

ST. MARY ANNUAL JOURNAL 2014



ST. MARY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
ONE CHURCH. ONE FAITH. ONE FAMILY.

ST. MARY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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Rev. Father Hovsep Karapetyan, Pastor

Տէր Յովսէփ Քհնյ. Կարապետեան, Հովիւ

Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
Shall flourish in the courts of our God. Psalm 92:13

Dear Parishioners,

God has blessed us with another great year, full of challenges and resplendent with rewards and memories that enrich us both spiritually and culturally. It is a great opportunity for us to be thankful for every good and perfect gift that is given us from above, "coming down from the Father of light." The greatest of those gifts is our Church.

Our Church is our spiritual birthplace, a place where we come to be nurtured, grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, and submit our lives to His will, both individually and as a parish. Our Church is also our cultural birthplace, where we come to rejoice in our heritage, and where we come to preserve our mother tongue and God-given identity.

Our Church is a place where we come to learn about our faith, and the things that are most important to grow in our faith. This is the place where we share one faith, and our faith becomes stronger as we experience God in all of the stages of our life. Our faith sustains us through good and bad, and our Church is the place where we connect with our Lord and with each other to share our faith.

Our Church is also our family. It is here that we come to discover our identity and grow closer together as brothers and sisters in Christ. The Church is where we bring our children to learn about the riches of their Christian and Armenian faith. It is a safe haven for future generations that guides them to be stronger and to uphold higher ethics and values throughout their lives.

It is my hope that the memories and accomplishments contained in this book will serve as a joyful reminder of the experiences that bind us together as a community – One Church, One Faith, One Family.

May Our Lord Jesus Christ bless our Church, increase our faith, and unite us as a part of His household.

Prayerfully,
Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan

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JANUARY 2014

ST. MARY ACYOA SENIOR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



Our ACYOA began the year with a festive Christmas party. Adriana and Tatiana Bolat and their family graciously opened their doors to host this event. It was a great opportunity for the members to fellowship as well as talk about past and upcoming events. The election of the new executive committee took place at the next ACYOA general meeting on Feb. 21. There were a number of events planned by our ACYOA for the forthcoming months. Some of them included activities with ACYOA Juniors, an ACYOA workshop participation, student corner, sports weekend, and more.

WOMEN'S GUILD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Women's Guild Annual Christmas Party took place at Kentlands Lebanese Bistro, where about 20 of our women gathered. Der Hovesp thanked the members for their dedication to the Guild and wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year and Merry Christmas.

FEAST OF NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

St. Mary Armenian 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, Sunday evening, the Jragalouits Badarak began with readings from the Old and New Testaments

by our school students. Twenty of our youth participated reading 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 a reception sponsored by the Parish Council.

On January 6, the Blessing of the Water service took place immediately after Badarak. The Godfather of this year's Water Blessing was one of our dedicated altar servers Armen Cubukian. The day was concluded by a festive luncheon sponsored by St. Mary's Ararat Avak Society.



ARARAT AVAK SOCIETY FESTIVE LUNCHEON



On Monday, January 6 after the Nativity Badarak and Jerorhnenk, the St. Mary's Ararat Avak Society sponsored a Festive Christmas Lunch for our community members. Roughly seventy people enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the Ararat Avak society hosting committee, who worked tirelessly to make the feast of Nativity and Theophany seasoned with delicious homemade dishes.

ANNUAL BADARAK AND JRORHNEK SERVICE IN BALTIMORE

Our annual Badarak and Jrorhnek service for the Baltimore community this year took place on January 11, at Linthicum Heights United Methodist Church.

St. Mary Choir joined Der Hovsep for this mission trip of celebrating and bringing the good news of our Lord's revelation to the Baltimore community members. Many parishioners from St. Mary also participated. The Godfather of Jrorhnek service this year was Shant Keshishian, the son of Andre and Maggie Keshishian of Baltimore. 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 services which was enjoyed by everyone.

SHNORHALI SCHOOL CHRISTMAS HANTES



Parishioners and friends at St. Mary enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Hantes 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 acknowledge the efforts of our Shnorhali School religious teachers who every Sunday volunteer to teach and educate our children. Special thanks to: Sara Ludwig, Ilda Bolat, Tatiana Bolat, Jessica Demerji, Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan, Melvina Evereklian, Tanya Evereklian, Greg Kumkumian, Michael Sahakian, and Rebecca Baghdasarian. And special appreciation goes

to Principal Yervand Khoranian for his leadership and support, and especially to Avedis Seferian for helping to organize the Hantes Program and Rehearsals.

ACYOA SKI TRIP



On the weekend of January 10-12, our ACYOA Seniors went to Deep Creek, MD for a ski trip. Here is a summary of events by Chairman, Aras Mermer: "We all stayed in one house together. On Saturday morning we all had a Bible Study lead by Der Hovsep via Skype. It was about adding saltiness to our life and how we could all definitely use more. It was a great way to start the weekend because it helped us to remember why we come together for trips like this, which is to come closer with God and be better Christians in our everyday lives.

We had alot of fun that weekend, we had a pool table in the house which everyone enjoyed alot, also a hot tub which was nice. We also made sure to pray before every meal we had so we could thank God for what we had in front of us and everything he has done for us. This type of fellowship not only brought all of us closer together but also brought us closer to God at the same time. Everyone came out of the weekend feeling much better about where they are with their Christianity and what needs to be done to preserve it."

HRANT DINK - REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY

A special Hokehankist and commemorative luncheon on the 7th anniversary of the assassination of Hrant Dink took place on January 19.

During the memorial lunch and program organized by St. Mary Women's Guild, over 100 parishioners watched a short video and listened to a personal friend of Hrant Dink, Dr. Alan Sallerian's presentation about the legacy of Dink, whose brutal assassination in front of his Agos news agency left a great mark in the life of thousands of people living in Turkey and elsewhere and awakened a new movement in the work and aspirations of reconciliation and peace between the two nations, to which Dink had dedicated his life.



Among the attendees were representatives of the Armenian Embassy Andranik Hovhannisyan, Deputy Chief of Mission, and Karen Israyelyan, First Secretary. The event was enriched with a beautiful musical program by Mrs. Barbara Cackler, piano and Mrs. Christine Kharazian, violin. Mr. Avedis Seferian served as the Master of Ceremonies.

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 on Tuesday, January 21.

The National Prayer Vigil for Life is 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. It was held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in

Washington, D.C.

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.

The National Prayer Vigil for Life is one small part of the Catholic Church's "great prayer for life." It is sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Pro-Life Secretariat, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and The Catholic University of America Office of Campus Ministry.

This year's principal celebrant of the Opening Mass was Sean Cardinal O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston, who is also the chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

HIS GRACE BISHOP ARMASH NALBANDIAN, PRIMATE OF THE DIOCESE OF DAMASCUS, SYRIA VISITS ST. MARY

On January 26, our parish hosted His Grace Bishop Armash Nalbandian, Primate of the Diocese of Damascus, Syria. His Grace visited Washington, DC for official meetings as a part of the delegation of Syrian Church leaders to visit the United States. The delegation visited the U.S. between January 25-29 to raise awareness of the threats against Christians in Syria and the growing plight that they face. The visit provided opportunities for these Church leaders to discuss various options and steps that can be taken by the global community to protect Christians and religious minorities in Syria. The delegation was hosted by the Westminster Institute and Barnabas Aid.



On January 26, during the Divine Liturgy, a special prayer was conducted for all the Christians living in Syria. During the coffee hour His Grace briefly talked about the situation in Syria and Armenian community under his care.

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FEBRUARY 2014

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY



Our annual Parish Assembly took place on February 2. There were 58 dues paying members in attendance. The Parish Assembly meets once a year during the months of January and 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 2013 were presented and approved. The budget for the upcoming year was also approved. The elections of the new officers for the Nominating Com-

mittee, Parish Council, Auditing Committee, Investment Committee and WED Scholarship Committee took place as well. We congratulated all the newly elected officers and wished them success in their ministry to our church. Our appreciation to everyone who faithfully served in different capacities to St. Mary Armenian Church in the past years.

ARARAT AVAK SOCIETY VALENTINES DAY LUNCHEON

The St. Mary Ararat Avak Society Valentines Day Luncheon took place on February 13. As always, our Avaks enjoyed beautiful decorations with a Valentine theme and a delicious luncheon prepared and donated by the committee members Mrs. Eva Shafakian, Mrs. Mary Shafakian and Mrs. Takouhi Hallajian, in memory of their parents.

The Ararat 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 thereby creating a more cohesive St. Mary community as it shares meals with one another, engages in friendly conversation and enjoys cultural activities and interesting presentations.

WOMEN'S GUILD NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE INSTALLATION SERVICE



The Women's Guild Executive Committee installation service took place on February 16, immediately after Badarak in the sanctuary. The community witnessed a very meaningful prayer service during which seven members of our newly elected Women's Guild Executive Committee vowed and promised to serve God and their Women's Guild to the best of their ability. At the end of the Service, Der Hayr blessed the executive committee and the new members with the following prayer:

"Our heavenly Father, we ask Thy blessing up-

on these our new elected officers of the Women's Guild of St. Mary Armenian Church. Strengthen their hands for your good work. May they give themselves to thee and be led by Thee, as they lead us in the coming year. May every member be willing to do her part, may each and every parishioner give their support to these new officers. May all of us be one in Jesus Christ and may we be a blessing to him. In Christ's Name, Amen".

This year, the Women's Guild executive committee members include: Ani Derderian (Chairlady); Hripsime Sivaslian (Vice-Chair); Alice Cubuk (Recording Secretary); Nadia Koseian (Corresponding Secretary); Zvart Bolat (Treasurer); Takuhi Hallajian (Vice-Treasurer); Mary Shafakian (Adviser)

We congratulate our Executive Committee members and wish them a productive and fruitful year in the service to St. Mary Church and God!

VARTANANTS DAY PERFORMANCE BY KNIGHTS AND DAUGHTERS OF VARTAN AT ST. MARY

Every February, the Armenian people remember the Vartanants sacrifice by commemorating the Feast of St. Vartan the Captain and his 1,036 Companions. On this occasion, the Ani lodge of Knights and Daughters of Vartan sponsored a play on the battle of Avarayr. This annual play celebrated Vartantantz Day and commemorated the sacrifice that Vartan and his compatriots made giving their lives for the protection of their identity and faith. As recorded by the historian Yeghishe, the soldiers took an oath to fight the enemies of truth: "We are ready for persecution and death and every affliction and



torture for the sake of the holy churches which our forefathers entrusted to us by the power of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, whereby we were reborn to the one hope of faith by baptism in Christ Jesus. In the same fashion we wish to renew ourselves by torments and blood. For we recognize the Holy Gospel as our Father, and the apostolic catholic church as Mother. Let no evil partition come between us to separate us from her."

The beautiful play, staged by The Knights and Daughters of Vartan, was greatly enjoyed by Shnorhali School students, parents, teachers and for all who were present. Everyone enjoyed the sword play and drama, and our children more importantly, learned a very valuable lesson about their identity and faith.

WOMEN'S GUILD LENTEN FOOD BAZAAR WORKSHOP

The Women's Guild Lenten Food Bazaar's first workshop took place on Saturday, February 22 at St. Mary Armenian Church. During this workshop the dedicated women of our church gathered together to prepare for our church's upcoming Lenten Food Bazaar. In one day about 25 women working together managed to make one thousand Beoreks. The Lenten Bazaar took place on March 14, 15 and 16.

DER HOVSEP'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION



On Sunday, February 23, the parish of St. Mary Armenian Church in Washington, DC celebrated Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan's 10th Anniversary of the Ordination into the Holy Priesthood of the Armenian Church. The celebration took place under the auspices of the Diocesan Primate His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian. Fr. Hovsep celebrated the Divine Liturgy and Archbishop Barsamian delivered the sermon of the day. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy Fr. Hovsep was honored

with a special pictorial cross presented to him by Archbishop Barsamian.

Following the Badarak, a special Hokehankist service took place during which the community also remembered the victims of the Sumgait pogroms of 1988. Three of the altar servers of St. Mary, Aras Mermer, Edwin Tilimian and Armen Chubukian were elevated into the rank of Sub-Deacon with a special ordination service conducted by Archbishop Barsamian with Fr. Hovsep's assistance. As a sign of appreciation for their dedication, Archbishop Barsamian presented the three youths with a gift of a traditional Armenian Cross from Holy Etchimiadzin and a certificate of ordination.

A special Luncheon and Program was held in honor of Fr. Hovsep with over 220 parishioners in attendance, which included a musical performance by the Armenian trio the Chamsayan Sisters. Present at the celebration were H. E. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, Fr. Vertanes Kalayjian; Ambassador Tatoul Markarian and the entire Armenian Embassy staff; Representative of the NKR Mr. Robert Avetisyan; Military Attaché Col. Mesrob Nazaryan; Diocesan Council Chairman Mr. James Kalustian and other distinguished guests.

Ambassador Tatoul Markarian shared his admiration for Fr. Hovsep and thanked him for the continued positive relationship between the St. Mary Parish and the Armenian Embassy. Mr. James Kalustian spoke about the role of the pastor as an example of the living the Gospel of our Lord and how Fr. Hovsep's life reflected that idea. Archbishop Aykazian shared a reflection about Fr. Hovsep's pastoral leadership. Master of Ceremonies and Parish Council member Sintia Pertrosian-Gusmao also invited Clara Andonian, of the St. Mary Women's Guild, Parish Council member Sarine Zenian and Deacon Garegin Vardanyan to share their thoughts. St. Mary's ACYOA members and Sub-Deacons presented Fr. Hovsep a special commemorative gift. A slide show presentation depicting Der Hayr's journey over the past ten years was enjoyed by all and the program concluded with remarks from Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan and His Eminence Archbishop Barsamian.

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MARCH 2014

POON PAREKENDAN AND SHNORHALI SCHOOL CHILDREN'S COMMUNION



On March 2, St. Mary Armenian Church celebrated the feast of Poon Parekendan. During this feast we recalled the abundant life our ancestors Adam and Eve lived in Paradise. On this occasion 60 of our Shnorhali School Students participated in the Badarak and received Holy Communion. Toward the end of the service, Der Hayr gave a message to our children and talked to them about the meaning of the day and gave them some

spiritual guidance as to how they should effectively observe the church's Lenten period. He also introduced and distributed the new Lenten Guide resources provided by the Diocesan Department of Youth and Education. As the children proceeded to kiss the Gospel Book at the conclusion of the Badarak, they received the Lenten Guides and were encouraged to use it under the guidance of their teachers and parents.

ARARAT AVAK SOCIETY POON PAREKENDAN BRUNCH

The St. Mary Ararat Avak Society Poon Parekendan Luncheon took place on March 2. As always, our Avaks enjoyed a beautiful setting and delicious luncheon prepared by the committee members Mrs. Eva Shafakian, Mrs. Mary Shafakian and Mrs. Takouhi Hallajian.

The Ararat Society is a fellowship of senior citizens and retired persons who engage in social, cultural, and educational activities. Their organization's tireless efforts create a cohesive church community by establishing this luncheon event.



ST. MARY 26TH ANNUAL ARMENIAN LENTEN FOOD FAIR



St. Mary's Lenten Food Fair took place on March 14, 15 and 16. The event was extremely successful and one of the best in recent memory. The hard work of our Women's Guild members and volunteers paid off. The delicious Lenten cuisine was enjoyed by both the parishioners and the local DC community as well.

For the first time, the Food Fair was extended to Sunday, after Badarak, which gave many of our church members the opportunity to attend the Fair with their friends and family.

SAINTLY WOMEN'S DAY

On Saturday, March 22, over 30 members of the Women's Guild of St. Mary gathered to commemorate Saintly Women's Day. This annual celebration is commemorated throughout the Diocese as it brings together women of the community in celebration of the spiritual riches of the Armenian Church. The honorary saint was St. Santoukht, the first martyr of the Armenian Church. St. Santoukht was the daughter of King Sanadrouk and was converted to Christianity by St. Thaddeus. She was martyred when she refused to deny her Christian faith, serving as a symbol of Christian faith and courage.

A prayer service, lead by Rev. Fr. Vertannes Kalayjian, was held in the Church sanctuary. The service included a Bible reading, hymns, and a special reading of the biography of St. Santoukht.

Following the prayer service, attendees enjoyed a delicious Lenten lunch prepared by the St. Mary Women's Guild Executive Committee. After lunch, special guest Mary Louise Hunt gave an interesting and enlightening presentation on nutrition. Mrs. Hunt spoke of portion control, dietary myths, and the long lasting health benefits of good eating habits. The event concluded with attendees participating in saying the Hayr Mer together.



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APRIL 2014

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES, DISCUSSIONS AND DINNERS



Our Lenten Worship Services, Discussions and Dinners were a great success and took place during the Lenten period.

We journeyed through the Sacraments of the Armenian Church and learned about their meaning and importance, and implications they have on our faith. Presentations and spiritual discussions were led by our Deacons and Sub-Deacons. The list of the presenters were: Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan - Baptism-Confirmation; Sb. Dn. Sevan Topjian - Penance; Sb. Dn. Armen Terjimanian -Holy Communion; Dn. Zaven Kalayjian - Holy

Matrimony; Dn. Jack Guiragossian - Holy Orders; Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan - Anointing of the Sick. The dinners were hosted by the Parish Council, Shnorhali School, St. Mary Choir, Women's Guild, ACYOA and St. Mary Gift Store. This was a great opportunity for our faithful to come together for prayer, spiritual growth and fellowship by observing the Lenten period through the spirit of the Armenian Church.

MID-LENTEN LUNCHEON

On April 6, St. Mary Women's Guild hosted the annual Mid-Lenten or Michink Luncheon. Michink is celebrated during the middle of lent to encourage people in their journey through Lent. One particularly beautiful Armenian tradition was celebrated in which a coin is inserted into a pastry (Gata or Pagharch) and whoever receives the slice of pastry with the coin in it would receive good luck. Our devoted Women's Guild members volunteered their time and talent by cooking delicious Lenten dishes and desserts for all to enjoy.



EGG HUNT FOR SHNORHALI SCHOOL CHILDREN



The St Mary's Women's Guild sponsored the first Annual Shnorhali School Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday. Thirty-two students, from grades K-3rd, enjoyed a traditional egg hunt where eggs were hidden in the front garden area. Afterwards, the children participated in making Easter crafts. Special thanks to the Women's Guild Executive Committee for sponsoring and organizing the event.

ST MARY ACYOA PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON, INSTALLATION OF THE NEW OFFICE AND APPRECIATION AWARD



The ACYOA Palm Sunday Luncheon and Program took place on April 13. In our Diocese, parishes observe ACYOA Day as part of their traditional Palm Sunday celebration.

At the conclusion of the Badarak, the newly elected Members of the Executive Committee were installed with a special service conducted by Der Hayr. They took their oath to abide by the doctrines, teachings and laws of God, as put forth by the Armenian

Church, to help and love their church and everyone in need. The newly elected Members are: Chairman- Anayis Mermer; Vice Chairman- Aras Mermer; Recording Secretary- Armineh Ghazarian; Corresponding Secretary- Lillian Assatourian; Advisor- Telma Melekian; Liason- Adrianna Bolat; Treasurer- Tina Mirzayans. During the luncheon and program in the church hall Jack Guiragossian was honored receiving the St. Mary ACYOA Outstanding Service Award for his dedication, love and service to the church. The program also included a poetry recitation by Tina Mirzayans and remarks by Anayis Mermer, George Guiragossian and Der Hayr. Sarine Zenian served as the M.C. for the event. The lunch was prepared by the ACYOA members, their parents and volunteers. The ACYOA Juniors, under the leadership of Yn. Jennifer, brought their participation in preparation of the luncheon as well. Many thanks to Jermen Hallajian, Mariam Mermer and Hripsime Sivaslian for helping with the preparation of the luncheon and for her continued support to our youth and the ACYOA.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST. MARY

Holy Week at St. Mary was celebrated with the full participation of many families throughout the Parish. The Great and Holy Thursday took place on April 17 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 18, with the order of the crucifixion of Christ (Gark Khachelootian) at 12:30 pm and the moving Entombment (Gark Taghman) service was conducted at 7:00 pm.

The Easter Eve (Jragalooits) Badarak took place on April 19 with the Evening Service Bible readings 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 on April 20 with Morning Service and Badarak. The Blessing of the four corners of the world, Antasdan service took place at 12:30 pm 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. There was also a special treat of uniquely decorated cupcakes and colored Easter eggs.

COMMEMORATING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE



The commemoration of the 99th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide took place on April 27. The day began with a celebration of Holy Badarak. The Hokehankist followed the Badarak in the Church's courtyard in front of the Khatchkar, which was erected in 2012 in memory of all the past members of St. Mary Church, most of whom were either survivors or descendants of the survivors of the Armenian Genocide. Present at the Hokehankist were H. E. Mr. Tatoul Markarian, the Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia in the US, the entire Embassy staff, parishioners and friends. The Shnorhali School students

also took part at the service and put white and red carnations in front of the Khatchkar at the end of the service. At the conclusion of the Hokehankist a traditional Madagh blessing service took place at the Church hall sponsored by the Women's Guild. The day continued with a very enlightening presentation by Dr. Rouben Adalian, which was entitled "The first refuge and the last defense: the Armenian Church, Etchmiadzin, and the Armenian Genocide."

A beautiful program prepared by the St. Mary Shnorahali School interns followed. Under the leadership of Edita Kalayjian, our interns presented Gevork Emin's "Dance of Sasoontsis" poetry in a very unique enactment, enriched with recitation, songs and dances. A great message on the occasion of the 99th Anniversary of the Genocide was conveyed which ensured the continuation of the Armenian existence and Armenian Spirit.



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MAY 2014

ST. MARY WOMEN'S GUILD PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL CATHEDRAL FLOWER MART



The Flower Mart is Washington's premier Spring outdoor family festival. It took place May 2 and 3. The event was organized by the Washington National Cathedral All Hallows Guild, which celebrated its 75th anniversary. Our Women's Guild Chair Mrs. Ani Derderian and Vice-Chair Mrs. Hripsime Sivaslian represented St. Mary Church with a beautiful composition of the "Tree of Life" decorated with pomegranate fruits, flowers, clay pots and an Armenian rug. The Pomegranate is the national fruit and symbol of Armenia. It represents fertility, abundance and marriage. One tradition involving pomegranates accepted in ancient Armenia was performed at weddings. A bride was given pomegranate fruit, which she threw against a wall, breaking it into pieces. Scattered pomegranate seeds ensured the bride future children. In Christianity, the pomegranate is a symbol of resurrection and the hope of eternal life. Because of its abundance of seeds, it also symbolizes royalty and the church. The clay pots and rug represent Armenia's traditional Folk Art.

"GROWING UP IN ISTANBUL AS AN ARMENIAN" PRESENTATION BY DR. HRATCH SEMERJIAN

A presentation "Growing up in Istanbul as an Armenian" by Dr. Hratch G. Semerjian was presented at St. Mary Armenian Church on May 4. In this fascinating presentation, Dr. Semerjian covered some historical points about the Armenian life in the Ottoman Empire and their contribution to society. He spoke about the role Amiras played, the religious and education life of the local community and contemplated on some of the events from the early 20th century. He concluded by giving a brief family history and spoke about his personal experience growing up in Istanbul, sharing numerous photo slides from his recent visits. Some 40 people from our community enjoyed the well prepared and insightful talk.



TRIPLE HOLIDAY COMMEMORATED AT ST. MARY



It has become a tradition at St. Mary to commemorate the Triple Holiday every May. Last year the commemoration took place on May 11 with the participation of the Armenian Embassy and NKR Office in Washington. The Triple Holiday is commemorated in Artsakh to celebrate three very important events, all of which took place on May 9: the anniversary of the victory in the WWII, the liberation of Shoushi and the anniversary of the establishment of the Artsakh Defense Army. The Badarak was celebrated by guest clergy Fr. Markos Mangasaryan from the Mother See of Etchmiadzin. Present were the Armenian Ambassador to the United

States Mr. Tatoul Markarian and the entire Embassy staff, NKR representative Mr. Robert Avetisyan and the NKR office staff. A special Hokehankist service was held for the souls of all our Freedom Fighters who gave their lives for the liberation of Artsakh. The hokejash-memorial reception in the church hall was hosted by the NKR office in the US, which was followed by a special movie presentation about Artsakh and its riches.

HAMPARTZOOM

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 60 people gathered on this festive occasion to honor long time Women's Guild volunteers Mrs. Verjin Bolat, Mrs. Heriknaz Ozbenian and Mrs. Gulbahar Ozkayan. Hripsime Sivaslian, Women's Guild Vice-Chair; Sintia Petrosian, St. Mary Parish Council. Der Hovsep presented the honorees with a special certificate of recognition for their service and commitment to the Church and 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. He also mentioned how the three honorees have been making the "mas" for the Badarak for many years with dedication and love. The evening concluded with a beautiful musical performance by Taleen Chubukian on the violin, and Garegin Vardanyan who sang folk and religious songs. At the conclusion, a traditional "Veejag" ceremony took place.

ST. MARY 4TH ANNUAL ARMENIAN SPRING FOOD FESTIVAL



The 4th Annual Spring Food Festival took place May 8, 9 and 10. The members of our community, Women's Guild and volunteers worked very hard in preparation for the Food Festival. The preparatory works started way in advance with numerous workshops managed by our Women's Guild. Many tasks such as shopping by our purchasing committee, publicity managed by the PR committee, and the overall planning with numerous chores was overseen by St. Mary Parish Council. A heartfelt thank you to all who spared their energy

and time to make St. Mary's 4th Annual Armenian Spring Food Festival a success.

TALENT SHOW

The Shnorhali School Talent Show took place May 25. After years of interruption, the talent show was revitalized and was a great success. Although the number of participants were few, the wonderful talents and abilities of our children made the day a truly joyous occasion. Six children and one intern bravely volunteered to perform and showcase their many talents. Wonderful performances by Andre Alexandrian, Jirair Kalayjian, Tagouhi Gomtsyan, Tatev Gomtsyan, Hayasa Khoranian, Anna Shahbazyan and Robert Shekoyan were warmly received by the audience. St. Mary gave special thanks and recognition to Shnorhali school principal Yervand Khoranian and the performing arts teacher Edita Kalayjian for their eagerness, encouragement and large chunk of time devoted to our children.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

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JUNE 2014

YOUNG LEADERS PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND



After a 10-day journey to the Holy Land, a group of 29 young adult leaders returned to the US spiritually renewed and uplifted. Representing 27 parishes from throughout the Eastern Diocese, the group traced the footsteps of Christ, deepened their understanding of biblical history, and learned about the Armenian presence in the Holy Land.

Led by Diocesan Primate Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, with the assistance of the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan and Maria Derderian, the pilgrims visited the Armenian Quarter in Jerusalem, with its centuries-old Armenian Patriarchate, and such sites as the Church of

the Nativity in Bethlehem, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, the Jordan River, Mount of Temptation, and Mount of Olives. Our parish was gifted with a presentation by Maral Sivaslian who shared her experience with the Church community through a slide show presentation.

SHNORHALI SCHOOL YEAR-END HANTES

Parishioners and friends at St. Mary's enjoyed a wonderful Year-End Hantes, organized by the Armenian language and culture program teachers. During an hour long program, each class presented short programs that they prepared, which included song, dance, poems and plays. We acknowledge the efforts of our Shnorhali School teachers who every Sunday came to teach and educate our children. Special appreciation went to Principal Yervand Khorian for his leadership and support.

The graduating class of 2014 included Louisa Bayburtian, Haik Hakobyan, Annie Martirosian, Robert Shekoyan, Maria Stepanyan, and Ruben Turner. Best wishes to all and we look forward to hearing about their future successes as they continue to serve our community and church.



ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL RETAINING WALL PROJECT



If you look around the church landscaping you will probably notice some changes. The most significant change is the new retaining wall surrounding the property of our church. The project to replace the old and deformed wood guards around the church property was initiated by St. Mary Parish Council members. In the course of a couple of Saturdays, our Parish Council Chairman Onnik Sivaslian and Treasurer Jack Guiragossian, with the help of Luiz Gusmao, installed the stone retaining wall enhancing and beautifying our church landscaping. Special appreciation to our volunteers Onnik, Jack and Luiz for their hard work and dedication to the church.

WOMEN'S GUILD DAY

Women's Guild Day took place at St. Mary Armenian Church on June 15. The community came together to remember and pay tribute to the past members of St. Mary's Women's Guild. The day was filled with mixed emotions as after the Holy Badark the names of the Perpetual Members of the Women's Guild of St. Mary Armenian Church asleep in Christ were read during the Hokehankist service. The event was organized by the St. Mary Women's Guild for the first time and will be continued for years to come. After the Hokehankist service a memorial reception took place in the church social hall hosted by the Women's Guild.



ARARAT AVAK SOCIETY - LECTURE AND LUNCHEON



St. Mary's Ararat Avak Society hosted its Summer Luncheon with an enlightening presentation by Dr. Neal Barnard on June 18. Some 60 parishioners and friends gathered to listen to Dr. Barnard's presentation on "The Power of Nutrition for Health" During his talk Dr. Barnard touched upon some important health issues and concentrated on how to tackle diabetes, reverse heart disease, and manage weight-loss. A nutrition researcher, author, and health advocate, Dr. Barnard is an adjunct associate professor of medicine at the George Washington University School of Medicine who conducts studies on the role of nutrition in diabetes, obesity and lipid management,

among other health issues. His presentation was truly enlightening and beneficial for all present. At the end of the talk there was a book signing by Dr. Barnard and the members enjoyed talking to him personally. The lecture was followed by a delicious luncheon prepared by the Avak Society Coordinating Committee. The committee members, Mrs. Takuhi Hallaian, Mrs. Eva Shafakian and Mrs. Mari Shafakian, presented St. Mary Church with \$3000 gift on behalf of Ararat Avak Society. Their hard work and dedication is always appreciated by the members and leadership of St. Mary.

THE ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY PICNIC



The Baltimore community's Annual Father's Day Picnic took place on June 15 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 and holding weekly Armenian School classes for the youth for many years. The number of the Armenians in the Baltimore area exceeds 90 families. Mainly emigrated from Iran, their love and pride towards the Armenian heritage, culture and faith is always admirable and serves a great example for the coming generations.

GENOCIDE CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION FIRST ORGANIZING MEETING

2015 marks the 100th remembrance of the Armenian Genocide. On this occasion, a number of commemorative events are being planned. The Centennial Central Committee, under the leadership of five Archbishops and Chairman Noubar Afeyan, met a number of times to plan commemorative events, some of which will take place in Washington, DC. In order to organize and coordinate those events local subcommittees have been formed under the auspices of St. Mary and Soorp Khatch Armenian Churches. The first organizing meeting of subcommittees took place on June 19 at St. Mary Armenian Church, which was attended by some 40 community members and chaired by Archbishop Viken Aykazia, Fr. Sarkis Aktavoukian, and Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan.

Fr. Hovsep welcomed everyone and presented the overview of work already done. Then he talked briefly about five main events which include an Ecumenical Service, Commemorative Concert, Various Events, Official Dinner and Badarak that will be held from May 7-10.

Committee coordinator, Pamela Young continued by leading the discussion about each event specifically and giving a description and expectations for the different venues.

The participants then were asked to volunteer by putting their names in one of the five subcommittees. The groups were formed and the following meeting date determined to be August 4th.

FAREWELL TO AMBASSADOR AND MRS. TATOUL MARKARIAN



On June 26, the St. Mary Church Parish Council and friends paid tribute to Ambassador Tatoul Markarian, Armenia's long-serving Ambassador to the United States who departed his post to take another position for the Republic of Armenia.

Ambassador Markarian has represented Armenia in Washington, DC for nine years. During that period, the Armenian diplomat also served as Armenia's representative in the Organization of the American States. The Armenian community bid them farewell and thanked them for their years of service to the DC region.

WOMEN'S GUILD GENERAL MEETING



St. Mary Women's Guild Summer general meeting took place on June 28, at Sadaf Restaurant. About 25 of our women came together for the last meeting of the summer season. Chairlady Ani Derderian made some opening remarks, summarized the past activities and talked about the upcoming events. Members present also heard the treasurer's report by Zvart Bolat. Before blessing the food, Der Hayr thanked the Women's

Guild members for their hard work and dedication and stressed the fact of the need of the involvement of the youth and ways to increase membership and participation. He also talked about the new year during which our parish is to host the Diocesan Assembly and the number of events on the occasion the 100th remembrance of the Armenian Genocide. Der Hayr emphasized the role of the Women's Guild in the planning and helping with different activities and events connected with centennial commemoration and 2015 Diocesan Assembly. On behalf of the Women's Guild Vice-chairlady Hripsime Sivaslian presented Der Hayr with a generous check in the amount of \$12,000 to benefit the mission of St. Mary Armenian Church.



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ACYOA SENIORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS



St. Mary's ACYOA Sr. Executive Committee met on Saturday, July 19. The members present were Lillian Assatourian, Adrianna Bolat, Armineh Ghazarian, Telma Melekian and Anayis Mermer. Der Hayr opened the meeting with prayer. The main discussion of the meeting was to develop plans for community outreach, recruiting additional members and creating a calendar of events. After the meeting the committee members helped to

clean the sanctuary. The ACYOA continued to plan events for the rest of the year filled with activities all could appreciate and enjoy.

CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY

The Annual St. Mary Clean-Up day took place on July 19. Parishioners and Volunteers from different church organizations came together for a day long of clean up. Different areas of the church facility, inside and out, were meticulously cleaned and re-organized. The Church Sanctuary, both halls of the Church, kitchen, pantry room and storage spaces were all completely emptied, dusted and rearranged for cleaner and



more effective usage. On the outside of the Church, the garden and landscaping was improved and the back of the Church was cleared of trash and construction debris. Our utmost thanks goes to all who tirelessly, with love and dedication, undertook this tremendous effort.

ACYOA JUNIORS GAME NIGHT



The ACYOA Jrs. Held their summer Game Night on July 25. Some 15 teens gathered at Garbis and Nadia Chubukian's house for a night of fellowship and entertainment. Those present truly enjoyed and appreciated the hospitality and kindness of the Chubukians who so willingly opened their home to our youth. The competitive and exciting atmosphere created a great environment for our youth to interact together through games and fellowship. And a special, well earned congrats to Armen

Chubukian for "schooling" Der Hayr at FIFA World Cup 2014, winning in penalty shots. The ACYOA Juniors, ranging 13 to 17 years of age, provides a vehicle through which young people may express themselves and demonstrate their abilities, skills, interests, concerns, and faith; develop programs through which the young people may participate, receive information, experience meaningful relationships, feel a sense of belonging, and be exposed to the Armenian Christian faith and cultural heritage.

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

The feast of the Transfiguration was celebrated at St. Mary Armenian Church on July 27. Being one of the five major holy days or "Tabernacle Feasts" of the Armenian Church, its observance recalls Christ's ascent up Mount Tabor, accompanied by his disciples John, James, and Peter. At the mountain's summit, to the disciple's frightened amazement, Christ was transfigured in a blinding white light; the Old Testa-



ment figures Moses and Elijah emerged from the mists of time to confer with the Lord; and the voice of God boomed from out of the heavens to affirm Jesus as his Son.

The Badarak was officiated by Der Hovsep with the participation of St. Mary Choir, Deacons and Altar Servers. At the conclusion of the Badarak an Antastan service took place during which the four corners of the world were blessed. Before the Antastan Service Der Hayr asked parishioners also to pray for the peace and stability in the world, particularly for the Middle East.

WED EDUCATIONAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION



In the month of July, the St. Mary's WED Fund Committee compiled its work by distributing generous scholarships to the Armenian youth living in the US and Canada. The WED Fund was established at St. Mary Armenian Church in 1998, thanks to the generosity of the late parishioner William Ervant Docter (WED), whose Last Will and Testament provided the financial means to support the higher education of many qualified Armenian Americans planning to pursue studies or training in United States or Canada. Since its inception, until the end of the fiscal year 2014, the WED Scholarship Committee awarded 367 scholarships, totaling \$718,500.

The chairman of WED Fund Scholarship Committee is Mr. Raffi Karahisar and the members are: Mrs. Karen Manougian, Mr. Zaven Kalayjian, Mr. George Guiragossian and Mrs. Nevart Tahmazian.

The Committee makes its selections from a pool of qualified applicants with US citizenship, based solely on their financial need, academic excellence and their potential to serve the Armenian community.

Last year, the Committee had a total of 29 applications. Seventeen of the applicants received grants totaling \$40,500. Four applicants were awarded the top prize of \$4,000, two applicants received \$3,000 each, seven applicants received \$2,000, two applicants received \$1,250 and two applicants received \$1,000.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

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AUGUST 2014

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE CENTENNIAL PLANNED IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL



Leaders of the Armenian Church in the US have joined to plan a special Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide. Commemorating the passage of 100 years since the start of the first genocide of the 20th century, a schedule of events including an ecumenical prayer service at the National Cathedral, a memorial concert, public exhibitions, banquet dinner and a Divine Liturgy will take place from May 7 to 10, 2015, in Washington, DC.

His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, and His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, will both journey to the United States to lead and participate in the commemorative events.

In order to organize and coordinate the commemorative events in Washington, DC, local subcommittees had been formed. The second organizing meeting of subcommittees took place on August 4 at St. Mary Armenian Church, which was attended by some 40 community members and officiated by Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America and Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, Prelate of the Eastern Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America, under the chairmanship of Dr. Noubar Afeyan.

Sub-committees' coordinators presented the overview of the work already done and had the opportunity to ask questions and receive more detailed guidance from the Chairmen and Archbishops.

DEACONS MINISTRY BBQ NIGHT



Our Deacon's Ministry gathered for a BBQ Night on August 7 at Sevan and Kerry Topjian residence. The evening was enjoyed through fellowship, good food and the hospitality of the hosts.

Deacons discussed personal challenges and ways to help the community and church. The purposeful service of our Deacons is not limited only to serving on the Altar during the Sunday Badarak but also extend their ministry to the community at large by helping and assisting the Pastor. Some of the ministries discussed included visiting the

sick, bringing shut-ins to Church on Sundays, making Nishkar and accomplishing other important tasks to serve our community.

The mission of the Deacons Ministry is "to faithfully serve God and His church under the direction of our Priest, and to minister to others, as witnesses of the truth and love of Jesus Christ through God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit".

DEACONS NUSHKHAR MAKING



On August 9 the Deacons assisted Der Hayr in making Nushkhar. Nushkhar, the Communion bread, in the Armenian Tradition is made with flour and water. The deacons 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 which after the service is presented to the family and kept in the house as a sign of God's

blessing. We thanked Dn. Mark Krikorian, Dn. Levon Barsoumian and Sub-Dn. Edwin Tilimian for their assistance in making Nushkhars.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD

Parishioners at St. Mary Church observed the church's name-day on Sunday, August 17 with services and a luncheon honoring one of the longtime members, Mr. Haig Ellian. Der Hovsep Karapetyan, celebrated the Divine Liturgy, performed the "Blessing of Grapes" service, and blessed the traditional madagh.



A child of Genocide survivors, Mr. Ellian studied journalism and law, and went on to have a successful career in the nation's capital. For more than two decades, he has hosted and produced the popular Montgomery County TV show "Focus with Haig Ellian." During the luncheon Mr. Jack Guiragosian served as the Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Onnik Sivaslian made the welcoming remarks, there were also remarks made by Miss Aghavni Ellian, the Honoree's sister, Mrs. Clara Andonian and Mr. Dean Shahinian. Der Hovsep presented the award to Mr. Ellian and delivered closing remarks. The traditional Madagh was donated and prepared by Avak and Elma Yepremian. The cake was donated by Mr. Rubic Movsessian and Classic Bakery. During the luncheon, parishioner Maral Sivaslian gave a presentation slide show highlighting her pilgrimage to the Holy Land in June. She shared her impressions and the rich spiritual experience that she gained.

ACYOA JUNIORS MEETING AND ELECTIONS

The ACYOA Juniors had a fantastic and productive meeting Sunday, August 24 with 16 teens in attendance. Those in attendance talked about ideas for upcoming programs, ways to improve the organization and held general elections. The 2014 Executive Committee elected and their positions were: Edwin Tilimian – Chairman; Armen Chubukian - Vice-Chairman; Maxine Turner – Treasurer; Ruben Turner - Assistant Treasurer; Seerun Cubuk - Recording Secretary; Lily Sahakian - Corresponding Secretary; Andrew Hakopian – Advisor.

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ACYOA SENIOR TRIP TO LAKE NEEDWOOD



On Saturday, September 6, our St. Mary's ACYOA Seniors attended a hiking trip to Lake Needwood in Rockville, MD. After hiking around the lake for over an hour, they had a picnic where old and new members were able to socialize with each other and discuss their opinions on the Armenian Church and how they can make it more welcoming to those who feel that they don't understand the services very well. Der Hayr talked about giving a sort of lecture series

on Badarak in order to encourage fellow ACYOA members to become more active in the church community. A Bible Study was also held during this trip. Der Hayr connected several stories from the Bible to modern day occurrences that everyone was able to relate to. The ACYOA also hosted Bible Studies in November. The group had a great time and encouraged old and new members to become active participants of the ACYOA.

WOMEN'S GUILD GENERAL MEETING

The Women's Guild General meeting took place on September 11. After the summer break, the women came together to discuss the upcoming events and activities. One of the main topics of the discussion was the upcoming Food Festival on Oct. 1-4. The Festival workshop schedule was finalized and the volunteer chairperson for each workshop was determined. Every year, our Women's Guild works very hard to prepare for this very important



cultural and fundraising event for our community. As always, volunteers are welcomed during the workshops and Festival. The Women's Guild also discussed the Women's Guild Annual Assembly, which was planned for Washington, DC during the month of May, 2015. Members from different communities of the East Cost would be hosted by the Guild for the Annual Assembly. At the end of the meeting the Guild members helped with mailing of Food Festival flyer.

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was celebrated at St. Mary Armenian Church on Sep. 14, with an Antasdan Service immediately following the Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of Madagh with a luncheon in the church hall afterwards.

The Armenian Apostolic Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Khachverats in Armenian) on the Sunday nearest to September 15.

It is one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Church, and the most important of the four feasts of the Holy Cross. According to Armenian tradition, the first one to "exalt" the Cross was the Apostle James of Jerusalem, also known as the "Brother of the Lord."

After the Badarak an Antasdan service (blessing of the fields) was celebrated during which the processional cross adorned with basil (a symbol of royalty) was carried by Der Hayr and the four corners of the church were blessed as a sign of the sanctification of the world. This sweet-smelling plant is associated with the celebration of this Feast because in the early decades of Christianity, basil was a symbol of royalty, befitting the Savior who was crucified as a King.

Church traditions also recall 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. The Madagh, donated by Mr. Zakar Shahverdian, was blessed in the church hall.

CELEBRATING ARMENIA'S INDEPENDENCE

Sunday, September 21, marked the 23rd anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Armenia. Celebrations took place in the homeland and in Armenian communities across the diaspora. The rebirth of the Armenian homeland is one of the most momentous developments in the history of the Armenian people. Armenia's citizens voted for independence from the Soviet Union on September 21,



1991, and the resulting free republic became a member of the United Nations on March 2, 1992.

On Sunday, September 21, following the Badarak, our parish celebrated the "Order of Thanksgiving Prayer of the Republic of Armenia." Mr. Tigran Sargsyan, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the US, and the entire Embassy staff; and Mr. Robert Avetisyan, Representative of the Nagorno Karabagh Republic to the US, were present to celebrate.

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

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OCTOBER 2014

ST. MARY'S 66TH ANNUAL ARMENIAN FALL FOOD FESTIVAL



The 66th Annual Fall Food Festival took place from October 1-4. As always, an army of dedicated volunteers worked very hard to make the festival a success. The preparation began at the end of August, with our Women's Guild creating a workshop schedule, a shopping list, determining event chairladies and other details in order to assure an organized and well-managed festival.

It was gratifying to observe the time and energy all of our volunteers invested in working and organizing the Food Festival, and it paid off. It is with great pride that we announced St. Mary's 66th Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival as one of the most successful ones in recent years.

Special appreciation to all the volunteers, sponsors and supporters who contributed and worked tirelessly to make St. Mary's 66th Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival a great success!

DEACONS' MINISTRY MONTHLY DINNER AND MEETING

On Thursday, October 6, the Deacons' Ministry held its second monthly dinner and meeting, presided over by Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan. The dinner started by blessing the home of the hosts Dn. Levon and Mrs. Aline Barsoumian, after which all those in attendance enjoyed soujouk pizza. The Deacons rounded out the evening by discussing upcoming plans over kadaif! During the discussion, Deacons reviewed liturgical and sermon rules and procedures; and they considered,



in cooperation with ACYOA, creating a welcoming theme to assist ushers during the service. Deacons also discussed assisting Der Hayr with an Instructional Badarak, which was celebrated on November 30. Among other things, they discussed hosting Advent Bible Study, visiting sick and shut ins, organizing Badarak workshops and Christmas home visits.

"TREASURE OF ARMENIAN LITERARY HERITAGE IN NEW YORK: AN ILLUSTRATED JOURNEY"



An educational and inspirational lecture entitled "Treasure of the Armenian Literary Heritage in New York" took place at St. Mary's Church Hall on Sunday, October 19. After the celebration of Badarak, V. Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, director of the Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center, spoke with passion about the riches and treasures of Armenian literature housed in New York City. Hayr Soorp assumed the role of the director of Zohrab Center in 2012. Since then, he has dedicated a tremendous amount of time studying

and cataloging the books and manuscripts at the center. During the process, he made some remarkable discoveries. The center is a resource and research facility housed at the Diocesan Center in New York. The holdings of the center include extensive information on the Armenian Church, Armenian history, and Armenian politics and culture. The collection includes thousands of books, videos, maps, pictures, and other resources to help researchers, academics, teachers, and the society at large learn about the Armenian community and its rich history. Some 50 parishioners greatly enjoyed the wonderfully enlightening and culturally uplifting presentation and slide show by V. Rev. Fr. Daniel. The event was initiated and sponsored by St. Mary Women's Guild as a part of the October Cultural Month celebration.

ACYOA HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Halloween party was a great success. All the children were dressed up and ready for a great time. Some activities included musical chairs, three-legged race, and the donut eating contest. The children were very excited about the pinata. The candy spilled out fast due to their excitement and force when hitting it with a bat. The children were very competitive and excited to



play musical chairs. We played many rounds to their favorite Halloween songs. During the freeze dance, danced along to the music and then completely freeze when the music stopped. Overall, the party was a terrific success and the children (along with the parents) enjoyed themselves greatly. The 2015 plan is to have a Halloween party with a theme of Armenian historical figures. The children will dress up as their favorite Armenian historical figure.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF MIHRAN MESROBIAN



St. Mary parishioners and friends enjoyed a wonderful lecture about Mihran Mesrobian's architecture in Washington, DC, and through his formative years in Turkey. The lecture was delivered by Mesrobian's granddaughter, Dr. Carolyn Hickerman, an art and architectural historian. She is working on a book and exhibition about her grandfather's career.

Mihran Mesrobian (1889-1975) began a promising career as a municipal architect in Smyrna/Izmir, then as assistant to the palace architect in Istanbul. Surviving the Armenian Genocide and WWI as an army corps engineer, Mesrobian immigrated with his family to the US in 1921, quickly becoming chief designer for Harry Wardman, the preeminent real estate developer in Washington during the 1920s. Mesrobian's 40-year career includes signature hotels, office buildings, apartments, and residences constructed for a variety of socio-

economic constituencies in diverse neighborhoods, many now landmark. His final project was designing the sanctuary for St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, which due to some issues was not fully realized.



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ACYOA JUNIOR SLEEPOVER



What's the best way to combine a passion for Church and an overwhelming desire to hang out with your best friends? A Church Sleepover! On November 7, the youth of the ACYOA Juniors held a Sleepover Lock-In at the Church. About 16 youths spent the night playing games, watching movies and spending time together. Fr. Hovsep lead the group in a devotional talk about the role of the youth in our Church and afterwards lead the group in the Lord's Prayer. In the morning, the teens enjoyed a wonderful breakfast and got to spend more time together. Special thanks to Yn. Jennifer for organizing and chaperoning.

WOMEN'S GUILD BRUNCH MEETING

The St. Mary Women's Guild held an election brunch meeting on November 15. There were 32 members in attendance (a record for the year). We thank the candidates: Cathy Kapikian, Zvart Bolat, Naydia Chubukian and Lucy Simon. And a big thank you to our nominating committee officials: Roxanne Paul, Sona Bakirci, and Rebecca Petrosian for their hard work to help make the election a success. Special thanks also to Yn. Jennifer for her assistance and guidance.



ARMENIA'S NEW AMBASSADOR WELCOMED IN WASHINGTON



On Monday, November 17, St. Mary Church hosted a reception to welcome Tigran Sargsyan, Armenia's new Ambassador to the United States. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Diocesan Primate, traveled to Washington, DC to take part in the evening's program.

The Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, pastor of St. Mary Church, said it was a good opportunity for the local Armenian community to meet Ambassador Sargsyan and to

learn about Armenia's diplomatic efforts in Washington. Archbishop Barsamian welcomed the Ambassador and wished him a productive term. Ambassador Sargsyan thanked the parish for the warm reception and said he looked forward to getting to know the community.

AVAK SOCIETY THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

Ararat Avak Society Thanksgiving Luncheon took place on November 19. The Avaks of our community got together to enjoy a delicious meal followed by a special program. The special presentation, "Pilgrimage to the Western Armenia: - Illustrated Journey," was given by Takuhi Halajian and Luiza



Baghdasarian, who through a slide show presentation shared their wonderful experience in Western Armenia.

The St. Mary's 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 thereby creating a more cohesive St. Mary community as it shares meals with one another and engages in friendly conversation.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER



The Food Festival volunteer appreciation dinner took place on November 21. The St. Mary Parish Council organized a festive dinner in appreciation to all who dedicated their time and energy organizing, preparing and working to make the St. Mary's 66th Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival a great success.

During the dinner Der Hayr, the Parish Council Chairman, and the Women's Guild Chairlady thanked all present for their dedication and hard work. Parish Council member Sintia Petrosian Gusmao donated some goodies as gifts and for raffling during the dinner and served as the MC for the evening.

All attendees enjoyed delicious food and games. A special appreciation to all the volunteers, sponsors and supporters who contributed and worked tirelessly to make the St. Mary's 66th Annual Armenian Fall Food Festival a great success!

ST. MARY CHOIR POT LUCK DINNER

St. Mary Choir held its traditional pot luck dinner on November 22. The event was hosted by Edita and Zaven Kalayjian. Everyone brought delicious food and regaled in singing and a good time. Many thanks to the hosts for their hospitality. The St. Mary Choir enhance a weekly worship and provide beautiful and majestic voices that sing our liturgical music. With their gift for music and endless dedication to their craft, they bring the marvelous tradition of Armenian spiritual services to the community.



RENOVATION OF ST. MARY'S PARKING LOT



In the month of November, St. Mary's parking lot had undergone a major renovation.

The much-needed restoration was a site to behold as the old asphalt was replaced with concrete, thereby providing St. Mary's parking lot a longer lasting surface and addition. We thank all of our dedicated parishioners who have responded to our letter and contributed towards this ambitious effort. Your support was deeply appreciated. Our utmost gratitude goes to Mr. Avak Yepremian for

overseeing the project with much diligence and responsibility.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH TO LEAD EFFORT TO BUILD HOME IN ARMENIA



The St. Mary Sunday School and ACY-OA will be raising money throughout the year to fund the construction of a Fuller Center House in Armenia. The Fuller Center of Armenia has challenged Armenians to build 100 houses during 2015, in commemoration of the 100th remembrance of the Armenian Genocide. The youth took on the challenge and tried to raise the \$10,500 during the school year. A generous parishioner offered to provide matching

funds up to \$5,250 for the effort. The first fundraising event by our Shnorhali School students, which was an art show, sale, and auction took place after the Badarak on November 23. The theme of the children's art was, "My dream home in Armenia." The art was displayed in the church hall and auctioned off during the coffee hour. An incredible \$1540 was raised during the auction. We thank all of our students, their parents, and teachers for their help and participation.



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DECEMBER 2014

Capitol Hill Celebrates 23 Years of Artsakh Freedom



On December 2, several US Representatives attended a Capitol Hill celebration of the 23rd anniversary of Artsakh's independence featuring remarks by Ashot Ghouljian, the Speaker of the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh's Parliament. Congressional Armenian Caucus Co-Chair Frank Pallone, Armenia's Ambassador to the United States Tigran Sargsyan, and Nagorno Karabakh Republic Permanent Representative to the U.S. Robert Avetisyan spoke during the celebra-

tion, extolling the resolve of the people of Artsakh, and highlighting the common values shared between the two nations.

Speaker Ghouljian thanked the U.S. for its ongoing humanitarian assistance and leadership in the OSCE Minsk Group mediation process, and noted Artsakh's appreciation of the legislatures in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Louisiana, Maine, and California for their resolutions supporting Artsakh's right to self-determination.

To conclude, Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan offered a closing benediction honoring Karabakh's spirit of freedom.

Advent Bible Studies

Advent Bible Studies took place on Tuesday, November 11, 18, 25 and December 2. The theme of the year was "Living the Gospel of Christ: Walking through the Epistle of James". A four-session Bible Study was designed to help the participants to celebrate the season of Advent by preparing their hearts and minds to discover the true meaning of living the Gospel of Christ. The Bible Studies were hosted by St. Mary ACYOA members and their families and open



to everyone. Our appreciation to Eric Ashbahian, Adrianna Bolat, Jessica Demirji, Levon & Aline Barsoumian and their families for hosting the Bible Studies.

Advent By Candlelight



On Dec. 5, the St. Mary Women's Guild welcomed over 150 women to their third annual Advent by Candlelight event. This festive evening brings together the women of the St. Mary community to celebrate the season of Advent in a spirit of fellowship and worship. After a special dessert and coffee fellowship hour, women enjoyed a worship service that included speakers and musicians focusing on the topics of faith, peace, love and joy. A very special thanks to the

amazing speakers who shared their moving devotional thoughts, Serli Hacikoglu, Aline Barsoumian, Dolores Vartabedian Rogers and Shoghik Sahakian. Special appreciation also goes to the musicians who delighted the audience with their performances, Roxanne Paul and Sonia Mekerdijian. A special offering was collected in the amount of \$1,600 to benefit the Sts. Targmanchats School in Jerusalem.

Deacons Ministry

On Tuesday, December 9, Rev. Fr. Hovsep and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan hosted the Deacons and Altar Servers for our monthly Deacons' dinner. Fr. Hovsep and the Altar Servers discussed several ongoing and new initiatives over dinner.



On January 6, the Deacons boxed up meals from the church luncheon and took them to home-bound Church members. A day of volunteering at a soup kitchen was also being planned for sometime after the New Year. The Deacons also plan a retreat either in the spring or early summer.

During the period of Great Lent in 2015, Der Hayr, the Deacons, and Altar Servers will present lectures during the Wednesday evening Husgoum services. In addition, the group discussed the upcoming Diocesan Assembly and National Genocide Centennial Commemoration, taking place from May 4-10 in Washington, DC. In conjunction with the National Commemoration, a vigil will take place on April 26, 2015, in Times Square, New York.

Der Hayr and the Deacons look forward to continuing the monthly dinners and offer their service to the community for the prosperity of the church and glory of God.

Women's Guild Christmas Party



This year the Women's Guild Christmas Party was held on December 13th at Lucy Murad's home in Virginia. Der Hayr and 38 Women's Guild Members attended the event. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and food.

The Chairman, Ani Derderian, welcomed the attending members and wished everyone and their families a very Merry Christmas. She then read the meaning of the 12 days of Christmas, conducted a few games,

with many excited participants. One of our members, Mrs. Mary Zulik, recited two Armenian poems. Everyone had a good time. We thank Lucy Murad for opening her home and for her gracious hospitality.

St. Mary's 82nd Anniversary

On Sunday, December 14, 2014, St. Mary celebrated its 82nd Anniversary with over 200 people in attendance. 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's, and a luncheon hosted by the St. Mary's Parish Council. 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 U.S. Mr. Robert Avetisyan, Military Attache Col. Mesrop Nazaryan and other distinguished guests.

During the luncheon, Mr. Onnik Sivaslian served as the MC. A beautiful musical program was performed by Mrs. Elina Ter Harutiunova Nostrant (piano), who played arrangements by Armenian composers. H. E. Dr. Tigran Sargsyan, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the U.S., made his remarks and congratulated St. Mary and its parishioners on the wonderful occasion. As a part of the celebration, two parishioners were awarded with the 2014 Pastoral Award, Mr. Avak Yepremian and Mr. Boris Ghazarian. During the luncheon Mr. Yepremian's daughter and Mr. Ghazarian's son shared their thoughts about their fathers, after which Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan gave his message and expressed his admiration to these dedicated parishioners and their families. He then invited Archbishop Aykazian and Ambassador Sargsyan for the honor of presenting the awards to the Yepremians and the Ghazarians. The wonderful celebration was concluded with remarks and benediction by Archbishop Aykazian.

ACYOA Junior Christmas Party



The St. Mary ACYOA Juniors held their Annual Christmas Party on Dec. 21. Over 25 people gathered to celebrate the season of Advent and share the joy of the Christmas spirit. Hosted by the Hakopian Family, the teens enjoyed dinner followed by games and fun. Before dessert, Fr. Hovsep delivered a meaningful message on the meaning of Advent, challenging teens to pre-

pare their hearts and minds for the coming of Christ. The evening ended with a group photo. The ACYOA Juniors are looking forward to many more activities in the new year, including a Poon Parentan Dance.

Shnorhali School Family Night and Table Tennis Championship

The Shnorhali School Family Night took place on December 12. The children and their parents came together to enjoy an evening of fellowship and games. The second annual ping pong contest took place during the night. After a long and strenuous competition, the winner was finally determined and this year's trophy went to Sevag Amalian.

Thanks to Yervand Khoranian and the dedicated parents of the Shnorhali



School for organizing the Family Night and Table Tennis championship.





HOKEHANKISTS- REQUIEM SERVICES

January 2014

January 12

For: Akop Hasar

By: Armenak & Elmas Ozkanian, Anna Bolek, Asadour & Janet Tufekci, Nazar & Jaklin Yesiltape, Estepan Akyuze

For: Levon Kechoyan

By: Ararat Stepanyan, Sargis & Susanna Zoranyan, Family & Friends

January 19

For: Hrant Dink

By: Der Hayr & The Parish Council

For: George Krikorian

By: Margaret Krikorian & Family

For: Mourad Sebouh Nersesian

By: Roxanne Paul

January 26

For: Tatyos Tufeckgian, Senekerim Tufeckgian, Nazli Tufeckgian, Gulbahar Tufeckgian, Sona Tufeckgian

By: Aghagan Tufeckgian, Anna Loloyan, Asadur Tufeckgian

For: Gulbenk Sivaslian

By: Ojen Sivaslian, Nadya (Harut) Koseian & Family, Onnik (Hripsime) Sivaslian & Family, Artur (Beverly) Sivaslian & Family

For: Shogher Gharakhani

By: Khatoun Aghakhanian, Galoost Keshishian, Haidoog Gharakhani & Haigaz Gharakhani, Yeran Gharakhani, Vahe & Katrin Keshishian, Andre & Maggie Keshishian, Aris & Arpi Keshishian, Patrick, Alen, Shant & Abel Keshishian, Khatchadour And Serpouhi Parijanian, Ohannes Ohannessian, Anahid Kenbelian, Zaven & Seda Keshishian

February, 2014

February 9

For: Benyamin Abrahamyan

By: Gayane Minasyan

For: Hrach Shatvoryan, Drastamat & Gohar Karapetyan

By: Ruben Karapetyan, Tamar Shatvoryan & Karapetyan Family

For: Peter Boursalian, Arousiag Boursalian

By: George & Janete Boursalian, Eddie & Richard Boursalian, Vivian Boursalian Young & Family, Mary Boursalian Malek

February 16

For: Gurgen Margaryan

By: Embassy of the Republic of Armenia, St. Mary's Parish Council, Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan

February 23

For: Bedros Guiragossian, Hagop Guiragossian, George & Arousiag Khanzoghian

By: Mrs. Aline Guiragossian, Dr. & Mrs. Nabil & Rita Azzam, Mr. & Mrs. George & Kareen Guiragossian & Family, Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Annie Guiragossian & Family

For: Mourad Sebouh Nersesian, Anne Shishmanian Nersesian

By: Roxanne Paul

For: Victims Of The Sumgait Massacres Of 1988

By: Embassy of Republic of Armenia in the US, St. Mary's Parish Council, Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan

March, 2014

March 2

For: Annie Berekian

By: Nicole Longobardo

March 16

For: Jack Andonian

By: Clara Andonian & Family

For: Victoria Khatchatourians

By: Armik & Afiana Khatchatourians, Aris & Ani Khatchatourians

For: Lousik Davidian Conaraki

By: Vigen Simonian & Family

For: Jean V. Berberian

By: Stephen Berberian, Brenda Berberian & Debora Berberian, Madeline Spilak

For: Robert George Sr

By: George Family

For: Adrineh (Karakashian) Tjeknavorian

By: Anoush & Aram Gavoor & Family

March 23

For: Kevork Adjoian, Alice Adjoian, Victoria Barsoumian

By: Barsoumian & Der Alexanian Families

For: Varuzhan Yenokyan

By: Artak Azizyan & Karine Yenokyan

March 30

For: Shabaz Yousefian

By: All Of His Children

April, 2014

April 6

For: Zawar Yousif Mousa

By: Shant & Nora Yousif

For: Albert Zaven Kapikian

By: Catherine Kapikian, Albert, Thomas & Gregg Kapikian, Alexander & Zachary Kapikian

April 27

For: Martyrs & Survivors of the Armenian Genocide on the occasion of 99th Anniversary

For: Anne Page

By: Gloria Martin, James Magarian

May, 2014

May 4

For: Serkiz Cakir

By: Murad Hallajian, Ani Kesisoglu Cakir

For: Haig Manoukian

By: Michele Piso, Mariam Nishanian, Peruz L. Manoukian, Lucia Z. Manoukian & Other Relatives

May 11

For: Artsakh Freedom Fighters

By: St. Mary's Parish Council, NKR Office in the United States & Embassy of Armenia in Washington, D.C.

May 18

For: Angela Tankijian-Bardizbanian

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

For: Grace Grigorova

By: Inna Grigoryan & Family

May 25

For: All Departed Service Men & Women Who Gave Their Lives For The Peace & Liberty Of The United States

By: Der Hovsep & The Parish Council

May 25

For: Haig Kumjian

By: Maria Kumjian, Julia Kumjian, Mariel Baghdassarian, Rick Baghdassarian, Linda Todaro

June, 2014

June 8

For: Ardavazd Harutunian

By: Mr. & Mrs. David & Gilda Andonian & Family; Mrs. Yeghiabet Harutunian & Family

June 15

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

By: Women's Guild Executive Committee

For: Yerchanik Bolat, Sahak Bolat, Gulbenk Bolat, Bahar Bolat

By: Vercin Bolat & Family

For: Markrid Barsoumian

By: Ani & Harry Derderian & Family

June 29

For: Azadouhy Solakian Mazboudi, Adeeb Mazboudi, Nora Mazboudi, Hagop & Araxie Solakian

By: Drs. David & Lena Hartzell & Their Children Lauren & Grant Hartzell

July, 2014

July 6

For: Vardoohi Safarian

By: Seda Khoranian, Yervand & Helen Khoranian, Linette & Seth Blackwell

For: Maryam Seranush Begian

By: Hendrik, Aroutin, Aris Begian, Edik & Edit Begian, Roobik Begian, Jenik & Babken Aslanyan, Hovik & Carolin Begian, Arbi, Arsine & Biayna Begian

July 13

For: Aram Kalikian

By: Vassilica Kalikian, Hagop & Varoujan Kalikian & Their Families, Luisa Kazandjian, Haigouhi Burekjian, Araxi Van & Their Families

August, 2014

August 3

For: Nazeli Hovsepien

By: Mr. Haroutioun & Mrs. Maral Artinian

For: Ashot Boghosian

By: Herayr Boghosian & Family: Susie, Raffi, Tamar, Diane & Anthony Derenig & Sona Petrossian & Family

August 10

For: Armenak Boyajian, Keghanoush

Boyajian, Sograd Boyajian

By: Molly Boyajian

For: Stephan Gulan

By: Lilian Gulan, Alexandra & Nikola Gulan, Angelina, Olivia & Ella

For: Gerair Mahtessian

By: Sofi Mahtessian, Hasmik, Rafi & Aksen Mahtessian, Melin & Karen

August 24

For: Mariam & Vahan Morookian

By: Helen Krikorian, Mark & Amelie Krikorian & Family, David Krikorian & Kristien Creamer & Family

For: Badrik Bostan

By: Bostan & Romero Families

August 31

For: Mary S. Perkins, John K. Perkins

By: Mary Louise & Gary Hunt & Family

For: Khatchadour Tahmazian

By: Hnazant Tahmazian, Khajag, Zareh & Vatche & Their Families

For: Marosia Gharehpatian

By: Vanik & Hermineh Gorjian, Sarmen, Sevana, Serkis Gorjian

For: Hourton Bardizbanian

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

September, 2014

September 7

For: All The Freedom Fighters Who Sacrificed Their Lives For Artsakh

By: The office of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in the United States

September 21

For: Ebby Beylerian Brown & Artin Kedjian Brown

By: Tamas Meszaros & Malvina Brown

September 28

For: Berjouhi Kazanjian

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

October, 2014

October 5

For: Apraham Hovsep Hovsepien (26 Years); Nazar Aghonjian Nerssessian (3 Years); Vartouhi Nerssessian (1 Year)

By: Hovsep, Niever, Abraham & Christine Hovsepien

October 12

For: Seroon Hachadourian Wang; Chao Chen Wang; Deseased Members of Hamalyan Family: Avedis Hachadourian; Mariam Hachadourian; Parounag, Anahid & Levon Gurdjian

By: Mrs. Seroon Wang

For: Hovaness & Nazenig Cherishian (Grandparents); Onnig & Serarpe Halajian (Parents); Maryann Kinoian (Sister); Karnig & Berjouhi Halajian (Uncle & Aunt)

By: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kolenick

For: Hagop Shafakian (40 Day)

By: Eva Shafakian; Brothers: Sahak, Mardiros & Ohannes; Araksi & Takuhi; Nigos & Makruhi Simon, Daniel & Vartuhi Rankin; Elvin, Justin & Jason.

October 19

For: Agnes Varsenig Markarian (Mother); Nigoghos Markarian (Father)

By: Sandra & Bob Riley; Ralph & Monica Markarian & Families

October 26

For: Sebuhi Usilan, Adom Usilan, Araz Usilan, Seta Karateke, Arshag Usilan, Kayane Usilan, Zohrab Akopcan

By: Bercuhi Usilan, Zepur Usilan, Aras Uslianian, Lousig Uslianian, Armen Uslianian, Sean Uslianian

November, 2014

November 9

For: Charles Balian (5 Year)

By: Margaret Balian & Family

November 16

For: Ohannes Sahakian (4 Years)

By: Verjin Sahakian (Wife), John Sahakian, Michael & Catherine Sahakian,

Ara & Diane Sahakian (Sons & Their Families)

For: Efron Sarkissian (1 Year), Garo Sarkissian (14 Years)

By: Vatche Sarkisian (Son) & Family, & Vicken Sarkissian (Son) & Family.

November 23

For: Donald Sigmund (40 Days)

By: Wright Sigmund & Natalie Grigorian

November 30

For: Akop Hasar (1 Year), Alexan & Mariam Hasar

By: Armenak & Elmas Ozkanian, Anna Bolek, Asadour & Janet Tufekci, Nazar & Jaklin Yesiltape, Estepan Akyuze.

December, 2014

December 7

For: Those Who Perished in the 1988 Earthquake in Armenia

By: Der Hayr & the Parish Council; Vardanian, Avoyan, Kazarian, Tomian, Shakhbekyan, Kofman & Cerqueira Families

For: Gulbenk Sivaslian (1 Year)

By: Ojen Sivaslian, Harut & Nadya Koseian, Onnik & Hripsime Sivaslian, Artur & Beverly Sivaslian, Aret, Arlet, Tamar, Maral, Armen, Nadya & Seline Sivaslian

For: Hegine Kizilian (5 Years) Harutyun Kizilian, Mihran Bahceli

By: Arsalos Bahceli, Kapriel Kizilian, Armenak & Lusin Simon

For: James Hunton (4 Years)

By: Dan Koojoolian

December 14

For: All Of Our Dedicated Parishioners Who Rest in the Lord

By: Der Hayr & Parish Council

December 21

For: Shogher Gharakhani (1 Year)

By: Galoost Keshishian, Vahe & Katrin Keshishian, Andre & Maggie Keshishian, Aris & Arpi Keshishian

For: Ernest Dolunts, Valeri Dolunts, Laura Shahbazian

By: Edita & Zaven Kalayjian

December 28

For: Taniel Kocabay

By: Nadiya Kocabay; Caroline & Christine Kocabay; Hagop Jack & Shake Dilanian, Hayrabet & Ani Dilanian; Suzan Ohanian; Sarven, Maral, Sevag, Arda, Sevan & Natalie.





FUNERALS

JEAN V. BERBERIAN

February 3, 2014

Beloved wife of Stephen Berberian, mother of Brenda Berberian and Debora Berberian, and sister of Madeline Spilak.

ALBERT ZAVEN KAPIKIAN

February 24, 2014

Beloved husband of Catherine Kapikian; father of Albert, Thomas and Gregg Kapikian; grandfather of Alexander and Zachary.

ZAWAR YOUSIF MOUSA

February 26, 2014

Beloved father of Shant Yousif and Nora Yousif.

LILY ELIZABETH JELALIAN

March 8, 2014

Beloved sister of Grace Shahinian, aunt of Dean Shahinian. Home and Church services took place at St. Leon Armenian Church of Fair Lawn, NJ. The Burial Service through St. Mary Armenian Church of Washington, DC.

SOUFIK N. DEMIRDJIAN

May 23, 2014

Beloved mother of Vartan Zenian, Arda Zenian and (Stevan) Zarmine Evereklian, grandmother of Malvina & Tanya Evereklian.

MAROSIA GHAREHPATIAN

July 17, 2014.

Beloved mother of Hayganoush (Hrand) Aghayans and Ohanes (Hermineh) Gorjian, Grandmother of Alenoush, Sarmen, Sevana and Serkis.

KHATCHADOUR TAHMAZIAN

July 24, 2014

Beloved husband of Hnazant Tahmazian, brother of Vartkes and Edward; father of his sons and their spouses: Khajag and Nevart, Zareh and Maya,

Vatche and Taline; and grandfather of Nyrie, Sarine, Garine, Leanne, Natalie and Alex.

HAGOP SHAFKIAN

August 23, 2014

Beloved husband of Eva Shafakian, brother of Sahag, Mardiros Ohannes, Araksi and Takuhi, father of Nigos and Makruhi Simon, Daniel and Vartuhi Rankin and grandfather of Elvin, Justin and Jason.

TANIEL KOCABAY

November 14, 2014

Beloved husband of Nadiya; father of Caroline and Christine; brother of Hagop Jack and (Shake) Dilanian, Hayrabet and (Ani) Dilanian, and Suzan Ohanian.

ZADIK MERMER

December 2, 2014

Beloved father of Stephen and Nvart Ohanian, Artin and Siranush Mermer, Toros and Shushan Mermer, Agop and Klarice Ohanian; grandfather of Oliver, Ari, Sevan, Natalie, Sarven, Karin, Emily; and great-grandfather of Mia and Stella.

STEPAN STEPANIAN

December 9, 2014

Beloved husband of Satenik Arakelian; father of Gilbert Stepanian and his wife Armineh, Huguette Moscatelli and her husband Gilbert; grandfather of Garen Stepanian, Yvette Huber and Patrick Galoustian.

ZOMOROD S. ARAKELIAN

December 28, 2014

Beloved sister of Satenik Arakelian, Alice Hacobian, Jeanette Arakelian; grandmother of Gilbert Stepanian, Huguette Moscatelli, Craig Joe Hacobian; Kristina McCaleb; great-grandmother of Garen Stepanian; Yvette Stepanian, Patrick Galoustian; Jackson McCaleb; Natalie Johnson; Isabel Johnson, Katherine Johnson, Sophia McCaleb; great great grandmother of James Bennett Huber.



BAPTISMS & CHRISMATIONS

Luciana Armagan

February 8, 2014

Daughter of Mr. Artin Armagan & Mrs. Allison Armagan

Godparents: Aris Cubuk & Alis Cubuk

Barrett Robert Armiger

February 8, 2014

Son of Mr. Zachary Armiger & Mrs. Ani Armiger (Khachatoorian)

Godparents: Artin Boghonian & Kaitlyn Boghonian

Arsen Petrosyan

February 10, 2014

Son of Mr. Gevorg Petrosyan & Mrs. Svetlana Manvelyan

Godparent: Tigran Aghayan

Alexandra Maria Aghayan

February 15, 2014

Daughter of Mr. Tigran Aghayan & Mrs. Mariam Safaryan

Godparents: Arsen Petrosyan & Yana Bueva

Stella Anayis Ohanian

March 15, 2014

Daughter of Mr. Sevan Ohanian & Mrs. Ani Ohanian

Godparents: Oliver Mermer & Natalie Ohanian

Aiden Alejandro Martinez

March 23, 2014

Son of Mr. Alex & Mrs. Christina Martinez

Godparents: Raffi & Shoghig Sahakyan

Davis Michael Mikaelian

May 24, 2014

Son of Mr. Levon Mikaelian & Nune Vartanyan

Godparents: Arshak & Anna Sirunyan

Zoe Meli Sardarian

May 24, 2014

Daughter of Mr. Leudving & Mrs. Paraskevi Sardarian

Godparents: Maky Antoniadis & Shannon Leef

Mane Shooshan Topjian

June 22, 2014

Daughter of Sevan & Keri Topjian

Godparents: Fr. Hovsep & Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan

July 26, 2014

Bedros Hagop Guiragossian

Son of Jack & Ani Guiragossian

Godparents: George and Kareen Guiragossian

August 2, 2014

Jackson Alexander Maximus Ara Bagdasarian Pancher

Son of Andrew Phillip Pancher & Sabrina Renate Bagdasarian

Godparents: Rainer & Barbara Bagdasarian

September 7, 2014

Edward Vardanyan

Son of Armen Vardanyan and Lana Yeganova

Godparents: Vahan Amirbekyan and Narine Tamamyan

September 13, 2014

Ashley Reese Ahad

Daughter of Philip and Lina Ahad

Godparents: Vahak and Michel Ishakian

Harper Elizabeth Ahad

Daughter of John and Christine Ahad

Godparents: Vahak and Michel Ishakian

September 27, 2014

David Ghamelian

Son of Tony Ghamelian and Marine Sarukhanyan

Godparents: Harry and Irina Tashjian

November 2, 2014

Vartan Karapetyan

Son of Der Hovsep and Yn. Jennifer Karapetyan

Godparents: Mr. & Mrs. Garbis and

Nadya Chubukian

November 15, 2014

Aris Gabriel Gavoor

Son of Mr. & Mrs. Aram and Anoush Gavoor

Godparents: Miss Melineh Mesrobian and

Anais Barisani

November 29, 2014

Alexan Michael Pertossian

Son of Mr. & Mrs. Sevan and Julie Pertossian

Godparents: Mr. Matthew Quick and Mrs. Cynthia

Smith

November 8, 2014

Natalie and Alex Tahmazian

Daughter and son of Mr. & Mrs. Zareh and

Maya Tahmazian

Godparents: Mr. & Mrs. Khajag and Nvart

Tahmazian; Mr. & Mrs. Vatche and Taline

Tahmazian





WEDDINGS

April 26, 2014

Agop J. Ohanian & Klarice Ghazarian

Parents: Zadik & Yeter Mermer;
Homayoon Ghazarian & Tamam Aslanian
Cross Brother: Robert Shahverdi

May 17, 2014

Igor Arakelov & Anahit Khshtoyan

Parents: Gavreel Arakelov & Rozaliya Arakelova;
Volodya & Elmira Khshtoyan
Cross Brother: Sarkis Shahbazian

June 7, 2014

Mark C. Bettis & Samara R. Peterson

Parents: David Bettis & Soussi Markarian;
Denis J. Peterson & Janet Peterson
Cross Brother: Tariq Wael Salaam

June 21, 2014

Nicholas Demetrios Comas & Sara Alis Arabian

Parents: James & Niki Comas;
Laurence Manug Arabian & Janet Arabian
Cross Brother: Michael Elias Comas

June 28, 2014

Nader Hawit & Shophia Shahverdian

Parents: Raja Hawit & Alice Sansor;
Zakavoos & Patricia Shahverdian
Cross Brother: Faris Hawit

July 5, 2014

Sarven Mermer & Angineh Babakhani

Parents: Mr. Toros & Mrs. Shoushan Mermer;
Mr. Garnik & Mrs. Gegel Babakhani
Cross Brother and maid of honor: Mr. Jack & Mrs.
Ani Tekeyan

September 20, 2014

Sean Christopher and Rita Artinian

Parents: Mr. John & Mrs. Mary Lou Christopher,
Mr. Haroutioun & Mrs. Maral Artinian
Cross Brother: Mr. Misag Artinian
Maid of honor: Miss. Amy Mervine

October 25, 2014

Sergai Kazarian and Nelli Harutunyan

Parents: Mr. Gagik Kazarian & Mrs. Violetta Vardanian;
Mr. & Mrs. Vahan & Anahit Harutunyan
Cross Brother: Mr. Karen Madoyan
Maid of honor: Mrs. Larisa Madoyan

November 1, 2014

Edward John Chaglassian and Lerna Shafakian

Parents: Mr. & Mrs. John and Hasmig Chaglassian;
Mr. & Mrs. Ohannes and Eva Shafakian
Cross Brother: Mr. Alain Chaglassian
Maid of Honor: Miss Nora Shafakian

November 8, 2014

Noobar S. Israel Mardirosian and Anna Samvelyan

Parents: Mr. & Mrs. Shawarsh and Vanoochi Mardirosian;
Mr. & Mrs. Arkady Samvelyan and Anna Shekyan
Cross Brother: Mr. Saro Mardirosian
Maid of Honor: Miss Anna Naghdalyan



CHRISTMAS YUGHAKIN DONATIONS 2014

Donated by:

In Loving Memory of:

Avetyan, Tatevik	Maria Karapetyan
Ayrandjian, Anahid	Ayrandjian, Mouradian and Meldonian families
Baldadian, Dolores	George & Flossie Baldadian
Balian, Margaret	Charles Balian (husband)
Balian, Marie	Vartkess Balian (brother), Dikranouhie & Mardiros Balian
Balian, Raffi	Vartkess M. Balian, Dikranouhi and Mardiros Balian, Marie and John Simonian, and Misak Missirian
Balian, Rita	Beloved Husband: Vartkess M. Balian; Parents: John & Marie Simonian, Mardiros & Dikranouhi Balian
Bodurian, Ed & Ellen	Abraham & Elise Bodurian, Dr. Ohannes Sahakian
Bogosian Van Osdol, Mary	Capt. Bob Van Osdol (husband), Robert & Georgia Van Osdol, Vahan John & Ardimes Bogosian (parents), Esther (sister) & Ashod Krikorian (brother-in-law)
George Family	Robert H. George Sr.
Ghazarian, Kevork & Maria	Vahan & Vartouhie Ghazarian
Greene, Michael & Anahit	Tadevosyan Vanush, Smbatyan Araksi (parents), Tadevosyan Karine (sister)
Gulan, Liliane	Sveto Gulan, Simon, Zepur & Gerard Mahdessian
Hadjian, Asadour & Nvart	Their Loved ones
Jerikian, John & Ardemis	Loved ones
Katac, Migirdic	American Veterans
Kaehn, Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Albert	Arax Kayaian
Kazanjian, Casey & Bella	Menas, Aghavny, Kevork, Antranig, Azad, Sarkis, Khatchadour Kazanjian
Karahisar, Raffi & Kathy	Hermine & Vahan Karahisar
Khrimian, Ashot & Susanna	Their parents
Koseian, Arut & Nadya	Gulbenk Sivaslian; Loved ones of Koseian, Sivaslian and Barsamyan families
Kobrin Bostanian, Araxi & Melanie	Bostanian & Shanlian Extended Families
Kumkumian, John & Kathleen	Loved Ones
Koudoussian, Haikouhi & Rita	Vartkess Balian & Hagop Koudoussian
Koudoussian, Rita	Hagop Koudoussian (father), Vartkess Balian (uncle)
Maghrablian, William & Nora	Missak & Kohar Demirdjian (parents)
Margosian, Alice	Loved ones; Akrikol, Nevart, Yervant Margosian
Mermer, Toros & Susan	Loved ones
Mesrobian, Ara	Mittran & Zabelle Mesrobian
Mulvihill, Jason & Christina	Jack & Barbara Tellallian
Pakhchanian, Angele	Mother-of-God, St. Mary
Peters, Mary	Loved ones
Pickering, Lola	Loved ones

Sahakyan, Aret & Bukukunsal Canan
Sakian, Misho & Lucy

Sayadian, Albert and Family
Sayan, Arsen & Catherine
Sekercan, Jeannette
Shahinian, Grace & Dean
Sivaslian, Onnik & Hripsime

Terjimanian, Armen
Teymouri, Aida & Vazgen
Xakellis, Theodore Stanley

All those that past before us
Dr. Arshag & Verkine Sarkissian, Mattevos &
Zaven Ouzounian
Tamar Tamarian (aunt)
Kohar Themejian
Krikor Sekercan, John David Sekercan
Dr. Paul Shahinian
Gulbenk Sivaslian; Loved ones of Sivaslian and
Barsamyan Familie
Loved ones
Hrand Mailian
Loved ones

Donated by:

Balian Raffi
Katac, Migirdic
Kobrin, Melanie
Koudoussian, Rita
Koudoussian, Haikouhi & Rita
Mulvihill, Jason & Christina
Nostrant, Elina
Peters, Mary

In Honor of:

Rita Balian, Marie Balian and Haikouhi Koudoussian
American Veterans
Araxi Bostanian Kobrin
Haikouhi Koudoussian (mother)
Rita & Mary Balian
Haig & Sue Ellian, Aghavni Ellian
Julietta Arutyunova, Armen Nostrant
Satenig & Kirkor Matoian

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

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Balian, Margaret
Bogosian Van Osdol, Mary
George Family
Kaehn, Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Albert
Maghrablian, William & Nora
Margosian, Alice
Nostrant, Elena

Sakian, Misho & Lucy
Shahinian, Grace

In Loving Memory of:

Charles Balian (husband)
The Loved ones, Family and Friends
Robert H. George
Arax Kayaian
Levon & Vartanoush Maghrablian (parents)
John W. Margosian
Vilen Ter-Arutyunov, Mina Arutyunova, Satenik
Sarkisova-Arutyunova, Babken & Norayr Arutyunov
Ohan & Yeghisa Sakian
Rev. Vahan & Yn. Zarouhi Jelalian, Mr. & Mrs. Apraham &
Mariam Shahinian



Easter Yughakin Donations and Offerings 2014

Donated by:

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Ayrandjian, Anahid
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Balian, Rita & Raffi (son)
Balian, Margaret
Balian, Marie
Brosnan, Diana
Boyajian, Molly
Bodurian, Edward & Ellen
Baldadian, Dolores
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Der Bogosian, Dianne
Demirji, Siran
Derderian, George
Ghazarian, Kevork & Maria
Gueriguian, John & Ida
Gulan, Liliane
Garabedian, Levon & Armen
Hadjian, Asadour & Nvart
Hagopian Haig & Anahid
Hanessian, Elizabeth
Hammond, Mitch & Annie
Ignatius, Paul
Juskalian, Lucine & Family
Jerikian, John & Ardemis
Koudoussian, Haikouhi & Rita
Kobrin Bostanian, Araxi & Melanie Kobrin
Karahisar, Raffi
Katac Family
Kumkumian, John & kathleen
Krikorian, Margaret
Khrimian, Susanne & Ashot
Margosian, Alice
Melikian, Armen
Mesrobian, Ara
Martirosian, Heros & Elsik
Mulvihill, Jason & Christina
Nantier, Marina G.

In Loving Memory of:

Eliza Alyanakian, Megurditch Asadoorian,
Manuk Matikyan, Herman Carson
Nubar Y. Ayrandjian
James & Angele Barouyrian
Vartkess M. Balian
Parents, Haig & Marie Moorachian
Vartkess Balian
Anna & Hagop Krikorian
Armenak, Keghanoush & Sograd Boyajian
Abraham & Elise Bodurian, Dr. Ohannes Sahakian
George & Flossie Baldadian
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Loved ones
Loved ones
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Aznive Attarian, Mary Petryk
Vahan & Vartouhie Ghazarian
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Mihran & Makrouhe Garabedian
Loved ones
Loved ones
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Loved ones
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Loved ones
Mardiros & Dikranouhie Balian
Loved ones
Hermine & Vahan Karahisar
Armenian Church
Loved ones
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Parents
John W. Margosian
Shemayov & Hripsimeh Melikian
Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
Garnik Martirosian, Ohan & Yeghisa Sakian
Jack & Barbara Tellalian
Loved ones

Ozbenian, Janser & Jacqueline
Ozbenian, Gary & Juliette
Osdol, Van Mary B.
Peters, Mary
Pickering, Lola
Sayan, Arsen & Catherine
Sakian, Misho & Lucy
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Zulikian, Mary

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Hartmann, Dorothy C.
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Mulvihill, Jason & Christina
Nostrant- Der-Harutyunyan, Elina

Albert Jirikdjian, Avadis Ozkayan, Osgi Akdemir
Albert Jirikdjian
Loved ones, family & friends
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Loved ones
Zulikian & Hovanesian Families

In Honor of:

Haikouhi Koudoussian (mother)
Men and women of the U.S Armed Forces
Haikouhi Balian Koudoussian, Marie Balian
Rita Istepanian & Peter Oliver, Daniella Oliver
Albert Chakarian
Rita & Marie Balian
Menas, Rose Kazanjian & Family
Haig & Sue Ellian
Armen Nostrant, Julietta Arutyunova, Elina Nostrant

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Donated by:

Andonian, David, Gilda, Andre & Nairi
Avedisian, Ara & Maggie

Arabian, Laurence M.
Baldadian, Dolores
Barouyrian, John
Garabedian, Levon & Armen
Koudoussian, Rita
Hekimian, Joan E
Istepanian, Rita
Manoogian, Peter & Queen
Mary B Van Osdol

Maghrablian, William
Nostrant- Der-Harutyunyan, Elina
Shahinian, Grace & Dean
Sakian, Misho & Lucy

In Loving Memory of:

Mr. Jack Andonian
Mr. & Mrs. Antranig Avedisian,
Mrs. Araksi Prodrumidis
Yerchanik Bolat
Jack & Jean Babashanian
Alice Touliau & Ann Kavookian
Mihran & Makrouhe Garabedian
Hagop Koudoussian (father), Vartkess Balian (uncle)
Norris, Nejib & Louise Hekimian
Shukri Istepanian
Who fought & died for Armenian independence
Husband Capt. Robert C. Van Osdol, Robert Clyde &
Georgia Van Osdol (parents), Vahan John Bogosian &
Ardimes Bogosian, (Sister) Esther & brother-in-law
Ashod Krikorian
Migerdich Khachadourian
Vilen Ter - Arutyunov
Lily Jelalian
Verkine Sarkissian & Zaven Ouzounian

Grape & Madagh Blessing Donations 2014
Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-Of-God
Name Day of our Church

Donated by:

Andonian, David & Gilda
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 Atanessian, Anne
 Badalians, Mary
 Balian, Rita

Baldadian, Dolores M.
 Bodurian, Ellen
 Bogosian, Mary A.
 Baghdasarian, Louisa
 Boyajian, Molly
 Chakarian Hartmann, Dorothy
 Delikahya, Melkon
 Gevorgian, Balick Peter
 Greene, Michael & Anahit
 Gueriguian, John & Ida
 Hanessian, Elizabeth & Christopher
 Kobrin, Melanie & Araxi
 Kodjanian, Souny
 Kumkumian, John & Kathleen
 Karahisar, Kathy & Raffi
 Katak, Migirdic
 Kapikian, Gregory
 Koudoussian, Rita
 Koudoussian, Rita & Haikouhi

Krikorian, Mark & Helen & family
 Krikorian, David and family
 Krikorian, Margaret
 Maghrablian, William & Nora
 Martirosian, Heros & Elsik
 Mesrobian, Ara
 Mermer, Toros & Susan
 Melikian, Armenak & Helga
 Mulvihill, Christina & Jason
 Margosian, Alice
 Ozbenian, Zadik & Hareknaz
 Pashayani, Marie

In Memory of:

Soghomon & Mariam Danelian, Asadur & Dirouhi

Takouhie and Garabed Bedrosian
 Loved ones
 Mrs. Marie Simonian, (mother of Rita Simonian Balian &
 Annie Simonian Totah & grandmother of Raffi and
 Sevag Balian)
 Mr. & Mrs. George, Flossie Baldadian
 Abraham and Elise Bodurian, Dr. Ohannes Sahakian
 Loved ones
 Loved ones
 The Boyajian Family
 Albert Chakarian
 Loved ones
 Loved ones
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 Mamigonian & Gueriguian families
 John Hanessian, Jr.
 Bostanian, Shanlian and Arsenian Families
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 Loved ones
 Peruz Papazyan, Khatchadour Tahmazian
 Loved ones
 Dr. Albert Z. Kapikian
 Marie Koudoussian Missirian (aunt)
 Dikranouhie Balian (mother) & Vartkess Balian
 (brother)6th anniversary of his death
 Mariam & Vahan Morookian

George K. Krikorian
 Stephan Gulan, Gerair Mahtessian
 Ohan & Yeghisa Sakian, Garnik Martirosian
 Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
 Loved ones
 Loved ones
 Jack & Barbara Tellalian
 John Margosian (husband)
 Their parents
 Joseph Pashayani

Petrossian, Derenig & Sona
Pickering, Lola
Satian, Marguerite
Semerjian, Hratch
Tchekrekjian, Haigaved & Janet
Teymouri, Vazgen & Aida
Van Osdol, Mary

Varoujanian, Hartoun, Varoujan & family

Donated by:

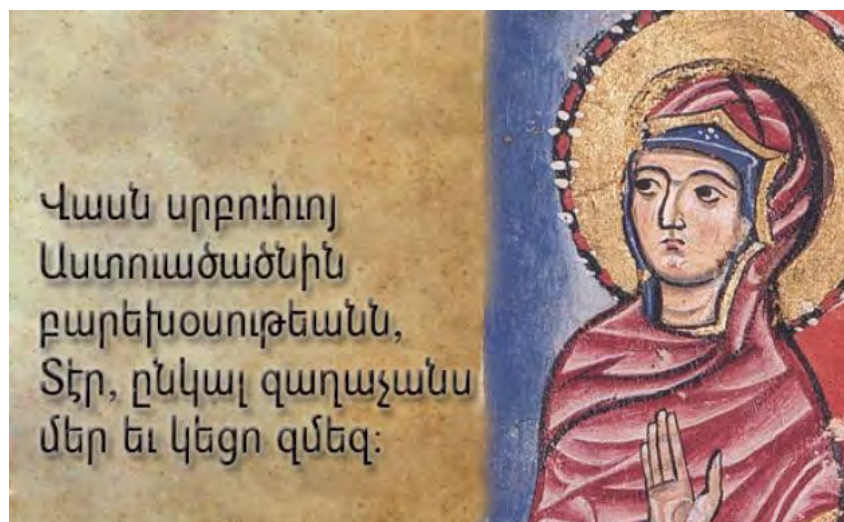
Arkoian, Rozemary
Andonian, Clara
Atanessian, Anne
Alexandrian, Edvik & Lena
Balian, Rita

Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Albert Kaehn, USAF
Carson, Nadya
Ellian, Aghavni G.
George, Doris
Ghazarian, Anahid
Kazanjian, Armen & Jenia
Koudoussian, Rita
Koudoussian, Rita & Haikouhi
Kobrin, Melanie
Kalayjian Fr. Vertanes & Yn. Anahid
Khrimian, Ashot
Mulvihill, Christina & Jason
Katac, Migirdic

Ashot Boghosian (brother of Herayr Boghosian)
Clemance Yazmajian
Zakar Arabian, Ripsime Arabian Zenopian, Zenop Zenopian
Diruhi Semerciyan
Makruhi Tchekrekjian and Vardouhi Nersesian
Loved ones
Husband Capt. Bob Van Osdol, parents John & Ardimes Bogosian, sister and brother-in-law Esther & Ashot Krikorian, relatives and friends
Alice Varoujanian and Araxie Varoujanian

In Honor of:

Haig Ellian
Haig Ellian
Beloved mother Mary
Ms. Marie Balian, Aunt
Miss Marie Balian, sister-in-law of Rita Balian and aunt of Raffi & Sevag Balian
The men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces
Haig Ellian
Haig Ellian
Haig Ellian
Haig Ellian
Haig Ellian
Marie Balian, Aunt
Marie Ayanian - Gabriel (cousin)
Araxi Bostanian Kobrin
Haig Ellian, ESQ
Parents
Hajg & Sue Ellian, Aghavni Ellian
St. Mary Armenian Church



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ON THE OCCASION OF THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY

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Krikorian Jacqueline
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Margosian, Alice
Melikian, Armenak & Helga
Mermer, Misak & Maryam
Mesrobian, Ara
Nersesian, Paul Roxanne
Nishanian, Jerair & Anahid

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Vartkess Balian
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Akdemir
Hagop Koudoussian & Vartkess Balian
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Loved ones
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Guldene Mermer, Maryam & Kirkor Ozbenian
Mihran & Zabelle Mesrobian
Mourad, Sebouh, & Anne Nersesian
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Ohanian, Stephen & Nvard
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Ozkayan, Atam & Suzanne,
Ozkayan, Kamer & Marcela
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Sayan, Arsen & Catherine

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Shahinian, Grace
Simon, Nigos & Shafakian, Eva

Simon, Armenak & Lusin,
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Taymoorian Hovsep & Rosik
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IN HONOR OF:

John Asdourian

Mr. & Mrs. Akrikol & Nevart Margosian

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church

Araxi Bostanian Kobrin, Dennis Shanlian, &

Cynthia Shanlian Reid



OUR YEAR 2014













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
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Zaven Kalayjian
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WOMEN'S GUILD

Ani Derderian

ST. MARY ANNUAL JOURNAL

Front cover and collage are designed by
Eileen Trayan. Edited by Dee Vartabedian

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.

BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

All baptisms must be scheduled at least two 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 eight 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.

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A Venerable Christian Practice

ST. MARY CHURCH

IN YOUR WILL

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND