

The Weekly Messenger – December 22, 2024
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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This Week Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 2-40 Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

Next Week Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Upcoming Events:

Dec 22nd Sunday School Christmas Pageant following the Divine Liturgy
and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus during coffee hour.

Tuesday, Dec 24th Christmas Eve Vespers Liturgy @ 4:00 pm

Wednesday Dec 25th Christmas Divine Liturgy 10:00am

Jan 5th 2025 Blessing of the water and Part 1 of the Icon Auction during coffee hour

Wednesday Jan 8th, 2025 Parish Council Meeting via ZOOM 7:30pm

Jan 12th Part 2 of the Icon Auction during coffee hour

Jan 19th 1 year Memorial James Bendo

Jan 26th 3 year Memorial Marika Sarkos

Feb 2nd Bishop Nikodhim will visit our Parish

Feb 9th Soup-er Bowl Sunday fundraiser for homeless

Saturday, March 8th Women's Day Dance

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, Priftëresha Olga, the victims of the war in the Middle East, the victims in Ukraine, Matuska Jeanne Ann Ciarciaglino, Fr. John Kuchta (6 yrs.), Dolly Seiler (5 yrs.), Paul Spiro (8 yrs.), Greg Vrato, Sr. (9 yrs.), Deacon Stephen Stefani & those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their country.

Commemorations for the Living: His Grace, Bishop Nikodhim Archpriest Matthew Tate, the people affected by the war in the Middle East, the people in Ukraine, Father Joseph Ciarciaglino and his family, Marjorie, Lee Constantine Elia, Teri Douris, Ellen Mondlak, Gerald Mondlak, Julius, Stephanos Sarris, Virginia Daka, Dhimitri Ndrecka, 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 All Coffee hour dates have a sponsor. Thank you so very much!

Dec 22nd Stephanie & Victor Sarkissian in Memory of +Rosemary & +Louis Notskas

Dec 29th Andonetta Theokary in memory of her parents, brothers & sister

Jan 5th NO SPONSOR **Jan 12th** NO SPONSOR

Jan 19th Bendo Family in memory of Jim 1 year

Jan 26th Sarkos/Mondlak Family in memory of Marika 3 years

The 2025 Coffee Hour Sign up sheet is posted in the side vestibule. Please pick a date!

December Monthly Giving – Your Christmas Donation



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.

Congratulations to Stephanie Kosta who recently received the 2024 Impact award,

presented to Pennsylvanians transforming their communities and the commonwealth for the greater good. Stephanie is Vice President of Government and Regulatory Affairs and Community Impact at Comcast. Stephanie Kosta leads government and regulatory affairs and community impact for Comcast's Freedom Region, which comprises Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Northern Delaware. She is also responsible for Comcast's community partnerships, including Comcast Foundation grants, and programs like Internet Essentials, which has connected 23,000 K-12 students to free broadband. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she led the PHLConnectED initiative to ensure home internet access for Philadelphia schoolchildren. Stephanie is the daughter of +Phil & Linda Kosta and Mother of Olivia and Vivian, all lifelong members of St. Johns. Way to go Stephanie!!!



The Philadelphia Chapter of the AANO enjoyed a Christmas outing. If you have questions or would like to join the Philadelphia Chapter of the AANO please contact Nilda Salavachi.

2025 Calendars are available at the Candle Stand. If you want the calendar mailed to you, please contact info@stjcaoc.org or call 609-685-1651. Thank you to Vraim Funeral Home for sponsoring the printing of the 2025 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!

Communal Singing: The Choir encourages our parishioners to join them singing on Sunday. If you would like to sing - quietly or even a little louder while seated in the pews – please do so. Of course, the choir is always looking for members. Please speak with Vlad or Susan Melnik or Father Kai if you are interested in singing in the choir.

Christmas Sock and Underwear Drive: We are collecting socks and underwear for the homeless. A box is located in the vestibule near the candle stand. Please drop off a package of socks or underwear or both!

Annual Icon Auction: January 5th & 12th 2025. **We ask that you return the Icon so that we can prepare for the 2025 Auction** If you bid on an Icon in 2024 and have not made your donation for your 2024 Icon please send a check or go online [DONATE](#) Thank you!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him! Many thanks to our parishioners and friends who make Christmas at St. John Chrysostom so very special. Wishing everyone a blessed and joyous Nativity!