

**The Weekly Messenger –May 5, 2019**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
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*Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 5:12-20 Gospel: John 20:19-31*

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

**Antipascha: St Thomas Sunday** Some icons depicting this event are inscribed “The Doubting Thomas.” This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, “The Touching of Thomas.” The Slavonic inscription is, “The Belief of Thomas.” When Saint Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts. This day is also known as “Antipascha.” This does not mean “opposed to Pascha,” but “in place of Pascha.” Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord’s Resurrection. Sunday is called “Resurrection” in Russian, and “the Lord’s Day” in Greek.

**Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar!** Happy Nameday - Father Thomas (Brooks), Altar Server Thomas Lorimer, Nathan Thomas Kashari, Newly Chrismated Zachary Thomas Smith and all of our parishioners named Thomas who celebrate their Nameday today.

**Commemorations for the Departed:** 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](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)*

**Commemorations for the Living:** Archbishop Nikon, Newly Chrismated Zack, Newly Baptized Amy Lewis, Nina Melito, Lee Gedremenc (Bill Bortner’s father), Marion Merkle, Tala Ayyad, Diane Mallios, Rose Adams, Evangeline Prifti, Lisa Kelley, Donna Hlavcek, Father Dimitrie Vincent, Dolly Seiler, Elizabeth Jones, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Peter Melnik, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in the Armed Forces

**Welcome to our visitors.** Father Brooks, the members of our Parish Council and our church community 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.

**Thank you to our parishioners and friends** who attended services during Great Lent and Holy Week and to those who stayed after the service to clean up and help set up for the next day. We are so fortunate to have such a loving and helpful community. Photos are available on our website [Holy Week & Pascha photos](#)

**Buddy Walk 2019, Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 11:00a - 3:00p** Silver Lake Park 200 E Cochran St, Middletown, DE 19709. Brother John’s love for all of you is so great. Everyone who has donated in the past made John feel so special. He and our family thanks you for your support. John is really excelling in swimming, karate and being a super terrific 4th grader @ Forwood Elementary School. He participated in Special Olympics Soccer skills last year & the basketball skills this year. John loves sports! He is training for the soccer skills Special Olympics again right now! Please join our team and walk with us or consider donating to our team if you cannot be there. We will do a pot luck. Bring yourself and your favorite food, dessert or beverage. Always fun under the Brother John tent. Thank you all for your support!!! The Melnik Family <https://www.ds-stride.org/delawarebuddywalk/profiles/team/87>

**Parishioner News:** Bill Bortner’s father, Lee is in McGee Rehab center recovering from a stroke. Please keep Bill and his family in your prayers. Nina Melito suffered a stroke on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Nina is in Crozer Chester Medical Center. Please keep Nina in your prayers.

**Charity & Benevolence Event:** Another clothing and food distribution to the homeless is planned for Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> following the Divine Liturgy. We gladly welcome your donations of gently used clothing and shoes. Please bring these items to church over the next few weeks. Please let Sandi Fiss know if you are able to help out with this event.

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:**

May 5<sup>th</sup> Sophia & Andrew Kozlov

May 12<sup>th</sup> Ana & Irakli Nadareishrili,

May 26<sup>th</sup> No Sponsor,

May 19<sup>th</sup> Elena & Zach

June 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday School

**Upcoming Events**

May 7<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

May 18<sup>th</sup> Buddy Walk

May 27<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day

June 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday School Graduation

Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday school pool party

**Per Shume Vjet, Gezuar!** To our parishioners who celebrate Namedays in May: 5<sup>th</sup> Great Martyr Irene, 9<sup>th</sup> Martyr Christopher, May 12<sup>th</sup> St. Thomas the Apostle, May 21<sup>st</sup> Ss Constantine & Helen, May 30<sup>th</sup> Isaacius of Dalmatus.

**May giving:** Water 8 oz or 16 oz bottles