

The Weekly Messenger – April 16, 2023

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

Upcoming Events:

April 16th Baptism Cindy Kamberaj 1:00 pm during Agape Service

April 23rd St Thomas Sunday Memorial Andrew Subashi 15 years & Andrew Jorjikia 1 year.

April 30th Myrrh-bearing Women Semi Annual Parish Meeting during coffee hour

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Lluca Thodhori (3 yrs.), Daniel Coraluzzi (7 yrs.), Andy Subashi (15 yrs.), Thomas Dimitri (27 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Mark, Locum Tenens of the Albanian Archdiocese, Archimandrite Nikodhim Preston, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Ukraine, Newborn Paris Max, Elira, Nertil, Sophie Gorre, Robert Dardaris, Paulette Steffa, Andrew Quirias, Reader Chris Manosis, Julius, Stephanos Sarris, Virginia Daka, Marie Portway (Nancy Ghicondey's Mother), Evangeline Prifti, and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces. *If you have a name to add to the Commemorations for the departed or the living, please email info@stjcaoc.org*

Coffee Hour Sponsor: The 2023 Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule or sign up on our website: [COFFEE HOUR](#) We need sponsors in MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

April 23rd Betty Subashi in Memory of Andy 15 years & Ana Melikishvili & Irakli Nadareishvili in Memory of Andrew Jorjikia

April 30th NO SPONSOR

May 7th NO SPONSOR

May 14th Bendo & Fiss Families

May 21st NO SPONSOR

May 28th NO SPONSOR

Information regarding the Nick Naum Scholarship will be posted on our website, <https://stjcaoc.org/> shortly. An announcement will be made in church as well as posted on the website. Members of the Nick Naum Scholarship committee are: Diane Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Sandi Fiss, Stephanie Kosta, Nicole Ferrara, Reem Tarazi

Monthly Giving for APRIL: paper towels

Commemoration of Great and Holy Friday on this day we commemorate the sufferings of Christ: the mockery, the crown of thorns, the scourging, the nails, the thirst, the vinegar and gall, the cry of desolation, and all the Savior endured on the Cross. The day of Christ's death is the day of sin. The sin which polluted God's creation from the breaking dawn of time reached its frightful climax on the hill of Golgotha. There, sin and evil, destruction and death came into their own. Ungodly men had Him nailed to the Cross, in order to destroy Him. However, His death condemned irrevocably the fallen world by revealing its true and abnormal nature.



Great and Holy Saturday our focus is on the Tomb of Christ. This is no ordinary grave. It is not a place of corruption, decay and defeat. It is life-giving, a source of power, victory and liberation. Great Saturday is the day between Jesus' death and His resurrection. It is the day of watchful expectation, in which mourning is being transformed into joy. The day embodies in the fullest possible sense the meaning of xarmolipi - joyful-sadness, which has dominated the celebrations of Great Week. The hymnographer of the Church has penetrated the profound mystery, and helps us to understand it through the following poetic dialogue that he has devised between Jesus and His Mother:



On the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha, Orthodox Christians celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This feast of feasts is the most significant day in the life of the Church. It is a celebration of the defeat of death, as neither death itself nor the power of the grave could hold our Savior captive. In this victory that came through the Cross, Christ broke the bondage of sin, and through faith offers us restoration, transformation, and eternal life

Belated Thank you to Linda Kosta for donating the flowers and making the beautiful arrangement for the Veneration of the Holy Cross on March 19th. Most Appreciated!

Thank you to our Pancake Breakfast Kitchen Crew: Steve Coraluzzi, Bob Fiss, Mike Leyden, Diane Coraluzzi, Tom Moore, Elias Mondlak and Athanasios Mondlak for preparing the Palm Sunday Pancake breakfast. Job well done! Everything was terrific!

Pascha Donations: Many thanks to those who have made a Pascha donation to St. John Chrysostom. If you sent a check via the US Mail please look at your bank account to make sure the check has cleared. Although our mail delivery has improved a bit we still go days without receiving any mail. THANK YOU!

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