The Weekly Messenger – December 10, 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: <u>https://stjcaoc.org/</u> Email address: <u>info@stjcaoc.org</u>

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17Gospel: Luke 17:12-19

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, Dec 9th Vespers @ 5:00 pm
Dec 17th Sunday school pageant following the Divine Liturgy
Dec 24th Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am followed by a short service for Christmas with readings/chanting by our Sunday school Students
Dec 25th Nativity Liturgy @ 10:00 am
Jan 1, 2024 1 Year Anniversary of Father Kai and Prifteresha Ia arriving at St. Johns
Saturday Jan 6th Divine Liturgy 10:00 am, Blessing of the Water for Theophany/Epiphany Baptism of Wesley David Lewis-Hanson
Jan 7th Lesser blessing of the water and Icon Aution Part 1 during Coffee Hour
Monday, Jan 8th Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM 7:30 pm
Jan 14th 3-year Memorial +Nick Zoto Icon Auction Part 2

<u>Commemorations for the Departed</u>: Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, the victims in Gaza and Israel, the victims in Ukraine, Helen Theokary (3 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

<u>Commemorations for the Living</u>: His Grace, Bishop Nikodhim, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, , the people in Gaza and Israel, the people in Ukraine, newly married Cindy & Edvin Vasiu, Cindy Caponi, Ellen Mondlak, Gerald Mondlak, Karen, Eugene Angelidis (Roxane Ghicondey's brother). 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 2024 Coffee Hour Sign-up Sheet is posted in the side vestibule.Please pick a date to sponsor Coffee hour in 2024 and sign-up on the sheet or click this linkCoffeeHourSignupMany thanks to Jim Bendo for preparing the Sign-up Sheet!Dec 10th Salavaci-Brahollari Families in honor of Niko & Nikolas NamedayDec 17th Chris Manosis in honor of his NamedayDec 24th NO COFFEE HOURJan 7, 2024 NO SPONSORDec 14th Zoto Family in Memory of +Nick

<u>Welcome to our visitors.</u> 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.

Wes Hanson & Amy Lewis are happy to announce the birth of their son, Wesley David Lewis-Hanson, AKA David. He was born on November 3, 223 weighing in at 7lbs 5ozs. Amy was baptized at St. John Chrysostom and Wes and Amy were married at St. John in 2019. Their son, David will be baptized at St. John on January 6, 2024. Congratulations to the Lewis-Hanson Family. Many Years!

Last Sunday was a very busy day for our Sunday school

<u>students</u>: They paid tribute Albanian Flag day and to those to immigrated to the United States for opportunities to have a better life.



<u>Christmas Sock and Underware Drive:</u> Linda Croke and Linda Notskas are collecting socks and under ware for the homeless. A box will be located in the vestibule near the candle stand. Please drop off a package of socks or under ware or both!

<u>Sunday school</u>: December 17th following the Divine Liturgy, the Sunday school will present their annual Christmas Pageant. The most precious kids in the Philadelphia area attend St. Johns and this is a must-see event. Bring your kids, your grandkids, nieces, nephews and your camera. You don't want to miss the pageant.

<u>Christmas Card Alert:</u> Again, this year, we are asking our parishioners to send Christmas cards to those who are not able to come to church and those who are ill. If you have someone who could use some holiday cheer, please send us their name & address. A list will be available at the candle stand or you can request the list of names by emailing: info@stjcaoc.org

Annual Icon Auction: January 7th * 14th 2024. We ask that you return the Icon so that we can prepare for the 2019 Auction. A list of Icons available for bids will be on our website. Even if you are not able to attend the Icon Auction you can still submit a bid or make a donation in honor of your patron saint. If you bid on an Icon in 2023 and have not made your donation there is still time. Please send a check or go online <u>DONATE</u> and submit your donation. Thank you!

<u>**Church Store</u>**: Looking for the perfect gift for a family member or friend? Check out the bookcase in the church hall. Aprons, ties, pins and more!</u>

Per Shume Vjet Gezuar! Dec 4 Great Martyr Barbara, Dec 6 St. Nicholas, Dec 9th St Ana, Dec 12 St. Spiridon, Dec 15 St. Eleutherios, Dec 17 Holy Prophet Daniel, Dec 22nd St. Anastasia, Dec 23 St. Naum, Dec 25 Christmas Day, Sunday after Christmas St. Joseph the Betrothed, St. David the King, Dec 27 St. Stephen the Protomartyr.

Monthly giving for December – Your Christmas Offering