

The Weekly Messenger – September 8, 2024
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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This Week Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18 Gospel: John 3:13-17
Next Week Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20 Gospel: Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

Upcoming Events:

Sept. 8th Nativity of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Saturday, Sept 14th Albanian Liturgy-Vasil Papakroni will assist Fr. Kai Exaltation of the Cross

Sept 15th Procession of the Holy Cross Sunday School and Blessing of the Backpacks

Friday, Sept 20th 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 21st 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 22nd First day of Sunday School

Sept 29th Memorial Jonathan Rhodes 2 yrs and Harry Mallios 1 yr.

Oct 7th Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM @ 7:30 pm

Oct 20th Semi-annual Parish Meeting during coffee hour

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, Harry Mallios (1 yr.), 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 Ciarciaaglino, the people in Gaza and Israel, the people in Ukraine, Reader Chris Manosis, Jimmy Kosta, Lee Constantine Elia, 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*

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 8th Greta Dilo

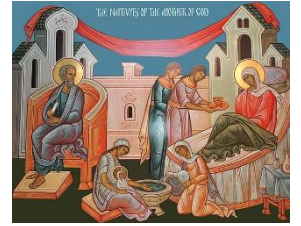
Sept 15th Betty Subashi

Sept 22nd Hot Dogs

Sept 29th Father Dennis & Sarah in memory of Jonathan Rhodes **Oct 6th** Bendo Family

Monthly Giving for September: Bottle Water 4 or 8 oz

Nativity of the Theotokos September 8th In addition to the celebration of the Annunciation, there are three major feasts in the Church honoring Mary, the Theotokos. The first of these is the feast of her nativity which is kept on the eighth of September. The record of the birth of Mary is not found in the Bible. The traditional account of the event is taken from the apocryphal writings which are not part of the New Testament scriptures. The traditional teaching which is celebrated in the hymns and verses of the festal liturgy is that Joachim and Anna were a pious Jewish couple who were among the small and faithful remnant—"the poor and the needy"—who were awaiting the promised messiah. The couple was old and childless. They prayed earnestly to the Lord for a child, since among the Jews barrenness was a sign of God's disfavor. In answer to their prayers, and as the reward of their unwavering fidelity to God, the elderly couple was blessed with the child who was destined, because of her own personal goodness and holiness, to become the Mother of the Messiah-Christ.



Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross: the feast of the Holy Cross is preceded by the Sunday before the exaltation, as a preparation for the feast, to remind the believers of the prophecies that spoke in the Old Testament of the Cross with symbolic images, confirmed by the voluntary and accepted death of the Lord on the Cross.

Congratulations and Happy Anniversary Elena Shomos and Zach Smith who celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary on September 6th and to Reem Tarazi and Pierre Chanoine as they celebrate their wedding anniversary on September 8th. Many years to both couples!

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 out 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: The first day of Sunday school is scheduled for September 22nd. We need a couple more volunteers to help out with the program. Please contact Father Kai if you are willing to assist.

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.

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

VESPER Services Return to St. Johns: September 28th @ 5:00 pm