

# 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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## The Articles We Hope You Don't Need to Read

Last month Fr. Niko and Adriana wrote about what to do when a member of our community dies. This month, we'll be discussing some practical details of funeral arrangements. We welcome your thoughts and questions. Please send them to [secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org](mailto:secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org). It's likely that if you are wondering about something others are too, so don't be afraid to ask.

When anyone dies, in American culture we usually say that they have "passed away". Death seems so final, so this phrase attempts to lighten this by making it the end of a gradual process. It seems kinder to say "passed away" because we are trying to make it hurt less. In the culture of our Orthodox Church, we more often and more rightly say that those who have died have "reposed" or "fallen asleep in the Lord". By this we mean that they have died, yes, but that death is not the end. It is not the final part of a gradual process but a difficult midpoint, somewhere between what we know and experience in this life and what we believe comes afterward. Trusting in the model of Christ, we expect a second act.

When someone falls asleep in the Lord, there is a lot to get done. Our priest may have been to visit or he may not have gotten the chance. Prayers there at the hospital or home may have begun already or they may just be starting. In any case, call the Church as soon as you can. Our priest, our community of your friends and family, they all want to be there to help. In our tradition, funeral services can only be held on certain days. Sundays, feast days, and in certain brief periods of the Church year, we are not allowed to perform the funeral service. Like the happy occasions of weddings and baptisms, funerals, too, have their right and wrong times. (continues the next page)

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| <i>The Articles We Hope You Don't Need to Read</i>    | 1-2   |
| <i>President's Message &amp; April Name Days</i>      | 3     |
| <i>Holy Week at St. Nicholas &amp; Parish Meeting</i> | 4-5   |
| <i>Copy of Letter Sent to New Members</i>             | 6     |
| <i>Pledged Members of 2021</i>                        | 7-8   |
| <i>Vjershe per Rehoven – Nikolla Llazar Jançe</i>     | 9     |
| <i>Merchant Ads</i>                                   | 10-11 |
| <i>Sunday Schedule</i>                                | 12    |

## Artikujt Që Shpresojme Të Mos Kemi Nevojë Ti Lexojmë

Artikulli i muajit të kaluar ishte mbi atë se çfarë duhet të bëjmë kur një anëtar i komunitetit tonë vdes. Këtë muaj do diskutojmë disa hollësira praktike se si organizohet funerali. I mirëpresim mendimet dhe pyetjet tuaja. Ju lutemi dërgoni ato tek [secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org](mailto:secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org). Eshhtë mëse e mundur që në qoftë se ju nuk jeni të sigurtë për diçka, kështu janë edhe të tjerët. Kështu që mos hezitoni të pyesni.

Kur dikush vdes, në kulturën Amerikane zakonisht thuhet "passed away", u largua nga kjo jetë. Vdekja duket kaq përfundimtare saqë kjo frazë synon të lehtësojë këtë moment duke e bërë atë fundin e një procesi të ngadalshëm. Tingëllon pak më mirë të thuash "u largua nga kjo jetë" sepse ne përpiqemi ta ndjejmë më pak dhimbjen. Në kulturën e Kishës Ortodokse, shpesh dhe në mënyrë të drejtë themi që ato që kanë vdekur kanë "pushuar" ose "kanë rënë në gjumë me Zotin". Me këtë ne nënkuptojmë që ato kanë

vdekur, por vdekja nuk është fundi. Nuk është pjesa përfundimtare e një procesi gradual, por një moment i vështirë diku në mes të asaj që ne dimë dhe kalojmë në jetë dhe asaj që vjen më pas. Duke besuar në modelin e Krishtit, ne shpresojmë një akt të dytë. Kur dikush bie në gjumë me Zotin, ka shumë për tu bërë. Prifti ynë mund të ketë bërë ndonjë vizitë ose telefon sa më shpejtë të jetë e mundur. Prifti, familja dhe shoqëria e komunitetit tonë duan të jenë të pranishëm, t'ju ndihmojnë. (Vazhdon)

## The Articles We Hope You Don't Need to Read

When you call the Church early, we can help you find a day that works for you and also is a day that our Faith blesses this to occur.

These days, because we are spread out over three states and all five boroughs of this big city, funerals conducted by St. Nicholas Church happen routinely both in funeral homes and at the parish. Both these options are completely acceptable, but you should know that customarily it is considered both an honor and a blessing for even the dead to come to Church. Traditionally, those who have reposed return "home" once more in this way and are greeted, welcomed, and honored here, in the place where they prayed. We know that sometimes this just isn't possible and that sometimes it just isn't practical to make the long drive here and back. Regardless of what fits best for your situation, what helps most in this hard time, the prayers Father says will be the same. Just know that you are invited. Most of the time, funeral prayers have three parts: the wake, the funeral service, and the interment/burial. These can happen at two different

places or three different places; they usually take place over the course of two days. Our priest prefers to be with you for at least some portion of all three of these events. If there is a wake and he is able to be there, he'll chant about ten minutes of prayers. He will lead the funeral service, which takes from forty minutes to an hour depending on the number of people who need to say a final goodbye. And he will bless the ground that has been selected to hold your loved one, saying memorial prayers there. Because he wants to be with you, please help the funeral home get in touch with him as soon as you can. Not all funeral directors know our Albanian Orthodox customs. Give them a chance to talk to him.

Next month we'll be talking about choosing a cemetery and also what our Faith has to say on how our bodies should be made ready for funerals. Remember the parish office and those who staff it are here for you. Give us a ring and call early with any questions you may have (718-380-5684).

## Artikujt Që Shpresojme Të Mos Kemi Nevojë Ti Lexojmë

Në traditën tonë shërbimet funerale kryhen në ditë të caktuara. Të djelat, ditët e festave dhe periudha të caktuara të vitit, ne nuk jemi të lejuar të bëjmë shërbim funeral. Ashtu si ceremonitë e dasmave dhe pagëzimeve, funeralet gjithashtu kanë kohën e tyre të drejtë apo të gabuar. Kur merni në telefon herët, Kisha ndihmon për te caktuar ditën më të përshtatshme për ju dhe në të njëjtën kohë Besimi jonë e bekon këtë ndodhi.

Fakti që komuniteti ynë është i shtrirë në tre shtete dhe pesë lagje të New York, bën që funeralet e kryera nga Kisha Jonë të ndodhin në shtëpitë e funeralit dhe në Kishë. Të dyja këto janë komplet të pranueshme, por duhet të dini që është nder dhe bekim për të vdekurin të vijë në Kishë. Tradicionalisht, i vdekuri kthehet edhe njëherë në "shtëpi" dhe përshëndetet, mirëpritet, e nderohet në vendin ku është lutur. Ne e dimë që kjo jo gjithmonë është e mundur dhe praktike për të ardhur në Kishë. Pavarësisht se kush është më e përshtatshme për ju, ajo që ndihmon më shumë në këto kohë të vështira, lutjet që Prifti thotë, janë të njëjta. Ta dini që jeni të mirëpritur. Shumicën e kohës, lutjet e funeralit kanë tre

pjesë: vizita e fundit, shërbimi funeral, dhe varrimi. Këto shërbime mund të kryhen në dy ose tre vende të ndryshme dhe në dy ditë. Prifti ynë preferon të jetë me ju gjatë ketyre shërbimeve. Ne qoftë se planifikoni kohë vizite në shtëpinë e funeralit dhe Prifti është në gjëndje të vijë, ai do lutet vetëm për dhjetë minuta. Prifti do drejtojë shërbimin funeral i cili zgjat 40 minuta deri 1 orë pasi varet nga numuri i njerëzve që janë të pranishëm për të thënë lamtumirën e fundit. Prifti vazhdon lutjet memoriale tek varrezat, dhe bekon varrin që do të mbaj të dashurin tuaj. Ju lutemi ndihmoni shtëpinë e funeralit që të kontaktoj Priftin sa më shpejtë të jetë e mundur pasi Prifti do të jetë me ju. Jo të gjithë drejtorët e funeraleve i dinë zakonet e Shqipëtarëve Ortodox. Jepini atyre mundësinë që të flasim me Priftin.

Muajin tjetër do të flasim si të zgjedhim një varr. Gjithashtu do shpjegojmë se çfarë thotë besimi jonë mbi atë se si bëhet gati trupi për funeral. Ju kujtojmë që zyra e kishës dhe ato që punojnë aty janë për të ndihmuar. Na telefononi për çdo pyetje që mund të keni në (718) 380-5684.

## President's Message

by Lou Foundos

The sun is shining, the temperature is rising, and buds are appearing on the trees so we can all welcome Spring which cannot come too soon! During this last year, we have been living in fear of the Covid 19 virus and in fear of the unknown. We have been zooming and talking on the phone a lot and waiting for things to start opening up. We all miss the human contact especially those hugs from loved ones. The vaccine is finally letting us have contact with parents, grand-parents, and dear friends which we have not seen in person for over a year. Now we must take a more positive approach of Hope and Courage. There is an excellent chance that by this summer we will have the beginning of some type of herd immunity, and so we may begin meeting and

gathering in person. We all need and miss this human contact. This has been a difficult time to maintain our spiritual life, with limited access to church life and friends. While we still follow protocols, service attendance has been increasing, and we encourage you to feel comfortable and safe enough to come as well. We are gradually inching back to some normalcy. It's a good feeling! Unfortunately, we are not out of the woods completely, so our Pascha services will not be as usual. As we get closer to Pascha, Father will advise us how the services and attendance will proceed. If you have any questions about attending church or other questions related to St. Nicholas and your participation, feel free to call me.

### APRIL NAME DAYS

#### 15 - St. Leonidas

Leonard Ndreu, Blendi Koroveshi

#### 23 - St. George

George Beno, Jorgo Celo, Jorgji Coka, Gjergj Klimi, Orges Llupa, Gjergji Terova, George Vangjel, Gjergji Jano, Ermir Alla

#### 23 - St. Alexandra

Alexandra Kehoe, Alyssa Aleko, Alexandra Ladd

#### 24 - St. Lazarus

Llazaraq Pano

#### 25 - St. Mark

Mark Papalexis, Mark Chenoweth, Marc Ladd

If you don't see your name please contact Fr. Nikodhim.

Nëse nuk sheh emrin tënd, të lutem lajmëro priftin.

## Holy Week at St. Nicholas

**Lazarus Saturday** (Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm and Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am)

A taste of joy in advance, we recall Jesus' devotion to his friends today and His lived-out promise to help them and us. In recalling Lazarus from the tomb, Christ extends His hand to one whom He loved, showing Himself the possessor of that mighty and unbreakable love for which He will die and rise.

**Palm Sunday** (Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>)

The children lead us. With palms of honor and victory, they show us how to greet that King of All who has made His way into our midst. Yet these are also the palms of martyrdom, indicating that the triumphal entry of our Lord is not an event of worldly victory alone, for the spiritual work of endurance and suffering and return is yet to come. We rest on this day between the austerities of the Great Fast and the joyful sorrows of Holy Week.

**Bridegroom Matins** (Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> 7pm)

These services, which at St. Nicholas we do on Monday and Tuesday of Holy Week, offer a quiet hour of contemplation. Before the icon of Christ, the Bridegroom (Dhëndëri), we pray for forgiveness and unity with God. This bridegroom, however, is fitted with a crown of thorns to marry us, His people. His hands encircled with a rope of bondage, a ring to betroth us. His wedding garment one of mockery that will be torn from His body to be the gambled stake for a game of dice. Christ celebrates the banquet of His betrothal to His people with a feast of tears and vinegar, toasted with jeers and contemptuous laughter.

**Holy Unction** (Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm)

This sacrament of our faith is prescribed for any time of the year; we pray these prayers of anointing when any of our faith community suffer grave illness. Performed, when possible, with the ministrations of at least seven priests, this is a great and powerful witness of the care with which we are supposed to

approach sickness and suffering. In Holy Week, confronted by the overwhelming frailty our souls and the profound sickness of the sins in which we dwell and persist, this anointing with holy oil gives us hope that we, too, can learn to see beyond our spiritual sickness and look toward the wholeness of lives given over to Christ.

**Holy Thursday Liturgy** (Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> at 10am)

On this morning, we recall the Last Supper, that meal wherein Christ instituted the practice of Holy Communion but also and at the same time noted the betrayal and end that would come by the hand of one of his closest friends—Judas Iscariot. During this Liturgy, we prepare and set aside the Holy Communion that is kept in reserve throughout the year so that the sick and dying, those unable to come from their homes or rise from their beds, all may receive the Holy Body and Blood of Christ offered from His table, from His Holy and Final Supper.

**The Passion Gospels** (Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm)

With these twelve Gospel readings, we make pilgrimage through Christ's final hours. From betrayal to judgment to death, we witness the tragedy of His end but see and seek still a bright preparation for what is yet to come. This simple service of hymns and readings ushers us into Good Friday and brings us near to the place where He will be laid down and from which He will arise.

**Tomb Prayers** (Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> at noon)

When the place has been prepared—decked with the flowers and ribbons that indicate our love—Christ is placed in the tomb. His body taken down from the Cross is wrapped in its shroud, and the epitafi comes to rest in the heart of the Church. There it lays, as a seed planted in the earth, something dead, something yet to come.

**Lamentations** (Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm)

This is the funeral of the Lord. Chanting our grief, we pay our last respects, anoint His body with

incense and sweet-scented perfume—the aroma of our tears and content of our hopes. Carrying the bier around the Church three times, we encircle our temple, our home, marking it as the place where God Himself rests, tracing in outline the place whence He will spring from and return.

**Holy Saturday Liturgy** (Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am)

A preamble to that joy that is yet to come, this service indicates the turning point in the saga of passion week. We sense the deep rumbling of time and nature as the descended Christ encounters those depths hidden to us. The dead, hearing the voice of their Master, are freed; the spirit of evil flees as every dark place burns with the light of God. Tasting the presence of God in communion, we strew fragrant herbs throughout the Church to welcome and honor His ascent and re-entrance.

**Great and Holy Pascha, the Feast of Feasts**

(Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:30pm)

Arriving into that darkness that is not oppressive but incipient, we behold the holy fire come to greet us,

symbol of the unquenchable flame of faith. But this fire is only the start of our rejoicing. Christ returns, and all of creation is made new. Christ returns, and the past slips away covering our fear. Christ returns, and we have cause to hope, to sing, to taste again the sweetness of His renewing presence. In His body and blood, in His story and image, He chooses to make His home with us. Do not reject this invitation, leaving before the feast has begun but stay with the holy fire burning on your candle and in your heart, stay to receive Holy Communion on this holiest day of all year and all of time.

**Paschal Vespers** (Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon)

Warmed by Christ, we inaugurate a new life with Him. On this evening of the first day, the Resurrection commences a new way of being for all; raised with Christ, all is being perfected. With voices made joyful in the knowledge of the risen God, we proclaim the Gospel in as many tongues as we can, letting the news of this Pascha resound in our Church, in our lives, and in the whole world.



## Parish General Meeting: Sunday, April 11

On Sunday, April 11, we will gather for our semiannual parish meeting. Logging in via Zoom at noon that day, we will get a chance to see each other, to talk together, and to make plans both for Paschal services and the ongoing easing of restrictions within our city, state, and community. Please plan to be present and share your voice. All are invited to attend, but advance reservation is required. Reach out to Adriana Topore, [secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org](mailto:secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org), to secure your spot.

The following is a letter we sent out to young families in hopes of growing our church family.



## ST. NICHOLAS ALBANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



181-14 Midland Parkway, Jamaica Estates, NY 11432 • Tel: 718-380-5684

Father Nikodhim, Priest • Tel: 208-818-3372

[www.stnicholasalbanian.org](http://www.stnicholasalbanian.org)

March 22, 2021

Dear Friends of St. Nicholas,

This has been a trying and difficult year for all of us. With the arrival of the vaccines, there is light at the end of the tunnel, and hopefully we will soon be able to meet and greet each other once again.

I would like to invite you to not only be friends, but to take the next step and become members of the St. Nicholas Community. As we all know, St. Nicholas is not the typical “neighborhood” Church. We share our Orthodox faith and with many, our Albanian heritage as well. Due to distances, we understand that participating weekly can be very difficult. However, we welcome you whenever you are able to come even monthly or on special feast days. We would like you to make St. Nicholas your spiritual home and enjoy the fellowship when you can.

St. Nicholas was formed almost 80 years ago by a group of new Albanian immigrants in a strange land. They realized that they needed a place to practice their faith, get married, and baptize their children that would soon follow and to meet and socialize also. Interestingly enough, these same needs exist today, specially with a new wave of immigrants to America in the last several decades. We tend to work too much in America and make that and our family our focal points. This country has a way of swallowing you up, and even more so, your children. Faith is very strong in America, and we all have the privilege of practicing our faith without fear of any reprisals. Therefore, we would like to encourage you to reconnect with your faith and celebrate your Albanian heritage and share it with your children.

If you choose, you can **make your Stewardship Pledge online**. Click [this link](#), complete, and submit your form, or visit [stnicholasalbanian.org](http://stnicholasalbanian.org) where you’ll find the same option at the top of our homepage.

We would be happy to discuss this further in person. However due to present circumstances, we will have to postpone the in-person visits for the near future; but we would be happy to talk further on the phone or arrange a zoom meeting. However, our outdoor coffee after Liturgy will return soon!

Yours in Christ,

Lou Foundos-President

Fr. Nikodhim-Pastor

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

On behalf of the Pledge Committee, I want to thank all who contributed to the 2021 Stewardship Pledge. It is the first time that over 100 families responded before the end of February. The Church is encouraged and grateful for the continued expression of caring, especially during the difficulties of this past year. All of us were impacted by the Corona Virus Pandemic yet the generosity of the membership never failed.

With the pledge response received we can all feel confident the life of the parish is still strong. Now we need to increase our attendance at church during the several services of LENT and Holy Week.

On the following pages is a listing of those families who pledged for 2021. If you did not have a chance to make a pledge it is still possible. You can call the office (718) 380-5684 and leave a message or visit [stnicholasalbanian.org](http://stnicholasalbanian.org) , complete and submit the form.

Have a blessed Lenten season and Pashkë,

Your Pledge committee

|    |                      |                    |    |                        |                     |
|----|----------------------|--------------------|----|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1  | Marion               | Adams              | 30 | Arben & Ira            | Gjoka               |
| 2  | Ermenita & Arben     | Aleko              | 31 | Ellen                  | Gradt               |
| 3  | Ana & Emir           | Andrade/Alla       | 32 | Kostandin & Mimoza     | Grazhdani           |
| 4  | Sarah & Mark         | Anderson/Chenoweth | 33 | Dhimitraq & Marsela    | Guma                |
| 5  | Lenore               | Apostolu           | 34 | Britu                  | Haile               |
| 6  | Juliana              | Baltadori          | 35 | Gezim                  | Halilaj             |
| 7  | Dr. Dhimiter & Diana | Beno               | 36 | Zanina                 | Haxhiaj             |
| 8  | Thoma & Christine    | Beno               | 37 | Joanne & Douglas       | Heiser              |
| 9  | Alfredo & Aida       | Bode               | 38 | John                   | Jance               |
| 10 | Richard & Jennifer   | Brehl              | 39 | Gjergji & Eriola       | Jano                |
| 11 | Eklea & Gjorgji      | Cakuli/Shuku       | 40 | Zhani & Ornela         | Joanidhi            |
| 12 | Roland & Anila       | Celo               | 41 | Panajo                 | Joco                |
| 13 | Linda                | Deonas             | 42 | Stephen & Diane        | Jones               |
| 14 | Hektor & Jonida      | Dervishi           | 43 | Adrian & Dea           | Jorgji              |
| 15 | Alice & Savvas       | Diacosavvas        | 44 | Penelope "Penny"       | Kastaris            |
| 16 | Laura & Greg         | DiTullio           | 45 | Richard                | Kasuli              |
| 17 | Redi & Anja          | Ekonomi            | 46 | Alexandra & Michael    | Kehoe               |
| 18 | Altin & Blerta       | Filipi             | 47 | Betty                  | Kelapire            |
| 19 | Nicholas & Barbara   | Filis              | 48 | Chris & Ketj           | Kirka               |
| 20 | Albert               | Foundos            | 49 | Fotaq & Lina           | Kondili             |
| 21 | Lauren               | Foundos            | 50 | Blendi & Sheena        | Koroveshi           |
| 22 | Louis & Linda        | Foundos            | 51 | Robert & Tina          | Korra               |
| 23 | Phillip & Johanna    | Foundos            | 52 | Alison & Marc          | Ladd                |
| 24 | Steven               | Foundos            | 53 | Elizabeth              | Liolin              |
| 25 | Alfred & Elisabeta   | Fundo              | 54 | James & Christina      | Liolin              |
| 26 | Christian & Ariona   | Fundo              | 55 | Roland & Adelina       | Llupa               |
| 27 | Ilir & Dr. Fjona     | Fundo              | 56 | Ilia & Agathia         | Luka                |
| 28 | Thomaq & Dr. Suzana  | Fundo              | 57 | Themistokli & Antoneta | Mertiri             |
| 29 | Spiro & Mira         | Gjika              | 58 | Mitro & Vitori         | Mertiri (continues) |

|                           |           |                       |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 59 Frank & Evelyn         | Meta      | 81 Martha             | Pucca           |
| 60 Ermira & Bujar         | Mezini    | 82 Pandi & Efigjeni   | Qeramixhi       |
| 61 Ardian & Irma          | Mile      | 83 Ornela             | Rehova          |
| 62 Tom & Connie           | Mone      | 84 Stavraq & Kostanca | Rehova          |
| 63 William                | Nasi      | 85 Thoma & Iliana     | Rehova          |
| 64 Leonard & Albana       | Ndreu     | 86 Edi & Oneda        | Sera            |
| 65 Jim & Donna            | Oswald    | 87 Kozara             | Sheti           |
| 66 Jani & Liri            | Panajoti  | 88 Thoma & Odeta      | Skendi          |
| 67 Helen                  | Panajoti  | 89 Eduart & Marsela   | Shkurti         |
| 68 Kristaq & Beatrika     | Panariti  | 90 Tina               | Slane           |
| 69 Gregory                | Papalexis | 91 Jimmy & Eleni      | Solomos         |
| 70 Mark                   | Papalexis | 92 Altin & Elda       | Stroka          |
| 71 Dhimitraq & Donika     | Papando   | 93 Andrea & Adriana   | Topore          |
| 72 Nasi                   | Pavlo     | 94 Dr. Petrika & Eli  | Troja           |
| 73 Vasil & Suzana         | Pecani    | 95 Isidoros & Beti    | Tsamblakos/Beno |
| 74 Tina                   | Peters    | 96 Pieri & Marjeta    | Vakefli         |
| 75 Damian & Jenny         | Peters    | 97 Kristaq & Mimoza   | Vangjel         |
| 76 Romana                 | Petro     | 98 Louis              | Vasile          |
| 77 Christe & Jean         | Preftes   | 99 Kozeta & Patrick   | Vasili          |
| 78 Fr. Nikodhim           | Preston   | 100 Alma              | Vesho           |
| 79 Dhiogien & Dhimitrulla | Prifti    | 101 Jennifer & Jacek  | Wollocko        |
| 80 Panagiotis & Despina   | Psirakis  | 102 Rosalie           | Zacharias       |

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

St. Nicholas Albanian  
Orthodox Church

## WEEKLY FOOD DRIVE

We are partnering with City Harvest to help feed the hungry during these difficult times. Please consider bringing some canned food to church each Sunday so that we can do our part. Please, no hygiene products at this time, only non-perishable canned or dry food.

Any questions, please speak to Jen Brehl, Joanne Heiser or Adriana Torpore.  
Thanks!

*John 13:35 - "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*



Vjershë për Rehovën

Nga Nikolla Llazar Jançe

Mos më vini re kusuret  
Sa më poshtë unë shënoj  
Po si plak dhe i pa mësuar  
Qytetërimi më mungon

Moj Rehovë shumë e dashur  
Se më hape sytë mua  
Vend i ëmbël plot mëshirë  
Si perëndinë ty të dua

Shumë vite i arratisur  
Edhe mirë si duroj  
Sa të jem gjallë  
Unë kurr s'të harroj

Moj Rëhovë mbi Ersekë  
Ty gorenit të lufton  
Dhe fuqia e natyrës  
Shume oxhake të rëzon

Në shumë kisha jam meshuar  
Edhe brënda në Greqi  
Veç se mesha e Rehovës  
Nis mbaron me themeli

Se kur kisha e Rehoves fillon  
Burra e gra i lumturon  
Se nga vendi nuk lozin  
Gjersa mesha mbaron

Të më falin gjithë botën  
Mua mëndja nuk më fle  
Dëshëroj për ty Rehovë  
Po si dallendyshja follenë

Shumë jam i mallëngjyer  
Fort i dashur Atdhe  
Dhe nuk të harroj kurr  
Edhe natën kur fle

Shqipëri o vend i bukur  
Natë e ditë të kujtoj  
Se ti je streha dhe vendi i lindjes  
Prandaj kurr stë harroj

Ju malet e Shqipërisë  
Qani po si mua sot  
Sytë tim mbushur me lot  
Zemra ime s'duron dot

Nëneja ime më fali uratën  
Me gjithë yemër më uroj  
Oh sa lumturi për mua  
Se gjithë sëmudjet mi shëroj  
Fati im atje u ndodha  
Kur ajo jetën mbaroj

Ejani o shqipëtarë  
Hajde të vemi në Atdhe  
Atje është nderi ynë  
Oh sa bukur për ne

Këtu jemi të mërzitur  
Plot merake dhe gajle  
Po Perëndia është e madhe  
Ajo kujdeset për ne

Vjershë e hartuar në Amerikë-New York- nga Nikolla Jançe.  
Mu dorëzua nga djali i tij Llazar Jançe, New York, Nentor 1999

## Ads from Merchants Who Support the Church

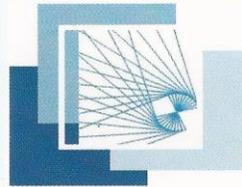
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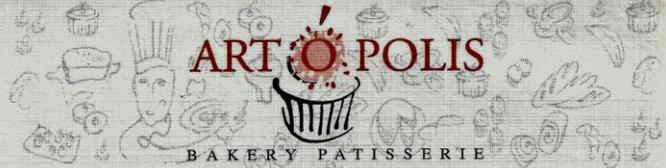
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**CHURCH SCHEDULE FOR APRIL**

Fri. 2 - Akathist, 7pm  
 Sat. 3 - Vespers, 5pm  
 Sun. 4 - Liturgy, 10am: Sunday of the Cross  
 Wed. 7 - Presanctified Liturgy, 7pm  
 Fri. 9 - Akathist, 7pm  
 Sat. 10 - Vespers, 5pm  
 Sun. 11 - Liturgy, 10am: Sunday of the Ladder  
 Wed. 14 - Presanctified Liturgy, 7pm  
 Thur. 15 - Canon of St. Andrew, 7pm  
 Fri. 16 - Akathist, 7pm  
 Sat. 17 - Vespers, 5pm  
 Sun. 18 - Liturgy, 10am: St. Mary of Egypt  
 Wed. 21 - Presanctified Liturgy, 7pm  
 Fri. 23 - Compline, 7pm  
 Sat. 24 - Liturgy, 10am: Lazarus Saturday  
           - Vespers, 5pm  
 Sun. 25 - Liturgy, 10am: Palm Sunday  
 Mon. 26 - Bridegroom Matins, 7pm  
 Tue. 27 - Bridegroom Matins, 7pm  
 Wed. 28 - Holy Unction, 7pm  
 Thur. 29 - Liturgy, 10am: Last Supper  
           - Passion Gospels, 7pm  
 Fri. 30 - Tomb Prayers, noon  
           - Lamentations, 7pm

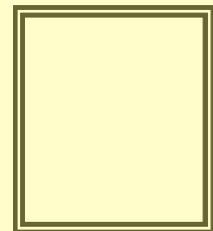
**St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church**  
 181-14 Midland Parkway  
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**Planning to attend Church this Sunday?**  
**Please call.**



At St. Nicholas we are committed to the safety of all who worship here. Right now, this means a few additional responsibilities. Please help keep everyone healthy by reading and following those directions posted in the parish entryway. Please help us make sure that everyone who wants to come to Church can; you can do this by phoning the parish office (718-380-5684) and leaving a message by the Friday before you wish to attend or by sending an email to [secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org](mailto:secretary@stnicholasalbanian.org)

**We can't wait to see you soon!**



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