

The Weekly Messenger – April 13, 2025
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

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

This Week Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18

Next Week Epistle: Acts 1:1-8

Gospel: John 1:1-17

Upcoming Events:

Saturday April 12th Lazarus Saturday 10:00 am Divine Liturgy & Sunday school retreat

April 13th Palm Sunday The Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem – coffee hour -Pancake Breakfast

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, April 16th Great & Holy Wednesday Holy Unction 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 17th Great & Holy Thursday 12 Gospels 6:30 pm

Friday, April 18th Great & Holy Friday **10:00 am** decorate Epitaphios, **5:00pm** Taking down from the Cross **7:00 pm** Lamentations

Saturday, April 19th Great & Holy Saturday **11:00 am** 1st Resurrection Liturgy **11:30 pm**

Nocturnes, Matins Paschal Liturgy

April 20th Agape Vespers 1:00 pm

April 27th St Thomas Sunday Memorial +Ana Stergjo and 2 yr Memorial +Robert Dardaris

May 4th Myrrh-bearing Women 3- year Memorial +Steve Cosmo

May 11th Sunday of the Paralytic 5 -year Memorial +Peter Melnik

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Anastasios of Tirana, Durrës and All Albania, Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, Priftëresha Olga, the victims of the war in the Middle East, the victims in Ukraine, Thimi Pappas, Ana Stergjo, Daniel Coraluzzi (9 yrs.), Andrew Subashi (17 yrs.), Thomas Dimitri (29 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

Commemorations for the Living: His Grace, Bishop Nikodhim Archpriest Matthew Tate, the people affected by the war in the Middle East, the people in Ukraine, Newborn Theodore Andreas Kasapi, Denis & Elise Kasapi, Ellen Mondlak, Michele Holl, Nancy, Lee Constantine Elia, Teri Douris, Julius, Stephanos Sarris, Virginia Daka, Dhimitri Ndrecka, 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: The 2025 Coffee Hour Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule. Please pick a date or go online to pick a date by clicking [COFFEEHOUR](#)

April 13th Pancake Breakfast

April 20th Pascha – No Coffee Hour

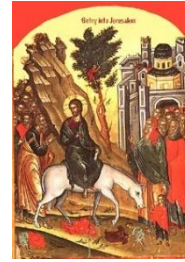
April 27th Kolovani & Xhoxhi families in memory of +Ana Stergjo

May 4th Dimitri-Cosmo Family in memory of +Steven Cosmo

May 11th Melnik Family in memory of +Peter Melnik

May 18th Hot Dogs

May 25th Koco & Mimoza Priftanji



The feast of Christ's triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, Palm Sunday, is one of the twelve major feasts of the Church. The services of this Sunday follow directly from those of Lazarus Saturday. The church building continues to be vested in resurrectional splendor, filled with hymns which continually repeat the Hosanna offered to Christ as the Messiah-King who comes in the name of God the Father for the salvation of the world.

At the vigil of the feast of Palm Sunday the prophecies of the Old Testament about the Messiah-King are read together with the Gospel accounts of the entry of Christ into Jerusalem. At Matins branches are blessed which the people carry throughout the celebration as the sign of their own glorification of Jesus as Savior and King. These branches are usually palms, or, in the Slavic churches, pussy willows which came to be customary because of their availability and their early blossoming in the springtime.

As the people carry their branches and sing their songs to the Lord on Palm Sunday, they are judged together with the Jerusalem crowd. For it was the very same voices which cried Hosanna to Christ, which, a few days later, cried Crucify Him! Thus, in the liturgy of the Church the lives of men continue to be judged as they hail Christ with the “branches of victory” and enter together with Him into the days of His “voluntary passion.”

Please mark your calendars, NEXT Friday April 18, 2025 10:00 am We need volunteers to come to church to decorate the Epitaphion. Bring a friend – many hands make light work! Fiori Papa will coordinate the purchase of the flowers. Please contact Fiori if you have any questions.

Red Egg Dye is available at the candle stand. It is \$4.00 per pack. We have been told that if you use brown eggs the dye will appear darker. We are asking our Parishioners to donate 6 or more red eggs to be handed out after the Pascha Liturgy.

Congratulations and Many Years Denis and Elise Kasapi who welcomed their son, Theodore Andreas on April 4, 2025. Theodore weighed 8 lbs. 7 ozs and was 22 inches long. Theodore is the grandson of Philip and Vilma Kasapi and the great nephew of Sergio and Colleen Xhoxhi.

Nick Naum Scholarship Applications: The application is posted on our website <https://stjcaoc.org/nick-naum-scholarship/> The applications must be submitted by Sunday, June 8th 2025 via email to chairperson@stjcaoc.org Recipients will be notified by June 22, 2025. The recipients will be presented with their award on Sunday, July 13, 2025. The following are members of the Nick Naum Scholarship Committee: Diane Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Sandi Fiss, Michele Coraluzzi, Caroline Fiss, Michelle Dardaris, Kevin Fiss,

Holy Week & Pascha Please check upcoming events for the dates and times for the Holy Week Services. *As is our tradition we are asking our parishioner to bring 6 or more eggs for our Paschal service,* which begins @ 11:30 pm Saturday, April 19, 2025. We will process around the block (weather permitting) on Holy Friday and Pascha. You are able to park in the Basilica of Ss Peter & Paul lot for Holy Week and Paschal services.

April Giving – Bottle Water – Any Size