

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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September 7, 2008

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+ + + Service Schedule + + +

Sunday, September 7. 12th Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 3. Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross. Martyr Sozon of Cilicia (ca. 304). St. John, Archbishop and Wonderworker of Novgorod (1186).

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, 9:30am.
Gal 6:11-18; 1Cor 15:1-11/ Jn 3:13-17; Mt 19:16-26.

Monday, September 8. Nativity of our Most-Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

3rd and 6th Hours, 9:10am.
Festal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, 9:30am.
Phil 2:5-11 / Lk 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

Wednesday, September 10: Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Eve of Venerable Theodora of Alexandria.

Daily Vespers, 5:30pm, with light meal and study following.

Saturday, September 13.

Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 5pm.

Sunday, September 14. 13th Sunday After Pentecost – Tone 4. The Universal Exaltation (Elevation) of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross. Repose of St. John Chrysostom (407 A.D.)

3rd and 6th Hours, 9:10am
Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, 9:30am
1 Cor 1:18-24 / Jn 19:6-11,13-20,25-28,30-35.

+ + + Upcoming Events + + +

9/21	Sunday	Parish Feast Day
10/4	Saturday	Education Day at St. Vladimir's
10/11	Saturday	Artful Afternoon in White River Jct (at the Abbetti's)
10/12	Sunday	Parish Annual Meeting

And just as material fire, applied to the soft clay, changes it to hard pottery, so the fire of the Holy Spirit, when it penetrates our soul, though it should find it softer than clay, yet it will make it more unyielding than iron. And the soul that a little while ago was stained with the mire of sin, is all at once more splendid than the sun.

– St. John Chrysostom

+ + + Announcements + + +

Church School: Next Sunday, September 14th, all are invited to attend a meeting to discuss the ways that we can contribute to the enlivening of our children's faith—not only in church school but in our liturgical life, in special events and in whatever contexts we find ourselves. You don't need to have to have children to come!

St. Athanasius' Study: The study on St. Athanasius' *On the Incarnation* continues this week on Wednesday following Daily Vespers. Please see Fr. Caleb for the reading assignment.

SVOTS Orthodox Education Day. On Saturday, October 4th, St. Vladimir's Seminary will host their annual Orthodox Education Day. This year's topic is "Holy Icons and Sacred Arts." The day begins with Divine Liturgy, and is filled with Exhibits, Talks, Workshops, and lots of good food; it concludes with Vespers. Among the campus exhibits will be a magnificent, rare collection of fifteenth to twenty-first-century Russian icons from the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Massachusetts. The museum houses more than 350 Russian icons, the largest collection of its kind in North America and one of the largest private collections outside of Russia. A Flyer for the event is posted in the social room downstairs. For more information, or coordination of rides, please see Dn. John.

Artful Afternoon: The art sale and auction to benefit St. Jacob, Holy Trinity and Holy Resurrection is set for Saturday, October 11th from 2 to 5:30. Everyone who attended last year raved about the event. Flyers will be available soon. Submissions to the auction are needed this week, by *September 12th*, so please act fast. You don't have to be an artist yourself to donate something. If you have an original art piece, a craft or an antique in your home that you are willing to donate, that would be wonderful. Go to www.ArtfulAfternoon.com and in the right sidebar is a link for the submission form. Contact Sarah or Fr. Caleb if you need assistance or have questions.

+ + + Liturgical Reflection + + +

Monday, September 8: *The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary* is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. The Lord fulfilled the petitions of the Righteous Joachim and Anna for a child when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age, and they prepared themselves by virtuous life for this sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that from them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World. The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion. *(adapted from oca.org)*