

The Weekly Messenger – May 27, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
Father Brooks Ledford Office: 215-563-0979 or fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org
Website: <http://www.stjohnsphila.org>
Email address: info@stjohnsphila.org

Epistle: Acts 2:1-11

Gospel: John 7:37-5; 8-12

±
Holy Pentecost: In the Church's annual liturgical cycle, Pentecost is "the last and great day." It is the celebration by the Church of the coming of the Holy Spirit as the end—the achievement and fulfillment—of the entire history of salvation. For the same reason, however, it is also the celebration of the beginning: it is the "birthday" of the Church as the presence among us of the Holy Spirit, of the new life in Christ, of grace, knowledge, adoption to God and holiness.

This double meaning and double joy is revealed to us, first of all, in the very name of the feast. Pentecost in Greek means fifty, and in the sacred biblical symbolism of numbers, the number fifty symbolizes both the fulness of time and that which is beyond time: the Kingdom of God itself. It symbolizes the fulness of time by its first component: 49, which is the fulness of seven (7 x 7): the number of time. And, it symbolizes that which is beyond time by its second component: 49 + 1, this one being the new day, the "day without evening" of God's eternal Kingdom. With the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples, the time of salvation, the Divine work of redemption has been completed, the fulness revealed, all gifts bestowed: it belongs to us now to "appropriate" these gifts, to be that which we have become in Christ: participants and citizens of His Kingdom. <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2018/05/27/45-holy-pentecost>

Commemorations for the Departed: The victims in Santa Fe, Texas, the victims in Gaza, Thoma Prifti, 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: The victims and families in Santa Fe Texas, the families in Gaza, Richard Trout, Father Dimitrie Vincent, 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.

Nick Naum Scholarship: The deadline for the submission of applications for the Nick Naum Scholarship is June 1, 2018. Visit our website for more information.
<https://stjohnsphila.org/scholarship.html>

Sunday School Pool Party & Barbeque: Saturday, June 16th 11:00 am – 2:00 pm @ Kathie Costa's house. Questions contact Steve: sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org

Memorial Day Grave Blessing at Fernwood Cemetery: Father Brooks will be at Fernwood Cemetery on Monday, May 28, 2018 @ 10:00 am, at the "upper portion" of the cemetery. He will then proceed to the other section to bless the graves.
fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org Or call Father Brooks 215-992-9234

A Note about Coffee Hour: Our Parish is so very blessed to have many families who sponsor coffee hour – a time to enjoy refreshments and fellowship following the Divine Liturgy. We are very grateful for whatever you bring, donuts, bagels, fruit or snack. No family should feel as if they should provide sandwiches or a full lunch. The main point of coffee hour is to spend time with our families and friends, the food is secondary. That being said please know that we appreciate each and every coffee hour sponsor!

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

May 27th Sunday school

June 3rd Mike & Carolyn Dardaris

June 10th Diane & Steve Coraluzzi

June 17th NO SPONSOR

June 24th Diane Lescas & Family in memory of Ted

July 1st NO SPONSOR

Upcoming Events:

May 27th Pentecost

May 28th Memorial Day – Father Brooks will bless the graves at Fernwood – 10:00 am and other Cemeteries upon request

Saturday, June 2nd YAL get together @ Elena and Zach's house, 6:00 pm

Tuesday, June 5th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Thursday, June 7th Stewardship Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

June 10th Final day of Sunday school and graduation

Tuesday, June 12th Outreach Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

SATURDAY June 16th Pool party and barbeque at K. Costa's house

June 24th 1-year Memorial Ted Lescas

July 23rd – 27th All American Council & Archdiocesan Assembly St. Louis MO

Aug 3rd – Aug 5th AANO Convention Washington D.C.

Aug 26th Divine Liturgy & Church Picnic Neshaminy State Park

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