

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 2012
Glory Be to Jesus Christ!

Service Schedule

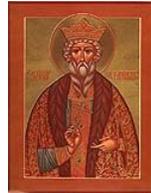
- July 1**
 General Confession & Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
 Council Meeting
- July 8**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- July 15**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- July 22**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- July 29**
 Hours @ 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
 Pot luck luncheon following Liturgy

Reader's Schedule

	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Epistle</i>
7/1	Doug Donovan	Doug Donovan
7/8	Tom Demchak	Tom Demchak
7/15	Veronica Pirow	George Sura
7/22	Larry Ammerman	John Conkey
7/29	D. Edward Batchko	D. Edward Batchko

Feast Days

7/1	Cosmas & Damian
7/15	Isapostle Vladimir
7/20	Prophet Elias
7/27	Great Martyr Panteleimon



For private confession, call Father to make arrangements.

Remember in your prayers: Bishop MELCHISEDEK, Father Adam, Father Ted, Father Paul, Father Michael, Jennifer and Vincent, Larry Ammerman, Mary Ann Ammerman, Karen Blackburn, Chris Conkey, James Crites, Helen Czar, Joe Demchak, Mike Demchak, Steve Demchak, Eileen Donovan, Joe Edwards, Olga Finlayson, Kenneth Finlayson, Jeffrey Fetcenko, Randy Fetcenko, Rose Marie Fetcenko, Yvonne Fetcenko, Jack Foster, Mary Foster, Harry Horosky, Carl Mandel, Richard Nakles, Anna Pennington, Karen Saupp, Harry Socie, Alexandria Stine, Karen Stine, Eleanor Sura, Holly Thompson, Andrew Tocimak, Irene Tocimak, Louise Tocimak, Walter Varagea, Delores Varagea.

“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.”

Many Years! On Sunday, June 10, Father John presented the OCA Certificate of Recognition to Joseph Demchak and Mary Ann Conkey for their service to St. John's. *God grant you many years!*

Memory Eternal! Helen Mae Harvey fell asleep in the Lord on Thursday, June 14. Helen Mae is the sister of Rose Marie Fetcenko and Veronica Pirow and aunt of Bonnie Fetcenko. *Memory Eternal*

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

We are honored to have His Grace Bishop MELCHISEDEK serve the Divine Liturgy with us today, June 24 on our parish's feast day, the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. Following the Divine Liturgy join us for a dinner in the parish hall.

The Tale of Ten Little Christians

Ten little Christians standing in a line; One disliked the Priest, then there were nine.

Nine little Christians stayed up very late; One slept on Sunday morning, then there were eight.

Eight little Christians on the road to heaven; One took the lower road, then there were seven.

Seven little Christians got into a fix; One disliked the music, then there were six.

Six little Christians very much alive; One lost her interest, then there were five.

Five little Christians wishing there were more; But they quarreled, then there were four.

Four little Christians, cheerful as could be; One lost his temper, then there were three.

Three little Christians knew not what to do; One joined a sporty crowd, then there were two

Two little Christians, our rhyme is nearly done; Differed with each other, then there was one.

One lone Christian won his neighbor true; Brought him to the church, then there were two.

Two earnest Christians, each won one more; that doubles their number, then there were four.

Four sincere Christians worked very late; But each won another, then there were eight.

Eight splendid Christians, but nothing rhymes with sixteen, so we simply note that in four more rhymes, there would be 1,042 which would be quite a church full.

We pray and hope that this little Church leaflet will help increase the bond in Christ which has shown itself at work during the over seventy years of your existence as a parish. As Orthodox Christians, we know that the Church must never become a mere Sunday institution, but must be carried back into our homes and our hearts.

This little Church leaflet is one very small way of bringing the news of the Church to our homes. Each Christian must make it His RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP CHRIST ALIVE IN HIS HEART, for no church leaflet can accomplish such a task. Only through individual dedication to Christ and the Church can we find a place in our hearts for the ONE who keeps us in His heart.

The Tale of Ten Little Christians and the prayer was printed in our bulletin on September 21, 1969 by the Reverend Father Nicholas A Czaruk. Over forty years later, the message still rings true. Hear His message and allow Christ to live in your heart.

From the Desk of Father John Horosky

We all know that we have troubles in the world today. Many of our children have many electronic gadgets to spend the time away and when they are done with these they say they are bored. The values are not important to them and often compromised. This is a travesty and the children do not have the social skills and the knowledge to respect their elders, teachers, parents and the church. This is learned at home, however if the home life is not Christian they fall into the path of the devil. I just learned from our neighbor a girl just graduated from high school and now is with child. I would venture to say, this is not a Christian home, because she would learn at home values to respect herself and others.

Jesus said love for God is the most important, for if we don't love God and obey his commandments we will be judged according to our works. We must instill in our children the values of life and show those values in everyday living.

Jesus cannot be our all, until we give all to Him.

*Love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart
And with all your soul. Deuteronomy 11:13
You cannot want God's way and your way at the same time.
The prayer of a changed heart is one that says, "God, I no
longer want my own way, but Your way in my life".*

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.

The Power of Compassion by Deborah Calla. "One of the first things I do every morning is read the news. I believe that is the same for most people. We want to know what is happening in the world and in our communities. We want to know how yesterday's developments will be impacting our lives today. But as we read about all the wars, poverty and instability we feel overwhelmed and start to shut down. Unfortunately, the shutting down to the pain in the news carries on to our daily lives, and we start to become disconnected from our ability to feel compassion and to empathize. But the news is not the only reason. In addition, our own life's difficulties and struggles take care of whatever compassion we have left in our hearts.

The human experience is based on exchange and connectedness. We do need each other to experience and to share. How many times do we have a good experience and wonder how much better it would have been if shared with a loved one? How much better we feel about ourselves if we know we have friends and family watching our backs?

Having compassion, which is the ability to understand the emotional state of another person and then want to alleviate their suffering, makes us feel connected and part of a group. It gives us purpose and it grounds us. Without compassion we are bound to feel alone. We live in a competitive world where success and disaster are what is most often highlighted. Somehow out of that we start to have the misconception that having compassion for others is either a waste of time or a sign of weakness. Or we see compassion as something only the rich and powerful have the time or the means to do. Compassion then becomes something for the ranks of Bono or George Clooney.

How wrong is that? Compassion is simple, profound and can thrive in every one of us. Compassion connects us to our own humanity and that of others. It can be expressed in a smile or a hug. Compassion is letting someone else feel understood when they are conflicted. Compassion is loving someone when they are deeply distressed. It is putting your arms around someone else so they feel safe.

Every day we have an opportunity to change someone's life by paying attention to their needs. Every day someone else has the opportunity to change our lives for the same reason. Compassion does not have to be grandiose. It can be a simple act or gesture which carries the power to connect and transform. Tap into your compassion for yourself and others. I assure you, it will transform you."

This was said several times of Christ in the New Testament. If you would sum up the whole character of Christ in reference to ourselves, it might be gathered into this one sentence, "He was moved with compassion." — Matthew 9:36.