

**The Weekly Messenger – March 17, 2019**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
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*Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40 Gospel: John 1:43-51*

**First Sunday of Great Lent - Sunday of Orthodoxy:** Each of the Sundays of Great Lent has its own special theme. The first Sunday is called the Feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy. It is a historical feast commemorating the return of the icons to the churches in the year 843 after the heresy of iconoclasm was overcome. The spiritual theme of the day is first of all the victory of the True Faith. “This is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith” (1 Jn 5.4). Secondly, the icons of the saints bear witness that man, “created in the image and likeness of God” (Gen 1.26), becomes holy and godlike through the purification of himself as God’s living image.

**Pre-sanctified Liturgy on Wednesday nights @ 7:00pm,** Lenten (Pot Luck) dinner and discussion will be held in the church hall following the Pre-sanctified Liturgy.

**Charity & Benevolence Committee News:** will be hosting an event *on Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2pm-vespers.* We will be feeding the local homeless and giving out donated clothing. **We are need of jeans & sneakers/shoes...no matter the condition.** The lunch we will be serving our stockpile of peanut butter & jelly sandwiches (thank you Costina & Florina) and a pasta dish. Food donations of cheese sticks or supermarket gift cards would be greatly appreciated. Everyone is welcome to come and help out...

**Upcoming Events:**

**March 17<sup>th</sup>** Sunday of Orthodoxy & Sunday School Ice Skating Outing

**March 24<sup>th</sup>** We will celebrate Annunciation

Semi-annual Parish Meeting following the Divine Liturgy

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** Baptism of Ergesa Kosova, daughter of George & Ermelinda

**April 21<sup>st</sup>** Palm Sunday - annual Pancake Breakfast

**HOLY WEEK April 24-28**

Holy Wednesday: Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts (7:00)

Holy Thursday: Reading of the 12 Gospels (7:00)

Holy Friday: Royal Hours (10:00 a.m.); Funeral (Lamentations) 7:00).

Holy Saturday: Baptismal Liturgy (10:00 a.m.) Amy Lewis

Pascha (Saturday evening) - Nocturn, Matins, Liturgy, beginning 11:30 p.m.

Chrismation of Zach Smith

Agape Vespers: Sunday (1:00 p.m.)

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Paula Kosta (2yrs), Annie Dimitri (4 yrs.), Skevos Zervos (Michele Sarkos uncle), Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country. *If you have a name to add to the Commemorations for the departed or the living please email [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)*

**Commemorations for the Living:** Archbishop Nikon, Ensign Zach Dardaris, Marion Merkle, Tala Ayyad, Diane Mallios, Rose Adams, Evangeline Prifti, Lisa Kelley, Donna Hlavcek, Father Dimitrie Vincent, Dolly Seiler, Sara, 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 Applications:** are being accepted. The applications must be submitted by June 1, 2019. Information is available on our website <http://www.stjohnsphila.org> or by emailing [nnscholarship@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:nnscholarship@stjohnsphila.org) or see a member of the Nick Naum Scholarship committee in church: Diane Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Sandi Fiss, Stephanie Kosta, Nicole Ferrara, Reem Tarazi

**International Women’s Day Celebration and Dance:**

Many Thanks to those who attended and those who organized this wonderful event. Photos and videos are available [womens day photos](#) [womens day video](#)

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** We need your help and support. Please get together with another family or your own family and sponsor a coffee hour!

**March 17<sup>th</sup>** Sunday School,

**March 24<sup>th</sup>** Kosova Family,

**March 31<sup>st</sup>** John & Debbie Monaghan

**April 7<sup>th</sup>** **NO SPONSOR**

**April 14<sup>th</sup>** Pappas/Ferrara Families

**April 21<sup>st</sup>** Annual Pancake Breakfast

**April 28<sup>th</sup>** PASCHA no coffee hour

**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.

*If you have information to share in the Weekly Messenger please send it to [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)*

**Monthly giving for March - Paper Napkins**