

The Weekly Messenger –March 9, 2014

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 12:10-1 Gospel: John 1:43-51

Message from Father Brooks: Great Lent is upon us. It is a beautiful time to redirect our lives, to tune up our relationship with others and with God as we journey toward Pascha. One of the tools we have is the Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts, which we do each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. It is a beautiful service and an opportunity to fellowship with one another afterwards over a wonderful potluck meal. Hope to see you then. Peace to all.

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Newborn Marisa, Elena & Eduard Papa, Steven Alessi, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Hugh Ledford, 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, 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.

The Sunday of Orthodoxy is the first Sunday of Great Lent. The dominant theme of this Sunday since 843 has been that of the victory of the icons. In that year the iconoclastic controversy, which had raged on and off since 726, was finally laid to rest, and icons and their veneration were restored on the first Sunday in Lent.

Ever since, this Sunday has been commemorated as the "Triumph of Orthodoxy."

http://lent.goarch.org/sunday_of_orthodoxy/learn/

Parishioner News: Our fellow parishioners, Kostandin & Oanh Pajcini, are looking for a nanny for their children. If you or someone you know are interested please contact Kostandin Pajcini kpajcini@mail.med.upenn

Rosemary Notskas continues her rehabilitation at Dunwoody Village, 3500 West Chester Pike, Room 305, Newtown Square, PA 19073. (610) 359-4400. Please keep Rosemary in your prayers.

It was wonderful to see Roxane Ghicondey and Ann Gjoka in church this past Sunday.

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

If you want to smile and brighten your day go to : <http://www.stjohnsphila.org> and look at the photos!

Pre-Scantified Liturgy: every Wednesday @ 6:30 pm during Lent. This Wed., 3/5/14 we had 10 people attend. Come and join us, it is a beautiful Liturgy.

Semi Annual Parish Meeting: March 30, 2014 during coffee hour. Parish business to be discussed: Religious Education, Church Finances, Social Activities, selection of delegates for Archdiocesan Assembly Sept.26 & 27, 2014. This year the Assembly will be at our sister church, Ss. Peter & Paul.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much!

March 9th Spiro & Marjana Kosta

March 16th Coraluzzi Family

March 23rd The Haxhistasa Family

March 30th Sergio & Colleen Xhoxhi

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:

March 9th Sunday of Orthodoxy

Wed March 12th 19th, 26th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30pm Lenten Dinner and Discussion

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

March 23rd Veneration of the Cross

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

March 30th 1 year Memorial Nick Naum; Semi-Annual Parish Meeting

April 2nd and 9th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30pm Lenten Dinner and Discussion

April 6th 1 year Memorial Vrisidha Zoto

April 12th Lazarus Saturday, 10 am Liturgy followed by Sunday School Retreat

April 13th, Palm Sunday, Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem- Blessing of the Palms

April 15th Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Matins 6:30 pm

April 16th Holy Wednesday - Holy Unction 6:30 pm

April 17th Holy Thursday - 12 Gospels 6:30 pm

April 18th Holy Friday – 10 am Decorate the Epitaphios, 5 pm Vespers (Taking Down From Cross), 7 pm Funeral

April 19th Holy Saturday - Liturgy 9:00 am, Matins/Nocturn/Liturgy beginning 11:00pm

April 20th Paschal Agape Vespers - 1:00 pm

Monthly Giving: March single ply toilet paper and/or paper napkins