

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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March 30, 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 30. *Third Sunday of Lent — Tone 3. Veneration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross. Ven. John Climacus of Sinai, author of The Ladder (6th c.).*

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

Epistle: Heb 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mk 8:34-9:1

Parish Council Meeting, 12 noon.

Wednesday, April 2. *Eve of Virgin Martyr Theodosia of Tyre, and Martyr Irene (307-308)*

9th hour and Typica, 5:40pm.

Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, 6pm, followed by Lenten meal & Study (*Ladder* ch 7)

Saturday, April 5.

Lenten Retreat: “Standing by the Cross; Putting on Christ” (Fr. John Behr)

12:30pm “Through the Cross”

2:00pm Break

2:30pm “Born Again”

5:00pm Great Vespers of the Resurrection

6:00pm Dinner

Sunday, April 6. *Fourth Sunday of Lent – Tone 4. St. John Climacus (of The Ladder). St. Eutychius, Patriarch of Constantinople (582). St. Methodius, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Moravia and Enlightener of the Slavs (885).*

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

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

Epistle: Heb 6:13-30; Eph 5:9-19 Gospel: Mk 9:17-31; Mt 4:25-5:12

+ + + Important Upcoming Dates + + +

Thur, 4/10 Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6pm.

Fri, 4/11 Akathist to the Mother of God, 7pm at Holy Dormition in Burlington

Sat, 4/19 Lazarus Saturday:

Vigil, 6pm on Friday

Liturgy, 9:30am on Saturday

Preparations for Palm Sunday and Holy Week, Saturday afternoon.

Sun, 4/20 Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

Sun, 4/27 Pascha

+ + + Announcements + + +

Mission Collection: Today we will have our special missions collection that will be sent directly to Fr. Chrysostomos in Kenya before Pascha.

Parenting Support Group: will meet today at the Abetti’s at 4:00pm. All are welcome and encouraged to come and contribute; please bring a dish for a potluck meal.

Lenten Retreat: Matushka Nicki is organizing the dinner for next Saturday’s Lenten retreat. Please see her to sign up to bring something.

+ + + Liturgical Reflection + + +

Veneration of the Cross: At the very center of our Lenten journey to Pascha, the cross is brought out in solemn procession during Vigil on Saturday evening before the 3rd Sunday of Lent. The Cross is normally venerated, even on Sunday, by first doing two prostrations, kissing the cross, and then a third prostration. Among the many hymns we will sing to the Cross this week is the line “*Shine, Cross of the Lord, shine with the light of your grace upon the hearts of those that honor you. ... Through you our tears have been wiped away; we have been delivered from the snares of death and have passed over to unending joy. Show us the glory of your beauty ...*” (Sticherion for Lord I Call)

Those who are preparing for Holy Illumination: Beginning on the 4th Wednesday of Great Lent, we add a prayer during the Presanctified Liturgy for those who are preparing for Holy Illumination—to support them in their preparation for their baptism/chrisamation on Great and Holy Saturday. Let this serve as a reminder for us all to keep our catechumens in prayer.

+ + + This Week’s Saints + + +

(adapted from www.oca.org)

Monday, March 31. *Repose of St. Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to the Americas (1879).* St Innocent (Veniaminov), Metropolitan of Moscow and Kolomensk (August 26, 1797 - March 31, 1879), was glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church on October 6, 1977. He was born in the village of Anginsk in the Irkutsk diocese. The Apostle of America and Siberia proclaimed the Gospel "even to the ends of the earth": in the Aleutian islands (from 1823), in the six dialects of the local tribes on the island of Sitka (from 1834), among the Kolosh (Tlingit); in the remotest settlements of the extensive Kamchatka diocese (from 1853); among the Koryak, Chukchei, Tungus in the Yakutsk region (from 1853) and North America (in 1857); in the Amur and the Usuriisk region (from 1860). Having spent a large part of his life in journeys, St Innocent translated a Catechism and the Gospel into the Aleut language. In 1833, he wrote in this language one of the finest works of Orthodox missionary activity *Indication of the Way to the Kingdom of Heaven*. In 1859, the Yakut first heard the Word of God and divine services in their native language. A remarkable preacher, St Innocent said, "Whoever abounds in faith and love, can have mouth and wisdom, and the heart cannot resist their serving it." Having begun his apostolic work as a parish priest, St Innocent completed it as Metropolitan of Moscow (1868-1879). He obeyed the will of God all his life, and he left behind a theme for the sermon to be preached at his funeral: "The steps of a man are rightly ordered by the Lord" (Ps 36/37:23).