



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

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

Service Schedule

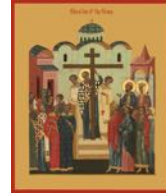
- September 5**
 General Confession & Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- September 12**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Semi-Annual Meeting &
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- September 19**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- September 26**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Pot luck luncheon following Liturgy

Reader's Schedule

	Hours	Epistle
9/5	Rose Marie Fetcenko	Drew Conkey
9/12	Larry Ammerman	Mike Conkey
9/19	Doug Batchko	Mark Ammerman
9/26	John Conkey	Doug Donovan

Feast Days

9/8	Birth of the Holy Theotokos
9/14	Elevation of the Holy Cross



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, Mary Foster, Helen Mae Harvey, Julia Luzier, Anna Pennington, Karen Saupp, 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.”

Birthdays

Chuck Stine	9/10
Hunter Batchko	9/19
Mark Ammerman	9/23
Elena Batchko	9/27

Anniversaries

Douglas & Shirley Donovan	September 1, 1973
Tom & Linda Nolder	September 10, 1983

Father's Corner

"Love one another as I have loved you". This is the message Jesus gives us in the gospel of John 13:34 and John 15:17. We have the opportunity to live this new commandment by helping our new seminarian, Douglas Batchko who will be attending St. Tikhon's Seminary beginning August 29. Douglas is the first man from St. John's to be called to the priesthood. We would like to show our support by providing a supplement to help with his travels to and from the seminary. We will be taking a monthly collection the first Sunday of the month and give the proceeds to him to help defray some of the costs. Let your heart guide you as you donate to this special cause.

THE NATIVITY OF THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS

The birth of the Most-Holy Theotokos took place in the following manner: Her father The Righteous Joachim, was a descendant of King David, to whom God had promised that seed of his descendants would be born the Savior of the world. Her mother, the Righteous Anna, was the daughter of Matthan, and through her father was the tribe of Aaron and through her mother was the tribe of Judah. The spouses lived in Nazareth of Galilee. Joachim and Anna had no children, and all their life they grieved about this, especially since they were now in old age. Scorn and mockery was their lot, for at that time childlessness was reckoned as a shame. But they never murmured and only the more fervently beseeched God, humbly trusting in His Will.

Once, during the time of a great Feast, the offering which Joachim took to Jerusalem to offer to God in the Temple, was not received by the priest, who reckoned that a childless man was not worthy to bring a sacrifice to God. This greatly grieved the old man and he, counting himself only a sinner among men, decided not to return home, but to flee to a place of solitude in a deserted place.

Anna, having heard how her husband had been humiliated by the priest, began to fast, and in prayer sadly beseeched God to grant her a child. In the wilderness, secluded and fasting, Joachim also prayed to God for this.

The prayer of the Holy Spouses were heard. The angel Gabriel came to them and announced that a daughter would be born to them, whom the whole human race would call blessed. At the command of the Heavenly Messenger, Joachim and Anna returned to Jerusalem where, according to the promise of God, a daughter was born to them, whom they named Mary.

This child, the Most-Holy Virgin Mary, pure and virtuous, surpassed not only all men, but even the angels, being manifested as the Living Temple, "the Heavenly Gate, ushering in Christ to the Universe as the Salvation of our souls." The Nativity of the Mother of God Pre-announced the approaching time when the great and comforting promise of God concerning the salvation of the human race from the slavery of the devil was to be accomplished. The Mother of the First-Born of all Creation was revealed to all of us a merciful Intercessor to whom we perpetually run for help in all things.

Orthodoxy 101 – Lessons in Orthodoxy

Lesson 1 *What do I do when I come to the church?*

1. When you arrive at the church bow, make the sign of the cross and pray the following prayer:

"I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy; and in thy fear I will worship toward thy holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before me, that with a clear mind I may glorify thee forever, One Divine Power worshipped in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen."

2. Purchase and light your candles and prepare for the Divine Liturgy by praying or listening to the reading of the hours. Sit quietly and refrain from disrupting others who may be praying.

3. Participate in the Divine Liturgy by praying, singing and participating in the sacraments.

To Cross or Not To Cross: Anyone who has looked around on a Sunday morning will notice that different people cross themselves at different times (and sometimes in different ways). To a certain extent, when to cross oneself is according to personal piety and not an issue of dogma. But there are times when it is specifically proper to cross yourself, and times when you should not. Here is a brief list of when to cross and when not to cross:

To Cross: When you hear one of the variations of the phrase, "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit"; at the beginning and end of the liturgical service or your private prayers; entering or exiting the church, or when passing in front of the Holy Altar; before venerating in icon, the cross, or Gospel book.

Not to Cross: At the chalice before or after taking Communion (you might hit the chalice with your hand); when the priest or bishop blesses saying, "Peace be to all" - bow slightly and receive the blessing; when receiving a blessing from a bishop or a priest (kissing the right hand of the bishop or priest is appropriate, but not making the sign of the cross).

4. When you leave the church bow, cross yourself and say the following prayer.

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel."