

The Weekly Messenger – September 28, 2025

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: 1st Sunday of Luke II Corinthians 6:1-2 Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Next Week Epistle: 2nd Sunday of Luke II Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1 Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, Oct 4th Vespers 5:00 pm

Oct 5th 3-yr Memorial Jonathan Rhodes

Saturday, Oct 11th Church Fall Clean-up 2:00 pm – 5:00pm This is a good way for students to earn community service hours.

Oct 12th Chrismation - Colleen Ryan-Xhoxhi

Oct 19th 10 year Memorial Jorgia Kashari

Semi Annual Parish Meeting during coffee hour

Wedding - Jovana Vasili & Martin Qyra 2:00 pm

Saturday, Oct 25th Baptism of Talulah Rose Krygier 10:00 am daughter of Kristin Cosmo & Stephan Krygier

Oct 26th Fall Costume Party during coffee hour

Nov 2nd Memorial Reader Chris Manosis 1 year

Commemorations for the Departed: Archbishop Nikon, Protopresbyter Arthur Liolin Chancellor Emeritus of the Albanian Archdiocese, the victims of the war in Gaza and the rest of the Middle East, the victims in Ukraine, Jonathan Rhodes (3 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 Gaza and the rest of the Middle East, the people in Ukraine, Newly married Michelle Dardaris & Joseph Bassett III, The Dardaris & Bassett Families, Richard Cotto, Betty Subashi, Gerald Mondlak, Nancy, Teri Douris, Stephanos Sarris, 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: The 2025 Coffee Hour Sign-up sheet is posted in the side vestibule.

<https://stjcaoc.org/event-calendar/>

Sept 28th Hot Dog Sale

Oct 5th Fr. Dennis & Sarah in memory of Jonathan

Oct 12th Sergio & Colleen in honor of Colleen's Chrismation

Oct 19th Kashari Family in Memory of Jorgjia

Oct 26th Jola & Gjergji Gjogu

Nov 2nd The Family of Reader Chris Manosis

Nov 9th Nikoleta & George Prifti

**Matins begin at 9:00 am every Sunday. In church & livestreamed
Great Vespers return Saturday, October 4th, 2025 at 5:00 pm**

Monthly Giving for September: Paper towels

First Sunday of Luke: Saint Luke, was of Greek origin born in the Hellenistic city of Antioch, and was extremely educated. His studies included Greek philosophy, medicine, and art in his youth. He was also a professional physician. St. Luke came to Jerusalem where he came to believe in the Lord. He and Cleopas met the resurrected Lord on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24).

After Pentecost, Luke returned to Antioch and worked with the Apostle Paul, traveling with him to Rome, and converting Jews and pagans to the Christian Faith. "Luke, the beloved physician... greets you," writes the Apostle Paul to the Colossians (Colossians 4:14). At the request of Christians, St. Luke wrote his Gospel in the first century. According to some accounts this took place around 60 A.D., and according to others around 80 A.D.

After St. Paul's martyrdom, St. Luke preached the Gospel throughout Italy, Dalmatia, Macedonia, and other regions. He painted icons of the Most-holy Theotokos—not just one, but three—as well as icons of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul. For this reason, St. Luke is considered the founder of Christian iconography.

In his old age, he visited Libya and Upper Egypt; from Egypt he returned to Greece, where he continued to preach and convert many with great zeal despite his age.

In addition to his Gospel, St. Luke wrote the Acts of the Apostles and dedicated each of these works to Theophilus, the governor of Achaia. Luke was 84 years old when the wicked idolaters tortured him for the sake of Christ and hanged him from an olive tree in the town of Thebes, in Beothia of Greece.

Coffee Hour open dates: We do not have coffee hour sponsors for the following dates:

- November 30th December 14th Dec 21st Dec 28th

Please coordinate with a friend or family member and sponsor a coffee hour!

Raffle Basket to benefit Sunday School: Elisabeth Papa raised \$730.00 for the Sunday school by



raffling a basket of school supplies – which she paid for with her own money. The lucky winner was Ariana Mondlak who then shared the contents of the basket with the kids in church! Thank you so very much Elisabeth and Ariana. You both are extraordinary young ladies and we are so blessed to have you as part of our church family.

Saturday, October 11th at 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm we will have our Fall Church Clean-up. We need your help as we have all of the needed cleaning supplies, we need people to use them! This is an excellent way for student to earn community service hours. Please mark your calendar and come lend a hand!



Painting the inside of the Church Sergio Georgi and Anila Vero have been working with painter Gentian Marku to pick colors and begin painting the inside of the church. We have been talking about this project for a couple of years and now it is about to begin. Thank you to Sergio, Anila and Gentian for moving this project forward!



Dining room set & breakfront cabinet FREE

The furniture belongs to Niko & Luiza Salavaci and is ready for pickup. Contact Nilda Salavachi if you are interested. 610-618-6122

