

The Weekly Messenger – June 21, 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 5:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

Third Sunday After Pentecost: The eye is the lamp of the body: if therefore thine eye be sound, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness. This means, if you fill your mind with worries over money, you have extinguished the lamp and darkened your soul. Just as the eye that is sound, or "healthy" brings light to the body, and the eye that is evil, or "diseased" brings darkness, so also does the state of the mind affect the soul. If the mind is blinded by these worries, it is cast into darkness; then the soul becomes dark, and how much more so the body as well?

http://www.chrysostompress.org/c_3rd_pentecost.html

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Father Stephen Siniari, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Deacon Michael Sochka, Ermalinda Kosova, Fioralba Papa, Jorgjia Kashari, Tranette Ledford, Jennie Sapnas, Peter Melnik, Semele Halkedis, Peter Mallios, Elaine Quirias, George Robos, Sophie, Clive & Dhimitri Miller, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Leslie Sochka, Andigoni Steffa, Mary Croke, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

Commemorations for the Departed: Vasilika Zui, Kevo and Marika Papinghi, Judy Valliere, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much!

June 21st Cosmo – Dimitri Family

June 28th William Bortner in honor of his nephew, Landon Kemp's baptism

July 5th Name Day Grabocka Family

July 12th Andrew & Sophia Kozlov

July 19th Fiori & Ilirjan Papa in honor of Ilirjan & Elias' Nameday

July 26th Biando Family

Monthly Giving: Napkins & Paper towels

Reader Schedule: 21 June - Michelle Dardaris, 28 June - Adam Coraluzzi

Message from Father Brooks: "Don't worry, mon; be happy", is what the reggae musician Bob Marley would say. In today's reading from the Gospel of Matthew, we are, in a sense, told the same thing. The amount of time and energy we spend worrying about the little things in life (many of which will never happen) takes away from that which we could be using to focus on God and our "neighbor". This love of God and neighbor is not about feelings but about action, and this love is what brings about true happiness. So as Christians, may we not get bogged down by those things that others worry about, but focus our attention on what is truly important. Peace to all.

A Very Happy Father's Day to our Fathers, Grandfathers, Godfathers, Uncles and other men who are so very important in our lives. May God grant them many years!

Upcoming Events:

June 21st Father's Day

June 28th, SS Peter & Paul Nameday Celebration, St. John Chrysostom will be open and celebrate the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am.

July 7th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

July 15th Stewardship Meeting 7:00 pm

September 13th Gregory E. Costa Golf Classic

September 24 – 26th Archdiocesan Assembly – Worcester MA.

November 15th Parish Nameday Celebration – Archbishop Nikon will celebrate Liturgy

Parishioner News:

On June 27th, Landon Kemp, nephew of William Bortner, will be baptized. 10:00 am

If you have information you would like to share with our parishioners please email info@stjohnsphila.org

Ss. Peter & Paul Nameday, Sunday, June 28, 2015: St. John Chrysostom will be open and Father Brooks will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am at St. John's. Our parishioners are welcome to attend Ss. Peter & Paul on June 28th as they celebrate their Nameday and join their parishioners for a luncheon after the Divine Liturgy.

Per shumë vjët! Gezuar! to our relatives and friends at Ss. Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox church as they celebrate their 95 anniversary!

Financial Update: Pledge statements were emailed and mailed. If you have not received a statement please contact Michele Anderson, treasurer@stjohnsphila.org Through May we have received 84 pledges totaling \$46,700.00. Our expenses are \$59,527.88 and our income is \$59, 226.42. If you have any questions please contact Michele.

Welcome home Father Brooks!