

The Weekly Messenger –August 11, 2013

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979

Website: www.stjohnsphila.org

Email address: info@stjohnsphila.org

Epistle - Romans 15:1-7 Gospel - Matthew 9:27-35

Commemorations for the Living: Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop Nikon, Father Stephen Siniari, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Ann Gjoka, Roxane Ghicondey, Mac, Kristin Snow, Madeline Couris-Guarinello, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Francesca Giansante, Pandeli Spiro, Rosemary Notskas, Peter Mallios, Katherine Zoidis, Marcena Moore, Flossie Vissar, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all the servicemen especially, Matthew Sherwood (Army-Afghanistan) and Steven Cosmo (Marines-Romania).

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

Pastoral Coverage:

August 11 Father Joseph Toroney August 18th Father Brooks,
August 25, Father Brooks, Father Joseph Toroney, Father Mark Koczak, Father Gregory Dudash, Deacon Andrew Rubis, Deacon Gregory Vrato, Richard O'Leary (formerly Father Gregory O'Leary) will also worship with us.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much!

August 11th Qendro Family
August 18th Marinela Prifti, Liljana Petuqi August and Eda Kosova
August 25th Thank you luncheon

Important Dates:

August 15th Dormition of the Theotokos
August 25th Thank you luncheon
September 1st Father Brooks begins his ministry at St. John Chrysostom
Saturday, September 21st SS Peter & Paul Clam Bake
September 22nd Gregory E. Costa Golf Classic
September 26, 27, 28 Archdiocesan Assembly St. Nicholas Church - New York
October 5th Saturday 9:00 am – Fall Cleanup, we have the cleaning supplies and we need your helping hands to make our church sparkle!
October 15th Adult Education Classes begin (Father Brooks)

Sunday School: Will begin on September 15th. Registration will be Sept. 1st and 8th.
Registration forms available online www.stjohnsphila.org. Stay tuned for more info!

Parishioner News: Fiori and Theodhor Diamanti are pleased to announce the birth of daughter #3, Anna Elisabet; born July 29, 2013, 8 lbs, 3 oz. Big sisters Elina (5 ½) and Aleksa (3) are thrilled as are grandparents George and Nikoleta Prifti and great grandmother Jorgjia Kashari. Congratulations to all and may God grant their entire family many years! How wonderful was it to see Marci Moore in church on Sunday! Marci looked great and many parishioners visited with her during coffee hour. We are truly blessed to have Marci as a parishioner at our parish.

Please keep Kristin Snow in your prayers. Kristin was the victim of a very violent crime last October. She is recovering but has a very long road ahead. Kristin is the daughter of a very good friend of Betty Subashi. If you would like to send a card to Kristin to let her know she is being prayed for, her address is 910 Sylvan Ave, Folsom, PA 19011.

The Feast of the Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on August 15 each year. The Feast commemorates the repose (dormition and in the Greek kimisis) or "falling-asleep" of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Feast also commemorates the translation or assumption into heaven of the body of the Theotokos.

The Holy Scriptures tell us that when our Lord was dying on the Cross, He saw His mother and His disciple John and said to the Virgin Mary, "Woman, behold your son!" and to John, "Behold your mother!" ([John 19:25-27](http://www.bible.com/verse/John/19/25-27)). From that hour, the Apostle took care of the Theotokos in his own home.

Along with the biblical reference in Acts 1:14 that confirms that the Virgin Mary was with the Holy Apostles on the day of Pentecost, the tradition of the Church holds that she remained in the home of the Apostle John in Jerusalem, continuing a ministry in word and deed.

At the time of her death, the disciples of our Lord who were preaching throughout the world returned to Jerusalem to see the Theotokos. Except for the Apostle Thomas, all of them, including the Apostle Paul were gathered together at her bedside. At the moment of her death, Jesus Christ himself descended and carried her soul into heaven.

Following her repose, the body of the Theotokos was taken in procession and laid in a tomb near the Garden of Gethsemane. When the Apostle Thomas arrived three days after her repose and desired to see her body, the tomb was found to be empty. The bodily assumption of the Theotokos was confirmed by the message of an angel and by her appearance to the Apostles. (http://www.goarch.org/special/listen_learn_share/dormition)

Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar! To our parishioners and friends who celebrate their Nameday in August: 6th Holy Transfiguration (Sotir), August 15th Dormition of the Theotokos (Mary, Maria, Marie)

Monthly giving for August: Sunday school snacks, juice boxes, small bottles of water.

Thank you Father Joe for serving and Prifteresha Kathy for singing today!