

The Weekly Messenger – June 6, 2021
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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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 6th Father Emmanuel Pratsinakis will serve at St. Johns
June 10th Ascension of our Lord
June 13th Father Giorgi will serve with Father Dennis
June 20th Holy Pentecost
Saturday, June 26th Father Arthur Liolin, Portrait Unveiling. St. George Cathedral - Boston
June 27th 6-month Memorial Nick Zoto

Exciting News: Sunday, June 13th, 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 2nd 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 13th 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!

Nick Naum Scholarship Applications: The application is posted on our website <https://stjohnsphila.org/scholarship> 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.

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.

Sunday School News: 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

