



Issue: February 2016



### † Message form Father Kostandin

*Te dashur motra dhe vellezer me Krishtin,  
Po shkruaj dy fjale te thjeshta per ju duke e mare  
inspirimin nga nje feste e cila tashme eshte bere kaq  
shume popullore dhe e dashur per te gjithë, SHEN  
VALENITINI.*

*Nuk dua te ndalem ne aspektin fetar te saj por vetem  
ne thelbin e saj, Nje feste qe i kushtohet dashurise  
dhe sakrifices per te,por,njekohesisht dhe triumfit te  
saj.*

*Kjo feste eshte nje dite reflektimi dhe nje dite ku duhet  
te shikojme se cfare duhet te bejme me mire qe  
dashuria te jete gjithmone prezente tek te gjithë me  
gjithe dimensionin e saj.*

*Dashuria eshte themeli i nje maredhenie te  
shendoshe midis dy njerezve ,por,per asnje moment  
nuk eshte i shkeputur nga shoqeria ne te cilen  
jetojme,eshte reflektim i botekuptimit dhe traditave,*

*Dashuria eshte pjese e shoqerise se me kete  
zhvillohet vete shoqeria,*

*Dashuria eshte pjese e familjes sepse eshte themeli i  
saj.*

*Te dyja sebashku ndihmojne dhe cojne perpara jeten  
dhe duhet qe TE KEMI dashuri te paster per njeri-  
tjetrin,per jeten dhe per vete Perendine.*

*Sepse gjithcka ne jeten e njeriut duhet te udhehiqet  
nga dashuria.*

*Me urimin me te mire deshiroj qe muaji  
SHKURT TE JETE MUAJI I DASHURISE DHE  
FAMILJES. Me dashuri, At Kostandini*

Beloved brothers and sisters with Christ,  
Inspired by the very popular celebration of Valentine's  
Day, I wanted to take a moment to write a few simple  
words, not about the religious aspect of this day,  
rather than what it really means, and the power it  
carries. It is not just a celebration of love and  
sacrifice, at the same time it is an emphasis on the  
triumph of love.

This day is an opportunity for us all to reflect on what  
we need to enhance and make sure that love is part  
of us in every aspect, in its full dimension.

Love is the foundation of a healthy relationship among  
people, always part of the society, part of the  
reflection on the understanding we all have for our  
traditions.

Love is an element of the society that helps its  
development and progress.

Love is the corner stone of the family.

The love for both of them is important for progress  
and prosperity, which is why we should love each  
other with great honesty; we should love life, and  
above all our God!

Love should be the guidance in our lives.

My best wishes on this special month as we  
celebrate love and family.

With love, Father Kostandin

### **Services**

**Pastoral Visitations-** His Grace Father Kostandin  
is prepared to visit the faithful who are in hospital,

nursing care facility or homebound and to administer  
Holy Communion. He is available to make home visits  
to meet parishioners and help build community.

Contact him at the priest's Office: 773-889-6799 / Cell:  
312-709-6177 (phone). If no one answers, please  
leave a message and someone will get back to you.

On Sunday's, please see Maria Kamenica during  
coffee hour...she will have the appointment book  
available at the book store.

**Vizite Baritore-** Hiresia e Tij, At Kostandini eshtë i  
gatshëm të vizitojë besimtarët që ndodhen të sëmurë  
në spital, në azil apo në shtëpië e tyre. Ai do të sjelle  
Kungatën e Shenjtë me vehte. Gjithashtu ai eshtë i  
predispozuar të kryejë vizitat në shtëpi të enoritëve  
me qellim që të forcojë akoma më shumë komunitetin  
tonë. Kontaktoni Father Kostandin në telefonin e  
zyres 773-889-6799 ose në celularin 312-709-6177.  
Nëse askush nuk i përgjigjet telefonatës suaj, ju lutem  
lini një mesazh dhe dikush do t'ju kontaktojë. Të  
Dielave, ju lutem kontaktoni Maria Kamenicën gjate  
orës së kafes....ajo do të ketë bllokun e takimeve të  
disponueshëm në hollin e kishës.

†Pas dates 6 Janar eshte periudha e bekimit  
te shtepive, Kush deshiron mund te kontaktoje At  
Kostandinin per te bekuar shtepine dhe bizneset e  
tyre.

Gjithashtu kush deshiron te rrefehet, duke filluar nga  
data 1 Janar 2016 cdo dite, jeni te mirepritur te  
kontaktoni At Kostandinin.

After January 6 it is the time for the blessing of  
your homes. If you wish for Father Kostandin to bless  
your home or business, please contact him. Also if  
you are interested in the mystery of confession,  
starting on January 1, 2016, you are welcome to  
contact Father Kostandin.

**+Father Kostandin**





### Notice/ Njoftim

†Congratulations to the newly elected Board of Directors, Parish Council, elected on December 13, 2015. They officially took their oath and office in January. The elected members are:

Leonard Pajcini – President; Nick Vangel- Vice President, Ilir Borova, Anastas Dhori, Jani Gjoni, Arthur Hoda, Nancy Kazarian, Janet Papajani, Tani Papazisi, Diane Pero, Lorenc Prifti, Olga Titos

†Effective February 1, 2016, Maria Barbachi will be our new church secretary. Maria comes with many years of experience and has been a dedicated servant of our church. Please congratulate her when you see her.



### 2016 Memberships

Please send in or drop off your 2016 dues by March 31; dues for current members are \$125 per one person, \$200 for husband and wife. Please note “2016 dues” on your check.

If you are not yet a member but would like to join our parish, please speak to a member of the Parish Council for information. There is no initiation membership fee any more.

### Member directory

If you need to update or correct your address or phone number for the next membership directory, please let Olga Titos know. We are also collecting email addresses; please send yours to Olga at olga1214@sbcglobal.net.



### † St. Nicholas Choir

If you would like to join our choir, please talk to co-directors Kay Giannos or Maria Barbachi. Singing experience or Albanian language skills are not required. All are welcome – especially needed are male vocalists. Please come up to the choir loft and give us a try.

*Ne rast se ju doni te merrni pjese ne korrin tone, ju lutemi kontaktoni bashke-drejtueset Kay Gianos dhe/ose Maria Barbachi. Eksperience per te kenduar apo njohuri e gjuhes Shqipe nuk jane te kerkuara. Te gjithe jane te miepritur! Vecanerisht kemi nevoje per zerra burrash. Ju lutemi, ejani dhe provojeni.*



### † Sunday School /Albanian School news Lajme nga Shkolla e se Dieles dhe nga Shkolla Shqip

*Sholla Shqipe dhe Grupi Arberia ne bashkepunim me Rozafa Mothers organizojne festat e 7-8 Marsit te dielen ne daten 6 Mars ne oren 4:30, at Stone Gate Conference Center*

*2401 West Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, Il 60169  
Nje mbremje e mbushur me surpriza dhe cmime te ndryshme.*

*Per te bere rezervime per kete event mund te lidheni direct me Nicole Poni via cell phone 630-750-8751.*

*Fondet qe do mblidhen ne kete event do jene ne dispozicion per Shkollen Shqipe dhe Grupin Arberia.*

Albanian School, “Arberia “ dancing Group in coordination with Rosafa Mothers will organize a party celebrating March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, on March 6<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30 P.M., at Stone Gate Conference Center- 2401 West Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, Il 60169

It will be an event filled with fun, surprises and prizes. If you need more information or if you want to make a

reservation, please contact Nicole Poni at 630-750-8751. The profits from this event will be used for the Albanian School and “Arberia” Dancing Group.



### † Prayer list / Lista e lutje

Please remember these people in your prayers:  
*Ju lutemi mos harroni të perfshini edhe këta njerëz në lutjet tuaja:*

Fr. Philip, Gregory, Lillian, Richard, Perry, Olga, Eva, Kay, Diane, Annie, Debra, Helen, John, Tina, Linda, Will, Peter, Mary, the men and women serving in the military, and those who have no one to pray for them. If you need to request a prayer for yourself or your beloved ones, please contact Mirela Pajcini @ 630-792-1235



### † St. Nicholas Ladies AuxiliarY

#### SAVE THE DATE!

#### PRE-LENTEN LUNCHEON

Sunday, March 6, 2016

In the church hall immediately following liturgy

More information will come soon

Dreka e te Lidhurave te Pashkes

*Te diele, 6 Mars 2016*

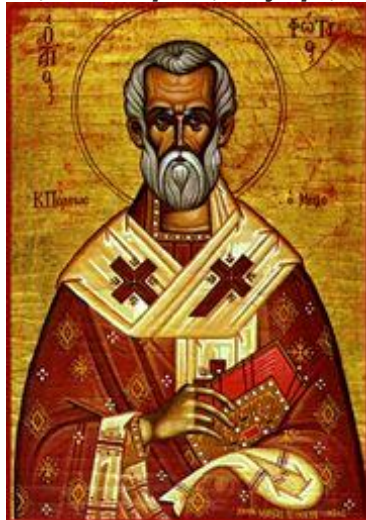
*Ne hollin e kishes pas Liturgjise Hyjnore*

Do te kete me shume informacion ne te ardhmen



† Main Feast Days of the Month-  
Festat Kryesore të Muajit

**Fotinia, Fotini, Josiu, Sevastiani, Anatolia, Fotoa, Fotidha, Parashqevia, Qirjaqia, martirë**



Takimin e Fotinisë, gruas samaritane, me Krishtin e përshkruan Ungjilli i Joanit (4.5-42). Sipas sinaksarit, pesë gratë e tjera ishin motra të saj. Që të gjashtë, si dhe dy djemtë e Fotinisë, Fotini (ose Viktor) dhe më i vogli, Josiu, udhëtonin dhe predikonin Krishtin duke patur rezultate tepër të çmuara. Fotinia (greqisht = e ndritur si edhe emrat Fotini, Fotoa, dhe Fotidha) dhe Josiu (hebraisht = [Perëndia] shton) vepronin në Kartagjenë të Afrikës së Veriut. Fotini, në saje të trimërisë së tij ishte bërë prej perandor Neronit (54-68) kryegjeneral dhe ishte urdhëruar për të ndjekur të krishterët. Duka idhujtar, Sevastiani (greqisht = i respektuar), e këshilloi që t'i bindej urdhrit. Por ky nuk pranoi, dhe Sevastiani u verbua e u bë memec, por u pagëzua dhe në çast u shërua! Rezultati: u ndriçuan edhe të tjerë, gjë që do të përsëritej edhe në të ardhmen.

Neroni i mori vesh këto dhe dërgoi për ta arrestuar. Atëherë panë Zotin që u jepte zemër dhe mareshalin e mbiquajti Viktor (latinisht = fitimtar). Gratë shenjtoresh dhe Josiu, pas një zbuluese të mbinatyreshme, erdhën

në Romë te Neroni, ndërsa njëkohësisht para tij sillnin Fotinin dhe Sevastianin. Ata nuk bënë flijime. Edhe pse xhelatët e tyre herë pas here pësonin ndonjë të keqe, vetë këta me ndihmën e Krishtit mbetën të paprekur nga torturat e njëpasnjëshme për tre vjet: goditje me çekiç të gishtërinjve, hedhje në furrë, pirje e helmit të magjistarit Lambadh (ose Theoklit, i cili më pas besoi e u martirizua dhe e kremtojmë sot), derdhje plumbi të shkrirë ose uthull në gojë, vesh dhe hundë, shqyerje, djegie me llambadhe, verbim, burgosje së bashku me gjarpërinj, kryqëzim kokëposhtë etj. Madje u prenë edhe gjymtyrët. Më parë gratë shenjtoresh nuk ishin gënjer nga sendet e florinjta që u ofruan, as nga shoqërimi me vajzën e Neronit, Domnina, të cilën përkundrazi e pagëzuan me emrin Anthusa. Së fundi, Fotidha u copëtua kur e lidhën në majat e dy pemëve të përkulura që i lëshuan menjëherë, të tjerëve iu pre koka. Vetëm Fotinia fjeti më vonë në burg (rreth vitit 67), pasi më parë e kishin hedhur për pak kohë në një pus të thatë. Anatolia, Parashqevia dhe Qirjaqia, greqisht = lindja, përgatitja dhe zotëruesja përkatësisht.

Burimi: [orthodoxalbania.org](http://orthodoxalbania.org)



**Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

This feast, celebrated on February 2, is known in the Orthodox Church as The Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Another name for the feast is The Meeting of our Lord. Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians

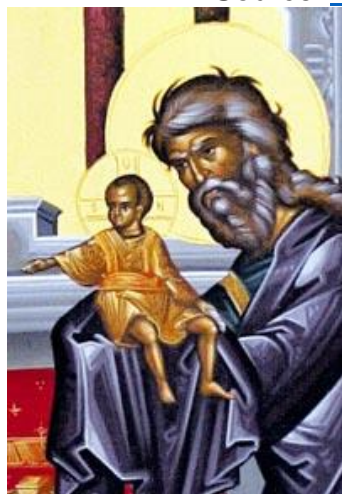
call the feast, The Purification of the Holy Virgin. About 450 AD in Jerusalem, people began the custom of holding lighted candles during the Divine Liturgy of this feast day. Therefore, some churches in the West refer to this holy day as Candlemas. The Feast of the Presentation concludes the observances related to the Nativity of Christ, a period that opened on November 15 with the beginning of the Nativity fast. The story of the Presentation is told in [Luke 2:22-29](http://Bible.com). Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews and observed their religious customs. An important custom was for the couple to take their first-born son to the Temple. The baby was taken to the Temple forty days after his birth and was dedicated to God. In addition, if the parents were wealthy, they were to bring a lamb and a young pigeon or a turtle dove to be offered as a sacrifice at the Temple. The custom provided that if the parents were poor, they were to offer two pigeons or two turtle doves for the sacrifice. When Jesus was forty days old, Mary and Joseph took Him to the Temple in Jerusalem. They were not wealthy, so they took two turtle doves with them to offer as a sacrifice at the Temple. As they arrived at the Temple, Mary and Joseph were met by a very old man named Simeon. He was a holy man and was noted as a very intelligent scholar. Simeon spent much time studying about the prophets of Israel. It was during his studies that he learned of the coming of the Messiah. The Jewish people were waiting for the Messiah to come and deliver Israel from their conquerors. From that time on, Simeon spent his time praying for the Messiah to come. He spent many years in prayer. Finally, while Simeon was praying he heard the voice of God. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah. When Simeon saw Jesus, he took the baby in his arms and blessed the Lord and said: "Lord, now let Your servant go in peace according to Your promise, because my eyes have seen Your salvation which

you have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory to your people Israel."

Also, in the Temple was Anna the Prophetess. She had been a widow for many years. Anna was about eighty-four years old and spent her time in the Temple worshiping, fasting, and praying. When she saw the Christ Child she praised God and spoke of him to all who were awaiting the Messiah.

After Jesus was presented in the Temple, the family returned to Galilee to the town of Nazareth. The Bible tells us that Jesus grew and became strong, and was filled with wisdom.

Source: [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)



### **††SCHEDULE of SERVICES†**

**February 2015**

**Shkurt 2015**

**Divine Liturgy Liturgjia Hynore 10:00 A.M.**

**Mon. Feb. 1** Beginning of Triodion (Publican And Pharasee) Martyr Tryphon  
*Fillon Triodhi, E Tagrambledhesit e Fariseut, Dëshmor Trifoni*

**Tue. Feb. 2** Presentation of Christ in the Temple  
*Paraqitja e Krishtit në Tempull (Ipapandia)*

**Wed. Feb. 3** Symeon and Anna  
New Martyrs of Spetses  
Afterfeast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple  
*Simeon Perendi pritesi; Profetesha Ana; Nikolla i Japonise*

**Sat. Feb. 6** Photius, Pat. Of Constantinople  
*Foti i madh i Kostandinopojes*

**Sun. Feb. 7** 16th Sunday of Matthew  
Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus  
*16 Mateut; Partheni i Lampsakes*

**Mon. Feb. 8** (Prodigal Son) St. Theodore  
*E Plangprishësit, Shën Teodor*

**Wed, Feb. 10** Hieromartyr Charalambos  
*Hierodëshmor Harallambi*

**Sun. Feb. 14** Sunday of the Canaanite  
*17 Mateut*  
Liturgy 10:30 am

**Sun. Feb. 21** Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today  
*E doganierit dhe Fariseut; Fillon Triodhi*

**Sun. Feb. 28** Sunday of the Prodigal Son  
*E Plangprishesit*

