

The Weekly Messenger – March 15, 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 Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:1-6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-38, 9:1

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy: every Wednesday @ 6:30 pm during Lent. This past Wednesday we enjoyed the Pre-sanctified Liturgy and a tremendous pot luck dinner. Over 20 people attended the service. We meet again this Wednesday, March 18, 2015.

Upcoming Events:

March 15th, Veneration of the Holy Cross- 40 Day Memorial Shyqyrie Brahollari

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

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

Tuesday, March 31st Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Saturday April 4th, Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy 10:00 am followed by Sunday school Retreat ending at 3:00 pm

April 5th Palm Sunday, Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem- Blessing of the Palms

Tuesday, April 7th Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Matins 6:30 pm

Wednesday, April 8th Holy Wednesday - Holy Unction 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 9th Holy Thursday - 12 Gospels 6:30 pm

Friday, April 10th, Holy Friday – 10 am Decorate the Epitaphion,
5 pm Vespers (Taking Down From Cross), 7 pm Funeral

Saturday, April 11th Saturday - Liturgy 9:00 am, Matins/Nocturn/Liturgy beginning 11 pm

Sunday, April 12th Paschal Agape Vespers - 1:00 pm - no coffee hour after Vespers

Semi Annual Parish Meeting: Next week March 22, 2015 during coffee hour. Parish business to be discussed: Religious Education, Church Finances, Building Update, Social Activities, selection of delegates for Archdiocesan Assembly Sept.25 & 26, 2015. The Assembly will be in Worcester MA.

On the Third Sunday of Great and Holy Lent, the Orthodox Church commemorates the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Services include a special veneration of the Cross, which prepares the faithful for the commemoration of the Crucifixion during Holy Week. http://lent.goarch.org/sunday_of_the_cross/learn/

It is with sadness we announce the repose of long time parishioner and past parish council member, Ernie Douris. Ernie was living in Voorhees New Jersey. Arrangements are as follows: **Thursday, March 19, 2015** at St. John Chrysostom, viewing at 10:00 am, funeral service at 11:00 am. Internment at Longview Cemetery. May Ernie's memory be eternal!

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Father Stephen Siniari, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Deacon Michael Sochka, Judy Valliere, Ann Dimitri, Jennie Sapnas, Peter Melnik, Semele Halkedis, Peter Mallios, Elaine Quirias, George Robos, Wayne Merkle, Sophie, Clive & Dhimitri Miller, 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: Shyqyrie Brahollari (Spartak's Mother), Ernie Douris, Nancy Gregory, 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 15th Spartak Brahollari & Nilda Salavachi- memory of Spartak's Mother, Shyqyrie

March 22nd Ann Gjoka/Linda Notskas

March 29th Vangjel & Margarita Haxhistasa

April 5th Rose Adams and Family in memory of Charlie – Pancake Breakfast

Reader Schedule: March 15th Kevin Fiss, March 22nd Edward Kokalari, March 29th Michelle Dardaris, April 5th Reader Mark, April 19th Adam Coraluzzi, 26th Kevin Fiss

Home Blessing/Visitation: If you would like Father Brooks to visit and bless your home please contact him. 210-461-1956 or email fr.brooks2stjohnsphila.org

Parishioner News: Dorothy Tomassini has access to furniture and household items to give to those who need them. Please contact Dorothy if you are interested.

Pledge Update: Our pledge goal for 2015 is \$65,000.00. To date we have received 39 pledges totaling \$20,620.00. Pledge cards have been mailed. Please fill out your pledge card and mail it to the church or leave it at the candle stand. Pledge cards can also be completed online on our website <http://www.stjohnsphila.org/> Thank you to those who have pledged and to those who are going to pledge!

March Giving: Single Ply Toilet Paper.