

**The Weekly Messenger – April 15, 2018**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
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*Epistle: Acts 5:12-20 Gospel: John 20:19-31*  
**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**  
**KRISHTI U NGJALL! VERTET U NGJALL!**

The Orthodox Church observes the **Sunday of Thomas** one week following the celebration of the Sunday of Holy Pascha. The day commemorates the appearance of Christ to His disciples on the evening of the Sunday following Passover. It also commemorates the appearance of the Lord to His disciples eight days later when Thomas was present and proclaimed "My Lord and my God" upon seeing the hands and side of Christ.

This Sunday is also called Antipascha (meaning "in the stead of Pascha," not "in opposition to Pascha") because with this day, the first Sunday after Pascha, the Church consecrates every Sunday of the year to the commemoration of Pascha, that is, the Resurrection. Saint Thomas the Apostle is commemorated by the Church on October 6. <https://www.goarch.org/thomas-sunday?inheritRedirect=true>

**Our Sincere Thanks:** There are so many people to thank for their contributions this past week: Father Brooks, Richard Yonkoski, Chris Manosis William Bortner, Kevin & Carolyn Fiss, The Melnik Family -Vlad, Susan, Juliana, John- our Altar Servers, those who decorated the Epitaphios Holy Friday morning, Stephanie Kosta, Tommy, Olivia, Vivian Highland who helped clean up Friday night after the Lamentations. Special thanks to all who brought in red eggs for Pascha. Thank you to all who attended the Liturgical Services and those who were unable to attend but kept us in your prayers. We are all very blessed to belong to such a loving and giving church family!

**Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar!** (Happy Nameday) Father Thomas (Brooks),  
Altar Server Thomas Lorimer, Nathan Thomas Kashari

**2018 Pledge cards are available at the Candle Stand.** You can also go online to <https://stjohnsphila.org/pledge.html> to make your pledge. We gladly accept credit card donations online as well as payments made automatically from your checking account. We have received 49 pledges to date totaling \$31,510.00. Our goal is \$60,000.00. Thank you to those who have made their 2018 pledge.

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Jennie Sapnas, Tom Dimitri (21 yrs.), Daniel Coraluzzi (2 yrs.), Jorgjia Kashari (2 yrs.), Brent Ledford (2 yrs.), 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:** Father Dimitrie Vincent, Betty Subashi, Brenda Cantwell, Dolly Seiler, Sara, Craig Risley, Wayne Merkle, Elizabeth Jones, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** *Please check the sign-up sheet in the vestibule and pick a date or visit our website and signup online: <https://teamup.com/ksqta3sqv6k1qvr2o7>*

**April 15<sup>th</sup>** Donna Dimitri

**May 6<sup>th</sup>** No Sponsor

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** Betty Subashi (10 yrs. Andy)

**May 13<sup>th</sup>** Elena & Eduard Papa

**April 29<sup>th</sup>** Fiori & Illirjan Papa in honor  
of Elisabeth's birthday & Nameday

Teresa's 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday

**Our first Paint Event Social** will be **IN TWO WEEKS** **Saturday, April 28th at 4pm** in the fellowship hall at St. John Chrysostom. You will get a chance to socialize with your fellow parishioners, enjoy a glass of wine, light appetizers and most importantly you get to paint and keep your own work of art. Non-church members are also welcome and their invitation is encouraged. We can introduce them to our church and other fellow members. Tickets are \$30 per person and all proceeds will go to the church. Please contact Fiori Papa or Michele Lorimer for more information. <https://stjohnsphila.org/registration.html>

**John Melnik – Annual Buddy Walk:** Saturday, May 19, 2018 Silver Lake Park 200 E Cochran St, Middletown, DE 19709. The walk begins at noon. If you cannot join us this year at the walk, please consider a donation to team **Brother John**. Thank so much. The Melnik Family <https://www.ds-stride.org/delawarebuddywalk/profiles/team/18>

**Upcoming Events:**

**Tuesday,** April 17<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

**Saturday,** April 28<sup>th</sup> Paint Event 4:00 pm

**Saturday** May 19<sup>th</sup> Buddy Walk with the Melnik Family

**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.

**April giving: Your Pascha Donation.** Our sincere thanks to those who have made a donation.