

The Weekly Messenger – August 27, 2023

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, Sept 7th 6:00 pm Vespers Liturgy for Nativity of the Theotokos

Saturday, Sept 9th 9:00 am Annual church clean-up

Monday, Sept 11th 7:30 pm Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM

Wednesday, Sept 13th 6:00 pm Vespers Liturgy for the Elevation of the Cross

Sept 14-17 Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly and Ordinations and Consecration of our Bishop Elect, Nikodhim at St. George Cathedral, Boston, MA.

Sept 17th Father James Thayer will substitute for Father Kai who will be in Boston for the Consecration of Bishop Nikodhim

Sept 24th Bishop Nikodhim will visit our parish. 1 year Memorial for Jonathan Rhodes

Oct 1st Memorial for Louis & Rosemary Notskas

Oct 22nd Semi-annual Parish Meeting during coffee hour

Monday, Nov 20th 6:00 pm Vespers Liturgy Presentation of the Theotokos

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon (4 yrs. On Sept 1st), the victims in Ukraine, the victims in Maui, Chris Daniels, Katherine Zoidis (10 yrs.), Dylan Shepherd (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, Bishop Elect of Boston and the Albanian Archdiocese, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Ukraine, the people in Maui, Newly illuminated Noah Stefan McCarty, Senada Prifti, Stela & Taylor McCarty, Newly Illuminated Anthony Gremi, Newly Illuminated Bradley Joseph Kittel, Grigor Lakuriqi, Fjorentina Lakuriqi, Kelly Kittel, Ilir & Nicholas Gremi, Laureta, Jack & Christian Kittel, Eugene Angelidis (Roxane Ghicondey's brother). Eda Xhoxhi, Jim Bendo, Julius, Stephanos Sarris, Virginia Daka, 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*

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

Aug 27th Andonetta Theokary in memory of Nicky Theokary

Sept 3rd Liya Gendler Sept 10th Papa Family

Sept 17th Carolyn & Mike Dardaris

Sept 24th Parishioners will bring their specialties as the Bishop will visit

Oct 1st Sarkissian and Notskas Families in memory of Louis & Rosemary Notskas

12th Sunday after Pentecost (This Sunday): At that time, a man asked Jesus a very important question. He asked, "What do I need to do to get to heaven? Jesus helped him remember God's commandments, like "do not steal, and do not kill." Jesus also reminded the man that we should love our neighbor. The man said that he had kept all the commandments. Jesus then told him that if he wanted to be perfect, he could do one more thing--he could sell what he owned, give the money to the poor, and follow Jesus as a disciple. The man became sad, because he owned many things and did not want to give them up to follow Jesus

The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John Commemorated on August 29

The Beheading of the Prophet, Forerunner of the Lord, John the Baptist: The Evangelists Matthew (Mt.14:1-12) and Mark (Mark 6:14-29) provide accounts about the martyric end of John the Baptist in the year 32 after the Birth of Christ.

Following the Baptism of the Lord, Saint John the Baptist was locked up in prison by Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch (ruler of one fourth of the Holy Land) and governor of Galilee. (After the death of king Herod the Great, the Romans divided the territory of Palestine into four parts, and put a governor in charge of each part. Herod Antipas received Galilee from the emperor Augustus).

The prophet of God John openly denounced Herod for having left his lawful wife, the daughter of the Arabian king Aretas, and then instead cohabiting with Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip (Luke 3:19-20). On his birthday, Herod made a feast for dignitaries, the elders and a thousand chief citizens. Salome, the daughter of Herod, danced before the guests and charmed Herod. In gratitude to the girl, he swore to give her whatever she would ask, up to half his kingdom.

The vile girl on the advice of her wicked mother Herodias asked that she be given the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Herod became apprehensive, for he feared the wrath of God for the murder of a prophet, whom earlier he had heeded. He also feared the people, who loved the holy Forerunner. But because of the guests and his careless oath, he gave orders to cut off the head of Saint John and to give it to Salome.

Mark your calendar to come to church on Saturday, September 9th at 9:00 am to help out with the church clean-up. If you are a student and need to volunteer for special projects, we can write a letter for you to confirm your participation. If you are able to come, please let us know by emailing info@stjcaoc.org Many hands make light work so please lend a hand!

VESPER Services Return to St. Johns: September 9th and Sept 23rd 5:00 pm. Father Kai will have Vesper Services followed by educational discussions.

Monthly Giving for August: Bottle Water 4 or 8 oz

