The Weekly Messenger – May 7, 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

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Epistle: Acts 9:32-42 Gospel: John 5:1-15

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

## **Upcoming Events:**

May 8<sup>th</sup> Parish Council meeting via ZOOM 7:00 pm May 14<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> Father Kai will bless graves at Fernwood Cemetery @ 10:00 am June 11<sup>th</sup> 5-year Memorial Michael Theokary

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Robert Dardaris, Steven Cosmo (1 yr.), Peter Melnik (4 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

<u>Commemorations for the Living</u>: 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 Margaret Anne, Brittany & Sean McCloskey, Peter, Nancy, Roxane & Christina Ghicondey, Newly illuminated Cindy Agatha, 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* 

Coffee Hour Sponsor: The 2023 Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule or sign up on<br/>our website: COFFEE HOURWe need sponsors in JUNE, JULY, AUGUSTMay 7th Linda KostaMay 14th Bendo & Fiss FamiliesMay 21st Diane Lescas in honor of Dino's NamedayMay 28th JoannaJune 4th NO SPONSORJune 11th Andonetta Theokary in Memory of MichaelJune 18th NO SPONSORJune 25th NO SPONSOR

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

**Per Shume Vjet, Gezuar!** To our parishioners who celebrate Namedays in May: 5<sup>th</sup> Great Martyr Irene, 9<sup>th</sup> Martyr Christopher, May 12<sup>th</sup> St. Thomas the Apostle, May 21<sup>st</sup> Ss Constantine & Helen, May 30<sup>th</sup> Isaacius of Dalmatus.

## **Monthly Giving for May: Napkins**

**The Paralytic The** fourth Sunday is dedicated to Christ's healing of the paralytic (Jn 5). The man is healed by Christ while waiting to be put down into the pool of water. Through baptism in the church we, too, are healed and saved by Christ for eternal life. Thus, in the church, we are told, together with the paralytic, "to sin no more that nothing worse befall you" (Jn 5.14).



Close to the Sheep's Gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep's Pool. It had five porches, that is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies awaiting the moving of the water. The first person to step in after the troubling of the water was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today's Gospel was lying, tormented by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, "Will you be made whole?" And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool." The Lord said unto him, "Rise, take up your bed, and walk." And straightaway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed rejoicing to his own house. According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.



## <u>Congratulations and Many Years to Cindy Agatha Kamberaj</u> who was baptized on April 16<sup>th</sup> following the Agape Service. Cindy's sponsors were Entela Cali & Alfred Doko. Cindy and her fiancé, Edvin Vasiu, plan to be married at St. John's in November of this year. May God Bless all of you!

<u>Memorial Day Grave Blessing at Fernwood Cemetery</u>: 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 <u>fr.kai@stjcaoc.org</u> 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, 8th 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 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. Let's give them some recognition. Thank-you!