



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

July 2010
Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory forever and ever!

Service Schedule

- July 4 Independence Day**
 General Confession & Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- July 11**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
 Council Meeting
- July 18**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- July 25**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Pot luck luncheon following Liturgy

Reader's Schedule

	Hours	Epistle
7/4	Mark Ammerman	George Sura
7/11	Larry Ammerman	Mike Conkey
7/18	Chris Conkey	Gabriel
7/25	Jan Brennish	Andrew Tocimak

Feast Days

7/15	Isapostle Prince Vladimir
7/20	Glorious Prophet Elias
7/27	Great Martyr Panteleimon



For private confession, call Father to make arrangements.

Remember in your prayers: Metropolitan Theodosius, 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, Helen Mae Harvey, Julia Luzier, Anna Pennington, Harry Socie, Chuck Stine, Dustin Thompson, 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.”

Happy Birthday America!

On July 4, 1776, we claimed our independence from Britain and Democracy was born. Every day thousands leave their homeland to come to the "land of the free and the home of the brave" so they can begin their American Dream. The United States is truly a diverse nation made up of dynamic people. Each year on July 4, Americans celebrate that freedom and independence with barbecues, picnics, and family gatherings. We are learning about and communicating with people of different nations, with different languages and different races throughout the world. Bringing the world closer with understanding and knowledge can only benefit all nations.

We invite all nations to celebrate with Americans this Fourth of July. Happy Birthday, America!

Birthdays

Yvonne Fetcenko	July 2
Matushka Judy Horosky	July 7
Joanne Whitehead	July 8
Chris Conkey	July 9
Shirley Donovan	July 9
Alexandra Stine	July 12
Helen Bokach	July 15
Margaret Stefanko	July 16
Andrew Conkey	July 18
Sarah Demchak	July 18
Rose Marie Fetcenko	July 21
Anna Pennington	July 25
Jan Brennish	July 28
Andrew Tocimak	July 30

Anniversaries

John & Mary Ann Conkey	July 3, 1987
George & Eleanor Sura	July 5, 1959
Andrew & Louise Tocimak	July 21, 1956

FATHER'S CORNER.....

From the 4th Century on, the Church of Rome has celebrated the Feast of the Holy Apostles on June 29. This became the usage of the Universal Church. Spiritually the Feast is linked with Holy Pentecost, as the witness of the apostles is the immediate fruit of the descent of the Holy Spirit which came upon them. The Feast is preceded by the Fast of the Holy Apostles, which begins on the Monday following All Saints Sunday (1st after Pentecost).

The two most important Apostles of the early Church were Peter and Paul and according to Church Tradition, they were both martyred in Rome, Paul by beheading and Peter by crucifixion. Thus this Feast became especially prominent in Rome. Although St. Peter had a special zeal concerning Christ and is considered the Chief of the Apostles, he did not have any special authority over the other Apostles, but was first in honor. When there were important questions in the Church, it was a Church council that decided them, and St. Peter himself was sent by a council to preach the Word of God.

According to St. John Chrysostom, St. Paul sought dishonor more than we seek Honor, death more than we seek life, poverty more than we seek wealth, sorrows more than we seek joy, and that he prayed for his enemies more than others pray against their enemies. For him there was only one thing to be feared: that he might offend God. He desired nothing more in life than to please God and the whole meaning of his life was his love for Christ.

Who is Isapostle Prince Vladimir?

The holy and right-believing **Vladimir (Svyatoslavich), Baptizer of Kievan Rus'** (958-1015) was the Grand Prince of Kiev when Orthodoxy was introduced into present day Russia and Ukraine. He is also the grandson of St. Olga and the father of Sts. Boris and Gleb the Passion-Bearers (and the first saints of the Russian lands). He is commemorated by the Church on July 15.

St. Vladimir was a devout pagan in his early life. He was a great conqueror who had many wives and erected many pagan statues in the lands that he ruled over. Upon finding out that other faiths existed beyond his own paganism, he decided to send his envoys out into the world to find out what was true faith on earth.

His envoys met with Muslims, but felt that there was no joy among them, and that their faith was very mechanical. The envoys also met with Jews and Catholics, but were still unimpressed. Everything changed, however, when the envoys arrived in Constantinople. Upon attending Divine Liturgy in Hagia Sophia, the envoys said, "We no longer knew whether we were in heaven or on earth."

Taking the word of his envoys, St. Vladimir had himself and his nation baptized into the Orthodox Church. St. Vladimir changed completely after his baptism. He destroyed all the pagan statues that stood in Kievan Rus', and replaced them with churches. He also attempted to live in peace as much as possible with his neighbors and had only one wife.

Troparion: Holy Prince Vladimir,

you were like a merchant in search of fine pearls.

By sending servants to Constantinople for the Orthodox Faith, you found Christ, the priceless pearl.

He appointed you to be another Paul,

washing away in baptism your physical and spiritual blindness.

We celebrate your memory,

asking you to pray for all Orthodox Christians and for us, your spiritual children.