

**The Weekly Messenger – March 22, 2015**

**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**

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*Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:1-6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-38, 9:1*

**Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** Vesperal Liturgy 6:30 pm, no fast Pot Luck following for the Annunciation Feast. **Pre-Sanctified Liturgy:** every Wednesday @ 6:30 pm during Lent. We meet again this Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

**Lazarus Saturday Retreat:** Our Sunday school director and teachers are preparing for the Lazarus Saturday retreat, April 4, 2015, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. We would like to know how many children plan to attend so we can purchase the appropriate number of crafts and have enough supplies to make Meshe! We also need adults to help. Please contact Steve Coraluzzi @ [sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org)

**Upcoming Events:**

March 22<sup>nd</sup>, Semi-annual parish meeting following the Divine Liturgy

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

**Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>** Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

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

**April 5<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday**, Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem- Blessing of the Palms

**Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Matins 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>** Holy Wednesday - Holy Unction 6:30 pm

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>** Holy Thursday - 12 Gospels 6:30 pm

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

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

**Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>** Paschal Agape Vespers - 1:00 pm - no coffee hour after Vespers

**Reader Schedule:** March 22<sup>nd</sup> Edward Kokalari, March 29<sup>th</sup> Michelle Dardaris, April 5<sup>th</sup> Reader Mark, April 19<sup>th</sup> Adam Coraluzzi, 26<sup>th</sup> Kevin Fiss, May 3<sup>rd</sup> Edward Kokalari

**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](mailto:fr.brooks2stjohnsphila.org)

**Message from Father Brooks:** On Sunday, Fr. Steve Siniari will be concelebrating with me at the Divine Liturgy. It will be a pleasure and an honor for me. Fr. Steve has not only been a great friend, but one of the finest priests I've ever known. We wish Fr. Steve and Margot all the best as they head for a new adventure in Florida. Thanks for all you've done, Fr. Steve.....Oh, and keep a pitcher of Margaritas ready for me when I come to visit.

**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:** Father Thomas Hopko, Ernie Douris, Nancy Gregory, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

**Saint John Climacus**, also known as **John of the Ladder**. On March 30 and on the Fourth Sunday of Holy Lent the Orthodox Church commemorates our Righteous Father John Climacus of Sinai. He is called Climacus due to his authorship of the great spiritual work The Ladder of Divine Ascent. There are thirty Steps of the ladder, which correspond to the age of Jesus at his baptism and the beginning of his earthly ministry. His commemoration is designated by the Church on one of the Sundays of Lent as his life and writings affirm him as a supreme bearer and proponent of Christian asceticism. The ascetic example of this great Saint of the Church inspires us in our Lenten journey. Read more at ([http://lent.goarch.org/saint\\_john\\_climacus/learn/](http://lent.goarch.org/saint_john_climacus/learn/))

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** Thank you very much!

March 22<sup>nd</sup> Ann Gjoka/Linda Notskas

March 29<sup>th</sup> Vangjel & Margarita Haxhistasa

April 5<sup>th</sup> Rose Adams and Family in memory of Charlie – Pancake Breakfast

April 19<sup>th</sup> Jani Mara 3 year memorial of Anastas Mara,

Dimitri-Cosmo Family in memory of Tom Dimitri

April 26<sup>th</sup> Fioralba & Ilirjan Papa in celebration of Elisabeth's first birthday & Name Day

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Betty Subashi in memory of Andy, 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death

May 10<sup>th</sup> Sergio & Colleen Xhoxhi

**March Giving:** Single Ply Toilet Paper