



Issue: May 2016



† Message from Father Kostandin

KRISHTI U NGJALL!

VERTET U NGJALL!

Kjo eshte thirrja gazmore te cilen te gjithë ne se bashku do te themi e do te kendojme naten e Ngjalljes se Zotit tone Jisu Krisht, Nje himn gezimi, shprese dhe hareje qe do te mbuloje buzet tona, fytyrat tona dhe zemrat tona. Ne ate cast korrit tone i bashkohen himnet e korreve te zerave te mijra vellezerve e motrave tona anembane rruzullit tokesor, e ate cast kembanat lajmerojne se Shpetimtari i botes i theu portat e hadit, e cliroi njeriun nga skllaveria e djallit dhe drita e jetes se paperenduar ndricoi dhe tiumfoi.

Dhe prifti kendon-"Eni merni drite prej drites qe nuk perendon dhe lavderojeni Krishtin qe u Ngjall prej se vdekuresh.

Ky eshte lami i mire per shpetimin e botes, ky eshte lajmi i mire i Mbreterise se Perendise , prandaj dhe shkelqimi i festes te jete nje perjetim i gjalle dhe jo siperfaqesor, te jete nje perteritje e trupit dhe e shpirtit te rrenuar nga pesha e mekatit, dhe jo nje shfaqje e shkelqyer pa jete, nje shfaqje artificiale, por ti japim kesaj feste rendesine e vertete qe kjo feste duhet te kete.

Sepse dhe ne troparin Ngjallesor e kemi kur prifti kendon-"Ashtu do te humbasin mekataret prej faqes se Perendise,dhe te drejtet do te defrejne." Kjo eshte kuptimi i vertete i Pashkes defrimi ne miresine e pergatitur qe perpara koheve, ne miresine e te vertetave te padiskutueshme e te patjetersueshme te Perendise Triadike.

Pashaka e vertete eshte dita e paperenduar e Zotit e cila eshte e pergatitur qe ne fillim te koherave nga Perendia dhe bashkimi i asaj qe eshte Hyjnore dhe njerezores jane nje dhe te patjetersueshme ne personin e Jisu Krishtit te Ngjallur i cili eshte Pashka e vertete.

Prandaj te gjithë ne motra e vellezer le te jemi te paqshem ne kete dite dhe ne te gjitha ditet tona e te perjetojme ate si nje dite te vetme e te shohim njeri tjetrin nen kete shkelqim Ngjallesor sepse vetem keshtu do te mund te jemi pjese perberese e Pashkes se shenjte e te mbajme brenda vetes tone Gezimin e kesaj feste.

Me ngjalljen e tij te shenjte Krishti permbushi cdo gje dhe na fton dhe ne te gjithëve te shpetohemi e te mbajme llambadhet tona te ndezura ashtu sic thuhet ne kanonin ngjallesor "Le ti dalim perpara me llambadhe ne dore Krishtit qe del prej varrit, si nje dhenderi, dhe le te kremtojmë me urdherat kremtedashes Pashken shpetimtare te Perendise."

Sot ne kete dite kaq te rendesishme per ne te krishteret orthodhokse ne mbare boten dua tju uroj te gjithëve Gezuar Ngjalljen e Zotit me gezim e me shprese te paperenduar te gjithëve juve motra e vellezer.

Dua tju uroj te gjithëve per dashurine, durimin dhe perkushtimin qe tregoni.

Dua sot ne kete nate te shenjte tju uroj te gjithëve qe Zoti Perendi te jete i pranishem tek gjithesecili prej jush ne zemren tuaj e ne shpirtin tuaj e te ndjeni brenda jush gezimin e shenjte, e nga buzet tuaja te

jete si nje kenge e perjtshme urimi i shenjte-Krishti u Ngjall.

Me lejoni qe duke qene se eshte viti im i pare i sherbimit tim ne Kishen e Shenjte te Shen Nikolles te pranoni te gjithë ju me perulesi urimin tim per nje Pahke te Gezuar ne te gjithë familjet e anetareve te komunitetit orthodoks te kishes sone te Shen Nikolles ketu ne Chikago, per te gjithë anetaret e Bordit drejtues te Kishes sone, psalteve, korrit, kishtareve, kujdestareve te kishes, Shkolles Shqipe dhe gjithë mesuesve te shkolles, Grupit Arberia ,Shkolles se te Dieles, te gjithë simpatizanteve dhe dashamiresve, te gjithë atyre qe kane dhuruar dhe ndihmuar ne mbarevajtjen e kishes sone, dhe te gjitha familjeve shqiptare ketu ne Chikago

Falenderim dhe urimi im shkon tek te gjithë ju per nje Pashke te gezuar dhe plot mbaresi, shendet dhe Bekimet e Zotit qofshin mbi ju te gjithë.

Krishti u Ngjall

Me dashuri e perulesi

Juaji, At Kostandin Tuda

"Christ is Risen!"

"Truly, He is risen!"

We will be hearing this greeting as we all celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is a hymn filled with joy, hope and happiness that resonate in our smiles, hearts and souls. On that moment our voices are joined by the voices of millions around the globe who cheerfully celebrate this glorious day in our belief. Our Savior broke the bondage of sin and freed the humans from slavery from the devil and the light of life shone brightly in victory.

The priest sings: "Come ye and receive light from the unwaning light, and glorify Christ, who arose from the dead", and all the people join him in singing this hymn again and again. It is a celebration of the defeat of

death, as neither death itself nor the power of the grave could hold our Savior captive. And the priest follows with the Resurrection Troparion: "Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee from before his face! As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire, So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad. This is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!"

The true meaning of Easter is set in the beginning of time when God made it possible for the Holly and Heavenly to join Humans represented by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. That is why, brothers and sisters, we have to live in peace and with peace on this day, and all the days to come, and respect each other as this is the only way we can fulfill the true meaning and the blessing of Pascha.

With his Holy Resurrection, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ fulfilled everything for us and invited us all to carry on the light. "It is the day of resurrection! Let us be illumined for the feast! Pascha! The Pascha of the Lord! From death unto life, and from earth unto heaven has Christ our God led us! Singing the song of victory: Christ is risen from the dead! (First Ode of the Easter Canon)

On this very special and important day for all Orthodox Christians in world, I want to take the opportunity to wish you all from the bottom of my heart Happy Easter, filled with joy, hope, health and happiness for you all brothers and sisters. I want to be grateful for all the love, patience, and devotion you all give forth. I wish on this Holy Night that Our God is always with you all in your hearts, your souls, in your lives as a long- lasting holy greeting-"Christ is Risen!"

As this is my first year here with you at Saint Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church, please accept my best wishes on this Holy Pascha for you all, families and community members of the Orthodox Church, members of our Church Parish Council, Members of our Choir and psalts, everyone that takes care and maintains our Church, teachers and staff of our Sunday School, Albanian School, dancing group "Arberia" all friends of our church, everyone that has donated and contributed time, effort, services, financial means, and other forms of support to make sure we prosper and fulfill our mission. My gratitude, wishes and blessings are with you all on this Holy Pascha filled with health, prosperity and all the blessings from the God!

Christ is Risen!

With love and respect,
Father Kostandin Tuda



† Easter News

Hope everyone had a Blessed Easter! Thank you to the MANY volunteers who helped with the Easter Celebration. Thank you for your heart to serve by donating time, talent and resources. Through your generosity, dedication and support we were able to brighten the Easter. God used each of you working together as the body of Christ to share the Easter message with all who attended services throughout that week. We had so many new faces come to hear the good message that had never been in church before. We would like to take a moment to celebrate the AMAZING volunteers we have at our parish!

Shpresojme qe ju te keni kaluar Pashke te mbara! Falenderime te perzemerta per te gjithë ata qe ndihmuan gjate javes se Pashkes. Shprehim

mirenjohjen tone per te gjithë ata qe dedikuan, kohe, talent dhe donacione. Bujaria, dedikimi dhe perkrahja juaj e bene eksperiençen e Pashkes akoma me te vecante.

Duam te falenderojme te gjithë ata qe ndihmuan ne Kisha ne kete jave te vecante.



† 2016 Memberships

Membership committee sent a letter home recently as a reminder to pay 2016 membership dues. If you have already paid, please discard it. We are working on revising the language of the letter to make it clear and explicit for the future. Thank you for being understanding!

Please send in or drop off your 2016; 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.

Komiteti i anetaresise se Kishes dergoi nje leter kohet e fundit si kujtese per te paguar anetaresine per vitin 2016. Ne rast se ju e keni paguagar anetaresine per kete vit, kjo kujtese nuk eshte per ju. Po punojme ta korrigojme gjuhen e perdorur ne leter per ta bere me te qarte dhe specifike. Faleminderit per mirekuptimin!



† Member directory

The membership committee is updating the directory to be published and sent out to all members. If you DO NOT want to be listed in the directory, please leave a note in the church office with your name indicating you do not want your information published.

The deadline is May 31, 2016.

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.

Komiteti i anetaresise po e rishikon dhe permireson listen e anetaresise bazuar ne informacionet me te fundit. Lista e re do te publikohet dhe do tu dergohet te gjitha anetareve. Ne rast je ju NUK deshironi ta keni emrin ne liste, ju lutemi na njoftoni duke lene nje shenim ne kishë me emrin tuaj ku te njoftoni se ju nuk deshironi ta keni emrin tuaj ne listen e anetareve te Kishes qe do publikohet. Dita e fundit per te bere kete njoftim eshte 31 maj 2016.

Ne rast se ju doni te korrigjoni emrin, adresen, apo numrin e telefonit per listen e ardhme te anetaresise, kontaktoni Olga Tito ne adresen e e-mail:

olga1214@sbcglobal.net



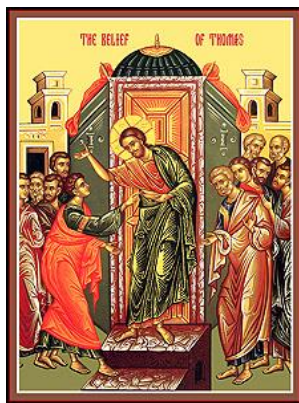
†Life of the Month's Saints & Main Events



Antipascha: St Thomas Sunday

Commemorated on May 8

Some icons depicting this event are inscribed "The Doubting Thomas." This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, "The Touching of Thomas." The Slavonic inscription is, "The Belief of Thomas." When St Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.



This day is also known as "Antipascha." This does not mean "opposed to Pascha," but "in place of Pascha." Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's Resurrection. Sunday is called "Resurrection" in Russian, and "the Lord's Day" in Greek.

Midfeast of Pentecost

Commemorated on May 25

Today's celebration is the midpoint of the fifty days between the Feasts of Pascha and Pentecost. St John tells us (John 7:14) that "in the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the Temple, and taught." The Feast in question is the Feast of Tabernacles (celebrated in September), not Pentecost. The Church has appointed John 7:14-30 to be read for the Midfeast, thereby linking Pascha and Pentecost. In Chapter 8 of St John's Gospel, the Lord came to the Temple again and taught the people who came to Him. After leaving the Temple, he encounters the man born blind. We will hear about him on the Sunday of the Blind Man.

The Troparion of the Midfeast ("In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink [John 7:37]. O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!") hints at the encounter of Christ and the Samaritan Woman in just a few days.

On this day we perform the Lesser Blessing of Water, and the Blessing of Fields. Source: <https://oca.org/>



Shenjtore te muajit & Tekste Liturgjike

Me 25 maj te ketij viti festohet Gjysmepentikostia e Shenjte. Dite kjo kur kisha kujton Urtesine Hyjnore (Αγία Σοφία), nje nga festat me te medha te kalendarit.

Urtesia Hyjnore, ose Fjala Hyjnore (Λόγος) eshte misheruar ne personin e Jezu Krishtit. Per traditen

lindore, perunjësia eshte urtesia me e madhe, duke u bere keshtu virtuti me i madh per njeriun. Perunjësia jo vetem qe kultivon Urtesine Hyjnore, por ne ndryshim nga njohuria intelektuale, eshte nje rruge e sigurve drejt shpetimit.

Sofia, ne interpretimin e disa teologeve te medhenj, shihet si ana "femerore" e Hyjnise, ndersa per te tjere thjesht si nje nga shume esencat e Zotit, njesoj me dashurine, besimin etj. Pranohet nga te gjitha kishat me trashegimi apostolike, se Urtesia Hyjnore, eshte e pakrijuar dhe e perjetshme. Ajo eshte neq nga dhuratat e shumta te Shpirtit te Shenjte.

Burimi: <http://orthodoxalbania>



†St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliary

Palm Sunday luncheon was another great success. Thank you to all who participated and helped in any way to make this event a memorable one.

Dreka e se dieles se Dafines u festua me sukses she duam te perfitojem nga rasti te falenderojme perseri te gjitha pjesemaresit dhe te gjithë ata qe ndihmuan me ta gjitha menytrat qe paten mundesi per kete eveniment te suksesshem.



† Prayer list / Lista e lutjes

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 Albanian Orthodox Church

WEBSITE- Did you know that our church has its own website? <http://stnicholasalbanianchicago.org/> - English

Many people are visiting our updated and renovated website. You will find information about the history of our faith, church and our community. You can access the calendar, the Church bulletin, the schedule for all the events organized by the Ladies Auxiliary, Sunday School, Albanian School, and more. Let us know if you have any suggestions to make it better.

Vizitoni website të kishës!

<http://stnicholasalbanianchicago.org/> - English

Do të gjeni informacion të detajuar për historinë e fesë, të komunitetit si dhe të kishës sonë. Në këtë website janë të përfshira kalendari i kishës, buletini, dhe informacion për të gjitha evenimentet që organizojnë Ladies Auxiliary, Sunday School, and Albanian School.

Ju lutemi vizitoni këtë website të rinovuar dhe me informacion të ri, dhe në rast se keni ide për ta përmirësuar, ne i mirëpresim ato.



† **SCHEDULE of SERVICES** †
May /Maj 2016

Sunday Divine Liturgy/ Liturgjia Hyjnore 10:00 am

01	Sunday	Holy Pascha / Bright Week Agape Service (Service of Love) <i>Pashka e Madhe / Ngjallja e Zotit Krisht</i>
02	Monday	St George The Great Martyr <i>Gjergj Trofepruresi</i>
03	Tuesday	St. Mark The Apostle and Evangelist <i>Shen Mark Apostull dhe Evangjelist</i>
04	Wednesday	Removal of the Relics of St. Athanasios <i>Transf. lips. Shen Athanasit</i>
05	Thursday	Great Martyr Irene <i>Deshmorja Irmiri</i>
06	Friday	Theotokos of the Life-Giving Spring <i>Burimi Jetedhenes, Jovi i drejte</i>
07	Saturday	Appearance of the Sign of the Cross <i>Kryqi qe u Shfaq ne Qiell</i>
08	Sunday	St. Thomas Sunday <i>E Thomait</i>
15	Sunday	Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women <i>E Miropruresve</i>
21	Saturday	Sts Constantine and Helen <i>Shen Kostandini & Shen Helena</i>
22	Sunday	Sunday of the Paralytic <i>E te Paralizuarit</i>
25	Wednesday	Mid-Pentecost <i>Gjysmepentikostia</i>
29	Sunday	Sunday of the Samaritan Woman <i>E Samaritanes</i>

