

The Weekly Messenger – July 28, 2019

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 12:6-14 Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

6th Sunday of Matthew (of the paralytic): The Lord desires to see something from man, in order that He might act. It says here: “*He saw their faith*”. The paralytic was not able on his own to go to the Lord. For this reason, he was brought by others, and the Lord saw their faith. Still he means here that in some way He also saw the faith of the paralytic. He, the paralytic, would not have come to the Lord if he had not believed. And, immediately, the Lord said: “*Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you*”.

On another occasion, Christ said: “*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world*”. On this occasion it is as though He were saying: “I am here to **heal** man of his **bodily illness**, but first and foremost to heal him of sin, the sickness of the **soul**”. It is a big deal to feel that your sins are forgiven, that God forgives you, and that He has accepted you. Just as your blood circulates through your veins, in this same way you ought to feel God’s forgiveness, circulating through you.

Not one of us should have even the smallest **doubt** that if the Lord sees our faith, He will immediately answer and straightway give us His forgiveness, i.e., that which we are seeking. In order though for the Lord to forgive you, you have to arrive at the point of saying: “My God, I do not want to sin anymore.”

<http://www.orthodoxpath.org/catechisms-and-articles/sixth-sunday-matthew-paralytic/>

Parishioner News: Congratulations to Wesley Hanson and Amy who were married on Saturday, July 27, 2019 at St. John. Also, congratulations to Lino and Angela Pano who were married at St. John on Saturday, July 13, 2019. Wes and Amy are young professionals who live in Philadelphia and have made St. John Chrysostom their home parish. May God bless them and grant them and their entire family Many Years!

Upcoming Events:

Saturday July 27th Wesley Hanson & Amy Lewis Wedding 11:00 am

July 28th 40 Day Memorial Taso Gjidede (Father of Dhimiter & Peter)

Presentation of Nick Naum Scholarship Awards

July 28th Baptisms: Nicholas Gremi and Christian Kittel 12:30 pm

Tuesday, August 6th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Friday, August 30th Edlira Tegu & Kevin Delussey Wedding 1:00 pm

Sept 15th Liturgy and Picnic Neshaminy State Park 12:00 pm

Sept 19th – 21st Archdiocesan Assembly Natick MA

We will have visiting priests for the next few months When you approach the chalice to receive communion please say your first name prior to receiving communion.

In the works: We are planning to accept credit cards at the candle stand, for the purchase of candles and donations. If you have an old I-Pad you are no longer using and would like to donate it to be used in conjunction with the credit card reader please contact Steve Coraluzzi sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org or Sergio Georgi trustee.sergio@stjohnsphila.org

Commemorations for the Departed: Taso Gjidede, Lena Costalas, Rose Adams, Thomas Zoidis (2 yrs.), Maria Papinghi (6 yrs.), Qiriako (Charlie) Adams (8 yrs.), Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country. *If you have a name to add to the Commemorations for the departed or the living please email* info@stjohnsphila.org

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, newly married Wes & Amy, Newly married Lino & Angela, Sara, Andrew Quiris, Lee Gedremenc (Bill Bortner’s father), Tala Ayyad, Diane Mallios, Evangeline Prifti, Lisa Kelley, Donna Hlavcek, Father Dimitrie Vincent, Dolly Seiler, Elizabeth Jones, Virginia Daka, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: *Only TWO Sundays are without sponsors – August 18, September 1st* click: [sign up for coffee hour](#) or sign up on the poster in the vestibule.

July 28th Gjidede Family in memory of Taso Gjidede

August 4th Andon & Miranda Lakuriqi in honor of Nicholas & Christian’s Baptisms

August 11th Marinela & Fred Tsopournas

August 18th NO SPONSOR

Thank you to all of coffee hour sponsors

If you have information for the Weekly Messenger please send it to info@stjohnsphila.org

Welcome to our visitors. Thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us. We invite you to join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the church hall following the Divine Liturgy.

July giving: *Paper towels*

Welcome Father Dennis Rhodes. Thank you for serving today!