



St. Mary Armenian Church Annual Journal 2017



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ST. MARY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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Rev. Father Hovsep Karapetyan, Pastor

Տէր Յովսէփ Քհնյ. Կարապետեան, Հովիւ

January 6, 2017

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25

Another year entered the history in the life of our church. This year, as every other year before this, was also filled with the moments that we all cherished with joy and with those that brought sadness to our hearts and tears to our eyes. As we are about to begin the new year 2018 it is always good to change our attitude and look forward with a positive vision for our own lives, the life of our family and church.

As people of God we are called to provoke one another to love and show kindness towards each other. What better place to practice love and kindness and to show our belonging to Christ than His church. Jesus loved His church. And that means that we cannot follow Christ without loving the church.

To love your church means to be a part of it. To simply come, to show up. When we come and participate, we are not only obeying the Word of God, and heartening our personal and spiritual growth but we also showing our love to our church. When you love someone you want to spend time with that person. Your presence speaks volumes about your love towards your church.

To love your church means to help your church. Not only be a consumer, but first and foremost be a contributor. Taking the ownership of your church, striving for its betterment, giving, serving and participating are the best ways to strengthen your love toward your church. When you love someone you invest in that person. You invest in your church when you help and care for it.

To love your church means to pray and care for your church. There is nothing more powerful and uplifting than the prayer. Not only praying in the church but also praying for the church. When you love and care for someone you pray for that person. Your love towards your church is manifested in the prayer and care for your church.

Scriptures declare that “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” (Eccl 3:1) There are seasons in the life of the church as well. The church may go through a dry, difficult or struggling period. Periods when it is easier to give up than to endure. However, like in every life, you have to endure the harshness and severity of the winter to be able to enjoy the blessing and warmth of the spring, in the same way, in the course of the life of your church. The greatest way to love your church is not to walk away from her. Hanging in there when it is hard is not only saying, but showing, that you love your church.

May 2018 be filled with the blessings and love of God in our personal life, in the lives of our families and our church.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL January 2017

Blessing of Pomegranates



Throughout the centuries, the pomegranate has been woven into Armenian architecture, cuisine, art, manuscripts, literature and liturgical vestments. It represents life, fertility, and abundance. For the first time in history in 2015, the Supreme Patriarch of the Armenian Church, His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, together with the Armenian faithful, introduced a new service for the Blessing of Pomegranates, one of the seven biblical species of fruits and grains, at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin.

At St. Mary Church, Der. Hovsep blessed the pomegranates on January 1 with a beautiful service following the Badarak. They were distributed to the faithful afterwards with a wish to bring prosperity and abundance in 2017.

New Years Celebration

The Armenian community of Greater Washington and Baltimore rang in the 2017 New Year at the festively decorated ballroom of Hilton Hotel in Gaithersburg, Maryland. For the second time, the Armenian Community Events Planners (ACEP) organized the year's "sold out" event. More than 350 revelers, including children of all ages, gathered to welcome the New Year and celebrate the unity that brought every one together.



The evening began with brief remarks by Dr. Teny Abrahamian, ACEP's Chair, thanking supporters and introducing the members of the committee who worked side by side for a whole year. Der Hovsep Karapetyan of St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church and Der Sarkis Aktavoukian of Soorp Khatch Armenian Apostolic Church offered their prayers and good wishes for the New Year and Soorp Dznount.

Feast of Nativity and Theophany Celebration



On January 5 the Jragaloutis Badarak began with readings from the Old and New Testaments by our school students who read passages from the scriptures pointing to the Nativity of Christ. After the Badarak, parishioners and friends enjoyed the traditional Home Blessing service in our church hall and a reception sponsored by the Parish Council.

St. Mary Church then celebrated the glorious Feast of the Birth and Baptism of our Lord with the Divine Liturgy and Blessing of the Water Service on January 6. We gave special thanks to Ara Stepanyan who was the Godfather for the Blessing of the Water and his

son Sevak. Parishioners participated in the liturgy on both days and greeted one another with the renewing and joyous news of our Lord's Revelation "To you and us good news! Tzez yev mez Medz Avedis! Christ is born and revealed. Kreedos Dzunav yev Haydnetsav. Blessed is the revelation of Christ. Orhneal e Haytnoutiounn Kristosee."

St. Mary Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The St. Mary Pilgrimage to the Holy Land to celebrate the Feast of Nativity and Theophany of our Lord took place from January 12 to 23. Twenty-two pilgrims had a wonderful time spending ten days in the Holy Land, walking through the footsteps of our Lord, visiting holy sights and participating in the celebration of the birth and baptism of our Lord. They visited Bethlehem, Mount of Olive, celebrated Badarak at the tomb of St. Mary, journeyed to the Sea of



Galilee and the area of Nazareth where our Lord performed his public ministry. With Christ in their hearts, they visited the Wilderness of Judea, Mt. of Temptation, the Tomb of Lazarus and the baptismal site where our Lord was baptized. They walked through the way of the cross and attended early morning Badarak at the church of Holy Sepulcher at the empty tomb from where Jesus was resurrected. The highlight of the pilgrimage was the celebration of the Feast of Nativity and Theophany of our Lord in Bethlehem. The pilgrims stayed for midnight service and participated in the early morning Badarak at the Church of Nativity, in the manger where the Lord was born.

Everyone returned home safely with renewed faith and uplifted spirits, cherishing the good memories and great spiritual experiences and blessings they received as pilgrims.

Ararat Avak Society Festive Luncheon



After our parishioners celebrated the Feast of the Birth and Baptism of our Lord on January 6 they enjoyed a festive luncheon presented by the Ararat Avak Society.

Nearly 70 people attended a lavish meal of koufta soup, rice pilaf, mushroom chicken, vegetables, green salad, and traditional anoush about dessert. The parishioners celebrated the holiday in a lovely setting within our church community of friends and family.

National Prayer Vigil for Life

The National Prayer Vigil for Life was held from Thursday afternoon, January 26 to Friday morning, January 27, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Over 20,000 pilgrims from around the nation prayed there for an end to abortion before the annual March for Life. The Vigil marked the 44th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions legalizing abortion nationwide. Since those



decisions, over 57 million abortions have been performed legally in the United States.

The principal celebrant and homilist at the Vigil Opening Mass was Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities. It was concelebrated by his fellow cardinals and many of the nation's bishops and priests in the Basilica's Great Upper Church. The Vigil continued overnight in the Crypt Church with confessions, a National Rosary for Life, Byzantine Rite Night Prayer, and holy hours led by seminarians from across the country. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan was among the Orthodox guests representing our Diocese.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL February 2017

Lenten Food Fair Workshops



The ladies of St. Mary church were very busy preparing for the annual Lenten Food Fair. The first workshop took place on February 7, during which a group of dedicated members and friends got together to prepare the stuffed grapes leaves and additional workshops were held to prepare Cheese Boureg, Baklava, Khadayeef, Tava and other delicious dishes.

Annual Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish Assembly took place on February 12 after Badarak with 65 dues paying members in attendance. Annual statements and reports of all of the organizations were presented and approved. The budget for the upcoming year was also approved. The following individuals were elected to fill parish leadership and other positions: Parish Council: Mr. Garbis Chubukian, Mrs. Sarine Zenian, Mr. Onnik Sivaslian, and Mr. Artur Sivaslian; Diocesan Delegates: Mr. Jack Guiragossian, Mrs. Sarine Zenian, and Mr. Onnik Sivaslian; Nominating Committee: Nadya Chubukian, Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan, Anna Andrisova Seferian, and Pat Shav-
erdian; Auditing Committee: Luiz Gusmao; Investment Committee: Michel Sahakian; WED Scholarship Committee: Patricia Yeghissian.



We congratulated all the newly elected officers and wished them success in their ministry to our church. Our appreciation to all those who faithfully served in their various capacities in the past.

Poon Paregentan Celebration



Traditional Poon Paregentan Celebration took place on February 25. The event was organized by St. Mary Women's Guild and brought together families and friends to celebrate the joyous occasion with music, dance and dinner. The delicious food was prepared by our Women's Guild Executive Committee members and the music was provided by DJ Raymond. Those who attended

had a wonderful time enjoying this masquerade ball signifying the last day before entering the Great Lent. Many thanks to our Women's Guild for bringing back a wonderful Armenian tradition to our community.

Commemorating the Pogroms of Sumgait and Baku



February marked the 29th anniversary of the attacks on the Armenian population of Sumgait, Azerbaijan. The February 1988 attacks subsequently spread to other cities in Azerbaijan with sizable Armenian populations. At St. Mary Armenian Church a requiem service was held for the victims of Azeri aggression on February 26.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH
ANNUAL JOURNAL
March 2017

Lenten Worship Services, Presentations and Dinners



Our Lenten worship services continued on Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Parishioners and friends came together for a worship service, spiritual presentation and dinner. The year's theme, entitled "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit", concentrated on different spiritual gifts that we receive during our baptism and their very real implications in our daily lives.

Der Hovsep spoke about the Gift of Understanding, Dn. Mark Krikorian spoke about the Gift of Wisdom, Ms. Sarine Zenian spoke about the Gift of Council, Mr. Eric Ashbahian spoke about the Gift of Piety and Ms. Becky Baghdasarian

spoke about the Gift of Fortitude. Dinners were hosted by St. Mary Parish Council, Shnorhali School, Women's Guild, Choir and ACYOA.

Vartanantz Day Presentation

A special Vartanantz Day presentation took place at St. Mary Church on March 5th. After Badarak, the upper classes of Shnorhali School joined the parishioners in the Church Hall to benefit from an interactive and informative slide show presentation given by our parishioner Mr. Paul Murad. Mr. Murad spoke about one of the most crucial events in the history of the Armenian people, the Battle of Avarayr and the developments that preceded and followed the battle.



He elaborated on the vital role that the battle of Vartanantz played in the history of the Armenian people and Church. After the presentation the Shnorhali School children had an opportunity to ask questions and share their own impressions of the lecture.

St. Mary 29th Annual Armenian Lenten Food Fair



St. Mary's Lenten Food Fair took place on March 17, 18 and 19.

Throughout the months of February and March our devoted Women's Guild members worked hard to prepare delicious and traditional Armenian dishes for the Lenten Food Fair.

During the workshops the Women's Guild ladies and friends got together to make Yalanchi, Cheese Boureg, Baklava, Bourma, Khadayif, Tava, Green Beans, Hum-

mus and other delicious dishes.

The turnout by our congregation and community was tremendous as they enjoyed the traditional Armenian Lenten cuisine. We thanked all of our Women's Guild members and volunteers for their hard work, endless energy and Armenian food preparation expertise.

Saintly Women's Day Commemoration

A beautiful Saintly Women's Day commemoration took place at St. Mary Armenian Church on March 25. The year's theme was "Saintly Women of Vartanants".

Those attending participated in the prayer service and recalled the bravery and heroism of the noble women who became "partners in protest" thereby willingly sacrificing their loved ones as well as their own lives for the protection of their faith and identity.



During the reception the Women's Guild Chairman Mrs. Ani Derderian recited Vahan Tekeyan's poem dedicated to the Battle of Avarair and Mr. Avedis Seferian meditated on the lessons learned from Vartanants and the lives of women and men martyred for their Christian faith. Our appreciation went out to the Women's Guild executive committee for organizing this event .

Mid-Lenten Luncheon



On March 26, St. Mary Women's Guild hosted the annual Mid-Lenten or Michink Luncheon. Michink is celebrated during the middle of Lent, symbolizing that the first half of the period of Great Lent had passed and encouraged believers in their journey through Lent.

It inspired and encouraged steadfastness, so that the faithful would continue on through the second half, to its end, on Easter Sunday.

One particularly beautiful Armenian traditional was celebrated during Michink, as unleavened cake was baked and a coin put in it while baking. The year would be successful for the member of the family who received the slice of pastry with the coin in it to bring good luck.

Our Women's Guild members volunteered their time and talent by making delicious Lenten dishes and deserts for all to enjoy.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL April 2017

ACYOA Bible Study



ACYOA Seniors Bible Study took place on April 1. Our youth came together to study the scripture and contemplate on the "desires of flesh" and the "fruit of the Spirit" (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) from St. Paul's Letter to Galatians (5:16-26).

They reflected on how each of them in some tangible way can embody the fruits of the Holy Spirit during the Lenten season and encourage their friends, family and church to do so as well.

After the Bible Study our ACYOA mem-

bers went out and enjoyed themselves with a fellowship and social time together.

St. Mary Church Lenten Service

Our last Lenten service took place on April 5 as parishioners and friends came together for a worship service, spiritual presentation and dinner.

Our special guest for the evening was Fr. Yeprem Kelegian who spoke about the Gift of Fear. He enumerated on how the fear of God guides Christians in their journey through life keeping them focused on their final destination to God's Kingdom.

FAR Executive Director Mr. Garnik Nanagouljian, gave a beautiful and heart warming presentation to St. Mary leadership and parishioners about the different programs run by FAR in our homeland of Armenia. He said FAR was born from the tragedy of the 1988 earthquake that devastated Gyumri and Spitak. It is an organization that was formed in response to the outpouring of compassion, sympathy and love from the parishioners of the Eastern Diocesan (USA) for our brothers and sisters in Armenia. At the conclusion of his presentation the parishioners had an opportunity to ask questions.

We hoped that all participants of the Lenten services found the series as fulfilling and meaningful as St. Mary Church enjoyed and was grateful for the attendance and participation. And, of course, we extended our heartfelt gratitude to those who presented, served on the alter, and sponsored the dinners.



Palm Sunday Celebration at St. Mary



On April 9, St. Mary observed Palm Sunday which marked the beginning of Holy Week. After Badarak, St. Mary parishioners celebrated ACYOA Day. Held every Palm Sunday, the purpose of ACYOA Day is to focus attention on the vitality of the organization, its members, its accomplishments, and its role in the local parish community. It is also an opportunity for the ACYOA to promote its programs and honor individuals who have made an impact on youth in the church.

The year's ACYOA Outstanding Service Award was presented to Ms. Sarine Zenian for her accomplishments and contributions. The Installation of New Officers and a deliciously prepared and hosted Luncheon and Program was given by the ACYOA and also took place after Holy Badarak.

Holy Week and Easter Sunday

This year Holy Week was fully celebrated at St. Mary through many moving and special services, which commemorated the dramatic events leading to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On April 13, Great and Holy Thursday, the Divine Liturgy was celebrated in the evening, then the "Washing of the Feet" ceremony was held, which re-enacts Christ's humble service to his 12 disciples during the Last Supper. Der Hovsep celebrated "Gark Vodnlvai" with the children at the altar St. Mary Church. It was followed by a brief reception hosted by Jermen Hallajian



in memory of her Parents, and the moving service of the Betrayal and Passion of our Lord (Khavaroom). The Order of the Crucifixion of Christ and the Order of the Entombment of the Lord were held on Great and Holy Friday, April 14. We thanked Asanet Hatchikoghlu for decorating Christ's tomb.

On Easter Eve, Saturday, April 15, the Badarak was preceded by Vespers and the Scriptural readings. Der Hovsep celebrated the Divine Liturgy with the beautiful lilies donated by our many generous parishioners who decorated the sanctuary, followed by the traditional Home Blessing in the Church Hall, and a hospitality table hosted by the Parish Council.

Easter Sunday, the Feast of Glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ was on April 15 with a Morning Service and Badarak attended by hundreds of people. The blessing of the four corners of the world, Antasdan service took place at the conclusion of the Badarak. It was followed by lunch and egg-cracking games in the Church Hall, hosted by the Shnorhali School parents.

We thanked everyone who contributed to the Easter Lilies and Yughakin Donations.

Spring Arrived!



Our very own landscape master arrived, delivered and planted a trunk load of beautiful flowers to add even more beautification to our church grounds. Arda Hebert donated the flowers, energy, time, and expertise to highlight our church with color, pride and delight during the glorious springtime season. We were grateful to Arda and gave thanks for making hard work look like fun!

The Promise

It was our pleasure to offer tickets for purchase of the movie premiere *The Promise* on April 21 in Bethesda. These 100 tickets were purchased and donated to St. Mary Church by one of our generous parishioner families, and we were grateful for their kindness and support.

The Promise, produced by Survival Pictures and financed by the late legendary Kirk Kerkorian, was set with the backdrop of the Armenian Genocide, and for the first

time was a wide release film featuring our history in nearly 1,500 theaters in the US and Canada.



Holy Martyrs Day Commemoration at St. Mary



A solemn commemoration of April 24 took place at St. Mary Church. The day began with the Holy Badarak, then a special service commemorating the Holy Martyrs who gave their lives during the Armenian Genocide for their faith and for their homeland followed in front of the Khatchar on the Church plaza.

Following the service, a Musical Memorial Program entitled "They Were Sanctified and Resurrected ... They Left Us A Legacy to Live by Faith..." performed by the Shnorhali

School Students under the leadership of Naira Tashjian took place in the St. Mary Church Hall. Naira and all of our Sunday School participants gave their time, talent, and dedication for the special performance and commemoration.

The day's Luncheon and Madagh was hosted by St. Mary Women's Guild.

ACYOA Junior's Lock-In



The ACYOA Jrs. held their annual Lock-In at St. Mary's on April 28-29. Lead by Kathryn Ashbaian, Associate of the Diocese's Department of Youth and Education, teens participated in a full range of activities that connected them closer to each other and to their faith. Kathryn lead a Bible study centered on the Fruits of the Spirit and Der. Hovsep lead the teens in a discussion focused on the Holy Spirit after which the teens participated in the evening Service. After

games and pizza, the teens spent the night in the Church. In the morning, they watched an interactive video called "Bread & Salt: Tongues of Fire" about the importance of the Holy Spirit in the Armenian Christian faith. The experience ended with a discussion and the teens created an individual prayer journal for them to take home. Special appreciation went to Becky Baghdasarian and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan for organizing this event and to Kathryn Ashbaian for organizing the program and bringing her wisdom to the participating youth of our parish.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL May 2017

St. Mary Delegates Participate in the Diocesan Assembly



The 115th Diocesan Assembly was held in Palm Harbor, FL on May 4-7. St. Hagop Church of Pinellas Park, FL was our gracious host. St. Mary delegates Mr. Onnik Sivaslian, Mr. Jack Guiragossian and Ms. Sarine Zenian attended with Der Hovsep Karapetyan.

The Women's Guild Assembly was also held at the same time and attended by Mrs. Ani Derderian, Mrs. Hripsime Sivaslian, Mrs. Louisa Baghdasarian, Mrs. Nadya Chubukian, Mrs. Lucy Murad and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan. Mrs. Lucy Murad was honored at the "Women of Wonder Lunch" for her work and

many years of dedication and service to the Children of Armenia Sponsorship Program.

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern), presided over the meeting of more than 125 clergy and lay delegates, representing parishes from across the Eastern Diocese.

Spring Food Festival Workshops

St. Mary Women's Guild was very busy scheduling and conducting workshops in support of the St. Mary's 7th Annual Spring Food Festival. Our church hall was filled with the aromas of lamb kebab, cheese boreg, pilaf, and kadayif. Those busy days rolled into another successful food festival weekend that was well attended by our church community and neighborhood.

And we are grateful to the wonderful volunteers who participated.



Spring Food Festival



St. Mary Church was grateful to all of its devoted hard working volunteers and loyal Armenian food lovers for making the Spring Food Festival a success. During the days and evenings of May 19, 20 and 21 crowds dined throughout the church hall feasting on many of the Armenian favorites, such as, kabob, pilaf, hommus, and pita, as well as sumptuous homemade baked goods which are always a hit and enjoyed by guests.

Ascension Day Celebration

On May 26, the St. Mary Women's Guild organized an Ascension Day Celebration which was attended by over 70 members, parishioners and friends. The evening was filled with the joy of honoring members who had given many years of service to St. Mary Church. Celebrations also included a musical program, traditional Vijag and a delicious dinner.

Mrs. Zvart Bolat and Mrs. Sona Bakirci were recognized and honored



for their dedication and many years of service to St. Mary Armenian Church Women's Guild. A beautiful musical performance by Ernesto Bravo concluded the evening of celebration and joy.

Bartev Benefit Concert



A benefit concert took place at St. Mary Armenian Church on May 27.

Organized and sponsored by the Knights and Daughters of Vartan, the night's fundraising event benefited the orphans of the Tavush region of Armenia. During the beautiful evening, over 200 members of the community came together to enjoy the Armenian singer Bartev Garyan, and we thanked all for supporting this important cause.

ACYOA Seniors Participate in Sports Weekend

During Memorial Day weekend, St. Leon Armenian Church in New Jersey hosted the General Assembly and Sports Weekend. Our ACYOA Seniors Chairlady Sophia Yedigarian and Vice Chairman Vasken Serpekian, attended the General Assembly on Thursday and Friday to represent our church. During the General Assembly participants discussed and voted on important matters which would affect the ACYOA throughout the year.



On Saturday and Sunday many St. Mary ACYOA Seniors participated in the sporting events, which included basketball, volleyball, tavloo, and ping-pong. The St. Mary ACYOA Seniors were able to enjoy each others' fellowship, as well as meet and spend time with other fellow Armenian Christian attendees of the Sports Weekend. We thanked the St. Leon ACYOA Seniors for putting together a weekend of worship, fellowship, witness, education, and more!



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL June 2017

Shnorhali School Graduation and Hantess



On Sunday June 4, St Mary Armenian Church celebrated the Feast of Pentecost. The day was marked by a variety of events. At the conclusion of Badarak, Der Hayr conducted a special blessing for Simon Shahinian, who along with 30 other young adults, traveled to Jerusalem on the annual Young Adult Pilgrimage under the leadership of Der Hovsep.

During the Hokenhankist service, parishioners prayed for the deceased members of the St. Mary Women's Guild, remembering them and thanking God for their service and sacrifice to our Church. After Badarak, the Shnorhali School commemorated its Graduation Ceremony and Hantess.

On June 11, the St. Mary Church Shnorhali School hosted its second 2017 hantess. The 1st/2nd grade class, the 3rd grade class, and the 5th grade class participated in a memorable year-end celebration. All classes gave very inspiring performances which included songs, short plays and recitation.

Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan Visiting St. Mary

While Der Hovsep lead the 5th Annual Youth Leadership Pilgrimage to the Holy Land consisting of 30 young adults from across the Eastern Diocese, St. Mary Armenian Church was blessed with a guest celebrant, Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, who presided over Badarak on June 11.

Fr. Daniel is the Director of the Eastern Diocese Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center as well as a member of several scholarly and ecumenical associations. We expressed our profound gratitude for celebrating the Divine Liturgy at St. Mary Armenian Church.



Avak Society Beginning of Summer Luncheon



Ararat Avak Society "Beginning of Summer Luncheon" took place on June 17, during which community members got together for fellowship and fabulous food. It was pleasurable to bring the community together on a sunny afternoon to share a menu of traditional chicken

and beef shish kebab and dessert. The luncheon was sponsored by Derderian, Delikahya, Erdogan and Derian families in memory of their loved ones. Our appreciation went out to Ararat Avak Society Coordinating Committee for their hard work and dedication.

Women's Guild Meeting Before Summer Break

The Women's Guild had their last meeting before the summer break on June 24. It was held at the home of Suzanne Harutunian, who graciously opened her home for the meeting. Fifteen WG members attended the meeting and enjoyed the beautiful lakeside setting.



After the luncheon,

a short meeting was held reviewing the events of the past six months; a report was also given by delegate Nadya Cubukian on the WGCC assembly held in May.

The WG Chair thanked the members for their support and announced that the WG will transfer \$15k to the Parish Council.

A Transformative Pilgrimage to the Holy Land



A group of 28 young adults from parishes across the Eastern Diocese traveled to the Holy Land from June 6 to 16. The seventh annual Youth Leadership Pilgrimage to the Holy Land was led by the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan. Fr. Hovsep was assisted by Arpi Nakashian of the Diocese's department of Creative Ministries and Yn. Danielle DerAsadourian of St. Sarkis Church of Charlotte, NC. The young pilgrims visited the Church of the Nativity of Christ in Bethlehem, the Jordan River, Dead Sea, toured the sites of the public ministry of Jesus Christ around the Sea of Galilee and area of Nazareth,

celebrated Badarak at the Church of Nativity, the St. Mary's Tomb and the Holy Sepulcar, visited the Garden of Gethsemane and Mt. of Ascension among other great sites of biblical history. They learned about the Armenian presence in the Holy Land, and explored ways to strengthen their leadership roles at the parish and Diocesan levels.

Annual Father's Day Picnic in Baltimore

The Baltimore community's Annual Father's Day Picnic took place on June 19 at Piney Run Park in Carroll County. It was organized by the Armenian Association of Greater Baltimore. Families and friends came together to enjoy the beauty of nature and each other's company as well as pay tribute to Fathers. The lamb and chicken kabob, pilaf and salad, desserts and watermelon was followed by fishing, canoeing, hiking, volleyball, basketball, tennis and soccer games for the youth. As always, the Armenian music and dancing, and most importantly the Armenian Spirit, was present throughout the entire day.



The Armenian Association of Greater Baltimore, under the leadership of Zakar Shahverdian, organizes different events, such as, holding weekly Armenian School classes for the youth, organizing cultural programs, and the annual Nativity Badarak.

Book Presentation "Forced into Genocide"



An interactive book presentation took place at St. Mary on, June 25. Mrs. Adrienne Alexanian, Editor of the "Forced into Genocide", presented her father Yervant Edward Alexanian's memoir which she had spent years preparing for publication.

In her presentation Mrs. Alexanian contemplated on her father's life, who was an Armenian soldier in the Ottoman Turkish Army and became an eye-witness to the massacre and dislocation of his family and country-

man during the Armenian Genocide. His memoir is a one-of-a-kind "insider's account," documenting the Genocide's astonishing cruelty - but also its rare, unexpected acts of humanity.

The presentation was well received by those who attended and was followed by a book signing.

The event was co-sponsored by St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, Knights and Daughters of Vartan, Armenian Assembly of America and Armenian National Committee.

Congressman Jim Costa's Presentation

The Armenian Assembly of America hosted a presentation by Congressman Jim Costa (D-CA) from Fresno, California on June 26 at St. Mary Armenian Church, where he shared his experiences traveling to Armenia for the first time in 2016. During his travels, he met with Armenian officials, visited the Armenian Genocide Memorial Complex and historical sites, and gave special remarks at the American University of Armenia.

Congressman Costa is a Member of the Armenian Caucus and has been a proud supporter of U.S.-Armenian relations for many years.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL July 2017

Our Youth Enjoy St. Vartan Camp



Our St. Mary youth enjoyed St. Vartan Camp, sponsored by the Diocese of the Armenian Church, on July 9 where 13 attended for 1 week, and then on July 15, where 7 attended for an additional week. The camp is led by an experienced administration and staff and provides a physically, emotionally and spiritually healthy environment in which young Armenian-American Christians can grow and gain a deeper understanding of their Armenian faith and culture.

Overlooking the scenic Catskill Mountains, the location is on 65 acres and offered the children an on-site pool, tennis court, basketball court, soccer field, and dining and recreational facilities. The program focused on a blend of Armenian religion, culture, language, history, dance, music, arts, and fellowship, together with a full sports program including soccer, basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, and swimming. Der Hovsep accompanied the youth and taught at the camp for one week. We thanked Talar Keshishian Festekjian for volunteering at the camp and for the fabulous photography that captured all of the fun and excitement shared by all and to Garbis Khiriguian for safely driving our children to and from their camp experience.

Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ - Vartavar

On July 23 St. Mary Church celebrated the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ with the traditional "Antastan" service at the conclusion of the Holy Badarak.

The parishioners came together to recall Christ's ascending up Mount Tabor, accompanied by His disciples John, James, and Peter. At the mountain's summit, to the disciples' frightened amazement, Christ was transfigured in a blinding white light, the Old Testament figures Moses and Elijah emerged from the mists of time to confer with the Lord, and the voice of God boomed from out of the heavens to affirm Jesus as his Son.

This celebration is one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Church which traditionally have also been called Vartavar. In a uniquely Armenian part of the celebration, the churchgoers sprinkle each other with water on the feast day.



WED Scholarship Committee Selects Recipients



The WED (William Ervant Docter) Educational Scholarship Committee met on July 15 to select the recipients of the WED scholarships for the school year 2017-2018. The fund, established at St. Mary Armenian Church in 1998 with the generosity of William Ervant Docter (Ervant Hekimian), has provided financial support to many qualified Armenian Americans pursuing studies or training in United States or Canada.

The Committee received a total of 31 applications. Sixteen (16) of the applicants were awarded grants totaling \$39,000, based on carefully selected criteria designed to demonstrate both financial need and academic excellence. Two (2) applicants received \$4,000 each; six (6) received \$3,000; five (5) received \$2,000, and finally three (3) others received \$1,000 each.

The WED Scholarship Committee consisted of Dr. Zaven Kalayjian, Ms. Nevart Tahmazian, Ms. Anna Andriasova Seferian, Ms. Patricia Yeghissian and Mr. Raffi Karahisar. The Committee was assisted ably by the WED Office Manager, Ms. Julie Avedikian, and the WED Treasurer, Mr. Zakar Shahverdian.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL August 2017

St. Mary Commemorates One Year Anniversary of Passing of Rev. Fr. Vertanes Kalayjian



On August 6 St. Mary Armenian Church held a Hokehankist commemorating the one year anniversary of passing of Rev. Fr. Vertanes Avak Kahana Kalayjian.

Family, parishioners and friends gathered to remember and pray for Der Vertanes who served St. Mary for more than 30 years, and whose works, kindness and generosity, have affected people throughout our entire Diocese.

We expressed our heartfelt gratitude to Hayr Soorp Jirair Tashjian from Paris, France, for visiting and partaking in Sunday's Badarak with Der Hovsep.

Feast of the Assumption and Name Day of Our Church

On August 13 St. Mary observed the feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God, the Blessing of Grapes and the Name Day of our Church. Fr. Hovsep celebrated the Badarak, which was presided by Archbishop Vicken Aykazian. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Archbishop Aykazian and Fr. Hovsep performed the "Blessing of Grapes" service and blessed the "madagh".

Later that afternoon a luncheon was held during which parishioners Ar-



menak and Lusin Simon were honored with the Pastoral Certificate of Recognition for their Dedication and Love to St. Mary. We were also privileged by the presence of the Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the United States H.E. Mr. Grigor Hovhannissian, and the Permanent Representative of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic to the United States Mr. Robert Avetisyan. The day's program also included a special musical performance by Mrs. Karine Muradyan.

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL September 2017

Faith Day and St. Mary ACYOA Seniors and Juniors at the Ballpark



ACYOA Seniors had a great time hosting a joint ACYOA Seniors and Juniors Day on August 26 at the ballpark watching the Nationals beat the Mets 9-4! A total of seventeen people attended, and celebrated Faith Day at the baseball game.

Women's Guild General Meeting

On September 9, the Women's Guild had their first potluck luncheon meeting after the summer break. Twenty-one members attended. After the opening prayer, Der Hayr welcomed everyone and gave the devotional message of faith and encouragement. Four members won surprise door prizes prepared by Sona Bakirci.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Nadya Chubukian, and a Membership Dues update by Suzanne Harutunian. Ani Derderian, intro-



duced the proposed Event Calendar planned by the Executive Committee for the remainder of 2017, plus some new ideas/activities:

1. Secrets of Grandma's Cooking Classes
2. Stretch and Exercise Classes
3. Guest Speakers, and
4. Spiritual Fitness Meetings (Spirit Fit).

The Chairman stressed the importance of members participating and volunteering for the upcoming Fall Food Festival and donation of baked goods for the Bake and White Elephant tables.

Hripsimeh Sivaslian reviewed the Fall Food Festival Workshop Schedule with the members and requested workshop volunteers and chairs.

Members enjoyed socializing and partaking in a variety of the luncheon fare.

St. Mary ACYOA Juniors Pool Party and BBQ



The ACYOA Juniors kicked off the year with a Pool Party and BBQ on September 9. Over 30 teens and parents gathered at the home of Paul and Lucy Murad to enjoy burgers, swimming and plenty of fun! Parents also got in on the fun and were able to gather and plan activities for the upcoming

semester. Teens also practiced their volleyball skills in preparation for the Oct. 6-9 Sports Weekend, held at St. Leon's Church in Fairlawn, NJ. The ACOYA Juniors expressed their appreciation to the Murad Family - for their Christian love and spirit in opening their home and their hearts to the youth of our Church!

ACYOA Seniors Executive Committee Meeting



St. Mary's ACYOA Seniors Executive Board met on September 10 to discuss plans for the year and appoint new positions. The newest addition to the Executive Board was Maral Arslanian, who moved to Washington, D.C. from Dallas, Texas and was a member of St. Sarkis Armenian Church. The new Executive Board positions : Chairman - Vasken Serpekian; Vice Chairman - Danielle Saroyan; Treasurer - Aram Tramblian; Recording Secretary - Simon Shahinian; and Corresponding Secretary - Maral Arslanian.

Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross



After the Badarak on September 17, an Anantasdan service (blessing of the fields) was conducted during which the processional cross was adorned with basil (a symbol of royalty) and the four corners of the church were blessed as a sign of the sanctification of the world. The association of the sweet-smelling plant with the celebration of this Feast was because basil in the early decades of Christianity was a symbol of royalty, befitting the Saviour who was crucified as a King.

Church traditions also preserve a beautiful story of the miraculous growth of basil on the ground at the foot of the Cross of the Lord after it had been removed. Basil, according to pious traditions, continued to grow on that ground despite the faithful cutting and taking it home.

A Prayer for Armenia's Independence

On September 24, St. Mary Church celebrated the 26th Anniversary of the Independence of our Homeland with a special prayer of thanksgiving for the Republic of Armenia, which took place after the Badarak.

Independence Day is an official holiday in Armenia. It commemorates the restoration of the Republic of Armenia in September 21, 1991, from of Soviet rule. When the vote took place almost 95 percent of the qualified voters took part, and more than 99



percent of these voters said "Yes" to the having an independent, free, and self-governing state. Parishes of the Eastern Diocese also conducted the "Order of Thanksgiving Prayer of the Republic of Armenia."

Armenian Food Festival Workshops



Throughout the month of September our tireless Women's Guild members and volunteers conducted workshops and resembled a small army of expert cooks, preparing hundreds of items in the kitchen for the 69th Annual Fall Food Festival.

The Women's Guild of St. Mary spent a tremendous amount of time and effort preparing authentic Armenian dishes from recipes that have long been a part of our heritage.

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL October 2017

Fundraiser Concert of Armenian Folk Dance



St. Mary had been conducting special fundraising events and plate collections during the month of September to provide relief to the people of St. Kevork Armenian Church in Houston, TX.

A beautiful fundraising concert of Armenian folk dance by Ani Nishanian took place at St. Mary Church on October 1. Parishioners and friends gathered to enjoy the elegant Armenian Dances performed by little Ani

and at the same time to support St. Kevork Armenian families in Texas affected by Hurricane Harvey. Our heartfelt appreciation went out to those who provided support and gave their generous donations and special thanks to Ani for her inspirational creativity and talent to dance in order to raise funds to support the victims of the hurricane.

St. Mary Church 69th Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival

Our church members' tireless energy and countless efforts made the 69th Armenian Fall Food Festival a huge success. We were blessed with wonderfully sunny days and warm weather so that our food loving community could enjoy eating outdoors.

We know the commitment was not just about the 4 day weekend as all began giving long before the festival with planning, shopping, preparing, baking, and cooking.

All of our volunteers and supporter's hard work and devotion helped St. Mary continue its long and enduring legacy and beautiful traditions of our religious and national heritage, community and Christian servitude, with love and reverence towards our Church.



ACYOA Juniors Sports Weekend



On Oct. 6-9 the St. Mary ACYOA Juniors participated in the ACYOA Juniors Fall Sports Weekend at St. Leon Armenian Church in Fairlawn, NJ. Over 250 teens from churches across the Diocese participated in basketball, volleyball and various other competitive activities. The St. Mary teams participated in co-ed volleyball and girl's basketball, lead by Coach Mike Sahakian.

The weekend culminated with a dance on Saturday night and a closing Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Sunday evening. Special appreciation went out to chaperones Mrs. Hasmik Keurian and Coach Michael Sahakian who made this an exceptional weekend for our youth. Many thanks also to Ms. Becky Baghdasarian and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan for organizing and coordinating the trip.

Women's Guild Cultural Event

As part of the celebration of the cultural month in October, St. Mary Women's Guild organized a screening of the newly filmed movie "They Shall Not Perish." Parishioners and friends gathered at St. Mary church hall on October 22 to watch the film about the Near East Relief and the heroic American response to the refugee crisis during the Armenian Genocide.

The film featured the stories of American diplomats, missionaries and relief workers who, as witnesses to the Ar-



menian Genocide, responded to a call to action and mobilized the largest non-governmental international humanitarian movement undertaken by American citizens. Motivated by nothing more than a moral sense of duty, these man and women - among them industrialists, ambassadors, teachers nurses, advertisers and Presidents - helped bring care and comfort to millions of suffering refugees in extremely harrowing circumstances.

The movie was both emotional and educational and was enjoyed by those who attended.

New Names of Armenia



"New Names of Armenia", a group of talented young musicians performed on October 29 to a capacity crowd at Landon School Auditorium located in Bethesda, Maryland. Their repertoire was a mix of classical and Armenian folk music, showcasing their talent as Armenia's cultural representatives.

The audience's delight was shown in many standing ovations but if there was a moment of awe, it would be the two young kanyon players. Every hand stroke was precisely synchronized; every rhythm was in unison.

The event was organized by Armenian Community Event Planners (ACEP). ACEP, established in the aftermath of the Centennial Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide held in Washington in May 2015, comprised of members of St. Mary and Soorp Khatch Churches.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL November 2017

Ararat Avak Society Fall Luncheon



The Ararat Avak Society presented and served a lavish and delectable Fall Luncheon on November 3 at St. Mary Church, which was attended by over 50 guests. Special thanks went to Takuhi Hallajian, Mari Shafakian, and Eva Shafakian for preparing and donating the Fall Luncheon in memory of their beloved parents. The program

also showcased a special faith-based jewelry presentation for those who had interest in making some early Christmas purchases.

The St. Mary Ararat Avak Society is a fellowship of church members and friends who engage in social, cultural, and educational activities. The organization's tireless efforts are dedicated toward serving the church community with occasional and holiday luncheons.

ACYOA Juniors Event

St. Mary Church ACYOA Juniors lived by the words of our Lord, "so in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you" (Matt. 7:12), as on November 5 they gathered to prepare 200 bagged lunches for the homeless.

The charitable, collaborative and joyful team building activity fortified our Juniors relationships among themselves as they shared a common goal of helping those in need within our community.

An assortment of pretzels, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, cookies and apples were bagged then dropped off at the Community for Creative Non-Violence in Washington, DC.

We thanked our ACYOA Juniors, parents and supporters for this heartfelt effort of giving back.



Making Mahs



This month our devoted team of "Mahs Bakers" gathered within St. Mary Church's kitchen to make mahs. Our special thanks went to Lola Pickering, Gulbahar Ozkayan, Vercin Bolat, and Takuhi Ozbenian who skillfully mixed the ingredients to make the mahs.

The Armenian word "mahs" means a portion. It is blessed, unconsecrated bread (not Holy Communion) that is given to the faithful to take to those who were unable to share in Holy

Communion. It becomes their "portion" of the Badarak. When you receive mahs, extend your right hand so that the small piece of bread can be placed on the back of your hand, and as you receive the mahs say "Pazheen eem Asdvadz haveedyan" (God is my portion forever).

Advent Bible Study

Our four session Advent Bible Study occurred on Tuesdays in November and December and took place in the St. Mary Church Hall. This annual series study was entitled "Living the Gospel of Christ: Journeying Through Advent with the People of the Nativity" and concentrated on the experiences of different figures involved in the Nativity Story.

The Bible study took place at St. Mary Church and attracted some



20 participants who came together to make the celebration of the season of Advent more meaningful by preparing their hearts and minds for Christmas.

Women's Guild Thanksgiving Luncheon



On November 19, the St. Mary Women's Guild served a sumptuous holiday meal to over 50 guests after Badarak in the church hall.

Those who attended enjoyed tastefully decorated tables with fall and harvest themes, the company of their friends and family members of the congregation, and delicious food prepared by our members of the Women's Guild, whose gracious hosting is enjoyed by all and appreciated.

Tomb of Christ - Church of the Holy Sepulchre Experience



National Geographic's newest exhibition is unlike any other. The viewer is virtually transported to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem for an immersive 3-D journey to learn about the unique restoration effort of this important site. This iconic church, which is over 1,700 years old, has suffered from the effects of age, weather,

earthquakes, fires, and human conflict. This historic project was focused on the tomb of Christ, or the Holy Edicule, located in the center of the church and believed by many to be the site of Jesus' burial tomb.

A team of engineers and preservation architects were hard at work, securing this important site for future generations. In the exhibition, one can see how the remote sensing technology can be animated into renderings, creating highresolution 3-D digital images and is a truly immersive experience. Fr. Hovsep participated in the exhibition preview followed by a private luncheon with the exhibition's curator, archaeologist Dr. Fredrik Hiebert.

"Unity Concert" in Washington

Washington, DC's National Cathedral held a "Concert for Unity" on November 13, where civic and religious leaders gathered to hear a program built around Russian artists performing their own national music.

The Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, pastor of St. Mary Church, attended the concert representing Diocesan Primate Archbishop Khajag Barsamian. He also joined a symposium on "cultural engagement" that preceded the concert.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL December 2017

St Mary 85th Anniversary Celebration



St. Mary Church celebrated its 85th Anniversary on December 10, with a special luncheon and program after the Divine Liturgy. More than 150 parishioners attended the event, including special guests His Eminence Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, Ambassador Grigor Hovhannissian, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the United States, and NKR Representative Robert Avetisyan.

Master of Ceremonies Mike Sahakian welcomed the audience and expertly lead them through the program. Parish Council Chairman Onnik Sivaslian also welcomed the guests and thanked them for sharing the special occasion with their

parish family. During the luncheon Simon Shahinian presented slides and recounted his glorious experience during a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. Hovsep. Remarks were made by Ambassador Grigor Hovhannissian, NKR Representative Robert Avetisyan and Archbishop Vicken Aykazian.

The Honorees, Mr. and Mrs. David and Leda Zenian, were recognized by their family as they spoke about their lifetime achievements, personally and professionally, and their many contributions to the Armenian community. Fr. Hovsep presented Mr. and Mrs. Zenian with an award and cake to celebrate their commitment and lives with all.

ACYOA Jr. Christmas Party

St. Mary ACYOA Juniors had their Christmas get together on December 9. The Sahakian family graciously opened their doors and hearts to some 15 ACYOA members and their parents for a wonderful time. The evening began by a Home Blessing service with the participation of ACYOA members and a short message by Der Hovsep. The day was filled with the spirit of celebration of this wonderful time of year and joyous season. Our ACYOA members played games, exchanged Christmas gifts and socialized together throughout the evening. Our heartfelt thanks went to Mike and Catherine Sahakian for graciously hosting the event.



Women's Guild Annual Christmas Party



The Annual Women's Guild Christmas party was held on December 9 at "Nantucket's Reef" restaurant in Rockville, Maryland. The event was attended by 22 members. Yn. Kalayjian gave the prayer before the luncheon meal.

The Chairman gave a short presentation reviewing the years' 15 WG events and

thanked the members for their support. The Chairman also announced that the WG had transferred \$22k to the Parish Council for 2017.

Special thanks were given to Der Hayr and Yn. Jennifer for their continuous support. After lunch, Christmas carols were sung and door prizes awarded.

Shnorhali School Christmas Hantess

On December 17 the St. Mary Shnorhali School held its Annual Christmas Pageant. Our students beautifully performed the Nativity Story in its fullness. All the participants, from pre-school to high school, over 70 students in total had a role to play in the performance. In addition to the beautifully and tastefully implemented Nativity performance, the students also recited



Biblical verses, chanted Christmas carols in both Armenian and English, and performed parts from Badarak.

Sincere appreciation went to the talented Hantess Directors, Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan and Rebecca Bago-dasarian and the entire Sunday School staff, including Eric Ashbaian, Danielle Saroyan, Maro Hovhanis-syan, Michael Sahakian, Melineh Pertosyan, Greg Kumkumian and Svetlana Hovhannisyan. The Sunday school staff was especially grateful to all the parents and our beloved principal, Mr. Harry Tchetchenian for his continued leadership and tireless efforts to help make the Shnorhali School a welcome and loving place of learning for all children and families in our community.

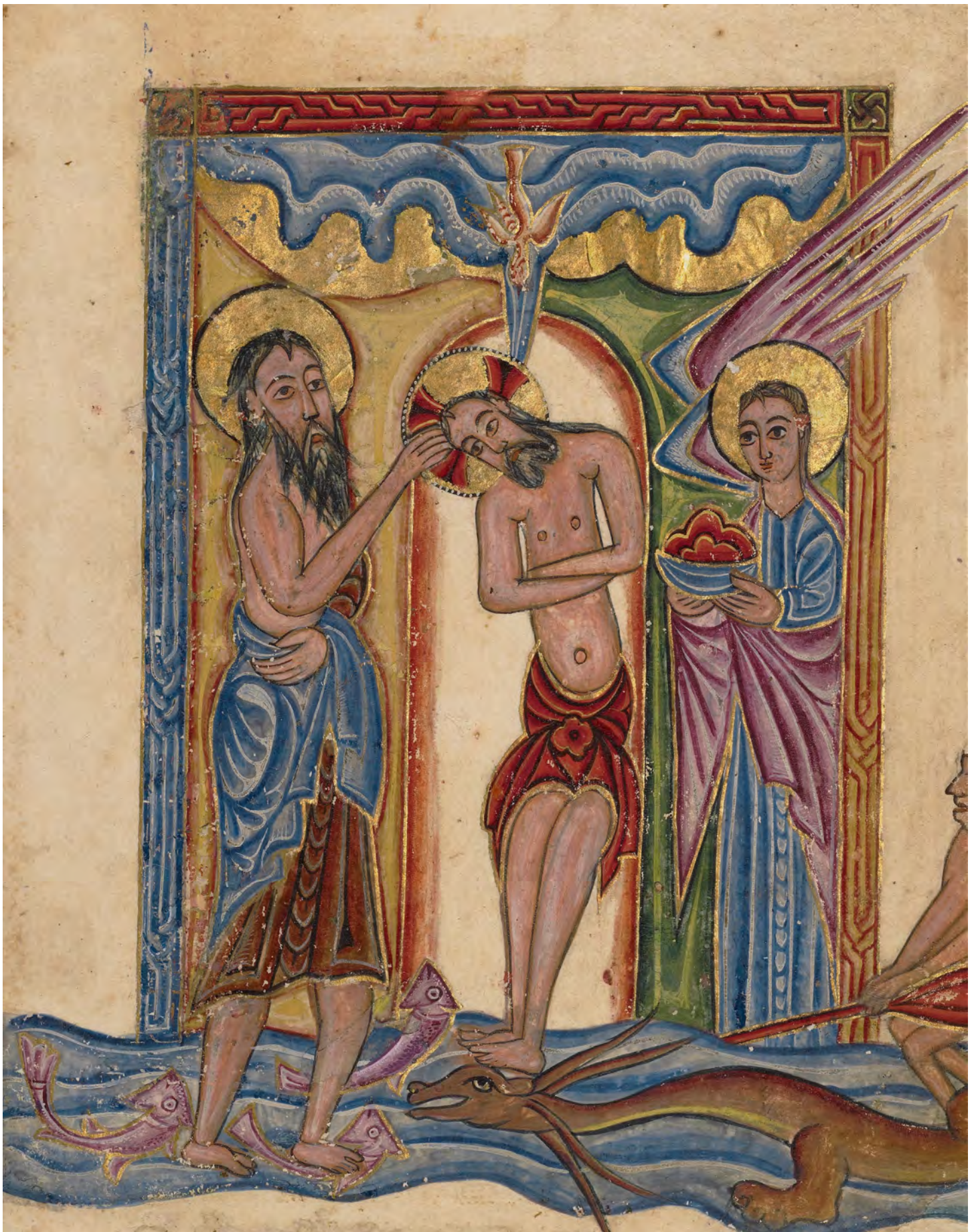
Blessing of Pomegranate



On December 31, Der Hovsep blessed the pomegranates after celebrating Badarak. For the first time in history in 2015, the Supreme Patriarch of the Armenian Church, His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, introduced a new service for the Blessing of the Pomegranates, one of the seven biblical species of fruits and grains at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. For centuries, the pomegranate has been woven into Ar-

menian architecture, cuisine, art, manuscripts, literature and liturgical vestments as it represents to Armenians life, fertility, and abundance. After Der Hovsep's blessing the fruit was distributed to the congregation with a wish to bring prosperity and abundance into the new year.





The Baptism of Christ. Leaf from Ms. Ludwig II 7: Mesrop of Khizan (Armenian, active 1605 – 1651).
Isfahan, Persia, 1615. Tempera on glazed paper.



Hokehankists-Requiem Services

JANUARY 2017

January 22

For the Soul of: Hrant Dink

Requested by: Der Hayr and St. Mary Parish Council

January 29

For the Souls of: Arousiag Boursalian and Peter Boursalian

Requested by: Noubar Boursalian & Linda Boursalian

FEBRUARY 2017

February 5

For the Souls of: Laura Mkrtchyan, Galina Kanzapetova- Melkumyan

Requested by: Vache Sarukhanyan, Marina Sarukhanyan, Irina Tashjian, Ruzanna Surina

February 12

For the Soul of: Aleksan Khanjyan

Requested by: Ararat Stepanyan, Sandro Khanjyan and Family

February 19

For the Soul of: Arshaluys Cekci (40 Days)

Requested by: Mr. Onnik Cekci - Husband, Mrs. Talin Arjona - Daughter,

Mr. & Mrs. Bianca and Philips - Daughter and Son-in-Law, Mr. Tamar Cekci - Daughter, Mr. & Mrs.

Haygaz Cancikian - Brother and Sister-in-Law, Mrs.

Nazeni Kesisian - Sister, Mrs. Eva Shafakian - Sister,

Mr. & Mrs. Onnik Cancikian - Brother and Sister-in-Law, Mr. & Mrs. Setrak Mikaelian - Sister and

Brother-in-Law and their Families

February 26

For the Soul of: Aram Joseph Paul (15 Years)

Requested by: Roxanne Nersesian Paul and Family

For the Soul of: Moses (Moe) Arkoian (25 Years)

Requested by: Rosemary Arkoian - Wife; Mr. & Mrs.

John and Jana Arkoian - Son and Daughter-in-Law;

Alexandra Arkoian - Daughter

For the Soul of: Aida Avagyan

Request by: Anna Hall - Daughter, Mushegh

Sargsyan - Grandson, Ernesto Bravo

For the Soul of: David Siroonian

Requested by: Kristie Siroonian & Luke Emblidge - Daughter and Son-in-Law

For the Souls of: George & Arousiak Khanzoghian, Hagopjan Guiragossian, Bedros Guiragossian

Requested by: Dr. & Mrs. Nabil Azzam, Mrs. Aline Guiragossian, Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Annie Guiragossian and Family, Mr. & Mrs. George & Kareen Guiragossian and Family

For the Soul of: Anjel Hovanessian

Requested by: Seta and Boghosian Sivaslian - Daughter and

Son-in-Law; Karen and George Guiragossian - Granddaughter and Husband

For the Soul of: Jack Kazanjian (9 Years)

Requested by: Gloria Kazanjian - Wife; Alan Kazanjian - Son

For the Soul of: Alexandra Zademitchenko

Requested by: Mr. Edward Aslanyan and Family

For the Souls of: Victims of Massacres in Sumgayit and Baku (1988-1990)

Requested by: Office of Artsakh in USA, Parish Council and Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan

MARCH 2017

March 5

For the Soul of: Ghazaros Ghazarian (1 Year)

Requested by: Hasmig Ghazarian, Siran and Hagop Levonian, Christine and Rob Gresham.

For the Soul of: Vahe Baladouni, Ph.D. (40 Day)

Requested by: Billie Salisbury Baladouni, D.Min, BCC (Wife), Janig Baladouni Hear (Daughter), Vahan Baladouni (Son), Fr. Yeprem and Yn. Judy Kelegian.

March 12

For the Soul of: Nariman Assatourian (40 Day)

Requested by: Aghavne Assatourian (Spouse), Vazgen Assatourian (Son),

Ofelya Assatourian (Daughter-in-Law), Lillian Assatourian (Granddaughter), Annais Assatourian (Granddaughter), Eileen Assatourian (Granddaughter), Dr. Karineh Assatourian (Daughter), Hamlet Abnos (Son-in-Law), Osheen Abnos (Grandson), Ani Abnos (Granddaughter).

March 19

For the Soul of: Jack Andonian (25 Years)

Requested by: Clara Andonian and Family.

For the Soul of: Robert George (11 Years)

Requested by: Doris George (Wife), Bob George (Son), Merlene Kovac (Daughter), Lara George (Daughter).

For the Souls of: Jean Berberian, Krikor and Hripsime Berberian, Tatos and Hripsime Bazoian, Vartan Papazian, Alice Papazian, Krikor Mahakian

Requested by: Mr. Stephan Berberian, Dr. Brenda Berberian, Ms. Debora Berberian.

March 26

For the Soul of: Dr. Albert Z. Kapikian

Requested by: Catherine Kapikian (Wife), Albert Kapikian (Son), Thomas Kapikian (Son), Gregory Kapikian (Son).

APRIL 2017

April 2

For the Souls of: The Armenian Servicemen and Civilians who fell during the Four Day War in Artsakh last year

Requested by: The Office of Artsakh in USA, Der Hovsep and the St. Mary Parish Council.

For The Soul of: Angela Bardizbanian (3 years)

Requested by: Raffie and Maureen Bardizbanian (Son & Daughter-in-Law), Arthur & Raffie Jr. Bardizbanian (Grandchildren).

For the Soul of: Nariman Assatourian (40 Day)

Requested by: Aghavne Assatourian (Spouse), Vazgen Assatourian (Son), Ofelya Assatourian (Daughter in-Law), Lillian Assatourian (Granddaughter), Annais Assatourian (Granddaughter), Eileen Assatourian (Granddaughter), Dr. Karineh Assatourian (Daughter), Hamlet Abnos (Son in-Law), Osheen Abnos (Grandson), Ani Abnos (Granddaughter).

For the Soul of: Varoujan Yenokian

Requested by: Yenokian Family.

April 30

For the Soul of: Raphael Couyoumdjian who passed away in Meudon, France (40 days)

Margearite Babakhian who passed away in Grenoble, France (1 year)

Requested by: Anna Yousoufian (Sister), Hrant Yousoufian (Brother-in-Law), Elise Yousoufian (Niece).

For the Soul of: Khatchig Nazarian

Requested by: Ararat Stepanyan, Daron Bedrosian and Family Members.

MAY 2017

May 14

For the Souls of: All the Freedom Fighters Who Sacrificed Their Lives for the Liberation of Artsakh

Requested by: Office of the Republic of Artsakh in the United States, St. Mary's Parish Council and Der Hovsep.

May 21

For the Souls of: Yervant Missirian (2nd Year), Missak Missiran, Garbis and Suzan

Garyan, Deceased Members of Missirian, Joukhian, Kevorkian, Sahakyan, Shirinian and Garyan Families

Requested by: Sahakyan, Missirian, Mahoney and Garyan, Barteve and Families.

For the Soul of: Sofie N. Demirjian (3 years)

Requested by: Vartan Zenian (Son), Arda Zbelt (Daughter), Zarmine Evereklian and Family.

For the Soul of: Heros Grigoryan

Requested by: Grigoryan Family.

May 28

For the Soul of: William Ervant Docter Hekimian

(Benefactor of the St. Mary's

WED Scholarship fund)

Requested by: WED Scholarship Community, St. Mary Parish Council and Der Hovsep.

For the Soul of: Gharapet Carro Nishanian

Requested by: Vazrik and Nunik Nishanian (Son), Artemis and George Calomiris (Daughter) and Azad Nishanian (Wife).

JUNE 2017

June 4

For the Souls of: The Deceased Members of St. Mary Women's Guild

For the Souls of: Ardavazd Harutunian

Requested by: Mr. & Mrs. David and Gild Andonian and Family, Mrs. Yeghiabet Harutunian and Family.

For the Soul of: Linda Esther Kumkumian (40 Days)

Requested by: Kumkumian and Schweitzer families.

For the Soul of: Horen Panosyan (40 Days)

Requested by: Arpine Panosyan (Wife), Ani & Ayda Panosyan (Daughters), Aris Cubuk (Son-in-law) & Alis Cubuk (Daughter), Garbis Chubukian (Son-in-law) & Nadya Chubukian (Daughter).

June 25

For the Souls of: Maryam Derderian, Arshaluys and Armenak Afaryan, Narin and Baron Delikahya

Requested by: Harutyun Derderian, Melkon Yercanik Delikahya, Simon Erdoghan, Setrak and Mari Derian.

For the Soul of: Cynthia Anush Pickering (40 days)

Requested by: Lola Kechyan Pickering (Mother)

For the Soul of: Araxie Janiachian

Requested by: Avedis & Anna Seferian, and Seferian family.

JULY 2017

July 16

For the Soul of: Lida Shahbazyan

Requested by: Varduhi Shahbazyan (Daughter), Artavazd Avetisyan, David and Tigran Avetisyan (Grandchildren).

July 30

For the Soul of: Haig Ellian

Requested by: Ellian Family, Mulvihill Family and Jenia Kazanjian.

For the Soul of: Lena Karapetyan (1 Year)

Requested by: Ruben & Tamar Karapetyan, Der Hovsep & Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan and Family.

AUGUST 2017

August 6

For the Soul of: Rev. Fr. Vertanes Avak Kahana Kalayjin (1 year)

Requested by: Diramayr Zabel Kalayjian (Mother),

Yn. Anahid Kalayjian (Wife),

Dr. Zaven and Edita Kalayjian and Children Jirair, Hrak, Pargev, and Zorair (Son and Daughter-in-Law and Grandchildren), Berj Kalayjian (Son), Der Avedis and Yn. Karen Kalayjian and Children Aram and Arev (Son and Daughter-in-Law and Grandchildren), Zarmine Boghosian (Sister), Missak Boghosian (Husband of Zarmine) and their Children and Families, Kevork Kalayjian (Brother), Maral Kalayjian (Wife of Kevork) and their Children and Families, Dr. Anie Kalayjian (Sister), Mr. Vazken Kalayjian (Brother), and Jacqueline (Wife) and their Children and Families.

For the Soul of: Araxie Janiachian (40 days)

Requested by: Seferian Family.

For the Soul of: Nazik Vardanyants

Requested by: Hasmik and Haykuhi Malumian (Daughters), Helen and Mike Keshishian (Granddaughter and Son-in-Law).

August 20

For the Souls of: Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush Boyajian and Sograd Boyajian (9 years)

Requested by: Molly Boyajian.

For the Soul of: Badrik Bostan

Requested by: Bostan and Romero Families.

August 27

For the Souls of: Sirvart Yeghissian, Yervant Bahadurian and George Bahadurian

Requested by: Patricia Yeghissian and Family.

For the Soul of: Mesrob Yeghiasarian (Sarian)

Requested by: Anna Yeghiasarian, Esq., Dr. Lara Yeghiasarian, Rosalin (Andrew) Panek, Grandfather of Diana and Isabel Panek (Germany), Brother of Rubina Faulkner, Peproneh Yeghiasarian, Levon (Hermineh) Yeghiasarian (California), Arick (Nina) Yeghiasarian (Australia), Uncle of Cord Faulker and Rene Faulkner-McDonagh, Armen and Anahid Yeghiasarian, Peggy Spratling and Danny Yeghiasarian.

SEPTEMBER 2017

September 10

For the Soul of: Hourton Bardizbanian

Requested by: Raffie, Maureen, Arthur and Raffie Jr. Bardizbanian

September 24

For the Soul of: Berjouhi Kazanjian

Requested by: Ani Kazanjian, Larry Law, Jennie and Peter Law

For the Soul of: Hariknaz Ozbenian

Requested by: Zadik Ozbenian (Husband), Maryam and Misak Mermer, Garo and Juliette Ozbenian, Janser and Jacqueline Ozbenian

Grandchildren: Aras, Anayis, John, Christina, and Rita

For the Souls of: All those who sacrificed their lives for the liberation and freedom of our Homeland, Armenia

Requested by: Der Hayr and the Parish Council of St. Mary

OCTOBER 2017

October 15

For the Souls of: Elmas Santourian-Great Grandmother, Dickran and Nevart Halajian-Grandparents, Hovaness and Nazenig Cherishian-Grandparents, John and Serarpe Halajian-Parents, Karnig and Berjouhi Halajian-Aunt and Uncle, Maryann Kinois-Sister, Steve Cherishian-Uncle.

Requested by: Michael and Nancy Kolenick

October 29

For the Souls of: Carmen Tolidjian (Mother) 1st year, Sarkis Tolidjian (Father) 30th year, Beatrice and Tavit Tolidjian (Grandparents), Armine, Kevork and Valentina Pilibossian (Grandparents and Aunt), Hripsime, Takuhi and Mgrdich Papazian

Requested by: Beatrice Tolidjian - Daughter of Carmen and Sarkis Tolidjian, Armand Tolidjian - Son of Carmen and Sarkis Tolidjian, Jennifer Tolidjian - Granddaughter of Carmen and Sarkis Tolidjian, Christo Marinov - Son-in-Law of Carmen and Sarkis Tolidjian, Stephanie Marinova - Granddaughter of Carmen and Sarkis Tolidjian

For the Souls of: Vagarshak Kortoian (40 days), Sally Kortoian (10 years)

Requested by: William and Nora Maghrablian.

NOVEMBER 2017

November 5

For the Soul of: Dr. John Berberian

Requested by: Elen Berberian(Wife), Aline and Gregoire Minassian (Sister and Brother-in-Law), Laurent and Family, Nadgarian and Family (Nieces), Alger and Family, Mercier and Family (Nephews and Nieces).

November 26

For the Souls of: Alexan Hasar, Mayram Hasar, Akop Hasar (4 years) and Kiryakos Bolek.

Requested by: Anna Bolek, Asadour and Janet Tufekci.

DECEMBER 2017

December 3

For the Soul of: Herman Bagdasaryan

Requested by: Mr. & Mrs. Vartkes & Ani Keshishian (Sister & Brother-in-Law)

Mrs. Alis Sahakyan (Mother) Talar, Yeprem, Arlene and Shaunt Festekjian (Niece & Family) Lilian, Peter, Alexander and Christina Festekjian (Niece & Family)

December 10

On the Occasion of the 85th Anniversary of Our Church we remember and pray for the Souls of our Dedicated Parishioners. And the Victims of the 1988 Earthquake in Armenia.

December 17

For the Souls of: Gulbenk Sivaslian, and deceased members of Sivaslian and Barsamyan Families

Requested by: Mrs. Ojen Sivaslian (Wife), Nadya (Daughter) and Arut Koseian, Onnik (Son) and Hripsime Sivaslian, Artur (Son) and Beverly Sivaslian, Grandchildren Aret and Maria Koseian, Arlet, John and Levon Beckham, Tamar and Maral Sivaslian, Armen, Nadya and Seline Sivaslian

For the Soul of: Khachadur Hakobyan

Requested by: Naira (Daughter) and Mike Tashjian

December 31

For the Souls of: David Montgomery and Sarkees Derhagopian

Requested by: Mark Krikorian.



Խաչն փայլէր ի յարեւելոց եւ յարեւմտեան իկ պայծառ
բուն զարեգակն փողն գողի մեծա ճայն ընտրեալ ընդ
առաջ քրիստոսոսցի երկրի։

Illuminated Armenian Gospel with Eusebian canons, 1609, miniature by Mesrop Khzanetsi

FUNERALS

ALICE MARGOSIAN

January 3, 2017

Beloved Mother of: Russell Margosian, Sherry Margosian Stoutner and Jeffrey Stoutner of Clinton, Iowa. Beloved Grandmother of: Ivy Margosian of Charlotte, NC, Duncan Stoutner, Nicole Alice's Alessandra all of Scottsdale, AZ.

ARSALOS CEKCI

January 10, 2017

Beloved Wife of: Onnik Cecki. Beloved Mother of: Talin, Biyanka (her husband Phillip), and Tamar. Beloved Grandmother of: Allen, Alexander, Sophia and Ella, Andrew, and Mathew.

HOREN PANOSYAN

April 21, 2017

Beloved Husband of: Arpine Panosya. Loving Brother of Firansuhi Kurtjian. Beloved Father of: Alis Cubuk (Son-in-Law Aris Cubuk), Nadya Chubukian (Son-in-Law Garbis Chubukian), Ani Panosyan and Ayda Panosyan. Beloved Grandfather of: Seerun and Taleen Cubuk, Armen and Anais Chubukian. Beloved Uncle of: Isahak Kurtjian and Varujan Kurtjian.

CYNTHIA ANUSH PICKERING

May 12, 2017

Beloved Daughter of: Lola Kechyan Pickering. Beloved Sister of: Loella Tamar Springmann and Scott. Beloved niece of: Emery Pickering and Barbara, Steve Pickering and Melinda. Beloved Nephews of: Sean and Zach.

KEVORK KESISOGLU

May 16, 2017

Beloved Father of :Sona Janjikian and Ani Kesisoglu. Beloved Grandfather of: Ararat Janjikian and Ari Janjikian, Karin Cakir.

MESROB YEGHIASARIAN (SARIAN)

July 16, 2017

Beloved Father of: Anna Yeghiasarian, Esq.; Dr. Lara Yeghiasarian; Rosalin (Andrew) Panek. Beloved Grandfather of: Diana and Isabel Panek (Germany), Brother of Rubina Faulkner, Peproneh Yeghiasarian, Levon (Hermineh) Yeghiasarian (California), Arick (Nina) Yeghiasarian (Australia). Beloved Uncle of: Cord Faulker and Rene Faulkner-McDonagh, Armen and Anahid Yeghiasarian, Peggy Spratling and Danny Yeghiasarian.

DR. JOHN BERBERIAN

September 26, 2017

Beloved Husband of: Elena Berberian. Beloved By: Minassian and Family, Berberian and Family, Fares and Family, Nadjarian and Family, Alger and Family, Mercier and Family.

AGHUNIK GHALAYAN

December 20, 2017

Beloved Mother of: Anahit, Azniv and Astghik. Beloved Grandmother of: Armen, Lilit, Inesa, Hranush, Khachik, Lusine and Anna and Taron, Nelli, Ani, Maria, Aren, Mason, Brendan and Nathan.





BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

JANUARY

January 28, 2017

Zareh Melkonian

Parents: Raffi and Maria Melkonian

Godparents: Tigran and Maral Avetisyan

MARCH

March 26, 2017

Reina Mari Derian

Daughter of Arman Derian and Viktoriya Tarskaya

Godparents: Garin S. Derian and Melisa Erdogan.

APRIL

April 25 , 2017

Sanaz Mohammadi

Daughter of Hassan H Mohammadi and Jasaman

Avni Rahani

Godparents: Sebu Megherditchian and Emma Megherditchian.

April 29, 2017

Lucine Amal Hawit

Daughter of Nader Samer Hawit and Sophia Talene Shahverdian Hawit

Godparents: Oshin Panos and Roula Amal Hawit.

MAY

May 27, 2017

Isaac Alexander Loosararian

Daughter of Jake and Bethary Loosararian

Godparents: Peter Sulaiman and Katie Loosararian.

JUNE

June 3, 2017

Jacklyn Marie Guiragossian

Daughter of Jack Bedros Guiragossian and Annie

Herepsema Guiragossian

Godparents: George Guiragossian and Kareen Guiragossian.

June 23, 2017

Razieh Murad

Daughter of Mohsen Bagherpour and Marzieh

Saadati

Godparents: Paul Armand Murad and Lucy Ohanian Murad.

June 24, 2017

Aria Natalia Morais

Daughter of David Nogueira Morais and Taline Tahmassian Morais

Godparents: Vahe Arshak Tahmassian and Kelly Fitzgerald Shannon

JULY

July 8, 2017

Eva May Visscher

Daughter of Gregory Armen Visscher and Isis Hill Visscher

Godparents: Serjik Sogomonian and Juliet Seghmon.

July 29, 2017

Ryan Ambrose

Son of Stephen Ambrose and Karen Ambrose

Godfather: Harout Doukmajian.

AUGUST

August 11, 2017

Victoriya Tarskaya

Daughter of Margarita Taris

Godparents: Melkon & Yerchanik Delikahya.

August 19, 2017

Lucina Baloyan

Son of Aramayis Baloyan and Arpine Petrosyan

Godparents: John Craig and Mane Manukyan Craig.

SEPTEMBER

September 16, 2017

Dylan Rose Gulugian

Daughter of Christopher and Elizabeth Gulugian

Godparents: David Gulugian and Kimberly Crane

September 30, 2017

Vincent Rand Toufighi

Son of Yashar Hassan Toufighi and Tamar

Boghosian

Godparents: Raffi and Diane Boghosian

NOVEMBER

November 4 , 2017

Daniella Alexandra Oliver

Daughter of Piter A. Oliver and Rita Istepanian

Godparents: Harootyun Istepanian

November 4 , 2017

Levon Lombardy Beckham

Son of John Lombardy Beckham and Arlet Vartouhi Koseian-Beckham

Godparents: Aret Koseian and Maria Christina Aghguigian

November 18, 2017

Thalia Marianna Shafakian

Daughter of Rudi and Rita Shafakian

Godparents: Rafi and Kristin Festekjian

DECEMBER

December 4, 2017

Milena Oganessian

Daughter of Rafael and Marina Oganessian

Godfather: Alex Ambartsumian

December 16, 2017

Nishan Sarkis Huang

Son of: Zhen Feng and Ani Danielian Huang

Godparents: Joseph and Ashley Piatt





WEDDINGS

APRIL

April 30, 2017

Lauren Diane Garry and Robert Edward Boggio

Parents: John Garry and Carol Garry, Robert Boggio and Mercedes Agraz

Best Man: Victor Jaramillo

Maid of Honor: Jessica Garry

MAY

May 12, 2017

Sanaz Mohammadi and Raymond Sinanian

Parents: Norik Sinanian and Nora Narasarian, Hasan H Mohammadi and Tasaman A Rhani

Best Man: Tadeh Khodaverdi

Maid of Honor: Schermin Smiley

May 21, 2017

Jbeed Melinda Tufeckgian and Jude Brian Muso

Parents: James Muso and Arlene Willey, Aghajan Tufeckgian and Gulbahar Tufeckgian

Best Man: Asadour Tufeckgian

Maid of Honor: Denchali Carnevale

JUNE

June 2, 2017

Aret Koseian and Maria Christina Aghguiguan

Parents: Arut Koseian and Nadya Sivali Koseian, Ohannes Aghguiguan and Chouchan Talahnian Aghguiguan

Best Man: John Beckham

Maid of Honor: Lara Kasparian

OCTOBER

October 21, 2017

Sevan Karakaya and Tatiana Dolottseva

Parents: Vahan Karakaya and Vahanush Horhor, Valeri Dolottsev and Marina Proshytinskaya

Best Man: Kevork Horhor

October 1, 2017

Sebouh Kasbarian and Sandra Derminassian

Parents: Kevork and Sona Kasbarian, Wilhem and Armineh Derminassian

Best Man: Areg Abrahamian

Maid of Honor: Liya Hoffman

SEPTEMBER

September 23, 2017

Ryan Edward Ambros & Zepur Nichole Nakashian

Parents: Stephen and Karen Ambrose, Krikor and Maral Nakashian.

Best Man: Kevin Ambrose

Maid of Honor: Natalie Nakashian

September 24, 2017

Arman Derain & Viktoriya Tarskaya

Parents: Setrak and Mari Derian, Ily Tarskiy and Margarita Taris.

Best Man: Garin Derian

Maid of Honor: Melissa Erdogan

OCTOBER

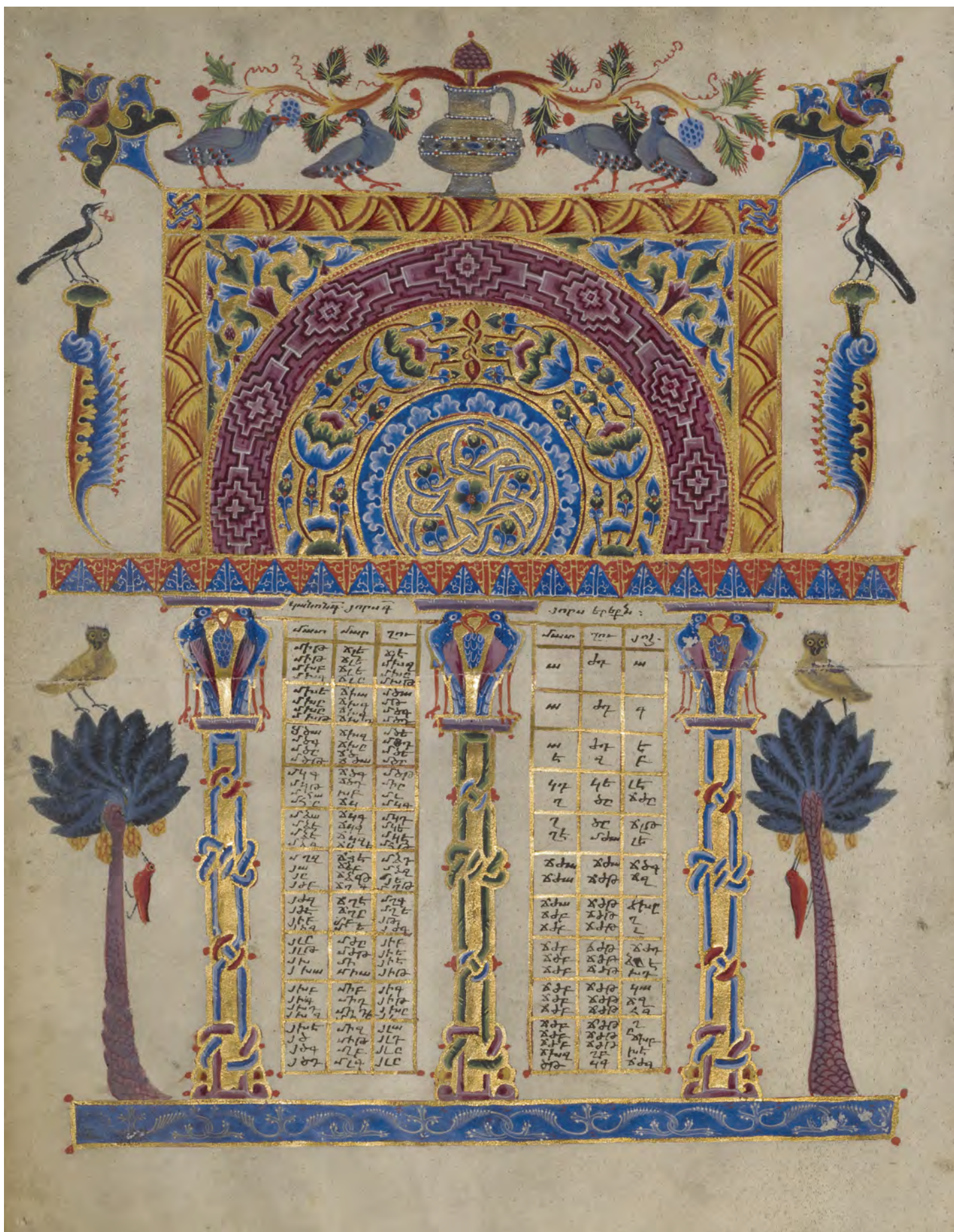
October 21, 2017

Sevan Karakaya and Tatiana Dolottseva

Parents: Vahan Karakaya and Vahanush Horhor, Valeri Dolottsev and Marina Proshytinskaya

Best Man: Kevork Horhor





T'oros Roslin (Armenian, active 1256 - 1268) - Canon Table Page



CHRISTMAS YUGHAKIN DONATIONS 2017

Donated by:

Alexander, Edward
Anbarjian, Kegham
Balian Simonian, Rita
Balian, Margaret
Balian, Raffi
Baldadian, Dolores
Beloian, Aram and Arletta
Bodurian, Ellen
Boyajian, Molly
Cimen, Gazar and Surpik
Dedeyan, Betty and Sahag
Garden, Linda
Ghazarian, Kevork and Maria
Gueriguian, John and Ida Family
Harvhil Family
Hadjian, Asadour and Nvart
Hagopian, Haig and Annie
Kazanjan Law, Family
Kapikian, Catherine Andrews
Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy
Krzysztofowicz, Roman & Liana
Kumkumian, John & Kathleen
Kumkimian, K Gregory and Katherine
Khrimian, Ashot and Susanna
Mesrobyan, Ara
Mulvihill, Jason and Christina
Mnatzkanian, Peter
Ozbenian, Janser & Jacqueline
Pashayani, Marie & Zohrab
Pickering, Lola
Sakian, Misho & Lucy
Sahakian, Diane, Ara, Daniel and Lily
Shahinian, Jelalian Grace
and Shahinian Dean Esq

In Loving Memory of:

Mr. & Mrs. Mirijan Minassian and Mr. & Mrs. John Alexanian
Loved Ones
In loving memory of Vartkess Balian
Mr. and Mrs. Harutoon and Barkev Peltekian
Vartkes M. Balian
George and Flossie Baldadian
Loved Ones
Abraham and Elise Bodurian, Ohanes Sahakian
Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush Boyajian and Sograd Boyajian
Loved Ones
Hamest, Shahen, Harry Yazujian and Beberian Family
Mike Seferian (Grandfather) George Dudgjian (Uncle)
Vahan and Ghazarian
Loves Ones
Zepur and Arkan Hatchikian
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Mrs. Berjouhi Kazanjan & Patriarch Karekin V. Kazanjan
Dr. Albert Kapikian
Hermine & Vahan Karahisar
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Aghunik Chalayan
Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
Haig Ellian and Jackand Barbara Tallalian
Loved Ones
Albert Jirikdjian, Hariknaz Ozbenian
Loved Ones
Yazmajian, Kechyan and Pickering families
Loved Ones
Ohannes Sahakian and Arshavir Ekizian
Dr. Paul Shahinian

Shamigian, Chuck
 Shahverdian, Zakar and Par
 Stoutner, B Jeffrey
 Tashjian, Mike & Naira
 Witherspoon, Robert

Mary Shamigian and Jackie Nishanian
 Loved Ones
 Alice Margosian
 Kevork Megerdich Tashjian, Khatchadur Hakobyan
 Mari and Hagop Ekmekciyan

Donated by:

Breg. Gen & Mrs. A.J Kaehn Jr, USAF

 Baldadian, Dolores

In Honor of:

The men and women of the armed forces of the United States

 Jack & Jean Babashanian

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Donated by:

Breg. Gen & Mrs. A.J Kaehn Jr, USAF
 Shahinian, Jelalian Grace
 and Shahinian Dean Esq
 Pashayan, Marie H and Zohrab
 Gawler's, Joseph

In Loving Memory of:

The men and women of the armed forces of the United States
 Lily Jelalian, Rev Vahen and Yn.Zarouhi Jelalian

 Loved Ones
 Loved Ones



IN LIEU OF CHRISTMAS CARD DONATIONS

Balian Simonian Rita
 Breg. Gen & Mrs. A.J Kaehn Jr, USAF
 Dr. and Mrs. Zaven Khachaturia
 Mariam Nishanian
 Shahinian, Grace and Dean Shahinian Esq
 Pashayani, Marie & Zohrab



*We thank all our Devoted Parishioners
 and wish them a Happiest New Year and a Merry Christmas
 Full of God's Grace and Blessings.*





EASTER LILIES & YUGHAKIN DONATIONS 2017

Donated by:

Andonian, David, Gilda & Family

Alexandrian Edvik & Lena

Alexander Edward & Roseann

Arabian Lawrence & Janet

Asdourian Paul

Asadoorian Family

Avedisian Ara & Maggie

Ayrandjian Anahid

Balian Marie

Balian Rita

Barsoumian Vergine

Baldadian Dolores

Berberian, Stephen & Brenda

Bodurian Family

Boyajian Molly

Bolat Anto

Bezdikian Levon

Delikahya Melkon

Der Bogosian Dianne

Derderian George & Anna

Garabedian Elizabeth

Ghazarian, Kevork & Maria

Gulan Liliane

Gueriguian Family John and Ida

Hagopian, Haig & Anahid

Hutchinson Family

Ignatius Paul R

Kapikian Catherine

Kazanjian-law family

Karahisar Raffi & Kathy

Krikorian Helen

Krikorian Jacqueline & Hutchinson Stephen

Khrimian Ashot

Koudoussian Rita & Haikouhi

In Loving Memory of:

Jack Andonian

The loved ones of Alexandrian and Koudoussian families

Mr.&Mrs. Miredjan Minasian

Mr.&Mrs. John Alexanian

Yerchanig Bolat

John & Diana Asdourian

Herman Carson, Eliza Alyanakian, Manuk

Matikyan, Ron Albertson

Araksi Prodromidis

Kohar & Antranig Avedisian

Nubar Y. Ayrandjian

Vartkess Balian

Vartkess M. Balian, Loving Husband

Yenovk & Elissa & Araxie

Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Jean Babashanian

Mr. & Mrs. Serge & Hossie Baldadian

Jean V. Berberian

Abraham & Elise Bodurian

Dr. Ohannes Sahakian

Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush & Sograd Boyajian

Yersavik Bolat

Mr.& Mrs. Levon Bezdikian

Loved Ones

Mahak, Zimrout Der Bogosian, Murad, Anna Mutulian

Aznive Attarian, Mary Petryk

Adrina Kayaian

Vahan & Vartouhie Ghazarian

Simon, Zepur & Gerard Mahdessian, & Stephane Gulan

Loved Ones

Loved Ones

Robert & Evelyn Hutchinson

Loved Ones

Dr. Albert Kapikian

Berjouhi Kazanjian & Patriach Karekin Kazanjian

Vahan & Hermine Karahisar

Mariam & Vahan Morookian

Deeran Krikorian

George Krikorian

Parents

The Loved ones of Koudoussian & Balian families

Kumkumian John & Kathleen
MacArthur Anne
Mangigian Pauline
Magzanian Alberta Anna, louisia
Mermer Misak
Mesrobian Ara
Mulnhill Jason and Chrstina
Nalbandian Zohrab
Najarian Vrege & Mary
Pashayan H. Marie
Pakhchanian Angele
Pickering Lola
Price Lucy
Sakian Misho & Lucy

Sahakian Diane & Ara
Sayan Arsen and Catherine

Semerjian G. Hratch
Sekercan Jeannette
Shahinian Dean, Esq.
Shahinian Jelalian Grace
Shahverdian Zakar & Pat
Shamigian Charles
Sheldon R. Lipson & Maria Elena Salas De Lipson
Simchian Family
Tamzarian Alice
Tashjian Mike & Naira

Tatigian Sarkis
Terminassian, Viguen and Teresa
Teymouri Vazgen and Aida
Vartabedian Dorothy
Wartanian W. Ghevont
Yeghissian Patricia

Donated by:

Asadoorian Family

Avedisian Maggie and Ara
Balian Marie
Balian Rita
Kazanjian –law Family
Katac Migirdic
Koudossian, Rita and Haikouhi
Shahinian Dean, Esq
Sakian Misho and Lucy
Mulnhill Jason and Chrstina
Shahnazarian Hilda
Sheldon R. Lipson & Maria Elena Salas De Lipson

Loved Ones
Eli Takesian
Andrew & Melene Mangigian
Samuel H. & Victoria C. Magzanian
Guldene Mermer, Hariknaz Ozbenian
Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
Haig Ellian
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Papken Pakuchanian
Yazmajian & Pickering
Bert Oconner
Dr Arshag & Verkine Sarkissian
Ohan & Yeghisa Sakian
Arshavir Ekizian
Haygaz and Manouchag Pilikian
Kohar Themejian, Eddy Sayan
Sona Kohar Semerjian
Krikor & John David Sekercan
Ms. Lily Jelalian Rev. Fr Vartanes Kalayjian
Dr. Paul Shahinian, Rev.Fr. Vahan and Yn. Zarouhi Jalalian
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Florenca Salas De Basquez De Belasco
Arshalous Drorian & Mack George
Kegham Tamzarian
Kevork Megerdich Tashjian
Khatchadur Hagobyan
Gloria Tatigian
Hermine Terminassian
Hasmik Teymouri
Lauretta A. Small Otts
Loved Ones
Mary Bahadurian & Shantoukt Yegissian

In Honor of:

Elmas Asadoorian, Nadya Cason, Anahid Ghazarian,
Kevork Ghazarian
Kohar & Antranig Avedisian
Rita Balian
Haikouhi Koudoussian
Clara Andonian
St. Mary Armenian Church
Marie Balian , Rita Balian
Yr. Anahid Kalayjian
Loved one
Sue Elian
Vartaei Rostamloo
Shant Markarian family

GRAPE & MADAGH BLESSING 2017
Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-Of-God
Name Day of our Church



Donated by:

Andonian, David & Gilda

Asdourian Dr. Paul
 Alexandrian Lena & Edvik
 Badalians, Mary
 Balian, Marie
 Balian, Rita S.
 courageous
 Bodurian Family
 Boyajian, Molly

Bozadjian Araxi

Delikahya, Melkon
 Davis Robert L & Michelle R
 Garabedian Levon
 Ghazarian Kevork & Maria
 Ghazarian Anahid

Hagopian Annie
 Hekimian A Markrid
 Kaehn J B.Gen & Mrs Albert
 Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy
 Kazanjian, Ani
 Koudoussian, Rita

Kapikian Family
 Krikorian, Helen
 Kumkumian, John & Kathleen
 Marachelian Alis
 Mesrobian, Ara
 Mermer Maryam
 Melikian Armen
 Maghrablian William and Nora
 Ozbenian Zadik
 Panosyan Arpine
 Pashayani, Marie & Zohrab
 Pickering, Lola

In Memory of:

Soghomon & Mariam Danelian, Asadur & Dirouhi
 Harutunian
 Diania and John Asdourian
 Mrs. Marie Missirian & Mrs. Marie Gabriel
 Loved Ones
 Marie Simonian, Gabriel, Krikorian and Missirian
 Marie J. Simonian, Genocide survivor, College educated,
 and accomplished woman
 Abraham and Elise Bodurian and Dr. Ohanas Sahakian
 Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush Boyajian, Sograd
 Boyajian
 Bozadjian, Kolandjian, Igidbashian and Maghrablian
 Families
 Loved Ones
 Dr. Norris Hekimian
 Miharman and Makrouhe Garabedian
 Vahan & Vartouie Ghazarian
 Alyanakian, Hissarliian, Parounagian, Timaksian and
 Carson
 Marie Tabibian
 M. Jerry Hekimian
 Loved ones
 Peruz Papazyan
 Berjouhi Kazanjian, Patriarch Karekin Kazanjian
 Marie Koudoussian Missirian, Marie Simonian, Marie
 Ayanian Garbriel
 Dr. Albert Kapikian
 Mariam & Vahan Morookian
 Loved ones
 Mardirossian & Attarian dear ones
 Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
 Hariknaz Ozbenian
 Loved Ones
 Maghrablian and Demirdjian Familys
 Hariknaz Ozbenian
 Horen Panosyan
 Joseph Pashayani & Garabed Nalbandian
 Pickering, Yazmajyan, Kecian families

Sahr David & Arpi
Sayan, Arsen & Catherine
Shahinian, Dean V. Esq & Mrs. Grace
Shamigian Chuck
Tashjian, Mike & Naira
Teymouri Aida
Varoujanian, Hartoun, Varoujan, Leeza
Vartanian Malvina
Zarookian Nejdeh

Donated by:

Alexandrian, Edvik & Lena
Balian, Rita
Dedeyan Elizabeth
Davis Robert L & Michelle R
Tahmazian Hnazant
Katac Migirdic
Kazanjian, Ani
Koudoussian, Rita
Maghrablian William and Nora

Maryam Zartatyan
Loved ones
Dr. Paul Shahinian
Mary Shamigian, Jackie Nishanian
Kevork Megerdich Tashjian and Khachadur Hakobyan
Hrand Mailian
Alice Varoujanian & Araxie Varoujanian & Family
Marie Vartenian
Loved ones

In Honor of:

Marie Balian
Loving and special Sister-in-law Marie Balian
Aida Keshishian
Mrs. Betty Hekimian
Aida Keshishian
St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church
Clara Andonian
Marie Balian
Jda Keshishian





GIFT OF LOVE DONATIONS

On the Occasion of the 85th Anniversary of St. Mary

DONATED BY:

Asadoorian, Family

Ayrandjian, Anahid

Balian, Mrs. Rita

Barsoumian, Vergine

Bodurian, Ed & Ellen

Chorbajian, Victor

Derderian, George and Anna

Dixun Nargizian, Pauline

Garabedian, Armen and Levon

Garabedian, Elizabeth

Ghazarian, Anahid and Taleen and

Carson, Nadya

Gulan, Liliane and Varteny

Hunt, Mary and Gary

Kazanjian, Karnik and Alice

Katac, Migirdic and Family

Kazanjian Law, Family

Kapikian, Catherine

Karahisar, Kathy & Raffi

Koudoussian, Rita and Haikouhi

Krikorian Dr. Jacqueline

Kumkumian, John & Kathleen

Marashlians, Kevork and Wartiter

Melikian, Armenak and Helga

Ozbenian, Janser and Jaqueline

Ozkayan, Family

Sayan, Arsen Catherine

Sakayan, Harold & Victoria

Sahakian Lily, Daniel, Diaive, Ara and

Ekizian Linda

Shahinian, Dean, Esq. &

Shahinian, Grace Jelalian

Terzian, Family

Tahmazian, Hnazant and Family

Mac Arthur, Anne L.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Megerditch Asadoorian, Eliza Alnayakian, Manuk Matikyan,

Mariam Matikyan, Herman Carson, Ron Albertson

Mouradian, Ayrandjian, Families

Vartkess Balian (Philanthropist of the Church Hall)

Yenovk, Elissa Barsoumian and Araxie (Daughter)

Abraham and Elise Bodurian and Dr Ohannes Sahakian

Lila Chorbajian

Mr & Mrs Michal and Mary Petryk and Mr & Mrs John and

Azniv Attarian

Andrew and Melene Nargizian

Mihran and Makrouhe Garabedian

Loves Ones

Alyanakian, Parounagian, Hisarlian, Timaksyan, Michigian

Carson and Albertson Families

Simon, Zepur, Gerard Mahdessian, Sveto Gulan

Mr. and Mrs John Perkins

Kazanjian and Sumbulian parents

Eleni Katac

Mrs. Berjouhi Kazanjian & Patriarch Karekin V. Kazanjian

Dr. Albert Z. Kapikian

Hermine & Vahan Karahisar

Jannette Gabriel (Cousin) Balian and Koudoussian loved ones

George K. Krikorian

Loved Ones

Dr. Nubar Berberian

Shmavon and Hripsimeh Melikian

Loves Ones

Avedis, Atam and Paris Ozkayan

Haygaz and Manouchag Pilikian, Kohar Themejian Edy Sayan

Aram & Vartuhee Sakayan, Hovanes & Luisarpi Manoukian

Arshavir Ekizian

Rev. Fr Vahan Jelalian

Peter Terzian

Khatchadour Tahmazian, Khacher, Markerid and Krikor

Dedeyan and Nazeli Hovsepian

Eli Takesian

Mermer, Misak and Maryam
Mesrobian, Ara
Van Stavoren, William
Witherspoon, Robert and Hilda

DONATED BY:

Kzanjian Law, Family
Wallace A. Mark

Herkinaz Ozbenian
Mihran and Zabelle Mesrobian
Rosa Kouyoumdjian Van Stavoren
Mari and Hagop Ekmekciyan

IN HONOR OF:

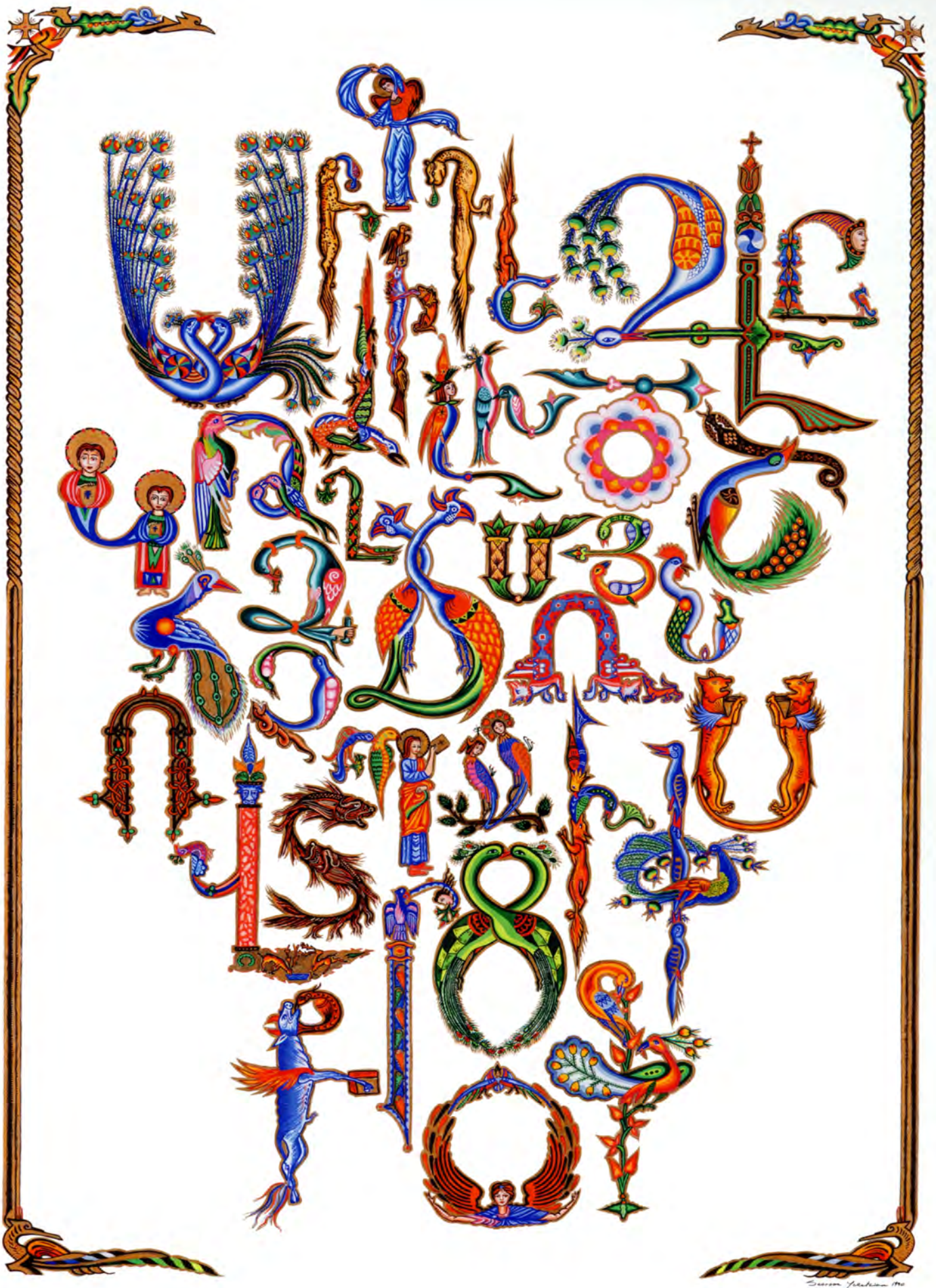
Mrs. Clara Andonian
Ms. Marilyn Ziver

FOR THE SOULS OF THE VICTIMS OF THE 1988 EARTHQUAKE IN ARMENIA

Requested by: Vardanian, Avoyan, Tomyan, Kazarian, Shakhbekyan, Kofman, Cerqueira Spencer

Requested by: Der Hayr and Parish Council





OUR YEAR 2017

























PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORY

WORSHIP HOURS

Sunday Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
Monday to Friday
Office closed Saturday and Sunday
Phone: (202) 363-1923
E-mail: stmarychurchdc@gmail.com
www.stmaryaac.org

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan
derhovsep@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL

Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, President
Onnik Sivaslian, Chair
Jack Guiragossian, Treasurer
Garbis Chubukian, Vice-Treasurer
Sarine Zenian, Secretary
Mark Krikorian, Assistant Secretary
Arthur Sivaslian, Adviser

DELEGATES

Jack Guiragossian
Sarine Zenian
Onnik Sivaslian.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Julie Avedikian
Dee Vartabedian Rogers

ACYOA JUNIORS

Rebecca Bagdasarian,
Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan

ACYOA SENIORS

Vasken Serpekian

ARARAT AVAK SOCIETY

Takuhi Hallajian
Mary Shafakian
Eva Shafakian

BOARD OF STEWARDS

Garbis Chubukian

CHOIR

Edita Kalayjian

DEACONS MINISTRY

Mark Krikorian

FOOD FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Onnik Sivaslian

GIFT SHOP

Aline Guiragossian
Rebecca Petrosian
Takuhi Hallajian

SHNORHALI SCHOOL

Harry Tchetchenian

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan

WOMEN'S GUILD

Ani Derderian

ST. MARY ANNUAL JOURNAL

Edited by Dee Vartabedian Rogers

PASTORAL CARE:

HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS

The clergy are always available and can visit homebound and hospitalized parishioners. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized and would like to be visited, please call the church office at (202) 363-1923. Please note: when asked about your religion at a hospital, patients should list themselves as "Armenian Orthodox" or "Armenian" not "other."

REQUIEM SERVICE/HOKEHANKIST

Arrangements for Requiem Service, Alter Flowers and Candles should be made through the church office by Thursday at noon. In accordance with the canons of the Armenian Church, Requiem Services may not be performed on the five major feast days: Armenian Christmas, Easter, The Feast of the Transfiguration, The Feast of the Assumption of the Mother of God, and The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

All Baptisms must be scheduled at least three months in advance by calling the church office. According to the Armenian Church canons, a Baptism may only be performed once in a person's lifetime, provided such Baptism has been performed in a Christian Church and in the name of the Holy Trinity. At least one of the godparents must be a member of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church.

WEDDINGS

Parishioners should contact the church office at least six months in advance. A couple must contact St. Mary to confirm the availability of the Pastor and sanctuary prior to making any other arrangements. All weddings must follow the Canons of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church and the laws of the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. In accordance with Diocesan discipline mandated by the Primate, all Sacraments must be performed in the church sanctuary. The couple must meet with the Pastor at least once for pre-marital preparation and counseling. Weddings cannot be performed during Great Lent or Holy Week, or one the five major feast days: Armenian Christmas, Holy Easter, The Feast of the Transfiguration, The Feast of the Assumption of the Mother of God, and The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

FUNERALS

Families should make arrangements with the funeral director of their choice, who will then contact the church office to arrange the funeral service. Funerals may not be performed on religious holidays, major feast days, Saturdays after 3:00 p.m., or on Sundays.



REMEMBER ST. MARY CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

A
Venerable Christian Practice

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND