

**The Weekly Messenger – September 1, 2024**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
**237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103**

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**This Week Epistle: Timothy 2:1-7 Gospel: Luke 4:16-22**

**Next Week Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18 Gospel: John 3:13-17**

**Upcoming Events:**

**Tuesday, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>** Parish Council Meeting 7:30 pm via ZOOM

**Sept 1<sup>st</sup>** Memorial Archbishop Nikon, 5 years Church New Year

**Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>** Nativity of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Saturday, Sept 14<sup>th</sup>** Albanian Liturgy-Vasil Papakroni will assist Fr. Kai Exaltation of the Cross

**Sept 15<sup>th</sup>** Procession of the Holy Cross Sunday School and Blessing of the Backpacks

**Friday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>** Archdiocesan Assembly @ Ss. Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox Church

Through the grace of God, the Archdiocese looks forward to V, Rev. Dennis Rhodes receiving monastic tonsure prior to the Assembly on Friday morning. The Liturgy will begin at 9:00 am followed by the Archdiocesan Meeting 10:00 am. Cocktail/Dinner 6:00 pm @ Dockside, Bensalem PA. Tickets for the dinner are \$70.00 which includes beer & wine, buffet dinner, dessert. Cash Bar.

**Saturday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup>** Archdiocesan Divine Liturgy @ Ss. Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox Church Through the grace of God, the Archdiocese looks forward to Dn. Juxhin's ordination to the priesthood at the Liturgy of our annual assembly this September. The Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00 am.

**Sept 29<sup>th</sup>** Memorial Jonathan Rhodes 2 yrs and Harry Mallios 1 yr.

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, Priftëresha Olga, Archpriest John Scollard, the victims in Gaza and Israel, the victims in Ukraine, Theodhora Shyti, Marion Mallios, Sotir Suli, Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen & women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

**Commemorations for the Living:** His Eminence, Archbishop Nikodhim, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino, the people in Gaza and Israel, the people in Ukraine, Reader Chris Manosis, Jimmy Kosta, Lee Constantine Elia, Virginia Rubis, Teri Douris, Ellen Mondlak, Gerald Mondlak, 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](mailto:info@stjcaoc.org)*

**We need Coffee Hour Sponsors for August and Sept. Please sponsor a coffee with your family or friends:** sign-up on the sheet or click this link [CoffeeHourSignup](#)

**Sept 1<sup>st</sup>** Liya

**Sept 8<sup>th</sup>** Greta Dilo

**Sept 15<sup>th</sup>** Betty Subashi

**Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>** Hot Dogs

**Sept 29<sup>th</sup>** Father Dennis & Sarah in memory of Jonathan Rhodes

**Coffee Hour open dates:** We only have 2 open coffee hour dates. Thank-you to those who have sponsored coffee hours this year! Oct 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 29<sup>th</sup>

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost:** A man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him.” And Jesus answered, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.” And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” He said to them, “Because you have no faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith, even as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting.” As they were traveling together through Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will rise on the third day.”

**First of September:** Holy Days in the Orthodox Church The ecclesiastical year, which according to Byzantine practice begins on **the first of September**, is divided between movable and immovable or fixed holy days. Although the first of September is considered the start of the Church year, according to the Orthodox Church calendar, the real liturgical center of the annual cycle of Orthodox worship is the feast of the Resurrection of Christ. All elements of Orthodox liturgical piety point to and flow from Easter, the celebration of the New Christian Passover. Even the “fixed feasts” of the Church such as Christmas and Epiphany which are celebrated according to a fixed date on the calendar take their liturgical form and inspiration from the Paschal feast.

**Consider serving on Parish Council** *What exactly does the Parish Council do?*

The Parish Council is responsible for making the day-to-day decisions required to run our parish, including decisions about repairs, finances, special projects, charitable works, fundraising, etc. Parish Council members are also responsible for eliciting feedback from the parish and listening and responding to the concerns, goals, and needs communicated by parishioners. We will have our semi-annual parish meeting in October and will elect our Parish Council. Please contact Father Kai if you are able to help your parish and serve on Parish Council.

**Sunday School News:** We have 5 people who have volunteered to help with the Sunday school. We need at least 2 more volunteers as people are not able to come to church every Sunday. We also need someone to be the Director of the program which entails making sure we have teachers each Sunday and that the already prepared lesson plans are distributed. **We need volunteers for the Sunday School Program.** Teaching experience is not necessary - 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.

**September Namedays Për shumë vjet!**

September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Saint Zachariah	September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Elevation of the Cross
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Saint Elizabeth	September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Saint Stavros
September 9 <sup>th</sup>	Saint Anna	September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Martyr Sophia

**Monthly Giving for September: Bottle Water 4 or 8 oz**