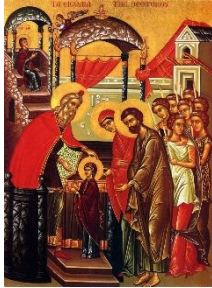


The Weekly Messenger – November 22, 2020
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979

Website: <https://stjohnsphila.org>
Email address: info@stjohnsphila.org

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22 Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

Entrance of the Theotokos to the Temple



The second great feast of the Theotokos is the celebration of her entrance as a child into the Jerusalem Temple which is commemorated on the twenty-first of November. Like the feast of her nativity, this feast of Mary is without direct biblical and historical reference. But like the nativity, it is a feast filled with important spiritual significance for the Christian believer. According to the tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was brought to the Temple at three years of age, where she was consecrated to God and spent her days until she was fourteen or fifteen years old; and then, as a mature maiden, by the common counsel of the priests (since her parents had reposed some three years before), she was betrothed to Joseph.

Ninth Sunday of Luke The Lord spoke this parable, “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” As he said these things, Jesus cried out: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Updated Parish Directories are available: If you would like an updated parish directory please email info@stjohnsphila.org and a directory will be emailed to you. A limited number of copies will be available at the candle stand for those who do not have email.

Christmas Decorations: Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic we will not be gathering together to decorate the church for the Nativity Season. We will put up a few decorations near the Solea but not the decorations we do in “a normal” year. Looking forward to 2021

From Linda Kosta: This Birthday has been a whirlwind! I am very grateful to all my Church family for sending cards and lots of love. Who knew a big birthday could be this much fun during Covid! Linda Kosta

Parishioner News: The Prifti Family is looking for a part time companion (paid position) for Evangeline Prifti. Evangeline lives in Media PA. If you or someone you know is interested in this position please contact Joanne Prifti Nicholas at 847-404-7665.

Upcoming Events:

Nov 21st Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple
Nov 22nd 2-year Memorial Kevin Ryan (Colleen Xhoxhi’s brother)
Saturday Nov 28th Albanian Flag Day
Wednesday Dec 2nd Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm ZOOM
Dec 6th 40 Day Memorial Raphael Theokary
Thursday Dec 24th Christmas Eve Liturgy 4:30 pm

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, Metropolitan Theodosius, the 254,000 victims of the Covid-19 virus, Kevin Ryan (2 yrs. Colleen Xhoxhi’s brother), Mauro DeFeo (Carolyn Dardaris’ father), Raphael Theokary, Emilia Ojog (Florina & Costina Bacuta’s grandmother), Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord. *If you have a name to add to the Commemorations for the departed or the living please email info@stjohnsphila.org*

Commemorations for the Living: Health care workers, First responders, those suffering with the Covid-19 virus, Archbishop Anastasios, Reader Chris Manosis, Michele, Tom, Bella, Thomas, Olivia Lorimer, Newly Illuminated Sophia Grace Garcia, Florina & Drew Garcia, Godparents Costina & Michael Morrison, Linda Turner, Marie Portway (Nancy Ghicondey’s Mother), Joyce & Maurice Robert (Christine Dardaris’ Mom & Dad), Jim Ghicondey, Sophia Sarkos (Michele’s sister), Lisa Kosta Bowser, Lee Gedremenc, Diane Mallios, Evangeline Prifti, Lisa Kelley, Donna Hlavcek, Virginia Daka, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

Mark your calendar - Christmas Eve Liturgy, Thursday, December 24th @ 4:30 pm. If you are not able to join in person please consider Livestreaming!



Thanksgiving 2020: This Thursday, November 26th. Unlike any Thanksgiving we have ever experienced. Scaled down but still filled with love and thanks for all we have: our families, our friends, our Church, our good health! St. John Chrysostom Parish Council wishes all of our parishioners a blessed and safe Thanksgiving.