

The Weekly Messenger – June 11, 2017

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Acts 11:19-30 Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30

The Sunday of All Saints, the Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2013/06/30/48-synaxis-of-all-saints>

Commemorations for the Departed: Elida Xhoxhi, Jim Bachelor, 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: Ted Lescas, Diane Lescas, Michael Cosmo, 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.

Church Decorum: If you enter the church after the Divine Liturgy begins (10:00 am), you should not walk down the center aisle to the pews. Instead, walk down the aisle on the left side of the church or across the back (past the choir) to the aisle on the right side of the church. Walking down the center aisle can be disruptive so we ask your cooperation in this matter. Do not enter the church if the Gospel is being read or if Father Brooks is giving his sermon. Kindly wait in the vestibule until they are completed. Please do not talk while waiting in the vestibule - your voices are louder than you realize!

Sunday school graduation: Last Sunday we celebrated the graduation of three seniors from our Sunday school program. Congratulations to Adam Coraluzzi, Brianna Powles, Michele Coraluzzi and their families. Adam, Brianna & Michele were presented with the bibles they used while in Father Brooks and Marinela's class these past 3 years.

Best wishes as you begin your college years - Many years!

Congratulations to all of our other students for completing the Sunday school year. We look forward to your return in September. We also want to thank the parents of our students for bringing your children to church so that they are able to participate in Sunday school. Finally, a very big THANK-YOU to our dedicated teachers and Director Steve (AKA Mr. Cheeseball) for devoting your time and talents and helping our young people learn about our faith.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: *We have many open dates in July, August and September and October.* Please take a look at the sign-up sheet and pick a date!!!

June 11th Spartak Brahillari & Nilda Salavachi in honor of Spartak's graduation from Drexel

June 18th Blerina & Darien Kokalari

June 25th Greta Dilo

July 2nd Grabocka family – Nameday

July 9th Cosmo-Dimitri Family in memory of George Touros

July 16th OPEN DATE - NO SPONSOR

July 23rd OPEN DATE - NO SPONSOR

July 30th OPEN DATE – NO SPONSOR

Upcoming Events:

June 18th Father's Day

June 25th Sunday school pool party after coffee hour

Friday June 30th Wedding of Evisa Frashari and Greg Boyle 1:00 pm

Tuesday June 11th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

July 9th 3 yr Memorial – George Touros

Saturday, July 15th Buddy Walk 11 am – 3 pm (See Melnik Family)

August 20th Liturgy in the park and church picnic - Neshaminy State Park

Saturday Sept 9th Church Clean-up day

Friday Sept 22nd Archdiocesan Assembly hosted by our Parish

Saturday Sept 23rd Thanksgiving service and brunch in church hall

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

Meshe a big thank you to those who made Meshe and brought it to church last Sunday. Your donation is much appreciated. Any Meshe donations will be gratefully accepted.

June Giving: Paper towels