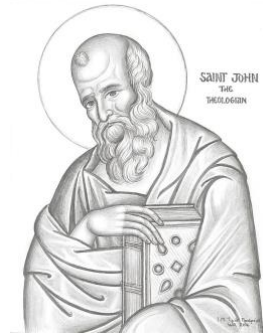


The Liturgical Year 2025-2026

Saint John Orthodox Cathedral ♦ Eagle River, Alaska



| SERVICES | | FEASTS | FASTS |
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| Nativity of the Mother of God Sep 6, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Sat) Sep 7, 9:15am – Matins/Divine Liturgy (Sun) <i>(Transfer of Feast – Sat & Sun)</i> | SEP/OCT | SEP 1 – BEGINNING OF THE NEW LITURGICAL YEAR (Indiction) Sep 8* - NATIVITY OF MOTHER OF GOD (lv. 12) Sep 14* - ELEVATION OF THE CROSS (lv. 21) Sep 24 – Martyrs of Alaska (Juvenaly the priest martyr & Peter the Aleut martyr) Sep 25 – St. Sergius of Radonezh Sep 26 – Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist Oct 6 – St. Innocent of Alaska (canonization) | 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 – 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. <i>(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.)</i> |
| Entrance of the Mother of God Nov 20, 6:15pm – Vesperal Divine Liturgy (Thu) Thanksgiving Services <i>Nov 27, 7:15pm – Akathist of Thanksgiving (Wed)</i> <i>Nov 28, 9:15am – Te Deum at Chapel (Thu)</i> | | <i>Nov 2 – Commemoration of St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Sat. before Nov. 8)</i> Nov. 9 – St. Olga of Alaska Nov. 14 – Philip the Apostle / Gregory Palamas Nov 21* - ENTRANCE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE (lv. 25) Nov. 25 – St. Catherine the Great Martyr Nov. 30 – Andrew the First-Called Apostle | 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 more strict. <i>(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.)</i> |
| Advent Services Dec 5, 7:15pm – Great Vespers for St. Nicholas (Fri) Dec 12, 6:15pm – Akathist for St. Herman (Fri) Dec 19, 7:15pm – Great Vespers for St. Ignatius (Fri) Christmas Services Dec 24, Royal Hours (Wed) Dec 24, 6:15pm – Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil (Wed) Dec 25, 9:00am – Matins/Liturgy of St. John (Thu) | | Dec 4 – St. Barbara Dec 6 – St. Nicholas the Wonderworker of Myra Dec 13 – St. Herman of Alaska Dec 20 – St. Ignatius of Antioch Dec 20-24 – Forefeast of Christmas Dec 25* - CHRISTMAS: Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (lv. 31) | 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. <i>(Note: When Christmas Eve falls on Saturday or Sunday it is not a strict fast day, but is kept as any weekday in Advent.)</i> Dec 25 – Jan 4 – Christmas Season <i>No fasting.</i> |
| Epiphany Services Jan 5, Royal Hours (Mon) Jan 5, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Mon) Jan 6, 6:15pm – Great Blessing of Water and Divine Liturgy (Tue) | | Jan 1 – Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ; St. Basil the Great Jan 2-5 – Forefeast of Epiphany Jan 6* - EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (lv. 14) <i>Jan 26 – Zacchaeus Sunday – 5 weeks before Lent</i> | 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. <i>(Note: When Epiphany Eve falls on Saturday or Sunday it is not a strict fast day, but is kept as any weekday in Advent.)</i> |
| Meeting of Our Lord Feb 1, 6:15pm – Great Vespers (Sun) Feb 2, 6:15pm – Divine Liturgy (Mon) Saturday of Souls <i>Feb 13, 7:15pm – Daily Vespers (Fri)</i> <i>Feb 14, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy (Sat)</i> Special Lenten Services <i>Feb 22, 6:15pm – Forgiveness Sunday Vespers</i> <i>Mondays in Lent, TBA</i> <i>Wednesdays in Lent, 6:15pm – Presanctified Liturgy</i> | FEB | <i>Feb 1 – Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee – 3 weeks before Lent</i> Feb 2* - MEETING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (lv. 9 or Friday before Soul Saturday, whichever is first) <i>Feb 8 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son – 2 weeks before Lent</i> <i>Feb 14* – Saturday of Souls, Commemoration of the Departed – Saturday before Meatfare</i> <i>Feb 15 – Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare) – 1 week before Lent begins</i> <i>Feb 22 – Forgiveness Sunday (Cheese fare Begin Lent) – 7 weeks before Easter, variable between Feb 15 and Mar 20</i> Feb 27 – Repose of St. Raphael of Brooklyn (commemorated in November) | <i>Feb 2-7 – The Week following the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee</i> <i>No fasting is permitted</i> Feb 16-22 – Meatfare Week <i>Fasting from meat begins. Animal products permitted Wednesday and Friday of this week.</i> |
| Special Lenten Services <i>Fridays in Lent, 7:15pm – Akathist to the Mother of God</i> <i>Sundays in Lent, 9:15am – Matins/Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great</i> <i>Mar 1 – TBA – Orthodoxy Sunday Vespers</i> Annunciation Mar 24, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Tue) Mar 25, 6:15pm – Vesperal Divine Liturgy (Wed) | | <i>Mar 1 – Orthodox Sunday (Pan-Orthodox Vespers) – 1st Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Mar 8 – Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas – 2nd Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Mar 15 – Sunday of the Holy Cross – 3rd Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Mar 22 – John of the Ladder – 4th Sunday in Lent</i> Mar 25* - ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (lv. 26) <i>Mar 28 – Fifth Saturday in Lent, Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God</i> <i>Mar 29 – Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt – 5th Sunday in Lent</i> | Feb 23 – Apr 11 – Great Lent and Holy Week <i>Fast from meat, animal products, fish, wine and oil; and limit the number of meals and amount eaten.</i> <i>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.)</i> <i>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.)</i> <i>Saturdays and Sundays during Lent oil and wine are permitted and the number of meals is not as strictly limited.</i> Mar 25 Annunciation <i>Fish, wine and oil are permitted.</i> |
| Lazarus Saturday <i>Apr 3, 7:15pm – Compline (Fri)</i> <i>Apr 4, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy of St. John (Sat)</i> Palm Sunday <i>Apr 4, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Sat)</i> <i>Apr 5, 9:00am – Matins/Divine Liturgy of St. John (Sun)</i> Holy Week Services <i>See Special Holy Week Schedule</i> PASCHA / EASTER <i>Apr 12, 5am – Rush Procession, Matins and Divine Liturgy (Sun)</i> <i>Apr 12, 3:15pm – Agape Vespers (Sun)</i> | APR | <i>Apr 4* – Lazarus Saturday-Saturday before Palm Sunday</i> Apr 5 - PALM SUNDAY: Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem – Sunday before Pascha / Easter <i>Apr 6-11 * Holy Week – Week between Palm Sunday and Easter</i> Apr 12 - PASCHA / EASTER: Resurrection of Our Lord – Variable between Apr 4 and May 8 (lv Wednesday before Ascension) <i>Apr 13-18 – Bright Week – Week following Easter</i> <i>Apr 19 – St. Thomas – 1st Sunday after Pascha</i> <i>Apr 26 – Myrrhbearers – 2nd Sunday after Pascha</i> Apr 30 – St. James, the son of Zebedee and brother of St. John the Evangelist | Apr 13-18 – Bright Week & Paschal Season <i>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.</i> |
| Feast of St. John the Evangelist May 8 (Fri) (TBA) Ascension <i>May 20, 6:15pm – Vesperal Divine Liturgy (Wed)</i> Pentecost Services <i>May 30, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Sat)</i> <i>May 31, 9:00am – Matins/Divine Liturgy (Sun)</i> <i>May 31, 6:15pm – Special Pentecost “Kneeling” Vespers (Sun)</i> | | <i>May 3 – Paralytic – 3rd Sunday after Pascha</i> <i>May 6 – Mid-Pentecost – Wednesday half-way between Pascha and Pentecost</i> May 7 – St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre May 8 – Feast of St. John the Evangelist – Miracle at His Gravesite <i>May 10 – Samaritan Woman – 4th Sunday after Pascha</i> <i>May 17 – Blind Man – 5th Sunday after Pascha</i> May 21* ASCENSION OF OUR LORD – Thursday, 40 days after Pascha / Easter (lv. Friday before Pentecost) <i>May 24 – Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council – 6th Sunday after Pascha</i> <i>May 30 – Saturday of Souls, Commemoration of the Departed – Saturday before Pentecost</i> May 31 - PENTECOST: The Descent of the Holy Spirit – 50 days after Pascha / Easter (lv. Saturday before All Saints) | |
| Ss. Peter and Paul Jun 27, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Sat) Jun 28, 9:15am – Matins/Liturgy (Sun) <i>(Transfer of Feast – Sat & Sun)</i> | JUN | <i>Jun 1-6 – Pentecost Week – Week following Pentecost, no fasting</i> <i>Jun 7 – All Saints Sunday – 1st Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Jun 14 – Saints of North America Sunday – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i> Jun 24 –Nativity of St. John the Baptist (lv. 25) Jun 29* – St. Peter and St. Paul (lv. 30) | Jun 1-6 – Pentecost Week <i>No fasting</i> Apostles’ Fast <i>This fasting season varies in length because it extends from the Monday after All Saints following Pentecost up to the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul on June 29, from which it derives its name.</i> |
| Transfiguration Aug 5, 6:15pm – Vesperal Divine Liturgy (Wed) Falling Asleep of the Mother of God Aug 14, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Fri) Aug 15, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy (Sat) Beheading of St. John the Baptist Aug 28, 7:15pm – Great Vespers (Fri) Aug 29, 9:15am – Divine Liturgy (Sat) | JUL/AUG | Jul 2 – St. John Maximovitch, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco Jul 18 – St. Elizabeth the New Martyr Jul 26 – St. Yakov Netsvetov, Enlightener & Baptizer of the Native Peoples of Alaska Aug 6* - TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD (lv. 13) Aug 9 – St. Herman of Alaska, Anniversary of Canonization (Pilgrimage to Spruce Island, Aug 7-9) Aug 15* - FALLING ASLEEP OF THE MOTHER OF GOD (DORMITION) (lv. 23) Aug 29* – Beheading of St. John the Baptist (lv. 30) | Aug 1-14 – 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 15 th ends the fast. Aug 29 –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. <i>(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.)</i> |

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

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