

The Weekly Messenger – September 7, 2025

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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This Week Epistle: Galatians -6:11-18 Gospel: John 3:13-17

Next Week Epistle: Epistle I Corinthians 1:18-24 Gospel John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30(-35)

Upcoming Events:

Monday, Sept 8th Nativity of the Theotokos – prayers will be said on Sunday, Sept 7th.
Sept 14th Exaltation of the Holy Cross - First day of Sunday School/Blessing of the Backpacks
Sept 26-27 Albanian Archdiocese Assembly, Farmington Hills, MI (We have 9 people attending)
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 Semi Annual Parish Meeting during coffee hour
Wedding - Jovana Vasili & Martin Qyra 2:00 pm

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, 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, 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 7th Marinela & Fred Tsapournas

Sept 21st Petuqi/Prifti/Pire families

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

Oct 19th Kashari Family

Sept 14th Papakroni Family

Sept 28th Hot Dog Sale

Oct 12th Sergio & Colleen

Oct 26th Jola & Gjergji Gjogu

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!

*Please remember to make your 2025 pledge and if you bid on Icons to send in the amount you bid.
If you have any questions please contact our treasurer, Zach Smith <mailto:treasurer@stjcaoc.org>*

Monthly Giving for September: Paper towels

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Lord spoke this parable. “There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. “When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and collect his inheritance.’ And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. “When therefore the owner of the Vineyard comes, what will he do with his tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those rascals to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give them the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: “The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?”



Nativity of the Theotokos September 8th In addition to the celebration of the Annunciation, there are three major feasts in the Church honoring Mary, the Theotokos. The first of these is the feast of her nativity which is kept on the eighth of September. The record of the birth of Mary is not found in the Bible. The traditional account of the event is taken from the apocryphal writings which are not part of the New Testament scriptures. The traditional teaching which is celebrated in the hymns and verses of the festal liturgy is that Joachim and Anna were a pious Jewish couple who were among the small and faithful remnant—“the poor and the needy”—who were awaiting the promised messiah. The couple was old and childless. They prayed earnestly to the Lord for a child, since among the Jews barrenness was a sign of God’s disfavor. In answer to their prayers, and as the reward of their unwavering fidelity to God, the elderly couple was blessed with the child who was destined, because of her own personal goodness and holiness, to become the Mother of the Messiah-Christ.



Raffle Basket to benefit Sunday School: Elisabeth Papa has put together another basket for a raffle with the proceeds to benefit the Sunday School. Elisabeth coordinated a raffle last year and raised over \$500.00. The basket contains an Owala 20 oz FreeSip Sway Stainless Water Bottle, Sol de Janerio Delicia Drench Jet Set from Sephora, a night light and many school supplies. She bought the items in the basket with her own money and put the basket together herself. Please buy a raffle tix from the Chairperson of our Sunday School Fundraising Committee, Elisabeth Papa!!

September Namedays Për shumë vjet!

September 5th Saint Zachariah September 14th Elevation of the Cross

September 5th Saint Elizabeth September 17th Saint Stavros

September 9th Saint Anna September 17th Martyr Sophia

Welcome to our visitors. Father Kai and 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.