

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

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

Wednesday, April 9. *Eve of Martyrs Terence, Maximus, and 40 others, beheaded at Carthage (3rd c.).*

9th hour and Typica, 5:40pm.

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

Thursday, April 10. *Eve of Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum, disciple of St. John the Theologian (92).*

Great Cannon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6pm.

Friday, April 11.

Akathist Hymn to the Most-Holy Theotokos, 7pm. NOTE: This service is at Holy Dormition, Burlington; see Dn. John for directions and coordination of rides.

Saturday, April 12.

Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 6pm.

Sunday, April 13. *Fifth Sunday of Lent – Tone 5 St. Mary of Egypt. Hieromartyr Artemon, Presbyter, of Laodicea in Syria (303).*

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

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

Epistle: Heb 9:11-14; Gal 3:23-29 Gospel: Mk 10:32-45; Lk 7:36-50

+ + + Important Upcoming Dates + + +

Fri, 4/18 Vigil for Lazarus Saturday, 6pm.

Sat, 4/19 Lazarus Saturday Liturgy, 9:30am.

Parish Council Meeting, 12noon.

Preparations for Palm Sunday and Holy Week, Saturday afternoon.

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

4/20 – 26 Holy Week: see the service schedule or website for Holy Week services.

Sun, 4/27 Pascha.

Mon, 4/28 Bright Monday Liturgy, 9am, with breakfast following at local restaurant.

+ + + Announcements + + +

March Parish Finances: General offerings for March were \$4300 (\$4600 needed for the budget).

We were also able to collect over \$1000 for the Aronsons; thank you all for your generosity! For the fiscal year (beginning in September), we have a \$4700 shortfall; please consider a special gift to help us get back on track.

+ + + Liturgical Reflection + + +

Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete: The canon which we split into four parts the first week of lent, is now—on Thursday of the fifth week—served in its entirety in Matins instead of Great Compline. “With a unique art, St. Andrew interwove the great biblical themes ... with confession of sin and repentance. The events of Sacred history are revealed as events of *my* life, God’s acts in the past as acts aimed at *me* and *my* salvation, the tragedy of sin and betrayal as *my* personal tragedy. My life is shown to me as a part of the great and all-embracing fight between God and the powers of darkness which rebel against Him. ... [T]he nine odes of the Canon tell me again and again the spiritual story of the word which is also my story.” (Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, *Great Lent*, p. 64.) For this service, the Canon to St. Mary of Egypt is added to the Canon of St. Andrew, and it is prescribed—though less common in parish practice—to read the first portion of the Life of St. Mary of Egypt as well.

Akathist Hymn to the Most-Holy Theotokos: “The Akathistos Hymn, so it seems, was originally composed at an epoch when the Annunciation was still celebrated together with Christmas and had not yet become a separate festival. ... It was probably during the reign of the Emperor Justinian (527-65) that the Annunciation first began to be celebrated on 25 March; and either when this happened or else soon after—and in any case not later than 718—the Akathistos Hymn was appointed to be sung on 25 March. More recently, perhaps during the period of the *Turcocratia* after the fall of Constantinople (1453), the Hymn was transferred from the fixed to the movable calendar, and instead of being sung on 25 March it was appointed for the Saturday in the fifth week. The custom of singing a portion of the Hymn at Compline on the first four Fridays of Lent is more recent still; while found among the Greeks, such a practice is not part of the Slav use.” (Bp. Kallistos, *The Lenten Triodion*, p. 54)

+ + + This Week’s Saints + + +

(adapoted from www.oca.org)

Monday, April 7. *Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America (1925—March 25th O.S.).* [Sorry, out of space this week. But please take time to read a little about this important America saint.]