

**The Weekly Messenger – June 20, 2021**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
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*Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11      Gospel: John 7:37-52; 8:12*

**Upcoming Events:**

June 20<sup>th</sup> Holy Pentecost, Father's Day  
Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> Father Arthur Liolin, Portrait Unveiling. St. George Cathedral – Boston  
June 27<sup>th</sup> 6-month Memorial Nick Zoto  
July 11<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> No Sponsor  
June 27<sup>th</sup> No Sponsor  
July 4<sup>th</sup> No Sponsor  
July 7<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm via ZOOM  
July 11<sup>th</sup> Ghicondey family in Memory of Jim

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Archbishop Nikon, the 600,800 victims of the Covid-19 virus, our Fathers, Grandfathers and Godfathers, James Ghicondey, Walter Brook (David's Father), Polo (Paul) Xhori, George Iovan, Linda Dudash (1 yr.), Theodore Lescas (4 yrs.), Hugh Ledford (5 yrs.), Rosemary Notskas (5 yrs.), Mary Legidakes (8 yrs.), Spiro Dimitri (29 yrs.), 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](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)*

**Commemorations for the Living:** Health care workers, First responders, those suffering with the Covid-19 virus, our Fathers, Grandfathers, Godfathers, 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.

**Choir Announcement:** As the restrictions are being removed by the city, we welcome all who would like to join us again in the choir. If you would like to join us, we do ask for the following considerations: Thank you, Vlad Melnik, Choir Director

- That you arrive before the beginning of the Liturgy at 10:00
- That you have been fully vaccinated

**Pentecost: The Descent of the Holy Spirit:** In the Old Testament Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As the Passover feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the ten commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai.

In the new covenant of the Messiah, the Passover event takes on its new meaning as the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection, the "exodus" of men from this sinful world to the Kingdom of God. And in the New Testament as well, the pentecostal feast is fulfilled and made new by the coming of the "new law," the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Christ.

On Pentecost we have the final fulfillment of the mission of Jesus Christ and the first beginning of the messianic age of the Kingdom of God mystically present in this world in the Church of the Messiah. For this reason, the fiftieth day stands as the beginning of the era which is beyond the limitations of this world, fifty being that number which stands for eternal and heavenly fulfillment in Jewish and Christian mystical piety: seven times seven, plus one.

Once again it must be noted that the feast of Pentecost is not simply the celebration of an event which took place centuries ago. It is the celebration of what must happen and does happen to us in the Church today. We all have died and risen with the Messiah-King, and we all have received his Most Holy Spirit. We are the "temples of the Holy Spirit." God's Spirit dwells in us (Rom 8; 1 Cor 2-3, 12; 2 Cor 3; Gal 5; Eph 2-3). We, by our own membership in the Church, have received "the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit" in the sacrament of chrismation. Pentecost has happened to us. [READ MORE](#)



**Happy Father's Day to our Fathers, Grandfathers, Godfathers and all Father figures in our lives:** The nation's first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in the state of Washington. However, it was not until 1972-58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official—that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States. Father's Day in the United States is on the third Sunday of June. It celebrates the contribution that fathers and father figures make for their children's lives.

**Potential Full-time Priest:** Last Sunday Father Giorgi Tskitishvili visited St. John Chrysostom and celebrated the Divine Liturgy with Father Dennis. Parish Council met with Father Giorgi on 2 occasions. Council prepared a proposed compensation package and have forwarded it to Father Nikodhim, the Albanian Archdiocesan Chancellor. The final decision is made by Metropolitan Tikhon, Locum Tenens Albanian Archdiocese.

**Father Gregory Dudash update:** Father Dudash is recovering at home following heart bypass surgery. If you would like to send him a card his address is 32 Aspen Way, Schwenksville, PA 19473. Please keep Father Gregory in your prayers.