

The Weekly Messenger – December 18, 2022
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979
Website: <https://stjcaoc.org/> Email address: info@stjcaoc.org

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

Upcoming Events:

Dec 18th Sunday School Pageant

Saturday, Dec 24th Nativity Liturgy @ 4:00 pm (Father Dennis)

January 1, 2023 Father Kakhaber Kurtanidze (Father Kai) begins his ministry at St. John

Monday Jan 9th Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM 7:30 pm

Jan 6th Theophany/Epiphany

Jan 8th 10-year memorial Peter Kosta

Jan 22nd and 29th Icon Auction

Feb 12th Soup-er Bowl Sunday

March 2023 Date to be Determined – Women’s Day Dance

Coffee Hour Sponsor: The 2023 Signup sheet is posted in the side vestibule. Please take a look and pick a date to sponsor coffee hour in 2023. **Thank you to Jim Bendo** for preparing the 2023 Coffee Hour Sign-up sheet or sign up on our website: [COFFEE HOUR](#)

Dec 18th Chris Manosis in honor of his Nameday **Dec 25th** No Coffee Hour

Jan 1st, 2023 Open Date No Sponsor

Jan 8th Kosta Family in Memory of Peter

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Helen Theokary (2 yrs.), Paul Spiro (4 yrs.), George Douris (9 yrs.), Peter Kosta (10 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Mark, Locum Tenens of the Albanian Archdiocese, Archimandrite Nikodhim Preston, people in Ukraine, Newly Illuminated Theodora Holly, Costina & Michael Morrison, Florian & Andrew Garcia, Janice Leyden, Julius, Stephanos Sarris, Vicki, Helen, Virginia Daka, Marie Portway (Nancy Ghicondey’s Mother), Evangeline Prifti, and the men and women serving in the Armed Forces. *If you have a name to add to the Commemorations for the departed or the living, please email info@stjcaoc.org*

Christmas Card Alert: Again, this year, we are asking our parishioners to send Christmas cards to those who are not able to come to church and those who are ill. If you have someone who could use some holiday cheer, please send us their name & address. A list will be available at the candle stand or you can request the list of names by emailing: info@stjcaoc.org

Annual Icon Auction: January 22 and 29, 2023 during coffee hour. Please return the icons you received in 2022 so that we can prepare for the upcoming auction.



Sunday before the Nativity on the Sunday that occurs on or immediately after the eighteenth of this month, we celebrate all those who from ages past have been well-pleasing to God, beginning from Adam even unto Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, according to genealogy, as the Evangelist Luke hath recorded historically (Luke 3:23-38); we also commemorate the Prophets and Prophetesses, and especially the Prophet Daniel and the Holy Three Children.

Parishioner News: We will have a new Doctor in the house! Zach Smith defended his PhD dissertation in Political Science on December 7, 2022, at the University of Pennsylvania. Zach will receive his PhD officially in May 2022. Congratulations and Many Years Dr. Smith, Elena and Gabriel! We are very happy for and proud of you!

Our Parish Continues to Move Forward We now accept VENMO. Simply enter @stjcaoc or the church phone number 215-563-0979 to make a donation!

Please continue to check you bank statements to be sure any checks you sent to the church have cleared. We continue to have problems with our mail delivery. A complaint has been filed with the post office.

2023 Calendars are available at the Candle Stand. If you want the calendar mailed to you, please contact info@stjcaoc.org or call 215-563-0979. Thank you to Vraim Funeral Home for sponsoring the printing of the 2023 Calendars

Father Kai begins his ministry at St. John Chrysostom

On Sunday, January 1st 2023 we will welcome Father Kakhaber Kurtanidze to our church family. Father Kai immigrated to the United States 12 years ago from the country of Georgia. He and his wife, Ia, daughter Elene and sons, John and Nick have served at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Atlantic City for the past 11 years. They all are looking forward to joining our warm and loving church family. The beginning of the new year is a very busy time for all, especially at church. We have Theophany, the Icon Auction, home blessings (which Father Kai will start immediately) and many other events.



Father Dennis will serve the Divine Liturgy at St. John Chrysostom, December 18 and 24, 2022. Father Kail will begin his ministry at St. John’s on Sunday January 1, 2023. We are so very grateful to Father Dennis for the love, support and guidance he has provided to our parish over the past 4 years.

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.

Thank you for serving today, Father Dennis! **December Giving Paper Towels**