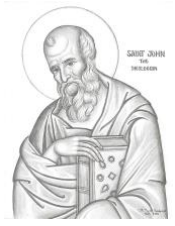


# The Liturgical Year 2023-2024

## Saint John Orthodox Cathedral ♦ Eagle River, Alaska



SERVICES		FEASTS	FASTS
<p><b>Nativity of the Mother of God</b> Sep 7, 6:15pm – Vespers Divine Liturgy (Thu)</p> <p><b>Elevation of the Cross</b> Sep 13, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Wed) Sep 14, 6:15pm – Divine Liturgy (Thu)</p> <p><b>St. Sergius of Radonezh</b> Sep 25, 12:30pm – Prayers at St. Sergius Chapel (Mon)</p> <p><b>St. John the Evangelist</b> (Tue) TBA</p>	SEPT/OCT	<p><b>SEP 1 – BEGINNING OF THE NEW LITURGICAL YEAR</b></p> <p><b>Sep 8* – NATIVITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD</b> (lv.12)</p> <p><b>Sep 14* – ELEVATION OF THE CROSS</b> (lv.21)</p> <p>Sep 24 – Martyrs of Alaska (Juvenaly the priest martyr &amp; Peter the Aleut martyr)</p> <p>Sep 25 – St. Sergius of Radonezh</p> <p>Sept 26 – The Falling-asleep of St. John the Evangelist</p> <p>Oct 6 – St. Innocent of Alaska (canonization)</p> <p>Oct 9 – St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Apostle to America (canonization)</p>	<p><b>Fasts Preceding Liturgies:</b> Any day the Liturgy is celebrated in the morning a total fast from all food and drink is kept from midnight until after the Liturgy. For evening Liturgies a total fast should be kept from noon until after the Liturgy.</p> <p><b>Wednesdays and Fridays</b> Unless otherwise noted all Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year are kept as fast days the same as a weekday during Lent.</p> <p><b>Sep 14 – The Elevation of the Cross</b> This is a strict fast day and no food at all should be eaten until after the evening Liturgy, when a light, fasting meal is permitted. Oil and wine are permitted. (Note: When this Feast falls on Saturday or Sunday it is still a fast day kept in the same way as any Saturday or Sunday in Lent.)</p>
<p><b>Entrance of the Mother of God</b> Nov 20, 7:15pm – Vespers Divine Liturgy (Mon)</p>	NOV	<p><i>Nov 4 – Commemoration of St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Sat. before Nov. 8)</i></p> <p><b>Nov 21* – ENTRANCE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE</b> (lv.25)</p>	<p><b>Nov 15 – Dec 24 – Advent Fast</b> This fast is kept the same as Great Lent, except that fish, wine and oil may be eaten up to Dec. 20. On Dec. 20 begins the special “holy week” preceding Christmas when the fast should be strictened. (Although this fast traditionally begins on Nov 15, 40 days before Christmas, it is pastorally suggested that it may be kept most seriously beginning Dec. 1, when the liturgical texts for Advent begin to appear.)</p>
<p><b>Advent Services</b> Dec 5, 7:15pm – Great Vespers - St. Nicholas (Tue) Dec 12, 6:15pm – Great Vespers - St. Herman (Tue) Dec 19, 7:15pm – Akathist - St. Ignatius (Tue)</p> <p><b>Christmas Services</b> Dec 22, “Royal Hours” (Fri) Dec 24, 6:15pm – Great Vespers (Sat) Dec 25, 9am – Matins / 10am – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil (Mon)</p>	DEC	<p>Dec 6 – St. Nicholas the Wonderworker of Myra</p> <p>Dec 13 – St. Herman of Alaska</p> <p>Dec 20 – St. Ignatius of Antioch</p> <p>Dec 20-24 – Forefeast of Christmas</p> <p><b>Dec 25* – CHRISTMAS: Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ</b> (lv. 31)</p>	<p><b>Dec 24 – Christmas Eve</b> This is a fast day, and no food at all should be eaten until after the evening Liturgy, when a light, fasting meal is permitted. (Note: When Christmas Eve falls on Saturday or Sunday it is not a strict fast day, but is kept as any weekday in Advent.)</p> <p><b>Dec 25 – Jan 4 – The Christmas Season</b> No fasting.</p>
<p><b>Epiphany Services</b> Jan 5, “Royal Hours” (Fri) Jan 5, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Fri) Jan 6, 9:15am – Great Blessing of Water and Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Sat)</p>	JAN	<p>Jan 1 – Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ; St. Basil the Great</p> <p>Jan 2-5 – Forefeast of Epiphany</p> <p><b>Jan 6* – EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</b> (lv. 14)</p>	<p><b>Jan 5 – Eve of Epiphany</b> This is a fast day, and no food at all should be eaten until after the evening service, when a light, fasting meal is permitted. (Note: When Epiphany Eve falls on Saturday or Sunday it is not a strict fast day, but is kept as any weekday in Advent.)</p>
<p><b>The Meeting of Our Lord</b> Feb 1, 6:15pm – Vespers Liturgy (Thu)</p>	FEB	<p><b>Feb 2* – MEETING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</b> (lv. 9, or Friday before Soul Saturday, whichever is first)</p> <p><i>Feb 18 – Sunday of the Canaanite Woman (or Zacchaeus) – 4 weeks before Lent</i></p> <p><i>Feb 25 – Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee – 3 weeks before Lent</i></p> <p>Feb 27 – Repose of St. Raphael of Brooklyn (commemorated in November)</p>	<p><i>Feb 22-27 – The Week following the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee</i> No fasting is permitted</p>
<p><b>Saturday of Souls</b> Mar 8, 7:15pm – Vespers (Fri) Mar 9, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy (Sat)</p> <p><b>Special Lenten Services</b> Mar 17, 6:15pm – Forgiveness Sunday Vespers Mondays in Lent, 7:15pm – Great Compline Wednesdays in Lent, 6:15pm – Presanctified Liturgy Fridays in Lent, 7:15pm – Akathist to the Mother of God Sundays in Lent, 9am – Matins; 10am – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great</p> <p><b>The Annunciation</b> Mar 24, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Sun) Mar 25, 6:15pm – Vespers Liturgy (Mon)</p>	MAR	<p><i>Mar 3 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son – 2 weeks before Lent</i></p> <p><i>Mar 9 – Saturday of Souls, Commemoration of the Departed Saturday before Meatfare</i></p> <p><i>Mar 10 – Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare) – 1 week before Lent</i></p> <p><i>Mar 17 – Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare) – 7 weeks before Easter,</i></p> <p><i>Mar 18 – Clean Monday – Great Lent begins – variable from Feb 15 thru Mar 21</i></p> <p><i>Mar 24 – Orthodox Sunday (Pan-Orthodox Vespers) – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p><b>Mar 25* – ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD</b> (lv. 26)</p> <p><i>Mar 31 – St. Gregory Palamas – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</i></p>	<p><b>Mar 10-16 – “Meatfare Week”</b> Fasting from meat begins. Animal products permitted Wed and Fri.</p> <p><b>March 18 - May 4 – Great Lent and Holy Week</b> Fast from meat, animal products, fish, wine and oil; and limit the number of meals and amount eaten. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the 1<sup>st</sup> week are strict fast days, which traditionally means a total abstinence from all foods. (Some attempt should be made to keep these days somehow more strictly.) Wednesday and Fridays a total fast should be kept from noon on, with an evening meal after the Presanctified Liturgy. (If no Presanctified Liturgy is celebrated on Friday, then the fast from noon on would not apply.) Saturdays and Sundays during Lent oil and wine are permitted and the number of meals is not as strictly limited.</p> <p><b>Mar 25 – The Annunciation</b> Fish, wine and oil are permitted.</p>
<p><b>Lazarus Saturday</b> April 26, 7:15pm – Compline (Fri) April 27, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy of St. John (Sat)</p> <p><b>Palm Sunday</b> April 27, 7:15pm – Great Vespers April 28, 9am – Matins / 10am – Divine Liturgy of St. John</p> <p><b>Holy Week Services</b> See Special Sheet</p>	APR	<p><i>Apr 7 – The Holy Cross – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p><i>Apr 14 – St. John Climacus – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p><i>Apr 20 – Fifth Saturday in Lent, Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God</i></p> <p><i>Apr 21 – St. Mary of Egypt – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</i></p> <p><i>Apr 27* – Lazarus Saturday – Saturday before Palm Sunday</i></p> <p><b>Apr 28* – PALM SUNDAY: Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem – Sunday before Easter</b></p> <p><i>Apr 29 – May 4 Holy Week – Week between Palm Sunday and Easter</i></p> <p>Apr 30 – St. James, the son of Zebedee and brother of St. John the Evangelist</p>	
<p><b>PASCHA / EASTER</b> May 5, 4:00am – Rush Procession, Matins, and Divine Liturgy May 5, 3:15pm – Agape Vespers</p> <p><b>Feast of St. John the Evangelist</b> May 8, TBA (Wed)</p>	MAY	<p><b>May 5* – PASCHA / EASTER: Resurrection of Our Lord – Variable from Apr 4 thru May 8</b> (lv. Wednesday before Ascension)</p> <p><i>May 6 – May 10 Bright Week – Week following Easter</i></p> <p>May 7 – St. Alexis Toth of Wilkes-Barre</p> <p>May 8 - St. John the Evangelist – Commemoration of the Miracle at His Gravesite</p> <p><i>May 12 – Thomas Sunday – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pascha</i></p> <p><i>May 19 – Myrrhbearers – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pascha</i></p> <p><i>May 26 – Paralytic – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pascha</i></p> <p><i>May 29 – Mid-Pentecost – Wednesday half-way between Pascha and Pentecost</i></p>	<p><b>May 3 - 8 – Bright Week (&amp; Paschal Season)</b> During the Pascha season fasting is not required from Easter to Ascension. During the rest of the season from Ascension to Pentecost wine and oil are permitted on Wednesdays and Fridays.</p>
<p><b>The Ascension of Our Lord</b> June 12, 6:15pm – Vespers Divine Liturgy (Wed)</p> <p><b>Special Pentecost Services</b> June 23, 6:15pm – Special Pentecost “Kneeling” Vespers (Sun)</p> <p><b>Sts. Peter and Paul</b> Jun 28, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Fri) Jun 29, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy (Sat)</p>	JUN/JUL	<p><i>Jun 2 – Samaritan Woman – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pascha</i></p> <p>Jun 4 – Sts. Mary and Martha</p> <p><i>Jun 9 – Blind Man – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pascha</i></p> <p><b>Jun 13* – ASCENSION OF OUR LORD – Thursday, 40 days after Pascha / Easter</b> (lv. Friday before Pentecost)</p> <p><i>Jun 16 – Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pascha</i></p> <p><i>Jun 22 – Saturday of Souls, Commemoration of the Departed – Saturday before Pentecost</i></p> <p><b>Jun 23 – PENTECOST: Descent of the Holy Spirit – 50 days after Pascha / Easter</b> (lv. Saturday before All Saints)</p> <p><i>Jun 24-28 – Pentecost Week – Week following Pentecost, no fasting</i></p> <p>Jun 24 – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist (lv. 25)</p> <p>Jun 29* – Sts. Peter and Paul (lv. 30)</p> <p><i>Jun 30 – All Saints Sunday – Sunday following Pentecost</i></p> <p>Jul 2 – St. John Maximovitch, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco</p> <p><i>Jul 7 – Saints of North America – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i></p> <p>Jul 18 – St. Elizabeth the New Martyr</p> <p>Jul 26 – St. Yakov Netsvetov, Enlightener &amp; Baptizer of the Native Peoples of Alaska</p>	<p><b>Jun 24-28 – Pentecost Week</b> No fasting.</p> <p><b>The “Apostles’ Fast”</b> This fasting season varies in length because it extends from the Sunday following Pentecost up to the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul on June 29, from which it derives its name.</p>
<p><b>The Transfiguration</b> Aug 5, 6:15pm – Vespers Liturgy (Mon)</p> <p><b>The Falling Asleep of the Mother of God</b> Aug 14, 6:15pm – Vespers Liturgy (Wed)</p> <p><b>Beheading of St. John the Baptist</b> Aug 28, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Wed) Aug 29, 6:15pm – Divine Liturgy (Thu)</p>	AUG	<p><b>Aug 6* – TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD</b> (lv. 13)</p> <p>Aug 9 – St. Herman of Alaska, Anniversary of Canonization (Pilgrimage to Spruce Island, Aug 7-9)</p> <p><b>Aug 15* – FALLING-ASLEEP OF THE MOTHER OF GOD</b> (lv. 23)</p> <p>Aug 29* – The Beheading of St. John the Baptist (lv. 30)</p>	<p><b>Aug 1-14 – The “Dormition” Fast</b> This fast is kept the same as Great Lent, except that fish, wine, and oil may be eaten on Aug 6, the Feast of the Transfiguration. Liturgy on the 15<sup>th</sup> ends the fast.</p> <p><b>Aug 29 – The Beheading of John the Baptist</b> This day is traditionally kept as a strict fast day in honor and memory of John the Baptist. No food at all should be eaten until after the evening Liturgy, when a light fasting meal is permitted. Oil and wine are permitted. (Note: When this Feast falls on Saturday or Sunday it is still a fast day kept in the same way as any Saturday or Sunday in Lent. Also, in some places it has become the custom not to eat on plates on this day.)</p>

Key: ALL CAPS = Great Feast \* Special Divine Liturgy *Italics* = Movable Feast Smaller Type = Secondary Feast Days (lv.) = Leavetaking of Feast

REGULAR SERVICES: (Subject to Change. Also see schedule in Sunday Bulletin or on the website [stjohnalaska.org](http://stjohnalaska.org))

Saturday, 7:15pm – Great Vespers ♦ Sunday, 9am – Matins / Orthros ♦ Sunday, 10am – Divine Liturgy