

The Weekly Messenger – May 28, 2023

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979

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

Website: <https://stjcaoc.org/> Email address: info@stjcaoc.org

Epistle: Acts 20:16-18, 26-36 Gospel: John 17:1-13

Upcoming Events:

May 28th Memorial Petro & Olga Gjidede

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

Saturday, June 3rd Memorial Saturday, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

June 4th 3-yr Memorial Evelyn Margerison June 11th 5-year Memorial Michael Theokary

Monday, June 12th Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM 7:30 pm

June 18th 40-day Memorial Bob Dardaris June 25th 1-year Memorial Steven Cosmo

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Newly Departed Marie Portway (Nancy Ghicondey's Mother), Evangeline Prifti, Robert Dardaris, Milovan, Jim Ghicondey (2 yrs.), Katherine Detskas (13 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, Bishop Elect of Boston and the Albanian Archdiocese, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Ukraine, Newborn Sophia Jishkariani, Mirna El Khatib, Davit and Maya Jiskariani, Newborn Zygmunt Cosmo Krygier, Kristin Cosmo, Stephan Krygier, Newborn Margaret Anne, Brittany & Sean McCloskey, Peter, Nancy, Roxane & Christina Ghicondey, Newly illuminated Cindy Agatha Kamberaj, Jim Bendo, Reader Chris Manosis, Julius, Stephanos Sarris, Virginia Daka, 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 JULY, AUGUST

May 28th Zhaneta Beli in memory of her grandparents Petro & Olga Gjidede

June 4th Greta Dilo in memory of Evelyn Margerison

June 11th Andonetta Theokary in Memory of Michael

June 18th Dardaris Family in memory of Bob

June 25th Dimitri-Cosmo family in memory of Steven

July 2nd NO SPONSOR July 9th NO SPONSOR July 16th NO SPONSOR

Welcome to our visitors. Father Kai, the members of our Parish Council, and our church community thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us. We invite you to join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the church hall following the Divine Liturgy.

This Monday, May 29th Memorial Day Grave Blessing at Fernwood Cemetery: Father Kai will be at Fernwood Cemetery, Valley View Section @ 10:00 am. to bless the graves. Father Kai will also go to other cemeteries. Please email fr.kai@stjcaoc.org or call Father Kai 484-843-4209 if you would like him to bless a grave at another cemetery.

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council On the seventh



Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the holy God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, "I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious. The holy martyrs bore witness to the truth of the Savior's words, enduring suffering and death for confessing Christ, but the persecutor's sword is shattered by the Cross of Christ.

Congratulations to Mirna El Khatib & Davit Jishkariani who became proud parents of their second daughter, Sophia, on May 16, 2023 at 1:50 pm. Mom, Dad are a little tired, but big sister Maya and Sophia are all doing well! God grant them Many Years!

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 via email. The deadline for submissions is Friday June 16, 2023.

Last Call for Who's Graduating????? Please send information about the graduates in your family, College, High School, 8th Grade, pre-school, etc. We would love to acknowledge and congratulate our graduates. Send an email to info@stjcaoc.org Include the name of the graduate and the school from which they graduated. For 8th 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.

Your 2023 Pledge: We are encouraging our parishioners to pledge online via our website: <https://stjcaoc.org/pledge/> or make a donation <https://stjcaoc.org/donate/> We gladly accept credit card donations online as well as payments made automatically from your checking account. If you do send a check, please be sure to look at your bank account to make sure the check has cleared. To date we have received 47 pledges totaling \$35,825.00 We need your pledge to pay expenses the church incurs. The full-time priest's salary, the gas & electric bills, insurance etc. The bills you pay for your home the church pays to keep our spiritual home, in good order. We need your help! Thank you to those who made their pledge for 2023.

Monthly Giving for May: Napkins