

The Weekly Messenger –June 1, 2014
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36 Gospel: John 17:1-13

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
KRISHTI U NGJALL! VERTET U NGJALL!

Message from Father Brooks: As 1 Peter 4:10 reminds us, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift you have received". The word gift is the distinctively Pauline word "charisma", which implies a divinely inspired power or talent. All of us have some kind of gift that we can use to serve one another. This is an important time to consider (or reconsider) the ways we can help to lift up each other, inspire each other, help each other. May we all work harder to build up St. John's in every way. Peace to all.

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Newly illuminated Noah, Newborn Elisabeth, Fiori, Ilirjan & Elias Papa, Janice Leyden, George Touros, Katherine Halkedis, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Larry Kosta, Leslie Sochka, Andigoni Steffa, John and Mary Croke, Paula Kosta, Candace Pepenelli, Kristin Snow, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Francesca Giansante, Flossie Vissar, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

Commemorations for the Departed: Victims of the floods in Serbia, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much!

June 1st Stewardship Sunday – coffee hour sponsored by the Stewardship Committee
June 8th Sunday school graduation – coffee hour sponsored by the teachers & students
June 15th Michele Anderson
June 22nd no sponsor

Acknowledge our Graduates: Last week to submit information about your graduate. Please send an email to info@stjohnsphila.org.

Clothing Drive for the Homeless: Please donate clothing and blankets you no longer use. Bring the items to the church and Linda Notskas will take them to those in need.

This Sunday is Stewardship Sunday at St. John's. As we are called to be stewards for the Lord here on earth, please consider your role as a steward of St. John's. Stewardship involves both your financial support to keep our church running and fund projects as well as your help with your time and talents. Our thanks to everyone who regularly volunteers and those who have submitted their 2014 pledge card. It isn't too late to do either. Pledge cards will be available upstairs on Sunday and our church always welcomes your assistance with your time and talents. Can you sing with the choir, be a greeter at the door, help with the Sunday school, make a mesh for church a few times a year, donate the "item of the month" as often as possible, visit someone who is unable to attend church? A small gesture can go a long way to help! Please see Fr. Brooks or any committee member with questions and thanks to all of our St. John's stewards for your financial support and all that you do!

Parishioner News: Welcome back to Oanh Pajacini, who was churching last week after the birth of her second daughter, Sylvia. Many years to Oanh, Sylvia, Savina and Kostandin.

The Feast of the Ascension of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter). Since the date of Pascha changes each year, the date of the Feast of the Ascension changes. The Feast is always celebrated on a Thursday. The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven.

Upcoming Events:

June 1st We will celebrate **Holy Ascension** (actual date Thursday –May 29th)
June 3rd Tuesday, Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm
June 7th Church clean up day
June 8th Holy Pentecost
Sunday school graduation the students and teachers will celebrate with a trip to Dave & Busters
June 15th Father's Day
Sept. 21st Save the date; Gregory E. Costa Golf Classic and Dinner

Next Saturday, June 7th join us from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and lend a hand as we do our "spring cleaning" at the church! Questions: email info@stjohnsphila.org

Per Shume Vjet, Gezuar! To our parishioners who celebrate their namedays in June: June 1 Martyr Justin the Philosopher, June 27 St. Joanna Myrrhbearer, June 29 Ss Peter & Paul, June 30 All Saints

Monthly Giving May: Paper Towels Thank you for donating coffee cups in May.