**The Weekly Messenger – February 27, 2022**
**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: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2*** ***Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46***

**Upcoming Events:**
**Feb 27th** Sunday of the Last Judgement (Meatfare)
**March 6th** Forgiveness/Cheese fare Sunday 40 Day Memorial for +Marika Sarkos
**March 7h** Great Lent Begins
**Wednesday March 9th** Pre-sanctified Liturgy @ 7:00 pm.
**March 13st** 1st Sunday of the Great Fast – Sunday of Orthodoxy
1 year Memorial for +Diane Mallios
**March 20th** Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas
**Friday, March 25th Annunciation**
**March 27th** Veneration of the Cross
**April 10th** St Mary of Egypt
**April 17th** Palm Sunday
**April 24th** Holy Pascha
**April 3rd** St. John Climacus
**April 16th** Lazarus Saturday
**April 22th** Holy Friday

**Coffee Hour**
**Feb 27th** Teri Douris in memory of George & luncheon for Father Giorgi
**March 6th** Michele Sarkos & Family in memory of her Mother Marika
**March 13th** Mallios, Contoudis, Callas Families in Memory of +Diane Mallios

If you would like to sponsor a coffee hour in 2022, please visit SponsorCoffeeHour Or sign up on the sheet in the side vestibule. Thank you to those who have already signed up.

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Archbishop Nikon the 944,850 victims of the Covid-19 virus, Marika Sarkos (Michele's Mom), Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord.

**Commemorations for the Living*:*** Health care workers, first responders, those suffering from the Covid-19 virus, Archbishop Anastasios, Steve, Dorothy Tomassini, Betty Subashi, Virginia Daka, Charles Fean (Rosemary Detskas brother), and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces. ***If you have a name for the commemorations list, please email info@stjohnsphila.org***

**Welcome to our visitors**. The members of our Parish Council, and our church community thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us. We invite you to join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the church hall following the Divine Liturgy.

**Monthly Giving for February:** paper towels

**Last Judgement/Meatfare Sunday** is officially the last day before Easter for eating meat. It commemorates Christ's parable of the Last Judgment (Mt 25.31–46). We are reminded this day that it is not enough for us to see Jesus, to see ourselves as we are, and to come home to God as his prodigal sons. We must also be his sons by following Christ, his only-begotten divine Son, and by seeing Christ in every man and by serving Christ through them. Our salvation and final judgment will depend upon our deeds, not merely on our intentions or even on the mercies of God devoid of our own personal cooperation and obedience.
*. . . for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and in prison and you visited Me. For truly I say to you, if you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me* (Mt 25).
We are saved not merely by prayer and fasting, not by "religious exercises" alone. We are saved by serving Christ through his people, the goal toward which all piety and prayer is ultimately directed.
https://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-church-year/pre-lent

**Great Lent** begins Monday, March 7th, 2022. Father Dennis will serve **Pre-sanctified Liturgy Wednesday night beginning March 9th. @ 7:00pm.** We plan to have Lenten (Pot Luck) dinner and fellowship in the church hall following the Pre-sanctified Liturgy. It is a beautiful service and we ask you and your families attend.
Additional Wednesday dates will follow.

**2022 Icon Auction:** Some Icons have not been returned. We are in the process of planning our annual Icon auction. If you have Icons, please return them as soon as possible. We will announce the date of the Icon auction in the next couple of weeks.

**Your 2022 Pledge**: We are encouraging our parishioners to pledge online via our website: https://stjohnsphila.org/pledge We gladly accept credit card donations online as well as payments made automatically from your checking account. Thank you to those who have made their 2022 pledge. Our goal for 2022 is $60,000.00. Please help us meet our goal! In 2021 we received $57,296.00 in pledges. If you have not fulfilled your 2021 pledge it is not too late to send it in. Also, if you have an Icon from 2021 and did not send you donation please do so as soon as possible.

*If you have information to share in the Weekly Messenger, please send it to info@stjohnsphila.org*

***Thank you Father Emmanuel for serving today.***