## The Weekly Messenger – June 6, 2021 St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church 237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979

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Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34 Gospel: John 9:1-38

## CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN! KRISHTI U NGJALL! VERTET U NGJALL!

## **Upcoming Events:**

June 6<sup>th</sup> Father Emmanuel Pratsinakis will serve at St. Johns

June 10<sup>th</sup> Ascension of our Lord

June 13<sup>th</sup> Father Giorgi will serve with Father Dennis

June 20<sup>th</sup> Holy Pentecost

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

Exciting News: Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, Father Giorgi Tskitishvili, a recent graduate of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, will visit St. John Chrysostom and celebrate the Divine Liturgy with Father Dennis. Father Giorgi has been presented as a possible candidate for the full-time pastor position at St. Johns. Our Parish Council had the opportunity to meet with Father Giorgi via ZOOM on Wednesday, May 26. The Council then met on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and agreed to invite Father Giorgi to visit our parish so our parishioners can meet him in person. After the Divine Liturgy Father Giorgi will join us for coffee hour. We hope many parishioners are in church June 13<sup>th</sup> to meet Father Giorgi as we move forward on our path to find a full-time priest for our parish.

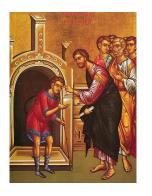


Memorial Day Grave Blessing at
Fernwood Cemetery: About 20 were
present at Fernwood Cemetery on Monday
as Father Dennis blessed the graves and said
prayers for the departed. Thank you,
Deacon Andrew, for chanting in English
and Albanian!

<u>Nick Naum Scholarship Applications:</u> The application is posted on our website <a href="https://stjohnsphila.org/scholarship">https://stjohnsphila.org/scholarship</a> The applications must be submitted by **June 13, 2021** via email to chairperson@stjohnsphila.org

The Blind Man The sixth Sunday commemorates the healing of the man blind from birth (Jn 9). We are identified with that man who came to see and to believe in Jesus as the Son of God. The Lord has anointed our eyes with his own divine hands and washed them with the waters of our baptism (Jn 9.6–11).

Jesus used clay of spittle and told the man to wash in the waters of Siloam. He did so because it was the Sabbath day on which spitting, clay-making and washing were strictly forbidden. By breaking these ritual laws of the Jews, Jesus showed that He is indeed the Lord of the Sabbath, and, as such, that He is equal to



God the Father Who alone, according to Jewish tradition, works on the Sabbath day in running His world.

There is scandal over the healing of the blind man on the Sabbath day. He is separated from the synagogue because of his faith in Christ. The entire Church follows this man in his fate, knowing that it is those who do not see Jesus as the Lord who are really blind and still in their sins (Jn 9.41). The others have the light of life and can see and know the Son of God, for "you have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you" (Jn 9.37).

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the 597,000 victims of the Covid-19 virus, James Ghicondey, Walter Brook (David's Father), Polo (Paul) Xhori, George Iovan, Preston Alexander Woodman (1 yr.), Michael Theokary (3 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

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.

<u>Coffee Hour</u> If you are able to sponsor an upcoming coffee hour <u>click</u>: <u>sign up for coffee hour</u> or sign-up on the sheet posted in the side vestibule at church.

<u>Sunday School News:</u> Our longtime Sunday School Director, Steve Coraluzzi is retiring from his position. Thank you, Steve, for your many, many years of dedicated service to our Sunday school. If you or someone you know would be interested in becoming the Sunday School Director, please let us know. Steve will assist with the transition.

**Per Shume Vjet, Gezuar!** To our parishioners who celebrate their Namedays in June: June 1 Martyr Justin the Philosopher, June 27 St. Joanna Myrrhbearer, June 29 Ss Peter & Paul, June 30 All Saints