

The Weekly Messenger – January 22, 2023
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979
Father Kakhaber Kurtanidze (Father Kai) 484-843-4209 fr.kai@stjcaoc.org
Website: <https://stjcaoc.org/> Email address: info@stjcaoc.org

Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-14 Gospel: Luke 18:35-43

Upcoming Events:

Jan 22nd and 29th Icon Auction during coffee hour

Feb 5th 2-year Memorial Bessie Satir

Feb 12th Soup-er Bowl Sunday

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

Coffee Hour Sponsor: The 2023 Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule or sign up on our website: [COFFEE HOUR](#)

Jan 22nd Prifti Family

Jan 29th Father Kai & Ia Dekanosidze

Feb 5th John Satir & Family in Memory of Bessie

Monday, Feb 6th Parish Council Meeting 7:30 pm via ZOOM

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Paul Costa (Kathie Costa’s nephew), Irene Gedremenc (Bill Bortner’s Mother 2 yrs.), Larry Jance (5 yrs.), Pandora Bendo (5 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, John Jance, Julius, Stephanos Sarris, 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*

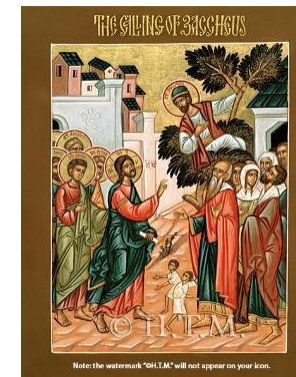
Welcome to our visitors. Father Kai and members of our Parish Council and our church community thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us. We invite you to join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the church hall following the Divine Liturgy

Holy Water is available: If you were unable to be in church past few weeks Holy Water is still available. Many thanks to our Sunday school students for filling the bottles on January 8th.

If you have news for the Weekly Messenger, please send it to <mailto:info@stjcaoc.org>

January Giving Napkins

Sunday of Zacchaeus: At this Sunday’s eucharistic Liturgy, we will hear the story of the towering figure of Zacchaeus the publican [Luke 19:1-10]. This is one of the many wonderful paradoxes of the spiritual life that characterize the Holy Scriptures. The paradox is found in the fact that the “towering” figure of Zacchaeus was actually “small of stature” [verse 3]. And if indeed he had defrauded his neighbors as he alluded to [verse 8], then he was “small” in even more essential matters. Through repentance, conversion, and right action Zacchaeus grew in stature right before the eyes of those who with faith could “see” this transformation.



Zacchaeus personifies the type of change that is possible through hearing the Good News and embracing it in thought, word and deed. This passage, unique to the Gospel according to Saint Luke, is thus perfectly placed as the first announcement of the approach of Great Lent, for in the Orthodox Church, this is always the prescribed Gospel reading for the fifth Sunday before the start of Great Lent. The four pre-Lenten Gospel readings to follow will then guide us to Wednesday, February 22 the first day of the Lenten journey that will lead us to Holy Week and then Pascha on April 16, 2023

2022 Contribution Statements: will be emailed to our parishioners and friends. If you do not have email your statement is at the candle stand. Those statements not picked up will be mailed. If you have any questions about your statement please contact our treasurer, Zach Smith treasurer@stjcaoc.org Thank you for your donations!

Home Blessings: Father Kai is waiting for your call or email! He looks forward to visiting your home and meeting you and your family in the next few months! Please call Father Kai directly, 484-843-4209 or email fr.kai@stjcaoc.org with your name, address and phone number. Father Kai will contact you to arrange a date and time for his visit. What to have ready for your home blessing: *An Icon, candle, small bowl for Holy Water, List of family names to be prayed for one column living, one column departed.* We haven’t had home blessing in a number of years. This is a great opportunity to have your home blessed and meet Father Kai!

Donations: Many thanks to our parishioners and friends who made Christmas donations in 2022 or this month! Your generosity is crucial for the future of our parish. We thank you.

Soup-er Bowl Sunday: We will have our 8th Annual Soup-er Bowl Sunday on Feb. 12th following the Divine Liturgy during coffee hour in the church hall. We are asking our parishioners to donate a homemade soup. We will offer soup for a small donation. We will also have soup available to purchase and take home. The proceeds from Soup-er Bowl Sunday will be donated to a nearby homeless shelter.