

**The Weekly Messenger –December 8, 2013**

**St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church**

**237 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103**

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*Epistle – St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:14-22 Gospel – Luke 13:10-17*

***Take a look at St. John's Administration** page and email your ideas, thoughts, and or suggestions to one or more! <http://www.stjohnsphila.org/administration.html>  
We would love to hear from you and your families!*

**Message from Father Brooks:** Saturday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> Theodore Kokalari, son of Darrien and Blerina Kokalari, grandson of Marjana and Piro Kokalari was baptized and Chrismated. We welcome Theodore to our St. John's family.  
God Bless and Many Years!

**Commemorations for the Living:** Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop Nikon, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Dino Cangelosi, Lisa Costa-Levitsky, Zachary Duck, 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:** Madeline Couris-Guarinello, Marcena Moore, Angelo Douris, Father Deacon Stephen Stefani and those servicemen who have fallen asleep in the Lord in the service of their Country.

*It is with sadness we inform you of the repose of longtime parishioner, former Sunday School teacher and Parish Council Treasurer, Marcena (Marcy) Moore. Marcy was last in church for our Nameday Celebration on November 10<sup>th</sup>. May her Memory Be Eternal!*

**Coffee Hour Sponsors:** Thank you very much! (2014 Coffee Hour Sign Up Sheet Posted)  
Dec 8<sup>th</sup> The Family of Madeline Couris-Guarinello  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Kosta Family – 1 year Memorial for Peter  
Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> Xhoxhi Family 20 year Memorial  
Dec 29<sup>th</sup> Nick Dimitri 1 year Memorial  
Jan 5, 2014 Greta & Faut Hyseneshi

**Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> we need your help** at 10:00 am we will be decorating the church. Please stop by and give us a hand! The more people who come to help out the quicker we will be done!! Thank you.

**Important Dates:**

December 8<sup>th</sup> 40 day Memorial for Madeline Couris-Gaurinello

December 14<sup>th</sup> Decorate the Church @ 10:00 am helpers wanted!

December 15<sup>th</sup> 1 year Memorial for Peter Kosta,

December 22<sup>rd</sup> Sunday school Christmas Pageant

December 24<sup>th</sup> Nativity Liturgy 6:30 pm

December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Morning @ **Ss Peter & Paul** Nativity Liturgy 10 am

January 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 Holy Epiphany and part 1 of our Icon Auction

**A Wonderful Time:** was had by all who attended the Ladies Club dinner on Wednesday evening. Special thanks to Bessie Satir, Nilda Brahollari and Fiori Papa for organizing the dinner. Great fellowship and marvelous dancing we look forward to next year!

**Nativity Liturgy: Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm.** No liturgy at St. Johns on Christmas morning.

Ss. Peter & Paul will celebrate the Nativity Liturgy on 12/25 @ 10:00 am.

**Icons:** Our annual Icon auction will be on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> and January 12<sup>th</sup> 2013 Please return your Icons by Sunday, December 22<sup>rd</sup> so that we can prepare for the auction. **Jan 5<sup>th</sup>:** Holy Theophany (Epiphany) blessing of water after the Divine Liturgy. We will have Holy Water in plastic bottles for all of our parishioners.

**We are asking for donations** of new or gently used blankets, winter jackets/coats, men's and women's clothing. The collected items will be donated to the homeless in Philadelphia. Please check your closets, attics, basements and sheds; you may have items you haven't used in years! Please bring them to church and we will make sure someone less fortunate gets them. Contact Linda Notskas with any questions.

**Sunday school:** The students and teachers are working on the Christmas Pageant which will be presented on Sunday, December 22<sup>rd</sup>. This Sunday our students will be glazing a ceramic ornament. Please send in a smock or old shirt for your child to wear so their clothes do not get stained.

**Per Shume Vjet Gezuar!** Dec 4 Great Martyr Barbara, Dec 6 St. Nicholas, Dec 12 St. Spiridon, Dec 15 St. Eleutherios, Dec 17 Holy Prophet Daniel, Dec 23 St. Naum, Dec 25 Christmas Day, Sunday after Christmas St. Joseph the Betrothed, St. David the King, Dec 27 St. Stephen the Protomartyr.

**December Giving:** Your Christmas Donation – you will receive a letter this coming week.

**2013 Pledge:** If you haven't already, you still have time to make your pledge for 2013. You may go online, [www.stjohnsphila.org](http://www.stjohnsphila.org) or mail you pledge to the church.

