

The Weekly Messenger –February 2, 2014
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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OCA Readings: Epistle –1 Timothy 4:9-15 Gospel – Luke 19:1-10

Greek Arch Readings: Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 7:7-17 Gospel Luke 2:22-40

Message from Father Brooks: Dear parishioners and friends, the home blessings this year will be more drawn out than usual. Besides having to learn the Philadelphia metropolitan area (we are very spread out), I am taking my time with each household. It is important, especially this year, that I get to know you. Please be patient; it will take a while, but I will visit each of you, and I look forward to it. Peace to all.

Commemorations for the Living: Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop Nikon, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Roxane Ghicondey, Larry Kosta, Hugh Ledford, Megan Leyden McHugh, Loralyn (Biando) White, Leslie Sochka, Dolly Spiro, Daniel Coraluzzi, Andigoni Steffa, John and Mary Croke, Paula Kosta, Candace Pepenelli, Mac, Kristin Snow, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Francesca Giansante, Peter Mallios, Flossie Vissar, Pandeli, Jorgaq, Lefteri, and all the servicemen especially, Matthew Sherwood (Army-Afghanistan), Calvin Colclough (Marines–Spain)

Commemorations for the Departed: Paula Dardaris, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country. *If you would like to have someone remembered in prayer or you are in need of a Priest please contact Father Brooks Ledford. He may be reached at 210-461-1956 or you may email <mailto:fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org>*

Stewardship: Our 2014 Pledge Drive is now underway! Please fill out your pledge card (on paper or through our website, www.stjohnsphila.org Payments can be made by cash or check and by credit card via the website. Are you a fan of auto-payments? If yes, you can easily arrange this through your bank's online services (you will need the church's name, address and to type in "2014 pledge" in the account number section). Again, Thanks for your consideration and generosity!
Pledge cards are also available at the candle stand

Sunday School News: Ice skating is scheduled for Feb 23 from 1:00 to 3:30 at the U of P Class of 23 Rink. The cost for skating ticket, skate rental & food will be \$3.00 per adult, children will be no charge. e-mail sundayschooldirector@stjohnsphila.org

Meeting of the Lord: Forty days after Christ was born he was presented to God in the Jerusalem Temple according to the Mosaic Law. At this time as well his mother Mary underwent the ritual purification and offered the sacrifices as prescribed in the Law. Thus, forty days after Christmas, on the second of February, the Church celebrates the feast of the presentation called the **Meeting** (or **Presentation** or **Reception**) of the Lord. <http://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-church-year/meeting-of-the-lord>

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much!

Feb 2nd Soup-er Bowl Sunday and Michael & Carolyn Dardaris & Family

Feb 9th Sunday School Hot Dog & Meatball Sandwich Sale

Feb 16th Alfred Coni & Margarita Sevi (in honor of Alfred's Nameday)

Feb 23rd Biando Family

March 2nd Cheesefare Sunday Luncheon

March 9th Spiro & Marjana Kosta

March 16th Coraluzzi Family

Please take a look at the coffee hour sign-up sheet and pick a date!

Important Dates:

February 2nd 3 year Memorial - Paula Dardaris – Presentation of the Lord

Tuesday Feb 4th Parish Council meeting – 7:00 pm

February 23rd Meatfare Sunday. Sunday school ice skating outing

March 2nd Forgiveness/Cheesefare Sunday – Luncheon during coffee hour

Thursday, Feb 6th Archdiocesan Teleconference meeting 7:00 pm

March 3rd, Lent Begins

Wed March 5th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner and Discussion follow

Saturday, March 8th Women's Day Dance 7p-11p in the Church Hall

March 9th Spring Forward – Set clocks ahead 1 hour

Wed March 12th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner and Discussion follow

March 16th 95th anniversary of the consecration of Theophan Noli into the episcopacy

March 23rd Veneration of the Cross

Monday March 24th Vespers Liturgy 6:30 pm, no fast Pot Luck following for the

Annunciation Feast

Wed March 26th Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6:30 pm Pot Luck Dinner and Discussion follow

March 30th 1 year Memorial Nick Naum

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

February Monthly Giving: Paper Napkins