

**ST. JACOB OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
802-485-9121 [www.stjacobofalaska.org](http://www.stjacobofalaska.org)

January 3, 2010

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

Susanna Toolan  
President

✠ ✠ ✠ Service Schedule ✠ ✠ ✠

Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. **30<sup>th</sup> 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 (4<sup>th</sup> c.).  
Ven Genevieve of Paris (5<sup>th</sup> c.).

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

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

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

Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. **Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

Great Compline and Matins, 6:00 pm.

Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Reader's Vespers: 6:00 pm. **There will be no meal or study group this date.**

Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

Great Vespers of the Resurrection: 5:00 pm.

Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. **31<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 6. Sunday After the Theophany.**

St Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa (4<sup>th</sup> c.). St Dometian, Bishop of Melitene (601). St Marcian, Presbyter, of Constantinople (5<sup>th</sup> c.). Ven Paul, Abbot of Obnora (Vologda -1429). Ven Macarius, Abbot of Pisma (14<sup>th</sup> c.) Bl Theosebia the Deaconess, sister of Sts Basil the Great and Gregory of Nyssa (385). Ven Antipas the Athonite (1882). St Theophan the Recluse, Bishop of Tambov (1894).

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Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

*Epistle: Eph. 4:7-13; Gospel: Matt. 4:12-17.*

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### **Caroling at Berlin Health and Rehabilitation Center**

Meet at 3:00 pm at Berlin Health and Rehab (98 Hospitality Drive, Barre, VT, right next to the Hilltop Motel in Berlin) to join in caroling and bringing the joy of the Nativity to the residents. Dinner at Susanna Toolan's to follow.

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**Forefeast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**  
(from oca.org)

The second day of the Forefeast of Theophany falls on January 3. Today's hymns invite us to go in spirit to the Jordan River where the Creator comes to be baptized. He is the Light which shines in the darkness (John 1:5), and today He begins to overcome the darkness.

#### **Troparian – Tone 4**

Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:

“Do not be afraid to baptize me.

For I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

#### **Kontakion – Tone 4**

Prepare, O Zebulon,

and adorn yourself, O Naphtali;

River Jordan, cease flowing

and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized.

Adam, rejoice with our First Mother

and do not hide yourself as you did of old in Paradise;

for having seen you naked,

He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment.

Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

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#### **Prophet Malachi**

(from oca.org)

The Holy Prophet Malachi lived 400 years before the Birth of Christ, at the time of the return of the Jews from the Babylonian Captivity. Malachi was the last of the Old Testament prophets, therefore the holy Fathers call him “the seal of the prophets.” Manifesting himself an image of spiritual goodness and piety, he astounded the nation and was called Malachi, i.e. an angel. His prophetic book is included in the Canon of the Old Testament. In it he upbraids the Jews, foretelling the coming of Jesus Christ and His Forerunner, and also the Last Judgment (Mal. 3:1-5; 4:1-6).

#### **Troparian – Tone 2**

We celebrate the memory

of Your prophet Malachi, O Lord;

through him we beseech You:

“Save our souls.”

#### **Kontakion – Tone 4**

Endowed with the gift of prophecy, O Malachi,  
you clearly proclaimed the saving coming of Christ to the world.

His brightness has brought light to the whole universe. (Continued on inset)

**Martyr Gordius at Caesarea, in Cappadocia**

(from oca.org)

The Martyr Gordius was born at the end of the third century in the city of Caesarea of Cappadocia into a Christian family. When he came of age, he entered military service. Because of his valor and military skill, he was made a centurion. During the persecution of Christians at the beginning of the fourth century, he left the world and settled in the Sinai desert to prepare himself for the good deed of confessing the Name of Christ the Savior.

In the year 320, Gordius openly appeared before the prefect of the city where pagan games were being held, and identified himself as a Christian. He was arrested, suffered terrible torments, then was beheaded.

**Troparian – Tone 4**

Your holy martyr Gordius, O Lord,  
through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown from You, our God.  
For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries,  
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.  
Through his intercessions, save our souls!

**Kontakion – Tone 8**

Holy Gordius, the earth has received the sweat of your labors;  
the blood you shed has made the universe rejoice.  
Saved by your prayers those who sing of your glory in faith,  
fittingly honoring you, divine and glorious martyr, worthy of all praise.

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