

# 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 2011**

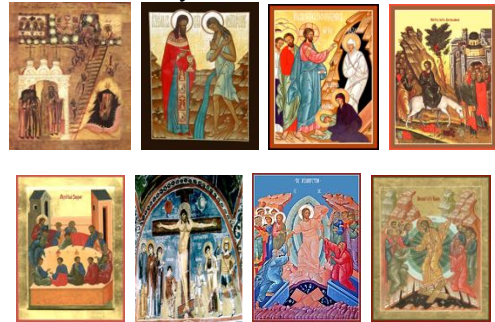
*Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory forever and ever!*

### Service Schedule

- April 1** – Presanctified Liturgy @ 6:00 PM  
 Confession @ 5:00 PM
- April 3** – **St. John Climacus**  
 Hours @ 9:30 AM  
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM  
 Special Collection for Seminarian  
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy  
 Council Meeting
- April 8** – Presanctified Liturgy @ 6:00 PM  
 Confession @ 5:00 PM
- April 10** – **St. Mary of Egypt**  
 Hours @ 9:30 AM  
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM  
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- April 16** – **Lazarus Saturday**  
 Hours @ 9:30 AM  
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
- April 17** – **Palm Sunday**  
 Hours @ 9:30 AM  
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM  
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- April 21** **Great & Holy Thursday**  
 Matins & Reading of 12 Gospels @ 6:00 PM
- April 22** **Great & Holy Friday Service** @ 4:00 PM
- April 23** **Great & Holy Saturday**  
 Vespers/Liturgy @ 10:00 AM  
 Matins/Compline @ 6:00 PM
- April 24** **Resurrection Liturgy** @ 10:00 AM

### Reader's Schedule

	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Epistle</i>
4/3	D. Edward Batchko	George Sura
4/10	Jan Brennish	Mark Ammerman
4/16	Doug Donovan	John Conkey
4/17	Chris Conkey	Drew Conkey
4/24	Choir	Andrew Tocimak
<b>Feast</b>	<b>Days</b>	
4/3	St. John Climacus	
4/10	St. Mary of Egypt	
4/16	Lazarus Saturday	
4/17	Palm Sunday	
4/21	Great and Holy Thursday	
4/22	Great and Holy Friday	
4/23	Great and Holy Saturday	
4/24	Great and Holy Pascha	



### Plan ahead:

5/21 Chicken BBQ

**Remember in your prayers:** Father Adam, Father Ted, Father Michael, Father Paul, Jennifer Ammerman and Lilian, Mary Ann Ammerman, 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, Carl Mandel, Anna Pennington, Harry Socie, Alexandra Stine, Eleanor Sura, Holly Thompson, Andrew Tocimak, Irene Tocimak, Louise Tocimak, Michael 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.”

*The Hanging Vigil* above the Royal Doors of the iconostasis is supported by Maragaret Stefanko in the memory of her sister Helen Bokach, her mother, brothers and sister.

*The Vigils on the Tetrapod* are supported by Irene Pollock in Loving Memory of all departed members of the Bokach family, Bernard Pollock, and Andrew Strizak.

*The votives* in front of the iconostasis, on the candlestands and in front of the icons in the nave are supported by Andrew & Louise Tocimak in loving memory of George Tocimak.

Birthdays	Anniversaries
Jack Foster	04/02
Christine Demchak	04/12
V. Rev. John Horosky	04/17
Charles Mason	04/17
Elaine Cardinal	04/24

**Special thanks** to all who helped to clean the church, rectory and hall for our annual spring cleaning in preparation for Missions and Pascha.

**Special thanks** to all who helped to prepare for our Missions Service.

**Fellowship Hour** – Thank you to all who bring food items, paper supplies, drinks, coffee or make monetary contributions for our fellowship time after Divine Liturgy. We are blessed to come together in fellowship and we appreciate any and all donations of food and/or money.

**Lampadas:** Thank you for donating the lampadas which hang over the large icons in the church nave. Mary Ann Ammerman in memory of Mary Soci; Rose Marie and Bonnie Fetcenko in memory of John Fetcenko; Jan Brennish in memory of Michael, John and Peter Brennish, Jane Pollick Brennish, Florence Pollick Coulter, Anna & Michael Pollick; Eleanor & George Sura in memory of Sura and Wolfinger families. The church is made more beautiful to the glory of God by your donations. God grant you many years!

### *From the Desk of Father John Horosky*

**FASTING** In the Church in Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Crete, Manaen (who was brought up Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were praying and fasting the Holy spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them” So after they fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off---Acts.13:1-3

Why were these leaders of the church in Antioch fasting? We are told the results of their fast, but we're never told the reason. We believe we're not told because they are not fasting about anything, they are fasting because it is part of what they do—it is part of the rhythm of their life.

In the beginning of the Church fasting was the General Rule to fast as the Holy Spirit taught them and as noted above they were happy to fulfill what the Spirit directed to them.

The Church has given us rules for fasting and they should be followed however rules of fasting should be relaxed in the case of anyone elderly or in poor health. Personal facts also need to be taken into account, as, for example, the situation of an isolated Orthodox living in the same household as non-Orthodox, or one obliged to take meals in a factory or school lunchroom. In cases of uncertainty, however, one should always seek the advice of his or her spiritual father.

At all times, however, it is essential to bear in mind that **YOU ARE NOT UNDER LAW BUT UNDER GRACE** (Romans 6: 14) and that **THE LETTER KILLS, BUT THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE** (2 Cor. 3:6) The fasting rules, while they do need to be taken seriously, are not to be interpreted with the strict legalism of the Pharisees of Holy Scripture, **FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT FOOD AND DRINK, BUT RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE AND JOY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT** (ROMANS 14:17).

During the month of April we have a number of services planned, if you have not come to confession or communion come early for the service and Father will hear your confession. This is the rule of the Church to have private confession at **LEAST ONCE** a year. There will not be General Confession for April.