



# The Eagle

NOV., 1998

No 3

---

FRIENDS OF ST. INNOCENT'S ACADEMY  
c/o ST. PAISIUS ABBEY, P.O. BOX 130  
FORESTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95436

## *The Building of the Three Hierarchs*

*The building of an exact replica of the Three Hierarchs—the ship which carried St. Herman, St. Ioasaph, Protomartyr Juvenal, Fr. Macarius and the other monks of the Valaam Monastery mission to America in 1794—is becoming more than just a dream. The city of Kodiak has offered a dock upon which to build it, and there are interested shipwrights and eager students. The following letter refers to a short history of the ship, "The Three Hierarchs," soon to be published.*

All is well in Alaska, by the grace of God. Our students are all progressing very well and the school building is also coming along.

The enclosed text is the story of the Three Hierarchs. Everything in the text has been thoroughly researched with the addition of a little creative authorship for inspiration sake. In other words, it is historically accurate to the best of my abilities but also engaging to read (not a true scholarly work, thank God).

All the information in the story was gleaned from the letters of Shelikov, Baranov and others, as well as expedition journals. Much of the other information is simply Russian American History. Many of the details were gleaned since there is very little about the ship

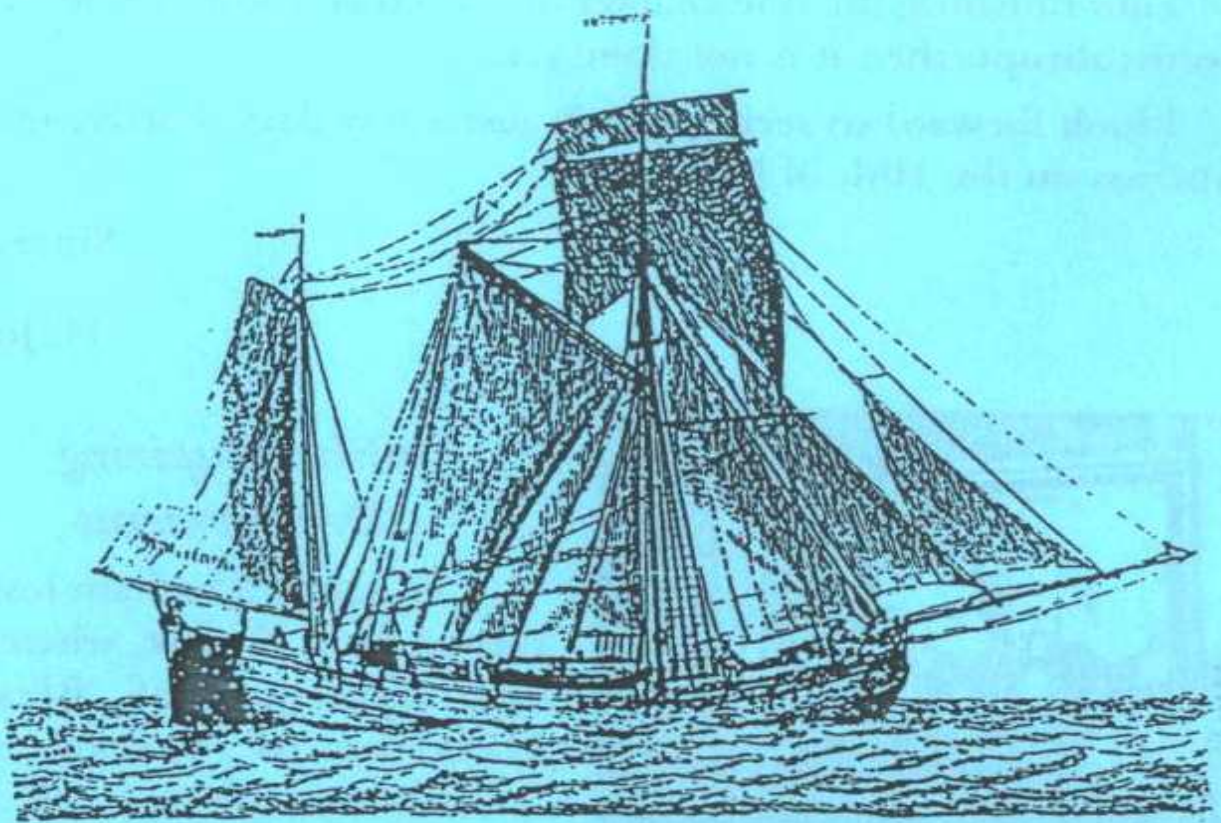
itself. For example, there is one passing statement by Bocharov (assistant captain) in an expedition Journal of the Three Hierarchs that mentions a top-Galant sail and a top sail which indicates that her main mast had two sails up top. This also indicates that there was probably a Gaff sail fore and aft. Thus, with one little reference we can determine exactly what the ship was like.

The drawing on the cover was sent to me from the National Museum in Holland. It is almost exactly what the Three Hierarchs looked like with only two differences: there was a square stern (not round) and there was a second deck aft (on the stern). This made her more aesthetically pleasing as well as better to handle the treacherous North Pacific seas.

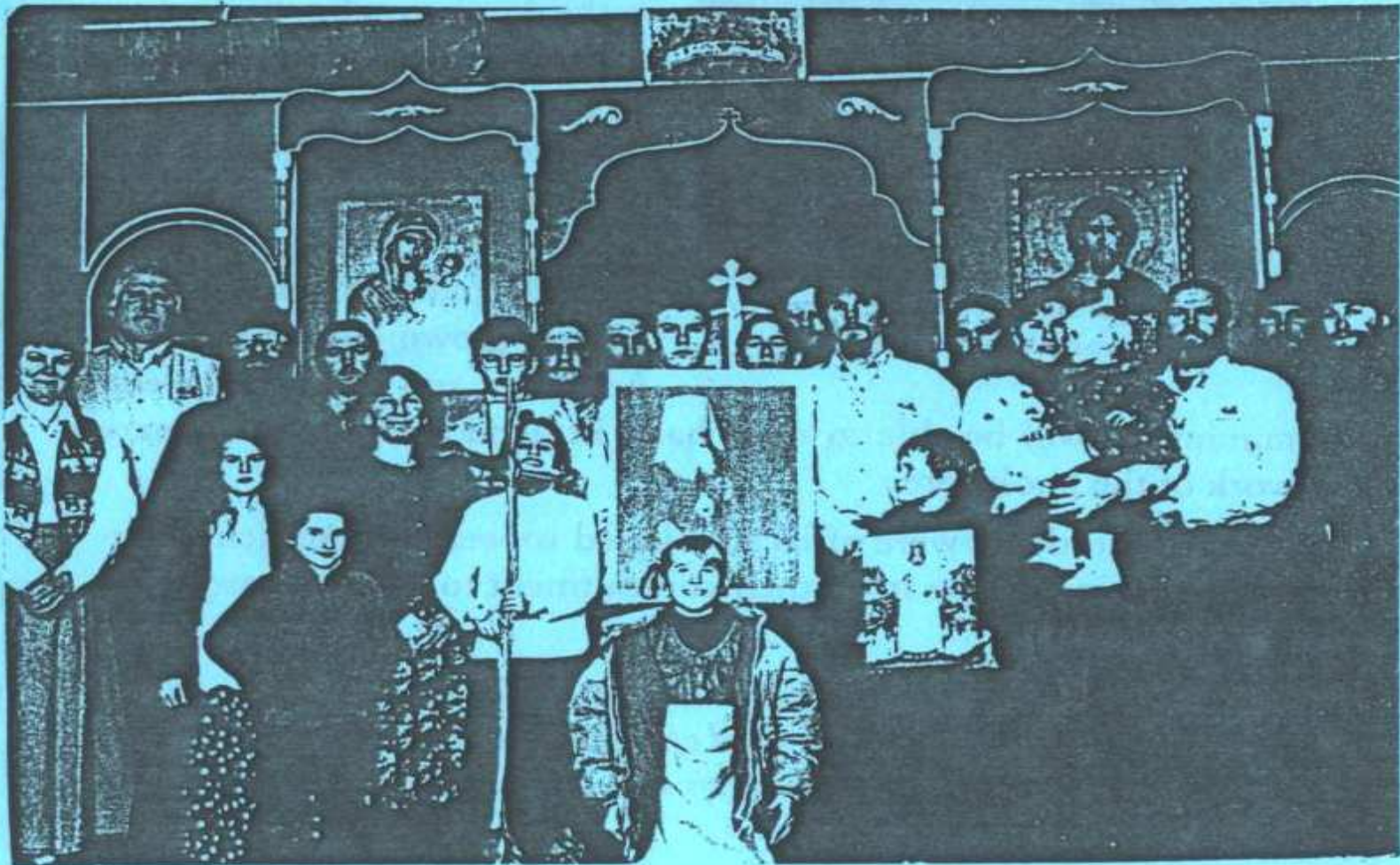
Well, enough rambling. I am writing to ask your general blessing on the text and project as well. I also am interested in any changes that the text needs. If you could have someone read it to you, you could make corrections. I could also use your insights historically. To put it in plain English, please tell me what you think.



Academy students: Ian, Matthew, Joshua, Leonty, Eric,



Approximate depiction of "The Three Hierarchs,"  
which valiantly connected Russia and America.



Teachers and students of St. Innocent's Academy,

I am finishing the one chapter on the conversion of Kodiak. If it seems abrupt, then it is not done yet.

I look forward to seeing you in just a few days. I arrive in San Francisco on the 10th of November.

Sincerely,

Fr. John



Fr. Jonas giving an edifying speech to the assembly of students.

### *Other Inspiring Developments*

Fr. Jonas Worsham just returned from Kodiak, where, on the nameday of Blessed Nazarius of Valaam and Sarov—who blessed the first missionaries to Alaska—after serving the first Divine Liturgy in the Academy church, he purchased the restaurant business directly above Monks' Rock Bookstore and Coffeeshop. He will be moving soon with his family to Kodiak, to be a strength to the missionary community growing up around the Academy, and through the res-

taurant, he will be able to work hand in hand with the missionary work of the bookstore.

The students were officially blessed to wear the Academy uniform, making visible to all their commitment to Christ's army.

*The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest.*

—Matthew 9:37-38