

**The Weekly Messenger – December 27, 2015**  
**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: Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15, 7:1-5, 47-60    Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23*

***CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!***  
***KRISHTI LINDI! LAVDËROJENI ATË!***

**Please Return your Icons:** If you haven't returned your Icons please do so this Sunday. Part one of our auction is Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> and we need all of the Icons returned in order to conduct the Icon Auction.

**Readers Schedule:** Dec 27<sup>th</sup> Michele D., Jan., 3<sup>rd</sup> Adam C., Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Chris M., Jan 17<sup>th</sup> Reader Mark, Jan 24<sup>th</sup> Michele D, Jan 31<sup>st</sup> Adam C., Feb 7<sup>th</sup> Chris M.

**Commemorations for the Living:** Archbishop Nikon, Pope Francis, Peter Ghicondey, Jenny Sapnas, Betty Subashi, Betty Ledford, Haretina (Papa) Milo, Susan, Philip Kosta, Margarita, Tranette Ledford, Peter Melnik, Peter Mallios, Elaine Quirias, George Robos, Clive & Dhimitri Miller, Rosemary Notskas, Kim Burdumy, Andigoni Steffa, Leslie Shocka, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all of the men and women serving in Armed Forces.

**Commemorations for the Departed:** Nick Dimitri, Mary Croke, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen and women who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

**Upcoming Events:**

Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> Memorial Nick Dimitri  
Jan 7<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> Epiphany and Part 1 of the Icon Auction  
Jan 17<sup>th</sup> 40 Day Memorial – Mary Croke (Linda Biando's Mother)  
Part 2 of the Icon Auction  
Feb 7<sup>th</sup> Soup-er Bowl Sunday  
Feb 2016 – date to be determined, Sunday school ice skating outing

**December Giving:** Your Christmas Donation. Thank you very much!

**Sunday school:** One of the best Sunday school Christmas pageant/plays EVER! About 50 children participated in the extravaganza! What a site! So many angels, shepherds, wise men....so many beautiful children. Father Brooks commented that we should have a pageant every week! And, during the Great Entrance children carrying Icons lined both sides of the center aisle from the front of the church to the back of the church. Beautiful! Special thanks to Sandi Fiss for once again coordinating the Christmas pageant/play. Sandi does not like to be recognized for the work she does but without her a production of this magnitude would not be possible. Photos have been posted on our website: <http://www.stjohnsphila.org> If you have photos taken in the church hall when Santa & Mrs. Claus visited, please email them to [info@stjohnsphila.org](mailto:info@stjohnsphila.org) and we will include them on our website. Special thanks to Paula and Jim Bendo for donating the gifts given to the children by Santa and Mrs. Claus!

**Parishioner News:** God Bless Bella Katherine, Thomas Michael and Olivia Sofia Lorimer as they were Chrismated during the Divine Liturgy last Sunday. Bella, Thomas and Olivia are the children of Tom and Michele Lorimer and the grandchildren of Paul Dimitri & Madge Graziani. Their sponsor was Donna Dimitri. Many years to all!



Welcome to Taylor and Scout Ledford as they are visiting their parents (Father Brooks & Jamie) for the Christmas Holiday. Taylor recently graduated college and Scout is a freshman at University of North Texas. It is wonderful to have all of the Ledfords in Philadelphia as we celebrate the Nativity. Last year Father Brooks was in Texas.

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** Thank you to all of our 2015 Coffee Hour Sponsors!

Dec 27<sup>th</sup> Sara Dimitri in Memory of Nick  
Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> NO SPONSOR  
Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday School  
Jan 17<sup>th</sup> Linda & David Biando in memory of Mary Croke

**Jan 10, 2016:** Holy Theophany (Epiphany) blessing of water after the Divine Liturgy. We will have Holy Water in plastic bottles for all of our parishioners.

***Welcome Father Dennis Rhodes. Thank you for serving today!***