



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. Mark Meholick, Dean: Priest-in-charge
John Conkey – Council President

<http://nativityofstjohn-oca.org>

July 2018
Glory Be to Jesus Christ!

Service Schedule

- July 1**
Hours @ 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Fellowship Hour –
- July 7**
Vespers @ 5:00 PM
- July 8**
Hours @ 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Fellowship Hour – Foster and Conkey
- July 14**
Vespers @ 5:00 PM
- July 15**
Hours @ 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Fellowship Hour – Blake and McGraw
- July 21**
Vespers @ 5:00 PM
- July 22**
Hours @ 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Fellowship Hour – Fetcenko and Stine
- July 28**
Vespers @ 5:00 PM
- July 29**
Hours @ 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM
Fellowship Hour – Brennish and Demchak

Please contact Shirley Donovan or Mary Ann Conkey if there are changes with the Fellowship Hour. Cash donations go towards the purchase of coffee, cream, sugar, and donuts.

Reader's Schedule

	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Epistle</i>
7/1	John Conkey	John Conkey
7/8	Mark Ammerman	Mark Ammerman
7/15	Doug Donovan	Doug Donovan
7/22	Tom Demchak	Tom Demchak
7/29	John Conkey	John Conkey

Feasts & Saints

- 7/1 Wonderworkers Cosmas & Damian
- 7/12 St. Veronica
- 7/15 Isapostle St. Vladimir
- 7/20 Holy Apostle Elias
- 7/21 Holy Prophet Ezekiel
- 7/22 Isapostle St. Mary Magdalene
- 7/27 Great Martyr Panteleimon
- 7/28 Apostle Prochorus
- 7/31 St. Eudokimos the Martyr



BIRTHDAYS

Joanne Whitehead	07/08
Chris Conkey	07/09
Shirley Donovan	07/09
Alexandra Stine	07/12
Cynthia Posmoga	07/15
Andrew Conkey	07/18
Sarah Demchak	07/18
Rose Marie Fetcenko	07/21
Julia Biberdorf	07/24
Jan Brennish	07/28
Andrew Tocimak	07/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Ann and John Conkey	July 3, 1987
Svetlana and John Blake	July 11, 1998

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, Alexis Blackburn, Karen Blackburn, John Conkey, James Crites, Helen Czar, Joe Demchak, Mike 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, Evan Morgan, Richard Nakles, Gloria Rice, John Saupp, Mary Sura Saupp, Harry Socie, Alexandra Stine, Karen Stine, 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

***God has a purpose for your pain,
A reason for your struggles,
And a reward for your faithfulness.
Don't give up!***

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.

From the Desk of Father Michael

Glory be to Jesus Christ!

ETERNAL TRUTHS ARE NEEDFUL OF REPETITION

During these Sundays following Pentecost, the themes that emanate from the sacrament of Baptism—renewal through rebirth and illumination—are emphatically repeated in the liturgical services. As a point of fact, illumination, which characterizes our life in the Church after baptism until we die, is a constant theme throughout the liturgical year. The holy fathers who commentate on the scriptures might appear to be repetitious when their commentaries are read in preparation for the divine services, yet repetition, when dealing with the eternal truths, is imperative for those who would hope to be saved. St. Nicholas in his homily in his “Prologue from Ochrid” writes:

“A ploughman ploughs a field. Does he not repeat the same action again and again? How else would the field be tilled, if he did not repeat his action from dawn to dusk, deepening furrow after furrow?

A traveler goes along a road. Does he not, every moment, renew the same action, the same effort? How else would his journey pass and his destination be reached?

A carpenter cuts planks in his workshop. Does he not repeat the same action for every plank? How else would he prepare the required number of planks?

My brethren, is not everything that we do on a practical level a series of repetitions? Let not the preacher of truth grow weary and say: 'I have told them, and will not repeat it!' Let not the hearer of truth grow proud and say: 'I have heard that once, and don't need to hear it again.'

O teacher of the truth, do not be afraid of repeating again and again; of teaching by repetition and reminding by repetition. Without repetition, the field is not ploughed nor the road traveled, nor the plank prepared. That is your task: to plough, to lead, to prepare.

O hearer of the truth, do not grow proud and say that you have heard the truth once. Truth is food for the soul. You have eaten bread today, and yesterday and the day before, month by month and year by year, And you will go on eating it, to strengthen your body. Feed your soul as well. Feed it with truth; with the same truth yesterday and today and tomorrow and for the rest of your life, that your soul may become whole and filled with light.

O Lord Jesus, feed us every day and every hour with Thy truth—with Thyself, O Jesus, Thou sweet food! To Thee be glory and praise for ever. Amen.”