

The Weekly Messenger –November 24, 2013
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
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Epistle – St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18 Gospel – Luke 18:18-27

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: My thanks to our Wednesday night discussion group for their attendance and sharing their thoughts over these past 6 weeks. I look forward to another session in the spring. Dates to be announced.

Commemorations for the Living: Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop Nikon, Father Matthew Searforce, Father Ken James Stavrevsky, Proto Deacon Michael Sochka, Zachary Duck, Daniel Coraluzzi, Lisa (Kosta) Bowser, George Douros, Andigoni Steffa, John and Mary Croke, Paula Kosta, Candace Pepenelli, Mac, Kristin Snow, Dhimiter Ndrecka, Francesca Giansante, 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: Angelo Douris, Mary Palmerick, 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` 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.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Thank you very much! (2014 Coffee Hour Sign Up Sheet Posted)
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

Sunday school: A wonderful time was had by all 72 adults and children who ventured across the bridge to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ. Many thanks to our Sunday school Director, Steve Coraluzzi, for coordinating this event. Steve also reported the candy sale fundraiser was very successful, with the Sunday school netting approximately \$400.00. Arrangements are underway for the annual Christmas Pageant. Sandi Fiss will direct the play this year. Please bring your children to Sunday school so they can rehearse the play and learn their part!

Albanian Flag Day: November 28 marks the declaration of independence by Albania after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in 1912. Proclaimed during the National Assembly of Vlora, on that date the flag was officially accepted as the symbol of the independent nation of Albania. We are very proud of our Albanian Heritage!

Ladies Club Christmas Dinner: Wednesday, December 4, 2013 @ 6:30 pm, Charlottes Restaurant, Newtown Square, PA. Tickets are \$35.00 per person.
Please contact Fiori Papa or Nilda Brahollari for additional information.

Recipes for our Website: We are looking for recipes for November and some Albanian or American holiday recipes ie: stuffing, pies etc? Other recipes have been added to the website. Check them out: www.stjohnsphila.org under the "Home" tab. Please send your favorite recipe to Linda Biando for inclusion on our website.
misslinda@stjohnsphila.org

Important Dates:
November 24th Sunday school - Albanian Thanksgiving – Prayers for Albanian Flag Day
November 27th Albanian Flag Day 9am – 12 pm ceremony at Philadelphia City Hall
December 1st Father Gregory DuDash will celebrate the Divine Liturgy, Father Brooks will be in Texas November 24 thru December 3, 2013 for Thanksgiving.
Father Stephen will be available through the week for emergencies.
December 3rd Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm
December 4th Ladies Club Dinner – 6:30 pm – Charlottes Restaurant
December 8th 40 day Memorial for Madeline Couris-Gaurinello
December 14th Decorate the Church @ 10:00 am helpers wanted!
December 15th 1 year Memorial for Peter Kosta,
December 22rd Sunday school Christmas Pageant

Icons: Our annual Icon auction will be on Sunday, January 5th and January 12th 2013 Please return your Icons by Sunday, December 22rd so that we can prepare for the auction. **Jan 5th** Holy Theophany (Epiphany) blessing of water after the Divine Liturgy.

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

Wishing you and your family a loving and memorable Thanksgiving.