

**The Weekly Messenger – May 11, 2025**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
**237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103**

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**This Week Epistle: Acts 9:32-42**

**Gospel: John 5:1-15**

**Next Week Epistle: Acts 11:19-30**

**Gospel: John 4:5-42**

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

**Upcoming Events:**

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** Sunday of the Paralytic 5 -year Memorial +Peter Melnik & Mother's Day

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** Sunday of the Samaritan Woman & 40-day Memorial +Thimi Pappas

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** Sunday of the Blind Man 1 year memorial +Lefteri Lico

**June 1<sup>st</sup>** Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

**Sat. June 7<sup>th</sup>** Baptism of Alexandra Papuciu, daughter of Anisa & Ervin Papuciu 10:00 m

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** Holy Pentecost and Sunday school graduation **June 15<sup>th</sup>** All Saints

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>** Sunday of Matthew **June 29<sup>th</sup>** Ss. Peter & Paul Nameday

**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, Pope Francis, the victims of the war in the Middle East, the victims in Ukraine, Thimi Pappas, Peter Melnik (6 yrs.), Evangeline Prifti (2 yrs.), Paul Geori (4 yrs.), Nina Melita (6 yrs.), Taso Gjidede (6 yrs.), Elida Xhoxhi (8 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, Pope Leo XIV, the people affected by the war in the Middle East, the people in Ukraine, Newborn Theodore Andreas Kasapi, Denis & Elise Kasapi, Newborn Reggie Clair Plesati, Sergio & Caleigh Plesati, Betty Subashi, Ellen Mondlak, 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](mailto:info@stjcaoc.org)*

**Coffee Hour: The 2025 Coffee Hour Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule. Sponsors needed for June 1<sup>st</sup>, 15, 22, ALL OF JULY most of August and September. [COFFEEHOUR](#)**

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** Melnik Family in memory of +Peter Melnik

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** Pappas Family in memory of +Thimi

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** Koco & Mimoza Priftanji

**June 1<sup>st</sup>** NO SPONSOR

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** Linda Kosta in honor of Olivia's graduation

**June 15<sup>th</sup>** NO SPONSOR

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>** NO SPONSOR

**June 29<sup>th</sup>** Peter Steffa in honor of his Nameday

**July 6<sup>th</sup>** NO SPONSOR

**2025 Stewardship/Pledges - Please Pledge Today!** To date we have \$19,023.00. Our goal is \$63,00.00. If you have any questions, contact our Treasurer, Zach Smith [treasurer@stjcaoc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjcaoc.org)  
Thank you to those who have made their 2025 Pledge!



**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.

**Congratulations** to Sergio & Caleigh Plesati and on the birth of their daughter, Reggie Claire Plesati, born on April 30, 2025. Reggie Claire is the granddaughter of Tatjana & Viron Plesati and the great granddaughter of Arsino Qendro. Big brother Luca is very happy to have a sister. Many Years to the entire Plesati family!

**Who's Graduating?????** Please send information about the graduates in your family, College, High School, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, pre-school, etc. We would love to acknowledge and congratulate our graduates. Send an email to <mailto:info@stjcaoc.org>

**Nick Naum Scholarship Applications:** degree The application is posted on our website <https://stjcaoc.org/nick-naum-scholarship/> The applications must be submitted by Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> 2025 via email to [chairperson@stjcaoc.org](mailto:chairperson@stjcaoc.org) Recipients will be notified by June 22, 2025. The recipients will be presented with their award on Sunday, July 13, 2025.

**Memorial Day Grave Blessing at Fernwood Cemetery:** Father Kai will be at Fernwood Cemetery on Monday, May 26, 2025 @ 10:00 am, Father Kai will also go to Lawnview Cemetery in Rockledge PA. Please email [fr.kai@stjcaoc.org](mailto:fr.kai@stjcaoc.org) or call Father Kai 484-843-4209 if you would like him to bless a grave at another cemetery.



**Wishing a Very Happy Mother's Day and Many Years** to our Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Aunts, and all of the important women in our lives. Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family or individual, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It is celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

**May Giving – Tissues**