

ԼՈՒՍԱԲԵՐ LOOSAPER



Սուրբ Պետրոս Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցի

ST. PETER ARMENIAN CHURCH

100 TROY-SCHENECTADY ROAD, PO BOX 196, WATERVLIET, NY 12189

AUGUST-OCTOBER 2017

St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church

100 Troy-Schenectady Road, P.O. Box 196

Watervliet, NY 12189

Phone: (518) 274-3673 ~ Fax: (518) 274-3103

New E-mail: office@stpeterarmenianchurch.org

Website: www.stpeterarmenianchurch.com

* Join us on **facebook** *

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

Morning Services	9:45 a.m.
Sunday School & Adult Christian Education	10:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy	10:15 a.m.
Monday-Friday	9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

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CHURCH ORGANIZATION CONTACTS:

20/30 Something

ACYOA Jrs.

Armenian School

Bible Study

Choir Director

College Group

Prayer Group

Sunday School

Women's Guild, Co-Chair

Women's Guild, Co-Chair

Tanya Tutunjian

Anahid Altounian

Elsie Vozzy

Dn. Rafi Topalian

Winnie Kutchukian

Yn. Paulette Doudoukjian

Sonya Moroukian

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R. Paul Moroukian

Dr. Ara Kayayan

Roswita Fragomeni

Richard DeMartino

Garo Derian

Roswita Fragomeni

Charles Tutunjian

Sharon Foley

Sharon Foley

Remember St. Peter Armenian Church in your will!

All articles must be submitted on a timely basis by following the “Schedule for Publication” listed below:

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER SCHEDULE FOR PUBLICATION

Articles Deadline	Monday, December 4
Typing and Proofreading	Mon, Dec. 4 - Fri, Dec. 15
To Printer	Tuesday, December 19
Mailing	Thursday, December 21

The *Loosaper* constitutes a vital and an historical record of the life of the St. Peter Church Community. Therefore, it is important to make every effort to preserve and maintain the continuity of this publication. In order to do this, we need help. Any parishioner interested in being a reporter or assisting the editorial staff with this publication should call the church office.

Church Secretary, Lori Payette, is responsible for compiling and typing this issue. A volunteer group performs editorial tasks such as: proofreading, layout, writing, and editing of articles. **All materials submitted are subject to editing by the Editorial Staff.** The mailing of the *Loosaper* is also handled by volunteers.

If you find errors in this edition of the *Loosaper*, please understand that, while perfection is always our goal, it is one that may remain forever beyond our reach!

CURRENT VOLUNTEER STAFF:

Editorial: Vicki Bajakian, Nora Derian, and Lori Payette
Photographers: Maria Derian & Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian

Please forward all articles to the church office.

LOOSAPER DONATIONS

There is an outlay of approximately \$500 for publishing and mailing each issue of the *Loosaper*. Any contribution sent to defray part of this cost will be gratefully appreciated. Names of donors and contributions will be listed in the *Loosaper*, unless we are requested not to do so.

Many thanks to the most recent donors who answered our call to help offset the costs of our church publication with donations totaling \$175: **Dr. A. Nancy Avakian, Dorothy Giunta, Girard Kasparian (CA), and Arthur Koshkorian (VA).**

Those persons wishing to send Christmas Greetings in the November/December issue of Loosaper must submit their names to the church office by Monday, December 11.



Please use the form below to send your donation to:

“St. Peter Armenian Church”
PO Box 196, Watervliet, NY 12189

Please accept my **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS DONATION** for *Loosaper* in the amount of \$ _____

Name(s) to be included in the Greeting: _____

DEDICATE AN ISSUE OF LOOSAPER: A donation of \$500 will dedicate an entire issue of *Loosaper* in honor of someone, in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special event. Contact the church office for more information.

Diocesan News

A Moment of Prayer in Remembrance of the Las Vegas Massacre

In the wake of the horrifying massacre in Las Vegas, His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian is directing all clergy of the Eastern Diocese to ask their congregation to pray for the victims, survivors, and loved ones affected by the recent event.

The prayer below is a rendering of Meditation 41 from *The Lamentations of Narek*. May our Lord receive the souls of those innocents who were cruelly taken from the world this week, and may he grant our country peace and understanding in the days to come.

An editorial about the massacre can be viewed on the Diocesan website at <https://armenianchurch.us/2017/10/04/once-again/>.

Գրիգոր Նարեկացի

*Բխորոց Մրտից Խաւսք ընդ Աստուծոյ
Բան ԽԱ*

Ա

Կենդանի Աստուծոյ ամենօրինեալ Որդի, ահաւոր Հօրդ անքնին ծնունդն եւ Դուն, քեզի համար չկայ բնաւ անկարելի բան. Քու ողորմութեանդ փառքին անստուեր նշոյլները երբ կը ծագին, մեղքերը կը հալին, դեւերը կը հալածուին, յանցանքները կը ջնջուին, կապանքները կը խզուին, շղթաները կը խորտակուին, մահացածները կը կենդանանան, հարուածները կը բժշկուին, վերքերը կ'առողջանան, ապականութիւնները կը վերցուին, տխրութիւնները տեղի կու տան, հեծութիւնները կը նահանջեն, խաւարը կը փախչի, մէզը կը մեկնի, մառախուղը կը հեռանայ. մօայլը կը փարատի, աղջամուղջը կը սպառի, մութը կը վերնայ, գիշերը կանցնի, տագնապը կը տարագրուի, չարիքները կը չքանան, յուսահատութիւնները կը հալածուին, ու քու ամենակարող ձեռքդ կը թագաւորէ, ով քաւիչդ ամենայնի:

Բ

Դուն որ եկար ոչ թէ կորսցնելու այլ ապրեցնելու մարդոց հոգիները, ներէ, Քու առատ ողորմութեամբդ, իմ անթիւ չարիքներուս. Վասնզի Դուն միայն երկինքի մէջ անճառելի ես եւ երկրի վրայ անգննելի. գոյակներուն նախատարրին եւ աշխարհի եզրաձայրերուն մէջն ես Դուն. Ամէն բանի սկիզբն ես, ու ամէն բանի մէջ ամբողջ. օրինեալ եղիր բարձունքներու մէջ, ու Քեզի՝ Հօրը եւ Սուրբ Հոգիին հետ փառք յաւիտեանս. ամէն:

* * *

A Prayer of Consolation in a Troubled Time

(Freely rendered from Meditation 41, by St. Gregory of Narek)*

Son of the living God, whose very birth passes all mortal understanding: You are blessed in all things. For you, nothing is impossible.

The dawning rays of your mercy cannot be eclipsed. Before them, demons flee, sin melts away. The shackles of our transgression are cut; the chains of our bondage slacken and fall. The dead are raised anew.

By this divine power we ask you to cure us in our time of suffering: to heal our wounds; cleanse us of corruption; banish our sorrow, and lighten our heavy hearts. Lift the darkness that surrounds us; part the fog of our confusion. Let this troubled night pass, and let despair be exiled.

Though the evils of this world may be without number, still your mercy is limitless. You came not to destroy our mortal souls, but to give us life. Your all-powerful hand rules all, and can redeem all. Let that hand extend from the heavens; let its redemptive power be felt unto the ends of the earth.

For you are the beginning of all things, and in you all things find their completion. Glory to you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

** English rendition by C.H. Zakian, from St. Gregory of Narek's "Speaking with God, from the Depths of My Heart."*

A Word from the



PASTOR . . . Rev. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian

“Park Asdoodzo!”

(Spiritual message shared on October 11, 2017 via e-mail and Facebook)

Glory to God in Armenian is Park Asdoodzo!

Armenians love to use this saying for every type of life situation. You can ask someone almost any type of question or simply ask them how they are doing and the typical response is — *Park Asdoodzo*.

Just over 40 days ago, our community lost one of its most endeared, loved, and sainted man — Deacon Hrant Bardakjian. His life was lived by, through, and in the words and understanding of *Park Asdoodzo*.

Throughout my 22 years of knowing Hrant, he must have told me hundreds of times, *Park Asdoodzo*. Hrant sure had his share of ups and downs in life, but he always gave Glory to God in all circumstances. He experienced challenges, successes, difficulties, great sadness and suffering, and death, as well as joy and celebration. In all things, Mr. Bardakjian always praised God and gave Him glory. Hrant stayed by his son-in-law's side for years while waiting for transplant surgery. Hrant encouraged his daughter while her husband seemed to lose his grip on life. Hrant was present and full of prayer at his triple grandchildren's very difficult birth. Hrant remained faithful and hope-filled when his son passed away. Hrant loved and faithfully served the Armenian Church his entire life. Hrant experienced all these things with *Park Asdoodzo ~ Glory to God*.

And, before he passed, one of Hrant's last words spoken was *Park Asdoodzo*.

May the legacy and example of Hrant Bardakjian, whether you knew him personally or you are just learning about him now, inspire each of us to live our lives by the words of *Park Asdoodzo ~ Glory to God*. May we love God without end like he did. May we care for others with the compassion he had. May we serve our churches with the same zeal and passion he possessed. May we be as faithful in all of life's scenarios as he was.

Truly one of a kind! Hrant, "Well done good and faithful servant." (Matthew 25:16-23)

Lord God, enlighten Hrant's beautiful, loving, compassionate and God-fearing soul. Amen.

*God loves you endlessly,
Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian*

Join the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern) for HOLY WEEK and EASTER IN JERUSALEM April 3-14, 2018

Spend 11 days of Biblical discovery and worship at the restored tomb of Our Lord in the Holy Sepulcher! This all-inclusive tour includes: Basic Tour & Guided Sightseeing, Roundtrip International Airfare from New York, Admin. Fees, Entrance Fees, Hotel Gratuities & Program Fees, Daily Buffet Breakfast & Dinner, Deluxe Motorcoaches, Accommodations, and much more! A \$300 non-refundable deposit per person is due at the time of registration. Registration deadline is December 19, 2017. Interested participants are asked to call the Diocese at (212) 686-0710. For more information or for direct reservation, contact the Educational Opportunities Tours office at 1-800-247-0017 or visit www.eo.travel to register online.

Parish Council Message

September means the end of summer vacation and back to school for many of our families. Because of all the years each of us has spent in school, we tend to think of September as the beginning of a “new year.” The same is true for our St. Peter Armenian Church parish.

Your mailboxes, your e-mail accounts, your weekly church bulletins, and this issue of *Loosaper* all provide a plethora of information about the exciting programs, services, and activities being offered this fall - to name a few: Apple Fest (held on October 1), Divine Eatery: Bible Study & Potluck Dinners, Narek Nights, Armenian School, Little Faithfuls, Sunday School, Adult Christian Education, and so much more. Additionally, Fr. Stepanos has introduced the “Badarak 37.” On each of the 37 Sundays of the Sunday School year, he will share insight into the Badarak during that service. What an inviting list of activities! There is truly something for EVERYONE!

So, as we step into the “new year,” your Parish Council invites you to make time for worship and fellowship. Come and partake of all that your church community has to offer.

Roswita Fragomeni
Parish Council Co-Vice Chairman

*** * Note New Sunday Service Times * ***

Morning Service ~ 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Christian Education Classes ~ 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy ~ 10:15 a.m.

JOB POSTING: The Parish Council is seeking a substitute organist to play during Sunday Services and possibly other occasions. As our primary organist, Ralph Enokian cannot always be here EVERY Sunday. He is willing to assist and help train a new organist to substitute whenever he is not available. This is a paid position of the church and, after training and experience, this position may become a more permanent one in the future. Please contact Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian or a member of the Parish Council for more information and to apply for the position.

GENERAL FUND OR BUILDING FUND? Most contributions made to St. Peter Armenian Church are placed in the church’s general fund for the general operating expenses of the church. However, there is also a Building Fund account. These funds are reserved for larger projects of repair or renovation, such as blacktop repair, water damage, sidewalk/concrete repair, cleaning and resealing brickwork, etc. Another project in the planning stage is renovating/updating the church hall. When considering your contributions to St. Peter Armenian Church, please also remember the Building Fund – the savings account for our future. Donations to the Building Fund specifically for the ***Hall Renovation Project, the Kitchen Oven project, and/or repair work to the brick and concrete of the church building*** will also be graciously accepted.

GIVING MADE EASIER! In this day and age, more and more are using smart phones for much more than just talking, texting, or surfing the Internet. Shopping and paying bills online through cell phone applications are being used more and more each day. A few clicks away and you’re done!

St. Peter Armenian Church is now providing that same convenience when making contributions to the church. Whether it be for membership dues and stewardship pledge payments, donations for Christmas or Easter, the Loosaper, special plate collections, or just a general donation, you can now use your smart phone. **Here’s how:** Text the keyword **PETERAC** to **77977**. You will automatically receive a one-time reply containing a link to give to St. Peter Armenian Church. After your first gift, you will be prompted to create an account and to download the app, which will allow future contributions to be made in less than 10 seconds.

Please be aware that Msg & Data rates may apply. For full Terms & Conditions, please visit <https://pushpay.com/terms>. For the Privacy Policy, please visit <https://pushpay.com/privacy>. For help, reply HELP or STOP to cancel.

ADDITIONAL PICNIC TABLES FOR PAVILION / FESTIVAL GROUNDS

Parish Council approved to obtain six additional picnic tables (three available tables remain) to add to the Postoian Pavilion on the church grounds for future festivals and special events. This approval now provides an opportunity for members of the community to donate a table in a family name; in honor of an individual, family, or organization; or in memory of loved ones. Please consider your donation today.

Thank you to the following who have committed to a picnic table so far:

Herb & Linda Chorbajian *in honor of their grandchildren*; **Barbara Derian & Richard DeMartino** *in honor of Albert & Isabel Derian on the occasion of Isabel's recent 95th birthday*; **Leon, Henry, Ronald, and Donald Kaiser** *in memory of their parents, Henry & Anna (Kenosian) Kaiser*.



Each picnic table is made of high quality 100% recycled plastic material. The table has rich, molded-in color, is maintenance free, will not crack or splinter, is impervious to weather, insects and rotting, and is built for outdoor durability.

Donation: \$1,800 per table

A personalized, engraved, weather-resistant plaque will be attached to each donated table.

For more information, or to order a table, contact Rich DeMartino at (518) 527-3352 or the St. Peter Armenian Church office at (518) 274-3673. Your donation will stand the test of time, as will these durably constructed tables.

Church Organizations News

Women's Guild

Kitchen Stove Replacement Project: The Women's Guild has embarked on a fundraising project for the much needed replacement of the stoves in our kitchen. Robert Dadekian has graciously volunteered to oversee the fundraising effort for this project. Donations can be made to this fundraiser by sending your check to the church made payable to "St. Peter Armenian Church" with a notation for "Kitchen Stove Project." The Women's Guild would like to thank John Ekmalian for playing a key role in researching the stove purchases and what it will entail. This truly will be a group effort that all will benefit from for years to come. Thank you in advance for your anticipated generosity. We hope to make giving a bit easier by adding PushPay categories for Women's Guild events.

COMING EVENTS: Mark your calendar for these upcoming exciting events sponsored by the Women's Guild. We hope to see you there.

General Membership Meeting / Luncheon, November 5: Join us on this date for the annual Women's Guild membership meeting and executive committee elections, as well as a luncheon provided by the Parish Council. Sharon Foley and Valerie Demarest are leading the nominating committee this year. If they contact you, please consider putting your name on the ballot — the Guild needs YOU! If you have any questions about what it is like to participate, please contact any current board member to learn about this rewarding experience.

Holiday Bazaar, December 2 & 3: Mark your calendars and pass the word! This is a major event for the Guild that is opened to the public. *(See flyer in this issue for details.)*

Armenian Christmas Party, January 13, 2018: Plans are being made for the annual Women's Guild Christmas Party to be held on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at the Century House in Latham. Stay tuned for details on this annual event as well.

*Respectfully submitted by Charlotte Sevazlian
Women's Guild Co-Chairman*

AM Prayer Group

Our prayer group warriors at work!! You're welcome to join us anytime. Come learn with us as we explore the many facets of prayer and how this spiritual discipline not only enriches our lives but changes things on earth. The AM Prayer Group is led by Rhonda Boyajian & Winnie Kutchukian and is held on Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. on the following upcoming dates: October 27, November 10, December 8 & 22.





The St. Peter Church Book Club

will next meet on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 ~ 7:00PM**

SELECTION FOR DISCUSSION: *The Human Comedy* by William Saroyan.

Contact Yervant Kutchukian at yervant.kutchukian@gmail.com for more information.

CLASSES FOR Deacons ~ Altar Servers ~ Candle Holders

DEACON'S CLASS: Every 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., the Deacons meet to practice singing hymns for the Badarak and special services. Altar Servers are also welcome to this class. **2017 Dates:** November 8 and December 13.

ALTAR SERVER'S CLASS: Every 4th Wednesday of each month, teens (and anyone else interested in learning to serve at the Altar) will have the choice to meet from either 6:00-7:00 p.m. or 7:00-8:00 p.m. depending on their schedule. **2017 Dates:** October 25, November 22, and December 27.

CANDLE HOLDER'S CLASS: Also every 4th Wednesday of each month, a Candle Holder's Class will take place from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for boys and girls ages 8-12. **2017 Dates:** October 25, November 22, and December 27.



Parish Community News

Sacraments and Rites

Baptism

James Tony Tournayan, son of Antwan & Nayiri (Chohamlian) Tournayan on September 23, 2017. Godfather, Garo Chohamlian; Godmother, Shaghig Danielian; Celebrant, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Funerals

Ruben Sergeyevich Arutiunian entered his eternal rest on July 20 2017. He is survived by his daughter, Anahid (Vartan) Alexandryan. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on July 22.

Hrant Bardakjian entered his eternal rest on August 29, 2017. He is survived by his beloved wife Alice (Tutunjian) Bardakjian; a daughter, Talin (Setrak) Nalbandian (IN); five grandchildren; a brother, Yervant Bardakjian; a sister, Mary Stepanian (Syria); and several nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews. Hrant was predeceased by his son, Hagop Bardakjian who died in 2013. The funeral service for Hrant was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on September 8, 2017.

Nisan Kasparoglu entered his eternal rest on September 26, 2017. He is survived by his loving wife of 75 years, Vartuhi "Leyla" Kasparoglu; a sister, Alice Demircan (CT); a brother, Sahak Kasparoglu (Turkey); two sons, Arjanti Kasparoglu and Shahin Kasparian; a daughter, Madlen Balgin; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. He was predeceased by his cherished grandson, Alexander Kasparian. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on September 30, 2017.

Karasoonek (40-Day Memorial)

October 27, 2017

Bishop Narek Shakarian (former Primate of the Diocese of Shirak) - requested by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian.

Rev. Fr. Arnak Kasparian - requested by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian; Rev. & Mrs. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Hrant Bardakjian - requested by Alice Bardakjian (IN): Setrak & Talin Nalbandian & Family (IN); Mary & Ara Panjarjian; Alice & Charles Chorbajian; Chuck & Carol Tutunjian & Family; Mr. & Mrs. Leon Elebyjian; Mr. & Mrs. Bedros Karian; Mr. & Mrs. Vartan Karayan; Mr. & Mrs. Yervant Kazandjian; Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Minassian; Mr. & Mrs. Ara Ashjian; Dr. Ara Kayayan; Mr. & Mrs. Raffi Bardakjian; Mr. & Mrs. John Khachadourian; Lucy Karageozian.

Dareleetz (First Anniversary)

August 27, 2017

Rev. Fr. Vertanes Kalayjian - requested by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian.

September 10, 2017

Terwanta (Karayan) Karagozian - requested by The Karian Family; The Derian Family; Sarkis & Heidi Guleserian & Family; The Karayan Family.

Hokehankist

August 27, 2017

Bishop Narek Shakarian (former Primate of the Diocese of Shirak) - requested by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian.

Kenneth Chorbajian - requested by Alice & Charles Chorbajian; Debbie & John Ekmalian; Virginia Mahserjian & Family.

Carol Higgins - requested by Dn. Eric Vozzy.

Alexander Kasparian - requested by The Kasparian Family.

Virginia Kasparian (Second Anniversary) - requested by Girard Kasparian (CA); Alan Kasparian & Family (CA); Roxann Kasparian (CA); Fr. Stepanos & Paulette Doudoukjian & Family.

- August 2, 2017 **Michael & Mary Koshgarian; Khachig & Sadie Koshgarian; George & Rosemary Koshgarian; Krikor & Zechia Kerkunian** - requested by Arthur Koshkorian (VA).
- September 10, 2017 **Garabed, Gulenia & Tavit Dekermenjian; Seta Dekermenjian; Abraham, Azniv & Zarouhi Guleserian; Karl Yalian; Hratch Apanosian; Sarkis Khanjian; Avedis & Lousadzin Guleserian; Hagop & Alice Atamian** - requested by The Derian Family; Heidi & Sarkis Guleserian & Family.
- September 24, 2017 **Seroun Chetjean** (Fifteenth Anniversary) - requested by Vartan & Elza Karayan.
- October 8, 2017 **Hagop Bardakajian** (Fourth Anniversary) - requested by Alice Bardakjian (IN); Setrak & Talin Nalbandian & Family (IN).
Alis Acemoglu (Second Anniversary) - requested by Ida & Sarkis Mihranian.
Adam & Jennifer Simonian; Simonian Family Members - requested by Barbara & Brian Olesen.

Altar Flowers

- July 23, 2017 Roses on the occasion of the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ were donated by **Robert & Holly Dadekian** *in memory of loved ones*; **Sonia Hachigian** *in memory of loved ones*; **Mary Hartunian; The Hoglund Family; Isabel Krempa** *in memory of loved ones*; **Florence Paparian** *in memory of Albert Paparian & Natalie Kachougian*.
- August 27, 2017 **Fr. Stepanos & Paulette Doudoukjian** *in memory of Virginia Kasparian*.
- September 17, 2017 **The Asador & Sarah Kenosian Endowment Fund** *on the occasion of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*.

Altar Candles

- August 27, 2017 **Fr. Stepanos & Paulette Doudoukjian** *in honor of Girard Kasparian (CA) on the occasion of his 91st birthday that day*; **Arthur Koshkorian** *in memory of loved ones*.

Gift of Prayer Ministry

"You shall be remembered before the immortal Lamb of God." Special prayers may be requested for healing, remembrance (in memory of), or special recognition by contacting the church office. Both the person making the prayer request, as well as the one being prayed for, will be remembered. A beautiful "Gift of Prayer" card will be sent as an acknowledgment of the prayer request. Please continue to keep those for whom prayers have been requested in your personal prayers.

- September 17, 2017 **Hrant Bardakjian**† - prayers of remembrance as requested by Yn. Zabelle Gdanian.
- October 15, 2017 **Hrant Bardakjian**† - prayers of remembrance as requested by Barbara Derian & Richard DeMartino.

Fellowship Hour

If you, or a member of your family, are celebrating a special event (birthday, anniversary, promotion, retirement, etc.), why not share the joy with your church family by donating refreshments for the fellowship hour? You might also wish to do this in memory of a loved one, as a thanksgiving, or just in "fellowship." Please contact the church office to make the necessary arrangements and to reserve the date of your choice.

- September 24, 2017 **The St. Peter Sunday School staff and families** *in celebration of the new school year*.
- October 8, 2017 **The Bardakjian & Nalbandian Families** *in memory of Hrant & Hagop Bardakjian*.

Announcements

Congratulations to **Suren & Sarah Hrachian** who observed their 78th wedding anniversary on September 3. They were married at St. Peter Armenian Church in Troy in 1939. Congratulations also to Sarah on her 97th birthday on August 5 and to Suren on his 101st birthday on October 8. They are currently residing together at the Eddy Memorial Geriatric Center in Troy, NY.

ST. PETER ARMENIAN CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Riley Nevins, son of John & Karen Nevins, is this year's recipient of the St. Peter Armenian Church College Scholarship Award. A cash grant of \$250 will be awarded toward his pursuit of a nursing degree from Clinton County Community College. Part of the criteria of applying for the scholarship required submission of a written essay answering the question, "How has your Armenian-Christian identity impacted your life and how has your faith developed over the years?" Below is Riley's essay:

The Armenian Church has changed my life in numerous ways, from the Sunday Badarak to the Sports Weekends. The Armenian Church has helped me grow in my faith for the past 18 years by attending Sunday School and serving on the Altar.

My Armenian-Christian identity has opened me up to new experiences and meeting people I would never even think of meeting without this. I have been honored to be a part of this church with its wonderful fellowship and congregation.

Over the years my faith has gone from a seed planted in the dirt to a wonderful flowering plant. Thanks to the Armenian Church, it has shown me to love Jesus with all of my heart throughout my life and to always remember Him in All experiences that I have for everything is done through Him and we need Him to help us with our struggles in life.

The Armenian Church has guided me throughout my life, and I have always been able to look unto it as a source of hope, guidance, and pride.

KHORENIAN DIVINE LITURGY CD: The *Khorenian Badarak* is an entirely original Divine Liturgy commissioned by the late Catholicos of All Armenians, His Holiness Vasken I, and composed by Khoren Mekanejian in the early 1980s. A masterpiece of sound and devotion, it has been performed all over the world, but no professional recording had been made until now. The present recording was completed in October 2016, with the participation of the choir of St. Gregory the Illuminator Cathedral in Yerevan, Armenia. A limited number of the two-disc CD set, complete with an informational booklet, is now available for purchase through the St. Peter Church office for \$25 each.

Words of Thanks

Der Stepanos,

Although I left St. Peter Church many years ago when I moved, it's always a pleasure to receive the Loosaper, especially to see the names of friends. It's a wonderful way of remembering them. Perhaps some people may still remember me — of course, there are many new members of the church.

Nancy Avakian

In Lieu of Flowers Donations

IN MEMORY OF RUBEN S. ARUTIUNIAN

Christine Amirbekyan
Hayk Chorekchyan

Sofia & Rouben Amirbekian
Artour Kazarian

Aram Balagyozyan

Total: \$700

IN MEMORY OF MARDIROS AZARIAN

Suzanne (Kenderian) Dickinson
Edward & Adrina Tutunjian

Bertha Kazanjian

Florence Paparian

Total: \$105

IN MEMORY OF HRANT BARDAKJIAN

Beatrice & Gerald Arzoumanian
Alice & Charles Chorbajian
Sonia Hachigian
Winnie Kutchukian
Susan Sogorian

Ara Baligian
Garo & Maria Derian
Harry Koshgarian
Virginia Mahserjian
Armenouhi Tervizian

Mr/Mrs Donald Boyajian
John & Debbie Ekmalian
Isabel Krempa
Tony Minassian (MA)
Nayda Voskerijian

Total: \$980

IN MEMORY OF SONA DOUDOUKJIAN

Winifred Ammian

Carol & Frank Colluccio (NJ)

Lucille Shamlian

New Total: \$1,275

IN MEMORY OF NISAN KASPAROGLU

Ara & Rachel Altounian
George & Estella Hovnanian
Mr/Mrs Sarkis Minassian

John Bezjian
John & Sossy Khachadourian
Ohan & Rita Ohanian

Leon Elebyjian
Gary McFarland

Total: \$235

IN MEMORY OF JOHN MESSIKIAN

Agop & Verkin Demirozu

Nanette Hachadourian (NJ)

Robert Sellner (NJ)

New Total: \$215

Sincere appreciation and acknowledgment is extended to the above-named individuals for their generous memorial donations.

Special Donations

General donations to the General Fund totaling \$1,540 were received from the following: **Lt. Col. Ricardo J. Blanco, USMC; Holly Dadekian in celebration of Vartanoush Name Day on July 23; Gerald Arzoumanian, Sonia Hachigian, and Isabel Krempa in honor of Beatrice Arzoumanian's 99th birthday on July 26; Kimberly Kachougian & Ken MacLeod.**

Grapes for the Blessing of the Grapes service on the occasion of the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God on Sunday, August 13 were donated by: **Anonymous; Sonia Hachigian in memory of Michael & Berdjouhie Stepanian and John & Dorothy Tamamian; Mary Hartunian in memory of loved ones; Bertha Kazanjian in memory of Edward Kazanjian; Isabel Krempa in memory of loved ones; George & Joanne Scaringe in memory of loved ones.**

Basil for the decoration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, September 17 was anonymously donated.

Every Sunday in the month of September, special plate collections were taken for those in the St. Kevork Armenian Church community in Houston, TX who were affected by Hurricane Harvey. A total of \$698 was collected and forwarded to the Diocese for aiding the nearly 25% of the St. Kevork community who were affected by this devastating storm and resulting flooding.

Thank you to all those who participated in the ACYOA Car Wash held on Sunday, October 1 raising \$202 for the organization.

Thank you to the Placido Family (friends of Linda Kazanjian) for the donation of a large cooking pot for our kitchen. It will serve the church well for our larger events.

Community News

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Mardiros “Mardy” Azarian** of Fairfield, CT, who entered his eternal rest on August 31, 2017. Mardy is survived by his beloved wife Hermine; a son, Greg (Hilde) Azarian (CT); a daughter, Victoria Sabarese; three grandchildren; a brother, Nazareth (Margaret) Azarian (CT); a sister, Anna Zaker (NJ); as well as several nieces and nephews. Mardy was predeceased by his brother Steve Azarian.

46th ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF NATIONS, October 29: Mark your calendar now for the Annual Festival of Nations to be held at The Egg on Sunday, October 29 from 12:00-5:00 p.m. Armenia will again be represented at the Festival. Please come and support our youth in their musical performances as well Sarah McMullan, daughter of Sean & Alice (Jevanian) McMullan, who has been chosen to participate as Miss Armenia. Congratulations to Sarah and the McMullan family. Raffle tickets, admission tickets, and sponsorship ads in the program are available by contacting Rafi Topalian at (518) 272-2000, (518) 810-5018, or rafitop@aol.com.

ՏԷՐ ԱՄԲԱՐՏԱՒԱՆԻՑ ՀԱԿԱՌԱԿ ԿԱՑ

Տէրը հակառակ է ամբարտաւան մարդոց: Ան իր շնորհները կը բաշխէ խոնարհներուն: Մեր քարոզին բնաբան առած ենք Առակաց Գիրքի Երրորդ Գլխուն 34-րդ համարը: Ամբարտաւան եւ խոնարհ մարդոց մասին Աստուածաշունչի այլ գլուխներուն մէջ եւս գրութիւններ գոյութիւն ունին:

Ի՞նչ ըսել է ամբարտաւան, եւ ո՞վ է ամբարտաւանը: Հայերէն լեզուի բառագիրքին մէջ ամբարտաւան բառին դիմաց դրուած է հետեւեալ բացատրութիւնը. «Մարդ մը որ հպարտ է, սեգ եւ գորոզ է»: Ամբարտաւան բառին որպէս հոմանիշ գրուած են «ինքնահաւան» եւ «մեծամիտ» բառերը: Առակաց Գիրքը ամբարտաւան մարդոց մասին գործածած է նաեւ հետեւեալ բառերը. «Անգգամ, ամբարիշտ, անիրաւ, չար, անօրէն, խստասիրտ, քարկասիրտ, նենգաւոր, վատ, կարճամիտ, անողորմ, անխրատ եւ անմիտ»:

Յիսուս Քրիստոս իր քարոզութեանց մէջ շատ անգամներ ակնարկութիւն ըրաւ ամբարտաւան մարդոց մասին: Աղքատ Ղազարոսի պատմութեան մէջ բեհեզներ հագնող մեծահարուստը՝ ամբարտաւան մըն էր. որովհետեւ ան իր անսիրտ եւ անգգամ վարմունքով՝ աղքատ ու վիրաւոր Ղազարոսը կերակուրի փշրանքներէն զրկեց, եւ այդ պատճառաւ դժոխքի կրակներուն դատապարտուեցաւ: Տաճարին մէջ աղօթող փարիսեցիին ամբարտաւան էր: Ան ինքնահաւան էր: Բարձրաձայն իր անձը կը փառաբանէր եւ անկիւնը կեցող մաքսաւորը կը պախարակէր: Բայց Աստուած եսասէր փարիսեցիին աղօթքը մերժեց եւ մեղաւոր մաքսաւորը արդարացուց: Որովհետեւ այս վերջինը իր կուրծքը կը ծեծէր եւ «Աստուած քաւեա՛ գիս, մեղաւորս» կը պաղատէր: Անարդար դատաւորը ամբարտաւան էր. որովհետեւ ան ոչ Աստուծմէ կը վախճար եւ ոչ ալ մարդոցմէ կ'ամչնար: Ամբարտաւան էր նաեւ այն ագարակապանը՝ որուն արտերը շատ ցորեն տուին եւ ինք փոխանակ աղքատները յիշելու, իր անձին մասին միայն

խորհեցաւ եւ գոչեց. «Անձն իմ, կե՛ր, ա՛րբ եւ ուրա՛խ լեր»։ Եւ Աստուած իրեն մօտեցաւ եւ ըսաւ. «Անմի՛տ, այսօր քեզմէ հոգիդ պիտի պահանջեմ։ Հաւաքած ցորեններդ որո՞ւ պիտի մնան»։

Ամբարտաւան մարդոց ծանրագոյն մեղքը այն է որ կը խորհին թէ իրենք աստուածներ են՝ եւ կը ջանան իրաւ Աստուծոյ աթոռը բազմիլ։ Սատանան ատենին հրեշտակ էր։ Բայց գոհ չմնաց իրեն տրուած պատիւներէն։ Ուզեց Աստուծոյ հաւասար ըլլալ եւ ինկաւ իր փառքի աթոռէն առ յաւէտ։ Պատմութիւնը գահագուրկ ըրած է այն բոլոր աշխարհակալները, թագաւորները եւ առաջնորդները՝ որոնք իրենց անձին «մեծութենէն» կուրցած՝ ուզած են պաշտօնիլ որպէս Աստուած։

Մեր Երկնաւոր Հայրը խոնարհ մարդիկն է որ կը նախընտրէ եւ անոնց է որ կը բաշխէ Իր շնորհները։ Սուրբ Կոյս Մարիամ՝ Աստուածածին ըլլալու արժանացաւ խոնարհ ըլլալուն պատճառաւ։ Յիսուս Քրիստոս պալատներու արժանի էր, եւ սակայն մսուրի մը մէջ ծնաւ։ Թագաւոր մըն էր՝ եւ աւանակի մը վրայ բազմեցաւ։ Անուս եւ ձկնորս մարդիկը Իրեն աշակերտ եւ առաքեալ ըրաւ։ «Ես աղքատներուն քարոզելու համար եկած եմ» ըսաւ Ան։ Եւ երանի տուաւ այրիներուն, որբերուն, օտարականներուն, տառապեալ եւ սգաւոր մարդոց եւ ըսաւ. «Ձի այսպիսեաց է Արքայութիւնն Աստուծոյ»։ «Ո՛վ հայր, գոհ եմ եւ երջանիկ եմ որ դուն փառքդ ու գաղտնիքներդ տղաներու եւ մանուկներու յայտնեցիր եւ այս աշխարհի գիտուններն ու իմաստունները մերժեցիր», ըսաւ Ան։

Ո՞վ է խոնարհը։ Համաձայն Առակաց Գիրքին՝ խոնարհ մարդիկը կ'ըլլան՝ «արդար, բարեբար, հեզ, ուղիղ, երկիւղած, պարկեշտ, անարատ եւ նոյնիսկ իմաստուն եւ խորագէտ»։ Յովբ Երանելին խոնարհ մարդ մըն էր։ Խոնարհ էր նաեւ Բարի Սամարացին։

Խոնարհութիւնը անգօրութեան եւ վախկոտութեան նշան չէ, եւ ոչ ալ մարմնաւոր եւ կամ մտային հիւանդութեան նշան։ Խոնարհութիւնը օրհնութիւն մըն է, խոնարհութիւնը առաքինութիւն մըն է, խոնարհութիւնը շնորհ մըն է։ Տէրը հակառակ է ամբարտաւան մարդոց։ Տէրը Իր շնորհներուն կ'արժանացնէ խոնարհները։

St. Gregory
of Narek

Narek Night

... to be held at St. Peter Armenian Church



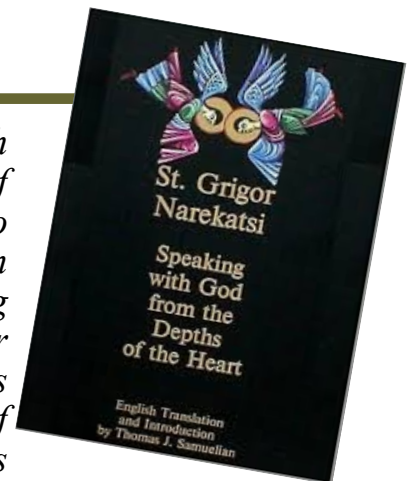
Join us every third Wednesday of the month as we read the prayers and learn the teachings of our great saint and mystic, St. Gregory of Narek.

Led by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian, all are invited to come explore the spirituality according to St. Gregory.

We will meet from 7:00 to 8:00pm.
Refreshments provided.

2017 DATES: Nov 15 and Dec 20

A 1,000 years ago St. Gregory of Narek (951-1003) set out, with much trepidation, on a sublime mission to translate the pure sighs of the “broken and contrite” heart into an offering of words pleasing to God. Beginning each prayer with the incantation “speaking with God from the depths of the heart,” he referred to himself as “a living book” (Prayer 39b) and to his book as a compendium of prayers for all times and nations - “a testament . . . its letters like my body, its message like my soul” (Prayer 54e). Thus, the man equated himself with the book, and ever since, the book has been equated with this saintly man. So the book like the man came to be known affectionately as ‘Narek.’

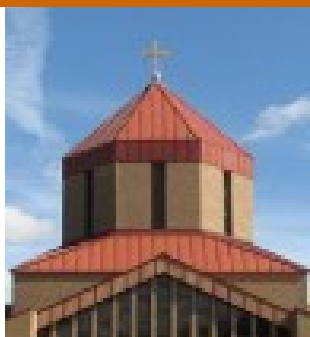


The

St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church
100 Troy-Schenectady Road, Watervliet
(518) 274-3673 | office@stpeterarmenianchurch.org

Divine EATERY

Bible Study & Potluck



Monthly
gatherings are
the first
Wednesday of
each month

NOV 1

DEC 6

**DELICIOUS FOOD FOR YOU AND
YOUR SOUL . . .**

◆ **CONTEMPORARY**

◆ **INFORMAL**

◆ **RELATABLE**

DROP IN WHENEVER YOU CAN.

**PRIOR ATTENDANCE IS NOT A
PREREQUISITE.**

DINNER ~ 6:00-7:00PM

A Taste of Armenia . . .

. . . Food, Music, Poetry

A reflection of what you would eat, see, and hear in Armenia!

Celebrating the 118th Anniversary of St. Peter Armenian Church

Sunday, November 12, 2017



This special program and luncheon will be held
in the Gdanian Auditorium following worship services.

Luncheon includes appetizers, kebab, soup, and desserts.

Cost for the luncheon is \$12 for adults;
\$6 for children age 12 and under.



Special Requiem for Benefactors & Forefathers

Divine Liturgy that morning will be followed by a special requiem in memory of all those who have established memorials and endowments at St. Peter Armenian Church.



Calling all
Moms, Dads, and
Grandparents!!



St. Peter Armenian Church will offer special monthly gatherings for newborns through 5-year-olds and their parents/grandparents of our community.

The tentative schedule will be:

12:30-12:50 Story & Prayer Time

12:50-1:10 Snack Time

1:10-1:30 Care & Share Time

2017 Dates:

November 14

December 12

Contact:

Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian
through the church office
at (518) 274-3673 or
office@stpeterarmenianchurch.org
for more information.



LITTLE FAITHFULS



Come One, Come All
to our
Annual
Holiday Bazaar 2017



-hosted by-

Women's Guild

St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church

100 Troy/Schenectady Rd. • Watervliet, NY 12189

(518) 274-3673 • stpeter.armch@prodigy.net

Sat. Dec. 2, 2017 (11 - 5 PM)

Sun. Dec. 3, 2017 (12 - 4 PM)

Fun for the Entire Family



Portion of Proceeds to benefit



**CENTER FOR DONATION
& TRANSPLANT
NEW YORK — VERMONT**

**Sat. & Sun.
Dec. 2 & 3
2017**

PASTRIES

ATTIC TREASURES

VENDORS

AUCTION

CRAFTS

FOOD

RAFFLE

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE PATRONS
located at the
HILLTOP PLAZA
143 Troy-Schenectady Road, Watervliet

George's
Auto Glass & Upholstery

Custom Upholstering, Insurance Work

Landau Tops, Boat Tops

Phone: (518) 274-4739



GOLDEN HOUSE
Chinese Restaurant
Cantonese, Szechuan & Hunan Cuisine
(Home Style)

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Mon - Thurs.: 10:30 am - 10:30 pm
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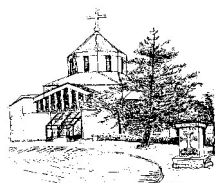
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Altar Servers ~ 6:00-7:00pm or 7:00-8:00pm (depending on their schedule)