

The Weekly Messenger – June 30, 2024
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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This Week Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-40; 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 9:36; 10:1-10

Next Week Epistle: Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5

Gospel Matthew 4:18-23

Upcoming Events:

Saturday June 29th His Grace Bishop Nikodhim visits SS Peter & Paul Liturgy 9:00 am,

Vespers 6:00 pm. Sunday 10:00 Divine Liturgy

June 30th All Saints 40 Day Memorial +Lefteri Lico

July 14th Memorial +Reveka Xhoxhi

Monday, July 15th Parish Council ZOOM meeting 7:30 pm

Tuesday, Aug 6th Transfiguration

Thursday, Aug 15th Dormition of the Theotokos

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, Protospesbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, Priftëresha Olga, Archpriest John Scollard, the victims in Gaza and Israel, the victims in Ukraine, Maurice Robert, Helen Bilanin, Martin, Lefteri Lico, Frederick Graziani, Rose Adams (5 yrs.), Father Spero Page (10 yrs.), Castor Notskas (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 Ciarcigliano, the people in Gaza and Israel, the people in Ukraine, newly married Samantha Trafford & Josh McDearmon, Chris Manosis, Lee Constantine Elia, Tatiana, Rosalyn Rawls, Virginia Rubis, Teri Douris, Ellen Mondlak, Gerald Mondlak, 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*

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

June 30th Lico/Papa/Gore Families

July 7th No Sponsor

July 14th Jani Xhoxhi and Family in memory of Reveka Xhoxhi

July 21st Ilirjan & Fiori Papa in honor of Elias & Ilirjan Nameday

July 28th No Sponsor

Aug 4th No Sponsor

Aug 11th Melnik Family in honor of John's 16th Birthday

Aug 18th No Sponsor

Aug 25th Hot Dogs

76th Annual AANO Convention August 2-4 2024 Join us as we come together to honor our shared traditions, forge new connections, and celebrate Albanian culture. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, celebrate, and create lasting memories with fellow Albanians from near and far. Info <https://www.aano.org/annual-convention> or contact Nilda Salavachi.

Synaxis of All Saints the Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

Elisabeth Papa has a fundraising idea: Elisabeth is the daughter of Fiori and Ilirjan Papa and one of our young parishioners. She regularly attends church with her parents and her brother Elias. Elisabeth attends Sunday school and on her own, came up with an idea to raise money for Sunday school and for our church. Her poster is attached to the email and there is an insert in the Messenger. Elisabeth is happy to answer any of your questions, please meet with her during coffee hour. Thank you, Elisabeth!

Independence Day is celebrated on July 4 and is often known as the Fourth of July. It is the anniversary of the publication of the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain in 1776. People in the United States express and **give thanks for the freedom and liberties** fought by the first generation of many of today's Americans. The Statue of Liberty is a national monument associated with Independence Day. Wishing you and your family a wonderful celebration!

Your 2024 Pledge: We are encouraging our parishioners to pledge online via our website: <https://stjcaoc.org/pledge/> or make a donation <https://stjcaoc.org/donate/> We gladly accept credit card donations online as well as payments made automatically from your checking account. If you do send a check, please be sure to look at your bank account to make sure the check has cleared. To date we have received 50 pledges totaling \$41,896.00 We need your pledge to pay expenses the church incurs. The full-time priest's salary, the gas & electric bills, insurance etc. The bills you pay for your home the church pays to keep our spiritual home, in good order. We need your help! Thank you to those who made their pledge for 2024.

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.

Monthly Giving for June: Paper towels

