The Weekly Messenger – March 12, 2023 St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church 237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-563-0979

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Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

Upcoming Events:

March 12th Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

Wednesday, March 15, 22, 29, April 5 Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 pm

March 19th Veneration of the Cross 1 year Memorial Dorothy Tomassini

Saturday, March 25th Annunciation Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am

March 26th St. John Climacus 40 Day Memorial Vasilika Mihilli

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

<u>Coffee Hour Sponsor:</u> The 2023 Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule or sign up on our website: <u>COFFEE HOUR</u>

March 12th Roxane Ghicondey in Memory of Jim

March 19th Miss Dorothy's Family in her Memory

March 26th Elvira & Erion Gusho in memory of Vasilika Mihilli

April 2nd NO SPONSOR

April 9th Pancake breakfast

April 16th Pascha

<u>Commemorations for the Departed</u>: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Thoma, Vasilika Mihilli (Elvira Gusho's mother), Tuta Doko, Paula Kosta (6 yrs.), Bettye Ledford (7 yrs.), Ernie Douris (8yrs.), 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 people in Ukraine, Newly illuminated Edvin John Vasiu, his sponsors, Ervis Plaku & Shpresa Haska, Joyce Robert (Christine Dardaris' Mother), Julius, Stephanos Sarris, 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

LAZARUS SATURDAY RETREAT: April 8th Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am followed by the Sunday school retreat. We will have crafts, religious education and of course Meshe making. **SAVE THE DATE!**



TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY VESPER SERVICE

Sponsored by the Pan-Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Philadelphia, accompanied by the Pan Orthodox Choir, visited St. John Chrysostom last Sunday.

Our Parish was fortunate to It was a beautiful service and the choir was magnificent! The service was attended by approx. 75 people, including 15 Priests, Deacons and Altar Servers. Following the service everyone went to the church hall for fellowship and a Lenten Meal. Thank you to Linda Croke, Colleen Xhoxhi, Priftëresha Ia, Linda Notskas, Michele Sarkos, Liya Gendler for your help setting up and cleaning up. Well Done!! If you were not able to attend the Vesper Service in person you can view it

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dav46Opd9X8



The Second Sunday of Lent is the commemoration of Saint Gregory

Palamas. It was Saint Gregory (d.1359) who bore living witness that men can become divine through the grace of God in the Holy Spirit; and that even in this life, by prayer and fasting, human beings can become participants of the uncreated light of God's divine glory

Father Kai continues to serve Pre-sanctified Liturgy Wednesday evenings @ 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 15th, 22nd. 29th, April 5th beginning at 6:00 pm. Come to church and experience this wonderful service.

<u>Congratulations and Many Years</u> to Edvin John Vasiu Who was baptized on Saturday, March 4th. His sponsors were Ervis Plaku and Shpressa Haska. Edvin's fiancée Cindy will be baptized on Pascha. God Bless Edvin, Cindy and their families!

We held a very successful Women's Day Dance attended by 65 people. Everyone had a wonderful time, dancing, eating and creating memories with their family and friends. Thank you, Nilda Salavachi, for organizing this event which raised over \$3000.00 for our Parish. Special thanks to the kitchen crew: Colleen Xhoxhi, Sergio Georgi, Linda Croke, Michele Sarkos, Elias, Thanos, Arianna, Traci Cosmo and Donna Dimitri.

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.

Monthly Giving for March: paper napkins.