

The Weekly Messenger – November 27, 2016

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10 Gospel: Luke 18:18-27

Name Day Celebration - It was great to have Bishop NIKON here last Sunday. A great turn out and fabulous food after the Liturgy. Congratulations to Chris Manosis and Zach Dardaris for being tonsured as readers by the archbishop. And, Congratulations to Bessie Satir and Steve Ghicondes, who were presented with the Herald of St. Constantine & St. Helena by the archbishop. All in all, it was a very good day. I had time to talk with His Eminence, which was very helpful. He was extremely pleased with the beauty of our church and mentioned it several times. I assured him that St. John's is a great parish, one of the best in the OCA. He loves you all, and I love you, too. Great week-end!

Fr. Brooks' sabbatical - I will be taking December off. I will serve on the 4th of December and be back on the 5th of January. While I am gone, Fr. Emanuel will be the priest in charge. He is really a good priest; please get to know him. Blessings, Fr. Brooks

Saturday, December 3rd at 10:00 am we will be decorating the church. Please stop by and give us a hand! The more people who come out to help out the quicker we will be done!!

Help the Homeless and those less fortunate than us: donate travel size, sample size: shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toothbrushes, and hand sanitizers for the homeless in our area. We are also requesting WHITE SOCKS, all sizes, men's, women's, children's sizes. A collections box is located in the side vestibule. Contact Sandi Fiss with questions.

Sunday school: The students and teachers are working on the Christmas Pageant, which will be presented on Sunday, December 18th, following the Divine Liturgy. Our Pageant Director, Sandi Fiss, is very excited about this year's presentation. Bring your family, bring your friends, and bring your camera. We have the most precious angles and shepherds in the greater Philadelphia area! Join us!!!

Monthly giving for November Single Ply Toilet Paper Thank you to those who have already donated toilet paper.

Albanian Flag Day: November 28 marks the declaration of independence by Albania after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in 1912. Proclaimed during the National Assembly of Vlora, on that date the flag was officially accepted as the symbol of the independent nation of Albania. We are very proud of our Albanian Heritage!

Commemorations for the Departed: Gregory Bendo, Marci Moore (3 years), 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: Michele Coraluzzi, Thomas Anderson, Elizabeth Jones, Tom Zoidis, John Kolea, Jr., William Spiro, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Semele Halkedis, Katherine Halkedis, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Philip Kosta, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Clive Miller, Kim Burdumy, Andigoni Steffa, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

Upcoming Events:

Nov 27th 3 Year Memorial for Gregory Bendo & Sunday school Albanian Thanksgiving
SATURDAY Dec 3rd 10:00 am Decorate Church for Nativity

YAL 5:00 -6:30 pm - Dinner outing following meeting

Dec 4th 1 year Memorial for Mary Croke (Linda Biando's Mother)

SATURDAY December 10th Christmas outing, Lunch & the Philly Pops

Dec 18th Sunday school Christmas Pageant following the Divine Liturgy

Santa & Mrs. Claus will visit during coffee hour

SATURDAY December 24th Christmas Eve Liturgy @ 6:00 pm

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Our sincere thanks to all who have or are going to sponsor a coffee hour this year.

November 20th Parish Nameday – parishioners bring their Lenten specialty

November 27th Bendo Family in memory of Gregory

December 4th Biando Family in Memory of Linda's Mother, Mary

December 11th Salavachi Family in honor of Niko's Nameday

December 18th Chris Manosis – Chris' Nameday is December 25th

December 25th No Liturgy we will Celebrate the Nativity Liturgy on Dec 24th

No refreshments on Dec 24th

The 2017 Coffee Hour sign-up sheet will be posted in the side vestibule. Please pick a date!

Christmas Card Alert: We are asking our parishioners to send Christmas cards to those who are not able to come to church and those who are ill. If you have someone who could use some holiday cheer, please send us their name & address. A list will be available at the candle stand or you can request the list of names by emailing:

info@stjohnsphila.org