

The Weekly Messenger – February 19, 2023
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9.2 Gospel: Matthew 25-31-36

Upcoming Events:

Feb 19th Sunday of the Last Judgement (Meatfare) **Sunday School Fundraiser**
Feb 26th Forgiveness/Cheesefare Sunday **Feb 27th** Great Lent Begins
Sat. March 4th Women's Day Celebration Dinner & Dancing **Contact Nilda S. for info**
March 5th Sunday of Orthodoxy Vesper Service @ 4:00 pm - Pan Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Philadelphia. We will host other parishes and prepare a meal.
Monday, March 6th Parish Council Meeting @ 7:30 pm via ZOOM
Wednesday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 Presanctified Liturgy **6:00 pm**
March 12th Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas
March 19th Veneration of the Cross **Saturday, March 25th** Annunciation
March 26th St. John Climacus **April 2nd** St Mary of Egypt
Saturday April 8th Lazarus Saturday **April 9th** Palm Sunday
April 14th Holy Friday **April 16th** Holy Pascha
April 23rd St Thomas **April 30th** Myrrh-bearing Women

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

Feb 19th Sunday School Hot Dog Sale **Feb 26th** NO SPONSOR
March 5th NO SPONSOR **March 12th** NO SPONSOR
March 19th NO SPONSOR **March 26th** NO SPONSOR

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Vasilika Mihilli (Elvira Gusho's mother), Tuta Doko, Paul Costa (Kathie Costa's nephew), George Notskas (35 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, the victims of the mass shootings in California, the people in Ukraine, Joyce Robert (Christine Dardaris' Mother), 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*

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



International Women's Day Celebration and Dance: SATURDAY!!
March 4, 2023, 6:00 – 10:00 pm in the Church Hall. This time we will have a live band with Flamur Hafesllari and singer Arjol Shpuza
RSVP by February 23rd to Nilda 610-618-6122. Tickets are \$80.00, \$40.00 for children under 12. Buffet dinner and continuous dancing are included!
Soda & coffee will be provided B.Y.O.B. Please visit our website to register <https://stjcaoc.org>

Sunday March 5th @ 4:00 pm TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY VESPER SERVICE sponsored by the Pan-Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Philadelphia. We are honored to host this very important service. Following the service we will host a light Lenten dinner in the church hall. If you are able to prepare and donate a dish for this light dinner please

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.

Great Lent begins Monday, February 27, 2023. Father Kai will serve **Pre-sanctified Liturgy Wednesday night beginning March 1st. @ 6:00pm.** We plan to have Lenten (Pot Luck) dinner and fellowship in the church hall following the Pre-sanctified Liturgy. *Father Kai will serve Presanctified liturgy every Wednesday, March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, April 5th beginning at 6:00 pm.* It is a beautiful service and we ask you and your families attend.

Welcome to our visitors. Father Kai, 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.



February monthly giving – bottles of water