

The Weekly Messenger – January 28, 2024
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

This Week Epistle: II Corinthians 4:6-15 Gospel: Matthew 22:35-46

Nest Week Epistle: II Corinthians 6:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Upcoming Events:

Sat, Feb 3rd VESPERS @ 5:00 pm Feb 4th 3-yr Memorial +Bessie Satir

Sat, Feb 10th VESPERS @ 5:00 pm Feb 11th Soup-er Bowl Sunday

Monday, Feb 12th Parish Council Meeting 7:30 pm via ZOOM

Sat, Feb 17th VESPERS @ 5:00 pm

Feb 24th Vespers with Bishop Nikodhim and Father Kai

Feb. 25th Bishop Nikodhim will visit

Saturday, March 9th Women's Day Dance 5:00 pm – 10:30 pm See Nilda Salavachi

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, Priftëresha Olga, the victims in Gaza and Israel, the victims in Ukraine, James Bendo, Paul Stavrou, Carl Nowmos, William Rubis, Viktor Shyti, Rudina Dodbiba, William Messner (Bill Bortner's uncle), Vasilika Mihilli (1 yrs.), Bessie Satir (3 yrs.), Katherine Halkedis (6 yrs.), Tranette Ledford (8 yrs.), Paula Dardaris (13 yrs.), Minella Zoto (20 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, Newly married Justin & Elizabeth Kane, Newly illuminated Edmund David Lewis-Hanson, Amy Lewis, Wes Hanson, Zach Smith, Elena Shomos, Reader Chris Manosis, Virginia Rubus, Teri Douris, Ellen Mondlak, Gerald Mondlak, Karen, Eugene, 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*

Holy Water is available: If you were unable to be in church past few weeks Holy Water is still available. The Holy Water is located on the table in the side vestibule. Please bring a container for the Holy Water.

Coffee Hour Sponsor: sign-up on the sheet or click this link [CoffeeHourSignup](#)

Feb 4th Satir Family in Memory of +Bessie

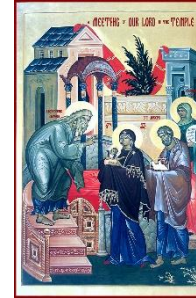
Feb 11th Souper Bowl Sunday

Feb 18th Alfred Coni & Margarita Sevi in honor of Alfred's Nameday, Shën Harrallambi

Feb 25th Parishioners as we welcome Bishop Nikodhim

Monthly giving for February bottles of water

Home Blessings: Father Kai wants to visit and bless your home in 2024. Call Father Kai 484-843-4209 or, email fr.kai@stjcaoc.org If Father Kai does not answer your call leave a message with your name, address and phone number. He will contact you to arrange a date and time for his visit. *What to have ready for your home blessing: An Icon, candle, small bowl for Holy Water, List of family names to be prayed for one column living, one column departed.*



The Presentation of Christ in the Temple is celebrated on Feb. 2nd. Another name for the feast is The Meeting of our Lord. Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians call the feast, The Purification of the Holy Virgin. About 450 AD in Jerusalem, people began the custom of holding lighted candles during the Divine Liturgy of this feast day. Therefore, some churches in the West refer to this holy day as Candlemas. The Feast of the Presentation concludes the observances related to the Nativity of Christ, a period that opened on November 15 with the beginning of the Nativity fast.

NEXT SUNDAY Soup-er Bowl Sunday: We will have our 9th Annual Soup-er Bowl Sunday on Feb.11th following the Divine Liturgy. We are asking our parishioners to make a homemade soup. We will offer the soup at coffee hour for a small donation. The proceeds will be donated to a nearby homeless shelter.



Bishop Nikodhim will visit our parish on Saturday February 24th for Vespers @ 5:00 pm and on Sunday, February 25th for the Divine Liturgy. As is our custom we will have a luncheon following the Divine Liturgy. We are asking our parishioners to make their special dish to share with all. The Divine Liturgy will begin at 10:00 am at which time we will greet our new Bishop and welcome him to St, John Chrysostom.

2023 Contribution Statements were mailed and emailed. If you have any questions or did not receive a statement, email Zach Smith treasurer@stjohnsphila.org or call 609-685-1651

Your 2024 Pledge: We are encouraging our parishioners to pledge online via our website: <https://stjcaoc.org/pledge/> We gladly accept credit card donations online as well as payments made automatically from your checking account. Thank you to those who have made their 2023 pledge. Our goal for 2024 is \$60,000.00. Please help us meet our budgeted amount!

February Namedays: Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar! 2nd Meeting of our Lord (Panajoti), 3rd St Simeon the God Bearer, 5th Martyr Agatha, 10th Hieromartyr Haralambos, 18th Leo, Pope of Rome

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 news for the Weekly Messenger, please send it to info@stjcaoc.org