

**The Weekly Messenger – September 8, 2019**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
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*Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 2:1-7 Gospel: Luke 4:16-22*

**The Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross:** A week before the feast day of the Universal Elevation of the Holy Cross, the Orthodox Church prepares the faithful through Scriptural readings, prayer and acts of good deeds to celebrate the event of the finding of the precious and life-giving Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Among the many symbols of the Christian Faith the Holy Cross is considered the most important. It is the symbol of Christianity. It is the symbol of Christ's victory over death. It is the weapon against all evil forces. It is the power of the Saints. It is the flag under which the righteous fought against Satan. September 14<sup>th</sup> is the date for The Elevation of the Holy Cross. We will celebrate the feast day on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**We will have visiting priests for the next few months** When you approach the chalice to receive communion please say your first name prior loud enough for the Priest to hear.

**Liturgy & Picnic in the Park – NEXT week:** Sunday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and picnic afterwards at Neshaminy State Park. This year there will be organized activities for young and old. The Divine Liturgy begins at 12:00 and the picnic follows. At past picnics people bring food for their families. You may also bring friends and other family members. Info on our website homepage <https://stjohnsphila.org/>

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Archbishop Nikon, Rose Adams, Qiriako (Charlie) Adams, Elizabeth Jones, Lena Costalas, 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:** Sara, Newly married Edlira Tegu & Kevin Delussey, Olive, Evisa & Greg Boyle, William Cotton, Jared Thack, Andrew Quiris, Lee Gedremenc, Tala Ayyad, Diane Mallios, Evangeline Prifti, Lisa Kelley, Donna Hlavcek, Father Dimitrie Vincent, George Robos, Dolly Seiler, Virginia Daka, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

**Welcome Father Emmanuel - Thank you for serving today!**

**Parishioner News:** Leter Kondili is a member of Pennsylvania State Police Academy class 156 which graduated on September 6, 2019. Trooper Kondili will be assigned to a station in Montgomery County. Leter is the son Anatol and Diana Kondili and brother of Anesti. Congratulations and Many Years Trooper Kondili!

Tim and Donna Pappas are pleased to announce the birth of their 2<sup>nd</sup> granddaughter and 5<sup>th</sup> grandchild. Elated parents Dan and Nicole and baby Lucy Rose are all doing great! Lucy arrived late Saturday night (8/31/19) and weighted in at 6 lbs. 12 oz. Congratulations and Many Years to the entire Pappas family.

**New Series:** In the coming months we are going to include with the Weekly Messenger, educational information taken from the Orthodox Church in America website <https://oca.org/> Specifically *The Orthodox Faith* series which is intended to provide basic, comprehensive information on the faith and life of the Orthodox Church. The sixth article is an overview of the *Sacrament of Penance*.

**Donations:** We are going to raffle baskets at our Nameday Celebration. If you have any items/nick knacks stuffed in a closet that you will probably never use, bring them to church. Fantastic baskets are created and raffled. All proceeds go to the church.

**Sunday School News:** Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> we will have a “*Blessing of the Backpacks*” following the Divine Liturgy. All students are encouraged to bring their backpacks to church. It is a great way to begin the school year! Additionally, if you would like to help – in any way- with our Sunday school program please contact Director Steve Coraluzzi [sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org)

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** *All Sundays have a Sponsor. Thank you very much!!!*

**Sept 8<sup>th</sup>** Adams/Trafford Families in memory of Rose and Charli

**Sept 15<sup>th</sup>** LITURGY IN THE PARK 12:00 pm

**Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>** Sunday School

**Sept 29<sup>th</sup>** Elvira & Erion Gusho – Kopi's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday

**Upcoming Events:**

**Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>** 40-day Memorial Rose Adams

**Tuesday, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>** YAL get together 7:00 pm at Brauhaus Schmitz

**Sept 15<sup>th</sup>** Coffee Hour in the Park - Church Picnic

**Sept 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>** Archdiocesan Assembly Natick MA

**Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>** First day of Sunday school

**SATURDAY Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** Church Clean-up Day

**Welcome to our visitors.** 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.

**September giving:** snacks for Sunday school