

The Weekly Messenger – Dec 30, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!
KRISHTI LINDI! LAVDËROJENI ATË!

Sunday after the Nativity: Commemoration of the Holy Righteous David the King, Joseph the Betrothed, and James the Brother of the Lord
The Holy Prophet-King David, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, and Saint James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity. If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, their commemoration is moved to December 26.

At an early date, some churches in the East began to commemorate certain important figures of the New Testament at the time of Theophany, and later during the Nativity season. In Syria, for example, Saint Stephen (December 27), Saints James (April 30) and John (September 26), and Saints Peter and Paul (June 29) were commemorated near the end of December.

In Jerusalem, the saints mentioned above were combined with a feast that the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted Saint James (October 23) for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David. In time, Saint Joseph was linked with Saints David and James. <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2008/12/28/86-sunday-after-the-nativity-commemoration-of-the-holy-righteous-da>

Please Return your Icons: On of January 6th, 2019, we will hold part 1 of our Annual Icon Auction. *We ask that you return the Icon so that we can prepare for the 2019 Auction.* A list of Icons available for bids will be on our website. Even if you are not able to attend the Icon Auction you can still submit a bid or make a donation in honor of your patron saint. If you bid on an Icon in 2018 and have not made your donation there is still time

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.

2019 Calendars are available at the candle stand. Our thanks to Vraim Funeral Home for donating the calendars to our parish.

Commemorations for the Departed: Kristo Joseph, Greg Vrato, Sr., Philip, Connie & Stephanie Manosis, Jorgjia Kashari, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country. *If you have a name to add to the Commemorations for the departed or the living please email info@stjohnsphila.org*

Commemorations for the Living: Ensign Zach Dardaris, Marion Merkle, Tala Ayyad, Diane Mallios, Reader Chris Manosis, Rose Adams, Evangeline Prifti, Lisa Kelley, Donna Hlavcek, Father Dimitrie Vincent, Dolly Seiler, Sara, Elizabeth Jones, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in the Armed Forces

Upcoming Events:

Jan 6th Epiphany and Part 1 of the Annual Icon Auction
Tuesday, Jan 8th Parish Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm
Jan 13th Part 2 of the Annual Icon Auction
Feb 3rd Soup-er Bowl Sunday

Sunday school: Special thanks to Sandi Fiss for once again coordinating the Christmas pageant/play. Photos have been posted on our website: <http://www.stjohnsphila.org> Special thanks to Paula and Jim Bendo for donating the gifts given to the children by Santa and Mrs. Claus! And of course, thank you to Santa & Mrs. Claus for stopping by during coffee hour!



Coffee Hour Sponsors: Our sincere thanks to all who have or are going to sponsor a coffee hour in 2018. Thanks to Jim Bendo we have a 2019 coffee hour sign-up sheet. It is posted in the side vestibule. Please pick a date and sponsor a coffee hour in 2019!

Dec 30th Marion Merkle, Marge & Steve Nowmos

Jan 6th Sunday school

Jan 13th No Sponsor

If you have something for the Weekly Messenger please email info@stjohnsphila.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
GËZUAR VITIN E RI!