

The Weekly Messenger – August 20, 2017

**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**

237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Father Brooks Ledford Office: 215-563-0979

Website: <http://www.stjohnsphila.org>

Email address: [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)

*Epistle: I Corinthians 9:2-12*

*Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35*

**Excerpts from Saint John Chrysostom's homily On 11th Sunday of St. Matthew**

(Matt. 18:25-35) On forgiving our enemies... .Say not then that he insulted you, and slandered you, and did unto you ills beyond number; for the more you tell, so much the more do you declare him a benefactor. For he has given you an opportunity to wash away your sins; so that the greater the injuries he has done you, so much more is he become to you a cause of a greater remission of sins. For if we be willing, no one shall be able to injure us, but even our enemies shall advantage us in the greatest degree. And why do I speak of men? For what can be more wicked than the devil; yet nevertheless, even hence have we a great opportunity of approving ourselves; and Job shows it. But if the devil has become a cause of crowns, why are you afraid of a man as an enemy? Read more:

<https://www.straphaeldetroit.org/files/Say-not-then-that-he-insulted-you.pdf>

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Ted Lescas, Tom Zoidis, Alan, 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:** Newlywed Florina Bacuta & Drew Garcia, Newlywed Marsel & Jonida Karemani, Newly Illuminated Elena Shomos, Zach Smith, Carl, Zoey, Anna, Larry Jance, Sara, Michael Cosmo, Wayne Merkle, Richard Moon, Elizabeth Jones, 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.

**Gregory E Costa Golf Outing:** We are asking for donations of items to make gift baskets or a donation of a gift basket for our Albanian Auction. If you have something to donate please bring it to church by September 18<sup>th</sup>. We will also gratefully accept any donated gift baskets. The 10<sup>th</sup> Gregory E Costa golf outing is set for Sunday, October 1, 2017. Golf and dinner \$125.00. Dinner tickets \$40.00 for adults and \$20.00 for children. We will have a 50/50 and our annual Albanian Auction. Contact [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org) to reserve a ticket.

**Sunday School Update:** Sunday Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, Father Brooks will have a “Blessing of the Backpacks” following the Divine Liturgy. Please bring your children and have them bring their backpacks. It is a great way to begin the school year! The children will also register for Sunday school. Classes begin the following Sunday, Sept. 17. Also on Sept 17<sup>th</sup> the children will participate in the procession for the Elevation of the Cross. If you would like to help – in any way- with our Sunday school program please contact Father Brooks or Director Steve Coraluzzi <mailto:sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org>

**In 3 short weeks: Parish Clean-up Day Saturday,** September 9, 2017 @ 9:00am we will meet at the church, use some elbow grease and make our church sparkle! If you are able to attend please email [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org) or advise a member of parish council. Questions contact Linda Kosta or Donna Dimitri

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** *We have open dates in September, October & December*

Please join with a friend or family member to sponsor coffee hour one of the open dates!

August 20<sup>th</sup> CHURCH PICNIC @ Neshaminy State Park

August 27<sup>th</sup> Reem Tarazi & Pierre Chanoine & Family

September 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Date

September 10<sup>th</sup> Marinela Prifti

September 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday School

September 24<sup>th</sup> Open Date

**Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> open dates no sponsors**

**Upcoming Events:**

August 20<sup>th</sup> Liturgy in the park and church picnic - Neshaminy State Park

**Aug 28<sup>th</sup> – Sept 6<sup>th</sup>** Father Brooks on Vacation

**September 3<sup>rd</sup>** Father Brooks on Vacation – substitute priest

**Thursday,** Sept 7<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

**Saturday** Sept 9<sup>th</sup> Church Clean-up day

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Tom Zoidis 40 day memorial

Blessing of the Backpacks and Sunday School registration

**Saturday Sept 16<sup>th</sup>** Sunday school teacher's workshop 9-11 am

Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Elevation of the Cross and 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Sunday school

**Friday** Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> Archdiocesan Assembly hosted by our Parish /Dinner in church hall

**Saturday** Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> Thanksgiving service and brunch in church hall

Oct 1st Gregory E Costa Golf Classic and dinner – Paxon Hollow Country Club

**August Giving:** snacks, juice boxes for the Sunday school