

**ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH**

802.485.9121 www.stjacobofalaska.org

March 16, 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

**+ + + Service Schedule + + +**

Sunday, March 16. *FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT* — *Tone 1. Sunday of Orthodoxy.* Martyr Sabinas of Egypt.

Martyr Pappas of Lyconia (305-311). St. Serapion, Archbishop of Novgorod (1516).

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

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, 9:30am.

*Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26,32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51*

Wednesday, March 19.

9<sup>th</sup> hour and Typica, 5:30pm.

Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, 6pm, followed by Lenten meal & Study (*GL*, App; *Ladder* ch 5)

Saturday, March 22. *SECOND SATURDAY OF LENT*—*Memorial Saturday.* Hieromartyr Basil of Ancyra (362-363).

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

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

*Epistle: Hebrews 3:12-16; 1 Thess 4:13-17; Gospel: John 1:43-51*

Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 5pm.

Sunday, March 23. *SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT* — *Tone 2. St. Gregory Palamas.* Martyr Nikon and 199 disciples with him in Sicily (251).

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

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, 9:30am.

*Epistle: Heb 1:10-2:3; 7:26-8:2 Gospel: Mk 1:35-44; Jn 5:24-30*

**+ + + Important Upcoming Dates + + +**

Tue, 3/25

The Annunciation

Sun, 3/30

Parish Council Meeting, noon

Parents Support Group, 4pm at the Abettis

Sat, 4/5

Lenten Retreat: “The Word of the Cross” (Fr. John Behr)

12:30 “Through the Cross”

2:30 “Born Again”

5:00 Vespers

6:30 Dinner

Sat, 4/19

Lazarus Saturday

Sun, 4/27

Pascha

**+ + + Announcements + + +**

CERV Sunday: Today we are collecting food for Community Emergency Relief Volunteers, our Northfield food shelf. Please put canned and dried goods in the basket in the Narthex. We will continue to collect food on the 3rd Sunday of the month in the future.

**+ + + Liturgical Reflection + + +**

Sunday of Orthodoxy: Also known as “The Triumph of Orthodoxy.” Originally, the Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on the first Sunday of Lent. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage. However, the commemoration has shifted to the "Triumph of Orthodoxy," the restoration of the holy icons in the reign of the holy Empress Theodora in the early 9<sup>th</sup> century.

Memorial Saturday: While every Saturday is a commemoration of those who have passed this life before us, the Church sets aside several Saturdays a year as ‘Memorial’ Saturdays on which we are invited to remember the saints and martyrs who lie asleep in the Lord and to pray for our loved ones who have departed this life in the hope of the resurrection. Saturday uniquely unifies the seventh day of the week, on which God rested from all his works (Gen 2:1-3), and our Lord God and Savior’s rest in the tomb, where he too rested from His work of trampling down death by death. Indeed, this time of quiet stillness becomes the very rest we are invited to enter (Heb 4) when we take up our cross and follow Him to Golgotha.

**+ + + This Week’s Saints + + +**

(adapted from www.oca.org)

Monday, March 17. *St. Patrick the Bishop of Armagh and Enlightener of Ireland (+461 or +492)*: Taken captive at the age of sixteen (c. 401) when his home town was raided by pirates, the young Patrick was brought to Ireland, sold as a slave, and put to work as a swine herder in a mountainous region. For six years he worked and prayed in the solitude of his mountains until at last he had two visions directing him to a ship that would return him to Wales. After journeying to Gaul to study for the priesthood under St. Germanus, he was ordained a bishop and sent to do missionary work in Ireland (c. 432). Through many hardships and dangers, St. Patrick remained faithful to preaching Christ, founding churches, ordaining native priests and deacons, and promoting the growth of monasticism. He fell asleep in the Lord on March 17.

Tuesday, March 18. *St. Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem (386)*: Born in 315 and raised in strict Christian piety, Cyril was tonsured a monk in his teens, ordained a priest at the age of 31 and a bishop at 35 in the year 350. As Patriarch of Jerusalem, St. Cyril was a zealous defender of the faith against the influential Arian and Macedonian heresies. When an intense famine struck Jerusalem, he expended all his wealth in charity; when the famine continued, he pawned church utensils and used the money to feed the starving. Having persevered through tumultuous times, including three exiles, he is known for his great asceticism, his unflinching defense of Orthodoxy (including his participation in the 2nd Ecumenical Council in 381), and for his twenty-three lectures to catechumens and newly-baptized--useful reading material for all Orthodox.