

The Weekly Messenger – May 21, 2017

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Acts 26: 1, 12-20 Gospel: John 9:1-38

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

KRISHTI U NGJALL! VERTET U NGJALL!

The sixth Sunday of Holy Pascha is observed by the Orthodox Church as the Sunday of the Blind Man. The day commemorates the miracle of Christ healing the man who was blind since birth. The Savior met this man, born blind and incurable after every human effort, while leaving the Temple on the Sabbath. Jesus spat into the dirt, made clay, rubbed it in his eyes and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam, a famous water spring in Jerusalem. The Savior did not send him there because his eyes were covered in clay, nor did the pool have healing power, but instead to test his faith and obedience. The blind man proclaimed that Jesus healed him, but this confession caused him to be cast out by the enemies of the truth. Even his own parents would not defend him. However, the blind man followed Jesus from that moment forward.

<http://www.antiochian.org/sunday-blind-man>

The Feast of the Ascension of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter). Since the date of Pascha changes each year, the date of the Feast of the Ascension changes. The Feast is always celebrated on a Thursday. This year we will celebrate this

WEDNESDAY, May 24th @ 7:00 pm

The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven.

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

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.

Monthly Giving For May: Paper Plates

Commemorations for the Living: Ted Lescas, Chris Manosis, 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.

Please send information about the graduates in your family, College, High School, 8th Grade. We would like to acknowledge and congratulate our graduates. Please send an email to info@stjohnsphila.org Include the name of the graduate and the school from which they graduated. For 8th grade let us know what high school they will be attending next year, HS grads if they are attending college, the name of the college, or what they will be pursuing. College graduates, their degree and plans for the future. We would also like the proud parents and grandparents names. Thank-you!

Memorial Day Grave Blessing at Fernwood & Lawnview Cemeteries: Father Brooks will be at Fernwood Cemetery on Monday, May 29, 2017 @ 10:00 am, at the “upper portion” of the cemetery. He will then proceed to the other section to bless the graves. He will arrive at Lawnview Cemetery around 12:30 pm. Please contact him if you have a loved one at another cemetery. fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org Or call Father Brooks 215-992-9234.

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!!!

May 21st Koco & Mimoza Priftanji

May 28th Fjorentina Lakuriqi & Ilir Gremi (1 year wedding anniversary)

June 4th Sunday School

June 11th Greta Dilo

June 18th Blerina & Darien Kokalari

June 25th Jim & Roxane Ghicondey

July 2nd Grabocka family - nameday

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday May 24th Ascension Liturgy @ 7:00 pm followed by pot luck dinner

May 28th Youth group luncheon and book discussion

Monday May 29th Memorial Day Father Brooks will bless the graves at Fernwood & Lawnview

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

Monday June 5th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

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

August 20th Outdoor Liturgy and church picnic - Neshaminy State Park