



# THE FORERUNNER

*The Nativity of St. John the Baptist*

Orthodox Church O.C.A.

420 Laura Street

Philipsburg, PA 16866

(814) 342-2011

<http://nativityofstjohn-oca.org>

Very Rev. John Horosky - Priest

John Conkey - Council President

August 2015

Glory Be to Jesus Christ!

## Service Schedule

### August 2

General Confession @ 9:30 AM  
 Hours @ 9:45 AM  
 Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM  
 Coffee Hour following Liturgy  
 Council Meeting

### August 9

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

### August 16

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

### August 23

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

### August 30

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

## Reader's Schedule

Hours	Epistle
8/2	Tom Demchak
8/9	Doug Donovan
8/16	John Conkey
8/23	Mark Ammerman
8/30	George Sura

## Feasts & Saints

8/6	Holy Transfiguration
8/9	Glorification of the Venerable Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America
8/11	Holy Martyr Susanna
8/15	Dormition of the Theotokos
8/23	Saint Rose
8/27	Saint Phanourios
8/29	Beheading of St. John the Baptist
8/30	St Spyridon the Patriarch

## Reminders:

- 8/22/15 (Sat.): Yard Sale - bring items to donate to the Hall during the weeks prior. All proceeds to St. John's.
- 9/13/15 (Sun.): Semi-Annual Meeting - after Liturgy
- 9/20/15 (Sun.): His Eminence, Archbishop MELCHISEDEK will visit St. John's
- 11/7/15 (Sat.): Archdiocesan Assembly



## Birthdays

John Blake	August 2
Lilia Houser	August 7
Karen Stine	August 15
Julia Blazosky	August 27

## Anniversaries

Father Edward & Matushka Krista Batchko	August 13, 1999
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**Remember in your prayers:** Archbishop MELCHISEDEK, Father John, Father Adam, Father Ted, Father Paul, Father Michael, Father Andrew, Father John, Matushka Judy Horosky, Matushka Ksenia Batchko, Larry Ammerman, Mary Ann Ammerman, Jen Ammerman and Victor, Karen Blackburn, Matthew Boroughf, Chris Conkey, John Conkey, James Crites, Helen Czar, Eugene Demchak, Joe Demchak, Mike Demchak, Steve Demchak, Kari Donovan, Matthew Donovan, Michael Evans, Bonnie Fetcenko, Randy Fetcenko, Rose Marie Fetcenko, Olga Finlayson, Kenneth Finlayson, Jack Foster, Mary Foster, Harry Horosky, Alexandra Mamrak, Eugene Minarich, Evan Morgan, Richard Nakles, Gloria Rice, John Saupp, Mary Sura Saupp, Harry Socie, Alexandra Stine, Karen Stine, Eleanor Sura, Andrew Tocimak, Irene Tocimak, Louise Tocimak, Walter Varagea, Delores Varagea, Patricia Wood

*“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*

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

**Reminder:** September 20 our Archbishop will be here to celebrate the Divine Liturgy as a pastoral visit and we are asking for all parishioners to attend.

### **The Prophet Elijah**

Elijah is one of the most renowned prophets in the Old Testament. He is famous not just for standing up to the wicked King Ahab and his wife Jezebel, but for the many astonishing miracles attributed to him.

During a severe drought, Elijah asked a starving Phoenician woman to feed him, promising that her meager stores would not run out before the rain returned (1Kings 17: 8-16). What is remarkable about this story is not just the miraculous multiplication of the woman's food but also the fact that Elijah made such a gesture toward a non-Jewish woman. Years later Jesus used this very story to justify his association with Gentiles (Luke 4:23-27).

God Bless us all

***The Hanging Vigil*** above the Royal Doors of the iconostasis is supported by Irene Pollock in loving memory of her sister and brother-in-law Margaret and Robert Stefanko.

***The Vigils on the Tetrapod*** are supported by Irene Pollock in loving memory of her parents, sisters, brothers, husband, nephew and stepfather.

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

## **The Power of Prayer**

*Anonymous, sent by Roland Berg [http://www.route50.com/religious\\_stories.htm](http://www.route50.com/religious_stories.htm)  
Does God Still Speak To Us?*

A young man had been to Wednesday night Bible Study. The Priest had shared about listening to God and obeying the Lord's voice. The young man couldn't help but wonder, "Does God still speak to people?"

After service he went out with some friends for coffee and pie and they discussed the message. Several different ones talked about how God had led them in different ways. It was about ten o'clock when the young man started driving home. Sitting in his car, he just began to pray, "God, If you still speak to people, speak to me. I will listen. I will do my best to obey."

As he drove down the main street of his town, he had the strangest thought, to stop and buy a gallon of milk. He shook his head and said out loud, "God is that you?" He didn't get a reply and started on toward home. But again, the thought, buy a gallon of milk.

The young man thought about Samuel and how he didn't recognize the voice of God, and how little Samuel ran to Eli. "Okay, God, in case that is you, I will buy the milk." It didn't seem like too hard a test of obedience. He could always use the milk.

He stopped and purchased the gallon of milk and started off toward home. As he passed Seventh Street, he again felt the urge, "Turn down that street." "This is crazy," he thought and drove on past the intersection. Again, he felt that he should turn down Seventh Street. At the next intersection, he turned back and headed down Seventh. Half jokingly, he said out loud, "Okay, God, I will."

He drove several blocks, when suddenly, he felt like he should stop. He pulled over to the curb and looked around. He was in semi-commercial area of town. It wasn't the best, but it wasn't the worst of neighborhoods either.

The businesses were closed and most of the houses looked dark like the people were already in bed. Again, he sensed something, "Go and give the milk to the people in the house across the street." The young man looked at the house. It was dark and it looked like the people were either gone or they were already asleep. He started to open the door and then sat back in the car seat. "Lord, this is insane. Those people are asleep and if I wake them up, they are going to be mad and I will look stupid."

Again, he felt like he should go and give the milk. Finally, he opened the door, "Okay God, if this is you, I will go to the door and I will give them the milk. If you want me to look like a crazy person, okay. I want to be obedient. I guess that will count for something but if they don't answer right away, I am out of here."

He walked across the street and rang the bell. He could hear some noise inside. A man's voice yelled out, "Who is it? What do you want?"

Then the door opened before the young man could get away. The man was standing there in his jeans and T-shirt. He looked like he just got out of bed. He had a strange look on his face and he didn't seem too happy to have some stranger standing on his doorstep. "What is it?"

The young man thrust out the gallon of milk, "Here, I brought this to you."

The man took the milk and rushed down a hallway speaking loudly in Spanish. Then from down the hall came a woman carrying the milk toward the kitchen. The man was following her holding a baby. The baby was crying. The man had tears streaming down his face. The man began speaking and half-crying, "We were just praying. We had some big bills this month and we ran out of money. We didn't have any milk for our baby. I was just praying and asking God to show me how to get some milk." His wife, in the kitchen yelled out, "I ask him to send an Angel with some. Are you an Angel?"

The young man reached into his wallet and pulled out all the money he had on him and put it in the man's hand. He turned and walked back toward his car and the tears were streaming down his face. He knew that God still answers prayers.