

The Weekly Messenger – May 13, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Acts 16:16-34 *Gospel: John 9:1-38*

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

Sunday of the Blind Man: The story of the healing of the man born blind from birth only appears in the Gospel of the Holy Apostle John, and is read, appropriately enough, on the "Sunday of the Blind Man", the sixth Sunday of Pascha. Jesus met a blind man, as He was passing by. His disciples, who just recently had seen Him admonish the paralytic to "sin no more", asked the Lord why this man had been born blind. Our Lord not only answers their question and corrects their misjudgment, but as was so often the case, also used their question to expound on deeper theology. He then spat on the ground, and made a paste out of the clay, and anointed the blind man's eyes, then ordered him to go wash in the pool of Siloam. This he did and came away seeing. The Jews were angry because of this miracle and interrogated the formerly blind man in the temple. He bore their questions with great dignity and honesty, and gradually became more bold in his answers, until the blinded Jews cast him out of the temple. Jesus then found him again, and the blind man saw the Lord for the first time. He believed in Him and worshipped Him. http://www.orthodox.net/questions/blind_man_1.html

Wednesday May 16th 7:00 pm Feast of the Ascension - Vespers Liturgy On Wednesday of the sixth week of Pascha, we celebrate the Leavetaking of the Feast. While most Feasts have their Leavetaking on the eighth day, Pascha, the Feast of Feasts, has its Leavetaking on the thirty-ninth day. The fortieth day is the Feast of the Lord's Ascension, which marks the end of the Lord's physical presence on earth. He does not abandon us, however. He has promised to be with us always, even until the end of the age (MT 20:28).

Parishioner News: Congratulations to Carolyn & Mike Dardaris who recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Italy. Welcome home and Many Years!

May Monthly Giving: 8-ounce plastic cups for cold drinks at coffee hour

Wishing all of our Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Aunts a very Happy Mother's Day!

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>

All-American Council: If you are interested in attending the OCA All-American Council July 23 – 27, 2018 in St. Louis Mo. please contact Father Brooks or Donna Dimitri. Nilda Salavachi was going to go as our representative but due to a work conflict she is unable to attend. Bill Bortner has expressed an interest in attending but others are welcome. Our Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly will be held Monday, July 23rd in St. Louis. For more info on the All-American Council visit this website: <https://19aac.oca.org/>

Commemorations for the Departed: Thoma Prifti, Jennie Sapnas, Jorgjia Kashari (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: Richard Trout, Joseph Urquhart, 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.

Upcoming Events:

May 13th 1-year memorial Elida Xhoxhi

Tuesday, May 15th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Wednesday May 16th 7:00 pm Feast of the Ascension - Vespers Liturgy

Saturday May 19th Buddy Walk with the Melnik Family

May 27th Pentecost

May 28th Memorial Day – Father Brooks will bless the graves at Fernwood and other Cemeteries upon request

SATURDAY June 16th Sunday school graduation and pool party at K. Costa's house

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/ksqta3sqv6klqvr2o7>*

Many thanks to those who have sponsored coffee hour.

May 13th Elena & Eduard Papa Teresa's 1st Birthday & Dhimitraq Xhoxhi & Family in memory of Elida

May 20th Elena Shomos & Zach Smith

May 27th Sunday school

June 3rd NO SPONSOR