

he Weekly Messenger – November 16, 2025

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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This Week Epistle: Romans 10:11-11:2 (4th Tuesday after Pentecost) Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13

Next Week Epistle: 9th Sunday of Luke Ephesians 2:14-22 (24th after Pentecost) Gospel Luke 12:16-21

Upcoming Events:

Saturday Nov 15th Nativity Fast Begins

Saturday, Nov 15th Vespers 5:00 pm with Bishop Nikodhim & Philadelphia Brotherhood Clergy
A light dinner will be provided in the church hall following Vespers

Nov 16th Bishop Nikodhim visits our Parish for our Nameday Hierarchical Liturgy 10:00 am

Thursday, Nov 20th Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple Vesperral Liturgy 6:00 pm

Friday, Nov 21th Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple Vesperral Liturgy Thursday night

Nov 23rd Flag Day Prayers at 11:00 am Memorials Helen and Raphael Theokary

Friday, Nov 28th Albanian Flag Day

Saturday Nov 29th 3:00 pm Baptism of Aaron & Nicholas Spiro, sons of Chris & Kimlita Spiro
and grandsons of Jim & Elaine Spiro,

Saturday, Dec 6th 3:00pm Decorate the church for the Nativity followed by Vespers

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, Fatime Hyseneshi, Michael Cosmo (8 yrs.) Valentina Rhodes (8 yrs.), Angelo Douris (12 yrs.), Katherine Dardaris (20 yrs.), Alex Stavrou (39 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, Newborn Katerina Vasiu, Cindy Kamberaj, Edvin Vasiu, Newly Married Martin Qyra & Jovana Vasili, Newly Illuminated Talulah Rose Krygier, her sponsor, Traci Cosmo, Alexander Cosmo, Kristin Cosmo, Stephan Krygier, Roxane Ghicondey, Christine Schaeffer, Paul Dimitri, Linda Kosta, Marjana Kokalari, 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.

Nov 16th Parishioners bring their specialties for luncheon with Bishop Nikodhim

Nov 23rd Janice & Mike Leyden **Nov 30th** Donna Pappas

Dec 7th Salavachi & Brahollari Families in Honor Niko & Nikolas Nameday

Dec 14th Lakuriqi and Gremi Families **Dec 21st & 28th** NO SPONSORS

Congratulations and Many Years Cindy Kamberaj & Edvin Vasiu
as they and their baby daughter Katerine were churched last Sunday!



Our Patron Saint - Saint John Chrysostom - November 13th

Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople, one of the Three Hierarchs [January 30], was born at Antioch in about the year 347 into the family of a military commander. His father, Secundus, died soon after the birth of his son. His mother, Anthusa, widowed at twenty years of age, did not seek to remarry but rather devoted all her efforts to the raising of her son in Christian piety. The youth studied under the finest philosophers and rhetoricians. But, scorning the vain disciplines of pagan knowledge, the future hierarch turned himself to the profound study of Holy Scripture and prayerful contemplation. Saint Meletius, Bishop of Antioch (February 12), loved John like a son, guided him in the Faith, and in the year 367 baptized him.

After three years John was tonsured as a Reader. When Saint Meletius had been sent into exile by the emperor Valens in the year 372, John and Theodore (afterwards Bishop of Mopsuestia) studied under the experienced instructors of ascetic life, the presbyters Flavian and Diodorus of Tarsus. The highly refined Diodorus had particular influence upon the youth. When John's mother died, he embraced monasticism, which he called the "true philosophy." Soon John and his friend Basil were being considered as candidates for the episcopal office, and they decided to withdraw into the wilderness to avoid this. While Saint John avoided the episcopal rank out of humility, he secretly assisted in Basil's consecration. [READ MORE](#) about St. John Chrysostom on the OCA Website



Congratulations and Many Years to George & Nikoleta Prifti, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on November 9th, George & Nikoleta were surrounded by their family and church family as they celebrated their big day during coffee hour!



Entrance of the Theotokos to the Temple November 21st Vesperral Liturgy Thursday

Nov 20th 6:00 pm The second great feast of the Theotokos is the celebration of her entrance as a child into the Jerusalem Temple which is commemorated on the twenty-first of November. Like the feast of her nativity, this feast of Mary is without direct biblical and historical reference. But like the nativity, it is a feast filled with important spiritual significance for the Christian believer. According to the tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was brought to the Temple at three years of age, where she was consecrated to God and spent her days until she was fourteen or fifteen years old; and then, as a mature maiden, by the common counsel of the priests (since her parents had reposed some three years before), she was betrothed to Joseph.

Christmas Sock, Underwear & Blanket Drive: We are collecting socks, underwear and blankets for the homeless. A box will be located in the vestibule near the candle stand. Please drop off a package of socks, underwear and a blanket.

Saturday, December 6th @ 3:00 pm: We will gather at church to decorate the Christmas tree in the church and the tree in the church hall. We hope you can bring your children and/or grandchildren and Godchildren to decorate the trees and then stay for Vespers at 5:00 pm.

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.

Monthly Giving for November: Bottles of Water