

**The Weekly Messenger – July 24, 2022**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
**237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979**  
**Website: <https://stjohnsphila.org/> Email address: [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)**

**Epistle: Romans 12:6-14 Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8**

**Upcoming Events:**

**Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>** Crowning of Marriage Pandeli & Dodona Papa 11:00 am  
**July 31<sup>st</sup>** 6 month Memorial Marika Sarkos (Michele's Mom)  
**August 6<sup>th</sup>** Transfiguration  
**August 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>** The 74<sup>th</sup> Annual AANO Convention in Philadelphia Contact Nilda Salavachi for info. Or visit <https://www.aano.org/convention.html> or email [aanophila@gmail.com](mailto:aanophila@gmail.com)  
**August 15<sup>th</sup>** Dormition of the Theotokos  
**Sept 11<sup>th</sup>** Sunday School Begins  
**Sept 18<sup>th</sup>** Blessing of the Backpacks and Ice-Skating Outing  
**Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>** Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly St. Nicholas Church Jamaica Estates, NY

**Sponsoring Coffee Hour** In the summer we usually have between 30–50 people attend the Divine Liturgy on any given Sunday. When you sponsor coffee hour you can bring cookies, donuts, fruit, bagels; something light for a mid-day snack. Whole milk or cream/creamers is appreciated. The church supplies all of the paper products, we even have a supply of coffee!

**CLICK [SponsorCoffeeHour](#)**

Or sign up on the sheet in the side vestibule. Thank you to those who have signed up.

<b>July 24<sup>th</sup></b> NO COFFEE HOUR (Due to heat)	<b>Aug 14<sup>th</sup></b> Liya Gendler
<b>July 31<sup>st</sup></b> Sarkos Family	<b>Aug 21<sup>st</sup></b> <i>No Sponsor</i>
<b>Aug 7<sup>th</sup></b> <i>No Sponsor</i>	

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, the victims of the Covid-19 virus, Atanasio Vince Formosa (Deacon Andrew's Godson), Tom Zoidis (5 yrs.), Maria Papinghi (9 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

**Commemorations for the Living:** Health care workers, first responders, people in Ukraine, those suffering from the Covid-19 virus, Newborn Gabriel Ray Pappas and his family Daniel, Nicole, Lucy, Tim, Donna Pappas, Newly illuminated Altin & Ciljeta Dukaj, sponsors, Marinela & Fred Tsapournos, Julius, Virginia Daka, Marie Portway (Nancy Ghicondey's Mother), and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces. *If you have a name for the departed or commemorations list, please email [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)*

**July giving:** Paper towels

**Thank you for serving today, Deacon Gregory!**

**6th Sunday after Pentecost (the paralytic):** The Lord desires to see something from man, in order that He might act. It says here: "*He saw their faith*". The paralytic was not able on his own to go to the Lord. For this reason, he was brought by others, and the Lord saw their faith. Still he means here that in some way He also saw the faith of the paralytic. He, the paralytic, would not have come to the Lord if he had not believed. And, immediately, the Lord said: "*Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you*".

On another occasion, Christ said: "*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world*". On this occasion it is as though He were saying: "I am here to **heal** man of his **bodily illness**, but first and foremost to heal him of sin, the sickness of the **soul**". It is a big deal to feel that your sins are forgiven, that God forgives you, and that He has accepted you. Just as your blood circulates through your veins, in this same way you ought to feel God's forgiveness, circulating through you.

Not one of us should have even the smallest **doubt** that if the Lord sees our faith, He will immediately answer and straightway give us His forgiveness, i.e., that which we are seeking. In order though for the Lord to forgive you, you have to arrive at the point of saying: "My God, I do not want to sin anymore."

**Tickets are still available for the 74<sup>th</sup> AANO Convention August 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>**

Ticket information can be found at <https://www.aano.org/convention-tickets.html> or contact Nilda Salavachi, chair of the Philadelphia Chapter of the AANO.

**Sunday School News:** Fiori Papa has volunteered to be the Director of the Sunday School program for the upcoming year. We are still in need of teachers to assist with the program. Teachers do not have to prepare lesson plans and do not have to be in church every Sunday. All materials needed will be provided for the lessons Sunday morning. In order to have a successful program **we must have teachers and parents must bring their children to church on Sunday**. We need your help. If either of these components is not done, we will not have a Sunday school program. Fiori is planning activities throughout the year beginning with Pizza during coffee hour and Ice Skating in September,



**Congratulations to our 2022 Nick Naum Scholarship**

**Recipients:** *Gregory Dardaris*, son of Christine & Greg Dardaris, grandson of Bob Dardaris; *Caroline Fiss*, daughter of Sandi & Bob Fiss, granddaughter of Paula & Jim Bendo; *Olivia Grabocka*, daughter of Valentina & Peter Grabocka, granddaughter of Olimbi Grabocka; *Juliana Melnik*, daughter of Susan & Vlad Melnik, granddaughter of Elizabeth Melnik, Barbara & Barry Kolvek. The scholarships presented following

the Divine Liturgy on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Many Years to the recipients and their proud families!

**Welcome to our visitors.** 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.