

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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February 3, 2008

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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, February 3. **36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. Afterfeast of the Meeting.** Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-receiver and Anna the Prophetess.

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

Epistle: I Tim 1:15-17 Gospel: Mt 15:21-28.

Wednesday, February 6. St. Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople (891). Ven. Barsanuphius the Great and John the Prophet (6th c.).

Reader's Daily Vespers, 5:30pm, with light meal and study on the Lord's prayer.

Saturday, February 9.

Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 5pm.

Sunday, February 10. **37th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 4. Sunday of Zaccæus.** Hieromartyr Haralambos, Bishop of Magnesia in Thessaly, and Martyrs Porphyrius, Baptus and three women Martyrs (202). Synaxis of the Hierarchs of Novgorod, buried in the Cathedral of the Holy Wisdom (Sophia) in Novgorod: Joachim (1030), Luke (1058), Theodore (1077), Herman (1096), Arkádii (Arcadius) (1163), John (1185), Gabriel (1193), Martyrii (1199), Anthony (1231), Basil (1352), Moses (1362), Simeon (1421), Evfim (Euthymius) (1458) and Aftonii (Aphthonius) (1652).

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

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

Epistle: I Tim 4:9-15 Gospel: Lk 19:1-10

Today's Saints

Sunday, 2/3: Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-receiver and Anna the Prophetess: On the day following several of the major feasts, we commemorate the significant people associated with the feast. For example, the day after Christmas, we commemorate the Theotokos; the day after Theophany, we commemorate John the Baptist; the day after the Annunciation we commemorate the angel Gabriel. Today, the day after the Feast of the Meeting of Christ in the Temple, we commemorate Sts Simeon and Anna the prophetess. To St. Simeon, we owe the beautiful prayer that we say every Vespers, "Lord, now let your servant depart in peace," And it was St. Simeon who recognizes so clearly that this little child whom he received into his arms was a light not only to Israel, but to all the gentile nations. St. Anna the prophetess is the other person involved in the Meeting of Christ in the Temple, and she, who did not depart from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day," also recognized this infant for who he truly was and "spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem." (Lk 2:22-40)

Lenten Study

Father Caleb will be leading a Lenten study on Wednesday evenings starting February 13th. We will be using both Fr. Schmemmann's *Great Lent* and St. John Climacus' *The Ladder*. While you don't need to own the books to come to the study, you may be interested in purchasing them; they are both classics—St John's work is an ancient classic that is read in monasteries every Lent; Fr. Schmemmann's a modern classic which opens up the meaning of our Lenten practices and services in simple but profound ways.

House Blessings

Today, after coffee hour, everyone is invited to the Andreyevs for the blessing of their home. After the blessing, if the weather is good, we can sled or snowshoe, or even cross country ski- so bring warm clothes and your favorite gear. Plenty of hot chocolate and food inside too, for those who'd rather stay warm.

On Saturday, 2/9 at 12:30pm, all are invited to Sarah Hoffman's for the blessing of her home and for brunch. We will have brunch first to allow time for Sarah's son, John, to return home from work to take part in the House Blessing. This year's house blessing is an especially important event for Sarah so please come, and bring your family if you can.

On Sunday, 2/17, all are invited to the Abettis for the blessing of their home. Bring your skates if you have them (if not, they have some extras); on their property is a large indoor skating area.

The time for house blessings is drawing to a close. If you would like to have your home blessed, please see Father Caleb to set up a time. You most definitely do not need to have a party to have your house blessed. Parish gatherings are fun, but the house blessing comes from the transforming waters of the Jordan from the Feast of Theophany.

Parish Finances (Sept 07 – Jan 08)

Budgeted general offering: \$23,096 (\$4620/mth)

Actual general offering: \$19,935 (\$3837 in January)

Important Dates

Feb 24 Sun Parish Council Meeting

Mar 9 Sun Forgiveness Sunday

Mar 25 Tue The Annunciation

Apr 5 Sat Lenten Retreat: Fr. John Behr speaking on "Standing by the Cross, Putting on Christ"

Apr 27 Sun Pascha