

The Weekly Messenger – March 31, 2019

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

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. We had 25 parishioners attend this past Wednesday. Lets keep that going this week!

The Third Sunday of Lent is that of the Veneration of the Cross. The cross stands in the midst of the church in the middle of the lenten season not merely to remind men of Christ's redemption and to keep before them the goal of their efforts, but also to be venerated as that reality by which man must live to be saved. "He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Mt 10.38). For in the Cross of Christ Crucified lies both "the power of God and the wisdom of God" for those being saved (1 Cor 1.24).

Following the Divine Liturgy our Sunday school students will participate in the Procession of the Holy Cross. Please bring your children to church so they may participate in this most important Lenten event.

Upcoming Events:

April 6th Baptism of Ergesa Kosova, daughter of George & Ermelinda

April 20th Lazarus Saturday Liturgy @ 10:00 followed by Sunday school retreat

April 21st 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.)

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.

Commemorations for the Deported: Nick Naum (6 yrs), Flossie Vissar (4yrs.), Peter Mallios (3 yrs.), 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*

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, 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

Semi-Annual Parish Meeting: Thank you to those who attended the meeting last Sunday. One of the items discussed was the creation of an Albanian language class for children. If anyone is interested in creating this class contact any member of Parish Council and we will assist in moving forward with the formation of this class. If you would like a copy of any of the reports disseminated email chairperson@stjohnsphila.org



Free Piano: If you think this piano would be the perfect addition to your home it can be yours. All you have to do is pick it up and bring it home. The piano is currently in the Lansdale area. If interested contact for details Donna Dimitri chairperson@stjohnsphila.org or 609-685-1651

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 or see a member of the Nick Naum Scholarship committee in church: Diane Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Sandi Fiss, Stephanie Kosta, Nicole Ferrara, Reem Tarazi

Coffee Hour Sponsors:

March 31st John & Debbie Monaghan

April 7th **NO SPONSOR**

April 14th Pappas/Ferrara Families

April 21st Annual Pancake Breakfast

April 28th PASCHA no coffee hour

May 5th No Sponsor

If you have information to share in the Weekly Messenger please send it to info@stjohnsphila.org

Monthly giving for March - Paper Napkins