

The Weekly Messenger – July 16, 2023
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Romans 10:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

Upcoming Events:

July 23rd Baptism of Anthony Gremi & Bradley Kittel during the Divine Liturgy

July 30th 1 year Memorial for William Spiro

August 6th Transfiguration

August 15th Dormition of the Theotokos

Saturday, August 19th Baptism of Noah Stefan McCarty

Sept 16-17 Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly and Consecration of our New Bishop
Nikodhim St. George Cathedral, Boston, MA.

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Sotir Broka, 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, Newly Illuminated Achilles & Kevin Dano, Devji and Yana Furxhi, Gentian and Uljana Dano, Eda Xhoxhi, Jim Bendo, Reader Chris Manosis, Paulette Steffa, 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 Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule or sign up on our website: [COFFEE HOUR](#) **We need sponsors in August!**

July 16th Betty Subashi

July 23rd Gremi/Kittel/Lakuriqi families in honor of Anthony & Bradley's baptisms

July 30th Coraluzzi/Spiro Families in memory of Bill Spiro

Aug 6th NO SPONSOR **Aug 13th NO SPONSOR**

Aug 20th Liya Gendler

Aug 27th NO SPONSOR

Thank you Stephanie Kosta and Greg Dardaris - Stephanie was the choir on July 2nd and Stephanie and Greg were the choir on July 9th. Way to go, so very appreciated!

Monthly Giving for July: Paper Towels

6th Sunday after Pentecost (the paralytic): The Lord desires to see something from man, in order that He might act. It says here: "*He saw their faith*". The paralytic was not able on his own to go to the Lord. For this reason, he was brought by others, and the Lord saw their faith. Still, he means here that in some way He also saw the faith of the paralytic. He, the paralytic, would not have come to the Lord if he had not believed. And, immediately, the Lord said: "*Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you*".

On another occasion, Christ said: "*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world*". On this occasion it is as though He were saying: "I am here to **heal** man of his **bodily illness**, but first and foremost to heal him of sin, the sickness of the **soul**". It is a big deal to feel that your sins are forgiven, that God forgives you, and that He has accepted you. Just as your blood circulates through your veins, in this same way you ought to feel God's forgiveness, circulating through you.

Not one of us should have even the smallest **doubt** that if the Lord sees our faith, He will immediately answer and straightway give us His forgiveness, i.e., that which we are seeking. In order though for the Lord to forgive you, you have to arrive at the point of saying: "My God, I do not want to sin anymore."

Home Blessings: Father Kai recently celebrated his 6-month anniversary as our Priest! He looks forward to visiting every parishioner and their family. His phone has not been ringing very much so please give him a call. This is something he WANTS to do and you are not bothering him! Please call Father Kai directly, 484-843-4209 or email fr.kai@stjcaoc.org with your name, address and phone number. Father Kai will contact you to arrange a date and time for his visit. What to have ready for your home blessing: *An Icon, candle, small bowl for Holy Water, List of family names to be prayed for one column living, one column departed.* We haven't had home blessing in a number of years. This is a great opportunity to have your home blessed and get to know Father Kai!

Sunday School News: We do not have a Director of the Sunday School program for the upcoming year. We are in need of teachers to assist with the program. Teachers do not have to prepare lesson plans and do not have to be in church every Sunday. All materials needed will be provided for the lessons Sunday morning. In order to have a successful program **we must have teachers and parents must bring their children to church on Sunday.** Contact Father Kai if you are willing to help.

Welcome to our visitors. Father Kai and 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.

If you have information for the Weekly Messenger please send it to info@stjcaoc.org