

The Weekly Messenger – February 14, 2016
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1
Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Soup-er Bowl Sunday Thank You! Thanks once again for making the third annual St. John's Soup-er Bowl Sunday fund raiser a huge success! Many of our generous church family donated delicious homemade soups, set up, served and cleaned during coffee hour on Soup-er Bowl Sunday. As a result, St John's collected and donated \$500.00 to the Broad Street Mission!

This year there were twenty-five different and wonderfully delicious soups to choose from including ethnic specialties, some good old American favorites, and a few newly crafted recipes that just had to be tried! At \$1.00 a cup, it was great fun to be able to try several! And what a bonus, take home soup was available for just \$4.00 for a pint container and \$8.00 for quarts!

What could have been better to warm you up on a cold winter day than enjoying some really great homemade soup prepared by your friends? Knowing that the proceeds helped those in need! **Special thank you to LINDA BIANDO for organizing this event!!**

Sunday school News: NEXT SUNDAY, February 21st Ice skating from 1:00 to 3:30 at the U of P Class of 23 Rink. Sunday school director Steve Coraluzzi may be contacted at 856-562-9672, or e-mail sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org

Commemorations for the Departed: Helen Douris, William Zoidis, June Mitrocsak, Elaine Quirias, Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

Commemorations for the Living: Archbishop Nikon, Pope Francis, Donna Hlavacek, Jenny Sapnas, Betty Subashi, Betty Ledford, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Susan, Philip Kosta, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Peter Mallios George Robos, Clive & Dhimitri Miller, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Andigoni Steffa, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

February giving: Paper Napkins

Sunday of Zacchaeus February 14th : The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he "sought to see who Jesus was" (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation. <http://oca.org/saints/lives/2016/02/14/1-sunday-of-zacchaeus>

Upcoming Events:

Feb 14th Stewardship Committee Presentation
Feb 16th Charity & Benevolence meeting 7:00 pm
Feb 21st Sunday school ice skating outing
March 5th Women's Day dance
March 6th Meatfare Sunday & Charity & Benevolence Presentation
March 13th Cheesefare & Forgiveness Sunday
March 14th Great Lent Begins
March 15th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm
March 20th Semi-Annual Parish meeting during coffee hour

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you to those who have signed up!

Feb 14th Stewardship Committee
Feb 21st Ann Gjoka & Linda Notskas
Feb 28th Ed & Elena Papa
March 6th Charity & Benevolence Committee
March 13th Spartak Brahillari 1 year memorial for Shyqyrie (Spartak's Mother)
March 20th OPEN DATE – no sponsor

Readers Schedule: Feb 14th Reader Mark, Feb 21st Michele D, Feb 28th Adam C., March 6th Chris M., March 13th Reader Mark, March 20th Michele D

Parishioner News: *Chris Mallios* (past parish council chairperson), son of Peter & Diane Mallios was elected to the position of Judge of the Common Pleas Court in Philadelphia. Chris has invited all of the parishioners of St John Chrysostom to attend the swearing in ceremony on Friday, February 19, 2016 at 4:00 pm in courtroom 653, City Hall, Philadelphia, Pa. As far as we know Chris is the first Albanian American Judge elected to the Common Pleas Court! A reception follows the swearing-in ceremony and all are invited! We hope you can attend and show your support of Chris and his family.

Welcome to our visitors. Father Brooks, 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.