

The Weekly Messenger –February 23, 2014
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians 8:8-13; 9:1-2 Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

Message from Father Brooks: Today is the Sunday of the Last Judgement, when we read Matthew's version of Jesus speaking of "the Son of man" coming in his glory (the parousia). The judgement is both wonderful and harsh, and reading it foretells our closeness to Great Lent. This is done to remind us that the priority of this holy time is not about food, but about serving others. It puts our focus on what Great Lent is really all about. Peace to all!

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Hugh Ledford, Roxane Ghicondey, Larry Kosta, Leslie Sochka, Dolly Spiro, Daniel Coraluzzi, Andigoni Steffa, John and Mary Croke, Paula Kosta, Candace Pepenelli, Mac, Kristin Snow, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Francesca Giansante, Peter Mallios, Flossie Vissar, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all the servicemen especially, Matthew Sherwood (Army-Afghanistan), Calvin Colclough (Marines-Spain).

Commemorations for the Departed: Loralyn (Biando) White, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country. Loralyn was David Biando's sister and she lived in Portland Oregon.

Great Lent begins in 2 weeks. We will have Pre-sanctified Liturgy on Wednesday nights beginning March 5th. Lenten (Pot Luck) dinner and discussion will be held in the church hall following the Pre-sanctified Liturgy.

Tickets are going FAST: The Women's Day Celebration and Dance, Saturday, March 8, 2014, 7:00 – 11:00 pm in the Church Hall. Tickets are \$40.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children under 12. A buffet dinner and continuous dancing are included! Please contact Fiori Papa or Nilda Braholari for tickets or with any questions. You may also email info@stjohnsphila.org for more information.

Stewardship: Pledge cards have been mailed to our parishioners. If you have not received your pledge card they are also available at the candle stand or online website www.stjohnsphila.org. Please complete and submit your pledge card as soon as possible.

Monthly Giving: paper napkins

Parishioner News: Rosemary Notskas had a medical setback recently as she fell and broke her hip. Rosemary is rehabbing at Dunwoody Village, 3500 West Chester Pike, Room 205, Newtown Square, PA 19073. (610) 359-4400.

Please keep Rosemary in your prayers.

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Eduard and Elena Papa as they announce the birth of their daughter, Marisa. Marisa was born on Feb. 11th, weighing in at 9 lbs, 22inches. Mom, Dad, baby Marisa and very proud grandparents, Pandeli and Dodona Papa, are all doing well! May God grant them Many Years!

We have a New Philadelphia Firefighter in our church community. Congratulations to John Biando, son of Linda & David Biando and husband of Pam Roy. John graduated from the Philadelphia Fire Academy after a rigorous six month training program. In addition to his firefighter duties John was also trained as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Congratulations on a job well done, John!

Please e mail info@stjohnsphila.org with any parishioner news you would like to share.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much!

Feb 23rd Biando Family

March 2nd Gjidede Family in Memory of Janulla Gjidede

March 9th Spiro & Marjana Kosta

March 16th Coraluzzi Family

March 23rd The Haxhistasa Family

March 30th Sergio & Colleen Xhohxi

April 6th Zoto Family in Memory of Vrisidha

April 13th Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast – Rose Adams & Family

We have open coffee hour dates: in May, June, July, August

Important Dates:

February 23rd Meatfare Sunday. Sunday school ice skating outing

March 2nd Forgiveness/Cheesefare Sunday – 40 Day Memorial - Janulla Gjidede

March 3rd, Great Lent Begins

Wed March 5th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Lenten Dinner and Discussion follow

Saturday, March 8th Women's Day Dance 7p-11p in the Church Hall

March 9th Spring Forward – Set clocks ahead 1 hour

Wed March 12th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Lenten Dinner and Discussion follow

March 16th 95th anniversary of the consecration of Theophan Noli into the episcopacy

March 23rd Veneration of the Cross

Monday March 24th Vesperal Liturgy 6:30 pm, fast before Liturgy - Pot Luck Dinner following for the Annunciation Feast (no fast on March 25th)

Wed March 26th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Lenten Dinner and Discussion follow
March 30th 1 year Memorial Nick Naum; Semi-Annual Parish Meeting

April 6th 1 year Memorial Vrisidha Zoto