

The Weekly Messenger – November 18, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle: Ephesians 4:1-7 Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple: The second great feast of the Theotokos is the celebration of her entrance as a child into the Jerusalem Temple which is commemorated on the twenty-first of November. Like the feast of her nativity, this feast of Mary is without direct biblical and historical reference. But like the nativity, it is a feast filled with important spiritual significance for the Christian believer.

The texts of the service tell how Mary was brought as a small child to the temple by her parents in order to be raised there among the virgins consecrated to the service of the Lord until the time of their betrothal in marriage. According to Church tradition, Mary was solemnly received by the temple community which was headed by the priest Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. She was led to the holy place to be “nourished” there by the angels in order to become herself the “holy of holies” of God, the living sanctuary and temple of the Divine child who was to be born in her.

Read more: <https://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-church-year/entrance-of-the-theotokos-to-the-temple>

Nameday Celebration: It was a very wonderful day for our parish. A beautiful Liturgy, and sermon by Father Brooks, followed by exceptional food and fellowship. Thank you so very much to our parishioners who brought food, set up, cleaned up, took home tablecloths to wash and helped out in any other way. This is truly the best parish!

Commemorations for the Departed: Michael Cosmo (1 year), Angelo Douris (5 years) Katherine Dardaris (13 years), Alex Stavrou (32 years), Marie Daka, 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: 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.

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, this year November 27th and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. Nilda Salavachi has created a donation page for our parish. Please contact Nilda salavacis@yahoo.com for more information.

Annual Christmas Outing – Formerly the Ladies Society Christmas Outing:

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - *Saturday, December 8th*, 11:00 am, we will see *A Christmas Carol* at the Walnut Street Theater - after the play lunch at Barra Rosa 929 Walnut Street. There are 40 tickets available for the play. Unlimited for lunch. The cost for the play and show is \$70.00, lunch only \$40.00. You must pay for the tickets prior to November 25th. No tickets will be held and tickets cannot be paid for at the door. For more info contact salavacis@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events:

Nov 18th 1-year memorial Michael Cosmo and Sunday School Thanksgiving Program
Tuesday, Nov 20th 7:00 pm Vesperal Liturgy Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple followed by pot luck dinner in the church hall.

Nov 28th Albanian Flag Day

Dec 2nd 2019 Budget Presentation during coffee hour

Dec 8th Christmas Outing and Luncheon

Dec 16th 1-year memorial Paul Spiro, 3-year memorial Mary Croke

Dec 23rd Sunday School Christmas Pageant following the Divine Liturgy

Dec 24th 5:00 pm Vesperal Liturgy, Nativity of our Lord

Coffee Hour Sponsors: *THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH TO OUR GENEROUS FAMILIES!!!*

The sign-up sheet for 2019 is posted in the vestibule. Pick a date for next year!!

Nov 18th Cosmo-Dimitri Family in memory of Michael

Nov 25th Sunday School

Dec 2nd Leyden Family

Dec 9th Salavaci Family in honor of Niko's Nameday

Dec 16th Biando and Coraluzzi/Spiro families in Memory of Mary (Linda's Mom) and Paul Spiro

Dec 23rd Chris Manosis

Dec 30th OPEN DATE

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.

Monthly giving for November Single Ply Toilet Paper

Thank you for the paper towels donated in October