

The Weekly Messenger – March 8, 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 1:10-142:1-3; Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Sunday School Ice Skating: Our March 1st outing was postponed due to sleet & frozen roadways. We will be going to the Penn Class of 1923 Ice Skating Rink next week, March 15th following the Divine Liturgy. Questions contact Director Steve Coraluzzi. sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy: every Wednesday @ 6:30 pm during Lent. Join us.

Upcoming Events:

March 8th 40 day Memorial Father John Garvey

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

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

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

April 5th Palm Sunday, Entry 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: 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.

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

Message from Father Brooks: In today's Gospel, Jesus is questioned by the religious leaders not so much about his healing, but his forgiving of sins. God (the Father), of course, forgives sins, but Jesus was put on earth to give the Father a human face, to demonstrate to humanity what God is like as a human being. Yes, Jesus was divine, but we should never forget the other side of the story; he was also fully human. As such, he knows what we go through on a day to day basis...and he continually loves us. Peace to all.

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Father Stephen Siniari, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Deacon Michael Sochka, Judy Valliere, 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: Father John Garvey, Nancy Gregory, Shyqyrie Brahollari (Spartak's Mother), 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 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

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

Reader Schedule: 8th Adam Coraluzzi, 15th Kevin Fiss, March 22nd Edward Kokalari, March 29th Michelle Dardaris, April 5th Reader Mark,

The Sunday of Saint Gregory Palamas: On the Second Sunday of Lent the Orthodox Church commemorates our Holy Father Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica, the Wonderworker. The feast day of Saint Gregory Palamas is November 14, however, he is commemorated on this Sunday as the condemnation of his enemies and the vindication of his teachings by the Church in the 14th century was acclaimed as a second triumph of Orthodoxy. http://lent.goarch.org/saint_gregory_palamas/learn/

Home Blessing/Visitation: An email was sent to all parishioners to contact Father Brooks to schedule a visitation. If you do not have email, please sign the sheet in the side vestibule or contact Father Brooks, 210-461-1956