

The Weekly Messenger – March 30, 2025
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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This Week Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31
Next Week Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

Upcoming Events:

March 30th St. John Climacus **April 6th** St Mary of Egypt 3 yr. Memorial +Dorothy Tomassini
Saturday April 12th Lazarus Saturday 10:00 am Divine Liturgy & Sunday school retreat
April 13th Palm Sunday The Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem – coffee hour -Pancake Breakfast

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, April 16th Great & Holy Wednesday Holy Unction 6:30 pm
Thursday, April 17th Great & Holy Thursday 12 Gospels 6:30 pm
Friday, April 18th Great & Holy Friday **10:00 am** decorate Epitaphios, **5:00pm** Taking down from the Cross **7:00 pm** Lamentations
Saturday, April 19th Great & Holy Saturday **11:00 am** 1st Resurrection Liturgy **11:30 pm** Nocturnes, Matins Paschal Liturgy
April 20th Agape Vespers 1:00 pm
April 27th St Thomas Sunday 2 yr Memorial +Robert Dardaris
May 4th Myrrh-bearing Women 3 yr Memorial +Steve Cosmo

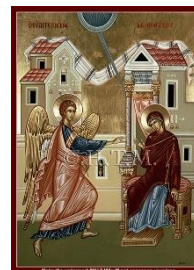
Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Anastasios of Tirana, Durrës and All Albania, Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin, Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, Priftëresha Olga, the victims of the war in the Middle East, the victims in Ukraine, Barbara Barry, Peter Mallios (9 yrs.), Florence Vissar (10 yrs.), Nick Naum (12 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, Hieromonk Danaks (Father Dennis), Ellen Mondlak, Michele Holl, Nancy, Marjorie, Lee Constantine Elia, Teri Douris, 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*

Metropolitan Joan of Korçë to be enthroned March 29. On March 16, 2025, the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Albania elected Metropolitan Joan of Korçë as the new Archbishop of Tirana, Durrës, and All Albania, with his enthronement scheduled for March 29, 2025. Bishop Nikodhim, Chancellor Mark Doku and Father Nicholas Dellermann will attend the enthronement.

March Giving – Bottle Water”

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



March 25th Every year during Great Lent, we celebrate the Great Feast of the Annunciation to the Most-Holy Theotokos on March 25. This beautiful “festal interlude” allows us to again marvel before the great mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God. At His conception “without seed” the “Word became flesh.” He will be born in nine months time, but the actual incarnation is marked when He entered the womb of the Virgin Mary—when she was “overshadowed” by the Holy Spirit. Since her Son is the pre-eternal Son, Word and Wisdom of God, she becomes the *Theotokos*—literally, the “God-bearer”. In an extraordinarily fine passage, the 14th century Saint Nicholas

Cabasilas explains the role, not only of the Holy Trinity in this great mystery, but also that of the Theotokos, thus revealing to us the meaning of *synergy*, or of cooperating with God.

Feast Days are not just theological ideas. They are days of worship, because it is in worship that we actualize and participate in the reality being commemorated: “Today is revealed the mystery that is from all eternity” we sing on the Great Feast of the Annunciation. We celebrate the Feasts Days of the Church liturgically so that we can gather as the Body of Christ and rejoice together over the saving events that manifest God’s mercy and grace to the world. On this feast let us praise God for the awesome mystery of the Incarnation

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John of the Ladder

commemorates our Righteous Father John Climacus. He is called Climacus due to his authorship of the great spiritual work The Ladder of Divine Ascent. His commemoration is designated by the Church on one of the Sundays of Lent as his life and writings affirm him as a supreme bearer and proponent of Christian asceticism. The ascetic example of this great Saint of the Church inspires us in our Lenten journey. [ReadMore](#) on the OCA Website.



LAZARUS SATURDAY RETREAT for children and adults April 12th the Divine Liturgy will begin @ 10:00. Father Kai will conduct the Liturgy on the Solea and explain what he is doing during the Liturgy. It is most informative. If you and your children would like to participate in the Lazarus Saturday retreat please email info@stjcaoc.org We will make Meshe, do some crafting and have pizza for lunch. All Welcome!

Presanctified Liturgy Wednesday night @ 6:00pm. Only 2 days left!!We will have Lenten (Pot Luck) dinner and fellowship in the church hall following the Pre-sanctified Liturgy. It would be nice if more parishioners attend this very beautiful service.

Coffee Hour: The 2025 Coffee Hour Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule. Please pick a date! Or go online to pick a date by clicking [COFFEEHOUR](#)

March 30th Bendo & Fiss Families

April 6th Coraluzzi/Spiro Families in Memory of +Dorothy Tomassini

April 13th Pancake Breakfast **April 20th** Pascha – No Coffee Hour

April 27th Dardaris Family in memory of +Bob Dardaris

May 4th Dimitri-Cosmo Family in memory of +Steven Cosmo

May 11th Mother’s Day -NO SPONSOR

Red Egg Dye is available at the candle stand. It is \$4.00 per pack.