

The Weekly Messenger – Jan 6, 2019

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

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Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

**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 6, 2019, 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. Please send a check or go online to our website www.stjohnsphila.org and select the Donate button. Thank you!

Vespers Service will Return: beginning in February, the last Saturday of the month Father Brooks will conduct a Vesper Service at 5:00 pm. The service will be followed by pot luck dinner in the church hall and will feature a guest speaker. Please see Father Brooks for additional details or any questions you have.

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

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.

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

Commemorations for the Departed: Sophie Harrington (3 yrs.), Elaine Quirias (3 yrs.), Joe Gjoka (30 years), Evelina Notskas (20 years), 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: 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

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

Jan 18th – Feb 2nd Father Brooks on Vacation

Jan 20th Bob Flanagan and Vladmir Melnik will lead a Readers Typica Service

Jan 27th Father Gregory DuDash will celebrate the Divine Liturgy

Jan 27th Memorial Pandora Bendo 1 year

Feb 3rd Soup-er Bowl Sunday

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!

Jan 6th Sunday school - Hot Dog Sale!

Jan 13th Marjana Kokalari

Jan 20th Kathryn Sapnas in memory of George & Jennie Sapnas

Jan 27th Bendo Family in memory of Pandora

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

Feb 10th No Sponsor

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!

