

The Weekly Messenger – December 17, 2023
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Father Kakhaber Kurtanidze (Father Kai) 484-843-4209 fr.kai@stjcaoc.org

Website: <https://stjcaoc.org/> Email address: info@stjcaoc.org

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11 Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, Dec 16th 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 Auction 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

Feb 11th Soup-er Bowl Sunday

March Woman's Day Dance - date to be determined

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, the victims in Gaza and Israel, the victims in Ukraine, Cindy Caponi, Helen Theokary (3 yrs.), Dolly Seiler (3 yrs.), Paul Spiro (6 yrs.), George Douris (10 yrs.), Peter Kosta (11 yrs.), Nick Dimitri (11 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

Commemorations for the Living: His Grace, Bishop Nikodhim, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Gaza and Israel, the people in Ukraine, 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 link [CoffeeHourSignup](#) Many thanks to Jim Bendo for preparing the Sign-up Sheet!

Dec 17th Chris Manosis in honor of his Nameday

Dec 24th NO COFFEE HOUR

Jan 7, 2024 Parish Council

Jan 21st NO SPONSOR

Dec 31st NO COFFEE HOUR

Dec 14th Zoto Family in Memory of +Nick

Jan 28th NO SPONSOR



Sunday before the Nativity on the Sunday that occurs on or immediately after the eighteenth of this month, we celebrate all those who from ages past have been well-pleasing to God, beginning from Adam even unto Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, according to genealogy, as the Evangelist Luke hath recorded historically (Luke 3:23-38); we also commemorate the Prophets and Prophetesses, and especially the Prophet Daniel and the Holy Three Children.

Thank you Greta Dilo, Frank Hyseneshi, Margarita Sevi and Fred Coni for decorating the Christmas tree and church. Everything is so very beautiful!

Christmas Sock and Underwear Drive: Bring some socks and underwear to Church! 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!

Our Sunday School students are working hard on the Christmas Eve Vespers, which they will present following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 24th. Hope to see you in Church on Christmas Eve. Reminder NO COFFEE HOUR on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Card Alert: The list is at the candle stand. We are asking our parishioners to send Christmas cards to those who are not able to come to church and those who are ill. You can request the list of names by emailing: info@stjcaoc.org

2024 Calendars are available at the Candle Stand. If you want the calendar mailed to you, please contact info@stjcaoc.org or call 215-563-0979. Thank you to Vraim Funeral Home for sponsoring the printing of the 2024 Calendars

If you mailed a Christmas donation to the church, please to check you bank statements to be sure any checks you sent to the church have been cashed. Although the mail delivery is somewhat better – You Never Know!

Annual Icon Auction: January 7th * 14th 2024. **We ask that you return the Icon/s** you received last year so that we can prepare for the 2024 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 [DONATE](#) and submit your donation. Thank you!

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.

If you have something for the Weekly Messenger, please email mailto:info@stjcaoc.org

Monthly giving for December – Your Christmas Offering