

The Weekly Messenger – February 3, 2019
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

237 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Father Brooks Ledford Office: 215-563-0979 or fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org

Website: <https://www.stjohnsphila.org>

Email address: info@stjohnsphila.org

Epistle: II Corinthians 6:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

February 2nd commemorates an important event in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 2:22-40). Forty days after His birth the God-Infant was taken to the Jerusalem Temple, the center of the nation's religious life. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple of God for forty days. At the end of this time the mother came to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb or pigeon to the Lord as a purification sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin, the Mother of God, had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity without defilement. However, she humbly fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

Read more: <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2015/02/02/100407-the-meeting-of-our-lord-and-savior-jesus-christ-in-the-temple>

Soup-er Bowl Sunday: This Sunday we will have our 6th Annual Soup-er Bowl Sunday following the Divine Liturgy. We are asking our parishioners to donate a homemade soup. If possible, please bring your soup heated up, in a crockpot if you have one, otherwise a regular pot will work. We will offer the soup at coffee hour for a small donation. The proceeds will be donated to a charity.



Father Gregory DuDash celebrate the Divine Liturgy with us this Sunday. Father Brooks will return next Sunday, February 10, 2019.

Annual Icon Auction: Many thanks to our auctioneer, Sergio Georgi, our Sunday school students, who displayed the Icons and to Fiori Papa and Nilda Salavachi who kept the records. Bids totaling \$12,425.00 were made. In addition to sending a check or cash, you may click this link <https://stjohnsphila.org/donate.html> and make a payment online. **Please be sure to indicate your donation is for ICONS in the comments area.** *Thank you to all who participated in the auction!*

Commemorations for the Departed: 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: Archbishop Nikon, Ensign Zach Dardaris, Marion Merkle, Tala Ayyad, Diane Mallios, 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

The Women's Day Celebration and Dance: Will be here before you know it! Saturday, March 2, 2019, 6:30 – 10:30 pm in the Church Hall. A buffet dinner and continuous dancing are included! Soda & coffee will be provided BY.O.B. Tickets are \$55.00 for adults and \$25.00 for children under 12. Please visit our website to register or contact Nilda Salavachi treasurer@stjohnsphila.org for tickets or other information.

Upcoming Events:

Feb 3rd Soup-er Bowl Sunday, Father Gregory DuDash will serve

Tuesday, Feb 5th Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Saturday, Feb 23rd Vespers 5:00 pm

March 2nd Women's Day Celebration & Dance 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Feb 3rd Parishioners Homemade Soup will be sold and the proceeds donated to charity

Feb 10th Eduard & Elena Papa in honor of Marisa's 5th birthday

Feb 17th, Feb 24th, March 3rd Looking for Sponsors

2019 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 2019 pledge. Our goal for 2019 is \$60,000.00. Please help us meet our budgeted amount!

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

If you have information to share in the Weekly Messenger please send it to info@stjohnsphila.org Monthly giving for February: a box of Tissues

Thank you, Father Gregory and Linda, for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us today.