

## THINK ABOUT IT ...

### THE ANNUNCIATION

1. Who announced to the Virgin Mary that she would become the Theotokos?
  - A. Angel Michael
  - B. Angel Gabriel
  - C. Elizabeth
  - D. Joseph
2. Elizabeth:
  - A. was old and had been unable to have children
  - B. was Mary's cousin
  - C. became the mother of St. John the Baptist
  - D. all of the above
3. The Angel told Mary that:
  - A. She should name her Child "Jesus"
  - B. The Child would be "the Son of God"
  - C. "of His Kingdom there will be no end"
  - D. all of the above

### ST. INNOCENT

1. St. Innocent was born in:
  - A. Alaska
  - B. Serbia
  - C. Russia
  - D. Pennsylvania
2. St. Innocent is called the Apostle to:
  - A. America
  - B. Armenia
  - C. Australia
  - D. Arcadia
3. When St. Innocent lived in Alaska, how many languages did he preach in:
  - A. Only one: Russian
  - B. Two: English and Russian
  - C. Two: Russian and French
  - D. Six: including Aleut and Yakut

## Annunciation Most Holy Theotokos



***"Let it be to me according to your word."***  
(Luke 1:38)

## THE ANNUNCIATION

from Luke 1: 24-38

On March 25, the Orthodox Church celebrates the Feast of the Annunciation. “Annunciation” is a word that means **“to announce.”**

The Feast of the Annunciation celebrates the day when the **Angel Gabriel** appeared to the Virgin Mary to announce to her that she would become the **Theotokos, the Mother of Christ our God.**

Mary lived in a city named **Nazareth** which was in the region of Israel called Galilee. She was engaged to be married to a man named **Joseph**, who was a descendant of King David.

When he came in, the Angel said to Mary, *“Rejoice, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!”*

When she first saw the Angel Gabriel, she was worried. But he told her that God had blessed her, so she should not be afraid.

The Angel said to Mary, *“And you will give birth to a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus.”*

Mary asked how that could happen, because she was not a married woman.

The Angel Gabriel replied, *“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you.”*

He also told her *“that **Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God ... and of His Kingdom there will be no end.**”*

And the Angel also told her that her cousin **Elizabeth**, who was old and had never been able to have children, would also have a son. Elizabeth’s son became **Saint John the Baptist.**

Mary wondered about what the Angel said, but the Angel told her that all these things were true, **“Because with God nothing is impossible.”**

Then Mary said, *“Behold the maidservant of the Lord! **Let it be to me according to your word.**”*

And then the Angel went away.

## ST. INNOCENT

**Metropolitan of Moscow and Apostle to America and Siberia**

March 31 commemorates the Repose of St. Innocent. St Innocent is also commemorated on October 6 (his glorification). He was born in Irkutsk, Russia, in 1797.

St. Innocent felt called by God to preach the Gospel “to the ends of the earth.” So he spent most of his life traveling to remote regions. He went to the far northern forests of Siberia and taught the people there about Christ.

He traveled to Alaska, which was at that time a territory of Russia. In the Aleutian Islands of Alaska, he learned the languages of six different native peoples and preached to them in their own languages.

St. Innocent translated a Catechism (a book that teaches about the Orthodox faith) and the Gospel into the Aleut language.

In 1833, he wrote a book in the Aleut language, *Indication of the Way to the Kingdom of Heaven*, which is considered to be “one of the finest works of Orthodox missionary activity.”

In 1859, he conducted the first Divine Liturgy in the Yakut language.

When he was a young man, St. Innocent began his service to God as a parish priest. When he became older he was selected to serve as Metropolitan of Moscow. He obeyed the will of God all his life. His favorite Scripture, which he requested to be preached at his own funeral, was Psalm 37:23 -- “The steps of a man are rightly ordered by the Lord”.

