

The Liturgical Year 2009-2010

Saint John Orthodox Cathedral ♦ Eagle River, Alaska

SERVICES

Nativity of the Mother of God
Sep 7, 6:30pm – Vespers Divine Liturgy

Elevation of the Cross
Sep 13, 6:30pm – Great Vespers
Sep 14, 6:30am – Divine Liturgy

St. Sergius of Radonezh
Sep 25, 12:15pm – Prayers at St. Sergius Chapel

Entrance of the Mother of God
Nov 20, 7:15pm – Vespers
Nov 21, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy

Advent Services
Dec. 6, 6:30pm – Vespers for St. Nicholas
Dec 13, 6:30pm – Akathist for St. Herman followed by a bonfire

Christmas Services
Dec 24, “Royal Hours”
Dec 24, 6:30pm – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great for Christmas
Dec 25, 9am – Matins
10am – Divine Lit. of St. John Chrysostom

Epiphany Services
Jan 5, “Royal Hours”
Jan 5, 7:15pm – Great Vespers
Jan 6, 6:30pm – Great Blessing of Water and Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

The Meeting of Our Lord
Feb 1, 6:30pm – Vespers Divine Liturgy

Saturday of Souls
Feb 5, 7:15pm – Great Vespers
Feb 6, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy

Special Lenten Services
Feb 14, 6:30pm – Forgiveness Sunday Vespers
Feb 21 TBA – Orthodox Sunday Vespers
Fridays in Lent, 9pm - Akathist
Wednesdays in Lent, 6:30pm – Presanctified Liturgy
Sundays in Lent, 9am – Matins; 10am – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

JAN

FEB

FEASTS

SEP 1 – BEGINNING OF THE NEW LITURGICAL YEAR

Sep 8* - THE NATIVITY OF MOTHER OF GOD (lv.12)
Sep 14* - THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

Sep 24 – Martyrs of Alaska (Juvenaly the priest martyr & Peter the Aleut martyr)
Sep 25 – St. Sergius of Radonezh
Sept 26 – The Falling-asleep of St. John the Evangelist

Oct 6 – St. Innocent of Alaska (canonization)

Nov. 7 – Commemoration of St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Sat. before Nov. 8)

NOV 21* - THE ENTRANCE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE (lv.25)

Dec 6 – St. Nicholas the Wonderworker of Myra
Dec 13 – St. Herman of Alaska

Dec 20 – St. Ignatius of Antioch
Dec 20-24 – Prefeast of Christmas

Dec 25* - CHRISTMAS: The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (lv.31)

Jan 1 – Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ; St. Basil the Great
Jan 2-5 – Prefeast of Epiphany

Jan 6* - EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (lv. 14)

Jan 17 – Zachaeus Sunday – 4 weeks before Lent
Jan 24 – Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee – 3 weeks before Lent
Jan 31 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son – 2 weeks before Lent

Feb 2* - THE MEETING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (lv 9)

Feb 6* - Saturday of Souls, Commemoration of the Departed – Saturday before “Meatfare”
Feb 7 – Sunday of the Last Judgment (“Meatfare”) – 1 week before Lent begins
Feb 14 – Forgiveness Sunday (“Cheesefare”) Begin Lent) – 7 weeks before Easter, variable between Feb 15 and Mar 20
Feb 21 – Orthodox Sunday (Pan-Orthodox Vespers) – 1st Sunday in Lent

Feb 27 – Repose of St. Raphael of Brooklyn (commorated in November)

FASTS

Fasts Preceding Liturgies:

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..

Wednesdays and Fridays

Unless otherwise noted all Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year are kept as fast days the same as a weekday during Lent.

Sep 14 – The Elevation of the Cross

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.)

Nov 15 – Dec 24 – Advent Fast

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, 40days 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.)

Dec 24 – Christmas Eve

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.)

Dec 25-Jan 4 – The Christmas Season

No fasting.

Jan 5 – Eve of Epiphany

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.)

Jan 24-30– The Week following the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

No fasting is permitted.

Feb 7-13 – “Meatfare Week”

Fasting from meat begins. Animal products permitted Wednesday and Friday of this week

Feb 15 – Apr 3 – Great Lent and Holy Week

Fast from meat, animal products, fish, wine and oil; and limit the number of meals and amount eaten.

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the 1st 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

The Annunciation
Mar 25, 6:30pm – Vespers Divine Liturgy

Holy Week Services
TBA

Feast of St. John the Evangelist
May 8 TBA

The Ascension of Our Lord
May 12, 7:15pm – Great Vespers
May 13, 6:30pm – Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Special Pentecost Services
May 23, 6:30pm – Special Pentecost
“Kneeling” Vespers

Sts. Peter and Paul
Jun 28 – 6:30pm – Vespers Divine Liturgy

The Transfiguration
Aug 5, 7:15pm – Great Vespers
Aug 6, 6:30pm – Divine Liturgy

The Falling Asleep of the Mother of God
Aug 14, 7:15pm – Great Vespers
Aug 15, 10:00am – Divine Liturgy

Beheading of St. John the Baptist
Aug 29, TBA

Key: ALL CAPS = Great Feast
Smaller Type = Secondary Feast Days

Mar 7 – Sunday of the Cross – 3rd Sunday in Lent

Mar 20 – Fifth Saturday in Lent, Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God

Mar 25* - THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (lv 26)

Mar 27* - Lazarus Saturday-Saturday before Palm Sunday

Mar 28* - PALM SUNDAY: Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem – Sunday before Easter

Mar 28 – Apr 3* Holy Week – Week between Palm Sunday and Easter

Apr 4* - PASCHA / EASTER: Resurrection of Our Lord – Variable between Apr 4 and May 8

Apr 5 – 10 Bright Week – Week following Easter

Apr 28 – Mid-Pentecost – Wednesday half-way between Pascha and Pentecost

May 8 - Feast of St. John the Evangelist – Commemoration of the Miracle at His Gravesite

May 13* - THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD – Thursday, 40 days after Pascha / Easter

May 22 – Saturday of Souls, Commemoration of the Departed – Saturday before Pentecost

May 23 – PENTECOST: The Descent of the Holy Spirit – 50 days after Pascha / Easter

May 24-28 – Pentecost Week – Week following Pentecost, no fasting

May 30 – All Saints Sunday – Sunday following Pentecost

Jun 24 – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Jun 29* - St. Peter and St. Paul

Jul 26 – St. Yakov Netsvetov, Enlightener & Baptizer of the Native Peoples of Alaska

Aug 6* - THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD (lv. 13)

Aug 9 – St. Herman of Alaska, Anniversary of Canonization (Pilgrimage to Spruce Island, Aug 7-9)

Aug 15* - THE FALLING-ASLEEP OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (lv. 23)

Aug 29* – The Beheading of St. John the Baptist

*= Special Divine Liturgy
(lv.) = Leavetaking of Feast

Italics = Movable Feast

Mar 25 – The Annunciation
Fish, wine and oil are permitted.

Apr 2-3 – Holy Friday & Holy Saturday
These are strict fast days, and no food at all should be eaten until after the evening Liturgy of Holy Saturday, when a light, fasting meal is permitted.

Apr 5-10 – Bright Week (& Paschal Season)
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.

May 24-28 – Pentecost Week
No fasting.

May 31 – June 28 – The “Apostles’ Fast”
This fasting season varies in length because it extends from the Sunday following Pentecost up to the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul on June 29, from which it derives its name.

Aug 1-15 – The “Dormition” Fast
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 15th ends the fast.

Aug 29 – The Beheading of John the Baptist
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.)

REGULAR SERVICES: *(Subject to Change. Also see schedule in Sunday Bulletin.)*

Sat. 7:15pm – Great Vespers + Sun. 9am – Matins / Orthos + Sun. 10am – Divine Liturgy
Wed., Fri. School Daus – 6th Hr. Prayers at 12:15pm; Wed. 7:15pm – Paraklesis Service or Daily Vespers.