



ST. MARY ANNUAL JOURNAL 2015



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ST. MARY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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Rev. Father Hovsep Karapetyan, Pastor

Տէր Յովսէփ Քհնյ. Կարապետեան, Հովիւ

January 26, 2016

Dear Parishioners,

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church is blessed to share a year of amazing accomplishments and events within and beyond its community. God binds us together so that we may create memories so very rewarding and spiritually enriching. This annual journal is a gift of rewarding times and events where many of you acted as contributors and/or attendees, therefore, it is a shared delight of unity and fellowship.

Like a family, our Church brings us together with a shared pledge and dedication to our faith. Through last year's numerous ministries, spiritual events, cultural activities, prayer, celebration of religious holidays, and particularly the canonization of our Martyred Saints and remembrance of the Armenian Genocide Centennial, we have created a deep and unforgettable footprint into the annals of Armenian history.

As hosting community for Armenian Genocide Centennial events and host of the 113th Diocesan Assembly and Clergy Conference, which brought together both lay and clergy Armenian Church leaders from throughout the Eastern Diocese, we all can be proud of the many accomplishments our Parish witnessed in 2015. We are honored to share those moments with you in this annual journal. These memories will continue to inspire us with our centuries old national and spiritual heritage and will fortify the love and pride for generations to come.

May Our Lord Jesus Christ bless our Church, increase our faith and guide us according to His providence.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

ANNUAL JOURNAL

January 2015

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance Celebration



On December 31, nearly 200 of St. Mary's parishioners rang in the New Year with dining and dancing in the church social hall, sponsored by the Women's Guild. The evening was filled with celebratory families and friends who enjoyed a wonderful meal of mezze, dinner, breakfast, and music provided by DJ Berj Manuk. At the stroke of midnight, the New Year was

rung in with a champagne toast and midnight prayer service, which took place in the Church sanctuary. The St. Mary Parish Council and Der Hovsep extended well wishes and blessings for a very happy and healthy 2015 to all within and beyond our Armenian community.

Eve and Feast of the Theophany and Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

Inclement weather did not deter St. Mary parishioners from celebrating the Eve of the Theophany on January 5 and the Feast of the Theophany and Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ on January 6. On January 5, St. Mary Deacons and Sub-Deacons read the Scriptures, followed by the Jragalouts Divine Liturgy. After the Badarak, parishioners and friends enjoyed the traditional Home Blessing service in the church hall and reception sponsored by the Parish Council. On



January 6, on the Feast of the Birth and Baptism of our Lord, we held our traditional Divine Liturgy followed by the Blessing of the Water ceremony. Parishioners participated in the liturgy on both days and greeted each other 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. Kreesdos Dzunav yev Haydnetsav. Blessed is the revelation of Christ. Orhneal e Haytnoutiounn Kristosee." We thanked our parishioners who so generously donated Yughakin to the church for this blessed season and donned our sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias.

Ararat Avak Society Festive Luncheon



On January 10 a delicious Festive Luncheon was held in the church hall for our church community to celebrate the Feast of the Theophany and Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ by the Ararat Avak Society. The event was well attended by those who enjoyed a delicious homemade meal of soup, pilaf, chicken, vegetables, salad, and traditional *anoush abour* and other desserts. We thanked the Ararat Avak Society Coordinating Committee members for their tireless dedication of time, energy, and

expertise for making this annual event a continuing success.

Badarak and Blessing of Water, Baltimore Armenian Community

Our annual Badarak and Jrorhnek service for the Baltimore community this year took place on January 10, at the St. Philip Neri Catholic Church of Linthicum, MD. The St. Mary Choir and Deacons joined Der Hovsep for this mission trip of celebrating and bringing the good news of our Lord's revelation to the Baltimore community members. Some parishioners from St. Mary also participated. The Godfather of Jrorhnek service this year was Nader Hawit. As in past



years, this event was organized by the Armenian Association of Greater Baltimore, under the leadership of Mr. Zakar Shahverdian, whose devotion to his church and heritage is always greatly appreciated. A festive dinner was served after the Badarak and Blessing of the Water Services.

Shnorhali School Christmas Hantess



Parishioners and friends of St. Mary enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Hantess on January 11, organized by the religious program teachers and parents. During an hour long program our children recited passages from Scripture, sang songs and *sharagans* announcing and rejoicing in the coming of the newborn King. We acknowledged the efforts of our Shnorhali School religious teachers under the leadership of Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan who every Sunday

volunteers to teach and educate our children.

U.S. Muslim and Christian Coalition



On January 14, the U.S. Muslim & Christian Coalition (MCC) convened its Second Interreligious Summit at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church in Washington, DC. The MCC made the important decision to hold its first international conference on the 1st and 2nd of May, expand the coalition membership, and reach out to other minority groups of the Arab world. The

MCC represented a diverse range of Muslim and Christian leaders, churches, mosques, Islamic centers, and organizations, along with other community members, who put their faith into action to protect Christians and other religious minorities in the Arab world and to further the aim of coexistence and peace.

Der Hovsep attended the MCC meeting representing our Diocese and participated in the round table discussion entitled, "Protection of Christians & Religious Minorities in the Arab World. " The group looked to embrace the overall goal of the MCC, that is, to achieve a mission of alleviating the suffering that past persecutions, loss of life, and expulsion have had on Arab and Middle Eastern Christians.

Women's Guild New Officers and Members Installation

On January 18 St. Mary Church had the distinct honor of celebrating the Women's Guild New Officers and Members Installation. The newly elected Executive Committee members were: Ani Derderian, Hripsime Sivaslian, Nadya Cubukian, Zivart Bolat, Lusin Simon, Alis Cubuk, Nadya Koseian, and the New Members are Nvard Haroyan, Gegel Babakhani, Mari Dogum, and Rita Koudous-



sian. With the combined efforts and endless energy of the Women's Guild Committee Members, and the support of many volunteers, our beloved church community continued to grow and prosper throughout the year. Their tireless dedication to events such as the Annual Lenten Luncheons, Spring and Fall Food Festivals, Hrant Dink Requiem Service, Easter Sunday Bake Sale, Advent by Candlelight, and National Cathedral Flower Mart, just to name a few, were invaluable. The Women's Guild Members pledged to uphold the bylaws of the organization, preserve the heritage of the Armenian Church, perform their duties with an open mind and heart, and extend a hand in service to the community, Church, and God.

National Prayer Vigil for Life



Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan represented the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America at the Opening Mass of the National Prayer Vigil for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC on January 21. The National Prayer Vigil for Life was an all-night pro-life prayer vigil held on the eve of the March for Life each January. Over 20,000 pilgrims from across the nation prayed through the night for an end to abortion and a

greater respect for all human life. The vigil included the Opening Mass celebrated in the Great Upper Church. Prayer continued throughout the night with the National Rosary for Life, Night Prayer and Holy Hours for Life. The following morning, the prayer vigil concluded with Morning Prayer, Benediction and the Closing Mass. Der Hayr was accompanied by Dn. Levon Barsoumian.

Hrant Dink Hokehankist and Special Presentation by Mr. Avedis Hadjian

On the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the assassination of Hrant Dink, St. Mary was honored to have a special presentation by Mr. Avedis Hadjian on January 25. About 100 parishioners enjoyed a most interesting presentation entitled "Hrant Dink, Islamized Armenians and our Changing Identity" in the church hall after the Holy Badarak and Special Hokehankist service. Mr. Hadjian has worked as an editor and correspondent in



Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Union, Turkey, China, and South America. He has written for Le Monde Diplomatique, Al Jazeera America, IB Times, Los Angeles Times, CNN, Bloomberg News, and many other news organizations. At the time, Mr. Hadjian was writing "A Secret Nation: The Hidden Armenians of Turkey." St. Mary's Women's Guild hosted the event. We were extremely grateful to Mr. Hadjian for sharing his time, expertise, and knowledge with our community.

Deacons Ministry Dinner, Meeting and Rehearsal



On January 28, Der Hovsep gathered with the Deacons, Sub-Deacons, and Altar Servers for their monthly dinner. Dn. Mark Krikorian provided a delicious dinner, after which the group discussed their upcoming events, such as, lectures during the Wednesday Lenten Husgoum services. St. Mary's Deacon Ministry also participated in the National

Armenian Genocide Centennial services which took place from May 7-9 in Washington, DC. After the discussion, Der Hovsep instructed the Deacons in the different modes of Jhamerkutiun, and the Deacons practiced the sharagans which they sang at the Ecumenical Prayer Service at St. Aphraim Syriac Or-

Ecumenical Prayer Service at St. Aphraim Syriac Orthodox Church

On January 31, clergy and parishioners from churches throughout the Washington, DC area gathered at St. Aphraim Syriac Orthodox Church to participate in an Ecumenical Prayer Service. The Prayer Service was dedicated to the honor of the still-missing Syrian Bishops Yohanna Ibrahim and Boulos Yazigi, peace in the Middle East, and unity among Christian brethren.



Representatives from St. Aphraim Syriac Orthodox Church, St. George Antiochian Christian Orthodox Church, St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, Saints Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church, and the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church were in attendance.

Der Hovsep Karapetyan attended the service, accompanied by a team of Deacons and Altar Servers to assist in the service. Afterwards they sang the "Der Voghormia" hymn, Deacon Mark Krikorian read the Gospel according to St. John (17:20-23), with Sub-Deacon Armen Terjimanian doing poorvar. Haig Shishmanian recited the supplications of the faithful, Sub-Deacon Edwin Terjimanian gave the kiss of peace to the congregation. Dn. Garegin Vardanyan, Dn. Levon Barsoumian, and Dn. Alexander Calikian were also in attendance.

Der Hovsep's Prayer for Church Unity spoke to the sacrificial aspect of our prayers and livelihoods being offered up in the name of peace, love, and harmony. His message was shared by all who participated that evening, singing, praying, and worshiping together in the spirit of brotherly love that is hoped to be exhibited by all churches then and in the future.

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February 2015

Annual Parish Assembly 2015



Our annual Parish Assembly took place on February 8, with 74 dues-paying members in attendance. The Parish Assembly meets once a year during the months of January or February to evaluate the direction and course of our parish. Annual statements and reports of the Parish Priest, the Parish Council, and their subordinate bodies for all activities during the year 2014 were presented and approved. The budget for the upcoming

year was also approved. New officers in the Nominating Committee, Parish Council, Auditing Committee, Investment Committee and WED Scholarship Committee were elected. The following individuals were elected to fill Parish leadership positions: Parish Council: Ara Avedisian, Bagrat Bayburtian, Garbis Chubukian, Sarine Zenian, Alternate: Luiz Gusmao. Nominating Committee: Rebecca Bagdasarian, Sintia Petrosian Gusmao, Avedis Seferian, Alternate: Lucy Murad. WED Scholarship: Zaven Kalayjian, Alternate: Anna Andriasova Seferian. Investment Committee: David Sayian, Alternate: Vladimir Shekoyan. Auditing Committee: Raffi Karahisar; Alternate: Edvik Alexandrian. We congratulated all newly elected officers and wished them success in their ministry to our church. We extended our heartfelt appreciation to all those who faithfully served in their various capacities to St. Mary Armenian Church in the past.

Avak Society Valentine's Day Luncheon

It is tradition for our Ararat Avak Society to host an annual Valentine's Day luncheon in the church hall which took place on February 14. The beautiful decorations and artistic arrangements of the hall accompanied by delicious food were enjoyed by many of our parishioners. Before blessing the table, Der Hayr discussed the number of feast days that are celebrated around February 14. He mentioned the feast of St. Sarkis who is one of the most beloved Armenian Saints,



as he is the Armenian Patron Saint of love and youth, and Der Hayr encouraged everyone on Valentine's Day to be filled with love and vigor. Many thanks to the organizing committee members: Mrs. Eva Shafakian, Mrs. Mary Shafakian, and Mrs. Takouhi Hallajian for their tireless efforts, as well as the following individuals who contributed to the luncheon: Misho and Lucy Sakyan, John and Mary Ohanian, David and Hasmik Bozadjian, and Albert and Meline Kaehn.

Paregentan Armenian Dance-a-thon!



Despite the inclement weather on the eve of the Feast of the Poon Paregentan, St. Mary parishioners came together to dance the night away for a good cause. Poon Paregentan Dance-a-thon was the final event to raise funds to build a home in Armenia for the 100th Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide. Fuller Center Armenia challenged Armenians to build 100 houses

during 2015. Two teams competed in the dance-a-thon: St. Mary Choir and St. Mary Sunday School Teachers. The first prize was awarded to the Choir for their traditional outfits and coordinated dancing, with the Teachers winning second prize. With 40 in attendance, about \$2,400 was raised for the house! Many thanks to Becky Bagdasarian and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan for their hard work on this wonderful project. Special thanks also to David Sayian and Zaven Kalayjian for volunteering their time and effort to making the event a success!

Lenten Service and Spiritual Discussion

Entitled "Spiritual Journey Toward Easter," our weekly Wednesday evening Lenten worship services, spiritual discussions, and dinners were well underway. We journeyed through the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Church and explored its meaning and importance. The Divine Liturgy is the main worship service of



the Armenian Church. But the Badarak, as we call it in Armenian, is much more than that. It provides the most intimate encounter we can have with God in this life. During the Divine Liturgy, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, comes to His people in two forms: first, by his Word, in the reading of the Holy Gospel; and second, by His Holy Body and Blood, in Holy Communion. The Lenten period provided a great opportunity for us to journey through the Badarak together.

Landmine Free Artsakh Presentation



Andrew Moore, the HALO Trust Desk Officer for the Balkans and Caucasus, gave an interesting presentation at the St. Mary church hall on February 24, 2015 to raise community awareness about clearing land mines from agricultural land in Artsakh. HALO Trust is an international mine-clearing organization

based in the United Kingdom. The Knights and Daughters of Vartan sponsored the presentation, while St. Mary Armenian Church hosted. Jake Bournazian from the Knights of Vartan, Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan of St. Mary Armenian Church, and Robert Avetisyan, U.S. Representative for the Republic of Nagorno-Karabagh gave welcoming remarks. Andrew Moore detailed the work that HALO Trust was doing to clear land mines near villages and in agricultural land. Staff from Landmine Free Artsakh, a group of concerned Armenians who volunteered to help HALO Trust, also gave a presentation about their projects to clear all remaining land mines and unexploded ordnances from Artsakh.

HALO Trust began training and equipping local mine clearing teams in Artsakh in 1995. The 1992-94 war of independence between Azerbaijan and Artsakh over the liberation of Artsakh left behind hundreds of minefields and battlefields littered with anti-personnel and anti-tank mines. Subsequent monitoring by these teams identified a need for a much greater clearance capacity than was available locally and in 2000 HALO Trust launched its full program. Since then HALO Trust has been the only organization conducting mine clearance operations in Artsakh. After 20 years, 86% of the minefield area and 63% of cluster munition strikes in Artsakh have been cleared by HALO Trust. In addition to HALO Trust's success in reducing Artsakh's mine and ordnance accident rates, over 4,200 hectares of previously mined land have been restored to productive agricultural use. More work, however, remained to be done to complete clearing minefields. Today, Artsakh has the highest per capita civilian casualty rate from land mine accidents in the world, with a quarter of these victims being children. The region's disputed political status makes raising funding from government donors particularly difficult and without additional funds there is the danger that some areas of Artsakh will be blighted by mines and cluster munitions for decades to come. However, with proper funding, the problem could be solved in a few years.



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March 2015

Lenten Food Fair



St. Mary's Annual Lenten Fair took place from March 6-8. The event was organized by the St. Mary Women's Guild who spearheaded workshops which brought together our community members in preparation of the Food Fair. Despite the inclement weather on Friday, the Food Fair carried on and was well attended on Saturday, then

again on Sunday after Badarak. Those who attended enjoyed homemade Lenten food prepared by our Women's Guild members. We thanked all of our devoted volunteers for their hard work and dedication for the event which was yet another success.

Saintly Women's Day

On March 21, the Women's Guild of St. Mary gathered to commemorate Saintly Women's Day. About thirty women participated in a Worship Service in the Church to remember the Unnamed Women Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide. Mrs. Aline Guiragossian



read an outline of the experiences of these martyrs in Armenian and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan read the translation in English. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan lead the worship service assisted by Sub-Deacon Alex Chaligian. After the service, a Lenten luncheon was held which was prepared by the Women's Guild Executive Committee. Following the luncheon, Mrs. Catherine Kapikian presented "We Sing our Song from the Heart", which gave an overview of some of her most recent and important works of art as well as an informative overview of contextual art in religious spaces. Mrs. Kapikian is a renowned site specific artist who has commissioned works of art throughout the world and is the founder and director emerita of the Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. Special appreciation went out to the Women's Guild Executive Committee for preparing the delicious lunch and for Mrs. Kapikian for enlightening us with her artistry.

Lenten Service and Spiritual Discussion



Entitled "Spiritual Journey Toward Easter," our Wednesday evening Lenten worship services, spiritual discussions, and dinners were a great success and well attended. We journeyed through the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Church and explored its meaning and importance. Our appreciation went out to the following individuals

and church organization for leading the weekly presentations and sponsoring dinners: Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan (Dinner sponsored by the Parish Council), Dn. Levon Barsoumian (Dinner sponsored by Shnorhali School), Dn. Alex Calikian (Dinner sponsored by the Women's Guild), Dn. Sevan Topjian (Dinner sponsored by St. Mary Choir), Dn. Jack Guiragossian, (Dinner sponsored by ACYOA), Dn. Mark Krikorian (Dinner sponsored by St. Mary Gift Store).

"A Century-Long Genocide: Black January of Baku" Documentary Screening

On March 24 a documentary film entitled "A Century-Long Genocide: Black January of Baku" was screened at St. Mary church hall. The documentary was produced within the framework of "Ordinary Genocide" project, and dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Armenian pogroms in Baku. The film was based on



interviews with Armenian refugees from Baku conducted by journalists Marina Grigoryan and Haykaram Nahapetyan in 2014. Permanent Representative of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic to the United States of America Robert Avetisyan briefly presented the purpose of the film, the history of the Armenian community of Baku, and emphasized the importance of remembering the victims.

Also present were the Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the United States Mr. Tigran Sargsyan, and the Embassy Staff. After the film screening, an Artshakh representative and the member of the film crew, journalist Haykaram Nahapetyan, answered questions, and Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan addressed the participants of the event.

Palm Sunday ACYOA Day



A beautiful Palm Sunday celebration took place at St. Mary on March 29. The day began with the Sunrise Service and was followed by the Palm Sunday Badarak. With a fully packed sanctuary, the faithful marked the entry of our Lord into Jerusalem. A moving "Durnbatsek" service was performed in the

form of dialogue between the priests kneeling in front of the closed altar and those beyond the curtain, the curtained altar symbolizing the Kingdom of Heaven. This service marked the end of Great Lent, and the beginning of Holy Week. The liturgy was concluded by another meaningful service during which 7 members of our ACYOA Seniors and 9 members of ACYOA Juniors, through the installation service, took their vows to serve their church, community, and God. The lunch was hosted by the ACYOA members during which one of our dedicated parishioners, Becky Bagdasarian, received the ACYOA Outstanding Service Award. The program included a presentation by Lorie Odabashian, Diocesan Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, welcoming remarks by Parish Council Chairman Onnik Sivaslian and ACYOA Chairlady Armine Ghazarian and Sintia Petrosian. Closing remarks and benediction were delivered by Der Hovsep.



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April 2015

113th Diocesan Assembly in Washington, DC



St. Mary Armenian Church of Washington, DC hosted the 113th Diocesan Assembly, which brought together Armenian Church leaders from throughout the Eastern Diocese. The Assembly convened from May 6 to 8, which was preceded by the annual Clergy Conference held from May 4 to 6. The Diocesan Women's Guild General Assembly also convened during that week.

In addition to the regular business sessions and reports from Diocesan organizations, the Clergy and Delegates took part in the events of the national observance of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide. A highlight of the Assembly was the *hrashapar* service to officially welcome His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. His Holiness addressed the Assembly on May 7.

National Genocide Centennial Observance



The Armenian-American community gathered in Washington, DC for the national observance of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide. Special events took place from May 7 to 9 including an ecumenical prayer service at The National Cathedral, a Pontifical Divine Liturgy at The National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, an Armenian music concert at The Music Center at Strathmore, and an awards banquet honoring those who helped the survivors at The Marriott Marquis Hotel.

His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, and His Holiness Aram I, the Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, journeyed to the United States to lead the Washington commemoration. They were joined by Armenians from across the US, under the auspices of the Eastern and Western Dioceses, and the Eastern and Western Prelacies.

On May 10, "A Mother's Day Prayer Service and Blessing of Mothers" was held in Washington, DC by His Holiness Karekin II and His Holiness Aram I presided, followed by Holy Badarak at St. Mary Armenian Church presided over by His Holiness Karekin II.

Holy Week and Easter at St. Mary



Holy Week at St. Mary was celebrated with the full participation of many families throughout the Parish. Holy Thursday took place on April 2 with Holy Badarak and the Washing of the Feet service. During the Vodnlva service, Der Hayr washed the feet of our young children. The Khavaroom Service, commemorating the betrayal and passion of our Lord

followed, after a brief intermission over a light dinner graciously sponsored and prepared by Jermen Hallajian.

Holy Friday was observed on April 3, with the order of the crucifixion of Christ (Gark Khachelootian) and then the moving Entombment (Gark Taghman) service was later conducted.

The Easter Eve (Jragalooits) Badarak took place on April 4 with the Evening Service Bible readings, recited by the Shnorhali School students, who beautifully read passages that foretold the Resurrection of our Lord. After the Jragalooits Badarak a traditional Home Blessing service took place in the church hall, which was hosted by the St. Mary Parish Council.

Easter Sunday, the feast of the glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, was celebrated on April 5 with The Morning Service and the Holy Badarak. The Badarak was celebrated by His Eminence Abp. Vicken Aykazian. The Blessing of the four corners of the world (Antasdan service) then took place and was followed by lunch and egg-cracking games in the church hall, hosted by the Women's Guild.

The Women's Guild also had their annual choreg bake sale on both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. The sale was very successful; the table was colorful and spring-like decked with beautiful home-made Easter choregs and cookies.

Hantess with Baltimore Community

On April 18, on the occasion of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide, the Baltimore Armenian School children presented a beautiful cultural program. Over 50 parents and grandparents came to watch their children recite, sing, and dance during the wonderful program prepared in memory of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide. Teachers, parents, and alumni of the Baltimore Armenian School participated, encouraging the younger generation to learn and preserve their Armenian Christian identity, heritage, and faith.



Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan attended the program and delivered a closing message.

Armenian Genocide Observance on Capitol Hill



Members of Congress joined with Armenian-Americans from throughout the US at the Capitol Hill observance of the Armenian Genocide Centennial. Hundreds gathered for the solemn observance in the historic Cannon Caucus Room, organized by the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues

with the participation of the Embassy of the Republic of Armenia, the Office of the Nagorno-Karabagh Republic, and Armenian-American organizations.

The convocation for the evening was offered by His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, Prelate of the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of the Eastern United States and the closing prayer was offered by the Very Rev. Fr. Oshagan Gulgolian of Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Church in Wynnewood, PA. Moving remarks were offered by Armenian Ambassador to the US Tigran Sargsyan and Nagorno-Karabakh Representative to US Robert Avetisyan. ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian and Armenian Assembly Board Member Annie Totah shared their message with attendees.

Walk to End Genocide

On April 26, several of our community members participated in the first annual DC Walk to End Genocide, hosted by the Darfur Interfaith Network and Jewish World Watch. The walk began behind the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and continued through a 2-mile circuit, making stops at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial,



Lincoln Memorial, and World War II Memorial for brief speeches prior to concluding at its starting point. The program began with prayer and speeches by genocide survivors and genocide prevention advocates, including Armen Sahakyan of ANCA. The program concluded with closing benedictions, including one given by our own Dn. Levon Barsoumian. Roughly 200 walkers were in attendance.

Centennial of the Armenian Genocide at St. Mary



The commemoration of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide took place on April 26. The day started by celebrating Holy Badarak, followed by a special prayer service for the newly canonized martyrs, who gave their lives during the Armenian Genocide for their faith and for their

homeland, at St. Mary Khatchkar. The Khatchkar was erected in 2012 in memory of all the past members of St. Mary Church, most of whom were either survivors or descendants of survivors of the Armenian Genocide. At the conclusion of the Hokehankist, a traditional Madagh blessing service took place at the Church hall sponsored by Avak and Elma Yepremians. Following the Madagh blessing, the St. Mary Shnorhali School interns presented a beautiful program to conclude the occasion under the leadership of Edita Kalayjian. The presentation featured excerpts from Hovhanes Shiraz's "Hayots Danteakan" Poem, Paruir Sevak's "Yeradzayn Badark" poem and M. Boghossian's "Dle Yaman" poem, all accompanied by Armenian songs and music.



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May 2015

Flower Mart at Washington National Cathedral



Each year the All Hallows Guild presents the Flower Mart at the Washington National Cathedral. This international floral exhibit displays presentations by participating countries through their respective Embassies in Washington, DC. Once again this year, at the request of the Armenian Embassy, the Women's Guild of St. Mary Armenian Church exhibited a floral arrangement in remem-

brance of the Armenian Genocide Centennial. The arrangement exhibited on May 1 and 2. The theme for this year was "Gratitude and Rebirth." The official emblem of the Armenian Genocide Centennial is the "Forget-Me-Not" flower. The five light purple petals represent the unity of the worldwide Armenian community and the five continents where Armenians found new homes. The dark purple color reflects the priestly vestments of the Armenian Church which has been, and will remain, the heart of the Armenian Christian identity. The pillars at the center of the flower represent the twelve provinces memorialized at the *Dzidzernagapert* ("Citadel of Swallows") Armenian Genocide monument in Yerevan, Armenia. The "Citadel of Swallows" is named for the bird that always returns to its nest, even if its home has been destroyed. The eternal memorial flame inside the fortress represents the inextinguishable Armenian spirit. This flame surrounded by the yellow color represents light, creativity, and hope, symbolically evoking rebirth in the past, present, and future experience of the Armenian people.

The designer of the arrangement, Hripsime Sivaslian, included over 400 dark and light purple carnations with accents of yellow carnations in the shape of the "Forget-Me-Not" flower. At its center was the eternal flame surrounded by the 12 pillars of *Dzidzernagapert*. Zaven Bakirci constructed the supporting structure. Many thanks go to all the volunteers who participated in making this project successful and memorable.

113th Diocesan Assembly Meeting

Clergy and lay Delegates from across the Eastern Diocese gathered in Washington, DC for the 113th Diocesan Assembly. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Diocesan Primate, presided over the meetings, hosted by St. Mary Church. In addition to the regular business sessions and reports from Diocesan organizations, the Clergy and Delegates took part in the events of the national observance of the centennial of the Armenian Genocide.

A highlight of the Assembly was a Hrashapar service at St. Mary Church to officially welcome His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, on May 6. His Holiness addressed the Assembly on May 7. A reception which followed the Hrashapar service was hosted by St. Mary Women's Guild.



St. Mary Church prepared to host the Assembly with the help of many volunteers under the Chairmanship of Mr. Jack Guiragossian. Thanks to all of our volunteers for their help and contributions in the preparation of the Diocesan Assembly and during the Assembly week. Our special

thanks go to the Executive Committee Members: Jack Guiragossian, Rebecca Bagdasarian, Dolores Vatabedian Rogers, Armen Terjimanian, Onnik Sivaslian, Gregory Manougian, Lucy Ohanian Murad. And to our Steering Committee Members: Clara Andonian, Rosemary Arkoian, Eric Ashbahian, Louisa Baghdasarian, Krikor Bolat, Zivart Bolat, Nadya Chubukian, Ani Derderian, Harry Derderian, Takuhi Hallajian, Raffi Karahisar, Vartkes Keshishian, Jack Kooyoomjian, Paul Murad, Stephan Ohanian, Eva Shafakian, Mike Tashjian, and Patricia Yeghissian. The Women's Guild hosted its Annual Assembly concurrent with the Diocesan Assembly and the Annual Clergy Conference was held at the beginning of the week.

National Genocide Centennial in Washington

The Armenian-American community gathered in Washington, DC for the National Observance of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide. Special events were held May 7 to 9, including an Ecumenical Prayer Service at the National Cathedral, a Pontifical Divine Liturgy at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, a memorial concert at the Strathmore, and an Awards Banquet at the Marriott Marquis honoring those who helped the Armenian survivors.



His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, and His Holiness Aram I, the Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, both led the Washington commemoration. They were joined by Armenians from across the US, under the auspices of the Eastern and Western Dioceses, and the Eastern and Western Prelacies. At the National Cathedral, one of America's most distinguished religious sanctuaries, more than 2,500 people gathered for the Ecumenical Prayer Service for Justice and Peace. His Holiness Karekin II and His Holiness Aram I presided over the historic service, which was sponsored by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and the National Council of Church of Christ in the USA.

United States Vice President Joe Biden and the President of the Republic of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan led the roster of dignitaries present, which also included the leader of the worldwide Syriac Orthodox Church, His Holiness Ignatius Aphrem II, Patriarch of Antioch and All the East; Cardinal Emeritus McCarrick of the Roman Catholic Church; Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Church; U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power; and US Congressman Adam Schiff.

Pontifical Divine Liturgy and Banquet in Washington



A Pontifical Divine Liturgy at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and an Awards Banquet honoring those who aided and championed the Genocide survivors took place on May 9.

His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on May 9. His Holiness Aram I, the Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, delivered the sermon.

Dozens of clergymen from the Eastern and Western Dioceses, the Eastern and Western Prelacies, and the Armenian Evangelical and Catholic denominations took part in the liturgy, aided by numerous deacons and a 200-voice choir representing many Armenian communities from across the country. Some 3,000 people attended the service, making it the largest gathering of the national commemoration.

On the evening of May 9, an Awards Banquet was held at the Marriott Marquis to honor the individuals and representatives of organizations in different countries that defended the Armenian people in the time of the Genocide. Paul Ignatius, Ambassador Edward P. Djerejian, and Lara Setrakian gave the keynote addresses. Mark Geragos served as the master of ceremonies.

Shnorhali School Talent Show

The Second Annual Shnorhali Talent Show took place on May 17. Shnorhali students performed classic Armenian and contemporary songs. Over thirty parents and parishioners gathered to hear students sing, recite and perform on piano and violin. To everyone's delight, there was also a gymnastic performance. All in attendance were impressed with the efforts of our students and the afternoon was successful in exhibiting the many talents of our students. Special thanks go to Edita Kalayjian for organizing such a memorable event.

His Holiness Presides over Badarak at St. Mary



On Sunday, May 10, at the conclusion of the national observance of the Armenian Genocide Centennial in Washington, DC, His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, visited St. Mary Church of Washington. Bishop Arshak Khatchatrian celebrated the Divine Liturgy.

Also participating were Archbishop Khajag Barsamian,

Diocesan Primate; Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, Diocesan Legate and Ecumenical Director; and Archbishop Navasard Kjoyan from Armenia. Archbishop Barsamian expressed his gratitude to the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, Pastor of St. Mary Church, and Jack Guiragossian, Chair of the St. Mary Committee hosting the 113th Diocesan Assembly. He also thanked the entire committee and the St. Mary parishioners for their hospitality in welcoming Diocesan Clergy and Delegates to Washington, DC. His Holiness Karekin II presented Fr. Karapetyan with a chalice and Mr. Guiragossian with a commemorative medal. Armenia's Hover Chamber Choir and the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral Choir sang the hymns of the Divine Liturgy, under the direction of Maestro Khoren Mekanejian.

Ascension Day Dinner and Program

A beautiful Hampartzoom Celebration took place May 29 at St. Mary Church. The event was organized by our Women's Guild Executive Committee. After a prayer service, a delicious lunch was served by the committee members. Over 50 people gathered on this festive occasion to honor Asanet Hacikoglu and Lucy Murad for their long time service to the Women's Guild. Der



Hovsep presented each of the honorees with a special certificate recognizing their service and commitment to the Church and the Women's Guild. Der Hovsep also spoke about the importance and the message of the Feast of Ascension, underlining the role of the disciples and the followers of the Lord in the creation and continuation of the Church and community. The evening concluded with a beautiful musical performance by Taleen Chubukian and Anayis Chubukian on the violin and Vartkes Keshishian and Garegin Vardanyan who sang folk and religious songs. At the conclusion, a traditional "Veejag" ceremony took place.

Musical Voyage for Remembrance



A beautiful concert entitled "Musical Voyage for Remembrance" took place at St. Mary on May 24. The concert was dedicated to the memory of the Martyrs of Armenian Genocide. It featured students Anna Ghaplanyan and Vera Vardanian who played works from Arno Babajanian, Alexander Spendiroye, Gluck Kreisler, Edmund Severn, Aram Satian, Aram Khachaturyan, Igor Frolov

and Yuri Polunin. We thanked the teachers and their students, Annie Martirossian Isabella Paternostro, Alisson Chen and Natalie Chen for their magnificent performance.

Deacons Ministry

On May 27, the Deacons Ministry had a dinner outing with Der Hovsep to express their gratitude for his leadership, hard work, and efforts with the Deacons throughout the year.

Shnorhali School Year End Hantess

The Year End Hantess for the lower grades of the Shnorhali School was held on May 31. Performances from the Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades were enjoyed by over 100 parents and parishioners. Through recitations, songs, and dance, the children showed their pride for their heritage and Christian faith. Special appreciation went out to the teachers,



parents and Shnorhali staff who assisted in preparing the memorable and moving program. The Hantess for the upper grades were held on June 7 after the Church service.



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Shnorhali School Year End Hantess

Parishioners and friends at St. Mary enjoyed a wonderful Year End Hantess organized by the Armenian language and culture program teachers. During the program, each class presented a short excerpt they prepared with songs, dance, poems and plays! We acknowledged the efforts of our teachers who every Sunday came to teach and educate our children. Special appreciation went out to our Principal Yervand Khoranian for his leadership and commitment. We expressed best wishes to our graduating class of 2015 and we hoped to hear about their future successes as they continued to serve our community and church.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land



A group of 21 young adults from parishes across the Eastern Diocese journeyed to the Holy Land, from June 5 to 14. The fifth annual Youth Leadership Pilgrimage to the Holy Land was led by the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan and Arpi Nakashian, a recent graduate of St. Nersess Armenian Seminary. From Washington, DC one of our ACYOA members, Lillian

Assadourian, participated in the pilgrimage. The pilgrimage began in Bethlehem, where the young people visited the Church of the Holy Nativity. They descended into the Holy Grotto, where they took part in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at the site where Christ was born. At the conclusion of the service, the group proceeded to the Armenian monastery and later gathered for Bible study at Shepherds' Field, where the angels announced the joyous news of Christ's birth. On another day, the pilgrims traveled to the Jordan River. Fr. Karapetyan performed a "Blessing of Water" ceremony and they engaged in a Bible study on the significance of Christ's baptism. "It was particularly interesting to take part in Bible studies at the holy sites", the pilgrims said, as these moments of reflection helped them gain a deeper understanding of what they had learned in Sunday School. On the Sea of Galilee, Fr. Karapetyan spoke to the group about the significance of Christ calming a sudden storm when he was crossing the sea with his disciples. As they sailed across the azure waters, the young pilgrims reflected on what it means to stand in faith with Christ. The pilgrimage culminated in a special Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Waking up hours before sunrise, the pilgrims walked through the dark streets of the Old City of Jerusalem until they reached this holy place-the site of Christ's crucifixion, burial, and glorious resurrection. Fr. Karapetyan celebrated the Divine Liturgy, as the young people sang in choir and assisted on the altar. "I am going to take back with me important lessons that will guide me for the rest of my life," said Gabrielle Meranshian of Holy Trinity Church of Cheltenham, PA. "Walking in the footsteps of Christ led me to realize that love, patience, and humility are the foundation for a Christian life."

Women's Guild General Meeting



St. Mary Women's Guild had its year end general meeting at Cafe Deluxe Restaurant on June 20. About 30 women and men from our community gathered for their last meeting before the summer season to celebrate their accomplishments of a very busy and productive six month period.

Chairlady Ani Derderian summarized and highlighted the past activities the Women's Guild General Assembly, hosted by St. Mary Women's Guild in May, as well as the Diocesan Assembly and

Centennial Commemorative events of the Armenian Genocide in Washington, DC, during which our Women's Guild played an integral roll. On behalf of the Women's Guild, Vice-Chairlady Hripsime Sivaslian presented Der Hayr with a generous check in the amount of \$15,000 to benefit the mission of St. Mary Armenian Church. In his remarks Der Hovsep thanked the Women's Guild members for their hard work and dedication and wished them a relaxing summer.

Annual Father's Day Picnic in Baltimore

The Baltimore community's Annual Father's Day Picnic took place on June 21 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, had been organizing different events, holding weekly Armenian School classes for the youth, organizing cultural programs, and the annual Nativity Badaraks for many years. Der Hovsep, in his remarks addressed to those present, thanked Mr. Shahverdian for his leadership. Der Hayr said that his continuous dedication, his encouragement and his support to the Baltimore community emphasized his love and zeal towards our Armenian culture and heritage.

Women's Guild Day

The second annual Women's Guild Day took place on June 28. The community came together to remember and pay tribute to the past members of St. Mary's Women's Guild. The event was organized by St. Mary Women's Guild. After the Badarak and Hokehankist service a memorial reception took place in the church hall hosted by the Women's Guild.

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Deacons Ministry Training and Dinner

On July 1, the Deacons Ministry held a practice at St. Mary then had a dinner in the evening. The Deacons spent the evening practicing the *poorvar* with Der Hovsep and Der Tatev, and discussed preparations for the Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary, as well as preparing *nshkhark* that are used in the services. Additionally, the Deacons and Der Hayrs discussed future philanthropic activities.

Diocesan Assembly Volunteers Honored at Appreciation Dinner



Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Diocesan Primate, visited St. Mary Church of Washington, DC to recognize the local committees that organized the 113th Diocesan Assembly and Clergy Conference in May. On July 11, Parish Council members and some 40 Committee Members gathered for a celebratory dinner at St. Mary Church. Also in

attendance was Armenia's Ambassador to the US Tigran Sargisyan. Archbishop Barsamian thanked Der Hovsep and the team of volunteers for their hard work in preparing for and hosting the 113th Diocesan Assembly and Clergy Conference. He distributed certificates of appreciation and small gifts in recognition of their efforts. Fr. Karapetyan also expressed his gratitude to the community. "Volunteers like you are the heart, soul, and backbone of St. Mary Church," he said. "It is impossible to calculate the number of hours you dedicated throughout the planning and execution of this enormous undertaking, but your superb skills and contributions made St. Mary a proud host to this year's Assembly."

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

On July 12, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Diocesan Primate, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Mary Church and gave a sermon on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord. A reception followed in the St. Mary Church Hall where many of the parishioners expressed their gratitude and honor to Archbishop Barsamian for celebrating this occasion at their parish.

Knights and Daughters of Vartan Grand Convocation



From July 15 to 18, The Knights and Daughters of Vartan held their Grand Convocation in Washington, DC at the Grand Hyatt Hotel. The Knights of Vartan is an Armenian fraternal service organization established by twelve visionary men to encourage its members to assume leadership roles in cultural, educational, religious, and charitable organizations and activities on the local, national and international level for the betterment of the Armenian nation worldwide.

The Daughters of Vartan is an organization of women whose principles are based on Christian morality and good conduct. Its members are committed to contribute toward the intellectual development of Armenian women, cultivate nobility of character, perpetuate their cultural heritage, preserve the Armenian language, safeguard the sanctity of the Armenian home and nurture and promote ethnic values.

During the Grand Banquet, a painting by Samvel Marutyan was commissioned by the Knights and Daughters of Vartan in honor of its 2015 Man and Woman of the Year: The 1.5 million martyred saints of the Armenian Genocide.



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Nushkar Making



On August 19 the Deacons Ministry organized a Nushkar making evening. Nushkhar, the Communion bread in the Armenian tradition, is made with flour and water. The Deacons traditionally present the Nushkar to the Celebrant at the beginning of the Badarak to be consecrated. Nushkar is also

used by the Priest during home blessings, after which the service is presented to the family and kept in the house as a sign of God's blessing. We thanked Fr. Tatev Terteryan and Dn. Mark Krikorian for their assistance in making Nushkhars.

Feast of the Assumption, Name Day of Our Church

St. Mary Armenian Church observed the church's name-day on August 16. Der Hovsep celebrated the Divine Liturgy, performed the "Blessing of Grapes" service, and blessed the traditional Madagh.

Parishioners and friends gathered in the St. Mary church hall to celebrate the Name Day of the Church and to honor



dedicated members of St. Mary, Mr. and Mrs. Krikor and Zvart Bolat, during the luncheon. A wonderful and exemplary couple who have been a part of our community for many years and by their actions of kindness and humility are a true reflection of the modesty, unselfishness and devotion that we have come to recognize in them. Der Hovsep then presented the award to Mr. and Mrs. Bolat and delivered closing remarks. The traditional Madagh was donated and prepared by Avak and Elma Yepremian. During the luncheon, parishioner Lillian Assadurian gave a slide show presentation highlighting her pilgrimage to the Holy Land in June. She shared her impressions from the rich spiritual experience she gained.

St. Mary ACYOA Trip to King's Dominion



On August 15, the St. Mary ACYOA Juniors and Seniors enjoyed a joint trip to Kings Dominion theme park. Over 20 Juniors and Seniors attended the event and were accompanied by Der Hovsep. The Juniors and Seniors got to know one another better and rode the exciting roller coasters together throughout the

day. All were excited and looked forward to growing the ACYOA DC Chapter and planned to host more joint spiritual and social events together for the future.

Women's Guild General Meeting

The St. Mary Women's Guild convened their after summer break with a Brunch Meeting on August 29. The Executive Committee prepared the brunch. The meeting started with the opening prayer by Der Hovsep for the twenty-two members in attendance,



and was followed by the devotional message "Use Me" by Clara Andonian. Each Executive Officer presented their report. The Chairlady, Ani Derderian, summarized the 14 events of the first six months and stressed that the success could not have been accomplished without the participation and support of the Women's Guild and Parish membership. Furthermore, the Chairlady introduced the upcoming six events planned by the Executive Committee. The Vice-Chairlady, Hripsime Sivaslian, presented the workshop schedule for the 67th Annual Food Festival, and asked for volunteers. The meeting adjourned with a closing prayer.



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NCAGC Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



On September 3, the Steering Committee of the National Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide Centennial held a meeting in Washington, DC to evaluate the various commemorative events that were held in May. In the evening a dinner reception was hosted by the Steering Committee to express appreciation to the members of all organizing sub-committees for success-

fully planning and implementing the events. The program began with welcoming remarks by the Chairman of the Finance Committee and Master of Ceremonies Dr. Jean-Jacques Hajjar. The invocation and remarks were delivered by H.E. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian. On behalf of the Steering Committee, Chairman Mr. Noubar Afeyan commended the unity and collaboration exhibited by the sub-committees ensuring the success of the events and presented the Sub-Committees' Chairs with mementos in appreciation for their dedicated service.

H. E. Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian was then invited to offer his reflections on the commemorative events. All three Archbishops in their messages commended the work that was carried out and urged all to continue their service to our cause. Pastors from local parishes, Fr. Sarkis Aktavookian of Soorp Khatch and Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan of St. Mary, also conveyed their thoughts. On behalf of the local sub-committees and volunteers, Fr. Hovsep presented the Steering Committee members with a special gift symbolizing the Nations Capitol, as a token of appreciation for their leadership. The program concluded with the closing message and benediction by H.E. Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, Prelate.

Ararat Avak Society Luncheon

On September 12, the Ararat Avak Society celebrated their first fall luncheon with the St. Mary parishioners. The luncheon was hosted and prepared by Mrs. Takuhi Hallajian, Mrs. Eva Shafakian, Mrs. Mari Shafakian and Mrs. Clara Andonian. It included homemade lahmajun, yogurt drink, salad and deserts. Parishioners and friends gathered enjoyed deliriously made food and each other's company.



The Executive Committee remained dedicated to the Society's cause, and without the continued support and devotion of its loyal guests, the Ararat Avak Society would be unable to continue serving its members in the way it does.

Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was celebrated at St. Mary Church on September 13, with an Antasdan Service following the Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of Madagh and luncheon in the church hall afterwards. The Armenian Apostolic Church celebrates this feast on the nearest Sunday to September 15. It is one of the five major feasts of our church, and the most important of the four feasts of the Holy Cross.

After the Badarak the Antasdan

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 Savior who was crucified as a King. Church traditions preserve also 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.

Opening Day at Shnorhali School

We proudly opened our first day of school on Septmeber 13, and welcomed the families of St. Mary Church to our beloved Shnorhali School academic year of 2015-2016. The goal of our school is to teach Armenian language, basics of our culture, our faith, and spiritual riches in order to help our children live authentic Armenian Christian lives and become active members of the community. The School is comprised of two curriculum, one dedicated to Christian Education and the



other to Armenian Language and Culture. We were happy that Mr. Yervand Khoranian would lead the way again along with the many volunteers and parishioners teaching classes, mentoring, organizing children and family events and spiritual activities. Building a loving and spiritual community was accomplished in many creative and exciting ways, such as, Art Show, Family Night, Christmas and New Year's Hantess, Easter Celebration, Talent Show, Spiritual Studies, Armenian Literature, Acolyte Training, Internship and Post Graduation Studies. The continued success of St. Mary's Shnorhali School program was dependent upon everyone's involvement and commitment to our blessed children and their spiritual and cultural education, and we welcomed all to enjoy the Shnorhali School experience.

ACYOA Seniors Fundraising Picnic



In the beginning of September, St. Mary ACYOA Seniors began a fundraising project with the Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief (SOAR). They chose to donate all the proceeds from the fundraising event to the Zangak Orphanage in Artsakh, which provides housing and resources for children both healthy and with special needs between ages 8 and 15. To achieve their goal, the ACYOA

Executive Committee planned a fundraising picnic on September 19 at Rock Creek Regional Park in Derwood, MD. They worked hard to raise money and prepare food and fun for all at the picnic. Those who came, tasted the delicious food, won raffle prizes, played sports, and enjoyed the company of friends, all while supporting a good cause.

We were happy to announce that our ACYOA raised over \$2,000 for the SOAR Zangak Orphanage project. We thanked everyone who attended the picnic, helped us prepare, and make contributions to this cause.

Interfaith Religious Leaders Summit

Der Hovsep joined a group of the nation's faith leaders on September 21, at the Interfaith Religious Leaders Summit in Washington, DC, and on the eve of Pope Francis' arrival in the US to reflect on Pope Francis' teachings on hunger and poverty. They joined Catholic leaders in welcoming the Pope to the United States and committed their faith communities to help make hunger and poverty a national priority.

"Pope Francis is urging people around the world to pray and act to end hunger," said Rev. David Beckmann, President of Bread for the World, the organizer of the event. "The world has made dramatic progress against hunger and poverty over the last generation, so we know it's really possible to end hunger and extreme poverty by 2030 - worldwide and certainly in the U.S."

As an organization whose mission is to end hunger, Bread for the World wanted to take advantage of the Pope's visit to galvanize the commitment within the U.S. faith community to raise the nation's consciousness of hunger. Since his election as Pope, Francis has made the world's poor a focus of many of his statements and teachings.



Armenian Food Festival Workshops



Throughout the month our tireless Women's Guild and volunteers of St. Mary conducted workshops and resembled a small army of expert cooks that take great pride in preparing hundreds of items in the kitchen weeks in advance of our 67th Annual Fall Food Festival. The men of the parish were outdoors to skewer and grill the lamb and chicken and hundreds of people were lured by

the enchanting smell of kebobs. Also were the authentic Armenian dishes and desserts. The food was spectacular and delicious, prepared to perfection and served in generous portions by authentic Armenian food experts.

The Women's Guild of St. Mary spent many days and many hours whipping up authentic Armenian dishes from recipes that have long been part of the Armenian heritage. Everything was home made, such as, stuffed grape leaves, *bulghur* salad, Armenian green beans and onions, lamb and chicken shish kebobs, cheese and spinach *bouregs*, Armenian rice pilaf, as well as signature Armenian pastries like simit, *bourma*, paklava, and *khourabia*. The Food Festival began on October 1st and continued through October 4.

St. Mary Fall Bible Studies

St. Mary Fall Bible study sessions began in the evening of September 22. Der Hovsep conducted the first Bible Study entitled Know Your Gifts & Discover Your Calling. The second study was conducted by Dn. Mark Krikorian. The season's study concentrated on the different spiritual gifts that God bestowed upon us at our baptism. We may be predisposed to develop a talent like singing



or leadership—talents we are born with. However, for Christians, the complexion of these talents changes, and they become spiritual gifts. They may be the defining gifts that indicate our calling. Yet, the Holy Spirit may give us additional gifts that come as unexpected surprises. Some spiritual gifts fit our personality, and others challenge us to grow and change. The aim of the study was to explore our gifts and discover our calling. The last two sessions of the study took place on October 6 and 13 led by Eric Ashbahian and Levon Barsoumian. Fall Bible Study sessions were sponsored by our ACYOA and were open to everyone.

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St. Mary 67th Armenian Fall Food Festival



St. Mary's Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival took place from October 1 to 4. As always, our dedicated volunteers worked very hard to make the festival a great success. The preparation began in September, with our Women's Guild creating a workshop schedule and shopping list, determining event chair ladies and many other details in order to assure an organized and well-managed festival. Our Parish Council was greatly involved with

planning, preparing, and of course, grilling! It is gratifying to note that the time and energy all of our volunteers invested in working and organizing this year's Food Festival paid off. We happily witnessed with pride and joy as our community enjoyed the Armenian foods and culture. This year's special honoree during the festival was Brigadier General Albert Kaehn for his love, dedication and many years of service to St. Mary. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to all our volunteers, sponsors and supporters who contributed and worked tirelessly to make St. Mary's 67th Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival a success!

St. Mary October Bible Studies

St. Mary Bible Studies continued into October carrying the theme of "Discover Your Gifts and Know Your Calling". The last two bible studies were led by Eric Ashbahian and Levon Barsoumian. The season's study concentrated on the different spiritual gifts that God bestows on us at our baptism. We may be predisposed to develop a talent like singing or leadership - talents we are born with. However, for Christians,



the complexion of these talents changes, and they become spiritual gifts. They may be the defining gifts that indicate our calling. Yet, the Holy Spirit may give us additional gifts that come as unexpected surprises. Some spiritual gifts fit our personality, and others challenge us to grow and change. The aim of the study was to explore individual gifts and discover our calling.

HCEF 17th International Conference



Der Hovsep attended the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation's 17th International Conference in Washington, DC on October 16. The evening was an effort to bring together spiritual leaders in an educational and inspirational venue to hear speakers on a range of topics, such as, the complicated realities of the Holy Land and the Middle East. The conference also highlighted the essential role of the Muslim Christian Coalition (MCD) to address crises throughout the Middle East. Christians can serve Muslims by working against discrimination, Muslims can serve Christians by protecting them in countries where they are the majority, thereby, working together for justice, peace and coexistence. The conference also featured an exhibit from

the Bethlehem Museum with olive wood models of the Church of Nativity and Holy Sepulcher Church, a replica of the oldest known mosaic map of the Holy Land, and other treasure artifacts.

Parish Reflection

Some 40 members of St. Mary Church gathered on October 18 to take part in a spiritual parish reflection entitled "Living the Gospel of Christ, Legacy of Our Martyrs" dedicated to the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide and Canonization of the Martyrs. The reflection was led by Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, who after short remarks, invited three of our parishioners to share stories of their families and how the Genocide effected them and their families. David Zenian, Becky Baghdasarian and Levon Barsoumian shared their stories reflecting upon the great tragedy that took place in the history of our people. Der Hayr continued leading the reflection and touched upon some important spiritual issues such as Martyrdom, Sainthood, Canonization and what all of those topics have to do with us today, 100 years later.



The event was sponsored by St. Mary Women's Guild in celebration of October Cultural Month.

Women's Guild General Meeting



The Women's Guild General Meeting and election was held on October 29, bringing together the many dedicated women to discuss the upcoming events and activities. Much of the success of the St. Mary Women's Guild is due to their tireless energy to lovingly organize valued and valuable events for the sake of our beloved church. Their ongoing efforts include the food festivals, holiday parties, luncheons, bake sales, intellectual and cultural discussions, workshops, and advent services are done for betterment of our church.

Twenty-five members attended the meeting and participated in the election. The meeting was opened with the prayer of intercession of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide led by Der Hayr. A devotional was given by Clara Andonian. The PC Chairman, Onnik Sivaslian, and WG Liaison thanked the WG members who volunteered for the success of the 67th Fall Food Festival in October. The newly elected members of the Executive Council are Alis Cubuk, Ani Derderian, Nadya Koseian and Hrispsime Sivaslian. The newly elected members of the Nominating Committee are Arda Kenderian-Hebert, Sintia Petrosian-Gusmao and Araxie Vann. The Chairman thanked Sona Bakirci, Roxanne Paul, and Rebecca Petrosian for their hard work in organizing the election. Exciting upcoming events include the Sunday, November 15 Thanksgiving Luncheon after church service, Friday, December 4 Advent Service, Sunday, December 6 Christmas Bake Sale, and Saturday, December 12 Christmas Party.



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Consecration of Icon of Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide



On November 1, after the Divine Liturgy, a beautiful ceremony of the consecration of the Icon of Holy Martyrs took place. Before the consecration service, Der Hovsep talked about the symbolism of the Holy Icon, a unique work of iconography, depicting the first "new" saints to be recognized by the Armenian Church in several centuries: the martyrs who (in the words of the official prayer of intercession) "gave their lives

during the Armenian Genocide for faith and for the homeland." The Holy Icon hanging in our church will function as a mirror to remind all of us who we are and who God wants us to be. The new Icon of the Holy Martyrs of the Genocide, reminds each of us that as Christians we are called to set aside self-centered ambitions and agendas and to surrender to God's will in all matters, and in so doing, to allow Christ to live in us, and to make us holy. Many of the young parishioners took part in the service, helping to wash the Icon with water and wine and distributing prayer cards to the congregation. Following the ceremony and the dismissal, the faithful were invited to come forward and to kiss the newly blessed and anointed Icon as a tangible sign of our love and personal commitment to following Jesus Christ and doing God's will.

Ararat Avak Society Thanksgiving Luncheon

Ararat Avak Society celebrated a Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 11 with a large gathering of parishioners. The Avaks of our community got together to enjoy a delicious meal which was preceded by a special recognition of passed members. The luncheon was donated by Eva Shafakian, Azniv Shafakian, Mari Shafakian and Takuhi Halajian in memory of their parents. During the program Clara Andonian read the names of past Avak



Society Members. Der Hovsep said a special prayer of repose of the souls for the past members. The St. Mary Ararat Avak Society is a fellowship of senior citizens and retired persons who engage in social, cultural, and educational activities. The organization's tireless efforts are directed toward serving the church community with holiday luncheons. We thanked the efforts and hard work of Ararat Avak Society Co-Chairs Eva Shafakian, Mari Shafakian and Takuhi Halajian.

A Benefit Concert by Sahan Arzruni



On November 13 community members, parishioners and friends gathered at the Armenian Embassy to enjoy a beautiful musical performance by renowned pianist Sahan Arzruni. In coordination with Women's Guild Central Council and Fund for Armenian Relief, Mr. Arzruni was traveling to different parishes for benefit concerts to raise funds to support the Vanadzor Old Age Home in Armenia's third-largest city. The concert in Washington, DC was sponsored by St. Mary Ararat Avak Society. We thanked Takuhi Hallajian, Eva Shafakian, Mari Shafakian, Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan, Margie Satian and Clara Andonian for the administration, hospitality and reception of the event and Louisa Baghdasarian for the arrangements, management, coordination and reception of the event.

Choir Pot Luck Dinner

St. Mary Choir annual pot luck dinner was held on November 14 at St. Mary Church hall and was attended by our choir members, families and friends. Everyone brought delicious food and entertained with toasts, singing, dancing, and a good time.

The St. Mary Choir enhances our weekly worship by providing beautiful and majestic voices that sing our liturgical music. With their gift for music and endless dedication to our church, they bring the marvelous tradition of Armenian spiritual services to the community praising God with their majestic voices. The choir is open to parishioners of all ages and all musical abilities.



Blessing of Water Service with the New Holy Muron



On November 15, a special service of Blessing of Water took place at St. Mary Church. Parishioners witnessed a beautiful ceremony of the water blessing with the newly consecrated Holy Muron.

On September 27, His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, blessed the Holy Muron at Holy Etchmiadzin and proclaimed it the "Muron of Victory" in commemoration of the centennial year of the Armenian Genocide. The newly-blessed Holy

Muron was distributed to all dioceses of the Armenian Church. Then it was distributed to the local church pastors of the Eastern Diocese in a ceremony at New York's St. Vartan Cathedral. On November 12, Der Hovsep traveled to New York's St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral to receive the Holy Muron.

Women's Guild Thanksgiving Luncheon



The Women's Guild of St. Mary Church sponsored the well attended and festive Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 15. The Thanksgiving Luncheon took place after the Badarak and the Blessing of Water service in the church hall. Parishioners enjoined tastefully decorated tables with fall and harvest

themes as well as delicious food prepared by the St. Mary Women's Guild Executive Committee Members. The luncheon was sponsored and donated by Nurhan Vahanian, Agajan Tufeckgian, Berc and Asanet Hacikoglu, Zaven and Sona Bakirci in memory of their loved ones.

Special thanks were expressed to our Women's Guild Executive Committee Members: Ani Derderian, Hripsime Sivaslian, Alis Cubuk, Nadya Koseian, Zivart Bolat, Nadya Chubukian, and Lusin Simon for preparing and hosting the Thanksgiving Luncheon.

Advent Bible Study

St. Mary Advent Bible Studies began in November, carrying the theme "Living the Gospel of Christ: Journeying through Advent with the People of Nativity."

A four session Bible Study was designed to help celebrate the season of Advent by preparing our hearts and minds for Christ-



mas as we walk with the people who had a key role in the Nativity of our Lord.

The first two sessions took place on November 17 and 24 and concentrated on the Genealogy of Christ, Joseph and Mary. The last two sessions took place on December 1 and 8 and we looked at the role of the Shepherds and Angels in the nativity story. We thanked all the families who hosted the Advent Bible Studies.

Shnorhali School Talent Show



Shnorhali School's 3rd Annual Talent Show took place on November 22. About 20 of our school children participated in the event showing their manifold talents in reciting, singing, playing different musical instruments and showing their skills in martial arts. Parents and parishioners brought their support

to the children and enjoyed their wonderful presentation. Our appreciation goes to all of the participants: Anahit & Zaruhi Tashchian (Vocal Duet); Andre Alexandrian (Piano, Trumpet, and Flute); Arman & Anahit Harutunyan (Piano); Ashot Hovhannisyan (Sword Acrobatics); Elen Stepanyan (Vocal); Feliks Asatryan (Classic Guitar); Hayasa Khoranian (Vocal); Hovsep Seferian (Recitation); Kendra's Kindergarten Class (Vocal); Lusine Shahumyan (Recitation); Mariam Karapetyan (Recitation); Narine Unanyan (Recitation); Nelli Karapetyan (Recitation); Sosie Scott, Anna Shahbazyan, Tommy Tomyan (Stringed Instrumental Trio); Tagouhi Gomtsyan (Vocal).

Shnorhali School Classrooms Renovation

Many noticed the fresh paint and the decorative updates throughout the classrooms of the Shnorhali School. For many weeks, the dedicated parents of the Shnorhali School worked diligently to renovate and provide a face lift to the school classrooms. The Preschool class was given a fresh coat of paint and redecorated with a Noah's Ark theme by our amazing teacher, Kendra Tutunjian and her friends. And, the wonderful



parents of our 5th grade class spent hours repainting and organizing another classroom. Special thanks to Anna Andrisova for taking the initiative on that project and for all of the parents who helped out: Artak Harutunyan, Anushik Mazmanyan, Armen Hovhannisyan, Avedis Seferian, Greg Sarkisian, Yn. Jennifer; and the children Hovsep, Ruben and Sosie and, our always dedicated and hard working principal, Yervand Khoranian.

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

ANNUAL JOURNAL

December 2015

Advent Celebration



On December 4 a festive Advent Celebration took place in the St. Mary church hall sponsored by the Women's Guild. The evening opened with a prayer of blessing from Fr. Vertannes Kalayjian and continued with a beautiful musical concert by the Chamasyan Sisters Trio. The evening culminated with a moving spiritual meditation by Rev. Gina Campbell, the Canon Precentor of Washington National Cathedral. She spoke about the Advent season and the opportunity for renewal

that it can bring to our spiritual life. The evening ended with carol singing and a benediction from Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan. A special offering was collected and donated to support the AGBU Humanitarian Emergency Relief Fund to support Syrian Armenian Refugees. Special thanks to the St. Mary Women's Guild Executive Committee and the Members for sponsoring the beautiful event and hosting tables, which provided delicious refreshments, appetizers and desserts.

St. Mary Church 83rd Anniversary

On December 6, St. Mary Armenian Church celebrated its 83rd Anniversary. His Eminence Archbishop Vicken Aykazian celebrated the Divine Liturgy, which was followed by a requiem service for all of the deceased parishioners of St. Mary, and a special luncheon hosted by the St. Mary Parish Council and sponsored by the Sivaslian and Koseian families in memory of their father Gulbenk Sivaslian.



In attendance were the Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the US, Mr. Tigran Sargsyan, the entire Embassy Staff, Nagorno Karabagh Permanent Representative to the US Mr. Robert Avetisyan, and other distinguished guests.

Mr. Eric Ashbaian served as the MC. The celebration was opened with an invocation by Fr. Vertanes Kalayjian. A beautiful musical program was performed by our younger parishioners: Anayis Chobukian and Talin Cubuk (Violin); Andre Alexandrian (Piano); Sosie Scott, Anna Shahbazyan, Tommy Tomyan (Stringed Instrumental Trio), Anahit and Zaruhi Tashchian (Vocal Duet). Remarks were made by H. E. Dr. Tigran Sargsyan and Mr. Robert Avetisyan. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan presented Mr. and Mrs. Nabil and Rita Azzam with the pastoral award of the year for their unwavering love and dedication to St. Mary. The wonderful celebration was concluded with remarks and benediction by Abp. Vicken Aykazian.

Christmas Bake Sale



The Women's Guild Annual Christmas Bake Sale was held on December 6 just after Badarak in the church hall. The traditional Armenian baked goods, with their enticing and tempting scents, drew such a huge crowd within and outside the church community that it sold out! We thanked the Women's Guild Executive Committee Members for donating such a fabulous variety of baked goods for this yearly successful sale. There was also a special jewelry display and sale as part of

the Christmas bake sale and celebration. We also extended our appreciation to those parishioners and visitors that supported the event.

Karabagh Day on Capitol Hill

The Armenian Assembly of America joined the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues in co-hosting the annual Nagorno-Karabagh independence celebration on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC on December 9.

Entitled "Freedom and Democracy of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic," the event marked the 24th anniversary of independence. Nagorno-Karabakh Foreign Minister Karen Mirzoyan gave the keynote address. Ambassador



Tigran Sargsyan, Armenia's Ambassador to the United States, and Robert Avetisyan, Nagorno-Karabakh's Representative to the United States, were in attendance.

Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, Ecumenical Director and Legate of the Eastern Diocese, and the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, Pastor of St. Mary Church of Washington, DC, gave the invocation and benediction.

Women's Guild Christmas Party



The Women's Guild Annual Christmas Party took place on December 12. Cathrine Kapikian graciously offered her home to celebrate the Christmas party which was attended by 39 members. The dinner was prepared by the Executive Committee Members. Ani Derderian, the Women's Guild Chairlady, briefly and proudly mentioned the Guild accomplishments for 2015; thanked Der Hayr and Yn. Jennifer for their guidance, advice and support; mentioned the 16 events the Women's Guild held for the

year (which would not have been possible without the help of the membership). Christmas carol singing commenced after dinner. Members thanked Cathrine for her hospitality and bid each other a very Merry Christmas.

Shnorhali School Annual Christmas Pageant



The St. Mary Shnorhali School held their Annual Christmas Pageant on December 13. Over 80 students from Pre-K to Middle school participated in a beautiful re-enactment of the Nativity Story. Students sang carols, Armenian sharagans, and acted out the Biblical story of our Savior's birth. While the entire audience had fun watching the presentation,

the most fun was had by our children, who acted out their parts and sang their songs with jubilant spirit. Our thanks went to our Principal Yervant Khoranian, for his vision and leadership, which encompassed all of the successful efforts of our school. Our deep appreciation also went out to the Sunday School Teachers, lead by Rebecca Bagdasarian, who worked so hard to make the Hantess a success: Kendra Tutunjian, Maro Hovhanisyan, Eric Ashbaian, Lilian Assadourian, Anayis Mermer, Melvina Evereklian, Tanya Evereklian, Micheal Sahakian, Greg Kumkumian and Robert George. Our school is blessed to have these dedicated and amazing people teaching our young children! A very special thank you also went out to Armik Khachadourians, who donated time and effort to making our life-size manger! Special appreciation went out to all of the parents who helped and support this loving and fun event.

Saint Stephen the Proto-Deacon and the First Martyr

The feast of St. Stephen the Proto-Deacon and the First Martyr was commemorated at St. Mary on December 25. Some of our Deacons came together for this day during which traditionally the Church honors all deacons granting them the privilege of wearing a liturgical crown, recalling St. Stephen and his crown of martyrdom. St. Stephen was the leader of the deacons,



and therefore called the Proto-Deacon, because of his special gifts and attributes. He is also called the First Martyr since he was the first to be tortured and killed for Christ, marking the beginning of the first widespread persecution of the early Christians. In the Armenian Church he is honored as the patron saints of all the deacons.

New Year's Eve Celebration



The New Year of 2016 was rung in by nearly 350 guests at the beautiful Franklin Hall of the Bolger Center in Potomac, MD. The "Welcome 2016 Gala" was celebrated with dinner and dance. The entertainment was of special interest as popular singer and entertainer Hovhannes Shahbazian and his Band played the night away.

Der Hovsep Karapetyan greeted the guests and wished them all a very happy, healthy, and blessed New Year. The beautiful event was organized by a joint committee of St.

Mary and Soorb Khatch Churches. Special thanks went out to the committee members: Dr. Zareh Soghomonian, Teny Abrahamian, Kajaz Safarian, Onnik Sivaslian, Hrip Sivaslian, Jemma Simonian, Kevork Marachlian, Vartiter Marachlian, Garbo Afarian, Lena Tatarian, Vladmir Shekoyan, Rita Koudousian and Jack Guiragossian.





HOKEHANKISTS-REQUIEM SERVICES

JANUARY 2015

January 18

**For: PETER BOURSALIAN and
AROUSIAG BOURSALIAN**

By: Noubar Boursalian, Linda Boursalian, Mimi
Boursalian and Veronica Boursalian

January 25

For: HRANT DINK

By: Parish Council and Der Hovsep

For: STEPAN STEPANIAN (40 Day)

By: Satenik Arakelian, Gilbert & Armineh Stepanian
and Family; Gilbert & Huegette Moscatelli and
Family

For: ZADIK MERMER (40 Day)

By: Ohanian & Mermer Families (Sons &
Daughters-in-Law)

**For: SENEKERIM TUFECKGIAN, NAZLI
TUFECKGIAN, SONA TUFECKGIAN, TATTYOS
TUFECKGIAN, AND GULBAHAR TUFECKGIAN**

By: Aghajan Tufekgian, Asadur Tufekgian and
Anna Loloyan

For: DENNIS RUCKERT (40 day)

By: Karen Ruckert (Daughter) & Vazken Kassakhian
(Son)

FEBRUARY 2015

February 8

For: ZOMOROD ARAKELIAN(40 days)

By: Satenik Arakelian, Alex and Jannette Martin,
Gilbert and Armineh Stepanian and Family, Gilbert
and Huegette Moscatelli and Family, Razmik and Jo-
hannes Hacobian

For: ALICE HACOBIAN (40 day)

By: Razmik and Johannes Hacobian, Satenik
Arakelian, Alex and Jannette Martin, Gilbert and
Armineh Stepanian and Family, Gilbert and
Huegette Moscatelli and Family

For: JEAN V. BERBERIAN

By: Stephen Berberian, Brenda Berberian and Debora
Berberian

February 15

For: LAURETTA OTTS (10 YEARS)

By: Dorothy Small (mother)

For: VAHE AGHABEKIAN (40 days)

By: Keghouhy Aghabekian (spouse), Suzanne
Kapterian (daughter), Ara Kapterian (son-in-law) and
children

For: TERJIMANIAN AND TCHOLAKIAN FAMILIES

By: Arsen, Shoghig and Armen Terjimanian

MARCH 2015

March 8

For: ALBERT KAPIKIAN

By: Catherine Kapikian (Spouse) & Family

**For: ANNIE BEREKIAN (3 YEAR); LILY
SHAKARIAN**

By: Longobardo Family

March 15

**For: HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP GRIGORIOS
BOUNIATIAN** (Primate of the Diocese of the
Ukraine)

For: MARY VARTABEDIAN (40 days)

By: Dorothy Vartabedian Small (Sister); Joseph and
Evelyn Vartabedian (Brother and Family); Myron
and Lupe Vartabedian (Brother and Family); Laurie
and Debbie Onanian; Edward and Zvart Onanian
(Beloved Friend and Sunday School Teacher)

For: VANUSH AVAGYAN

By: Arthur Avagyan (Son) and Viktoria Muradyan
(Daughter-in-Law)

March 22

For: JACK ANDONIAN (23 years)

By: Clara Andonian (Spouse) and Family

March 29

For: ARTO SANAG, MIHRAN

CHAKMAKLEOGHLE, BEDROS

CHAKMAKLEOGHLE, HRIPSIME SIMON

By: Mrs. Avedis and Vilma Simon, Arina Simon

For: GEORGE and AROUSIAC KHANZOGLIAN, HAGOP GUIRAGOSSIAN, BEDROS GUIRAGOSSIAN
 By: Dr. Nabil and Rita Azzam, Aline Guiragossian, George and Kareen Guiragossian and Family, Jack and Annie Guiragossian and Family

APRIL 2015

April 12

For: WILLIAM ERVANT DOCTER

By: WED Scholarship Committee

April 19

For: HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP GRIGORIOS BOUNIATIAN, 40 days (Primate of the Diocese of the Ukraine)

By: Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America; St. Mary Armenian Church and the Parish Council

For: ANGELA BARDIZBANIAN (One Year)

By: Raffie & Maureen Bardizbanian; Arthur & Raffie Jr. Bardizbanian

For: GRIGOR PETROSIAN, VARDOUSHIK PETROSIAN, GOHARIK PETROSIAN, TAGOUHI PETROSIAN, KHACHATOUR TER-HARUTYUNIAN, HAYKUSH HARUTYUNIAN

By: Harutyunyan Leonid

April 26

Special Badarak on the Occasion of the 100th Year of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide

MAY 2015

May 15

For: EDWARD GHARAKHANIAN (40 DAY)

By: Flora Gharakhanian (Wife); Areg Gharakhanian (Son); Predita Rostomian (Daughter-in-Law); Audrey Gharakhanian (Granddaughter); Stella Gharakhanian (Granddaughter); Emalyn Gharakhanian (Granddaughter); Editte Gharakhanian Ghazarian (Daughter); Shahen Ghazarian (Son-in-Law); Colette Ghazarian (Granddaughter); Eric Ghazarian (Grandson)

May 29

For: DANIEL MAGHRABLIAN (40 DAYS); MARY BOZADJIAN (3 YEARS)

By: William and Nora Maghrablian and Levon Maghrablian

For: YERSAVIK BOLAT, SAHAG BOLAT, BAHAR BOLAT, ABRAHAM BOLAT, GULBENK BOLAT AND OVSANNA BOLAT

By: Verjin Bolat (Wife) and Family

For: HOVANESS AND ENDZA ZENIAN, CHAKE SERAYDARIAN, SHAMIRAM SERAYDARIAN

By: David, Leda and Sarine Zenian and the Seraydarian Families

For: GHARAPET (CARRO) NISHANIAN (2 YEARS)

By: Ezzat Nishanian (Wife), Vazrik, Verooyer and Shunt Nishanian (Sons) and Families, Artemis Calomiris (Daughter) and Family

JUNE 2015

June 7

For: ARDAVAZD HARUTUNIAN

By: David and Gilda Andonian and family, Yeghiabet Harutunian and family

For: GALOUST GALO

By: Carine, George, Artin & Alina Sahakian

June 19

For: ALVART KHATCHATOURIANS (9 YEARS)

By: Armik Khatchatourians (husband); Aris Khatchatourians (son); Ani Khatchatourians & Raffie Kehyaian (daughter & fiancé); Tagoosh Safari (mother);

Norik Moosakhanian (brother) & Alfred Moosakhanian (brother) and family and Medik Grigorian (sister) and family.

For: HOVHANESS MOOSAKHANIAN (9 YEARS)

By: Tagoosh Safari (wife); Norik Moosakhanian (son); Alfred Moosakhanian (son) and family; Medik Grigorian (daughter) and family; Armik Khatchatourians (son-in-law); Aris Khatchatourians (grandson) and Ani Khatchatourians & Raffie Kehyaian (granddaughter & fiancé).

June 26

For: DECEASED MEMBERS OF ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GUILD

By: Der Hayr and the Women's Guild Executive Committee

For: YERVANT MISSIRIAN (40 DAYS), MISSAK August 30

MISSIRIAN(3 YEARS), MANUEL & MARI For: HAGOP SHAFAKIAN

JOUKHJOUKHLIAN (20+ YEARS), ARAM & By: Eva Shafakian (Wife), Nigos & Makruhi Simon
OVSANNA SAHAKYAN (20+ YEARS), (Daughter & Son in Law), Daniel & Vartouhi Ran-
ARDASHES & NESHANOUHI SHIRINI- kin (Daughter & Son in Law), Elvin, Justin & Jason
AN (20+ YEARS) (Grandchildren), Artin & Takuhi Hallajian & fami-
ly (Sister & Brother in Law)

By: Sahakyan, Missirian & Mahoney Families

For: VALERI ANDRIYASOV (40 DAYS)

By: Anna & Avedis Seferian (Daughter & Son-in-
Law) and Maisa Popova (Wife)

FOR: ZARA GASOYAN

By: Stella Gasoyan Gibbs & James Gibbs (Daughter
& Son-in-Law) and Alexandra Gibbs
(Granddaughter)

JULY 2015

July 17

For: BERC CUBUK (40 DAY)

By: Mr. & Mrs. Artin Cubuk (brother); Mr. & Mrs.
Aris Cubuk (uncle); Mr. & Mrs. Garbis Chubukian
(uncle); Mr. & Mrs. Onnik Sivaslian (uncle); Mr. &
Mrs. Jake Ciuccio (uncle)

For: LERNIK MARDIROSSIAN (ONE YEAR)

By: Vartiter, Alis & Kevork Marashlian (sister &
aunt)

For: ASHKHEN TCHOLAKIAN (TWO YEAR)

By: Kegham Tcholakian (Spouse)
Stepanian & Mnatsaganian families

AUGUST 2015

August 9

For: KHATCHADOUR TAHMAZIAN, (ONE
YEAR); NAZELI HOVSEPIAN, (ONE YEAR)

Requested by: Hnazant Tahmazian, Khajag & Ne-
vart Tahmazian, Zareh & Maia Tahmazian,
Vatche & Taline Tahmazian

August 23

For: OVAGEEM "OBIE" BAGDASARIAN (40
DAYS)

By: Mary Bagdasarian (Wife), Becky Bagdasarian
(Daughter), John Bagdasarian (Son)

For: ROSE YEGHISSIAN (MOTHER), YERVANT
BAHADURIAN (GRANDFATHER), GEORGE BA-
HADURIAN (UNCLE)

By: Patricia Yeghissian and Family

For: MARY S. PERKINS (5 YEARS), JOHN K. PER-
KINS

By: Mary Louise & Gary Hunt (Daughter & Son in
Law & Family)

SEPTEMBER 2015

September 4

For: ALL THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHO SAC-
RIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR ARTSAKH

By: The Nagorno Karabakh Republick Office, Der
Hayr and Parish Council

For: TAVIT CHATALIAN (40 day)

By: Liza Mardiros, Janet Mardiros, Mary Chatalian
and Families

For: HARUTIUN BARDIZBANIAN

By: Raffie and Maureen, Arthur and Raffie Jr. Bard-
izbanian

September 18

For: MATEVOSIAN-QYURQCHIAN NUNE,
SARGSIAN HENRIK, ATAYAN ROMIK, YE-
SAYAN GARIK, HARUTYUNIAN EDWARD, GU-
LUMIAN SLAVIL, HARUTYUNIAN VILIK,
GRIGORIAN ABRIK, ARMAGANIAN ARKADIY

By: Leonid Harutyunyan

September 27

For: BERJOUHI KAZANJIAN

By: Ani, Larry, Jennie and Peter Kazanjian-Law

OCTOBER 2015

October 4

For: WILLIAM M. (BILL) SMITH

By: Margaret Dedeian- Smith

October 11

For: HIS BEATITUDE ARCHBISHOP TORKOM
MANOOGIAN

(The late 96th Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem,
and long-serving former Primate of our Diocese)

By: Der Hayr and the Parish Council

For: ELMAS SANTOURIAN (great-grandmother), HOVANESS AND NAZENIG CHERISHIAN (grandparents), DIKRAN AND NEVART HALAJIAN (grandparents), ONNIG AND SERARPE HALAJIAN (parents), MARY ANN KINOIAN (sister), KARNIG AND BERJOUHI HALAJIAN (uncle & aunt)
By: Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Nancy Kolenick

For: RIPSIME ARABIAN ZENOPIAN, HARTIUN ANADOLIAN, ZAKAR ARABIAN, ZENOP ZENOPIAN
By: Margie Satian, Rosemarie Satian Edwards, Arto Satian and their children

October 18
For: EDWARD ALBERT BASDIKIAN (40 Day)
By: Alice Basdekian (wife), Mary Bagdasarian (sister), Becky Bagdasarian (niece), John Bagdasarian (nephew)

October 25
For the Souls of: SEBUH USLAN, ADOM USLAN, ARAZ USLAN, SETA KARATEKE, ARSHAG USLAN, KAYANE USLAN, ZOHRAB AKOPCAN
By: Bercuhi Uslan, Zepur Uslan, Aras Uslanian, Armen Uslanian, Sean Uslanian

NOVEMBER 2015
November 8
For: ARSHAVIR HOVANNESSIAN, MIGIRDICH MARAZIAN, and VERJIN MARAZIAN
By: Anjel Hovennesian, Harutyun and Teni Hovannessian, Bogos and Seta Sivaslian

For: LEVON MAHRABIAN (40 Day Memorial)
By: Norik Sinanian and Nora Navasartian

November 15
For: NOURITSA CHATALIAN
By: Mary Chatalian, Liza Mardiros, Janet Mardiros (Daughters)

For: NISHAN AKDEMIR (30th year), ASANET AKDEMIR, OSGI AKDEMIR, and HAYRABET AKDEMIR
By: Mr. & Mrs. Berc Hacikoglu & Family, Mr. & Mrs. Zaven Bakirci & Family, Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Nuran Vahanian & Family

For: HAGOP SHAFKIAN, KEVORK and MARI CANCIOGLU, ARDEM IBOALEV
By: Eva Shafakian

For: SARKIS and OSANNA HACOLIAN, SEBOUH MADOLIAN
By: Sahak & Aznif Shafakian

For: NISHAN KALATAS
By: Mardiros & Mari Shafakian

For: PILIBOS and VARTUHI SAFAK, VAHRAM and HATUN HALLACOGU
By: Artin & Takuhi Hallajian

November 22
For: CORA OZOONIAN
By: Mrs. Rosemary Arkoian (Daughter) and Family, Mr. Ken Ozoonian (Son)

For: NADINE BOURNAZIAN
By: Jacob and George Bournazian (Brothers)

For: TANIEL KOCABAY(1 year)
By: Nadya Kocabay (Wife), Caroline & Christine Kocabay (Daughters), Mr. and Mrs. Hagop Dilanian (brother), Mr. and Mrs. Hayrabet Dilanian (Brother), Ms. Suzan Ohanian (Sister) and their children

November 29
For: DIRAMAIR KHATUN AYKAZIAN (40 days)
By: Der Hayr and Parish Council

For: ALEXAN HASAR, MARIAM HASAR, AKOP HASAR
By: Anna Bolek (sister), Asadur and Janet Tufekjian (nephew and niece)

DECEMBER 2015
December 6
For: ALL OUR DEDICATED PARISHIONERS, ALL THE VICTIMS OF THE 1988 EARTHQUAKE IN ARMENIA.

December 13
For: MANOUG KALAYDJIAN, OVSANNA TASHDJIAN, ARAMTASHDJIAN, YERANOUHI TASHDJIAN, ARMENOUHI KALAYDJIAN, GEORGE KAZANJIAN
By: The Kalaydjian, Tashdjian, & Kazanjian Family Members.

For: KACHADOOR KOOJOLIAN, ROSE KOOJOLIAN, JAMES R. HUNTON
Requested by: Dan Koojoolian

For: DR. OHANNES SAHAKIAN

By: Verjin Sahakian, Ara & Diane Sahakian & Family, Michael & Catherine Sahakian & Family & John Sahakian

For: STEPAN STEPANIAN

By: Satenik Arakelian, Gilbert & Armineh Stepanian & Family, Huguette & Gilbert Moscatelli, Patrick Galoustian

For: SHOGHER GHARAKHANI

By: Khatoun Aghajanian, Galoost Keshishian, Vahé & Katrin Keshishian, Andre & Maggie Keshishian, Aris & Arpi Keshishian, Patrick, Alen, Shant, Abel Keshishian, brothers: Haydoug & Volga and Haigaz & Shooshan Gharakhanian

December 20

For: AVADIS, ATAM, PARIS OZKAYAN, MARED CRISTINA BUSTAMANTE

By: Gulbahar, Atam & Suzanne, Kamer & Marcela Ozkayan Families

December 27

For: RUSK MASIH

By: Janet Masih, Anita Masih, Steven and Karen Bacica, Joseph and Tamar Masih, Jack and Kelly Masih and Families

For: JEAN BERBERIAN

By: Stephen, Brenda and Deborah Berberian





MARYAM ERDOGAN DERDERIAN

June 16, 2015

Beloved Wife of Harutyun Derderian; Sister of Manug Arabian; Mother of Yercanik (Melkon) Delikahya, Setrak (Mari) Derian and Simon (Erica) Erdogan; Grandmother of Garin, Arman and Melisa.

Funerals

ALICE HACOBIAN

January 2, 2015

Beloved wife of Razmik Hacobian, mother of Johanness Hacobian; sister of Satenik Arakelian and Jeanette Arakelian.

BEDROS SARKIS KOLANDJIAN

January 19, 2015

Beloved father of Karina Kolandjian, and her husband, Emad Kronfli, of Frederick; grandfather of Anthony Kronfli and Dahlia Kronfli; brother of Takouhi Yenovkian of Philadelphia and Hasmik Bozadjian and her husband David of Philadelphia.

JANE N. WELCH

January 24, 2015

Beloved mother of Mrs. Nancy Strother

GRACE LUCINE NIGOSIAN

May 6, 2015

Beloved Wife of the late Anthony R. Nigosian; loving Mother of Susan Boghosian and the late Anton Ted Nigosian. Also survived by grandchildren Raffi Boghosian and Tamar Lucine Boghosian, and one great grandson Anthony Michael Boghosian.





BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

January 3, 2015

Natali Yedigaryan

Daughter of Areg Yedigaryan and Narine Hayrapetyan

Godparents: Vahan Kristosturyan and Tatevik Mikaelyan

April 6, 2015

Margaret Beatrix Berberian

Daughter of John Edwin Berberian and Elizabeth Ender Berberian

Godparents: David Berberian and Glyssie Berberian

April 11, 2015

Daniel Atam Simsek

Son of Arda Simsek and Anna Jakovleva

Godparents: Artin Kehayan and Satenik Kehayan

April 12, 2015

Daniel Shipotko

Son of Mikhail Shipotko and Emma Sargsyan

Godparents: Grigori Okoev and Adelaida Matevosyan

April 18, 2015

Tanner Raymond Bolat

Son of Artur Bolat and Rebecca Bolat

Godparents: Arto Bolat and Ilda Bolat

May 2, 2015

Geogry Aram Bolat

Son of Daron and Ani Bolat

Godparents: Artun Bolat and Armineh Kajoian

May 16, 2015

Artem Armen Yousefian

Son of Levik Vahe and Marina Yousefian

Godparents: Narbeh Abik Yousefian and Arda Shahverdian

May 31, 2015

Royce Major Coakley

Son of Sean and Aelin Coakley

Godparents: Arlen Melkomian and Kelly Desmond

Keegan Sean Coakley

Son of Sean and Aelin Coakley

Godparents: Patrick Coakley and Alina Melkomian

June 20, 2015

Victoria Nelli Lockard

Daughter of Scott Stephen Lockard and Arus Harutyunyan

Godparents: Miron Mneyan and Maria Joukova

June 27, 2015

Noela Vana Derbarghamian

Daughter of Varouj and Leana Kay Derbarghamian

Godparents: Areen Movsessian and Maria Movsessian

June 27, 2015

James Bennett Huber

Son of Ryan William and Yvette Stepanian Huber

Godparents: Garen Stepanian and Lauren Elise Huber

June 27, 2015

Jasper Bedros Bischoff

Son of Joseph Bischoff and Stephanie Basralian

Godparents: Joseph L. Basralian and Denise Sadevaia

June 28, 2015

Elisa Gabriela Avanesian

Daughter of Edmond and Evelyn Avanesian

Godparents: Anthony Boyajian and Evelyn Avanesian

July 12, 2015

David Hovick Suleymanian

Son of Hovanes Suleymanian and Lina Sogomonyan

Godparent: Garo Simonian

July 18, 2015

Zachary Kapikian

Son of Gregg & Shelley Kapikian

Godparents: Albert Kapikian and Roxanne Panosian

July 19, 2015

Nyra Sinanian

Daughter Sevada Sinanian and Mannik Manokian

Godparents: Gevik Keshishian and Angineh Hambarchian

August 8, 2015

Kathryn Elizabeth Marschke

Daughter of Charles Keith Marschke and Janet Delikahya

Godparents: David Marschke and Mary Delikahya

September 26, 2015

Andranik Jackson Simon

Son of Girair and Jaime Simon

Godparents: Misha Simon and Jessica Farrell

September 26, 2015

Ani Sophia Cerqueira

Daughter of John and Anna Cerqueira

Godparents: David Tomyan and Sandra Barros

October 10, 2015

Crystal Mangasarian

Daughter of William Davis and Valerie Cataluchi

Godparents: Philip and Lena Ahad

October 11, 2015

Elena Mozaffar

Daughter of Firooz Mozaffar and Angine Ghakhan

Godparents: Armik and Melissa Megerditchian

October 17, 2015

David Movsisyan

Son of Ruben Movsisyan and Marina Ayafonova

Godparents: Davit Simikyan and Hanna Welsh

Baptisms and Chrismations

November 8, 2015

Mary and Erik Manukyan

Daughter and Son of Artak Manukyan and Danaya Torosian

Godparents: Erik and Gayane Chanchuryan

November 16, 2015

Sophia Frey

Daughter of Robert Bryan and Ruzanna Frey

Godparent: Khachik Yerdokimov

November 21, 2015

Jackson Lunman Rogers

Son of Darrell and Carolyn Rogers

Godparents: Erik Worobey and Briana Lunman

December 5, 2015

Yashar Toufighi

Son of David Porlotfollahi and Parvin Colshanshargh

God Parents: Zakar and Pat Shahverdian





Weddings

April 25, 2015

John Lombardy Beckham and Arlet Vartouhi Koseian

Parents: Stephen Beckham and Diane Lombardy

Arut Koseian and Nadya Sivasli

Cross Brother: Kelly Knox Beckham

November 14, 2015

Nerses V. Armani and Anie Assadourian

Parents: Victor Armani and Servart Kouyumjian

Ardashes and Victor Assadourian

Cross Brother: Rupig Movssesian

December 31, 2015

Ani Arax Berberian and Curt Charles Christensen

Parents: Hratch and Arpinee Sanoukian Berberian

and Charles and Carol Kleczewski Christensen

Best Man: Clarence Mitchell II

Maid of Honor: Shoghig Berberian

December 31, 2015

Yashar Toufighi and Tamar Boghosian

Parents: Herayr and Suzi Boghosian;

David Porlotfollahi and Parvin Colshanshargh

Cross Brother: Armen Ghazarian

Best Man: Arash Toufighi

Maid of Honor: Armineh Ghazarian



CHRISTMAS YUGHAKIN DONATIONS 2015

Donated by:

Albright, Bruce S.
Alexander, Edward & Roseann
Alexandrian, Edvik & Lena
Arabian, Lawrence & Janet
Baldadian, Dolores
Balian, Raffi

Barourian, John
Bayburtian, Bagrat
Berberian, Stephen
Bodurian, Ed & Ellen
Ghazarian, Kevork & Maria
Jamgochian, Dicran
Jamgochian, Levon & Arec
Jerikian, John & Ardemis
Kaehn, Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Albert J.
Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy
Khrimian, Ashot & Susanna
Koudoussian, Rita
Krikorian, Margaret
Krzysztofowicz, Dr. & Mrs. Roman
Kumkumian, John and Kathleen
Kulski, Isabel
Manoogian, Peter & Queen
Petrossian, Derenig & Sona
Pickering, Lola
Sahakian, Ara, Diane, Daniel, Lily
Sakayan, Vicky & Harold

In Loving Memory of:

Harry (Haratoun) and Aram Khachadourian
Mr. & Mrs. John Alexanian and Mr. & Mrs. Miridjan Minassian
Loved ones of Koudoussina & Balian Families
Yerchanik Bolat
George and Flossie Baldanian
Vartkess M. Balian, Dikranouhi and Mardiros Balian,
Hovannes and Marie Simonian, Misak Missirian,
Maral Ishkanian
Angele & James Barourian
Grigory Baghdasarian and Makruhi Semerjyan
Jean V. Berberian, Krikor and Hrepsime Berberian
Abraham and Elise Bodurian
Vahan and Vartauhie Ghazarian
Arshalous Sarafian
Hrant, Sirarpi & Zevart Jamgochian
Loved ones
Loved ones
Hermine & Vahan Karahisar
Their parents
Loved Ones of Koudoussian and Balian Families
George Krikorian
Janusz and Irena Kryzysztowicz
Loved ones
Hosannah Kezer
Mooshegh & Yester Manoogian, Radfos & Noiam Partogia
Very Rev. Grigor and Dirouhi Der Bedrossian
Clemance Yazmajian
Arshavir Ekizian and Ohannes Sahakian
Aram & Vartuhee Sakayan, Ohannes & Luisarpi Manoukian

Sayan, Arsen and Catherine
Shahinian, Grace & Dean

Tatigian, S.

Van Osdol, Mary

Yeghissian, Patricia

Yeni-Komshian, Grace

Yoghourtdjian, Sarkis

Donated by:

Katac, Migirdic

Koudoussian, Haikouhi and Rita

Kohar Themejian

Der Vahan & Yeretzgin Zarouhi Jelalian; Lily Jelalian;
Apraham & Mariam Shahinian

Gloria and Arlene Tatigian

Capt. Robert C. Van Osdol, Robert Clyde & Georgin VanOsdol,
Vahan John & Ardimes Bogosian, Esther & Ashod Krikorian

Yervant and Mary Bahadurian

Loved ones

Taniel Yoghourtkjian

In Honor of:

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church

Rita and Marie Balian

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Donated by:

Arabian, Lawrence & Janet

Baldadian, Dolores

Barourian, John

Kaehn, Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Albert J.

Manoogian, Peter & Queen

Shahinian, Grace & Dean

VanOsdol, Mary

Donated by:

Koudoussian, Haikouhi and Rita

Balian, Raffi

In Loving Honor/Memory of:

Yerchanik Bolat

George & Flossie Baldadian

Alice Goulian

Loved ones

Loved ones

Dr. Paul Shahinian

Margaret Tahmassian Abrahamian

In Honor of:

Marie Balian, Rita Balian

Rita Balian, Marie Balian, Haikouhi Koudoussian



IN LIEU OF CHRISTMAS CARD DONATIONS

Dicran Jamgochian

Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Albert J. Kaehn, USAF (Ret.)

Peter & Queen Manoogian

Mariam Nishanian

Grace & Dean Shahinian

Mary B. VanOsdol





EASTER LILIES & YUGHAKIN DONATIONS 2015

Donated by:

Andonian, David, Gilda & children

Alexandrian, Edvik & Lena

Arabian, Laurence & Janet

Arkoian, Rosemary O.

Asadoorian Family

Atanossian, Anne

Avedisian, Ara & Maggie

Ayrandjian, Anahid

Balian, Rita

Balian, Marie

Balian, Margaret

Baldadian, Dolores

Barsoumian, Vergine

Beloian, Aram & Arletta

Berberian, Stephen & Brenda

Bodurian, Ed & Ellen

Bogosian Van Osdol, Mary

Booher, Harold & Anne

Boyajian, Molly

Brosnan, Diana K

Demirji, Sarkis & Siran

Derkazarian, Robert

Dilanian, Hayro H.

In Loving Memory of:

Jack Andonian

Hagop Koudoussian

Vartkess Balian

Father Yerchanik Bolat

Moses (Moe) Arkoian

Herman Carson, Eliza Alyanakian, Manuk

Matikyan & Megerditch Asadoorian

Garabed & Takouhi Bedrosian

Antranig Avedisian, Anesti Prodromidos

Nubar Ayrandjian

Vartkess Balian, Parents & Genocide Survivors:

Mardiros & Dikranouhie Balian,

Marie & John Simonian

Mardiros & Dikranouhie Balian, Vartkess Balian

Harry & Marie Moorachian, Charles Balian

Mr. & Mrs. George & Flossie Baldadian

Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Jean Babashanian

Araxie Diratzonian, Elisse & Kevork Barsoumian

Easter donation in memory of a loved one

Jean V. Berberian

Abraham & Elise Bodurian, Dr. Ohannes Sahakian

Men & Women of the U.S. Armed Forces and friends,
Bob Van Osdol (Husband & Navy Captain), Parents &
Georgia Van Osdol, Vahan John & Ardimes Bogosian,
Esther & Ashod Krikorian

Levon & Louise Terzian

Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush & Sograd Boyajian

Anna & Hagop Krikorian, Shushan Krikorian

Albert Jirikjian

Warren & Zabel Derkazarian

Taniel Kocabay

Garabedian, Armen and Levon
 Garden, Thomas & Linda
 George Family
 Ghazarian, Kevork & Maria
 Gocer, Hermine
 Gulan, Liliane
 Hadjian, Asadour & Nvart
 Hagopian, Haig & Annie
 Hartmann, Dorothy C.
 Hekimian, Joan
 Hickman, Harrison & Caroline Mesrobian
 Juskalian, Lucine Family
 Kazanjian, Casey Bella
 Kaehn, Brig. Gen. Albert & Meline
 Kapikian, Catherine
 Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy
 Katak, Migirdich
 Kavookian, June & John
 Kazanjian, Casey Bella
 Keljikian, Virginia
 Keosian, Zarie
 Khrimian, Ashot & Susanna (Bilbulian)
 Koudoussian, Haikouhi & Rita
 Krikorian, Jacqueline & Stephen Hutchinson
 Krikorian, Margaret
 Kumkumian, John & Kathleen
 Mac Arthur, Anne
 Maghrablian, William & Nora
 Mermer, Misak & Maryam
 Najarian, Vrege & Mary
 Ozbenian, Janser & Jacqueline
 Pakhchanian, Angele
 Pashayan, Marie & Zohrab
 Pickering, Lola Kecyan
 Sahakian, Ara & Diane

Mihran & Makrouhi Garabedian
 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Seferian & Seferian Family
 Robert George
 Vahan & Vartouhie Ghazarian
 In memory of a loved one
 Mahdessian and Hagopian families
 In Memory of a loved one
 Jivan Tabibian
 Albert Chakarian & Karl Hartmann
 In Memory of a loved one
 Zabelle & Mihran Mesrobian
 Col. George Juskalian
 Menas & Aghavny Kazanjian
 Arax Kayaian
 Anne Andrews
 Hermine & Vahan Karahisar
 In Memory of a loved one
 Ann Kavookian & Agnes Salisbury; Kim Suzanne-Sierra
 Menas & Aghavny Kazanjian
 Nellie & Paul Esaian
 Rose & Nicholas Kashmanian
 For Khrimian & Bilbulian families
 Hagop Koudoussian, Vartkess Balian
 George Krikorian
 George Krikorian & Harry Atanossian
 Loved ones
 Eli Takesian
 Missak & Kohar Demirdjian, and sister Sirvart Kortoian
 Guldene Mermer
 In memory of a family member
 In Memory of a loved one
 In Memory of a loved one
 Garabed Naalbandian, Joseph Pashayan
 Klemans Yazmajyan, and all the members of Kechyan & Pickering families
 In Memory of a loved one

Sahakyan, Nubar & Hermine
Sakayan, Harold & Victoria
Sarkissian, Nellie
Satian, Marguerite
Sayan, Arsen & Catherine

Sekercan, Janet
Shahbazyan, Varduhe & Artavazd Avetisyan
Shahinian, Dean & Grace
Yeretzgini
Shahverdian, Zakar & Patricia
Tahmasian, Onik & Amik
Tartanian, Charles & Mary
Tarzian, James M. & Anne
Tellalian Muulvihill, Christina
Ter Minassian, Mira Rouben
Terminassian, Viguen
Teymouri, Aida Mailian & Vazgen Teymouri

Ziver, Marilyn & Family
Zulik, Mary

Donated by:

Rita Balian
Kapikian, Catherine
Haikouhi & Rita Koudossian
Tellalian Muulvihill, Christina
Xakellis, Theodore

In Memory of a loved one
Varto & Aram Sakayan, Ohanes & Louisorpi Manoukian
Armen & Sylvia Minassian
In memory of a loved one
Haigaz & Manouchag Pilikian, Kohar Themejian,
Eddy Sayan
Dr. Krikor Sekercan & J. David S.
In Memory of a loved one
Dr. Paul Shahinian, Lily Jelalian, Rev. Vahan &
Zarouhi Jelalian, Apraham & Mariam Shahinian
Family no longer with us
In Memory of a loved one
Arshalous Miskjian Tartanian
In memory of a loved one
Jack & Barbara Tellalian
Hermine R Ter-Minassian
Hermine Terminassian
Hrand Maelian, Arestak Teymouri &
Goolnabat Babakanian
Vahran & Anna Ariyan Ziver
Boghos Zulik

In Honor of:

St. Mary's Women's Guild
Albert Kapikian
Balian, Rita & Marie
Haig & Sue Ellian, Aghavni Ellian
Mabel Hatcher



GRAPE & MADAGH BLESSING 2015
Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-Of-God
Name Day of our Church

Donated by:

Andonian, Anne
 Andonian, David & Gilda

 Atanossian, Anne
 Avakian, Arevek & Vahed
 Avedisian, Ara & Maggie
 Ayrandjian, Anahid
 Badalians, Mary
 Baghdasarian, Louisa
 Balian, Marie
 Balian, Rita S.

 Bakirci, Sona
 Berberian, Brenda
 Biglari, Haik & Julie
 Boghosian, Susan & Herayr
 Bolat, Krikor & Zivart
 Boyajian, Molly

 Brosnan, Diana

 Brown, Melvina
 Chakarian Hartmann, Karl & Dorothy
 Dedeyan, Elizabeth & Sahag
 Delikahya, Melkon & Yerchanik
 Derderian, Harry & Ani
 Derderian, George & Anna
 Ellian, Haig & Suzanne

 Garabedian, Levon & Armen
 Garden, Thomas & Linda

In Memory of:

Loved ones
 Soghomon & Mariam Danelian, Asadur & Dirouhi
 Harutunian
 Takouhie and Garabed Bedrosian –Parents
 Loved Ones
 Antranig & Kohar Avedisian, Araksi Prodromidis
 Loved Ones
 Loved Ones
 Loved Ones
 Marie Simonian & Vartkess Balian
 Marie J. Simonian–Mother, and
 Dikranouhie Ayanian Balian–Mother-in-Law
 Loved Ones
 Jean V. Berberian
 Raphael Biglari
 Grace Nigosian
 Maryem Bakirci
 Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush Boyajian,
 Sograd Boyajian
 Anna & Jacob Krikorian,
 Shushan & Hovagim Krikorian
 Loved ones
 Albert Chakarian
 Shakeh & Harnest Yazijian, Harry Yazijian
 Loved Ones
 Maryam Derderian & Markrid Barsoumian
 Mrs. Aznive Attarian & Mrs. Mary Petryk
 Mardiros & Vartanoush Rahanian,
 Levon & Yeran Ellian
 Mihran & Makrouhe Garabedian
 Manuck Seferian (Grandfather)

Ghazanian, Kevork & Maria
Gueriguian, John & Ida
Hanessian, Elizabeth
Jamgochian, Dicran & Ruzan

Kapikian, Catherine
Karapetyan, Der Hovsep & Yn. Jennifer
Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy
Kavookian, Eva June & John
Kazanjian, Ani
Kennedy, Kathleen
Keosian, Zarie
Keshishian, Vaheh & Kathryn
Khrimian, Ashot & Susanna Bilbulian
Koseian, Nadya
Koudoussian, Haikouhi
Koudoussian, Rita
Krikorian, Helen
Krikorian, Margaret
Kumkumian, John & Kathleen
Maghrablian, William & Nora
Mesrobian, Ara
Mermer, Misak & Maryam
Magzanian, Alberta
Mulvihill, Christina & Jason
Oganissian, Rouzanna
Ozbenian, Zadik & Hariknaz
Parsegian, Adrian & Valerie
Pashayani, Marie
Pickering, Lola

Polissedjian, Andre & Mary
Salerian, Alen
Sayan, Arsen & Catherine

Vartan & Vartouhi Ghazanian
Mariam Mamigonian
John Hanessian, Jr.
Sirarpi, Zvart & Hrant Jamgochian, Zaven, Zhenya & Levon Hovhannisyan
Albert Kapikian
Drastamat & Gohar Karapetyan, Hrachya Shatvoryan
Peruz Papazyan
Agnus & Ann Kavookian
Berjouhi Kazanjian
Mary (Two Grandmothers)
Nellie & Paul Esaian (grandparents)
Shoghig & Paul Esaian
Parents
Loved Ones
Hagop Koudoussian & Vartkess Balian
Marie Koudoussian Missrian
Mariam & Vahan Morookian, Deeran Krikorian
George Krikorian
Martin & Nectar Kumkumian, Apel & Mary Vartanian
Mr. & Mrs. Maghrablian, Mr. & Mrs. Demirjian
Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
Guldene Mermer
Loved Ones
Jack & Barbara Tellalian
Loved Ones
Maryam & Krikor Ozben, Satenik & Asadur Ozkanian
Loved Ones
Joseph Pashayani
Clemance Yazmajian, Wyvern Pickering &
All Loved Ones
Azniv Marie & Gerard Polissedjian
Loved Ones
Haygaz & Manouchag Pilikian, Kohar Themejian,
Eddy Sayan

Scuderi, Christopher & Diane
 Shahinian, Dean V. Esq.
 Shahinian, Mrs. Grace J.
 Tashjian, Mike
 Tchekrekjian, Haigaved & Janet
 Ter-Minassian, Mira
 Ter-Minassian, Viguen
 Teymouri, Vazgen & Aida
 Van Osdol, Mary

Varoujanian, Hartoun, Varoujan, Leeza
 Windle, Sosi & Glen
 Yeghissian, Patricia
 Ziver, Marilyn
 Zulik, Mary

Donated by:

Alexandrian, Edvik & Lena
 Atanossian, Anne
 Balian, Rita S.
 Berberian, Brenda
 Derderian, Harry & Ani
 Katak, Migirdic
 Keshishian, Vahe & Kathryn
 Koudoussian, Rita
 Mulvihill, Christina & Jason
 Nosrant, Elina & Mark
 Totah, Annie

Moses Arkoian (Uncle Moe)
 Ms. Lily Jelalian
 Dr. Paul Shahinian
 Kevork Mergerdich Tashjian
 Makrouhi Tchekrekjian & Vartouhi Nersessian
 Yervant Ter-Missirian in Passing
 Hermine Ter-Minassian
 Hrand Mailian
 Husband Capt. Bob Van Osdol, Parents Robert &
 Georgia Van Osdol, Vahan John & Andrian Bogosian,
 Sister & Brother in Law Ashod Krikorian
 Alice Varoujanian & Araxie Varoujanian & Family
 Robert Windle, Zabelle Devletian, Parounak Papazian
 Mary Bahadurian
 Vahram & Anna Ariyan Ziver, Jerry Hekimian
 Loved Ones

In Honor of:

Marie Balian, Arshaloys Teymourian
 St. Mary Church
 Marie Balian-Sister-in-Law
 Stephen Berberian
 Mr. & Mrs. Krikor Bolat
 St. Mary Church
 Keshishian Family
 Marie Balian
 Haig & Sue Ellian
 Armen Nosrant
 Marie Balian



GIFT OF LOVE DONATIONS

On the Occasion of the 83rd Anniversary of St. Mary

Donated By:

Andonian, Clara
Atanossian, Harry & Anne
Arsaluys Bahcali and family
Balian, Marie
Balian, Sevag
Balian, Zareh
Boyajian, Molly
Garabedian, Armen & Levon
Gueriguian, John & Ida
Hanessian, Elizabeth
Hanessian, Bruce & Julia
Harutyun, Simon
Jamgochian Dicran & Rouzanna
Zaven, Jenya,
Karahisar, Kathy & Raffi
Kavookian, John & June
Keljikian, Virginia & Keasian Zarie
Koudoussian, Haikouhi & Rita
Koudoussian, Rita
Kumkumian, John & Kathleen
Lavonne, Lela
Maghrablian, William & Nora
MacArthur, Anne
Pashayani, Marie & Zohrab
Mesrobian, Ara
Melekean, Armenak & Helga
Nersesian-Paul, Roxanne
Ohanian, Stephen & Nvard
Sayan, Arsen & Catherine
Eddy Sayan
Sayan and Talanian Families, Andonian Clara
Shahinian, Grace and Dean
Teymouri, Vazgen & Aida
Van Osdol, Mary

DONATED BY:

Brig Gen. Albert J. Kaehn, USAF Ret.
Katac, Migirdic

In Loving Memory Of:

Jean Sayian
Loved ones
Hegine Kizilian
Dikranouhi & Mardiros Balian, Vartkess M. Balian
Vartkess Balian
Berge Balian
Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush Boyajian ,Sograd Boyajian
Mihran & Makrouhe Garabedian
Loved ones
John Hanessian, JR.
John & Haigoohie Hanessian
Loved ones
Hrant, Sirarpi, Zevart Jamgochian, Arshalous Sarafian,
Levon Hovhanessian
Hermine Karahisar, Vahan Karahisar, Hilda Karakas
Ann Kavookian
Rose and Nichalas Kashmanian
Hagop Koudoussian & Vartkess Balian
Agop Koudoussian
Loved ones
Loved ones
Sirvart Kortoian
Eli Takesian
Joseph Pashayani
Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
Loved ones
Mourad, Anne Nersesian and Aram Paul
Zadik & Yeter Mermer
Haygaz & Manoushag Pilikian, Kohar Themjian,
Jean Sayian
Dr. Paul Shahinian and Ms. Lily Jelalian
Roobina Harootunian
Husband Capt. Bob Van Osdol, Parents Robert & Georgia
Van Osdol, Sister & Brother in Law Ashod Krikorian

IN HONOR OF:

Melina Kaehn
St. Mary Armenian Church

OUR YEAR 2015



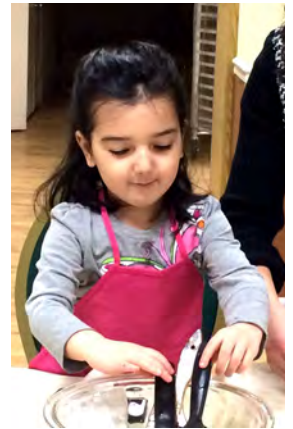




















PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORY

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

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Onnik Sivaslian, Chair
Zakar Shahverdian, Vice-Chair
Sarine Zenian, Secretary
Garbis Chubukian, Ass't Secretary
Jack Guiragossian, Treasurer
Bagrat Baiburtian, Ass't Treasurer
Ara Avetisian, Adviser

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Zaven Kalayjian
Dean Shahinian

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Dee Vartabedian Rogers

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ACYOA SENIORS

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ARARAT AVAK SOCIETY

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SHNORHALI SCHOOL

Yervand Khoranian

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan

WOMEN'S GUILD

Ani Derderian

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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/HOKEHANKISD

Arrangements for Requiem Service, Altar 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.

REMEMBER
A Venerable Christian Practice

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