

THE ORTHODOX POST

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St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church, 181-14 Midland Parkway, Jamaica Estates, New York, NY 11432

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Deacon's Message

by Deacon Nathan Preston

Church: you would not be taking the time to read this if you had no interest in it. It is one of those things that we rarely consider except as a scheduling issue (When are the services? How early shall I arrive?) or an obligation (Have I made my pledge? Is it my turn for coffee hour?). How much time and energy, though, do we devote really to understanding what it is and what it should be? Like theology (the study of God), ecclesiology (the study of the Church) is defined by the pronouns we use. As we do better to consider not what God is but who, so we must think of the Church. It is not a building nor even the services and prayers conducted in that building; the Church is us! When contemplating it, then, we must ask not "What is the Church?" but "Who is the Church?" We, who are the Church, are called to a relationship with Christ, who is God. This is a powerful, joyous, and intimidating

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statement. It does not permit us to relegate only a certain portion of ourselves, our talents, and time, then, to worship—the activity of this relationship. We are to give it all, all the time. We must see ourselves and each other as always participating together in this shared life of and with Christ. We come to the temple, this earthly and material edifice of the Church, to remind ourselves of this fact, to jolt ourselves from complacency into awareness.

Deacon's Message is continued on Page 3

President's Message

by Bill Peters

Summer is here and we are all looking forward to vacations, picnics, beach parties and other fun activities.

In June, we celebrate Fathers' Day and graduations. Best Wishes to all the Fathers and Grandfathers, and Congratulations to all the Graduates!!!

Also, on Sunday, June 19, St. Nicholas Church will hold its Annual Picnic. This year, we are changing the location and returning to a place we had used many years ago. The Picnic will be held at Manorhaven Beach Park in Port Washington. See page 3 for more details.

Make your plans to attend!!!

On the day of the Picnic, Sunday Liturgy will be held at the Church and will start the usual time, 10 a.m. Throughout this Summer, we will keep the starting

time for Sunday Liturgy the same at 10 a.m. Even though it is Summertime, we look forward to seeing you in Church on Sundays!!!

Regarding our search for a Pastor, activity is underway. Bishop Nikon has identified a few candidates for consideration and your Parish Council is involved in meeting with the candidates. Until a new Pastor is selected, Fr. Deacon Nathan and temporary priests will care for Sunday Liturgy and other needs. Contact Fr. Deacon Nathan (208 818-3372) or myself, if you have a need for pastoral services or questions.

In early October, The Daughters' will be holding our Flea Market & Bake Sale. Later in October, we will have a Grand Celebration in the Church Hall with a Dinner/Dance and a Commemorative Journal.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!!!

DAUGHTERS' CORNER

by Linda Foundos

Now that our kitchen renovation has been completed, the Daughters will host our (re-scheduled) "Come to Worship, Stay for Lunch" fundraiser on Sunday, June 13th following services in our Fellowship Hall. Please join us for a delicious lunch made and served with love.

A Daughters meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 6th following services. Please join us to finalize our luncheon plans and for elections.

Each Sunday, we enjoy a coffee hour provided by our hosts for the day. It is donated in good fellowship. It is only fair that people step up and participate in this generous offering. Please see myself or Christina Liolin to volunteer to host a coffee hour. Thank you in advance.

Thought for the day:

DOORS

Look back and thank God.

Look forward and trust God.

Look around and serve God.

Look within and find God.

God closes doors no man can open, and
God opens doors no man can close.

THINK WITH YOUR HEART



We are blessed by God with material possessions, health, abilities and life. We should give back to God in return by supporting our St. Nicholas Church.

Pledging is Stewardship -- PLEASE MAKE YOUR PLEDGE and Submit your Card-- TODAY

KENDI SHQIP

(The Albanian Corner)



by A. Llupa

Qershor, 2010

Këtë muaj po japim një pjesë nga libri "Adhurimi", vëllimi II nga Thomas Hopko mbi "Rushajet"

....Në Dhjatën e Re të Mesias, ngjarja e Pashkës merr kuptimin e kremtimit të vdekjes dhe ngjalljes së Krishtit, "eksodi" i njerzve prej kësaj bote mëkatore në Mbretërinë e Perëndisë. Por, gjithashtu, festa e Rushajave (Pesëdhjetorja - Pentakostja) është përmbushur dhe rinuar me ardhjen e "ligjit të ri", zbritjes së Shpirtit të Shenjtë mbi nxënësit e Krishtit.

"...Kur erdhi dita e Rushajeve, ata ishin të gjithë bashkë, në një mendje të vetme, në të njëjtin vend. Dhe befaz nga qielli erdhi një ushtimë, si ajo e një erë që fryn furishëm dhe e mbushi gjithë shtëpinë ku ata po rrinin. Dhe u dukën mbi ata gjuhë si prej zjarri, të cilat ndaheshin dhe qëndronin mbi secilin prej tyre. Dhe u mbushën të gjithë me Shpirtin e Shenjtë..."

Shpirti i Shenjtë, të cilin Krishti u kishte premtuar nxënësve të tij, erdhi ditën e Rushajeve. Apostujt morën "fuqi prej së larti" dhe filluan të predikonin dhe filluan të jepnin dëshmi për Jezusin si Krishtin e ngjallur, Mbretin dhe Zotin. Tradicionalisht, ky moment është quajtur Ditëlindja e Kishes".

Në shërbesat liturgjike të festës së Rushajeve, ardhja e Shpirtit të Shenjtë kremtohet bashkë me zbulesën e plotë të Trinisë Hyjnore: Atit, Birit dhe Shpirtit të Shenjtë. Plotësia e Hyjnisë u shfaq në ardhjen e Shpirtit tek njerzit dhe himnet e Kishës e kremtojnë këtë shfaqje si veprën finale të vetzbulesës dhe vetadhurimit të Perëndisë në botën e krijuar prej Tij. Për këtë arsye, e djela e Rushajeve në Traditën Orthodokse është quajtur gjithashtu Dita e Shën Trinisë. Shpesh në këtë ditë,

Kendi Shqip is continued on Page 3

St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church

PICNIC

Sunday, June 20th

Manorhaven Beach Park

Port Washington, NY

11:00 a.m. til dark

Games for all Ages!!

Volleyball Basketball Handball Softball Tennis Soccer

Donation: \$5 per person or \$15 per family

Directions from NYC:

Long Island Expressway to Seasingtown Road, Exit #36. (becomes Port Washington Blvd, 101 N)

Drive 2.4 miles to Main Street (Post Office on corner) and turn left.

Drive 1 mile to Shore Rd and turn right.

Drive 0.8 miles and turn left on Manorhaven Blvd.

Drive 0.8 miles to Manorhaven Park and turn left.

*** Special Note: Liturgy will be held at St. Nicholas Church at 10:00 a.m.



Fun Fellowship Food

Please clean up your area before you leave the park!!

COME AND PLAY

MONDAY, July 26, 2010



13th ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS GOLF OUTING

Remember last year's Golf Outing? For those of you who participated last year and had a great time, and also those of you who did not and missed a great outing, we would be pleased to have you **join us on Monday, July 26, 2010** when we will be holding our *13th Annual St. Nicholas Golf Outing* at the *Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course*. This is an exceptional golf course with challenging holes and beautiful views.

We start with registration at 11 a.m. in the morning and tee-off at 1:30 p.m. striking that little magic white ball hoping it goes where we wish, but frequently in another direction. As we move along in good company, we have hamburgers at the pit stop and continue wishing to hit the Hole-in-One and win a BMW. After a beautiful round of golf, we proceed to the 19th Hole at the Woodlands Restaurant in the Clubhouse; followed by a great dinner, prizes/awards and the grand raffle. The results of all this is a great day and evening and a great fundraiser for our Church.

We are reaching out for your participation and/or signing up your friends and relatives to join us at this year's event. The cost to golf, lunch and dinner is **\$650.00 for a foursome** or **\$175.00 per person**. We also want to encourage you to solicit sponsors for **hole sponsorships for \$250.00**, and/or **prize/merchandise sponsorships for \$100-\$300** for the raffle, which helps raise funds for our church programs.

We do hope that you will participate and invite your friends to join us. Registration/sponsorship forms are available in the office or from any committee member. Please make an effort to help and respond early so we can plan to accommodate everyone.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact any one of the members listed, or call 516-520-5227 and ask for Lou or Al.

The Golf Committee: Phil Foundos and Tomi Beno: Co-Chairmen
Mark Papalexis, Al Foundos, Lou Foundos, Jim Liolin and Roland Llupa

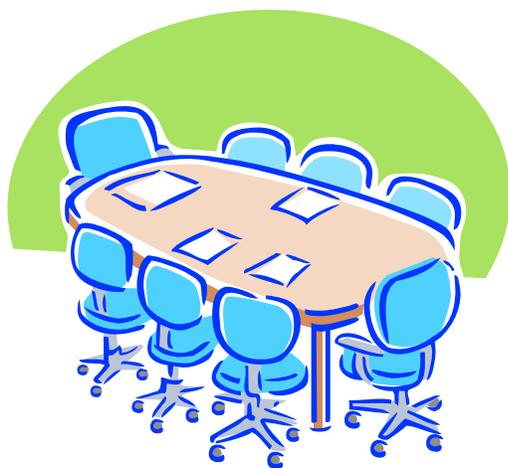
2010 Parish Council Takes Oath

On Sunday, May 16th, members of the St. Nicholas 2010 Parish Council took the oath of office at Liturgy. It was administered by Fr. Basil Summers in front of parishioners attending services. All members pledged to serve the parish to the best of their abilities. The 2010 Parish Council has a new member, Beti Beno Tsamblakos, who was elected at the April General Meeting.

Stepping down from last year's Parish Council because their 3 year terms came to an end are Pauline Logore, Peter Panajoti and Nasi Pavllo. Many thanks to each of them and the other Council members for their service to the Parish.

The Parish Council officers and members are listed below:

Bill Peters	President	<u>Members:</u>	
Ilia Luka	Vice President	Tomi Beno	Beti Beno Tsamblakos
Lou Foundos	Treasurer	Ken Gjika	Isidoros Tsamblakos
John Jance	Secretary	Jim Liolin	Dn. Nathan Preston



Next Parish Council Meetings:

Monday, June 14, 2010 at 7 p.m.

Monday, July 12, 2010 at 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY NEWS

by Linda Foundos

- Kudos to Alba Topallaj on her graduation from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton Undergraduate Division. Her parents, Mallinda and Mark are so proud of her, as are all her family and friends. Alba has a very bright future ahead.
- On Saturday, May 22nd at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Albert Foundos was conferred with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. His distinguished years of service and dedication to our faith were recognized. Al gave the commencement address which he titled "Where My Treasure Is" which covered how he became involved in the Seminary more than 25 years ago, the revival of the church in Albania, some of the many wonderful things accomplished in Albania, some wisdom for the graduates, and much more. Al is an all-around amazing individual who has lived an exemplary life. His children, Phillip, Donna & Christine and their families are all so very proud of him, as are we all. Per shume vjet gezuar!!
- A great time was had by the Mertire, Luka and Cimi families who travelled to Clearwater/Tampa, Florida to celebrate their cousin's wedding. They were delighted to share in the joy as Piro Varfi and Johanna Gjela made their vows. Te tashegohen!!
- A "shout out" to Helen Pillary who recently celebrated her nameday, Sts. Constantine and Helen! We hope you are doing well. You are missed.
- A "shout out" to Rosalie Zacharias who has been missing for some time while taking care of her mother and her sister. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.
- A "shout out" to Peter Panajoti who is recovering from surgery at Highfield Gardens, 199 Community Drive, Great Neck, NY 11021. Peter, we miss you and Helen! Our thoughts and prayers go out to you as well. Te shkuara!!
- LOOKING AHEAD:
Saturday, June 19 will be a very special day for the Felipi family. Blerta and Altin Felipi's three daughters will be baptized. They are Elma, 9 years old, Violeta, 5 years old, and Melina, 9 months old.

For Community News Reporting of Information

Please contact Linda Foundos at (516) 671-8071 or email her at ggsutter@aol.com

DEACON'S MESSAGE – Continued from Page 1

There is much truth to that oft heard phrase: "The doors of the Church are always open." We can and should live it, recognizing our highest calling at all times. But the doors of the Church are closed, when we choose to ignore that we are the Church and, in forgetfulness, fail to see how our actions and decisions close God from our lives. Come to the services of the Church to recall who you are. Come because we need you to be who we are. Christ Himself has called us. Let us attend.

KENDI SHQIP – Continued from Page 2

ikona e Shën Trinisë vendoset në qendër të kishës. Gjithashtu, në këtë ditë, përdoret edhe ikona e Rushajave, e cila tregon gjuhët e zjarrit mbi Shën Marinë dhe Dymbëdhjetë Apostujt, prototipi origjinal i Kishës, të cilët janë ulur në unitet, duke rrethuar nje imazh simbolik të "kozmozit", botës.

Në Rushajet, ne kemi përmbushjen finale të misionit të Jezu Krishtit dhe fillimin e periudhës mesianike të Mbretërisë së Perëndisë, e cila është e pranishme mistikërisht në këtë botë në Kishën e Mesias. Për këtë arsye, dita e pesëdhjetë është fillimi i epokës që është tej kufijve të kësaj botë. Pesëdhjeta, është numri i përmbushjes së përgjeshme dhe qiellore, në traditën e devotshmërisë mistike Judeo-Kristiane: shtatë herë shtatë plus një.

Pra festa e Rushajave nuk është thjesht kremtimi e një ngjarje që ndodhi shumë shekuj më parë. Ajo është kremtimi i cfarë duhet të ndodhë me ne në Kishë sot. Ne të gjithë kemi vdekur e jemi ngjallur në Mbretin-Mesia dhe të gjithë e kemi marrë Shpirtin e tij të Tërëshenjtë. Ne jemi "tempujt e Shpirtit të Shenjtë". Shpirti i Perëndisë banon ndër ne. Ne, nëpërmjet anëtarësisë në Kishë, kemi marrë "vulën e dhuratës së Shpirtit të Shenjtë" në misterin e Miroshjes. Rushajet kanë ndodhur tek ne...



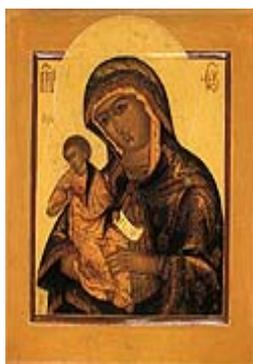
Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of The Lord, John
 - Commemorated on June 24th

The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The Gospel (Luke. 1: 5) relates that the righteous parents of St John the Baptist, the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth (September 5), lived in the ancient city of Hebron. They reached old age without having children, since Elizabeth was barren. Once, St Zachariah was serving in the Temple at Jerusalem and saw the Archangel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. He predicted that St Zachariah would father a son, who would announce the Savior, the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. It was given to him, and it was also a chastisement for his unbelief. Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel's words.

St Elizabeth came to be with child, and fearing derision at being pregnant so late in life, she kept it secret for five months. Then her relative, the Virgin Mary, came to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," was the first to greet the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God. St John leaped in his mother's womb at the visit of the Most Holy Virgin Mary and the Son of God incarnate within Her.

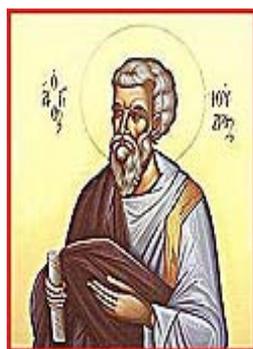
Soon St Elizabeth gave birth to a son, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accordance with the Law of Moses, he was circumcised and was called John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in the family had this name. When they asked St Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: "His name is John." Immediately his tongue was loosed, and St Zachariah glorified God. He also prophesied about the Coming into the world of the Messiah, and of his own son John, the Forerunner of the Lord (Luke. 1: 68-79). After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all male infants. Hearing about this, St Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. St Zachariah was at Jerusalem and was doing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed right there in the Temple. Righteous Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The child John, protected by an angel, dwelt in the wilderness until the time when he came preaching repentance, and was accounted worthy to baptize the Lord.

MAJOR FEAST DAYS IN JUNE



Icon of The Mother of God, "It Is Truly Meet"

June 11



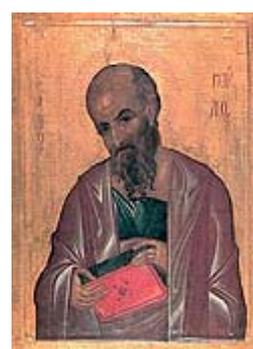
Apostle Jude, the Brother of The Lord

June 19



The Holy Glorious Leader of the Apostles, Peter

June 29



The Holy Glorious Leader of the Apostles, Paul

June 29

Major Church Activities and Events

- Sun, June 06: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.; Daughters' Meeting following Liturgy
- Sun, June 13: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.; "Come to Worship, Stay For Lunch" fundraiser In the Fellowship Hall.
- Mon, June 14: Parish Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Sun, June 20: Father's Day - Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m. Picnic at Manorhaven Park, 11:00 a.m.
- Sun, June 27: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.
- Mon, July 12: Parish Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Mon, July 26: Annual Golf Outing at Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course, 11 a.m. Sign-up & 1:30 p.m. Tee-Off

**Ushers' Schedule
for Sunday Services**
Lista e sherbimit te dielave ne kishe

- June 06: Lou Foundos / Robert Korra
- June 13: Roland Llupa / Edi Sera
- June 20: Bill Peters / Ilia Luka
- June 27: Ken Gjika / Izzy Tsamblakos
- July 04: Tomi Beno / Ardian Mile

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stnicholasalbanian.org

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