

ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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December 27, 2009

Fr. Caleb Abetti
Priest (802-485-9615)

Susanna Toolan
President

✠ ✠ ✠ Service Schedule ✠ ✠ ✠

Sunday, December 27th. **29th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 4. THIRD DAY OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY.**

Sunday After the Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James (Jacob), the Brother of the Lord. Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen (34 A.D.).

Ven Theodore Graptus (“the Branded”), Confessor and brother of St Theophanes the Hymnographer (ca. 840). St Theodore, Archbishop of Constantinople (ca. 686).

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

Epistle: Gal. 1:11-19; Gospel: Matt. 2:13-23.

Wednesday, December 30th.

Daily Vespers: 6:00 pm. Meal and study group to follow: Archimandrite Webber’s *Bread and Water, Wine and Oil: An Orthodox Christian Experience of God*

Saturday, January 2nd.

Great Vespers of the Resurrection: 5:00 pm.

Sunday, January 3rd. **30th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 5. Sunday Before the Theophany. Forefeast of the**

Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (400 B.C.). Martyr Gordius at Caesarea in Cappadocia (4th c.).

Ven Genevieve of Paris (5th c.).

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

Epistle: 2 Tim. 4:5-8; Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

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There shall come forth a rod from the root of Jesse, and a flower shall grow out of his root. The Spirit of God shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and godliness. The Spirit of the fear of God shall fill Him. He shall not judge by reputation nor convict by common talk. But He will judge the cause of the humble, and reprove the humble of the earth. He shall strike the earth with the word of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips shall slay the ungodly. He shall gird His loins with righteousness and cover His sides with truth.

- *Isaiah 11:1-5*

Sunday after the Nativity:

**Commemoration of the Holy Righteous David the King,
Joseph the Betrothed, and James the Brother of the Lord.**

Commemorated on December 27

(from oca.org)

The Holy Prophet-King David, St Joseph the Betrothed, and St James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, their commemoration is moved to December 26.

At an early date, some churches in the East began to commemorate certain important figures of the New Testament at the time of the Theophany, and later during the Nativity season. In Syria, for example, St Stephen (December 27), Sts James (April 30) and John (September 26), and Sts Peter and Paul (June 29) were commemorated near the end of December.

In Jerusalem, the saints mentioned above were combined with a feast the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted St James (October 23) for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David. In time, St Joseph was linked with Sts David and James.

Troparian == Tone 2

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph,
to David, the ancestor of God:
you saw a Virgin great with Child,
you gave glory with the shepherds,
you worshipped with the Magi,
you received the news from the angel.
Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion – Tone 3

Today godly David is filled with joy;
Joseph and James offer praise.
Their glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy.
They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth,
and they cry out: ‘O Compassionate One, save those who honor You!

Third Day of the Nativity of our Lord

Troparian – Tone 4

Your Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the Light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars
were taught by a Star to adore You,
the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on High.
O Lord, glory to You!

Kontakion – Tone 3

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One!
Angels with shepherds glorify Him!
The wise men journey with a star!
Since for our sake the Eternal God was born a Little Child!



Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen

Troparian – Tone 4

Protomartyr and mighty warrior of Christ our God,
you were victorious in battle and crowned with glory, holy Stephen.
You confounded the council of those who persecuted you,
beholding your Savior enthroned at the Father's right hand.
Never cease to pray that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion – Tone3

Yesterday the Master appeared in the flesh among us,
today His servant departs from the flesh.
Yesterday the King was born,
and today His servant is stoned to death;
for His sake, the divine Protomartyr Stephen is perfected through martyrdom.

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