

**The Weekly Messenger –September 21, 2014**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Father Brooks Ledford Office: 215-563-0979  
Website: <http://www.stjohnsphila.org>  
Email address: [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)

*Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20*  
*Gospel: Mark 8:34-38; 9:1*

**Message from Father Brooks:** On the Sunday after the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross, we hear - in the Gospel of Mark - about the Kingdom of God (in Greek: basileia tou theou). Jesus, it could be said, ushered this in by his defeat of that cross and his resurrection. So, too, in Christ, we have defeated that which was a symbol of torture and death, and risen above it. We show this power - the power of Christ - through our love and compassion for others. Let us always keep that at the forefront of our Christian lives. Peace to all!

**Commemorations for the Living:** Archbishop Nikon, Father Stephen Siniari, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Reader David Biando, Elizabeth Melnik, Philip Kosta, Katherine Halkedis, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Larry Kosta, Leslie Sochka, Andigoni Steffa, Mary Croke, Paula Kosta, Candace Pepenelli, Kristin Snow, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Francesca Giansante, Flossie Vissar, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Susan Pekarski, William Koutras, Alex Koutras, Alex Boyce Koutras, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** Thank you very much!  
September 21<sup>st</sup> Jennifer Hunter (in memory of Susan Pekarski)  
September 28<sup>th</sup> Margarita & Vangjel Haxhistasa  
October 5<sup>th</sup> Greta & Aaron Moy  
October 12<sup>th</sup> Eduard & Elena Papa  
October 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday school

**Open dates: Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, Dec 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Reader Schedule:** 21<sup>st</sup> Mark Klus, 28<sup>th</sup> Adam Coraluzzi, October 5<sup>th</sup> Edward Kokalari, 12<sup>th</sup> David Biando, 19<sup>th</sup> Michelle Dardaris 26<sup>th</sup> Michelle Dardaris

**Monthly giving for September:** Ream of white paper

**An Invitation from our Sister Parish, Ss. Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox Church:**  
We wanted to personally extend an invitation to all of St. John's parishioners to attend the Banquet for the Assembly on Friday, September 26th at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Bensalem. It will start at 6PM. If anyone is interested please contact Jim Schaeffer at [jschaeffer@myinvestorsbank.com](mailto:jschaeffer@myinvestorsbank.com) prior to Monday, September 22nd. Cost is \$40 per person.

We would also like to extend a personal invitation to the parishioners of St. John's to attend the Hierarchal Liturgy on September 27th. It will start at 9AM sharp. The Liturgy will be followed by Autumnal Brunch upstairs. All welcome to attend.

It would be terrific if our parishioners attend the dinner Friday night and show our support by attending the Hierarchal Liturgy Saturday morning. Hope to see you!

**Parishioner News:** Elaine Quirias, the person who donated the needlepoint Lord's Prayer in Albanian, hanging in the side vestibule, is in need of yarn. Elaine works all day on crafts and still makes quilts on her sewing machine. The variety of things she makes is amazing! She does not get out and her hearing prohibits her from really watching television. Any kind of yarn will work. She is so resourceful and creative - she will make it into something special. If you have friends who knit, maybe they have extra that they can share. If you have cotton fabric scraps appropriate for quilting, please donate them. Please bring these items to church and we will get them to Elaine.

Saturday, 27 September, baptism Aden, son of Sonja Ponoci and Neil Zebib.  
Saturday, 11 October, wedding Ali Shepherd & Richard Brown  
Saturday, 18 October, baptism Marisa, daughter of Elena & Eduard Papa  
Saturday, 25 October, baptism Elisabeth Suzana, daughter of Fiori & Ilirjan Papa

**Congratulations to Eda & Julian Prifti** on the birth of their daughter, Gianna, born Sept 11<sup>th</sup>. Gianna is the little sister of Christian Kosova and the granddaughter of Janaq & Liljana Petuqi.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> Memorial Susanne Pekarski 10 years  
Memorial William & Alex Koutras and Alex Boyce Koutras  
Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> Charity & Benevolence Committee Meeting 7:00 pm  
Sept 26 Albanian Archdiocese Assembly Ss Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox Church  
**Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 9am** Hierarchal Divine Liturgy with His Eminence, Archbishop NIKON and Archdiocesan Clergy-Ss. Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox Church 9230 Old Bustleton Ave  
Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, Semi Annual Parish meeting following the Divine Liturgy  
Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> (Wed.) Education series begins 6:30 pm  
Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> Albanian Flag Day Dance 7pm – 11pm Contact Nilda Brahollari or Fiori Papa