

The Weekly Messenger –November 17, 2013
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle – St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20 Gospel – Luke 12:16-21

Thank you: to all of our parishioners who participated in our Parish's 82nd Nameday Celebration last Sunday. Archbishop Nikon enjoyed being here with our loving parishioners. Our church was filled with love, joy and happiness. Our church hall was filled with delicious food, contributed by our generous parishioners. Thank you all!

Message from Father Brooks: Next Wed., Nov. 20th @ 6:30 pm we will have our final discussion group for 2013. The topic will be Christian morals and ethics and will be titled "Never Do Anything Wrong, Unless You're Absolutely Sure You Can Get Away With It". This is the advice I always gave my children. Please contact me with any questions you may have: 210-461-1956.

Commemorations for the Living: Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop Nikon, Father Stephen Siniari, Father John Scollard and the parishioners at St. John the Baptist Albanian Orthodox Church, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Newly illuminated Emma Schneider, Zachary Duck, Mary Palmerick, Lisa (Kosta) Bowser, George Douros, Andigoni Steffa, James Ghicondey, John and Mary Croke, Paula Kosta, Lefteria Dhimitri, Jorgjia Kashari, Candace Pepenelli, Ann Gjoka, Mac, Kristin Snow, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Francesca Giansante, Pandeli Spiro, Rosemary Notskas, Peter Mallios, Marcena Moore, 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, Katherine Tsonis Bisaga, 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 him fr.brooks@stjohnsphila.org

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.

On November 11th: we honored our Veterans and thanked them for their service to our Country. At St. John Chrysostom we say thank you to the men and women who have served our Country as a member of the military forces. We thank you, we respect you and we love you. May God grant you many years!

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much! (2014 Coffee Hour Sign Up Sheet Posted)
Nov 17th Janice & Mike Leyden
Nov 24th George & Nikoleta Prifti
Dec 1st The Salavaci Family (Niko's Nameday)
Dec 8th The Family of Madeline Couris-Guarinello
Dec 15th Kosta Family – 1 year Memorial for Peter
Dec 22nd Xhoxhi Family 20 year Memorial
Dec 29th Nick Dimitri 1 year Memorial

Christmas Fast--lasting 40 days, from November 15 to December 24. Although the term denotes total abstinence from food or drink, fasting as practiced in the Orthodox Church means abstinence from meat, fish, dairy products, olive oil, and wine. Total abstinence is reserved for the fast of several hours duration preceding Holy Communion. The rules for fasting prescribed by the holy canons are quite rigid; and, although they are still observed in the monasteries and by the very devout, most Orthodox Christians today find it difficult to uphold the traditional practice for the length of time prescribed. Nevertheless, any deviation from the norm is permitted only following consultation with one's spiritual father or with the prior approval of the local hierarchy.

<http://www.goarch.org/ourfaith/ourfaith7070>

Sunday school: Candy sale fundraiser underway. The children will be going table to table during coffee hour. Please support our Sunday school!

Important Dates:

November 15th Nativity Fast begins
November 20th Father Brooks Education Classes @ 6:30 pm
November 24th Sunday school - Albanian Thanksgiving – Prayers for Albanian Flag Day
November 28th Albanian Flag Day
December 1st Father Gregory DuDash will celebrate the Divine Liturgy, Father Brooks will be in Texas November 26 thru December 2, 2013 for Thanksgiving. Father Stephen will be available through the week for emergencies.
December 8th 40 day Memorial for Madeline Couris-Guarinello
December 14th Decorate the Church @ 10:00 am helpers wanted!
December 15th 1 year Memorial For Peter Kosta
December 22nd Sunday school Christmas Pageant

Parishioner News: If you have news to share please email info@stjohnsphila.org