

The Weekly Messenger – May 14, 2023

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979

Father Kakhaber Kurtanidze (Father Kai) 484-843-4209 [fr.kai@stjcaoc.org](mailto:fr.kai@stjcaoc.org)

Website: <https://stjcaoc.org/> Email address: [info@stjcaoc.org](mailto:info@stjcaoc.org)

Epistle: Acts 11:19-26, 29-30 Gospel: John 4:5-42

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

**KRISHTI U NGJALL! VERTET U NGJALL!**

**Upcoming Events:**

May 14<sup>th</sup> Mother’s Day

May 25<sup>th</sup> Ascension - Liturgy on **THURSDAY May 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm**

May 28<sup>th</sup> Memorial Petro & Olga Gjidede

Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> Father Kai will bless graves at Fernwood Cemetery @ 10:00 am

June 4<sup>th</sup> 3-yr Memorial Evelyn Margerison June 11<sup>th</sup> 5-year Memorial Michael Theokary

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Newly Departed Robert Dardaris, Milovan, Steven Cosmo (1 yr.), Peter Melnik (4 yrs.), Our Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Aunts, 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, Bishop Elect of Boston and the Albanian Archdiocese, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Ukraine, Our Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Aunts, Newborn Margaret Anne, Brittany & Sean McCloskey, Peter, Nancy, Roxane & Christina Ghicondey, Newly illuminated Cindy Agatha, Mike and Carolyn Dardaris, Jim Bendo, 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](mailto: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 JULY, AUGUST**

**May 14<sup>th</sup>** Bendo & Fiss Families

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** Diane Lescas in honor of Dino’s Nameday

**May 28<sup>th</sup>** Zhaneta Beli in memory of her grandparents Petro & Olga Gjidede

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** Greta Dilo in memory of Evelyn Margerison

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** Andonetta Theokary in Memory of Michael

**June 18<sup>th</sup> NO SPONSOR**

**June 25<sup>th</sup>** Dimitri-Cosmo family in memory of Steven

**Congratulations and Many Years to Mike & Carolyn Dardaris** who are celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Mike and Carolyn are longtime parishioners at St. John Chrysostom.



**The fifth Sunday after Easter deals with the woman of Samaria** with whom Christ spoke at Jacob’s Well (Jn 4). Again, the theme is the “living water” and the recognition of Jesus as God’s Messiah (Jn 4.10–11; 25–26). We are reminded of our new life in Him, of our own drinking of the “living water,” of our own true worship of God in the Christian messianic age “in Spirit and in Truth” (Jn 4.23–24). We see as well that salvation is offered to all: Jews and Gentiles, men and women, saints and sinners.

**Wishing a Very Happy Mother’s Day and Many Years** to our Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Aunts, and all of the important women in our lives. **History of Mother’s Day** Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the [ancient Greeks](#) and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother’s Day is the early Christian festival known as “Mothering Sunday.” Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their “mother church”—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service. Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation. This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother’s Day in the 1930s and 1940s.



**Memorial Day Grave Blessing at Fernwood Cemetery:** Father Kai will be at Fernwood Cemetery on Monday, May 29, 2023 @ 10:00 am, at the “upper portion” of the cemetery. He will then proceed to the other section to bless the graves. Father Kai will also go to other cemeteries. Please email [fr.kai@stjcaoc.org](mailto:fr.kai@stjcaoc.org) or call Father Kai 484-843-4209 if you would like him to bless a grave at another cemetery.

**Who’s Graduating?????** Please send information about the graduates in your family, College, High School, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, pre-school, etc. We would love to acknowledge and congratulate our graduates. Send an email to <mailto:info@stjcaoc.org> Include the name of the graduate and the school from which they graduated. For 8<sup>th</sup> grade let us know what high school they will be attending next year, HS grads if they are attending college, the name of the college, or career path. College graduates, their degree and plans for the future. We would also like the proud parents and grandparents’ names. Let’s give them some recognition. Thank-you!

**Congratulations to Kristin Cosmo & Stephan Krygier** who welcomed their son Zygmunt Cosmo Krygier on May 3, 2023. Ziggy weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and was 19.5 inches long is the grandson of Donna Dimitri and the late +Michael Cosmo. Cora Cosmo is thrilled to be the big cousin. Many years to the Cosmo, Dimitri & Krygier families!

**Monthly Giving for May: Napkins**