

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - October 4, 2016**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church Parish Council**

The Council Chair, Donna Dimitri, opened the monthly meeting at 7:05 P.M. and thanked everyone for attending. Father Brooks Ledford led the meeting in prayer.

**Roll Call** - Peter Ghicondey **Council Members Present:** Donna Dimitri, Michele Anderson, Peter Ghicondey, Michele Lorimer, Jani Mara, Nilda Salavachi. **Auxiliary Members Present:** Janice Leyden, Dorothy Tomassini, Sergio Georgi, Linda Biando, Linda Notskas. **Sunday School Director:** Steve Coraluzzi. **Clergy:** Father Brooks. **Absent:** William Bortner.

**Secretary's Report** - The September 2016 Minutes were presented by Linda Biando. A correction was made to Michele Anderson's last name under "Roll Call". Michele Anderson made a motion to accept the Minutes as presented with the correction added. Michele Lorimer seconded the motion, all were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report** - Michele Anderson presented the Treasurer's Report. The investment account was down this month. Still waiting on an additional \$7,000.00 from pledges to come in. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Peter Ghicondey and seconded by Nilda Salavachi. All were in favor.

**Pastor Report** - Father Brooks

1. Parish Ministry Team
  - YAL: meetings on Saturday; meeting with them as individuals and couples
  - Youth Group: teaching on Biblical ethics, planning an outing
  - Outreach: greeters in place, writing a guideline for greeters, working on visitor pamphlet
  - Music ministry: choir, partial choir for weddings and baptisms
2. Archdiocesan Assembly
  - Archbishop Nikon gave a report about what he saw in the diocese and what all he was doing (his work is less complicated now that he is not locom tenens of the DOS)
  - Budget was passed
  - During the Treasurer's report a question was raised about the money sitting in the bank when some of it could be used for the parishes (such as elevators for the elderly or difficulties)
3. Wedding on 23 October (Lakuriqi)
4. Baptism on 5 November (Diamonti)
5. Meetings with clergy: Fr. Alexis, Fr. Emmanuel
6. Hosting the Archdiocese Assembly on 28-30 September 2017
7. Semi-annual Parish meeting 6 November
8. Family vacation at Christmas

**Vice-Chairperson's Report** - Peter Ghicondey (no updates to report)

## **Chairperson's Report - Donna Dimitri**

1. Building Update
  - Waiting for Tom to install quarter round trim pieces on the pillars and caulk around the base of the pews. Rug bound and will be placed in candle stand area.
  - Roof project underway. Mulroy Bay Roofing Co. removed south side roof (5 sections) to the roof rafters. Insulated, re-sheathed, shingles, new flashing and downspouts.
2. Semi-annual Parish Meeting
  - Michele Anderson and Peter Ghicondey will step down from parish council. Slate for 2017: William Bortner, Donna Dimitri, Sergio Georgi, Janice Leyden, Michele Lorimer, Jani Mara, Nilda Salavachi. Nominations will be accepted at the meeting.
3. Archdiocesan Assembly: September 22-24 Southbridge, MA
  - Linda Notskas, Marinela Prifti, Bill Bortner, Father Brooks, Donna Dimitri all attended the assembly. A report will be presented at the Semi-annual parish meeting.
4. Archbishop Nikon Visit: November 20
  - Hotel reservation at Aloft at the airport. Plans will be finalized next month.
5. Insurance
  - Steve Coraluzzi, Linda Biando, Father Brooks, and Donna Dimitri met with Joe Pekala our insurance agent. He recommended Utica Insurance Co. We will have the same coverage and same approximately \$1500.00.
6. Gregory E. Costa Golf Classic
  - 65 people attended the dinner. We had 20 golfers. Approximately \$5,400.00 raised for the church. David Biando offered to assist next year. Thanks to those who donated items for our Albanian Auction.
7. Metropolitan Council
  - Donna Dimitri attended the OCA Metropolitan Council Meeting in Syosset, NY September 19-21. Metropolitan Thikon expanded his vision for the church, his four pillars concept:
    - 1). Establishing and sustaining vibrant Christ centered parishes.
    - 2). Fostering clergy health (spiritual, emotional, physical, financial)
    - 3). Strengthening theological education at all levels: seminaries, continuing education, college ministries, K-12 church schools)
    - 4). Encouraging, supporting and fostering an appreciation of monastic life and the sacred value of a life of prayer.
  - Other reports available on OCA website [oca.org](http://oca.org)

**Sunday School Report:** Steve Coraluzzi (not present - no report)

**Old Business:** (nothing to report)

### **New Business:**

1. Annual Christmas Outing (formerly the Ladies Society Christmas Outing). Saturday December 10, 2016. Lunch and an afternoon with the Philly Pops at the Kimmel Center.

Tickets for the Philly Pops are \$35 each. Lunch location and cost to be determined. For more info contact Nilda Salavachi trustee.nilda@stjohnsphila.org

2. No New Years Eve Party
3. Michele Anderson made a motion to purchase a new large icon of Christ to display in the altar. Peter Ghicondey seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Michele Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 P.M. Nilda Salavachi seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer  
Secretary