

The Weekly Messenger – September 17, 2017
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20 Gospel: Mark 8:34-38; 9-1

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross - Commemorated on September 14th The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: The pagan Roman emperors tried to completely eradicate from human memory the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and was resurrected for mankind. The Emperor Hadrian (117-138) gave orders to cover over the ground of Golgotha and the Sepulchre of the Lord, and to build a temple of the pagan goddess Venus and a statue of Jupiter.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols there. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the great Christian sacred remains, the Sepulchre of the Lord and the Life-Creating Cross were again discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under the Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory in the year 312 over Maxentius, ruler of the Western part of the Roman empire, and over Licinius, ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire. Read more: <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2014/09/14/102610-the-universal-exaltation-of-the-precious-and-life-giving-cross>

Gregory E Costa Golf Outing: has been postponed. We only had 12 golfers interested in participating and very few people expressed an interest in attending the dinner. We will try again next year. A heartfelt thank you to our golfers, parishioners and friends who have supported the golf classic over the years.

Sunday school News: FIRST DAY OF CLASS: Today, Sunday, Sept. 17. The children will participate in the procession for the Elevation of the Cross. Thank you to Director Steve and all of our teachers for volunteering your time and talents to our Sunday school program. We look forward to a great year!

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

September Giving: A ream of white copy paper

Archdiocesan Assembly - The business meeting for the Albanian Archdiocese will be on Friday, September 22, 2017, beginning at 9:00 am, at our church - St. John Chrysostom. All parishioners are welcome to attend and see what occurs within our diocese. If you are not able to attend the meeting please join us as we host a dinner in our church hall. Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 pm with dinner at 7:00. You will incur no cost for the dinner. We want all of our parishioners to join us and meet your sisters and brothers from the other Albanian Parishes. Deadline to reserve a place at the dinner Sept. 17th. We need to know how much food to order. Contact any member of parish council or email info@stjohnsphila.org

Commemorations for the Departed: Tom Zoidis, Ted Lescas, 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: The people in Florida, the people living on the Texas coast and in Houston, Newlywed Florina Bacuta & Drew Garcia, Newlywed Marsel & Jonida Karemani, Newly Illuminated Elena Shomos, Zach Smith, Margarita, Larry Jance, Sara, Michael Cosmo, Wayne Merkle, Richard Moon, Elizabeth Jones, 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.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: ALL COFFEE HOUR DATES HAVE BEEN FILLED
Our sincere thanks to all who have or are going to sponsor a coffee hour this year.

September 17th Sunday School – Hot Dog Sale

September 24th Andon & Miranda Lakuriqi

October 1st Marjana Kokalari

October 8th Kashari/ Salavaci/Prifti families in memory Jorgjia 2 years

October 15th Jim & Paula Bendo

October 22nd Aleksander Pallko

Upcoming Events:

Sept 17th Elevation of the Cross and 1st Day of Sunday school

Friday Sept 22nd Archdiocesan Assembly hosted by our Parish /Dinner in church hall

Saturday Sept 23rd Thanksgiving service and brunch in church hall

Tuesday Sept 26th Outreach Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

October 8th Memorial Jorgjia Kashari

October 22nd Semi-annual parish meeting during coffee hour