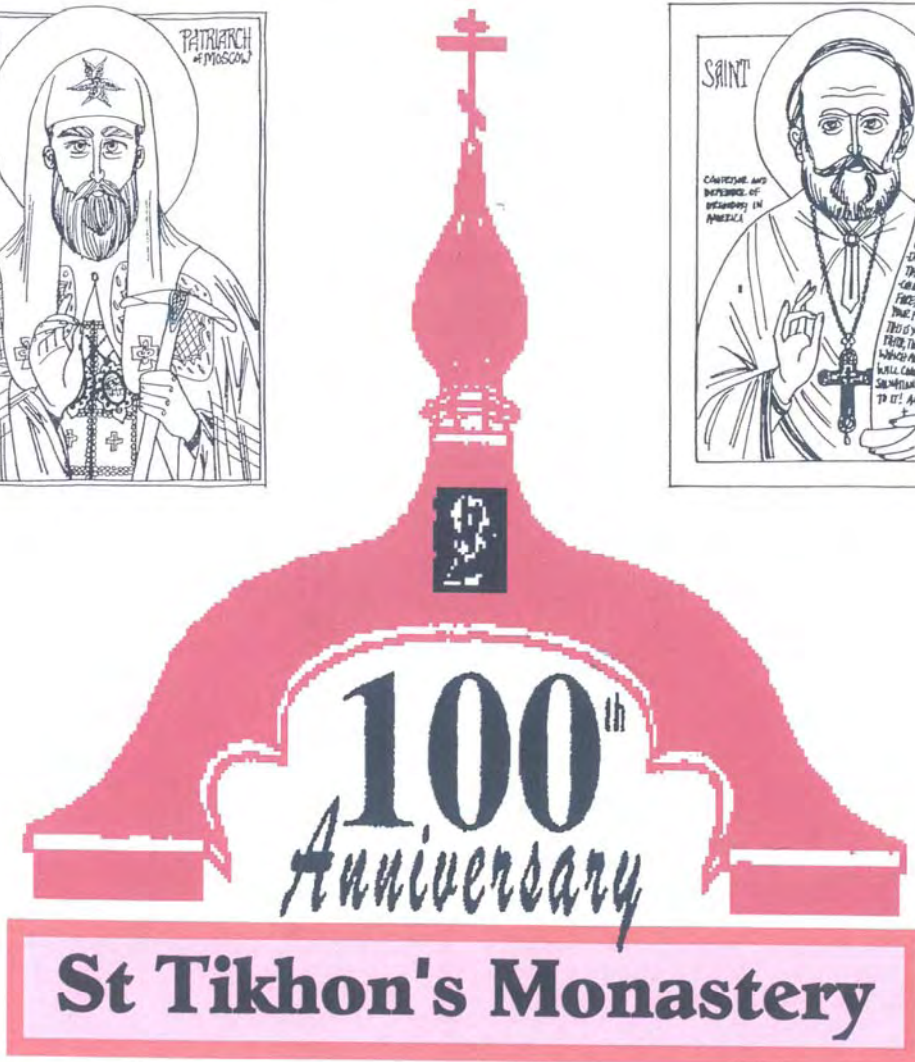
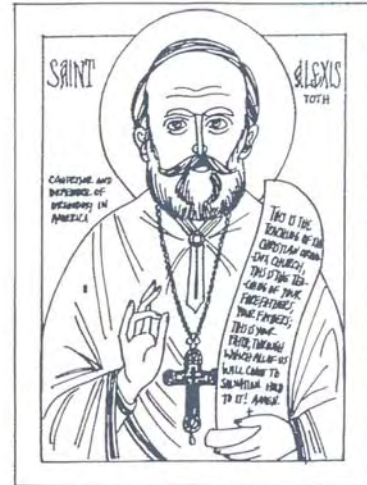
**ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
THE SAINTS OF SOUTH CANAAN**

**Participant Sign-in Sheet: Grades 7-8**

Instructors: \_\_\_\_\_

Activity Description: “Saints of South Canaan” & Computer Lab: “Surfing the Monastery Web” Students will read and/or discuss the lives of Sts. Tikhon, Raphael, Alexis, and Nicholas. Students will then Discuss the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Tikhon’s Monastery by logging on to the web site ([www.stots.edu](http://www.stots.edu)). Students may also log on to the Monasteries of North America web site (<http://omna.malf.net>) to log onto a monastery and see their mission, offerings and gifts to the world. Another possible site for girls is the women’s monastery of Panagia Philanthropini in Greece, which is also a cancer research center. ([www.ormyliacenter.gr/index\\_fr.html](http://www.ormyliacenter.gr/index_fr.html))

Participant’s Name	Signature	Time In	Time Out	Initial
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
22.				
23.				
24.				
25.				
26.				



May 30, 2005



### **"The Saints of South Canaan"**

A presentation in honor of the 100th Anniversary of St. Tikhon's Monastery

Text: Myra Kovalak

Taken from: *Orthodox America, 1794-1975*, by John Erickson and Constance Tarasar (1975) and *Portraits of American Saints*, by George A. Gray (1994)

Special thanks to Mr. Alexis Liberovsky, Director, OCA Dept. of History and Archives

Illustrations: Kimberly Metz and Timothy Macura

Puzzles: Kathryn Kessler

Activities: OCA Department of Christian Education, and St. Herman of Alaska Church, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Cover and Lay-out: Fr. Daniel Kovalak

Department of Religious Education, Diocese of Eastern PA  
Department of Christian Education  
Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries  
Department of History and Archives  
Orthodox Church in America  
His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman  
May 30, 2005

# St Tikhon

(April 7, October 9)

7-8



## Tropar - Tone One

Let us praise Tikhon, patriarch of all Russia, and  
Enlightener of North America.  
An ardent follower of the Apostolic traditions,  
And good pastor of the Church of Christ,  
Who was elected by divine providence,  
and laid down his life for his sheep.  
Let us sing to him with faith and hope,  
And ask for his hierarchical intercessions:  
Keep the church in Russia in tranquility,  
And the church in North America in peace.  
Gather her scattered children into one flock,  
Bring to repentance those who have renounced the  
True Faith.  
Preserve our lands from civil strife,  
And entreat God's peace for all people!

**St. Tikhon** (Bellavin) was born in Russia in 1865. He was consecrated a bishop and sent to the United States in 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop in the continental United States he was in charge of all Orthodox parishes from New York to Alaska. He visited many parts of the U.S. and encouraged people of all Orthodox backgrounds to establish churches. He opened the first American Orthodox seminary in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He requested a new bishop for Alaska, Bishop Innocent. He also consecrated the first American Orthodox bishop, St. Raphael, in Brooklyn, NY. St. Tikhon convened the first American Church Council in 1907. St. Tikhon also had the first complete book of Orthodox Church services translated into English. St. Tikhon established the first Orthodox monastery in the United States, St. Tikhon's Monastery (named after St. Tikhon of Zadonsk in Russia) which is 100 years old. In 1907, he returned to Eastern Europe and was later elected Metropolitan of Moscow. In 1917, during the Communist Revolution, St. Tikhon was elected Patriarch of Russia. He suffered many physical hardships and house arrest. He died in 1925. In October, 1989, Patriarch Tikhon was proclaimed a saint and is called "Enlightener of North America and Confessor of Moscow."

- In what country was St. Tikhon born?
- As the only Orthodox bishop in the continental U.S., what did St. Tikhon do to help the Orthodox church when he arrived in 1898?
- St. Tikhon founded what monastery and named it after whom?
- Whom did St. Tikhon bring to America to help with the Orthodox Church?
- Whom did he consecrate in Brooklyn NY, who later became a saint?
- What happened when St. Tikhon was sent back to Russia?
- What happened to St. Tikhon while he served as patriarch of Moscow and Russia?
- When was he canonized a saint?

# St Raphael

(February 27)

7-8



## Tropar- Tone One

Your proclamation has gone out throughout  
North America,  
Calling the scattered sheep into the unity of  
the church.  
Hearing your voice, they responded to your  
teaching,  
And through your writings you instructed  
them in piety.  
Now guided by your example, O Father  
Raphael,  
We sing hymns of praise unto Christ our God.  
Glory to Him who gave you strength!  
Glory to Him Who granted you a crown!  
Glory to Him Who through you grants healing  
to all!

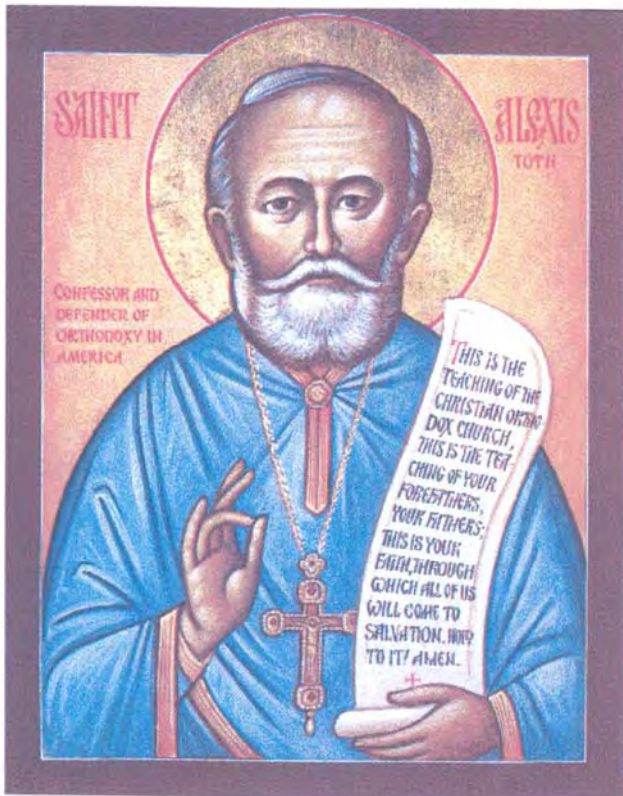
**St. Raphael** Hawaweeny was born in Beirut Lebanon in 1860. His family had fled Damascus, Syria because of Muslim persecutions. When his family returned, St Raphael, a talented student, became well educated. He was able to attend several well-known theological schools and was invited to Russia to study in Kiev (Ukraine), Kazan, and Moscow. While in Russia he taught and wrote many educational articles, books, becoming well-known throughout Russia, the Middle East, and the Orthodox world. He was invited to America to help Arab Christians establish churches. He traveled the country uniting and encouraging Orthodox Christians of all backgrounds (Russian, Greek, Arabic) to establish parishes and pray together. Because of his great intellect, he became well-known throughout the Christian and non-Christian world. St. Tikhon consecrated him Bishop of Brooklyn at St. Nicholas Cathedral, one of the thirty parishes he established. St. Raphael was involved in establishing St. Tikhon's Monastery, leading its first pilgrimage. He wrote and translated Orthodox service books, some of which are still in use today. He established a newspaper, *The Word*, to keep up with the ongoing demand of continuing education of Orthodox people. In ill health the last few years of his life, he worked tirelessly, bringing 25,000 people into the Orthodox faith. He died in 1915, and was canonized a saint on May 29, 2000 at St. Tikhon's Monastery. His final resting place is at The Antiochian Village in Ligonier, PA.

- In what country was St. Raphael born?
- After showing much academic talent and becoming a monk; where was St. Raphael invited to study?
- Why was St Raphael sent to America?
- When he arrived in the US. what did St Raphael encourage Orthodox people from different countries to do?
- Who consecrated St Raphael a bishop in 1904?
- At what monastery did he lead the first pilgrimage?

# St Alexis

(May 7)

7-8



**St. Alexis** (Toth) was born in Slovakia in 1854. His father was a Uniate Greek Catholic priest. Many people who were once Orthodox in this area of Europe also were Uniates. The people who belonged to the Uniate Church had the same services and traditions as those in Orthodox churches, except they became part of the Roman Catholic Church. St. Alexis also became a Greek Catholic priest, and was sent to America in 1889, to serve as a mission priest at St. Mary's Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. While he was there, he decided that he should return to the true Orthodox Church, and brought many people in his parish with him. St. Alexis then moved to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, where he brought many more people back into the Orthodox Church, some 15,000 altogether. He organized the Russian Orthodox Mutual Aid Society to help Russian and Eastern European immigrants. He also wrote a book of basic Orthodox catechism, or doctrine, called, *Where to Seek the Truth*, to help people better understand their Orthodox faith. He received many awards for his work, including one from St. Tikhon. He was a priest at Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre until his death on May 7, 1909. He was buried at St Tikhon's Monastery. It was there in May, 1994 that he was canonized a saint and designated, "Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America."

## Tropar - Tone Four

O righteous Father Alexis,  
Our heavenly intercessor and teacher,  
Divine adornment of the Church of Christ,  
Entreat the Master of All  
To strengthen the Orthodox faith in  
America,  
To grant peace to the world  
And to our souls great mercy.

- In what country was St. Alexis born?
- Where was St. Alexis sent to serve when he first came to America?
- As a Greek Catholic mission priest to America, what did St. Alexis decide he must do? What was the result?
- While a priest in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, what did St. Alexis do to help Orthodox people better understand their faith?
- Name the organization St. Alexis started to help Orthodox people coming to the US.
- About how many people is it estimated St. Alexis brought into the Orthodox faith?
- When and where was St. Alexis canonized?

# St Nikolai

(March 18)

7-8



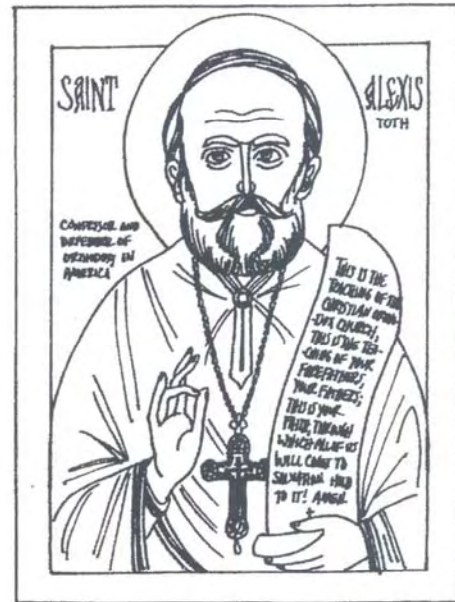
**St. Nikolai** was born Nikolai Velimirovich in Serbia in 1880. A bright and gifted student, he attended seminaries in Belgrade, Yugoslavia (where he later taught) and Bern, Switzerland, earning a doctorate degree. He also earned a doctorate degree, taught at Oxford University in England, and studied in Russia. He returned to Serbia and became bishop of Zicha and Ochrid in 1919. He arrived in America in 1921, and created the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of America and Canada, establishing many churches. He returned to Serbia in 1922 and served in his two dioceses. When World War II broke out, there was great turmoil in Yugoslavia (Serbia). Hundreds of thousands of Orthodox Christians were tortured and killed by the Nazis. St. Nikolai and Patriarch Gavrilo were sent to the Dachau concentration camp. There they suffered many physical tortures, but both survived. When they were liberated from the camp at the end of the war, St. Nikolai found he could not return to Serbia because of the outbreak of communism, and limits on practicing religion. He came back to America in 1946, lived in New York City, and taught at the Serbian Orthodox Seminary in Libertyville, Illinois. In 1949 he moved to St. Vladimir's Seminary, and then settled in South Canaan where he taught and became rector of St. Tikhon's Seminary. He wrote many books, and continued his education, earning doctorate degrees from Columbia University, Halle in Germany, and the Sorbonne, in Paris. He spoke, gave sermons, and taught in English because he felt it was important to teach people about the Orthodox faith in their language. St. Nikolai's books of sermons and commentaries on the saints are known throughout the world. He died at St. Tikhon's in 1956. Finally able to go home, he was buried in Serbia. He was canonized a saint in 1987.

## Tropar - Tone Eight

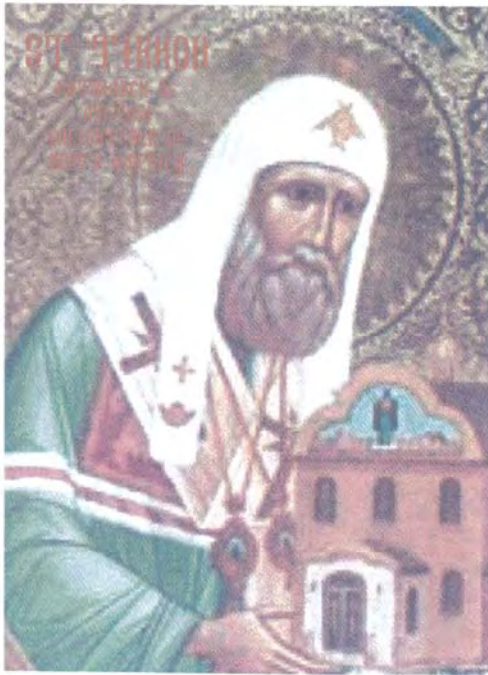
Leaving your homeland you came as a patriot to  
secure aid for God's suffering children.  
And as a new Chrysostom you did preach to  
those in darkness.  
The rediscovery of the foundational rock, Christ  
the Lord,  
In the eternal homeland of God's kingdom;  
Your pastoral love for all, O Confessor Nikolai,  
was purified in captivity by the Godless.  
You demonstrated your commitment to the  
Truth and your people;  
Therefore, O venerable hierarch, you have  
attained the crown of eternal life.

- In what country was St. Nikolai born?
- Where did he first become a bishop?
- While in America as bishop in the early 1920's, what did he accomplish?
- When he returned to Serbia, what happened to St. Nikolai and Patriarch Gavrilo during World War II?
- After World War II, why could St. Nikolai not return to Serbia?
- Where did St. Nikolai settle to teach and write until his death?
- When was St. Nikolai canonized?

# Saints of South Canaan







## Saints of South Canaan

