

The Weekly Messenger – April 30, 2023

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Acts 6:1-7 Gospel: Mark 15:43-16:8

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
KRISHTI U NGJALL! VERTET U NGJALL!**

Upcoming Events:

April 30th Myrrh-bearing Women Semi Annual Parish Meeting during coffee hour
May 8th Parish Council meeting via ZOOM 7:00 pm

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

Commemorations for the Living: Archimandrite Nikodhim, Bishop Elect of Boston and the Albanian Archdiocese, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Ukraine, Newborn Margaret Anne, Brittany & Sean McCloskey, Peter, Nancy, Roxane & Christina Ghicondey, Robert Dardaris, 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 30th Fiori & Ilirjan Papa in honor of Elisabeth’s Nameday

May 7th NO SPONSOR

May 14th Bendo & Fiss Families

May 21st Diane Lescas in honor of Dino’s Nameday

May 28th NO SPONSOR

Long time Altar Server and member of the St. John’s Video team, Greg Dardaris, will be traveling this summer to the Czech Republic as part of the Lehigh University Iacocca International Internship Program (IIIP) which provides practical work experience, grounded in global context, aimed at enhancing students' career readiness and intercultural competency. He will be participating in research projects at Tomas Bata University in Zlin, C.R. Potential research projects could possibly be with diabetic footwear including preparation and evaluation of electrochemical sensors for insulin ID, hydrogel for wound healing applications and measuring the coefficient of friction of elastic 3D compositions. Greg is a rising Junior majoring in mechanical engineering at Lehigh University. Greg is the son of Christine & Greg Dardaris and the grandson of Robert Dardaris. Way to go Greg, keep up the good work!!



Sunday of The Myrrh bearing Women: The third Sunday after Pascha is dedicated to the myrrh bearing women who cared for the body of the Saviour at his death and who were the first witnesses of His Resurrection. About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed after Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came to the sepulchre, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to anoint His body. It is because

of the myrrh-oils, that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called the Myrrh-bearers. Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most holy Virgin Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called "the mother of James and Joses" (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silence (Matt 27:55-56; 28:1-10. Mark 15:40-41. Luke 8:1-3; 23:55-24:11, 22-24. John 19:25; 20:11-18. Acts 1:14).

Together with them we celebrate also the secret disciples of the Saviour, Joseph and Nicodemus. Of these, Nicodemus was probably a Jerusalemite, a prominent leader among the Jews and of the order of the Pharisees, learned in the Law and instructed in the Holy Scriptures. He had believed in Christ when, at the beginning of our Saviour's preaching of salvation, he came to Him by night. Furthermore, he brought some one hundred pounds of myrrh-oils and an aromatic mixture of aloes and spices out of reverence and love for the divine Teacher (John 19:39). Joseph, who was from the city of Arimathea, was a wealthy and noble man, and one of the counsellors who were in Jerusalem. He went boldly unto Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and together with Nicodemus he gave Him burial. Since time did not permit the preparation of another tomb, he placed the Lord's body in his own tomb which was hewn out of rock, as the Evangelist says (Matt. 27:60).

Congratulations Brittany & Sean McCloskey who welcomed their daughter, Margaret Anne on April 18th. Maggie weighed 6 lbs., 6 ounces. Brittany is the daughter of Peter & Nancy Ghicondey, the granddaughter of Roxane Ghicondey and the late +Jim Ghicondey and the Goddaughter of Steve Ghicondes. Congratulations and Many Years to the Ghicondey & McCloskey families and to Aunt Christina. The very happy grandparents holding Maggie!



Nick Naum Scholarship has been posted on our website, <https://stjcaoc.org/nick-naum-scholarship/> Please go to the website to complete the application and submit it via email.

Monthly Giving for APRIL: paper towels