The Weekly Messenger – May 19, 2024 St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church 237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

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This Week Epistle: Acts 6:1-7 Gospel: Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8

Next Week 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 19<sup>th</sup> Myrrh-bearing Women 1-year Memorial Robert Dardaris

Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Baptism of Zigmunt Cosmo Krygier

May 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Paralytic

Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Memorial at Fernwood Cemetery

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>** Sunday of the Samaritan Woman Semi-annual Pais

Semi-annual Paish Meeting (originally scheduled

for March 17<sup>th</sup>) during coffee hour

**June 9<sup>th</sup>** Sunday of the Blind Man

**Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>** Ascension Liturgy 9:00 am

June 16<sup>th</sup> Fathers of the Ecumenical Council June 23<sup>rd</sup> Pentecost June 30<sup>th</sup> All Saints

<u>Commemorations for the Departed</u>: Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, Priftëresha Olga, the victims in Gaza and Israel, the victims in Ukraine, Robert Dardaris (1 yr.), Nina Melito (5 yrs.), Taso Gjidede (5 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

Commemorations for the Living: His Grace, Bishop Nikodhim, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Gaza and Israel, the people in Ukraine, Our Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Aunts, newly married Jason Xhoxhi & Eleanor Kauffman, Newly Illuminated Anita Ana Le Fevre, her sponsors: Janice Leyden and David Brook, Reader Chris Manosis, Rosalyn Rawls, Virginia Rubis, Teri Douris, Ellen Mondlak, Gerald Mondlak, Eugene, 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

We need Coffee Hour Sponsors June, July and August. Please sponsor a coffee with your family or friends: sign-up on the sheet or click this link CoffeeHourSignup

May 19<sup>th</sup> Dardaris Family in memory of Bob May 26<sup>th</sup> Hot Dog Sale

June 2<sup>nd</sup> No Sponsor

June 9th No Sponsor

June 16<sup>th</sup> Bendo Family

June 23<sup>rd</sup> Friends of Deacon Steve Stefani

Monthly Giving for May: Your Pascha Donation



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 Savior 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 sepulcher, 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 stepmother); Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Choose, 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 Savior, 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 Savior'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).

Memorial Day Grave Blessing at Fernwood Cemetery: Father Kai will be at Fernwood Cemetery on Monday, May 27, 2024 @ 10:00 am, Father Kai will also go to other cemeteries. Please email <a href="mailto:fr.kai@stjcaoc.org">fr.kai@stjcaoc.org</a> or call Father Kai 484-843-4209 if you would like him to bless a grave at another cemetery.

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

**2024 Stewardship/Pledges - Please Pledge Today!** We have received pledges totaling \$39,796. Our goal is \$60,00.00. If you have any questions contact our Treasurer, Zach Smith treasurer@stjcaoc.org Thank you to those who have made their 2024 Pledge!