

The Weekly Messenger – August 6, 2023
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Peter 1:10-19 Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Upcoming Events:

August 6th Transfiguration

Monday, August 14th Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM 7:30 pm

August 15th Dormition of the Theotokos

Saturday, August 19th Baptism of Noah Stefan McCarty

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

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

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, the victims in Ukraine, Elizabeth Jones (4 yrs.), Jorgo Polo (4 yrs.), Nikolas Theokary (22 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, Reader Chris Manosis, Newly Illuminated Anthony Gremi, Newly Illuminated Bradley Joseph Kittel, Grigor Lakuriqi, Fjorentina Lakuriqi, Kelly Kittel, Ilir & Nicholas Gremi, Laureta, Jack & Christian Kittel, Eda Xhoxhi, Jim Bendo, Paulette Steffa, 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 6th Ia & Father Kai

Aug 13th NO SPONSOR

Aug 20th Liya Gendler

Aug 27th NO SPONSOR

Sept 3rd NO SPONSOR

Sept 10th Papa Family

Sept 17th NO SPONSOR

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

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

Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar! To our parishioners and friends who celebrate their Nameday in August: 6th Holy Transfiguration (Sotir), August 15th Dormition of the Theotokos (Mary, Maria, Marie)



Father Kai will celebrate the Feast of Transfiguration this Sunday The Transfiguration of Christ (August 6th), is one of the central events recorded in the gospels. Immediately after the Lord was recognized by His apostles as “the Christ [Messiah], the Son of the Living God,” He told them that “He must go up to Jerusalem and suffer many things.. and be killed and on the third day be raised” (Mt 16). The announcement of Christ’s approaching passion and death was met with indignation by the disciples. And then, after rebuking them, the Lord took Peter, James, and John “up to a high mountain”—by tradition Mount Tabor—and was “transfigured before them.”

In the Transfiguration, the apostles see the glory of the Kingdom of God present in majesty in the person of Christ they see that “in Him, indeed, all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,” that “in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily” (Col 1.19, 2.9). They see this before the crucifixion so that in the resurrection they might know Who it is Who has suffered for them, and what it is that this one, Who is God, has prepared for those who love Him. This is what the Church celebrates in the feast of the Transfiguration.

The blessing of grapes, as well as other fruits and vegetables on the Feast of Transfiguration is the most beautiful and adequate sign of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ. It signifies the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness of all creation in the paradise of God’s unending Kingdom of Life where all will be transformed by the glory of the Lord. As it is a past custom, Father Kai will bless grapes and other fruits brought in by our parishioners - following the Divine Liturgy today.

Sunday School News: We do not have a Director of the Sunday School program for the upcoming year. We are in need of teachers to assist with the program. Teachers do not have to prepare lesson plans and do not have to be in church every Sunday. In order to have a successful program **we must have teachers and parents must bring their children to church on Sunday.** Contact Father Kai if you are willing to help.

VESPER Services Return to St. Johns: In September Father Kai will have Vesper Services on Saturday evenings followed by educational discussions. More info to follow

Welcome to our visitors. Father Kai and 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 August: Bottle Water 4 or 8 oz