

The Weekly Messenger – April 1, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18

Entry of Christ into Jerusalem: On Sunday, five days before the Passover of the Law, the Lord came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Sending two of His disciples to bring Him a foal of an ass, He sat thereon and entered into the city. When the multitude there heard that Jesus was coming, they straightway took up the branches of palm trees in their hands and went forth to meet Him. Others spread their garments on the ground, and yet others cut branches from the trees and strewed them in the way that Jesus was to pass; and all of them together, especially the children, went before and after Him, crying out: "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This is the radiant and glorious festival of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate today.

The branches of the palm trees symbolize Christ's victory over the devil and death. The word Hosanna means "Save, I pray," or "Save, now." The foal of an ass, and Jesus' sitting thereon, and the fact that this animal was untamed and considered unclean according to the Law, signified the former uncleanness and wildness of the nations, and their subjection thereafter to the holy Law of the Gospel.

<https://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints?contentid=928&PCode=6LENTS&D=S&DT=4/1/2018>

Commemorations for the Departed: Qiriako (Charlie) Adams, Vrisidha Zoto (5 yrs), Lefteria Dhimitri (4 yrs), Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

Commemorations for the Living: Father Dimitrie Vincent, Betty Subashi Brenda Cantwell, Dolly Seiler, Sara, Craig Risley, Wayne Merkle, Elizabeth Jones, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

If you have someone to add to the Commemorations for the Living or the Departed list please give the information to Father Brooks or email info@stjohnsphila.org

Many thanks to Sunday School Director Steve Coraluzzi for arranging the ice skating outing for our Sunday school students and their families -and for providing pizza for all! We have many very good skaters and everyone had a fine time. Photos on our website.

As we begin Holy Week remember we have services; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Times listed in Upcoming Events.

Nick Naum Scholarship Applications are being accepted. The applications must be submitted by June 1, 2018. Information is available on our website <https://stjohnsphila.org/scholarship.html> or by emailing nnscholarship@stjohnsphila.org or see a member of the Nick Naum Scholarship committee in church: Fr. Brooks, Diane Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Sandi Fiss, Stephanie Kosta, Nicole Ferrara, Reem Tarazi, Donna Dimitri

Coffee Hour Sponsors: *Please check the sign-up sheet in the vestibule and pick a date or visit our website and signup online: <https://teamup.com/ksqta3sqv6k1qvr2o7>*

April 1st Annual Pancake Breakfast -The Adams Family in memory of Charlie

April 8th Pascha – no coffee hour

April 15th Donna Dimitri

April 22nd Betty Subashi (10 yrs Andy)

April 29th No Sponsor

May 6th No Sponsor

May 13th Elena & Eduard Papa
Teresa's 1st Birthday

Save the Date: Our first Paint Event Social will be **Saturday, April 28th at 4pm** in our fellowship hall at St. John Chrysostom. You will get a chance to socialize with your fellow parishioners, enjoy a glass of wine, light appetizers and most importantly you get to paint and keep your own work of art. Non-church members are also welcome and their invitation is encouraged. We can introduce them to our church and other fellow members. Tickets are \$30 per person and all proceeds will go to the church. Please contact Fiori Papa or Michele Lorimer for more information. <https://stjohnsphila.org/registration.html>

Upcoming Events:

April 1st Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Tuesday, April 3rd Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Matins 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 4th Holy Wednesday - Holy Unction 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 5th Holy Thursday - 12 Gospels 7:00 pm

Friday, April 6th Holy Friday – 10:00 am Decorate the Epitaph ion,

5:00 pm Vespers (Taking Down from Cross), 7:00 pm Funeral

Saturday, April 7th Saturday- Liturgy 10:00 am, Matins/Nocturne/Liturgy beginning 11:30 pm

Sunday, April 8th Paschal Agape Vespers - 1:00 pm - no coffee hour after Vespers

Saturday, April 28th Paint Event 4:00 pm

Saturday May 19th Buddy Walk with the Melnik Family

April Namedays: Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar! Lazarus Saturday - St. Lazarus, Palm Sunday – Kyriako, April 13– St. Martin the Confessor, Sunday after Pascha– St. Thomas, April 23 - Great Martyr George, April 25 - Apostle & Evangelist Mark

April giving: Dyed Red Eggs and Your Pascha Donation