

The Weekly Messenger – June 13, 2021
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979
Website: <https://stjohnsphila.org>
Email address: info@stjohnsphila.org

Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18;28-36 Gospel: John 17:1-13

Upcoming Events:

June 10th Ascension of our Lord
June 13th Father Giorgi will serve with Father Dennis
1 year Memorial Evelyn Margerison
June 20th Holy Pentecost
Saturday, June 26th Father Arthur Liolin, Portrait Unveiling. St. George Cathedral - Boston
June 27th 6-month Memorial Nick Zoto
July 11th 40-day Memorial Jim Ghicondey

Coffee Hour If you are able to sponsor an upcoming coffee hour **click: [sign up for coffee hour](#)** or sign-up on the sheet posted in the side vestibule at church.

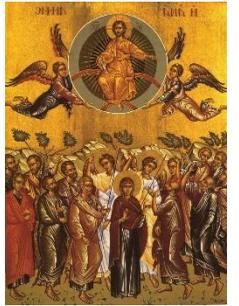
June 13th Greta Dilo and family in Memory of Evelyn Margerison
June 20th No Sponsor
June 27th No Sponsor
July 4th No Sponsor
July 11th Ghicondey in Memory of Jim

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the 599,000 victims of the Covid-19 virus, James Ghicondey, Walter Brook (David's Father), Polo (Paul) Xhori, George Iovan, Evelyn Margerison (1 yr.), Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord. *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: Health care workers, First responders, those suffering with the Covid-19 virus, Archbishop Anastasios, Bishop Daniel, Father Gregory Dudash, Hajri Xhoxhaj, Jani Xhoxhi, Dorothy Tomassini, Marie Portway (Nancy Ghicondey's Mother), Joyce & Maurice Robert (Christine Dardaris' Mom & Dad), Lisa Kosta Bowser, Lee Gedremenc, Evangeline Prifti, Virginia Daka, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Lefteri, and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

Please Keep Father Gregory Dudash in your prayers. On Tuesday of this week Father Dudash underwent heart by-pass surgery. He is recovering at home. If you would like to send him a card his address is 32 Aspen Way, Schwenksville, PA 19473

Ascension June 10th Jesus did not live with His disciples after His resurrection as He had before His death. Filled with the glory of His divinity, He appeared at different times and places to His people, assuring them that it was He, truly alive in His risen and glorified body.



On the fortieth day after His passover, Jesus ascended into heaven to be glorified on the right hand of God (Acts 1.9–11; Mk 16.19; Lk 24.51). The ascension of Christ is His final physical departure from this world after the resurrection. It is the formal completion of His mission in this world as the Messianic Saviour. It is His glorious return to the Father Who had sent Him into the world to accomplish the work that He had given him to do (Jn 17.4–5).

The Church's celebration of the ascension, as all such festal celebrations, is not merely the remembrance of an event in Christ's life. Indeed, the ascension itself is not to be understood as though it were simply the supernatural event of a man floating up and away into the skies. The holy scripture stresses Christ's physical departure and His glorification with God the Father, together with the great joy which His disciples had as they received the promise of the Holy Spirit Who was to come to assure the Lord's presence with them, enabling them to be His witnesses to the ends of earth (Lk 24.48–53; Acts 1.8–11; Mt 28.20; Mk 16.16–14).

In the Church the believers in Christ celebrate these very same realities with the conviction that it is for them and for all men that Christ's departure from this world has taken place. The Lord leaves in order to be glorified with God the Father and to glorify us with himself. He goes in order to "prepare a place" for and to take us also into the blessedness of God's presence. He goes to open the way for all flesh into the "heavenly sanctuary . . . the Holy Place not made by hands" (see Hebrews 8–10). He goes in order send the Holy Spirit, Who proceeds from the Father to bear witness to Him and His gospel in the world, making Him powerfully present in the lives of disciples.

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council On the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the holy God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, "I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious. The holy martyrs bore witness to the truth of the Savior's words, enduring suffering and death for confessing Christ, but the persecutor's sword is shattered by the Cross of Christ. Click to [Read More](#)

The Albanian Archdiocese has a new website visit <https://albanianarchdiocese.org/> and take a look!

Welcome Father Giorgi Tskitishvili and family. Thank you for serving today!