

The Weekly Messenger – March 19, 2017

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

On the Third Sunday of Great and Holy Lent, the Orthodox Church commemorates the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Services include a special veneration of the Cross, which prepares the faithful for the commemoration of the Crucifixion during Holy Week. http://lent.goarch.org/sunday_of_the_cross/learn/

With the help of God, we have almost reached the middle of the course of the Fast, where our strength has been worn down through abstinence, and the full difficulty of the labor set before us becomes apparent. Therefore our holy Mother, the Church of Christ, now brings to our help the all-holy Cross, the joy of the world, the strength of the faithful, the staff of the just, and the hope of sinners, so that by venerating it reverently, we might receive strength and grace to complete the divine struggle of the Fast.

<https://www.goarch.org/>

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts: *Wednesday Evenings March 22, 29, April 5th*

@ 7:00 pm. Followed by potluck dinner and discussion.

Commemorations for the Living: Richard Moon, Olivia Lorimer, 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: Paula Kosta, Thomas Anderson, Betty Ledford (1 yr), Andigoni Steffa, Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

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

Parishioner News: Our own Altar Server, Kevin Fiss, will be performing in the Kennett High School production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, a parody of American musical comedies of the 1920s. Performances are Thursday, March 16 at 7:30 pm, Friday, March 17 at 7:30 pm, Saturday, March 18 at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm. Tickets can be purchased online <https://www.kcsd.org/news/2017/02/27/kennett-high-school-presents-drowsy-chaperone/> or at the door to the show

REMINDER: Saturday, March 25th, @ 10:00 am, the Divine Liturgy. The feast of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary comes nine months before Christmas on the twenty-fifth of March. It is the celebration of the announcing of the birth of Christ to the Virgin Mary as recorded in the Gospel of Saint Luke. <https://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-church-year/annunciation>

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

March 19th Sunday school

March 26th Sergio & Colleen Xhoxhi

April 2nd Mallios Family – 1 year memorial Peter

April 9th Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast sponsored by the Adams Family

April 16th PASCHA – no coffee hour

April 23 Kosova Family

April 30 Betty Subashi

Upcoming Events:

March 19th Veneration of the Cross and Semi-annual Parish Meeting during coffee hour

March 23rd Charity & Benevolence Meeting @ 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 25th Annunciation Divine Liturgy 10:00 am /YAL meeting 7 pm

Saturday April 8th Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am followed by Lazarus Saturday Retreat

April 9th Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem- Blessing of the Palms– Rose Adams and her family sponsor the Pancake Breakfast in Memory of Charlie

Tuesday, April 11th Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Matins 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 12th Holy Wednesday - Holy Unction 7:00 pm

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

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

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

Saturday, April 15th Saturday - Liturgy 9:00 am, Matins/Nocturne/Liturgy beginning 11 pm

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

March giving: single ply toilet tissue