

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

VT Route 12 (Mailing: P.O. Box 353)

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December 16, 2007

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Fr. Caleb Abetti, Priest (603.219.1711)

Susanna Toolan, President

Fr. Dn. John Konkle, Deacon (603.738.4635)

Rebecca Kotula, Choir Director

Sunday, December 16. **29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (13th of Luke) Tone 4. Sunday of the Forefathers.** Prophet Haggai (Aggaeus 500 B.C.). Martyr Marinus of Rome (3rd c.). Bl. Empress Theophano (Theophania - 893-4).

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom , 9:30am.

Epistle: Col 3:4-11

Gospel: Lk 14:16-24.

Wednesday, December 19. Eve of the **Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ.** Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, Bishop of Antioch (107). Repose of St. John of Kronstadt (1908).

Reader's Daily Vespers, 5:30pm.

Saturday, December 22.

Reader's Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 5pm.

Sunday, December 23. **30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (14th of Luke) - Tone 5. Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ. Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ.** Holy Ten Martyrs of Crete: Theodulus, Saturninus, Euporus, Gelasius, Eunician, Zoticus, Pompeius, Agathopus, Basilides, and Evaristus (3rd c.). Repose of St. Theoctist, Archbishop of Novgorod (1310). St. Niphon, Bishop of Cyprus (4th c.). St. Paul, Bishop of Neo-Caesarea (4th c.).

3rd and 6th Hours, 9:10am.

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom , 9:30am.

Epistle: Heb 11:9-10,17-23,32-40

Gospel: Mt:1:1-25.

Forefeast of the Nativity

The Forefeast of the Nativity begins on Wednesday evening with the proclamation to prepare ourselves:

Troparion - Tone 4

Prepare, O Bethlehem,
for Eden has been opened to all!
Adorn yourself, O Ephratha,
for the tree of life blossoms forth
from the Virgin in the cave!
Her womb is a spiritual paradise
planted with the Divine Fruit:
If we eat of it, we shall live forever
and not die like Adam.
Christ comes to restore the image
which He made in the beginning!

Kontakion - Tone 3

Today the Virgin comes to the cave
to give birth to the Eternal Word.
Hear the glad tidings and rejoice, O universe!
Glorify with the angels and the shepherds
the Eternal God,
who is willing to appear as a little child!

Nativity Preparation and Services

Angel tree gifts wrapping and Cookie preparation will take place on Wednesday, December 19th at 11am for two to three hours. All are welcome. If you're not able to get your gifts to the church before Wednesday, bringing them next Sunday is fine.

Parish Christmas Cards will be available this Wednesday and throughout next weekend.

Fr. Caleb and Mat. Nicole will be traveling to a family wedding in California, Wednesday through Sunday this week. Please keep them in your prayers. Fr. Mark Korban will be serving Divine Liturgy next Sunday.

Church Decoration for our celebration of Nativity will take place after Liturgy next Sunday. All, young and old, are invited to stay and help. Contributions of greens, berries and poinsettias are welcome.

Services for the Nativity of our Lord:

Dec	24 th	Monday	9:30am	Vespers with Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
			4:30pm	Holy Supper
			6:00pm	Vigil for the Nativity of Christ
Dec	25 th	Tuesday	9:30am	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Holy Supper is a fasting meal featuring traditional Christmas Eve foods with special prayers. This is wonderful event for the entire family, and for friends! Contact Anna Konkle if you can help out with the meal. Please note that the Supper begins promptly at 4:30pm. Those bringing food items should have them on the tables in five separate serving dishes comfortably before 4:30.

Important Dates

Jan 1 Tuesday

* Feast day of St. Basil the Great.

Jan 6 Sunday

* Feast of The Theophany of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ (and the beginning of House blessing season).