

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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August 2, 2009

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Priest (802.485.9615)

Susanna Toolan
President

✠ ✠ ✠ **Service Schedule** ✠ ✠ ✠

Sunday, August 2nd **8th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 7.** Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople (ca. 428), and the finding of the Relics of the Righteous Nicodemus, Gamaliel, and Abibas. Blessed Basil of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ (1552). Bl. Basil of Kubensk (15th c.). Hieromartyr Stephen, Pope of Rome, and those with him (257).

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

Epistle: 1 Cor. 1:10-18; Gospel: Matt. 14:14-22.

Wednesday, August 5th

Vesperal Liturgy, 5:30 pm. **Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

Epistle: 2 Peter 1:10-19; Gospel: Matt. 17:1-9.

Saturday, August 8th

Great Vespers of the Resurrection, 5:00 pm. Bishop Nikon's visit.

Sunday, August 9th **9th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 8. Afterfeast of the Transfiguration.** Glorification of Ven. Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America. Apostle Matthias (ca. 63). Martyr Anthony of Alexandria. Ven. Psoi of Egypt (4th c.). Martyrs Julian, Marcian, John, Jacob (James), Alexius, Demetrius, Photius (Phocas), Peter, Leontius, and Mary, of Constantinople (730).

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

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

Epistle: 1 Cor. 3:9-17; Gospel: Matt. 14:22-34.

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Dormition Fast

The Dormition fast began on Saturday, August 1 and goes through Friday, August 14..

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Fish Picnic

There will be a fish picnic at Father Caleb and Matuska Nicole's house on Wednesday, August 5th following the Vesperal Liturgy. Please consider bringing some salmon, a salad, bread, or some other fasting food.

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Bishop's Visit

Bishop Nikon will be visiting Saint Jacob's on Saturday, August 8th and Sunday, August 9th.

On Sunday, please make an effort to be on time or even a little early for Liturgy.

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**Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen
from Jerusalem to Constantinople**

Commemorated August 2

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Protomartyr Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople took place about the year 428.

After the holy Protomartyr Archdeacon Stephen was stoned by the Jews, they left his holy body unburied to be devoured by the beasts and birds. After a day and a night, the renowned Jewish teacher of the Law, Gamaliel sent people to take up the body of the Protomartyr. Gamaliel buried him on his own property, in his own tomb, not far from Jerusalem.

When the Lord's secret disciple Nicodemus died, Gamaliel also buried him near the grave of St Stephen. Afterwards Gamaliel himself, who had been baptized with his son Abibas, was buried near the grave of the Protomartyr Stephen and St Nicodemus.

In the year 415 the relics of the saint were uncovered in a miraculous manner and solemnly transferred to Jerusalem by Bishop John and the bishops Eutoniuis of Sebaste and Eleutherius of Jericho. From that time healings took place from the relics.

Afterwards, during the reign of holy Emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), the relics of the holy Protomartyr Stephen were transferred from Jerusalem to Constantinople and placed in the church of the holy deacon Laurence (August 10). When a church dedicated to the Protomartyr Stephen was built, the relics were transferred there on August 2. St Stephen's right hand is preserved in the Serapionov chamber of the Trinity-Sergius Lavra.

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Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen's

Troparian – Tone 4

Your relics have risen from the depths of the earth,
like a treasury for the immortal life of all creation.
The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them,
duteously honors you, Protomartyr Stephen.
Preserve us from error and heresy by your intercession!

Kontakion – Tone 6

You were the first to be sown on the earth by the Heavenly Husbandman, O all-praised one.
You were the first to shed your blood on the earth for Christ, O blessed one.
You were the first to receive the crown of victory from Him in heaven,
Stephen, first of the suffering God-crowned martyrs.

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