The Weekly Messenger – December 3, 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 <u>fr.kai@stjcaoc.org</u> Website: <u>https://stjcaoc.org/</u> Email address: <u>info@stjcaoc.org</u>

Epistle: Ephesians 5:9-19Gospel: Luke 18:18-27

Upcoming Events:

Dec 3rd Sunday School Honors our Ancestors & Albanian Flag Day
 Monday Dec 4th Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM 7:30 pm - All welcome to attend.
 Tuesday, Dec 5th Vesperal Liturgy 6:00 pm St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

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
January 1, 2024 1 Year Anniversary of Father Kai and Prifteresha Ia arriving at St. Johns

<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, Mary Croke (8 yrs.), Marci Moore (10 yrs.), Gregory Bendo (10 yrs.), Hariklia Kiki Notskas (25 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*

<u>Coffee Hour Sponsor:</u> 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 **<u>CoffeeHourSignup</u>** Many thanks to Jim Bendo for preparing the Sign-up Sheet! Dec 3rd Janice & Mike Leyden

Dec 10th Salavaci-Brahollari Families in honor of Niko & Nikolas NamedayDec 17th Chris Manosis in honor of his NamedayDec 24th NO COFFEE HOURDec 31st NO COFFEE HOUR

<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!

Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia Commemorated on Dec 6 – We will have a Vesperal Liturgy on <u>Tuesday, December 5th @ 6:00 pm</u> Saint Nicholas, the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia is famed as a great saint pleasing unto God. He was born in the city of Patara in the region of Lycia (on the south coast of the Asia Minor peninsula), and was the only son of pious parents Theophanes and Nonna, who had vowed to dedicate him to God.

READ MORE



The Christmas Tree and Church decorating date has been changed to FRIDAY,

December 8th, 2023. Greta Dilo has volunteered to decorate the Christmas tree and the church. If you would like to help, please contact 609-685-1651 or <u>info@stjcaoc.org</u>

<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: <u>info@stjcaoc.org</u>

<u>Annual Icon Auction</u>: 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!

Per Shume Vjet Gezuar! Dec 4 Great Martyr Barbara, Dec 6 St. Nicholas, Dec 12 St. Spiridon, Dec 15 St. Eleutherios, Dec 17 Holy Prophet Daniel, 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.

<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.

Monthly giving for December – Your Christmas Offering