

**ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH**

802.485.9121 www.stjacobofalaska.org

May 10, 2009

Fr. Caleb Abetti  
Priest (603.219.1711)

Susanna Toolan  
President

✠ ✠ ✠ **Service Schedule** ✠ ✠ ✠

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 3. Sunday of the Paralytic.** Apostle Simon the Zealot (1<sup>st</sup> c.). St. Simeon, Bishop of Vladimir and Suzdal' (Kiev Caves – Near Caves – 1226). Martyrs Philadelphus, Cyprian, Alphius, Onesimus, Erasmus, and 14 others, in Sicily (3<sup>rd</sup> c.). Martyr Hesichius of Antioch (4<sup>th</sup> c.).

*3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: 9:10 am.*

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

*Epistle: Acts 9:32-42; Gospel: John 5:1-15.*

**Blessing of the graves**

Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

Daily Vespers, 5:30 pm. Meal and Group Study to follow.

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 5:00 pm.

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> **5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 4. Sunday of the Samaritan Woman.** Apostle Andronicus of the Seventy and his fellow-laborer, Junia (1<sup>st</sup> c.). St. Euphrosyne (Princess Eudoxia) of Moscow (1407). Martyrs Solochon, Panphamer, and Pamphalon, at Chalcedon (284-305). St. Stephen, Archbishop of Constantinople (893).

*3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: 9:10 am.*

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

*Epistle: Acts 11:19-26, 29-30; Gospel: John 4:5-42.*

**The Freeing of the Soul**

“If we tie a bird with a string he will not be able to fly. If he tries to fly while he is tied, his wing will certainly be broke and his body will be bruised. If we afterwards untie him, he will not be able to fly.

“How great the number of souls that could fly toward God were they not fastened to the things of this world! It is in vain that man should try to ascend toward God while he is bound with the cords of this earth. Even if he manages to release himself from all of them except one (however little or trivial that one is), he cannot live for God. The peril is even greater because of this last bond. For he will try to take off while weighed down heavily by this thing to which he is still bound. The result is that after becoming airborne for a little while and having the illusion that he is heading for God, he is surprised to find that this thing still weighs him down as before. He thus falls from his spiritual height, and his soul is broken with despair. After repeating this trial, he gives up his passion and enthusiasm for a breakthrough in the spiritual life.

“Many are those who, while trying to grow in the life of prayer and worship, suddenly find their progress arrested and apathy overtaking them. They then fall back and recoil. The reason behind this lamentable backsliding may be a hidden cord. It may be a sin or some addiction to a drug or a certain habit. It may be lusting after a worldly pleasure; it may be a hidden quest for fame, honor, and vainglory, or a sensual love for someone or something in this world. Only one of these impediments is enough to shackle the soul and fetter its movement. It thus cannot enjoy perpetual release in the heaven of prayer or the life of contemplation.”

- Matthew The Poor, *Orthodox Prayer Life: The Interior Way*

**Ascension of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

**Thursday May 28**

**Divine Liturgy Celebrated at 9:30 am**

✠ ✠ ✠

**Lives of the Saints**

(from oca.org)

**Apostle Simon Zealotes**

Commemorated on May 10

Saint Simon was from Cana in Galilee, and was known to the Lord and His Mother. Tradition says that he was the bridegroom at the wedding where the Savior performed His first miracle. After witnessing the miracle of the water which had been turned into wine, he became a zealous follower of Christ. For this reason, he is known as St. Simon the Zealot.

St. Simon was one of the twelve apostles, and received the Holy Spirit with the others on Pentecost. He traveled to many places from Britain to the Black Sea, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ. After winning many pagans to the Lord, St. Simon suffered martyrdom by crucifixion.

St. Demetrius of Rostov says that this St. Simon is to be distinguished from the Apostle Simon Peter, and from the Lord's relative Simon (Mt. 13:55), who was the second Bishop of Jerusalem.

St. Simon is also commemorated on June 30 with the other Apostles.

✠ ✠ ✠

**Sunday of the Paralytic**

Commemorated on May 10

On this day the Church remembers the man who lay by the Sheep's Pool in Jerusalem for thirty-eight years, waiting for someone to put him into the pool. The first one to enter the pool after an angel troubled the water would be healed of his infirmities, but someone always entered the pool before him. Seeing the man, the Lord felt compassion on him and healed him.

The Kontakion for the Fourth Sunday of Pascha asks Christ to raise up our souls, “paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts.”

✠ ✠ ✠

**Visitation of the Sick**

There is a need within the parish for those interested in visiting the sick. If this is a way that you would like to serve our parish, please see either Father Caleb or Flora Tutiakoff.

✠ ✠ ✠

