

The Weekly Messenger – January 7, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: acts 19:1-8 Gospel: John 1:29-34

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
GËZUAR VITIN E RI!

The Great Feast of Theophany is more ancient than that of Christ's Nativity. In fact, it was precisely on January 6 that the Church first celebrated Christ's birth (and the adoration of the Magi), together with His baptism in the Jordan. These events—of the greatest significance not only in the life of Christ but in the “economy” of our salvation—were united in one celebration known as “Theophany,” which means “manifestation of God.” (The Feast is also referred to as “Epiphany,” which simply means “manifestation.”) Read more:

<https://oca.org/reflections/fr.-steven-kostoff/one-baptism-for-the-remission-of-sins>

Annual Icon Auction: SUNDAY January 7, 2018, Part 1 of our Annual Icon 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 2017 and have not made your donation there is still time. Please send a check or go online to our website www.stjohnsphila.org and select the Donate button. Thank you!

Commemorations for the Departed: Joseph Gjoka (29 yrs), Pandeli Spiro, 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: Newborn Nicholas, Fjorentina & Ilir Gremi, Newly Pandora Bendo, Linda Dudash, Craig Risley, Larry Jance, Sara, 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

It is with pleasure we announce the 2017 Fantasy Football Champion: Eldion Pajollari (Team Skenderbeu), 2nd place: Aidan & Jim Bendo (Team Holy Field Goals), 3rd place, Rich Detskas (Team Shiqiptar Shqiponjas). Many thanks to Commissioner Peter Ghicondey, for once again coordinating the league activities. It was a great season and those who participated had much fun. The Fantasy Football League donated \$305.00 to our parish. Thank you all those who participated. We look forward to 2018!

Father Brooks will be on vacation from January 8th – January 23rd, 2018. Father Gregory DuDash will celebrate the Divine Liturgy on January 14th and Jan 21st. There will be a priest who will be available for our parishioners should they be in need.

Coffee Hour Sponsors:

January 7th Sunday school - hot dog sale
January 14th OPEN DATE – no sponsor
January 21st Kosta Family 1 yr Memorial for Phil
January 28th OPEN DATE – no sponsor
February 4th Soup-er Sunday
February 11th Family of Paul Spiro 40-day memorial

Upcoming Events:

January 7th, 2018 Holy Epiphany (Blessing of the water) Pt.1 of the Annual Icon Auction
Jan 8th – Jan 23rd Father Brooks on vacation
January 14th 2018 Part 2 of the Annual Icon Auction
January 21st, 2018 1 Year Memorial – Philip Kosta
February 4th 2018 Soup-er Bowl Sunday

Per Shume Vjet Gezuar! January Namedays: 1st St. Basil, 7th St John the Baptist, 11th St Theodosius, 14th St Nina, 17th St Anthony, 18th St Athanasius, 20th St Euthymius, 23rd St Dionysius of Korca, 25th St Gregory, Jan 30th Hierarchs (Basil, Gregory, John Chrysostom)

Monthly giving for January: Paper Towels

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS DONATIONS!

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.

2018 Calendars are available at the candle stand. Our thanks to Vraim Funeral Home for donating the calendars to our parish.