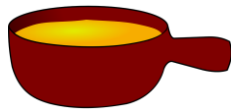


**The Weekly Messenger – February 4, 2018**  
**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**  
237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Father Brooks Ledford Office: 215-563-0979  
Website: <http://www.stjohnsphila.org>  
Email address: [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)

*Epistle: I Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32*

**The Sunday of the Prodigal Son:** is the second Sunday of a three-week period prior to the commencement of Great Lent. On the previous Sunday, the services of the Church began to include hymns from the Triodion, a liturgical book that contains the services from the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, the tenth before Pascha (Easter), through Great and Holy Saturday. As with the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, the theme of this Sunday is repentance, and the focus on the parable of the Prodigal Son leads Orthodox Christians to contemplate the necessity of repentance in our relationship with our Heavenly Father. <https://www.goarch.org/prodigalson?inheritRedirect=true>

**Soup-er Bowl Sunday:** THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH we will have our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Soup-er Bowl Sunday following the Divine Liturgy. If possible please bring your soup heated up - Even better if you have a crockpot that would be perfect! We will offer the soup at coffee hour for a small donation. The proceeds will be donated to charity. This is a soup-er fun event. We encourage all to attend and bring a friend!!



**Commemorations for the Departed:** Pandora Bendo, Susan Thomas, Steven DiStefano, Larry Jance, James Pandeli, Charlie Daka, Nico Mallozzi, 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:** Joseph Urquhart, Sara, Craig Risley, Wayne Merkle, Elizabeth Jones, Ann Gjoka, Virginia Daka, Katherine Halkedis, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Margarita, Peter Melnik, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

If you have news for the messenger please send it to [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org)

**The Women's Day Celebration and Dance:** Will be here before you know it! Saturday, March 3, 2018, 5:00 – 10:00 pm in the Church Hall. Tickets are \$50.00, \$20.00 for children under 12. A buffet dinner and continuous dancing are included! Soda & coffee will be provided BY.O.B. Please visit our website to register or contact Nilda Salavachi [trustee.nilda@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:trustee.nilda@stjohnsphila.org) for tickets or other information.

**Save the Date:** Our first Paint Event Social will be **Saturday, April 28th at 4pm** in our fellowship hall at St. John Chrysostom. You will get a chance to socialize with your fellow parishioners, enjoy a glass of wine, light appetizers and most importantly you get to paint and keep your own work of art. Non-church members are also welcome and their invitation is encouraged. We can introduce them to our church and other fellow members. Tickets are \$30 per person and all proceeds will go to the church. Please contact Fiori Papa or Michele Lorimer for more information.

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** *Please check the sign-up sheet in the vestibule and pick a date!*

**February 4th** Soup-er Sunday

**February 11th** Tarazi-Chanoine Family

**February 18th** Vito Bigo & Elviro Gusho

**February 25th** OPEN DATE No Sponsor

**March 4th** OPEN DATE No sponsor

**March 11th** OPEN DATE No sponsor

**Upcoming Events:**

**Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 2018** Soup-er Bowl Sunday

**Feb 11<sup>th</sup>** Meatfare Sunday,

**Tuesday Feb 13<sup>th</sup>** Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

**Feb 18<sup>th</sup>** Cheesefare/Forgiveness Sunday

**Feb 19<sup>th</sup>** Lent begins,

**Feb 25<sup>th</sup>** Sunday of Orthodoxy

**Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Annual Women's Day Dance – all invited!

**March 11<sup>th</sup>** 3 Year Memorial Flossie Vissar

**Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>** Paint Event Social

**2018 Pledge cards are available at the Candle Stand.** You can also go online to <https://stjohnsphila.org/pledge.html> to make your pledge. We gladly accept credit card donations online as well as payments made automatically from your checking account. Thank you to those who have made their 2018 pledge.

**February Namedays:** **Per Shume Vjet! Gezuar!** 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of our Lord (Panajoti), 3<sup>rd</sup> St Simeon the God Bearer, 5<sup>th</sup> Martyr Agatha, 10<sup>th</sup> Hieromartyr Haralambos, 18<sup>th</sup> Leo, Pope of Rome

**Monthly giving for February: Paper Napkins**