The Weekly Messenger – July 23, 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: Romans 15:1-7 Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35

Upcoming Events:

July 23rd Baptism of Anthony Gremi & Bradley Kittel during the Divine Liturgy July 30th 1 year Memorial for William Spiro & Presentation of Nick Naum Recipients August 6th Transfiguration

August 15th Dormition of the Theotokos

Saturday, August 19th Baptism of Noah Stefan McCarty

Sept 16-17 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, Sotir Broka, Thomas Zoidis (6 yrs.), Maria Papinghi (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, Reader Chris Manosis, Newly Illuminated Anthony Gremi, Newly Illuminated Bradley Joseph Kittel, Grigor Lakuriqi, Fjorentina Lakuriqi, Kelly Kittel, Ilir & Nicholas Gremi, Laureta, Jack & Christin Kittel, Newly Illuminated Achilles & Kevin Dano, Devji and Yana Furxhi, Gentian and Uljana Dano, 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*

<u>Coffee Hour Sponsor:</u> The Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule or sign up on our website: <u>COFFEE HOUR</u> **We need sponsors in August!**

July 23rd Gremi/Kittel/Lakuriqi families in honor of Anthony & Bradley's baptisms **July 30th** Coraluzzi/Spiro Families in memory of Bill Spiro

Aug 6th NO SPONSORAug 13th NO SPONSORAug 20th Liya GendlerAug 27th NO SPONSORSept 3rd NO SPONSORSept 10th Papa Family

<u>Sunday School News:</u> 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.

7th Sunday After Pentecost: At that time, when Jesus was passing by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud and saying, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then Jesus touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Jesus. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity of the people.



Very Exciting News: Bishop Elect Nikodhim ordination & consecration as the Bishop of the Albanian Archdiocese will take place on September 16th and 17th at St. George Cathedral in Boston MA. Father Kai will attend the ordinations & consecration in Boston and also attend the Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly Sept 14th. Father James Thayer, who is attached to St. Philip's Orthodox Church, Souderton, PA, will celebrate the Divine Liturgy on September 17th at St. John Chrysostom. Soon to be Bishop Nikodhim will visit St. John Chrysostom on Sunday, September 24th, 2023 to celebrate a Hierarchical Liturgy. It will be his first pastoral visit to a church in the

Albanian Archdiocese following his consecration. We are very honored to have Bishop Nikodhim visit our parish! On September 24th, we are asking our parishioners to make their special dish to share at coffee hour as we welcome our new Bishop. Please make plans to attend church on September 24th!

<u>Congratulations and Many Years</u> to the Gremi, Kittel and Lakuriqi families. Anthony Gremi, son of Ilir Gremi and Fjorentina Lakuriqi and Bradley Joseph Kittel, son of Jack Kittel and Laureta Lakuriqi Kittel will be baptized on Sunday, July 23rd. during the Divine Liturgy. Anthony and Bradley are the grandsons of Andon and Miranda Lakuriqi and the nephew of Grigor Lakuriqi. Anthony's sponsor is Grigor Lakuriqi and Bradley's sponsors are Fjorentina Lakuriqi and Kelly Kittel. Many Years to all!

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.

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

Monthly Giving for July: Paper Towels