

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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July 27, 2008

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Fr. Caleb Abetti
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President

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+ + + Service Schedule + + +

Sunday, July 27. 6th Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 5. Holy Greatmartyr and Healer Panteleimon (305)

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

Rom 12:6-14; 6:3-11 / Jn 15:17-16:2; Mt 28:16-20

Wednesday, July 30. Eve of The Forefeast of the Procession of the Honorable and Life-giving Cross.

Vespers, 5:30pm.

A light meal and study on St. Athanasius' *On the Incarnation*, 6:15pm.

Saturday, August 2.

Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 5pm.

Sunday, August 3. 7th Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 6. Ven. Isaac, Dalmatus, and Faustus, Ascetics of the

Dalmatian Monastery at Constantinople (4th-5th c.).

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

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

Rom 5:1-7 / Mt 9:27-35

+ + + Upcoming Events + + +

8/6	Wednesday	Feast of the Holy Transfiguration
8/15	Friday	Feast of the Holy Dormition
8/17	Sunday	Celebration of the Feast of the Holy Dormition at Burlington
9/1	Monday	Beginning of the Church Year
9/8	Monday	Feast of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos
9/14	Sunday	Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross
9/21	Sunday	Parish Feast Day

Upon them, therefore, upon men who, as animals, were essentially impermanent, He bestowed a grace which other creatures lacked--namely, being of the very Word Himself, so that, reflecting Him and themselves becoming reasonable and expressing the Mind of God even as He does, though in limited degree, they might continue for ever in the blessed and only true life of the saints in paradise.

--St. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*

+ + + Announcements + + +

Wednesday Study: On Wednesday evening after Vespers Fr. Caleb will continue his study on St. Athanasius' *On the Incarnation*. The reading for this week will be sections 3-8. Please read the material in advance if you are able.

CERV Sunday: Since the parish will be traveling to Burlington on the 3rd Sunday of August, we'll make August 10th the Sunday for donating food to CERV. They currently are in need of canned fruits and small jars of peanut butter. Please deposit your donations in the basket in the Narthex—they make a difference to local families.

CERV Volunteer Opportunities: CERV is in need of volunteers to help both at the food shelf (Saturdays 9-11am, Mondays 5:30-6:30pm, and Wednesdays 9-10am) and at the clothing store (Saturday mornings). If you would like to help with this important local ministry, please contact Dn. John for additional information.

+ + + Liturgical Reflections + + +

Dormition Fast: The fourth and final fasting period of the liturgical year starts this Friday, August 1st and continues until August 15th, when we break the fast at the feast of the Holy Dormition of the Mother of our Lord.

Procession of the Cross: The Procession of the Venerable Wood of the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: In the Greek Horologion of 1897 the derivation of this Feast is explained: "Because of the illnesses that occur in August, it was customary, in former times, to carry the Venerable Wood of the Cross through the streets and squares of Constantinople for the sanctification of the city, and for relief from sickness. On the eve (July 31), it was taken out of the imperial treasury, and laid upon the altar of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (the Wisdom of God). From this Feast until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, they carried the Cross throughout the city in procession, offering it to the people to venerate. This also is the Procession of the Venerable Cross." In the Russian Church this Feast is combined also with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus, on August 1, 988. In the "Account of the Order of Services in the Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Great Church of the Dormition," compiled in 1627 by order of Patriarch Philaret of Moscow and All Rus, there is the following explanation of the Feast: "On the day of the Procession of the Venerable Cross there is a church procession for the sanctification of water and for the enlightenment of the people, throughout all the towns and places." Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus was preserved in the Chronicles of the sixteenth century: "The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir of Kiev and all Rus was on August 1." In the present practice of the Russian Church, the Lesser Sanctification of Water on August 1 is done either before or after Liturgy. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called 'Savior of the Water.' There may also be a Blessing of New Honey today, which is why the Feast is also called "Savior of the Honey." From this day the newly gathered honey is blessed and tasted. (www.oca.org)