

The Weekly Messenger – June 4, 2017

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Acts 2:1-11 Gospel: John 7:37-52; 8:12

The Feast of Holy Pentecost is celebrated each year on the fiftieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter) and ten days after the Feast of the Ascension of Christ. The Feast is always celebrated on a Sunday.

The Feast commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost, a feast of the Jewish tradition. It also celebrates the establishment of the Church through the preaching of the Apostles and the baptism of the thousands who on that day believed in the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. The Feast is also seen as the culmination of the revelation of the Holy Trinity.

Read more: <https://www.goarch.org/-/feast-of-holy-pentecost>

Sunday school: Today, after the Divine Liturgy, our Sunday school will hold their graduation ceremony. Congratulations to our Sunday school students for completing the year! Special thanks to our Sunday school teachers: Father Brooks, Marinela Prifti, Jamie Ledford, Christine Dardaris, Michele Lorimer, Melissa Zavatsky, Merna Mikhail, Jorgeta Kashari, Fjori Lakuriqi, , and assistant director, Diane Coraluzzi. Special thanks to our Sunday School Director, Steve Coraluzzi, for a terrific year!

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, Reader 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.

June Giving: Paper towels

Message from Father Brooks: The high school youth group luncheon was great. We went to TGI Fridays, talked about the books and other things. It was, as always, wonderful to spend time with this very special group of young people.

Also, I was very grateful to those who came out to Fernwood to remember those who have gone before us. We said prayers and went to each tombstone to remember the deceased. Despite the weather, we had a really good crowd.

Stewardship update: Through May 31, 2017 we have received 81 pledges totaling \$46,605.00. Of that total we have received \$24,732.00. May people pledge and pay monthly, other pledge and pay toward the end of the year. Our budget for pledges was \$60,000.00. During the summer months many people go on vacation and the money donated to our church dramatically decreases. Our expenses do not decrease during the summer months. The fixed expenses, insurance, priest salary, pension payments, phone and internet, candles, etc., do not decrease. In fact, the electric bill increases due to the use of the air conditioner. Please remember to donate to your parish during the summer months. If you haven't made a pledge for 2017, please do! Thank you very much to those who have pledged and donated to St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

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 4th Sunday School

June 11th Spartak Brahollari & Nilda Salavachi

June 18th Blerina & Darien Kokalari

June 25th Greta Dilo

July 2nd Grabocka family – NAMEDAY

July 9th OPEN DATE NO SPONSOR

July 16th OPEN DATE NO SPONSOR

Upcoming Events:

June 4th Pentecost - We will also have Sunday school graduation and swim party

Monday June 5th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

June 18th Father's Day

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

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

Per Shume Vjet, Gezuar! To our parishioners who celebrate their NAMEDAYS in June:

June 1 Martyr Justin the Philosopher, June 27 St. Joanna Myrrhbearer, June 29 Ss Peter & Paul, June 30 All Saints