

**he Weekly Messenger – July 31, 2016**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
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*Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 10:1-01 Gospel: Matthew 8:28-34, 9:1*

**The Feast of the Transfiguration** of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on August 6. The feast commemorates the transfiguration or metamorphosis of Christ on Mount Tabor, when our Lord appeared in His divine glory before the Apostles Peter, James, and John. The event of the Transfiguration is recorded in three of the four Gospels: [Matthew 17:1-9](#), [Mark 9:2-8](#), and [Luke 9:28-36](#). Jesus took the Apostles Peter, James, and John with Him up upon a mountain, and while they were on the mountain Jesus was transfigured. His face shone like the sun, and His garments became glistening white.

Moses and Elijah appeared with Christ, talking to Him. Peter declared how good it was for them to be there and expressed the desire to build three booths for Moses, Elijah, and Christ. This reference to the booths could imply that this occurred during the time of the Feast of Tabernacles when the Jews would be camping out in the fields for the grape harvest; for this Feast had acquired other associations in the course of its history, including the memory of the wanderings in the wilderness recorded in the Old Testament book of Exodus.

While Peter was speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them. A voice came from the cloud saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." When the disciples heard this they fell on their faces filled with awe. Jesus came to them and told them to not be afraid. When the three looked up they saw only Jesus. As Jesus and His disciples came down the mountain, He told them not to speak of what they had seen until He had risen from the dead.

[http://www.goarch.org/special/listen\\_learn\\_share/transfiguration](http://www.goarch.org/special/listen_learn_share/transfiguration)

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Marika Papinghi, Hugh, Bettye, Brent, Tranette Ledford, Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

**Commemorations for the Living:** Archbishop Nikon, Pope Francis, William Spiro, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Semele Halkedis, Katherine Halkedis, Donna Hlavacek, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Susan, Philip Kosta, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Clive & Dhimitri Miller, Kim Burdumy, Andigoni Steffa, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

**Contacting Father Brooks:** You can reach Father Brooks at church, 215-563-0979, at his new number, 215-992-9234 or via email, [fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org). If the phone goes to voice mail please leave a message and Father Brooks will call you back.

**Church Picnic: Sunday, August 28, 2016 from 12:00 – 7:00 pm**  
Mermaid Lake, 1002 Jolly Road, Bluebell, PA

\$20.00 to enter the park. Everyone brings their food and/or shares with each other.

- A sign-up sheet is located at the candle stand or you can
  - Email your interest in attending to [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)
- Contact Nilda Salavaci for additional details or if you have any questions

[trustee.nilda@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:trustee.nilda@stjohnsphila.org).

We must have at least 50 people to reserve access to the park.

**We will need to know if you would like to attend by Aug 1st.**

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**Tuesday**, August 2<sup>nd</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

**Saturday**, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am The Feast of the Transfiguration

Wedding of Elira Behaj and Nertil Gorre @ 12:30 pm

August 14<sup>th</sup> 3 year Memorial for Margarita Rubis.

We will also celebrate the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

**Sunday**, August 28<sup>th</sup> Church Picnic 12:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Thurs – Saturday - Archdiocesan Assembly Southbridge MA

October 2<sup>nd</sup> Gregory E. Costa Golf Classic

October 5<sup>th</sup> – November 9<sup>th</sup> Every Wednesday evening Father Brooks will discuss the History of Orthodoxy in his Education Class

October 16<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual Parish Meeting Parish Council Election

Nov 20<sup>th</sup> We will Celebrate our Parish Nameday / Archbishop Nikon will visit

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** Thank you to those who have signed up We have sponsors for all but 3 dates (listed below).

July 31<sup>st</sup> Ilirjan & Fiori Papa – Nameday for Ilirjan & Elias

August 7<sup>th</sup> Greta Dilo in memory of Afrodhiti Dilo

August 14<sup>th</sup> Rubis Family in memory of Margaret

August 21<sup>st</sup> Marinela Prifti

**August 28<sup>th</sup> Open date – no sponsor**

**October 30<sup>th</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup> are also open dates with no sponsor**

**Readers Schedule:** July 31<sup>st</sup> Chris

**July Giving:** Paper Napkins. Thank you for your donations!