



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 2011
Glory Be to Jesus Christ!

Service Schedule

September 4

General Confession & Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy

September 11

Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Semi-Annual Parish Meeting

September 18

Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy

September 25

Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Pot luck luncheon following Liturgy

Reader's Schedule

Hours

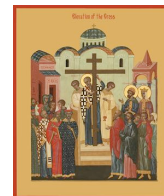
9/4 Larry Ammerman
 9/11 Chris Conkey
 9/18 D. Edward Batchko
 9/25 Veronica Pirow

Epistle

Mike Conkey
 Jan Brennish
 George Sura
 Mark Ammerman

Feast Days

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



For private confession, call Father to make arrangements.

Remember in your prayers: Bishop MELCHISEDEK, 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, 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.”

Hunter Batchko **Birthdays** 9/19
 Mark Ammerman 9/23
 Elena Batchko 9/27

Shirley and Doug Donovan **Anniversaries** September 1, 1973
 Linda and Tom Nolder September 10, 1983

From the Desk of Father John Horosky

September 1st is the New Year for the Orthodox Church.

The Church was born at Pentecost. However to have order in the Church Services, the Holy Fathers proclaimed Sept. 1 as the beginning of the ecclesiastical year which all Gospel & Epistle readings, music and prayers are in sync with the time of the year and its celebrations. A book is published yearly, called Rubrics, which gives the choir director and priest what to sing and read during the Liturgy.

September 8 is the feast day of the Birth of the Holy-Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

Mary was born of the previously barren Joachim and Anna. It was a shame to be childless for the Jews mocked them but they kept praying to God for His will in their life. During a Great Feast Joachim went to the temple with an offering to God. The priests of the temple refused his gift, and he retreated to the desert to pray. Anna having heard of her husband's refusal at the hands of the Temple priest began to pray with more earnest and after awhile the angel Gabriel announced to them that Anna will bring forth a child, a daughter. 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 as a merciful Intercessor to whom we perpetually run for help in all things.

September 14 is the feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord.

The Savior Himself had spoken of His death on the Cross, saying: As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, and whoever believes in Him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have life eternal. (John 3:14-16) When the emperor Hadrian came into power he had all the Christian symbols and churches destroyed and the Cross of Jesus which was preserved was also buried and removed from view. The Emperor Constantine ordered all Christian symbols be again shown to the people and He and His Mother began to look for the Cross of Jesus. There were 3 crosses unearthed and in order to find the true cross they placed all 3 on a dead man. The Cross of Christ was found when they placed it on the dead man, he came to life and all rejoiced. The emperor brought the cross to the palace where they built a wall around the cross and the burial place of Jesus.

NOTE:

Our Bishop MELCHISEDEK has been released from the New York hospital and is in the Pittsburgh area for rehab. He has limited duties and will be resting till the doctors release him.

The Hanging Vigil above the Royal Doors of the iconostasis is supported by Margaret Stefanko in the memory of her sister Helen Bokach; her husband, 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.

September 11 is the 10th Anniversary of the tragedy of 9/11. Please remember in prayer those who lost their lives and those who have suffered losses.

Please remember in your prayers those affected by Hurricane Irene.