

The Weekly Messenger – April 16, 2017

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Acts 1:1-8

Gospel: John 1:1-17

On Great and Holy Friday the Orthodox Church commemorates the death of Christ on the Cross. This is the culmination of the observance of His Passion by which our Lord suffered and died for our sins. This commemoration begins on Thursday evening with the Matins of Holy Friday and concludes with a Vespers on Friday afternoon that observes the unnauling of Christ from the Cross and the placement of His body in the tomb.

Great and Holy Saturday the Orthodox Church commemorates the burial of Christ and His descent into Hades. It is the day between the Crucifixion of our Lord and His glorious Resurrection. The Matins of Holy Saturday is conducted on Friday evening, and while many elements of the service represent mourning at the death and burial of Christ, the service itself is one of watchful expectation.

On the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha, Orthodox Christians celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This feast of feasts is the most significant day in the life of the Church. It is a celebration of the defeat of death, as neither death itself nor the power of the grave could hold our Savior captive. In this victory that came through the Cross, Christ broke the bondage of sin, and through faith offers us restoration, transformation, and eternal life.

http://lent.goarch.org/holy_pascha/learn/

Commemorations for the Living: Roxane Ghicondey, Jim Ghicondey, Richard Moon, Paul Dimitri, Elizabeth Jones, Tom Zoidis, John Kolea, Jr., William Spiro, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Katherine Halkedis, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Kim Burdumy, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

Commemorations for the Departed: Daniel Coraluzzi (1 yr), Anastas Mara (5 yr), Thomas Dimitri, Tatjana Kulheku (Vasil Xhoxhi's sister & Sergio's cousin), Paula Kosta, Elizabeth Brooks, Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

If you have someone to add to the Commemorations for the Living or the Departed list please give the information to Father Brooks or email info@stjohnsphila.org

Nick Naum Scholarship Applications: are being accepted. The applications must be submitted by June 15, 2017. Information is available on our website <http://www.stjohnsphila.org> or by emailing nnscholarship@stjohnsphila.org or see a member of the Nick Naum Scholarship committee in church: Diane Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Sandi Fiss, Stephanie Kosta, Nicole Ferrara, Reem Tarazi, Donna Dimitri

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Please take a look at the sign-up sheet and pick a date!!!

April 16th PASCHA – no coffee hour

April 23rd Vasil Xhoxhi & Family in memory of Tatjana Kulheku

April 30th Open Date

May 7th Outreach Committee

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, April 13th Holy Thursday - 12 Gospels 7:00 pm

Friday, April 14th, Holy Friday – 10 am Decorate the Epitaph ion,

4:00 pm Vespers (Taking Down From Cross), 7:00 pm Funeral

Saturday, April 15th Saturday - Liturgy 10:00 am, Matins/Nocturne/Liturgy beginning 11:30p

Sunday, April 16th Paschal Agape Vespers - 1:00 pm - no coffee hour after Vespers

Thursday, April 20th Outreach Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

April 23rd Memorial for Tatjana Kulheku (Vasil Xhoxhi's sister & Sergio's cousin)

Thursday April 25th Stewardship Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

Tuesday May 2nd Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

May 7th Bring a Friend to Church Day

On Bring a Friend to Church Day: sponsored by the Outreach Committee. We are encouraging everyone to ask a neighbor, friend, co-worker to come join us as we celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 7th. Have them experience the fullness of the Liturgy, the smell of the incense, the Icons that adorn our church. You may also bring a relative who has not attended church in a while. Children are encouraged to bring a friend as well! A gourmet coffee hour will be provided by the Outreach Committee. Questions contact Father Brooks, Janice Leyden, Tatjana Plesati.

Pascha Letters, from Father Brooks were mailed a couple of weeks ago. If you haven't received a letter they are available at the candle stand or email, info@stjohnsphila.org

John Melnik – Annual Buddy Walk: Team Brother John looks forward to another great Buddy Walk this year. Please come out to do the walk, have some fun and picnic with us under the Brother John tent. Susan, Vlad, Juliana and John are always looking for new faces to join as they celebrate together. It is Saturday, May 13th from 1-4pm. Hopefully more people will be able to walk since it is on a Saturday this year!

See Susan or Vlad Melnik in church or click on this link:

<http://secure.dsadelaware.org/BuddyWalk/BuddiesAndTeams/Team.aspx?TeamID=814>