



ST. NICHOLAS ALBANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

SHRINE OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY

2701 NORTH NARRAGANSETT AVENUE • CHICAGO, IL 60639 • 773-889-4282
stnicholasalbanianchicago.org



Welcome to all worshipping here today with a special welcome to those who are visitors or newcomers.



October 2023

The miraculous Weeping Icon of the Blessed Virgin

Welcome to St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church in Chicago! Please join us on Sundays for Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Miresevini ne kishen Orthodokse te Shen Kollit ne Chicago! Ju lutemi beni te mundur pjesmarrjen tuaj cdo te Diele ne Liturgjine Hyjnore ne oren 10.00 a.m.

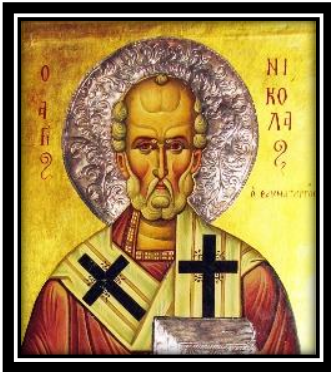
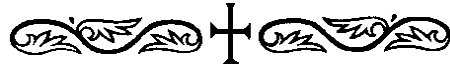
Our parish was founded in 1944 by Albanians from the southeastern part of the country, near the city of Korca. The current church building was built in 1961 and the beautiful interior is filled with wonderful icons,

including the miraculous Icon of the Blessed Virgin.



Fr. Dean

We would like to inform you that Fr. Dean Photos will be serving as our priest for the time being. Fr. Dean will start Orthros at 9:00 AM, followed by Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM on the days he is here. The updated schedule of services is on our Service Schedule Page. The Parish Council is working closely with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese to bring an Albanian priest to St. Nicholas church.



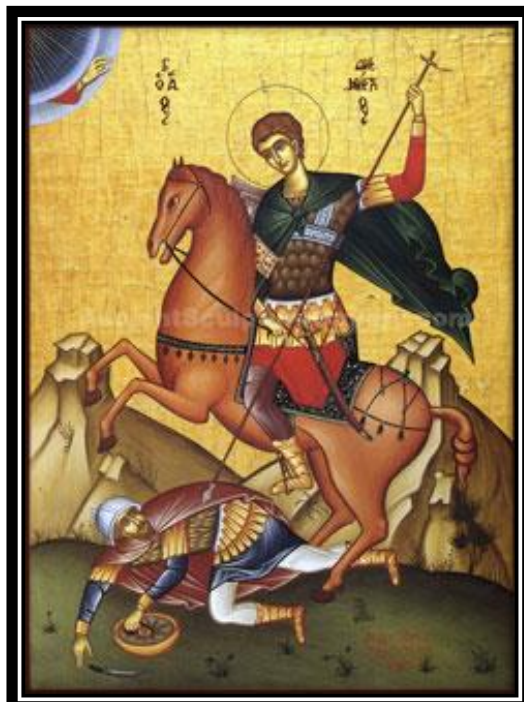
St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church
Schedule of Services / Programi i Sherbesave

October/ Tetor 2023

In-Person and Live Streamed Services

(LS Denotes Service Live Streamed on Facebook)

01	Sunday	2nd Sunday of Luke 2 Llukait	Orthros - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am
08	Sunday	3rd Sunday of Luke 3 Llukait	Orthros - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am
14	Saturday	Enthronement Service His Grace Bishop Theophan	Service - 10:30 am
15	Sunday	Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council E Eterve te Sinodit VII Ekumik Metropolitan Ilia - One Year Memorial	Orthros - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am
18	Wednesday	Luke the Evangelist Ungjillor Llukai	Orthros - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am
22	Sunday	6th Sunday of Luke 6 Llukait	Orthros - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am
26	Thursday	The Holy Great Martyr Demetrius Dëshm. Dhimitër Mirovliti.	Orthros - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am
29	Sunday	7th Sunday of Luke 7 Llukait	Orthros - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am





ST. NICHOLAS ALBANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
SHRINE OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY
INVITES YOU TO THE INSTALLMENT OF HIS GRACE
BISHOP THEOPHAN OF PHILOMELION
On Saturday October 14, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.
2701 N. Narragansett Avenue, Chicago, IL. 60639

Luncheon will be served in the church hall following the service.

ADULT TICKET: \$50.00

CHILDREN 5 -12 YEARS OLD: \$25.00

CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OLD: FREE

Luncheon provided by Greek Island Restaurant.

Reservations need to be postmarked by October 1, 2023

TO RSVP PLEASE FILL OUT RESERVATION FORM

AND MAIL IT ALONG WITH PAYMENT TO:

OLGA TITOS

362 SUNDANCE DRIVE

BARTLETT, IL 60103

NAME(S): _____

ADULTS _____ KIDS _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

ST. NICHOLAS ALBANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Email us with questions at: EnthronementLuncheon@stnicholasalbanianchicago.org



MEMBERSHIP



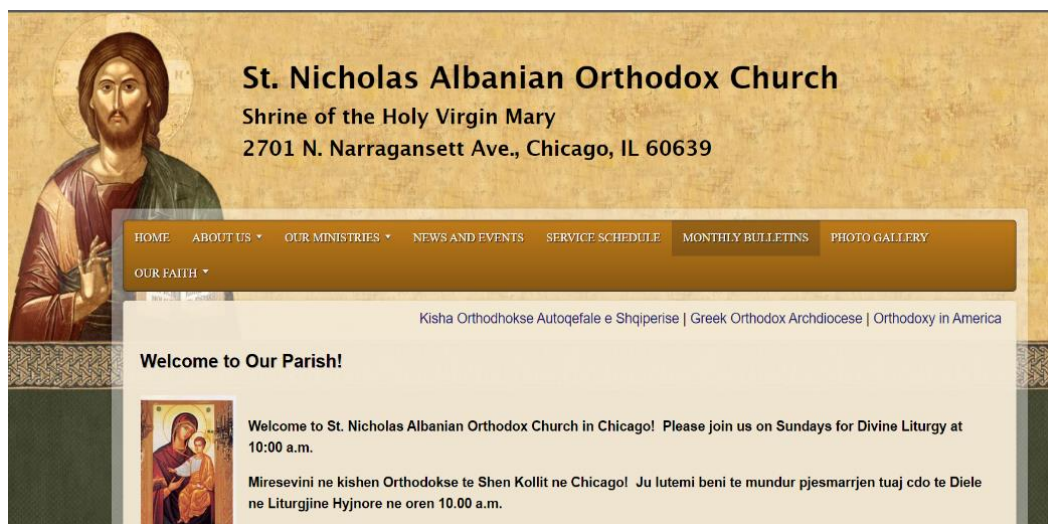
†2023 Memberships

Please send in or drop off your dues for 2023 and 2022 if you still have not done it; \$150 per individual over 21 years or old, \$250 for family membership covering both husband and wife plus children under 21 yrs of age. Please note “2023 dues” on your check.

If you are not yet a member but would like to join our parish, please speak to a member of the Parish Council for information. There is no initiation membership fee any more.

Member directory-If you need to update or correct your address or phone number for the next membership directory, please contact our church at **773-889-4282** or stnicholaschurch2701@gmail.com. You can also contact Maria Barbachi if you want to give us your e-mail address to receive communication from our church. Also, if you are moving, please inform the church in regards to the forwarding address for future church communication.

Membership payment now can be done on our church website under donate button. The drop down list has “Membership” option you can use and make membership payments.



[St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church](#)

Ju lutemi sillni ose dergoni pagesen e anetaresise se Kishes per vitin 2023 dhe 2022 ne rast se nuk e keni bere akoma. Ajo eshte \$150 per personat mbi

21 vjet dhe \$250 per familjet qe mbulon burrin, gruan si dhe femijet e tyre ne moshen nen 21 vjet.

Ju lutem shenoni “2023 dues” ne cekun tuaj. Ne rast se ju nuk jeni anetar i kishes dhe deshironi te beheni, kontaktoni zyren e kishes apo nje nga anetaret e Keshillit te Kishes per informacionin e duhur. Ju lutem njoftoni Kishen ne rast se keni ndryshuar adresen e banimit apo numrin e telefonit per te bere korrigjimet e duhura ne listat e Kishes.

773-889-4282 or stnicholaschurch2701@gmail.com.



Ladies Auxiliary

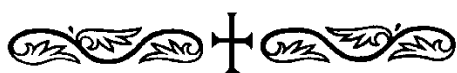
Shen Kolli Dinner Dance, on December 10, 2023, hosted by St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliary. Let's get together to enjoy the company of each other, great food and music. More details regarding the venue and ticket price will be forthcoming.

Ladies of St. Nicholas Albanian Church, we are looking to increase enrollment in the St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliary. We are comprised of women of diverse ages and backgrounds working together to reach out not only to the parish membership, but to the community through fundraising, charitable donations and volunteerism. We are looking for ideas to make this event bigger and better. Won't you come

join us? We meet the first Sunday of each month in the church hall.

Gratë dhe vajzat e Kishës Shqipëtare të Shën Kollit, qellimi jonë është të ritim numrin e pjesëmarrësve në St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliaries. Ky grup përbëhet nga gra dhe vajza të të gjitha moshave dhe të gjitha profesioneve që punojnë së bashku jo vetëm për tu lidhur më shumë me anëtarët e kesaj kisha por edhe me tërë komunitetin nëpërmjet evenimenteve për ngritjen e fondeve, nëpërmjet kontributeve dhe ndihmës që i ofrojmë komunitetit. Kërkojmë më shumë ide të reja për ta zgjeruar dhe për ta forcuar këtë grup. Jeni të gjitha të mirëpritura të dielën e parë të çdo muaji!





ENTHRONEMENT CEREMONY

We would like to remind you that on Saturday, October 14, 2023 the Installation Ceremony of His Grace Bishop Theophan of Philomelion will be held at St.



Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church. This ceremony is a liturgical rite by which a ruling bishop is installed in his cathedral. This is when he officially begins to oversee his diocese. Archbishop Elidophoros will preside with other members of the clergy

in attendance. Having this ceremony take place at St. Nicholas is a great honor for our church. A luncheon reception will follow in our hall. Reservations for the luncheon must be made by Sunday, October 1. If you would like to make a reservation before the deadline, you may call Olga Titos at 630-837-5875. Or you can see her in the church hall following liturgy this Sunday, October 1. Please refer to the attached flyer for specific details.

ONE YEAR MEMORIAL FOR METROPOLITAN ILIA

Please join us for a one year memorial for our much respected and beloved Metropolitan Ilia on Sunday, October 15. His Grace Bishop Theophan will be celebrating Divine Liturgy with our parish that Sunday and will conduct the memorial service. A light lunch will be served in the hall following Liturgy. May his memory be eternal.





LIFE OF THE MONTH'S SAINTS AND MAIN EVENT

Shën Joan Kukuzeli
(1 tetor)



Lindi në Durrës, rreth 1270, sipas të dhënave më të fundit. Nënshkruhet dhe Papadhopoulos, pra do të ketë qenë djalë prifti (papa = prift). Nëna e tij shpresëtare e dërgoi në shkollë në Konsta-ndinopojë, ku u tregua “mjeshtër”, mësonjës i muzikës dhe drejtues i korit të pallatit mbretëror.

Meqë perandori, i cili e donte shumë, do ta martonte me një vajzë arkondi, ikën fshehurazi në Lavra, duke bërë në mënyrë inteligjente çobanin. Një herë, kur kulloste dhitë në një vend të shkretë, filloi të psalte. Por një murg që rrinte në shpellë pa u parë, u magjeps nga melodia, doli dhe pa kafshët që nuk kullotnin, por shijonin të magjepsura! Ky ishte oshënari i kërkuar kudo! Mbreti u

përlot sapo e mori vesh nga igumeni, i cili shkoi dhe iu lut që të mos e shqetësonte murgun, kështu që nuk e ngacmoi.

Më vonë u ushtrua në një qeli (manastir i vogël) që ndërtoi jashtë Lavrës, vetëm të dielave dhe për festa vinte brenda.

Në një agripni të madhe të Akathistit psalti i parë zë engjëllor dhe “i hirshëm” dremiti pak, kështu që iu dha dhuratë nga e Tërëshenjtanjë monedhë, të cilën kur u zgjua e mbante vërtet në duart e tij! Por ia ktheu. Domethënë e vari në ikonën e saj, që është e famshme deri më sot. E Tërëshenjta vetë shëroi këmbën e tij të kalbur nga të qëndruarit drejt në psaltir. Paranjohu fundin e tij. Koka nderohet në manastirin e tij. Sistemoi dhe riformoi melodi më të vjetra të tij, kompozoi tërësi veprash origjinale të famshme, kryesisht “kalofoni të ngadalta mësimesh”, në mënyrën tradicionale. Pothuajse të gjitha u përkthyen në shkrimin muzikor të përdorimit. Gjithashtu kompozoi metoda të psaluri dhe himne.

(Nga libri “Nga thesari i shenjtoreve”)

Burimi: <http://orthodoxalbania.org>



October 14

The Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

The Seventh Ecumenical Council took place in Nicea in 787 AD, and is also known as the Second Council of Nicaea. The last of the seven Ecumenical Councils dealt with the icons. The Controversy - Disputes concerning the Person of Christ did not end with the sixth Council in AD 681, but continued through the eighth and ninth centuries.



This time, the controversy focused on icons—pictures of Christ, the Theotokos, the saints, and holy events—and lasted for 120 years, starting in AD 726. Icons were kept and venerated in both churches and private homes. The two groups in the controversy were:

Iconoclasts, also called "icon-smashers," they were suspicious of any art depicting God or humans; they demanded the destruction of icons because they saw icons as idolatry. Iconodules, also called "venerators of icons," they defended the place of icons in the Church. The controversy, however, was more than a struggle over different views of Christian art. Deeper issues were involved, and it is these the Council addressed:

The character of Christ's human nature

The Christian attitude toward matter

The true meaning of Christian redemption and the salvation of the entire material universe

The controversy falls into two periods:

1. From AD 726 when Leo III began his attack on icons until AD 780 when Empress Irene ended the attacks

2. Again from AD 815 through AD 843 when

Empress Theodora stamped out the attacks permanently

The iconoclasts had support from both inside and outside the Church. Outside the Church, there may have been influence from Jewish and Muslim ideas, and it is important to note that just prior to the iconoclast outbreak Muslim Caliph Yezid ordered the removal of all icons with his territory. Inside the Church there had always existed a "puritan" outlook which saw all images as latent idolatry.

Largely through the work of St. John of Damascus (AD 759-826), who, ironically, was housed in Muslim-controlled lands and therefore outside the reach of the Empire, the iconodules' position won out. He addressed the charges of the iconoclasts thus:

"Concerning the charge of idolatry:

therefore when an Orthodox venerates an icon, he is not guilty of idolatry. He is not worshipping the symbol, but merely venerating it. Such veneration is not directed toward wood, or paint or stone, but towards the person depicted. Therefore relative honor is shown to material objects, but worship is due to God alone.

We do not make obeisance to the nature of wood, but we revere and do obeisance to Him who was crucified on the Cross... When the two beams of the Cross are joined together I adore the figure because of Christ who was crucified on the Cross, but if the beams are separated, I throw them away and burn them.” — St. John of Damascus

The Decision of the Council

Concerning the teaching of icons Venerating icons, having them in churches and homes, is what the Church teaches. They are "open books to remind us of God." Those who lack the time or learning to study theology need only to enter a church to see the mysteries of the Christian religion unfolded before them.

Concerning the doctrinal significance of icons:- Icons are necessary and essential because they protect the full and proper doctrine of the Incarnation. While God cannot be represented in His eternal nature ("...no man has seen God", John 1:18), He can be depicted simply because He "became human and took flesh." Of Him who took a material body, material images can be made. In so taking a material body, God proved that matter can be redeemed. He deified matter,

flesh can be a medium for the Spirit, so can wood or paint, although in a different fashion.

"I do not worship matter, but the Creator of matter, who for my sake became material and deigned to dwell in matter, who through matter effected my salvation..."—St. John of Damascus

The seventh and last Ecumenical Council upheld the iconodules' position in AD 787. They proclaimed: *Icons... are to be kept in churches and honored with the same relative veneration as is shown to other material symbols, such as the 'precious and life-giving Cross' and the Book of the Gospels.* The 'doctrine of icons' is tied to the Orthodox teaching that all of God's creation is to be redeemed and glorified, both spiritual and material.

Commemoration

The **Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council** are commemorated in October, on the Sunday of the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council.

Source: www.goarch.org





ALBANIAN SCHOOL & GRUPI ARBERI



We are happy to announce that Albanian School and Grupi Arberia have opened the doors once again! We look forward to another year filled with learning, dancing, friendships and more!

This year, we saw an increase in

numbers for both students and teachers. We are happy to have them join us in learn about our language, traditions and rich history. Our new students are excited and ready to learn under the guidance of our of all of our teachers. Grupi Arberia is already preparing for our annual Albanian Independence Day Celebration "Festa e Flamurit" and we can't wait to see their wonderful show! They already have several events lined up, including their performance at the Albanian American National Organization's Chicago Chapter 60th anniversary celebration banquet! We are so proud of them and look forward to seeing their performances!

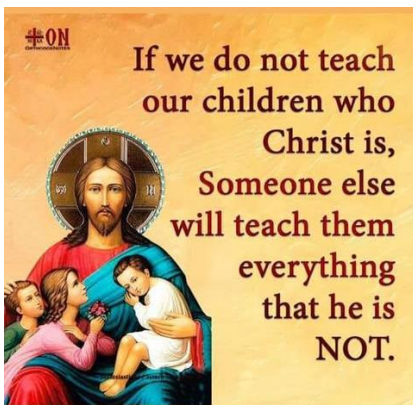
Jemí të lumtur t'ju njoftojmë se Albanian School dhe Grupi Arbëria kanë hapur dyert edhe një herë kete vit shkollor! Mezi presim një vit tjetër të mbushur me mësim, vallëzim, miqësi dhe më shumë!

Këtë vit pamë një rritje të numrit si për nxënësit ashtu edhe për mësuesit. Jemí të lumtur që ata na bashkohen për të mësuar për gjuhën, traditat dhe historinë tonë të pasur. Studentët tanë të rinj janë të ngazellyer dhe të gatshëm për të mësuar nën drejtimin e të gjithë mësuesve tanë. Grupi Arbëria tashmë po përgatitet për Festën tonë të përvitshme të Pavarësisë Shqiptare "Festa e



Flamurit" dhe ne mezi presim të shohim shfaqjen e tyre të mrekullueshme! Ata tashmë kanë disa ngjarje të rreshtuara, duke përfshirë performancën e tyre në banketin e festimit të 60-vjetorit të Kapitullit të Chicagos të Organizatës Kombëtare Shqiptaro-Amerikane!

Ne jemi shumë krenarë për ta dhe mezi presim të shohim performancat e tyre!



The Importance of Religious Education

Attendance at the Divine Liturgy during summer

We all love summer and carefully plan our family vacations. This is a nice tradition. But what is not so nice, is the “tradition” of taking a vacation from church attendance. While it may happen to anyone to be absent one Sunday from

church for major reasons, there is no reason to “abandon” church for the whole summer, giving more priority to leisure activities. We have to think deeply as parents on what kind of example we’re giving our children. We have to examine carefully where our priorities stand. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.”

If someone would tell us that he is going to nourish his body only half of the year (when outside is cold and he has nothing else to do) and when the weather is nice he is just going to starve himself because he is going on a vacation, we would think: This person is foolish! We act as foolishly as this person if we do not take proper care and nourish our soul year around through daily prayer, Bible reading and active participation in church’s life and especially in the Divine Liturgy. This is vital for the health of our soul, like food is for our bodies. By participating in the Mysteries of the church, especially Holy Eucharist (Communion) we are granted by God’s mercy and love to taste the Lord to the fullest and be united with His Body and Blood unto Eternal Life. Take a vacation from work and find rest in God!





NOTICES



www.delcan

New Kitchen Windows!

A heartfelt shoutout to Christopher Glass and Aluminum and Abe Asllani for our new kitchen window! We are incredibly grateful for our community members who continually support us in every way. The old window was long overdue for a replacement and the new one adds a touch of brightness to our church kitchen.

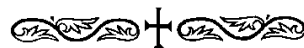
Thank you, Christopher Glass and Aluminum, and Abe Asllani, for your generosity and dedication to our church. We are blessed to have you with us!

BRICK PROGRAM



Donations for our Commemorative Brick Program are still being taken. Bricks can be made to honor a memory, mark a special occasion or to show support. A 4 inch by 8 inch brick with up to 3 lines of engraving can be ordered for a donation of \$250.00. Forms can be found at the candle stand or you may also request a form be

sent to you via email or US mail. To ensure the wording and spelling are printed correctly on the brick, a form must accompany payment.



[YOU MAY NOW PAY YOUR 2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES ONLINE](#)

Click on the DONATE button halfway down the home page on our website and follow the directions. You may also mail a check to the church or stop by the church office in person **AFTER** Liturgy.

DID YOU KNOW?

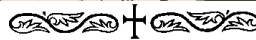
You may now donate to St. Nicholas Church by visiting our website: stnicholasalbanianchicago.org. The DONATE button can be found on the home page. A list of options will give you the ability to donate towards various funds, saints, and other causes. Check it out today!



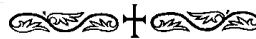


LINKS

St. Nicholas Albanian Church



St. Nicholas Albanian Church Facebook



Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Albania Website



Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website

