

The Weekly Messenger – March 26, 2017
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
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Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

The Feast of Saint John Climacus: On the fourth Sunday of the Great Lent the Holy Church honors the memory of St. John called Climacus, which means “The Ladder.” He’s called that because of the astounding book he wrote dedicated to helping those serious about salvation to progress on the way to God’s Kingdom. He lived not far from Mt. Sinai, where Moses received the Ten Commandments. He divided his book into thirty chapters in honor of the hidden years that our Lord Jesus Christ spent on earth. Each chapter is a stage, or rung, on the ascent to Heaven. He wrote it for monks, yet thousands of lay persons have been helped and edified by applying its lessons to themselves. The themes include spiritual and physical seclusion, or at least separating ourselves from the society around us; obedience to God’s will; self-discipline; discernment, meaning evaluating everything in life and perceiving what will do us good and what is harmful; purity of life; and prayer.

Read More: <https://oca.org/reflections/berzonsky/three-steps-to-everlasting-life>

Lazarus Saturday April 8th Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am followed by the Sunday school retreat. We will have crafts, religious education and of course Meshe making!

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts: *Wednesday Evenings March 29, April 5th*
@ 7:00 pm. Followed by potluck dinner and discussion.

Welcome to our visitors. Father Brooks, the members of our Parish Council and our church community thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us. We invite you to join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the church hall following the Divine Liturgy.

Pledge update: We have received 47 pledges totaling \$31,580.00. Our goal is \$60,000.00. If you haven’t done so please make your pledge today! Pledge cards are available at the candle stand, in the church hall or online
<http://www.stjohnsphila.org/memberpledges.html>. Thank you to those who have pledged.

Parishioner News: Roxane Ghicondey had knee surgery on Wed, March 22nd and Jim was in the hospital for a couple of days. Please keep Jim & Roxane in your prayers.

March giving: single ply toilet tissue

Commemorations for the Living: Roxanne Ghicondey, Jim Ghicondey, Bella Lorimer, 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: Zaharula Milo, Tatjana Kulheku (Vasil Xhoxhi’s sister & Sergio’s cousin), Paula Kosta, Elizabeth Camper, Ann Dimitri (2 yrs), Nick Naum (4 yrs), Flossie Vissar (2 yrs), Thomas Anderson, 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

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

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 26th 40 day memorial for Zaharula Milo – mother of Pandeli Milo and mother-in-law of Haretina Milo)

Thursday March 30th Stewardship Meeting 7:00 pm

April 2nd 1 year memorial – Peter Mallios

Tuesday April 4th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 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