



# ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL 2016





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# ST. MARY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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Rev. Father Hovsep Karapetyan, Pastor

Տէր Յովսէփ Քհնյ. Կարապետեան, Հովիւ

January 6, 2017

*" You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another. (John 15:16-17).*

Yet another year is chronicled in the history and life of St. Mary Church and community. A year filled with precious memories, some positive and uplifting, and yet others less fortunate and sad. As a community we have accomplished what God has called upon us to do and we have moved in the direction of bearing a harvest for the Lord. We have used the time that God has given us to bear fruit.

Time is the greatest opportunity that has been given to each of us for bearing good fruit. When it is used prudently and advantageously, it will bear fruits of love and holiness. As such, it teaches us to receive it in love, use it in the choices that we make, and build an environment for holiness and happiness, not only for our own life, but for others around us as well. It is in this kind of life and this kind of community that the Lord can find a home and dwelling.

The Greek philosopher Seneca, almost twenty centuries ago, reflected on time, wrote: "It is not that we have so little time, but that we have wasted so much of it". And St. Paul exhorts saying: "Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is". (Eph. 5:15-17).

As we begin a New Year in the life of our community, let us count our blessings and use our time to beautify and refine our spiritual treasures and riches. We have been chosen by the Lord to bear fruit that will last, and as we move forward to 2017, let us continue planting the seeds of faith, hope and love so that we, and those who come after us, may harvest the sweet and precious fruit that will last forever.

May our Lord bless us with His eternal love, guide and direct us in the coming year.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan

# ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

## ANNUAL JOURNAL

### January 2016

#### Feast of Nativity and Theophany Celebrated at St. Mary



Our Church celebrated the glorious Feast of the Birth and Baptism of our Lord with Jragalouits Badarak on January 5 and solemn Divine Liturgy and Blessing of the Water Service on January 6. 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."

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

#### Badarak and Blessing of Water in Baltimore Armenian Community

The Annual Badarak and Blessing of Water ceremony took place in the Baltimore Armenian Community on January 9 at St. Philip Nari 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. In



attendance during the Divine Liturgy also were the Pastor of St. Philip Nari Catholic Church Fr. Michael DeAscanis and The Very Reverend Father Gregory Mathewes-Green, Pastor of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church of Linthicum Heights. Der Hovsep greeted the guest clergy and welcomed them to worship together.

The Godfather of Jrorhnek service this year was Abel Keshishian, the son of Andre and Maggie Keshishian of Baltimore. As in years past, this event was organized by the Armenian Association of Greater Baltimore, under the leadership of Mr. Zakar Shahverdian. A festive dinner was served after the Badarak and Blessing of the Water Service.

### ACYOA Christmas Party



On January 8 our ACYOA Seniors held their annual Christmas Party, hosted by Armineh Ghazarian in her new home. Der Hovsep and Der Tatev lead the Home Blessing ceremony for Armineh as they all participated in prayer.

The Seniors extended their invitation to the ACYOA Juniors and had a great turnout. Everyone celebrated the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and enjoyed a delicious

potluck dinner. Our ACYOA has transitioned the responsibilities to a new younger group of motivated leaders to take over the ACYOA Seniors.

### A Reception for Armenia's Outgoing Ambassador

On January 14, St. Mary Church of Washington, DC, hosted a farewell reception for Ambassador Tigran Sargsyan, Armenia's ambassador to the U.S. who would chair the Eurasian Economic Commission Board effective February 1.

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Diocesan Primate presided over the gathering, which was sponsored by the Parish Council of St. Mary Church. Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan welcomed all guests and thanked the Ambassador for his dedication and service.



### National Prayer Vigil For Life



The National Prayer Vigil for Life was held on January 21 and 22 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, where His Holiness Karekin II celebrated Badarak on the occasion of the Centennial Remembrance of Genocide last May.

Over 20,000 pilgrims from around the nation prayed for an end to abortion before the annual March for Life. The Vigil marked the 43rd anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions

legalizing abortion nationwide. Since those decisions, over 56 million abortions have been performed legally in the United States.

The principal celebrant and homilist at the Vigil Opening Mass was Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, Chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities. It was concelebrated by his fellow Cardinals and many of the nation's Bishops and Priests in the Basilica's Great Upper Church.

Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan was among the Orthodox guests representing our Diocese.



## ACYOA New Executive Committee



On January 31 during the ACYOA meeting a new Executive Committee was appointed. The new members of the ACYOA Executive Committee are Aras Mermer - Chairman, Simon Shahinian - Vice- Chair, Seerun Chubuk - Recording Secretary, Sevan Yedigarian - Treasurer, and Sophia Yedigarian - Corresponding Secretary. The newly formed Executive Committee's first meeting took place on February 3. The members were officially installed on Palm Sunday.

We wish our ACYOA Members a great success in there future endeavors.



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### February 2016

#### Ararat Avak Society Barekendan and Valentine's Day Luncheon



An afternoon of Great Barekendan and Valentine's Day fun, fellowship, and feasting was celebrated on February 6. More than 70 people came to enjoy time with friends and family at their beloved St. Mary Church. As always, our church is very grateful for the dedicated Ararat Avak Society women who give their time, energy, and talent to the St. Mary community.

#### Great Barekendan Badarak

St. Mary celebrated Great Barekendan on February 7. This feast is called "Great" because it is celebrated before the Great Lent, a time of abstinence and repentance for the faithful. The word "Barekendan" is derived from the word "bari" which means "good" and "kendan" which means "life".

To mark this occasion, the Shnorhali School students received copies of the 2016 Lenten Activity and Reflection Calendar plus a tutorial on the meaning of each of the weeks of Great Lent and Holy Week in the Armenian Church. They also participated in Badarak and received Holy Communion.



#### Lenten Food Fair Workshops Begins



Throughout the month our church hall was filled with wonderful kitchen aromas from the preparation of the food for St. Mary's upcoming Lenten Food Fair.

During the preoperational workshops for the food fair, there were over 30 Women's Guild members and friends who stepped up to the plate to create delicious foods from which the entire church community and neighborhood would enjoy.



## Vartanantz Day Celebrated at St. Mary



Vartanantz Day was celebrated at St. Mary on February 14 with a luncheon and program. It was organized by the Knights of Vartan Ani Tahlij and the Daughters of Vartan Dikranouhi Otyag. Greg Manougian and Louiza Baghdasarian made opening remarks and introduced the guest speaker Dr. Levon Avdoyan who addressed the audience with a subject entitled "How Vartanantz and the Creation of the Armenian Alphabet were Attempts at Fighting Assimilation into the Persian Empire and Culture". Following the

presentation Karen Israelyan, First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Armenia to the United States, talked about the current situation in Armenia, especially the recent incidents on the borders of Armenia and Azerbaijan. Der Hovsep concluded the event with remarks and benediction. All donations went to support FAR Programs assisting Armenian Families at Armenian-Azeri border villages.

## Annual Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish Assembly took place on February 21 after Badarak with 56 dues paying members in attendance. Annual statements and reports of all of the organizations were presented and approved. The budget for the upcoming year was also approved. The following individuals were elected to fill parish leadership positions: Parish Council: Jack Guiragossian, Zakar Shaverdian, Mark Krikorian; Alternate: Paul Murad. Nominating Committee:



Rebecca Baghdasarian, Sintia Petrosian Gusmao, Nadia Chubukian; Alternate: Onnik Sivaslian. WED Scholarship Committee: Anna Andriasova Seferian; Alternate: Paul Murad. Investment Committee: Robert George; Alternate: John Asadoorian. Auditing Committee: Edvik Alexandrian; Alternate: Patricia Shaverdian. We congratulate all the newly elected officers and wish them success in their ministry to our church. Our appreciation goes to all those who faithfully served in their various capacities to St. Mary Church in the past.



## Saintly Women's Day Celebration

Saintly Women's Day Celebration took place at St. Mary on February 27. Some 40 members of our Women's Guild came together for an afternoon of spiritual celebration and fellowship. This year's woman saint was Mary, the Holy Mother-of-God (Asdvadzadzin), Queen of Heaven. After the church service Der Hovsep contemplated on St. Mary's life and lessons learned from her piety and humility. During the fellowship hour, after a delicious lunch, everyone enjoyed an insightful presentation by the guest speaker Lucia Seyranyan about St. Mary, her values, characteristics and beliefs and her impact on our everyday lives. A portion of the collected donations from Saintly Women's Day was sent to support CAPS and Vanadzor Old Age Home.



## ACYOA General Meeting



On February 26, St Mary ACYOA members gathered for fellowship and discussion about their upcoming events and made plans for future activities, and the next Lenten dinner was hosted by the ACYOA organization. The mission of the St. Mary ACYOA is to bring young people to Christ through the teachings and traditions of the Armenian Church. We continued to thank all for their support of our youth by attending ACYOA sponsored events.



# ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

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### March 2016

#### Lenten Worship Services, Presentations and Dinners



During the Lenten period, St. Mary parishioners and friends gathered for worship service, a spiritual presentation and dinner.

The year's theme was "Living the Gospel of Christ: The Legacy of Our Martyrs." Along with enjoying a traditional worship service, attendees had a chance to discover the Armenian Church's age-old understanding of sanctity, of Christian martyrdom, and of the intercession of the saints in the light of the far

-reaching implications of the canonization of the Genocide martyrs and its very tangible benefits for every Armenian and non-Armenian follower of Jesus Christ today.

#### Sunday School Bake Sale

St. Mary Sunday School 6th Grade Class held a Bake Sale on March 6. Under the leadership of Michael Sahakian and Greg Kumkumian, the children proudly displayed and sold their home baked goods to an eager crowd of parishioners who supported their efforts in observance of the Lenten period. All proceeds collected were donated to the Children's Hospital.



#### Lenten Food Fair



St. Mary is truly blessed with the ongoing love and support from our talented and tireless volunteers who once again made this year's Lenten Food Fair a great success. The women and men had been working in the kitchen and church hall long before the launch of the March 11, 12, and 13 Food Fair to ensure that the tastiest eech, yalanchi, lentil soup, hummus, baklava, and more were awaiting the community when the doors opened. St. Mary Church thanks all of our wonderfully

dedicated and energetic volunteers and all of our very loyal visitors to the Lenten Food Fair.



## Women's Guild Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Choreg and Bake Sale



Our devoted and so very skillful Women's Guild members held their traditional choreg and bake sale on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Always a crowd pleasing event, people from the church community and neighborhood were tempted by the wide selection of their favorites, such as, choreg, simit, khadeyif, baklava, and biscotti. Thank you ladies!

## Palm Sunday Celebration

On March 20, St. Mary observed Palm Sunday which marked the beginning of Holy Week. After Badarak, St. Mary parishioners celebrated ACYOA Day. Held every Palm Sunday, the purpose of ACYOA Day is to bring attention to the vitality of the organization, its members, its accomplishments, and its role in the local parish community. This year's ACYOA Outstanding Service Award was presented to Robert George. The installation of New Officers and a deliciously prepared and hosted luncheon and program was given by the ACYOA.



## Holy Week



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

On March 24, Great and Holy Thursday, the Divine Liturgy was celebrated in the evening, then the "Washing of the Feet" ceremony was held, which re-enacts Christ's humble service to his 12 disciples during the

Last Supper. Der Hovsep celebrated Badarak followed by "Gark Vodnlvai" with the children at the altar of St. Mary Church. It was followed by a moving service of the Betrayal and Passion of our Lord (Khavaroom).

The Order of the Crucifixion of Christ and the Order of the Entombment of the Lord were held on Great and Holy Friday, March 25.

## Easter Sunday



On Easter Eve, Saturday, March 26, the Badarak was preceded by the Reading of Holy Scripture by the Shnorhali School students. Der Hovsep celebrated the Divine Liturgy with the beautiful lilies donated by our many generous parishioners, followed by the traditional Home Blessing in the Church Hall, and a hospitality table hosted by the Parish Council.

On Easter Sunday, after a festive Badarak attended by hundreds of parishioners, Her Excellency Hranush Hakobyan, Minister of

Diaspora, Republic of Armenia, was the special guest who addressed the congregation. She spoke of her mission to enhance relations between Armenia and the Diaspora and contribute to the unification of the nation around issues of national concern. She encouraged Armenians of all ages to participate in her program initiatives now and going forward.

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





## ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL April 2016

### Spring Food Festival Workshops



The ladies of St. Mary already began the preparation for the Spring Food Festival months in advance and worked very hard to prepare the fabulous Armenian dishes and desserts to be enjoyed by the St. Mary community. A number of workshops took place during that time as our men cut the meat and ladies gathered to prepare the yalanchi, khadayif, boreg, and hommus.

The Food Festival took place on May 6, 7, and 8. Many attended and enjoyed the Armenian cuisine.

### Staying Healthy to Support the Homeland

On April 10, the Armenian American Health Association of Greater Washington launched its 2016 season with a health fair at the St. Mary Church. The Armenian American Health Professionals provided counseling and health education on diabetes, high blood pressure, cholesterol, bone health, nutrition, age-specific cancer risks and its preventive measures.



The event featured oral/dental check-up, glucose and blood pressure screenings, as well as culturally mindful education on healthier eating habits and proportions to the Washington, DC Armenian community.

The health fair was also an opportunity to have one-on-one discussions with the participants on the organization's work both in Armenia and Artsakh, which spans a period of about 25 years and currently concentrates mostly on Nagorno-Karabakh and the health needs of its people.

## Manti Day



On Saturday, April 16, the Avak Ararat Society held a Manti Day Luncheon. The special meal was attended by over 70 guests who enjoyed a traditional Armenian dish and desserts. We thanked the ladies of the society for bringing their talents and love of Armenian cuisine to our beloved church.

As you know, Armenians throughout the world have been moved by the terrible news that border towns in Nagorno-Karabagh (Artsakh) were shelled by the Azerbaijani army. With them in mind, the

Avak Ararat Society graciously devoted all proceeds collected from the luncheon and was sent to the Diocese for the "Artsakh Relief 2016", to support the Armenian families of Artsakh.

## Armenian Genocide Commemorative Events

As we recognized and remembered our martyrs this year on the occasion of the 101st remembrance of the Armenian Genocide, our community participated in a number of commemorative events. The highlight of those events was the special Badarak celebrated on Sunday, April 24, on the occasion of the Remembrance of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide. The Badarak was



followed by a beautiful Intercessory Prayer Service to the Holy Martyrs who gave their lives during the Armenian Genocide for faith and for the homeland.

Parishioners and our Shnorhali School Students took part in this service. We also were honored by the presence of the H.E. Mr. Grigor Hovhannissian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Armenia to the United States, as well as Mr. Robert Avetisyan, Permanent Representative of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic to the United States. Traditional Madagh Blessing Service took place at the church hall and was sponsored by St. Mary Parish Council and Woman's Guild. A wonderful presentation by St. Mary Shnorhali School Students followed during which students recited poetry from renowned Armenian authors. This touching and heartfelt performance was produced and directed by Gagik Ghazarian. The message of the entire day was for our younger generation to keep the spirit of our Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide alive.



## National Cathedral Ecumenical Service

On Sunday, April 17, 2016 after Badarak, the St. Mary Alter Service group enjoyed a lunch out together before making their way to the National Cathedral for an Ecumenical Service. This particular service was to honor the departure of the National Cathedral's worship director Rev. Canon Gina Campbell. For some of our St. Mary participants, it was their first visit to this historic and majestic cathedral and the inclusion in the event was a memorable one.



## Diocesan Assembly in Cleveland



The annual gathering of the Eastern Diocese convened April 28 through 30 in Cleveland, OH. The St. Gregory of Narek Church of Richmond Heights, OH, hosted the Assembly, which brought together several hundred Armenian Church leaders from throughout the Eastern Diocese. Diocesan Primate Archbishop Khajag Barsamian presided over all the events.

Prior to the Assembly, clergy from across the Diocese met for their annual Clergy Conference and retreat, April 25-28. The Diocesan Women's Guild General Assembly also convened during the week. A highlight of the gathering was the annual awards banquet, on the evening of April 29. The AGBU

president Berge Setrakian was honored for his longtime leadership of the community as the Diocese's 2016 "Armenian Church Member of the Year." Honored as this year's "Friend of the Armenians" was scholar Taner Akçam, author of *A Shameful Act: The Armenian Genocide and the Question of Turkish Responsibility*.



# ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL May 2016

## Jewish Primary Day School Visits St. Mary



On May 3, the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital, Washington, DC, visited St. Mary Church. Forty students, their teachers and chaperons wanted to deepen their understanding of Christianity by visiting our church and hear from our pastor.

Der Hovsep greeted them inside the sanctuary and spoke to them for an hour about Armenian church history, the Armenian culture, icons, the baptismal font, holidays, the

Bible, artifacts on the alter, paintings, Sunday school, and the special articles of clothing worn during the church service. The students had many and intriguing questions which demonstrated their interest and ambition to learn. The day school visitors left with an deeper appreciation of another culture and faith in our Washington DC region.

## Spring Food Festival

St. Mary Church thanked all of our devoted hard working volunteers and loyal Armenian food lovers for making this year's Spring Food Festival a success. During the days and evenings of May 6, 7 and 8 crowds dined throughout our church hall feasting on kabob, pilaf, eech, yalanchi, boreg, hommush and pita. Our sumptuous homemade baked goods were a hit as the guests enjoyed kadayif, choreg, kourabis, baklava, burma, and so much more.





### Landmine Free Artsakh Presentation



An interesting presentation took place at St. Mary on May 18. The presenter was Mr. Andrew Mooreby, HALO Trust Desk Officer for the Balkans and Caucasus. Mr. Moore talked about the work of the HALO Trust in Artsakh, primarily their endeavors of clearing land mines from agricultural land, as well as the danger because of the recent military escalation in Nagorno-Karabakh. The presentation was sponsored by the Knights and Daughters of Vartan and Hayastan Lodge of Freemasons. We were pleased to announce that all of those who gave their support made it a successful fundraiser by raising \$7,000 for mine clearance work in Karabagh.

### Ascension Day Luncheon

This year's Women's Guild Ascension Day Luncheon was pleasantly celebrated by 60 guests on May 21. The afternoon was filled with honoring members who had given many years of service to St. Mary Church, a cultural Armenian dance and music performance, and of course delicious food. Ann Andonian was recognized for her devotion to the church in many capacities and a family member was there to personally add a special tribute. Roxanne Paul was honored for her years of service to St. Mary Women's Guild and other roles, and her sons also attended to share some heartfelt words about their mother. The cultural highlights were by Arev Armenian Dance Performers and Hyetones Instrumental Ensemble directed by Carolyn Rapkivian.



### Tsirani Folk Ensemble Concert



On Saturday evening, May 21, the Tsirani Armenian Folk Ensemble performed at The Universities of Shady Grove in Rockville. The seven performers were on a 6 city tour of the United States as they arrived to perform in Armenian churches along the east coast. Under the artistic direction of Artak Asatryan the seven award winning artists presented Armenia's musical heritage through the duduk, shri, tar, od, dhol, and vocals.

## ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL June 2016

### Ararat Avak Society Luncheon



Over 60 men and women enjoyed a fabulous luncheon get-together given by the St. Mary Ararat Avak Society in the church hall on Wednesday, June 1. It was pleasurable to bring good friends together on a sunny afternoon to share a menu of mushroom stuffed chicken with melted cheese, rice pilaf, eggplant tava, salads, and of course, baklava, halva, and fruit. The event was enriched by an uplifting presentation by Miss Alis Marashlian, who gave an interactive

introduction to Life Coaching titled "What Are Your Super Powers?".

### Shnorhali School Year-End Hantess

The Shnorhali School on Sunday, June 5, hosted its first of two year-end recitals. In total, 5 classes participated in last week's year-end celebration. The recital opened with Very Rev. Fr. Simeon Odabashian reciting the Lord's Prayer and offering words of encouragement to all attending. Soon followed Mrs. Kendra's Kindergarten class who took to the stage and gave everyone a very inspiring performance which included a song and a short play. Mrs. Aline's Western Armenian class followed next by reciting poems and playing their musical instruments to everyone's delight. The third act of the recital came from Mrs. Maro's second grade class who presented their own play in full costumes designed by Mrs. Edita Kalayjian. Mrs. Anushik's 3rd grade class followed next reciting well known Armenian poems celebrating nature and the Spring. The final act was reserved for Mrs. Gemma's graduate literary class composed of our school's interns who recited excerpts from famous Armenian authors reflecting upon each author's unique contribution to Armenian literature and culture.



The Shnorhali School on Sunday, June 12, hosted its second year-end hantess. In total, 3 classes participated in last week's year-end celebration. The group consisted of Julia's (Sevak), Marta's (Shiraz), and Anna's (Kaputikyan) classes. All classes gave very inspiring performances which included songs, short plays and reciting well known Armenian poems. We thanked everyone who attended and helped organize two recitals.



## Young Pilgrims Pilgrimage to the Holy Land



A group of 30 youth leaders from 25 parishes throughout the Eastern Diocese returned from their pilgrimage to the Holy Land which was led by the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, pastor of St. Mary Church of Washington, DC. Fr. Karapetyan was assisted by St. Nersess Seminary graduate Arpi Nakashian.

The young pilgrims visited the Church of the Nativity of Christ in Bethlehem, the Jordan River, Dead Sea, toured the sites of the public ministry of Jesus Christ around the Sea of Galilee and area of Nazareth, celebrated

Badarak at St. Mary's Tomb and the Holy Sepulcar, visited Garden of Gethsemane and Mt. of Ascension among other great sites of biblical history.

## Bartev Benefit Concert

A Benefit concert took place at St. Mary Armenian Church on June 11. The proceeds from the concert benefited the Armenian community of Syria. During the beautiful evening the members of the community came together to enjoy the Armenian singer Bartev, from Turkey, and at the same time raised funds for the dwindling Armenian community in Syria. Special appreciation went to the organizers of the event and everyone who supported the important cause.



## Women's Guild General Meeting



St. Mary Women's Guild had its year end general meeting at Trapezaria Mediterranean Kuzina Restaurant on June 18. About 26 women from our community gathered for their last meeting before the summer season to celebrate their accomplishments of a busy and productive year.

Chairlady Ani Derderian summarized and highlighted the past activities of the Women's Guild, the treasurer's report was presented by Zvart Bolat and Yn. Jennifer gave the report of the past Diocesan Assembly. Many thanks

were expressed to our Women's Guild members for their hard work and dedication.

## Give-A-Home Benefit Dinner and Jazz



On June 18 a beautiful Benefit Dinner and live Jazz concert took place at St. Mary Church to raise funds towards the purchase of an apartment for a family in Armenia's city of Gyumri. They lost their home in a massive earthquake in 1988. The initiative taken by organizers Gala Petrosian, Yulia Petrossian Boyle, Yana Gevorgyan proved to be a great success by raising funds and going beyond their goal. Entertainment was provided by the Levon Mikaelian Jazz Trio.

Similar benefit dinners took place in various parts of the world and led to the purchase of 16 apartments for families who, for the past 27 years, have lived in metal shipping containers installed after the earthquake as "temporary" housing.

Proceeds from this event went directly towards the purchase of an apartment home, in the hope of changing destinies and giving hope to a desperate family with young children.

## Father's Day in Baltimore

The Baltimore community's Annual Father's Day Picnic took place on June 19 at Piney Run Park in Carroll County. It was organized by the Armenian Association of Greater Baltimore. Families and friends came together to enjoy the beauty of nature and each other's company as well as pay tribute to Fathers. The lamb and chicken kabob, pilaf and salad, desserts and watermelon was followed by fishing, canoeing, hiking,



volleyball, basketball, tennis and soccer games for the youth. As always, the Armenian music and dancing, and most importantly the Armenian spirit, was present throughout the entire day.

The Armenian Association of Greater Baltimore, under the leadership of Zakar Shahverdian, has 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 those present, thanked Mr. Shahverdian for his leadership. Der Hayr said that his continuous dedication, his encouragement and his support to the Baltimore community emphasizes his love and zeal towards our Armenian culture and heritage.





## ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL July 2016

### Armenian Public Radio Concert



On July 8 the Armenian Public Radio Concert took place at Soorp Khach Church hall sponsored by the Armenian Community Event Planners (ACEP). Folk Guitar trio Mher Vahakn Ajamian, Ryan Demirjian and Saro Koujakian performed traditional cherished Armenian folk songs. The evening had great ambiance with a little bit of wine, beer and some free snacks - and it was another good occasion to meet-up with friends.

### St. Mary Youth at St. Vartan Camp

On July 10, when 18 young members of our St. Mary Church departed for St. Vartan Camp, they had no idea of the fun, fellowship, and spiritual uplifting experience they would encounter. They developed a deeper understanding of their Armenian faith and culture, and established a life long friendship with other campers throughout our Diocese. The program at camp focused on a



blend of Armenian religion, culture, language, history, dance, music, arts, and fellowship, together with a full sports program including soccer, basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, and swimming. Special activities included dances, talent shows, camp Olympics, theme days, and campfires. Our campers surely took home fond memories.

Der Hovsep accompanied the youth and taught at the camp for one week. We expressed our gratitude to Yn. Jennifer for helping with the transportation of our campers and Talar Keshishian Festekjian for volunteering at the camp for one week.

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**The Reverend Fr. Vertanes Kalayjian (1939-2016)**



On August 5, 2016, St. Mary Armenian Church mourned the loss of the Rev. Fr. Vertanes Avak Kahana Kalayjian, Pastor Emeritus, Beloved and Longtime Serving Priest of Our Church.

Der Vertanes is survived by his Mother, Diramayr Zabel, his Wife, Yn. Anahid, his Family, Dr. and Mrs. Zaven and Edita, Berj, Fr. Avedis and Yn. Karen, his Grandchildren, Jirair, Hrak, Pargev, and Zorair, Aram and Arev and His Siblings, Zarmine Boghosian, Kevork Kalayjian, Dr. Ani Kalayjian and Vasken Kalayjian.

The Dahn Gark, Viewing, Divine Liturgy, Funeral and Anointing Service took place on Friday, August 12 at St. Leon Armenian Apostolic Church in Fair Lawn, NJ, followed by an Interment Service at George Washington Cemetery Paramus, NJ on Saturday, August 13. The 40 Day Karasoonk Service took place at St. Mary Armenian Church on Sunday, September 18.

May Our Lord grant rest to His Servant Der Vertanes Avak Kahana Kalayjian and remember him on the great day of His Judgment.

**Cabi Fashion Experience Hosted by Women's Guild**

After a short summer break, the Women's Guild members convened for their first meeting of the fall season. A short meeting was conducted with a discussion of the proposed calendar of events for the fall. The Executive Committee members prepared a hospitality table of wine and mezze. The meeting was followed by a CABI Fashion Experience with CABI stylist Karen Manougian, who presented the Fall 2016 Collection. Members had a wonderful time.





## St. Mary Church Observes Name Day



Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Diocesan Primate, visited St. Mary Church on Sunday, August 14, as the community observed the church's name day. During the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, Archbishop Barsamian blessed the veil of Mariam Karapetyan and ordained Andre Alexandrian, Ashot Hovhannisyan, Hovsep Seferian and Ruben Karapetyan to the rank of acolyte. Archbishop Barsamian and Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan performed the "Blessing of Grapes" service and blessed Madagh.

Later that afternoon, the parish honored longtime member Annie Simonian Totah, who is a recent recipient of a pontifical

encyclical issued by His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. Mrs. Simonian Totah is widely recognized for her support of Armenian causes nationally and internationally.

Parishioners Mr. and Mrs. Onnik and Hripsime Sivaslian, also longtime members of St. Mary Church, were honored with the Diocese's "St. Vartan Award." The day's program also included remarks by family members and a musical presentation by world-renowned pianist Natalia Kazaryan.



# ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

## ANNUAL JOURNAL

### September 2016

#### ACYOA Dinner and General Meeting



A St. Mary ACYOA Seniors meeting took place on September 10 at Meiwah Restaurant. Some 17 ACYOA members enjoyed an evening of delicious food, prayer, and fellowship. During the meeting they discussed future events, such as the Fall Food Festival in October, bowling on October 15, an Armenian-themed costume party for the ACYOA Juniors and Shnorhali School on October 29, and Advent Bible studies during November and December. The members committed to participate and help organize those events.

#### Shnorhali School Begins

The Shnorhali Armenian School opened its doors for the academic year 2016-2017 on September 11, with classes in Armenian language and culture and Christian education taught to K-12 students. The School offered an Eastern Armenian language and Cultural heritage curriculum to seven grade levels, as well as one Western Armenian class. The Christian education curriculum was extended to include post graduate/high school levels.



As of October 2, there were 67 officially registered students. The Shnorhali School thanked the families who sponsored the School's pizza lunches: Avetisyan, Baloyan/Petrosyan, Boghosian, Bostan, Bowen/Evans, Capps/Hanessian, Gharakhanian, Gomtsyan, Griffin, Grigorian, Emmerson, Karapetian/Treff, Khorianian, Kazazian, Moeini, Nishanian, Sahakian, Sarkisian, Tchetchenian, Zanyan.

The School was grateful for all in-kind donations and sponsorships made by the parents.



## Food Festival Workshops



St. Mary Women's Guild planned and scheduled ten workshops in support of the St. Mary's 68th Fall Food Festival which ran from Sept. 14 to October 4. We thanked all of our volunteers who participated and generously gave their time and talents to our beloved church, which always is appreciated by the crowds of people who came to enjoy the must anticipated Armenian cuisine.

## ACYOA Bowling Party

The St. Mary ACYOA Juniors gathered for a fun filled night of Bowling on Sep. 29 at the Bowlmor Bowling Alley in Bethesda. With over 25 in attendance, teens bowled in friendly competition with each other, ate pizza and played games in the arcade. It was a great kick off to the Juniors calendar of events for the future.

ACYOA Juniors is a Christ-centered organization whose goal is to provide teens a greater sense of spiritual culture and tradition.



## Diplomatic Reception Marking Armenia's 25th Independence Day



On September 28, the Embassy of Armenia organized a diplomatic reception to mark Armenia's 25th Independence Day at the Hall of Americas of the Organization of American States. With over 500 attendees, the guests included representatives from US government departments, members of the US Congress, representatives of the think-tank and academic communities as well as Armenian-American organizations.

Hosted by Armenia Fund and MC'd by Mrs. Maria Mehranian (President of Armenia

Fund) the reception included special appearances and remarks by Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Congressman Xavier Becerra, Congressman Frank Pallone Jr. and Congressman Adam Schiff. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State of Europe and Eurasia, Mrs. Bridget Brink congratulated Armenia's achievements in their 25 years of independence and friendly relations with the United States.

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH  
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October 2015

68th Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival



From October 6 to October 9 our dedicated and loyal volunteers worked tirelessly with boundless energy to help make this year's 68th Armenian Fall Food Festival a success. We know that their commitment was not just about the 4 day weekend - they began giving long before the festival with planning, shopping, preparing, baking, and cooking. We can measure the success of their

giving time, energy and talents by the rave reviews and positive comments from our attendees and, of course, by the contributions to our church to continue our mission in proudly presenting our Armenian culture and heritage to the DC Metro Region.

Arev Armenian Dance Group / Women's Guild Cultural Event

On Saturday night of the Fall Food Festival, we had the opportunity of enjoying a performance by the Arev Armenian Dance Group as they showcased authentic Armenian dances in the Church hall.

Additionally, the Women's Guild Cultural Event on Sunday, October 23, highlighted a guest speaker, Carolyn Rapkiewicz of the Arev Dance Group, who presented a half hour presentation of "The Culture of Armenian Dance" in the church hall.





## ACYOA Juniors Fall Sports Weekend



Over Columbus Day weekend, 248 ACYOA Juniors from 16 parishes throughout the Eastern Diocese gathered for the annual ACYOA Juniors Fall Sports Weekend, hosted by St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Church of Wynnwood, PA. The weekend, themed "HyeWay to Philly," opened on Friday with an evening service led by the Very Rev. Fr. Oshagan Gulgulian, Parish Pastor.

On Saturday morning, the young athletes took part in sports competitions. Team sports included co-ed volleyball and boys' and girls' basketball, and also featured a variation on soccer called futsal. Individual competitions included chess, tavloo, Connect Four, and ping pong.

Fr. Gulgulian celebrated the Divine Liturgy on Sunday. The Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian, Dean of St. Nersess Seminary, took part in the service and gave the sermon. The weekend also included dances and other enjoyable activities.

## HCEF 18th International Conference

On October 14, Der Hovsep participated as a guest speaker at the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation 18th International Conference at the Washington Marriott Georgetown Hotel in Washington DC. This year's theme, "Forging a New Bond of Solidarity for Equality, Prosperity, and Peace", supported the 3-day conference which featured panels and notable speakers highlighting the current circumstances of the Middle East, the implications of the elections, the tourism sector as a driver for the Palestinian economy,



and the role spiritual leaders play in the promotion of intercultural dialogue, peace and prosperity. In particular, Der Hovsep's panel focused on the topic "Living Testimonies: Pilgrims and Local Communities as Peacemakers". He spoke about the Armenian presence in the Holy Land and shared his experiences leading pilgrimages to the Holy Land. Der Hovsep also told of the personal effect the pilgrims had throughout the journey, which they call a life changing and never to be forgotten experience.

## ACYOA Bowling Night



On Saturday, October 15 the ACYOA Seniors enjoyed an evening of bowling, pizza, and fellowship. They discussed upcoming events, such as the ACYOA Juniors Costume Party, and Leadership Conference. They looked forward to seeing everyone at the Advent Bible studies planned for November and December. The next ACYOA event took place on October 29 at St. Mary Church hall, which brought together the ACYOA Jr. and Shnorhali School children for an Armenian-Themed Costume party.

## Stewardship Workshop at St. Mary

On Saturday, October 15, church representatives from Charlotte, NC, Richmond, VA, and Washington, DC met at St. Mary Church to attend a Stewardship Workshop. At the direction of the Eastern Diocese, the stewardship consulting firm, James D. Klote and Associates, and facilitator Mel Kalagian, presented a workshop with direction and guidance on how to more effectively and productively conduct fundraising drives. The collaborative effort was a great opportunity for all to learn and share experiences with other parishes in our Diocese. St. Mary was represented by Dee Rogers, Bagrat Bayburtian, Sarine Zenian and Zakar Shahverdian and Der Hovsep.



## ACYOA Costume Party



On Saturday, October 29 St. Mary's ACYOA Seniors organized an Armenian-Themed Costume Party at the Church Hall. ACYOA and Shnorhali School children and parents, joined together to have lots of fun by playing games, dancing to music, and winning prizes for their efforts. The colorful evening was topped off with food and drinks, and St. Mary expressed its gratitude to all of those who attended, supported, and enjoyed the fun.



## His Holiness Karekin II Visit to New York



On Sunday, October 30, a Divine Liturgy on the 17th Anniversary of His Holiness' Enthronement as Catholicos of All Armenians was held at St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral in New York. A banquet followed the services in the Haik and Alice Kavookjian Auditorium. Der Hayr and several members of St. Mary Church traveled to NYC to share in this auspicious occasion with several hundreds of Armenians. On Saturday, November 12, His Holiness Karekin II presided over the official opening of the new

campus of the St. Nersess Armenian Seminary in Armonk, NY: the consecration of the seminary's St. Hagop Chapel, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Karekin I Theological Center. Also during his visit, the Catholicos presided over the 89th General Assembly of the AGBU and the celebration of AGBU's 110th anniversary.



## ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL November 2016

### Food Festival Volunteers Appreciation Dinner



On Friday, November 11, St. Mary gave special thanks to all of its tireless Fall Food Festival volunteers. The gathering was to acknowledge the many energetic and tireless women and men who gave so much to serve and delight our church and community with wonderful and much sought after Armenian dishes and desserts. The significance of those who give of themselves is boundless, the

impact of their efforts is enormous, and St. Mary is ever so grateful and appreciative.

### Honoring Our Veterans

On Sunday, November 13, St. Mary Church held a special event recognizing the parish's Veterans. Nine Veterans received a blessing and recognition during the Divine Liturgy for their bravery, sacrifices, and service to their country. Afterwards, the parish Women's Guild hosted a Thanksgiving luncheon with the Veterans as the day's special guests. During the luncheon,



each Veteran was presented with a handwritten personal card from the parish's Shnorhali School students, a certificate of honor, and an Armenian/American flag lapel pin.

Veterans recognized during the day included Edward Alexander, Steve Berberian, Oscar Asadour Caroglanian, Br. Gen. Albert Kaehn Jr., Albert Kassabian, Nancy Halajian Kolenick, Michael Kolenick, Paul Murad, and Hrant Yousoufian. Some of the honorees shared their personal stories of military service and the importance of being involved in the Armenian Church. Fr. Hovsep congratulated the Veterans and expressed his appreciation for their service.



### Women's Guild Thanksgiving Luncheon



Women's Guild of St. Mary Church hosted a well attended and festive Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 13. It took place after the Badarak at the Church hall during which our Veterans were honored. Attendees enjoyed tastefully decorated tables with fall and harvest themes as well as delicious food prepared by the Executive Committee members of our Women's Guild. Special thanks to the committee for organizing and hosting this wonderful event.

### Ararat Avak Society Thanksgiving Luncheon

On Saturday, November 19, the Ararat Avak Society served a lavish holiday meal to over 50 guests in the church hall. This year's Thanksgiving Luncheon was sponsored by Alice Baker and Eva Shafakian in memory of their loved ones. There was also a fundraising raffle for alter candle sticks. Everyone enjoyed the affair with their St. Mary friends and family, expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the day, and for the Avak Society and St. Mary that brings them together in celebration.



### St. Mary ACYOA Seniors Participate at Youth Leadership Conference



From November 18-20, St. Mary ACYOA Seniors Chairwoman Sophia Yedigarian and Corresponding Secretary Danielle Saroyan participated in an ACYOA Seniors Youth Leadership Conference in CT. They joined 65 participants from 24 different parishes throughout the Eastern Diocese for a packed weekend with various and interesting sessions. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian spoke about how our youth can get involved in the church and be leaders in their own

community. On Saturday night, the Seniors combined talents by creating over 100 Christmas cards for hospitalized children. Danielle and Sophia had a wonderful time enhancing their leadership skills and making friends from other parishes.

## ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL JOURNAL December 2016

### Advent Bible Study



On Nov. 15, 22, 29 and Dec. 6 St. Mary held its Advent Bible Study series, entitled "Living the Gospel of Christ: Journeying Through Advent". Gracious members of the church opened their homes so that parishioners could join in celebration of the season of Advent, and prepare their hearts and minds for Christmas. Special thanks were expressed to our church families and members for hosting this year's Bible Study.

### Artsakh's Independence Observed on Capitol Hill

The Armenian Assembly of America and the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues co-hosted the annual commemoration of Artsakh's independence on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, December 6. Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, Legate and Ecumenical Director of the Eastern Diocese, and the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, Pastor of St. Mary Church of Washington, DC, attended the event, which marked 25 years of Nagorno-Karabagh's independence.



Former U.S. Ambassador to Armenia

John Evans spoke about hopes for a peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict in the region. Armenian Caucus Co-Chairs Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. of New Jersey and Rep. Jackie Speier of California, and Vice Chair Rep. Adam Schiff of California spoke about Artsakh's defense of its freedom, and its progress in fostering democratic processes.

Keynote speaker Arayik Harutyunyan, Prime Minister of Nagorno-Karabagh, outlined the republic's accomplishments and the difficulties it faces.



## 84th Anniversary Celebration



St. Mary Church of Washington, DC, celebrated its 84th Anniversary on Sunday, December 11, with a special luncheon and program after the Divine Liturgy. More than 150 parishioners attended the event, including special guests Ambassador Grigor Hovhannissian, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the United States; and Ambassador Robert Avetisyan, Permanent Representative of the Nagorno-Karabagh Republic to the United States.

Master of Ceremonies Avedis Seferian and Parish Council member Dr. Ara Avedisian spoke on upcoming church building projects, and parishioner Sophia Yedigarian recounted her experience as part of the Eastern Diocese's youth pilgrimage to Jerusalem in June. Guitarist and vocalist Ernesto Bravo performed a number of Armenian and international songs as part of the program's musical interlude. St. Mary Church Pastor Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan presented awards to parishioners Rosemary Arkoian and Arda Hebert for their longtime commitment to volunteering and supporting the parish.

## Women's Guild Holiday Bake Sale

What would the holidays be without the St. Mary Church Women's Guild Bake Sale? Surely not as delectable! On Sunday, December 11 after services, the Women's Guild presented and sold their specialties - baklava, bourma, choreg, simit, haskanouch, and other traditional Armenian baked goods. We thanked our Women's Guild Executive Committee Members for donating such a fabulous variety of baked goods for this yearly successful sale.



## Women's Guild Annual Christmas Party



On Saturday, December 10, the Women's Guild held a festive and joyous Christmas party celebration. Suzanne Harutunian, our Women's Guild Executive Committee Member, graciously opened her home for this year's celebration. The event was well attended in a lovely and festive atmosphere, where members enjoyed each others' company in Christmas spirit.

A brief meeting summarized the accomplishments of the Women's Guild in 2016 and was followed by festive songs and fun games. Members thanked Suzanne Harutunian for opening her home and for her gracious hospitality.

## Tribute to a Departed Friend and Pastor

On the afternoon of Sunday, December 4, a large crowd of admirers packed Armenia's Embassy in Washington, DC, for a tribute to the late Rev. Fr. Vertanes Avak Kahana Kalayjian.

The Armenian Assembly of America organized and hosted the occasion, which included touching recollections and performances to honor the memory of the longtime spiritual leader of the community, who passed away on August 5. As pastor of St. Mary's Church for 32 years, Fr. Kalayjian was widely known in the nation's capital as the ever-smiling face of the Armenian-American community.



Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, the Diocesan Legate and Ecumenical Director, offered an invocation to bless the gathering.

Dignitaries from the Assembly, the Embassy, and the diplomatic field attended alongside Fr. Kalyajian's friends, family, and former pastoral charges. They included Armenia's Ambassador Grigor Hovhannissian, Susan Billington Harper of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Diplomat Edward Alexander, Clara Andonian, Zarmine Boghosian, and Armenian Assembly Executive Director Bryan Ardouny.

Especially affective were the musical tributes by Fr. Kalayjian's grandsons, Jirayr and Hrak, and his grand-nephews and niece, Nareg, Armen, and Aline Boghosian. His brother-in-law Missak Boghosian sang a setting of an Omar Khayyam poem which had been a favorite of the departed Pastor.

Assembly Board Member Annie Totah closed the program by presenting an award to Fr. Vertanes' widow, Yn. Anahid Kalayjian, honoring the couple for their many contributions. The reception that followed allowed the attendees to express their grateful remembrances of Fr. Kalayjian's good works, indomitable spirit, and optimism for the future of the Armenian people.



## Shnorhali School Christmas Hantess



On December 18 the St. Mary Shnorhali School held its Annual Christmas Pageant. This year the Hantess centered around the true meaning of the Symbols of Christmas and included the participation of students from Preschool to High school, over 70 students in total. Christmas symbols such as Holly Wreaths, Bells, Angels, Stars and Presents were some of the items that through prose and song, students turned into something extraordinarily meaningful. Students recited Biblical verses in Armenian and enlightened

everyone in attendance with Christmas carols in both Armenian and English.

Sincere appreciation went out to the talented Hantess Directors, Edvik Alexandrian and Avedis Seferian with the assistance of Rebecca Bagdasarian and the entire Sunday School staff, including Eric Ashbaian, Maro Hovhanissyan, Michael Sahakian, Greg Kumkumian and Armenian language teacher Svetlana Hovhannisyan. The Sunday School staff was especially grateful to all the parents who brought their creativity and efforts to help make the Hantess a success and lastly, but most important, to the beloved principal, Mr. Harry Tchetchenian for his leadership and tireless efforts to help make the Shnorhali School a welcome and loving place of learning for all children and families in our community.











## Hokehankists-Requiem Services

### JANUARY 2016

**January 17**

**For the Soul of: HRANT DINK**

Requested by: St. Mary Parish Council In Loving Memory

**January 31**

**For the Souls of: NELLI MARTIROSYAN**

**(1 year), VILEN ATYAN (1year)**

Requested by: Ruben Kristosturyan (Son), Nune Atyan, Nonna & Bella Kristosturyan, Petros Hovhannisyan, Areg, Vahe, Tigran, Ervand, Lusine and Vahan, Silva Mekinyan (Wife), Nune Atyan, Ruben Kristosturyan, Zara Khanjyan, Georgiy, Ervand, Vahan, Hakob & David & Great-grandchildren

**For the Souls of: BAGDASAR BAKIRCI (5 years), MARYEM BAKIRCI (3 years)**

Requested by: Mr. & Mrs. Zaven (Son) & Sona Bakirci & Mr. & Mrs. Kirkor & Zivart (Daughter) Bolat and their Families

**For the Soul of: MABEL HATCHER (14 years)**

Requested by: Theodore Xakellis (Son)

**For the Souls of: ROBERT NEVINS**

**(12 years), ANNY NEVINS (2 years)**

Requested by: Russell Nevins (Son)

**For the Souls of: AROUSIAG BOURSALIAN**

**(Mother), Peter Boursalian (Son)**

Requested by: Noubar & Linda Boursalian

### FEBRUARY 2016

**February 7**

**For the Soul of: ARMINAK OZKANIAN**

Requested by: Elmas Ozkanian (Wife) and Children

**For the Souls of: Deceased Members of SHATVORYAN, KARAPETYAN AND VARDANYAN FAMILIES**

Requested by: Karapetyan & Shatvoryan Families

**February 14**

**For the Soul of: BEDROS KOLANDJIAN**

Requested by: Karina & Emad Kronfli

(Daughter and Son-in-Law),

Hasmig Bozadjian (Surviving Sister), Takouhi Yenovkian (Surviving Sister) and Their Families

**February 28**

**For the Soul of: VAHE AGHABEKIAN (1 Year)**

Requested by: Kaghouhi Aghabekian (Spouse), Suzanne & Ara Kapterian (Daughter & Son in Law), Andrew & Christine Kapterian, George & Taylor Kapterian (Grandchildren)

**For the Soul of: HOURIG MARDIROSSIAN**

**(40 Day)**

Requested by: Vartiter, Kevork & Alis Marshlians (for their Sister and Aunt)

### MARCH 2016

**March 6**

**For the Soul of: ALBERT KAPIKIAN**

Requested by: Catherine Kapikian, Albert, Thomas, and Gregory Kapikians and their Families

**March 13**

**For the Soul of: JACK ANDONIAN**

Requested by: Clara Andonian and Family

**For the Soul of: ROBERT GEORGE**

Requested by: Doris George, Robert, Marlene, & Lara

### APRIL 2016

**April 3**

**For the Soul of: GRIGORY AYRAPETYANTS**

Requested by: Anika Ayrapetyants Vartan (Daughter) and Gregory Ayrapetyants Vartan (Grandson)

**April 10**

**For the Souls of: OUR DEPARTED COUNTRYMEN**

**For the Soul of: ANJEL HOVANNESIAN**

**(40 days)**

Requested by: Bogos and Seta Sivaslian (Daughter)

**For the Souls of: VALERIK AND ERNEST DOLUNTS, LAURA SHKHBASYAN**

Requested by: Zaven and Edita Kalayjian (Daughter / Sister)

**For the Soul of: ANGELA BARDIZBANIAN (2 years)**

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

**April 17**

**For the Soul of: GHAZAROS GHAZARIAN (40 Days)**

Requested by: Hasmig Ghazarian (Wife)

**For the Soul of: DANIEL MAGHRABLIAN (First Year Anniversary)**

Requested by: Mr. Levon Maghrablian (Son) and Mr. William Maghrablian (Brother)

**For the Soul of: EDWARD GHARAKHANIAN (First Year Anniversary)**

Requested by: Flora Gharakhanian (Wife in California), Areg Gharakhanian (Son), Predita Rostomian (Daughter-in-Law), Audrey, Stella and Emalyn Gharakhanian (Granddaughters), Editte Gharakhanian Ghazarian (Daughter in California), Shahen Ghazarian (Son-in-Law in California), Colette and Eric Ghazarian (Grandchildren in California)

## **MAY 2016**

**May 8**

**For the Soul of: KLAYDIS CHOUKHACHIAN**

Requested by: Carlin Choukhachian, Eric Calian, Edo Choukhachian, Grandchildren, Valdec Choukhachian; Yulia Calian

**May 22**

**For the Soul of: VALERI ANDRIYASOV**

Requested by: Maisa Popova, Anna and Avedis Seferian

**For the Soul of: WILLIAM ERVANT DOCTER**

Requested by: Der Hovsep Karapetyan, Parish Council and WED Fund Scholarship Committee

## **JUNE 2016**

**June 5**

**For the Souls of: DEPARTED MEMBERS OF ST. MARY WOMEN'S GUILD**

Requested by: The Women's Guild

**For the Souls of: CARMEN TOLIDJIAN, SARKIS TOLIDJIAN, BEATRICE & TAVIT TOLIDJIAN, KEVORK, ARMINE & VALENTINA PILIBOSSIAN**

Requested by: Beatrice Tolidjia, Armand Tolidjian, Christo Marinov, Stephanie Marinova, Jennifer Tolidjian

**For the Soul of: BERC CUBUK**

Requested by: Mr. & Mrs. Artin & Rakel Cubuk, Mr. & Mrs. Aris & Alis Cubuk, Mr. & Mrs. Garbis & Nadya Chubukian, Mr. & Mrs. Onnik & Hripsime Sivaslian, Mr. & Mrs. Jake & Alin Ciuccio

**For the Soul of: CARRO NISHANIAN**

Requested by: Azad Nishanian, Vazrik and Nunik Nishanian, Artemis and George Calomiris

**June 12**

**For the Soul of: ARDAVAZD HARUTUNIAN**

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

**June 19**

**For the Soul of: HAKOP NERSESYAN**

Requested by: Nersesyan & Tchetchenian families

**For the Souls of: MR. YERCHANIK BOLAT, BAHAR BOLAT, SAHAG BOLAT, GULBENK BOLAT, OVSANNA BOLAT, ABRAHAM BOLAT**

Requested by: Mrs. Vercin Bolat & Family

**June 26**

**For the Souls of: MAYRAM ERDOGAN, ARMENAG AKTAR, ARSALUYS AKTAR**

**Requested by:** Harutyun Derderian, Melkon and Yercanik Delikahya, Setrak and Mari Derian, Simon and Erica Erdogan, Grandchildren and families

**For the Soul of: HOVHANESS MOOSAKHANIAN**

Requested by: Tagoosh Safari, Alfred Moosakhanian & Family, Norik Moosakhanian, Daughter-Medik Grigorian & Family, Armik Khatchatourians & Family

**For the Soul of: ALVART KHATCHATOURLANS**



By: Armik Khatchatourians, Aris Khatchatourians, Raffie & Ani Kehyaian. Tagoosh Safari, Norik Moosakhanian & Alfred Moosakhanian & Family and Medik Grigorian & Family

## **JULY 2016**

**July 17**

**For the Soul of: OVHAGIM "OBIE" BAGDASARIAN (1 year)**

Requested by: Mary Bagdasarian (Wife), Becky Bagdasarian, John Bagdasarian (Lana) (Children), Charlie, Matthew, Elianna, LileaRose (Grandchildren)

**July 24**

**For the Soul of: TAVIT CHATALIAN (1 year)**

Requested by: Mary Chatalian (Daughter) and Nanor Khrimian (Granddaughter)

**July 31**

**For the Souls of: KHACHADOUR TAHMAZIAN (2 years) and NAZELI HOVSEPIAN (2 years)**

Requested by: Hnazant Tahmazian (Wife, Sister); Khajak, Zareh & Vatche Tahmazian (Sons)

**For the Souls of: TIGRAN DAVID AKOPIAN (5 years) and DAZY AZARYAN**

Requested by: David B. Akopian and Anahit Azaryan (Parents, Daughter and Son-in-law)

## **AUGUST 2016**

**August 21**

**For the Soul of: LENA KARAPETYAN (40 DAYS)**

Requested by: Der Hovsep (Brother-in-Law) and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan (Sister-in-Law) Ruben, Mariam & Vartan Karapetyan

**For the Soul of: STEVEN EMMERSON**

Requested by: Monica (Daughter) and Seandor Emmerston (Grandson), and Family

**For the Soul of: BADRIK BOSTAN (3 Years)**

Requested by: Bostan and Romero Families

**August 28**

**For the Souls of: ARMENAK BOYAJIAN, KEGHANUSH BOYAJIAN & SOGRAD BOYAJIAN (8 years)**

Requested by: Molly Boyajian

**For the Souls of: SOUREN, MARIE, ASHOT, SIRVARD HADJI- AKOPYAN, &**

**AZAT KAZANCHIAN**

Requested by: Anna and Vahe Kazanchian and Arusyak Adj-Akopyan

**For the Soul of: Fr. ARTEN ASHJIAN**

Requested by: Dorothy Chakarian Hartmann (Friend)

## **SEPTEMBER 2016**

**September 4**

**For the Soul of: CAPTAIN EDWARD BASDEKIAN (1 year)**

Requested by: Alice Basdekian, Mary Bagdasarian, Becky Bagdasarian, John Bagdasarian

**For the Soul of: BAGHDASAR & AZNIV**

Requested by: Hrant Yousoufian

**September 18**

**For the Soul of: REV. FR. VERTANES AVAK KAHANA KALAYJIAN (40 Day)**

Requested by: Der Hovsep Karapetyan, the Parish Council and St. Mary Church Community

**For the Soul of: HAROUTUN BARDIZBANIAN (17 Years)**

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

**For the Souls of: NAZAR NERSSESSIAN, VARTOUHI NERSSESSIAN, ABRAHAM HOVSEPIAN**

Requested by: Niever and Hovsep Hovsepiyan, Abraham & Christine Hovsepiyan

**September 25**

**For the Soul of: BERJOUHI KAZANJIAN**

Requested by: Ani , Larry, Jennie & Peter Kazanjian -Law family

## **OCTOBER 2016**

**October 2**

**For the Soul of: JASMAN AVADISIAN**

Requested by: Aida and Edik Avadisian, Shan Tanoli, Vazgen Karimian, Vahik and Vartan Avadisian , Agnes Zoukh, Ani and Ana Avadisian, Alis Attakhanian

**October 9**

**For the Soul of: HAIG ELLIAN (40 days)**

Requested by: Sue Ellian (Wife), Aghavni Ellian (sister), Christina and Jason Mulvihill (Nephew)

**For the Soul of: HASMIK GHAPLANYAN**

Requested by: Mariya and Anna Ghaplan-  
yan (Nieces)

**October 16**

**For the Soul of: NAYIRI KREDIAN  
POOCHIKIAN (40 days)**

Requested by: Roubina Poochikian  
(Daughter), Hoorig Poochikian (Father), Armine  
Kredian and Mane Kilajian (Sisters)

**For the Souls of: ZEVART SERAYDARIAN (40  
days) SHAKEH SERAYDARIAN (35 years)**

Requested by: David and Leda Zenian, Armen and  
Dr. Nathalie Zenian McOmber and Family, Sarine  
Zenian

**October 23**

**For the Soul of: HARIKNAZ OZBENIAN (40 days)**

Requested by: Zadik Ozbenian (Husband), Maryam  
and Misak Mermer, Garo and Juliette Ozbenian,  
Canser and Jacqueline Ozbenian (Children), Aras,  
Anayis, John, Christina and Rita (Grandchildren)

**For the Soul of: MARCOS SAFARIAN (40 days)**

Requested by: Sedik Khoranian  
(Daughter), Linet Blackwell and Yervand Kho-  
ranian (Grandchildren)

**For the Soul of: HASMIK MARTIROSYAN**

Requested by: Alina Sargsyan and Family

**For the Souls of: SEBUH USLAN, ADOM USLAN,  
ARAZ USLAN, SETA KARATEKE, ARSHAG  
USLAN, KAYANE USLAN, ZOHRAB AKOPCAN**

Requested by: Bercuhi Uslan, Zepur Uslan,  
Aras Uslanian, Armen Uslanian, Sean Uslanian

**NOVEMBER 2016**

**November 4**

**For the Soul of: YEGISAPET BOLAT (40 days)**

Requested by: Bolat, Shafakian, Arabian Families  
for their beloved Horakuyr/Kergin who passed  
away in Istanbul

**November 18**

**For the Souls of: ELMAS SANTOURIAN (Great  
Grandmother), HOVANESS AND NAZENIG  
CHERISHIAN (Grandparents), DIKRAN AND NE-  
VART HALAJIAN (Grandparents), ONNIG AND  
SERARPE HALAJIAN (Parents), MARY ANN KI-  
NOLAN (Sister), KARNIG AND BERJOUHI HALA-**

**IAN (Uncle and Aunt), STEVE CHERISHIAN  
(Uncle 1 year).**

Requested by: Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Nancy  
Kolenick

**November 25**

**For the Souls of: AKOP HASAR (3 years), ALEXAN  
HASAR, MARIM HASAR**

Requested by: Anna Bolek (Sister, Daughter), Asa-  
dur and Janet Toufekjian (Niece and Nephew)

**DECEMBER 2016**

**December 4**

**For the Souls of: AVADIS OZKAYAN  
ATAM OZKAYAN, PARIS OZKAYAN**

Requested by: Mrs. Gulbahar Ozkayan (Wife)

Mr. & Mrs. Atam (Son) Ozkayan

Mr. & Mrs. Kamer (Son) Ozkayan

and their Families

**December 11**

**For the Souls of: OUR DEDICATED PARISHION-  
ERS and THE VICTIMS OF THE 1988 EARTH-  
QUAKE IN ARMENIA**

**December 18**

**For the Soul of: DR. OHANNES SAHAKIAN**

Requested by: Mrs. Verjin Sahakian, Ara and Di-  
ane Sahakian and Family, Michael and Catherine  
Sahakian and Family

and John Sahakian

**For the Soul of: KHACHADUR HAKOBYAN  
(1 Year)**

Requested by: Mike and Naira Tashjian

**December 25**

**For the Soul of: ARMENAK OZKANIAN (1 Year),  
HRIPSIME OZKANIAN**

Requested by: Mrs. Elmas Ozkanian (Wife); Mr.  
Asadur Ozkanian (Son); Mr. & Mrs. Vartavar &  
Takuhi Ozbenian (Daughter & Son-in-law); Mr. &  
Mrs. Hagop & Sake Dilanian (Daughter & Son-in-  
law)







## FUNERALS

### **LILA TERZIAN CHORBAJIAN**

January 25, 2016

Beloved Wife of Victor Chorbajian; Mother of Richard Jack Chorbajian and Victoria Lila Chorbajian; Sister of Flora Zeytoonian.

### **ZINAIDA VARDANYAN**

January 26, 2016

Beloved Mother of Armen Vardanyan and Satenik Vardanyan; Grandmother of Nune Vartanyan, Aram Vartanyan, Maksim Vardanyan, Edward Vardanyan, Stephan Terzyan, Aram Mkhitarian, Mariam Mkhitarian; Great-Grandmother of Areg and Yana Terzyan, Davis and Nikolos Mikaelyan.

### **GOHARIK GYOKCHAKYAN**

February 6, 2016

Beloved Mother of Nelli Petrosyan of Arlington, VA, Grandmother of Naira Abajyan and Gohar Abajyan, and Artash Hovsepyan, Great-Grandmother of Sona Martirosyan and her husband Ricardo Guerrero, Alexandra and Stephan, and Great-Great-Grandmother of Isabelle and Leo.

### **ANJEL HOVANNESIAN**

February 23, 2016

Survived by her Son Arto Hovannesian; Daughter Seta Sivaslian; Daughter-in-law Teni Hovannesian; Son-in-law Boghos Sivaslian; as well as three Grandchildren Christina Martinez (Husband Alex), Karen Guiragossian (Husband George), Alex Hovannesian and four Great-Grandchildren Andres, Aidan, Vahe and Ella.

### **GHAZAROS V. GHAZARIAN**

March 5, 2016

Beloved Husband of Hasmig Jasmine Ghazarian. Brother of Maida Kalousdian of Toronto Canada and the late Seta Krikorian of London England.

He is also survived by his Nephew Krikor Krikorian of Geneva Switzerland, and his Niece Talyn Jerjian of London England.

### **DANNY K. KOOJOOLIAN**

April 6, 2016

### **REVEREND FR. VERTANES KALAYJIAN**

August 5, 2016

He is survived by his Mother, Dirmayr Zabel, his Wife, Yn. Anahid, his Family, Dr. and Mrs. Zaven and Edit, Berj, Fr. Avedis and Yn. Karen, his Grandchildren, Jirair, Hrak, Pargev, and Zorair, Aram and Arev and His Siblings, Zarmine Boghosian, Kevork Kalayjian, Dr. Ani Kalayjian and Vasken Kalayjian.

### **NAYIRI KREDIAN POOCHIKIAN**

August 14, 2016

Beloved Mother of Roubina & Hoorig Poochikian, beloved Daughter of Albert Kredian, Beloved Sister of Armin Kredian and Mane Kilajian.

### **HAIG ELLIAN**

August 23, 2016

He is survived by his beloved Wife of 50 years, Sue; his loving Son, Levon; devoted Sister Aghavni; Granddaughters Aimee Ellian and Alexis Malocha; Nieces, Bunny Wardlaw, Jacquie Tellalian, Christina Mulvihill; Nephew, Gary Tellalian; Great-nephew Peter Wardlaw, Great-niece, Sarah Wardlaw Jones.

### **BARKEV KIBARIAN**

September 4, 2016

He is survived by his beloved Wife of 54 years, Mary Ann; his loving Daughter Maral Skelsey (Bill) Sons Barkev Garo (Cheryl), Christopher (Gohar Kuriyan); Grandchildren Charlotte and Freddie Skelsey, Katie, Sarah, Haik and Chloe Kibarian.

### **HARIKNAZ OZBENIAN**

**September 12, 2016**

Beloved Wife of Zadik Ozbenian, Beloved Mother of Maryam and Misak Mermer, Garo and Juliette Ozbenian and Canser and Jacqueline Ozbenian, Beloved Grandmother of Aras, Anayis, John, Christina and Rita.

### **ISABELLE HINTLIAN VRANIAN**

**November 4, 2016**

Beloved Mother of Dr. N. Michael Vranian (Barbara), Dr. George Vranian, and Carolyn V. Hutcheson (John), Grandmother of Christina V. Grande (Bryan), Dr. Michael N. Vranian (Danielle), Zachary G. Hutcheson, and Claire E. Hutcheson.

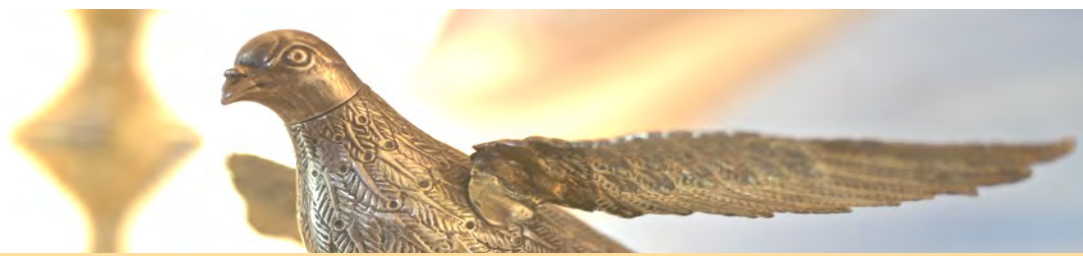
### **ALAN THOMAS CHOPOORIAN**

**November 4, 2016**

Beloved Father of Deidre Chopoorian and Alan Chopoorian.







## BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

**January 2, 2016**

**Zorair Kalayjian**

Parents: Dr. Zaven and Mrs. Edita Kalayjian

Godparents: Dr. Greg and Mrs. Katie Kumkumian

**January 16, 2016**

**Adam Simon Megerditchian**

Parents: Armik Simon and Melissa Megerditchian

Godparents: Barry A. Hewitt and Noelle C. Hopper

**February 6, 2016**

**Anna Shakhbazyan**

Parents: Grigor Shakhbazyan and Lilit Avoyan,

Godparents: Harutyun Ananyan and Gohar Maghakyan

**March 18, 2016**

**Vartan Grigoryan**

Parents: Gevorg Grigoryan and Keila Annet Grigoryan

Godparents: Vladimir and Ovsanna Grigoryan

**May 7, 2016**

**Lucine Ellia Todaro**

Parents: John Braxton Todaro II and Linda Denise Todaro

Godparents: Richard Baghdassarian & Julia Kumjian

**May 14, 2016**

**Zaven Jackson Huang**

Parents: Zhen F. Huang and Ani Danielian Huang

Godparents: Joseph A. Piatt and Ashley M. Piatt

**May 22, 2016**

**Hanley Jane Boghonian**

Parents: Artin Masihi Boghonian and Kaitlyn Marie Boghonian,

Godparents: Zach Armiger and Ani Armiger

**June 25 , 2016**

**Sona Kennedy Aronson**

Parents: John Brian and Elise Kenderian Aronson,

Godparents: David Ruchman and Aileen Girard

**June 25 , 2016**

**Lucy Lauriebeth Armiger**

Parents: Zachary David and Ani Armiger

Godparents: Sevan Khatchatoorian and Hermine Khatchatoorian

**June 25 , 2016**

**Aram Ter-Minassian**

Parents: Viguen and Teresa Ter-Minassian

**June 25 , 2016**

**Joshua Hoffman**

Parents: Clinton and Kimberly Hoffman

**August 6, 2016**

**Abigail Rose Taymoorian and Aiden Samson**

**Taymoorian**

Parents: Hovik and Danielle Taymoorian

Godparent: Vachik Taymoorian

**August 24, 2016**

**Aleks Tandirci**

Parents: Murat Tandirci and Diana Mkrtchyan

Godparents: Mike Minasian and Imelda Atud

**September 3, 2016**

**Ian Avedis Hickey**

Parents: Patrick Keith Hickey and Nenette Haiduke Sarafian Hickey

Godparents: David Roger Lobe and Nanaz Haiduke Sarafian Lobe

**September 4, 2016**

**Robert Boghos Mihanian**

Parents: Mihan and Yousrah Mihanian

Godfather: Ruben Karapetyan

**September 23, 2016**

**Jeffery Allen Hayter**

Parents: Timothy Hayter and Penny Schwartz

Godparents: Ardash Torosyan & Roubina Gharakhanian

**October 15 , 2016**

**Sophia Gloria Masih**

Parents: Jack and Kelly Masih

Godparents: Kevin Beabout & Karen Masih Bacica

**October 21, 2016**

**Izabella Marie Ramadan**

Parents: Ed Ramadan and Vana Ghazarian

Godparents: Nareg Simonian & Zarouhi Marie Ghazarian

**Novmeber 5 , 2016**

**Sophia Lillian Zhang Simon**

Parents: Sevan and Fangzhou Simon

Godparents: Girair Simon and Jaime Simon

**November 12, 2016**

**Lara Mariam Eugenie Gavor**

Parents: Aram Avedis and Anoush Adrienne

Gavor,

Godparents: Melanie Sirarpi Mesrobian and Anais Lucia Manoushag Barisani

**November 26, 2016**

**Julieta Tilimian**

Parents: Serjik and Inna Tilimian

Godparents: Garegin and Anush Vardanyan







## WEDDINGS

**April 30, 2016**

**Lauren Diane Garry and Robert Edward Boggio**

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

Best Man: Victor Jaramillo

Maid of Honor: Jessica Garry

**October 22, 2016**

**Spencer Drew Livengood and Arina Hripsime Simon**

Parents: Avedis & Vilma Simon, Bradley and Millie Livengood

Best Man: Ararat Sanag

Maid of Honor: Lori Sanag

**June 25 , 2016**

**Liya Galooshian and Joshua Hoffman**

Parents: Clinton and Kimberly Hoffman, Vosken and Anik Galooshian

Best Man: Aron Hoffman and Raffi Melkonian

Maid of Honor: Lousineh Galooshian

**October 22, 2016**

**Ariel Naanep Obaldo and Elyse Marie Loosarian**

Parents: Manuel & Flordellza Obaldo, Alan Haig & Karen Dale Loosarian

Best Man: Arnold Naanep Obaldo

Maid of Honor: Alena Rose Alsrohe & Katie Dale Loosarian

**Lilit Sargsyan and David Avagyan**

Parents: Karen Avagyan & Nvard Haroyan, Armen Sargsyan & Susanna Sargsyan

Best Man: Tigran Sargsyan

**July 2, 2016**

**Aram Ter-Minassian and Maria Portela Martinez**

Parents: Viguen Ter-Minassian & Teresa Rizzitiello, Raphael Portela & Carmen Martinez

Best Man: Nicholas Coffrin

Maid of Honor: Cristie Ramos

**August 27, 2016**

**Megerdich Tashjian and Naira Hakobyan**

Parents: Kevork Megerdich Tashjian & Ovsanna Tchetchenian, Khachadur Hakobyan & Knarig Tatoyan

Best Man: John Onnig Yilanjian

Maid of Honor: Blanda Yilanjian



**October 1, 2016**

**Sebouh Kasbarian and Sandra Derminassian**

Parents: Kevork & Sona Kasbarian, Wilhem & Armineh Derminassian

Best Man: Areg Abrahamian

Maid of Honor: Liya Hoffman









## CHRISTMAS YUGHAKIN DONATIONS 2016

### Donated by:

Alexandrian, Edvik & Lena  
  
Akgulian, Laura  
Andonian, Anne  
Asdourian, Paul  
Aslan, Nusaper & Juliyet Gregorian  
Dr. Banian  
Balian, Margaret  
Barsoumian, Vergine  
Dr. & Mrs. BigLari, Haik  
Brig. Gen. & Mrs. A. Kaehn, USAF/Ret..  
Brosnan, Diana  
Bodurian, Ed & Ellen  
Ciuccio Family  
Gauden, Linda  
Garabedian, Armen & Levon  
Gulan, Liliane  
Kazanjian, Jennie & Peter, Ani, Larry  
Kazanjian, Casey & Bella  
Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy  
Koudoussian, Haikouhi & Rita  
Khrimian, Ashot & Susanna  
Krikorian, Margaret  
Kumkumian, John & Kathleen  
Manian and Elbaum family  
Margosian, Alice  
Manoogian, Peter & Queen  
Mermer, Misak  
Mesrobyan family  
Minasian, Lori  
Ozbenian, Vartuvar  
Pashayani, Marie & Zohrab  
Pickering, Lola  
Sakian, Misho & Lucy  
Ter-Minassian, Viguen  
Terzian family  
  
Wyatt, Richard & Linda

### In Loving Memory of:

The loved ones of Balian, Koudoussian &  
Alexandrian families  
Loved Ones  
Paul & Rose Andonian, Jack Andonian, Elyzabeth Nader  
Loved Ones  
Haritun Aslan and family, Aram Polat and family  
Loved Ones  
Charles Balian  
Kevork and Elissa Barsoumian  
Loved Ones  
Men & Women of the Armed Forces of the United States  
Loved Ones  
Abraham and Elise Bodurian, Dr. Ohannes Sahakian  
Loved Ones  
Mike Seferian  
Mihran & Makrouhe Garabedian  
Simon, Zepur, Gerard Mahdessian & Stephane Gulan  
Patriarch Karekin Kazanjian, Mrs. Berjouhi Kazanjian  
Menas & Aghavny Kazanjian  
Hermine & Vahan Karahisar  
The loved ones of Balian and Koudoussian families  
Parents  
George Krikorian  
Loved Ones  
Dr. Albert A. Manian  
John W. Margosian  
Mother & Father  
Guldene Mermer, Kirkor Ozben, Maryam Ozben  
Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian  
Minasian Vasken & Shushi Minasian  
Hripsime Ozkanian, Krikor & Mariam Ozbenian  
Joseph Pashayani  
Clemance Yazmajyan  
Dr. Arshag & Verkine Sarkissian, Ohan & Yeghisa Sakian  
Hermine Ter-Minassian  
Levon Terzian, Louise Terzian, Aram Terzian &  
Bitzar Terzian  
Albert Z. Kapikian

**Donated by:**

Arkoian, Priscilla  
Katac, Migirdic  
Kobrin, Melanie  
Kojoyian, Aredis  
Margosian, Alice  
Hanessian, Bruce & Joulia  
Stoutner, Jeffrey & Sherry  
Ziver, Marilyn

**In Honor of:**

Garabed Arkoian  
St. Mary Church  
Araxi Bostanian Kobrin  
Elizabeth Kojoyian  
Nevart M. Margosian  
John & Haigoohie Hanessian  
Alice & John Margosian  
Margo Hekimian

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

**Donated by:**

Arabian, Lawrence & Janet  
Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Kaehn, USAF/Ret.

Shahinian, Grace and Dean, Esq.

**In Loving Memory of:**

Yerchanik Bolat  
Men & Women of the Armed Forces of the United States  
Rev. Fr. Vahan Jelalian & Yeretzgin Zarouhi Jelalian

**Donated by:**

Kazanjian, Jennie & Peter, Ani, Larry  
Koudoussian, Haikouhi & Rita  
Kobrin, Melanie

**In Honor of:**

Mrs. Clara Andonian  
Rita & Marie Balian  
Araxi Bostanian Kobrin



**IN LIEU OF CHRISTMAS CARD DONATIONS**

Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Al Kaehn, USAF (Ret)  
Araxi Bostanian Kobrin  
Ms. Helen Krikorian  
Jim McGrath  
Peter & Queen Manoogian  
Mariam Nishanian  
David & Arpi Sahr  
Dean Shahinian, Esq.  
Grace J. Shahinian  
Marilyn, Magda, Marianne Ziver  
Pashayani Marie and Zohrab







## EASTER LILIES & YUGHAKIN DONATIONS 2016

### Donated by:

Andonian, David, Gilda & Family  
Alexandrian, Edvik & Lena  
Arabian, Lawrence & Janet  
Arkoian, Rosemary O.  
Asadoorian Family

Avakian, Sonia  
Avedisian, Antranig  
Ayrandjian, Anahid  
Balian, Rita S.

Balian, Margaret  
Baldadian, Dolores

Berberian, Stephen & Family

Boyajian, Rajwantie C.  
Boyajian, Molly  
Bolat, Vercin  
Demirji, Sarkis & Siran  
Derderian, George & Anna  
Ekrek, Selva & Sekita  
Garabedian, Armen and Levon  
Ghazarian, Kevork & Maria  
Gulan, Liliane

Hadjian, Asadour & Nvart  
Hanessian, Elizabeth  
Hartmann, Dorothy Chakarian and  
Dale Charkarian Turza  
Hatchik, Berge  
Hagopian, Haig & Anahid  
Hekimian, Joan & Catherine  
Jamgochian, Dicran & Rouzanna  
Kalibian, Vicken V.  
Kachadourian, Carolyn & Bruce Albright  
Kazanjan, Ani  
Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy  
Katac, Migirdic  
Khrimian, Ashot & Susanna Bilbulian  
Koudoussian, Rita

### In Loving Memory of:

Jack Andonian  
Hagop Koudoussian (Dad), Vartkess Balian (Uncle)  
Yerchanik Bolat  
Moses (Moe) Arkoian  
Herman Carson, Eliza Alyanakian, Manuk  
Matikyan, Megerditch Asadoorian, Ron Albertson  
Salim George Diran Fattal  
Kohar Avedisian & Araksi Prodromidos  
Ayrandjian & Mouradian Families  
Vartkess M. Balian, Loving Husband, Father, Grandfather  
& Nobel Man of his times. My In-Laws Mardiros &  
Dikranouhi Balian. My Parents John & Marie Simonian  
Rose Moorachian, Charles Balian  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Jean Babashanian  
Mr. & Mrs. George & Flossie Baldadian  
Jean Berberian, Krikor & Hripsime Berberian,  
Tatos & Hripsime Bazoian  
Loved Ones  
Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush & Sograd Boyajian  
Loved Ones  
Albert Shirikdjian  
Antranig & Aznive Attarian, Michael & Mary Petryk  
Loved Ones  
Mihran & Makrouhe Garabedian  
Vahan & Vartouhie Ghazarian, Theresia Rother  
Simon & Zepur Mahdessian, Gerard Mahdessian &  
Sveto Gulan  
Loved Ones  
Garabed Klanian  
  
Albert Kevork Chakarian & Nicholas & Rose Kashmanian  
Askar & Zepuere Hatchikian, William & Steven Hatchik  
Loved Ones  
In Memory of Loved One  
Sarafian, Jamgochian & Hovhannissian Families  
Loved Ones  
Takouhi Kachadourian  
Loved Ones  
Loved Ones  
In Memory of Loved One  
Parents  
Agop Koudoussian (Father)

Kumkumian, John & Kathleen  
 Law, Ani & Larry & Family  
 Lela, Levonne  
 MacArthur, Anne  
 Martirosian, Katarineh, Heros &  
 Elsik Martirosian  
 Margosian, Alice  
 Mermer, Misak & Maryam  
 Mesrobian, Ara  
 Movsessian, Rubic & Knarik  
 Nicogossian MD, Arnauld  
 Nostrant, Elina & Julietta Arutyunova

Ohanian, Stephen  
 Ozkanian, Asadur

Pakhchanian, Angele  
 Petrossian, Derenig & Sona  
 Rosenfield, Ben & Joan  
 Sarkissian, Nellie, Ara, Diana, Eric, Nina  
 Shahinian, Dean, Esq.  
 Shahinian, Mrs. Grace J.  
 Shamigian, Charles  
 Terminassian, Vigen  
 Totah, Annie Simonian  
 Van Stavoren, William  
 Xakellis, Theodore

### **Donated by:**

Balian, Rita S.

Hanessian, Elizabeth  
 Katac, Migirdic  
 Koudossian, Rita  
 Nicogossian MD, Arnauld  
 Nostrant, Elina & Julietta Arutyunova

Law, Ani & Larry & Family  
 Sahakian, Diane, Ara, & Family

Loved Ones  
 Besjouhi Kazanjian  
 Loved Ones  
 Eli Takesian

Ohan Sakian, Yeghisa Sakian, Garnik Martirosian  
 John W. Margosian  
 Guldene Mermer, Maryam & Kirkor Ozbenian  
 Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian  
 Loved Ones  
 Gourguen & Caludia Nicogossian  
 Vilen Ter-Arutyunov, Emik Ter-Arutyunov, Satenik Sarkisova-  
 Arutyunova, Mina Arutyunova, Norayr Arutyunov, Nikolay & Arsen  
 & Raisa Mamikonyan, Parandzem & Satenik Pogosyan  
 Zadik & Yeter Mermer  
 Satenik Ozkanian, Armenak Ozkanian, Hripsime Ozkanian, Alexan  
 Hasar, Maryam Hasar, Agop Hasar, Lusiya Akyuz  
 Papken Pakuchanian  
 Very Rev. Grigor & Dirouhi Pari Petrossian  
 Margaret Sinanian  
 Armen & Sylvia Minassian  
 Ms. Lily Jelalian, Mr. Apraham & Mrs. Mariam Shahinian  
 Dr. Paul Shahinian, Rev. Fr. Vahan & Yn. Zarouh Jalalian  
 Loved Ones  
 Hermine Terminassian  
 John & Marie Simonian (My Parents)  
 Rosa Kouyoumdjian, My Wife  
 Mabel Hatcher, Beulah Shippen

### **In Honor of:**

Minister of Diaspora of Armenia, Her Excellency  
 Hranush Hakobyan.  
 New Armenian Ambassador to the U.S. His Excellency  
 Grigor Hovhannissian  
 John Hanessian, Jr.  
 St. Mary Armenian Church  
 Marie Balian (Aunt), Rita Balian (Aunt)  
 Karo Hagopian  
 Armen Nostrant, Julietta Arutyunova, Elina Nostrant, Mark  
 Nostrant, Ernest, David, Karina Mamikonyan  
 Clara Andonian  
 Esther Ekizian 90th Birthday





**GRAPE & MADAGH BLESSING 2016**  
**Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-Of-God**  
**Name Day of Our Church**



**Donated by:**

Andonian, David & Gilda  
 Ayrandjian, Anahid  
 Badalians, Mary  
 Baker, Alice  
 Balian, Marie  
 Balian, Rita S.  
 Boyajian, Molly  
 Delikahya, Melkon & Yerchanik  
 Derderian, Harry & Ani  
 Derderian, George & Anna  
 Ekrek, Selva & Sekita  
 Hanessian, Elizabeth  
 Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy  
 Kazanjian, Ani  
 Khrimian, Ashot & Susanna Bilbulian  
 Koudoussian, Haikouhi  
 Koudoussian, Rita  
 Krikorian, Helen  
 Kibarian, MaryAnn & Barkev  
 Kumkumian, John & Kathleen  
 MacArthur, Anne  
 Mesrobian, Ara  
 Mulvihill, Christina & Jason  
 Ozbenian, Janser & Jacqueline  
 Pashayani, Marie & Zohrab  
 Pickering, Lola  
 Price, M. Lucy  
 Sivaslian, Seta  
 Seferian Family  
 Van Stavoren, Bill  
 Sayan, Arsen & Catherine  
 Shahinian, Dean V. Esq & Mrs. Grace  
 Tashjian, Mike & Naira Hakobyan  
 Tchekrekjian, Haigaved & Janet  
  
 Varoujanian, Hartoun, Varoujan, Leeza  
 Yoghourtdjian, Sarkis  
 Yousefian, Hrant

**In Memory of:**

Soghomon & Mariam Danelian, Asadur & Dirouhi Harutunian  
 Azniv Mouradian, Anoush Melqonian  
 Loved Ones  
 Loved Ones  
 Dikranouhie & Mardiros Balian, Vartkess Balian  
 Vartkess M. Balian, Marie J. Simonian  
 Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush Boyajian, Sograd Boyajian  
 Loved Ones  
 Maryam Derderian & Markrid Barsoumian  
 Mrs. Aznive Attarian & Mrs. Mary Petryk  
 Loved Ones  
 John Hanessian, Jr.  
 Peruz Papazyan  
 Berjouhi Kazanjian, Patriarch Karekin Kazanjian  
 Parents  
 Marie Simonian, Dikranouhie Balian  
 Marie Koudoussian Missrian  
 Mariam & Vahan Morookian, Deeran Krikorian  
 Garabed & Zartar Bandarian  
 Loved Ones  
 Eli Takesian  
 Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian  
 Jack & Barbara Tellalian  
 Loved Ones  
 Joseph Pashayani  
 All Loved Ones  
 Loved Ones  
 Anjel Hovannesian  
 Loved Ones  
 Rosa Kouyoumdjian Van Stavoren  
 Haygaz & Manouchag Pilikian, Kohar Themejian, Eddy Sayan  
 Dr. Paul Shahinian Shahinian  
 Kevork Megerdich Tashjian and Khachadur Hakobyan  
 Haroutun, Makrouhi & Zadig Tchekrekjian, Nazar & Vartouhi Nersessian  
 Alice Varoujanian & Araxie Varoujanian & Family  
 Taniel & Heghnig Yoghourtdjian, Nahabed & Nouritsa Tekirian  
 Loved Ones

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Koudoussian, Rita  
Koudoussian, Haikouhi  
Margosian, Alice  
Mulvihill, Christina & Jason  
Simonian, Annie Totah

Zulik, Mari

**In Honor of:**

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The Men and Women of the Armed Forces of the United States  
of America  
Marie M. Balian, Annie Simonian Totah  
Onnik & Hripsime Sivaslian  
Annie Totah  
Clara Andonian  
Onnik & Hripsime Sivaslian  
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Annie Totah  
Haig & Sue Ellian  
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Bogos Zulik







## GIFT OF LOVE DONATIONS

On the Occasion of the 84th Anniversary of St. Mary

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Mary Aghazarian  
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Megerditch Asadoorian, Eliza Alnayakian, Manuk Matikyan,  
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Mr. & Mrs. George & Floss Baldadian  
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Dikranouhi & Mardiros Balian (my Parents),  
Vartkess Balian (my Brother)  
All St. Mary Parishioners, Vartkess Balian  
Maryem & Bagdasar Bakirci  
Loved Ones  
Abrahamand Elise Bodurian, Ohanes Sahakian and Der  
Hayr Vertanes Kalayjian  
Sarkis, Esther Armenee and Dikran Bostanian; John and  
Elizabeth Shanlian, Avedis and Kohar Shanlian; Kerop  
and Sarah Arsenian; Harry, Mary, and Thodore Kobrin  
Ann Kavookian & Agnes Salisbury  
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George K. Krikorian  
Loved Ones  
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Loved Ones  
Asdghig & Karnig Minassian  
Helene Sarkissian  
Loved Ones







## OUR YEAR 2016















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## PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORY

### WORSHIP HOURS

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

### CHURCH OFFICE

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

### PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan  
derhovsep@gmail.com

### PARISH COUNCIL

Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, President  
Zakar Shahverdian, Chair  
Bagrat Bayburtian, Vice-Chair  
Sarine Zenian, Secretary  
Garbis Chubukian, Asst. Secretary  
Jack Guiragossian, Treasurer  
Mark Krikorian, Asst. Treasurer  
Dr. Ara Avedisian, Adviser

### DELEGATES

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Dr. Zaven Kalayjian  
Dean Shahinian, Esq.

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Angela Voskerichyan  
Dee Vartabedian Rogers

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Rebecca Bagdasarian,  
Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan

### ACYOA SENIORS

Sophia Yedigarian

### ARARAT AVAK SOCIETY

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Mary Shafakian  
Eva Shafakian

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Mark Krikorian

### FOOD FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Onnik Sivaslian

### GIFT SHOP

Aline Guiragossian  
Rebecca Petrosian  
Takuhi Hallajian

### SHNORHALI SCHOOL

Harry Tchetchenian

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan

### WOMEN'S GUILD

Ani Derderian

### ST. MARY ANNUAL JOURNAL

Edited by Dee Vartabedian Rogers

### PASTORAL CARE: HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS

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

### REQUIEM SERVICE/HOKEHANKIST

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

### BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

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

### WEDDINGS

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

### FUNERALS

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

## REMEMBER ST. MARY CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

A Venerable Christian Practice

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH  
ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND