

The Weekly Messenger – April 8, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
KRISHTI U NGJALL! VERTET U NGJALL!

On Great and Holy Friday, the Orthodox Church commemorates the death of Christ on the Cross. This is the culmination of the observance of His Passion by which our Lord suffered and died for our sins. This commemoration begins on Thursday evening with the Matins of Holy Friday and concludes with a Vespers on Friday afternoon that observes the unnauling of Christ from the Cross and the placement of His body in the tomb.

Great and Holy Saturday the Orthodox Church commemorates the burial of Christ and His descent into Hades. It is the day between the Crucifixion of our Lord and His Glorious Resurrection. The Matins of Holy Saturday is conducted on Friday evening, and while many elements of the service represent mourning at the death and burial of Christ, the service itself is one of watchful expectation.

On the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha, Orthodox Christians celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This feast of feasts is the most significant day in the life of the Church. It is a celebration of the defeat of death, as neither death itself nor the power of the grave could hold our Savior captive. In this victory that came through the Cross, Christ broke the bondage of sin, and through faith offers us restoration, transformation, and eternal life.

http://lent.goarch.org/holy_pascha/learn/

Commemorations for the Departed: 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: Father Dimitrie Vincent, Jennie Sappas, 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.

Our thanks to Tony Ngjela of the Court Diner 140 East Baltimore Pike Media, PA for donating the pancakes and syrup for last week's pancake breakfast. We also extend our sincere thanks to the family of +Charlie and Rose Adams who brought fruit, beverages and prepared the pancakes. Everything was fabulous!

Nick Naum Scholarship Applications are being accepted. The applications must be submitted by June 1, 2018. Information is available on our website <https://stjohnsphila.org/scholarship.html> or by emailing nnscholarship@stjohnsphila.org or see a member of the Nick Naum Scholarship committee in church: Fr. Brooks, Diane Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Sandi Fiss, Stephanie Kosta, Nicole Ferrara, Reem Tarazi, Donna Dimitri

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 8th Pascha – no coffee hour

April 15th Donna Dimitri

April 22nd Betty Subashi (10 yrs. Andy)

April 29th No Sponsor

May 6th No Sponsor

May 13th Elena & Eduard Papa
Teresa's 1st Birthday

Our first Paint Event Social will be **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:

Saturday, April 28th Paint Event 4:00 pm

Saturday May 19th 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