

**The Weekly Messenger – May 28, 2017**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
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*Epistle: Acts 20:1-16.28-36      Gospel: John 17:1--13*

**The seventh Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha** is observed by the Orthodox Church as the Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. This day commemorates the 318 God-bearing Fathers who gathered in Nicaea in 325 at the request of the Emperor, Saint Constantine the Great, to address the heresy of Arianism together with other issues that concerned the unity of the Church.

The icon of the Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council depicts Saint Constantine together with the God-bearing Fathers and Saints of the Church who attended the Council and affirmed the unity of the Faith through the Nicene Creed. The Fathers are shown holding the text of the Creed, also referred to as the Symbol of Faith. <https://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints?contentid=940&PCode=6PS&D=S&DT=5/28/2017>



Photo left to right: Olimbi Grabocka, Father Brooks, Valentina & Petrika Grabocka.

Father Brooks is wearing his new vestments, hand sewn by Olimbi and donated by the Grabocka Family.

The vestments are BEAUTIFUL and Father Brooks stated “I love them!”

Many, many thanks to the Grabocka Family for their very generous gift to our parish!

**May Giving:** Paper Plates

**Commemorations for the Deported:** 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 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, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. We would like to acknowledge and congratulate our graduates. Please send an email to [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org) Include the name of the graduate and the school from which they graduated. For 8<sup>th</sup> 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! Our list will be published next week

**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 12:15 pm. Please contact Father Brooks if you have a loved one at another cemetery. [fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org](mailto: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 28<sup>th</sup> Fjorentina Lakuriqi & Ilir Gremi (1 year wedding anniversary)  
June 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday School  
June 11<sup>th</sup> OPEN DATE – NO SPONSOR  
June 18<sup>th</sup> Blerina & Darien Kokalari  
June 25<sup>th</sup> Greta Dilo  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> Grabocka family - Nameday

**Upcoming Events:**

May 28<sup>th</sup> Youth group luncheon and book discussion  
**Monday** May 29<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Fr Brooks will bless graves at Fernwood & Lawnview  
June 4<sup>th</sup> Pentecost - We will also have Sunday school graduation and swim party  
**Monday June 5<sup>th</sup>** Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
**Saturday,** July 15<sup>th</sup> Buddy Walk 11 am – 3 pm (See Melnik Family)  
August 20<sup>th</sup> Outdoor Liturgy and church picnic - Neshaminy State Park