



THE FORERUNNER
The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
 Orthodox Church O.C.A.
 420 Laura Street
 Philipsburg, PA 16866
 (814) 342-2011

Very Rev. John Horosky - Priest
 Mark Ammerman - Council President

April 2010
Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Service Schedule

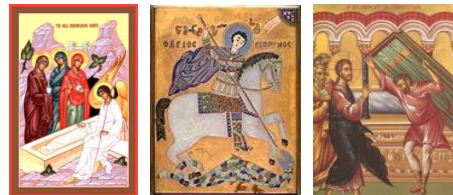
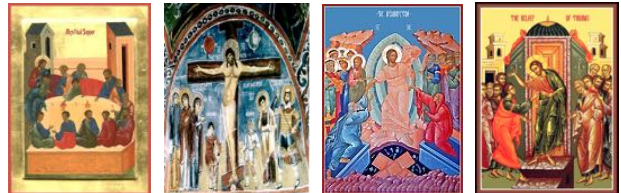
- April 1 Holy Thursday**
12 Gospels @ 6:00 PM
- April 2 Great & Holy Friday**
Vespers/Complines @ 4:00 PM
Followed by Tomb watch until 6:00 PM Saturday
- April 3 Holy Saturday**
Hours 9:30 AM
Vespers/Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Matins/Nocturns/Compline @ 6:00 PM
- April 4 Holy Pascha**
Hours/Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
- April 11 St. Thomas Sunday**
Hours 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Blessing of the graves - (weather permitting)
Coffee Hour following blessing of the graves
Council Meeting
- April 18 Holy Myrrhbearing Women**
Hours 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- April 25 Paralytic**
Hours 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Pot luck luncheon

Reader's Schedule

	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Epistle</i>
4/4	Hours are sung	Andrew Tocimak
4/11	Mark Ammerman	Drew Conkey
4/18	John Conkey	Mike Conkey
4/25	Veronica Pirow	Jan Brennish

Feast Days

4/1	Holy Thursday
4/2	Great & Holy Friday
4/4	Holy Pascha
4/11	St. Thomas Sunday
4/18	Holy Myrrhbearing Women
4/23	Great Martyr George
4/25	Sunday of the Paralytic



For private confession, call Father to make arrangements.

Remember in your prayers: Father Adam, Father Ted, Jennifer & Lilian Ammerman, Mary Ann Ammerman, Helen Bokach, Chris Conkey, Helen Czar, Christine Demchak, Joe Demchak, Jeffrey Fetcenko, Randy Fetcenko, Rose Marie Fetcenko, Yvonne Fetcenko, Jack Foster, Mary Foster, Helen Mae Harvey, Julia Luzier, Anna Pennington, Harry Socie, Eleanor Sura, Holly Thompson, Andrew Tocimak, George Tocimak, Irene Tocimak, Louise Tocimak, Elizabeth Edwards, Joe Edwards, Olga Finlayson, Kenneth Finlayson, and William Cornman

“O Master, the all-sustainer, and Holy King, Who punishes, but reduces not to death, Who strengthens the failing, and raises the outcast, Who remedies the bodily sorrows of men, we pray unto Thee, O Our Lord, visit Thine infirm servants with Thy mercy; forgive them every transgression, voluntary and involuntary. Verily O Lord, send down from Heaven Thy healing power, touch the body, extinguish the fever, lessen the suffering and every infirmity of Thy servants, raise them decumbent, from sickness, and from the bed of evilness, make them whole and all-restored, return them to Thy Church well-pleasing and fulfilling Thy will. For it is of Thine own, to be merciful and to save us, O Lord, and unto Thee we send glory, to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Birthdays

Jack Foster April 2
Christine Demchak April 12
V. Rev. John Horosky April 17
Charles Mason April 17
Elaine Cardinal April 24

Anniversaries

Mitch and Martha Tocimak April 26, 1941

Congratulations to Mark and Jennifer Ammerman on the birth of their daughter Lilian Jane on March 4. *God grant you many years!*

Chris Conkey will be honored with the rank of Eagle Scout on April 10. Chris completed his requirements and his Eagle project to achieve the highest honor in the Boy Scouts of America. *God grant you many years!*

Thank you to all who helped with the baking of nut and poppyseed rolls and the making of the piroghi. *God grant you many years!*

Thank you to Mary Ann Conkey, Rose Marie Fetcenko and Bonnie Fetcenko for polishing the brass in the church. *God grant you many years!*

The Paschal Sermon of Saint John Chrysostom

If any man be devout and loveth God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast! If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have laboured long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived therefore. If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. And if any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness.

For the Lord, who is jealous of his honour, will accept the last even as the first. He giveth rest unto him who cometh at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who hath wrought from the first hour. And He showeth mercy upon the last, and careth for the first; and to the one He giveth, and upon the other He bestoweth gifts. And He both accepteth the deeds, and welcometh the intention, and honoureth the acts and praises the offering.

Wherefore, enter ye all into the joy of your Lord; receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival! You sober and you heedless, honour the day! Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away. Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness.

Let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal Kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Saviour's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it.

By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered when it encountered Thee in the lower regions.

It was embittered, for it was abolished.

It was embittered, for it was mocked.

It was embittered, for it was slain.

It was embittered, for it was overthrown.

It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains.

It took a body, and met God face to face.

It took earth, and encountered Heaven.

It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is thy sting?

O Hell, where is thy victory?

Christ is risen, and thou art overthrown!

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen!

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!

Christ is risen, and life reigns!

Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave.

For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages.

Amen.

Father's Corner:

Two disciples walked along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they were talking about Christ's death when suddenly Jesus Himself came and walked beside them. But they did not recognize Him.

He looked at their sad faces and said, "What are you so concerned about?"

Haven't you heard? One of them named Cleopas said. "You must be the one person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about the terrible things that happened there last week."

Jesus listened as they poured out their sad tale to Him, about the wonderful Jesus of Nazareth who had done such great miracles that they were sure He was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel, but the religious leader had handed Him over to the Roman government and He had been crucified. The men spoke as if they had just witnessed the greatest tragedy the world had ever known. "we had hoped," they said, "that this Jesus was going to liberate Israel." On top of it all, they said, the body of Jesus was missing from the tomb and some women said they'd seen angels who told that Jesus was alive. The men seemed certain that the last bit of news could only be a fairy tale.

"Then Jesus said to them, 'You are such foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. Wasn't it clearly predicted by the prophets that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering His time of glory?'"

Jesus quoted them passage after passage from the writings of the prophets, beginning with the book of Genesis and going right on through the Scriptures explaining what the passages meant and what they said about himself".

By the time they coming near the town of Emmaus, and since it was getting late, the two men asked the stranger to spend the night with them. They still had not recognized Him!"

Jesus came home with them, and when "they sat down to eat, he asked God's Blessings on the food and then took a small loaf of bread and broke it and was passing it over them, when suddenly-it was as though their eyes were opened-they recognized Him!"

At last they believed. The Risen Savior had come to them in their despair.

In the midst of our shattered dreams and our broken hopes, in the midst of all our "if onlys" and the devastated expectations, in the midst of all our *we had hoped* experiences, the Risen Christ comes even today to bring hope and victory. Where there once appeared to be no life, only death, He comes to bring resurrection and new life.

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Note: Father will bless graves on Sunday April 11 , rain will be the only deterrent.