

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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April 20, 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 For Great and Holy Week + + +

Sunday, April 20. *Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday). Ven. Theodore.*

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, 9:30am. *Phil 4:4-9 / Jn 12:1-8.*

Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Monday, 12noon. *Mt 21:18-43.*

Monday, April 21. *Great and Holy Monday.*

Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Tuesday, 6pm. *Mt 22:15-23:39.*

Tuesday, April 22. *Great and Holy Tuesday.*

Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, 9:30am. *Mt. 24:36-26:2.*

Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Wednesday, 6pm. *Jn 12:17-50.*

Wednesday, April 23. *Great and Holy Wednesday.*

Matins of Great and Holy Thursday, with Holy Unction, 6pm. *Lk 22:1-39.*

Thursday, April 24. *Great and Holy Thursday.*

Vespers with the Liturgy of St. Basil, 9:30am. *1 Cor 11:23-32 / composite Gospel.*

Matins of Great and Holy Friday, 6pm. *12 Gospels.*

Friday, April 25. *Great and Holy Friday.*

Royal Hours, 8:00am.

Vespers of Great and Holy Saturday, 3pm. *1 Cor 1:18-2:2 / composite Gospel.*

Matins of Great and Holy Saturday, 6pm. *1 Cor 5:6-8; Gal 3:13-14 / Mt 27:62-66.*

Saturday, April 26. *Great and Holy Saturday.*

Vespers (15 OT) with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, 9:30am. *Rom 6:3-11 / Mt 28:1-20.*

Reading of the Acts of the Apostles, 8:30pm.

Nocturns, 11:30pm.

Sunday, April 27. *Holy Pascha. The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Matins of Holy Pascha, 12 midnight.

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, 1:00am. *Acts 1:1-8 / Jn 1:1-17.*

Monday, April 28. *Bright Monday.*

Paschal Hours, 8:45am.

Paschal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, 9am.

+ + + Announcements + + +

Tuna and Peanut Butter Sunday: Today, the third Sunday of the month, we are collecting tuna, peanut butter, and other canned and dried goods for CERV, our Northfield food shelf.

Pascha Flower Collection: The special collection this week is for Pascha flowers. Please consider contributing to the beautification of our Temple for Pascha.

Chrismations: God willing, our catechumens Donna Vernal and David Brosell will be anointed with chrism and received into the Holy Orthodox Church at Vespers Liturgy of Great and Holy Saturday (9:30am). Please keep them in your prayers during this final week of their preparations, and join the parish in receiving them into the fullness of the faith at this beautiful service.

15 OT Readings: It is a common practice that the 15 OT readings read on Great and Holy Saturday morning during Vespers are read by many different people. You don't need to be a regular reader. Indeed, all, including the youth of the parish, are invited to participate. This is a simple way to offer ourselves to God and to others. There is a sign-up sheet on the candle table in the Narthex.

Red Eggs: The women of the parish are invited to bring a dozen red eggs on Great and Holy Saturday evening for distribution after Pascha. Traditionally these are dyed in onion skins. Ask around if you'd like advice.

Parking on Saturday Night: We have arranged overflow parking at the Rustic Inn for our midnight Pascha services. It would be *very* helpful if early arrivals and regular attendees would avail themselves of this space as a gift to others.

Readings of Acts: A common practice among Orthodox, but new for our parish, is the reading of the book of Acts in its entirety on Great and Holy Saturday evening starting at 8:30pm. Everyone is invited to take a turn reading, or simply to come and listen to the power of the Resurrection manifested in the Apostles and the early Church enlivened by the Holy Spirit. Please participate as you are able.

Bright Monday Paschal Liturgy and Breakfast at a Local Restaurant: *You don't want to miss it.* ☺

+ + + Liturgical Reflections + + +

Read all four gospels in the first three days of Holy Week. After fasting from reading the NT during the weekdays of great Lent, we are now invited to read as much from the Gospels as our life permits us to read with attentiveness and reflection.

Fasting. *Monday – Wednesday* are normal fast days, though some fast more strictly—as during the first week of Lent. On *Thursday*, wine and oil are permitted; *Friday* is a strict fast day. *Saturday* is the only Saturday of the year in which wine but not oil is permitted. We break the fast together after Paschal Liturgy *Sunday* morning; all *next week* is fast free.