

The Weekly Messenger – March 10, 2024
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

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This Week Epistle: I Corinthians 8:8-13:1-2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Next Week Epistle: Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

Upcoming Events:

March 9th Women's Day Dance 5:00 pm – 10:30 pm for info & tix Contact Nilda 610-618-6122 or visit the church website <https://stjcaoc.org>

March 10th Meatfare/Last Judgement Memorials Andrea Kasapi & Viktori Xhoxhi

Monday, March 11th Parish Council ZOOM meeting 7:30 pm

Sat. March 16th 2:30 pm Baptism Sophie & Paris Gorre, children of Elira & Nertil Gorre

March 17th Cheesefare/Forgiveness Sunday Jim Bendo 40 Day Memorial

Memorial Jorgaq Lico 3-year memorial

Semi-Annual Parish meeting during coffee hour

Monday, March 18th Great Lent Begins

March 24th Sunday of Orthodoxy

Memorial for Carl Nowmos

Wednesday, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24 Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 pm

Monday, March 25th Annunciation

March 31st Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

April 7th Veneration of the Cross

April 14th St. John Climacus

April 21st St Mary of Egypt

Saturday April 27th Lazarus Saturday

April 28th Palm Sunday The Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem - Pancake Breakfast

April 30th Great & Holy Tuesday

May 1st Great & Holy Wednesday Holy Unction

May 2nd Great & Holy Thursday 12 Gospels

May 3rd Great & Holy Friday

May 4th Great & Holy Saturday

May 5th Holy Pascha

May 12th St Thomas

May 19th Myrrh-bearing Women

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, Rudina Dodbiba, Dorothy Tomassini (2 yrs.), Robert Steffon, Leri Chochua, James Bendo, Paul Stavrou, Carl Nowmos, Paula Kosta (7 yrs.), Ernie Douris (9 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, Reader David Brook, Reader Chris Manosis, Vladimir Melnik, Susan Melnik, Virginia Rubus, 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*

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

Last Judgement/Meatfare Sunday is officially the last day before Easter for eating meat. It commemorates Christ's parable of the Last Judgment (Mt 25.31–46). We are reminded this day that it is not enough for us to see Jesus, to see ourselves as we are, and to come home to God as his prodigal sons. We must also be his sons by following Christ, his only-begotten divine Son, and by seeing Christ in every man and by serving Christ through them. Our salvation and final judgment will depend upon our deeds, not merely on our intentions or even on the mercies of God devoid of our own personal cooperation and obedience.

... for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and in prison and you visited Me. For truly I say to you, if you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me (Mt 25).

We are saved not merely by prayer and fasting, not by "religious exercises" alone. We are saved by serving Christ through his people, the goal toward which all piety and prayer is ultimately directed.

Great Lent begins Monday, March 18th, Father Kai will serve **Pre-sanctified Liturgy Wednesday night beginning March 20th. @ 6:00pm.** We plan to have Lenten (Pot Luck) dinner and fellowship in the church hall following the Pre-sanctified Liturgy. *Father Kai will serve Presanctified liturgy every Wednesday, March 20th, March 27, April 3rd, April 10th, April 17th, April 24th beginning at 6:00 pm.* It is a beautiful service and we ask you and your families attend.

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

March 3rd Spiro & Coraluzzi Families in memory of Miss Dorothy

March 10th Vilma Kasapi in memory of Andrea Kasapi and Viktori Xhoxhi

March 17th Bendo Family in memory of Jim

March 24th Marion Merkle in memory of Carl Nowmos

March 31st NO SPONSOR

April 7th NO Sponsor

April 14th NO Sponsor

Semi Annual Parish Meeting: March 17, 2024 during coffee hour. Parish business to be discussed: Building update, Church Finances, Social Activities, selection of delegates for Archdiocesan Assembly September 20-21, 2024 at our sister church, Ss. Peter & Paul. The minutes from the semi-annual meeting held October 22, 2023 will the agenda will be emailed next week.

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 March: paper napkins.

