

The Weekly Messenger – March 1, 2015
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
Father Brooks Ledford Office: 215-563-0979
Website: <http://www.stjohnsphila.org>
Email address: info@stjohnsphila.org

Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

The Women's Day Celebration and Dance: Next Saturday, March 7, 2015, 7:00 – 11:00 pm in the Church Hall. Keeping the Women's Day Celebration alive, this year we are having women and girls over 12 years old. Tickets are \$40.00. A buffet dinner and continuous dancing are included! Please contact Luiza or Nilda Salavachi for tickets. You may also email info@stjohnsphila.org for more information.

Upcoming Events:

March 1st 3 year Memorial Sotir Capo – Sunday school ice skating outing

Wed March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner

Saturday, March 7th Women's Day Dance 7p-11p in the Church Hall

March 8th 40 day Memorial Father John Garvey

Tues March 10th Parish Council Meeting 7 pm- *date changed from March 3rd.*

March 15th, Divine Liturgy- 40 Day Memorial Shyqyrie Brahollari

March 22nd, Semi-annual parish meeting following the Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, March 24th Vesperal Liturgy 6:30 pm, no fast Pot Luck following for the Annunciation Feast

Saturday April 4th, Lazarus Saturday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

April 5th Palm Sunday – followed by the Pancake Breakfast

Home Blessing/Visitation: Please don't miss this opportunity to sign up for a visit and home blessing. Father Brooks would like to visit all of our parishioners and get to know you and your family. You may pick a date and time that is convenient and sign up on the sheet in the vestibule. Or you may contact Father Brooks directly to arrange a date for him to visit you and your family. fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org or call 210-461-1956

March Giving: Single Ply Toilet Paper. Thank you to those who donated paper napkins in February.

March Namedays Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar! To our parishioners who celebrate their Nameday in March: 10th St. Theodore the General, 17th St. Alexander, 25th The Annunciation

Message from Father Brooks: In today's Gospel reading we are told of Jesus finding Philip and calling him to "Follow me". As we celebrate the first Sunday of Great Lent, this Gospel reading is a good reminder that the words "Follow me" is not only for Philip, but for all of us. As the Fast is a time of dietary restrictions, it is much more about Jesus' call to "Follow me" and a time to truly focus on that which is important. Peace to all.

Sunday of Orthodoxy: The Sunday of Orthodoxy is the first Sunday of Great Lent. The dominant theme of this Sunday since 843 has been that of the victory of the icons. In that year the iconoclastic controversy, which had raged on and off since 726, was finally laid to rest, and icons and their veneration were restored on the first Sunday in Lent. Ever since, this Sunday has been commemorated as the "Triumph of Orthodoxy." - See more at: <http://lent.goarch.org/#sthash.xSkqRy9H.dpuf>

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Father Stephen Siniari, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Deacon Michael Sochka, Ann Dimitri, Jennie Sapnas, Peter Melnik, Ernie Douris, Semele Halkedis, Peter Mallios, Hugh Ledford, Grigor Lakuriqi, Elaine Quirias, Ann Gjoka, George Robos, Wayne Merkle, Sophie, Clive & Dhimitri Miller, Katherine Halkedis, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Leslie Sochka, Andigoni Steffa, Mary Croke, Candace Pepenelli, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Flossie Vissar, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

Commemorations for the Departed: Sotir Capo, Nancy Gregory, Shyqyrie Brahollari (Spartak's Mother), Father John Garvey, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much!

March 1st Capo Family – in memory of Sotir Capo

March 8th Father Brooks - in memory of Father John Garvey

March 15th Spartak Brahollari & Nilda Salavachi- memory of Spartak's Mother Shyqyrie

March 22nd Ann Gjoka/Linda Notskas

March 29th Vangjel & Margarita Haxhistasa

Reader Schedule: March 1st Reader Mark, 8th Adam Coraluzzi, 15th Kevin Fiss, March 22nd Edward Kokalari, March 29th Michelle Dardaris

Parishioner News: It is with sadness we inform our parishioners of the repose of Nancy Gregory, wife of Ted Gregory. Nancy is the sister of Nick (Marge) Zoto. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be emailed when they are finalized. May Nancy's memory be eternal!