

**The Weekly Messenger –December 29, 2013**

**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**

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*Epistle – St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 1:11-19 Gospel – Matthew 2:13-23*

**Christ is Born! Glorify Him!** Thank you so very much to everyone who made a Christmas donation. God bless all of you.

**Icon Reminder:** *Our annual Icon auction will begin on Sunday, January 5, 2014. Icon auction part 2 will take place Sunday, January 12, 2014. Icons must be returned this Sunday so we can proceed with our Auction next week.*

**Commemorations for the Living:** Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop Nikon, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Newly Illuminated Theodore, Leslie Sochka, Dolly Spiro, Dino Cangelosi, Lisa Costa-Levitsky, Daniel Coraluzzi, George Douros, 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:** Nick Dimitri, George Douris, Gregory Bendo, Marcena Moore, Angelo Douris, 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>*

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** Thank you very much! (2014 Coffee Hour Sign-up Sheet Posted)  
Dec 29<sup>th</sup> Nick Dimitri 1 year Memorial  
Jan 5, 2014 Greta & Faut Hyseneshi  
Jan 12, 2014 Ann Gjoka & Linda Notskas

**Important Dates:**

December 29<sup>th</sup> 1 year Memorial for Nick Dimitri  
January 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 Holy Epiphany and part 1 of our Icon Auction  
January 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 Parish Council meeting 7:00 pm  
January 12<sup>th</sup> 2014 40 day Memorial Marcy Moore - Icon Auction part 2

**Message from Father Brooks:** Christ is Born! Hope all had a great Christmas. Epiphany is right around the corner, and I'm working out the details for the home blessings. I look forward to visiting all of you in the coming months. You will be notified at what times I will be in your area. If you are not available at those times, I will make special arrangements to come to your house. In the mean time, peace to all of you!

**Nativity Liturgy:** We were blessed to have approximately 65 people attend our Nativity Liturgy on Christmas Eve. Another blessing was the sermon given by Adam Coraluzzi, son of Steve and Diane Coraluzzi, grandson of Paul Spiro and nephew of Dorothy Tomassini and Jim Spiro. Thank you Adam you did a great job reminding us to keep Christ in Christmas and in our lives in general.

**Sunday school:** Hope you were able to enjoy our Sunday school pageant last week. One of the best pageants ever! Thank you to our wonderful students and our pageant director, Sandy Fiss! It was glorious to see “our kids” as angles, shepherds, wise men.... Sunday school classes will NOT meet on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. Classes will resume on January 5, 2014.

**Jan 5, 2014:** Holy Theophany (Epiphany) blessing of water after the Divine Liturgy. We will have Holy Water in plastic bottles for all of our parishioners.

**Donations for those less fortunate than us:** We gratefully welcome donations of new or gently used blankets, winter jackets/coats, gloves, men's and women's clothing. Thank you to those who have made donations. Linda Notskas distributed your donations to the homeless people who live in the area of our church. We will continue to collect items for the next few months. Every little bit helps!

**2014 Calendars** are available at the candle stand. Our thanks to Vraim Funeral Home for once again donating the calendars to our parish.

**Covenant House:** We are still collecting the following items for Covenant House:

**Food Items:** canned spaghetti, soup, chocolate chip granola bars, tuna fish, jelly, pasta noodles (angel hair, penne, etc.), spaghetti sauce, oatmeal; **Baby Items:** Enfamil (Premium), baby bottles, receiving blankets, pacifiers, wipes, size 5 diapers; **Hygiene Items:** white t-shirts (small, medium), socks (boys', girls', any color), underwear (teens 18- 20 years old). Please place your donation in the box located in the side vestibule.  
***Thank you to those who have made donations!***

**Monthly giving for January:** paper towels

**Happy New Year:** Wishing everyone a safe, happy and healthy New Year!