# ԼՈՒՍԱԲԵՐ

# LOOSAPER

Սուրբ Պետրոս Հայաստաւեայց Եկեղեցի

ST. PETER ARMENIAN CHURCH

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

**MARCH-APRIL 2015**

*For the year 2015, the Loosaper will be dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915.*

# St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church

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Website: www.stpeterarmenianchurch.com
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**SUNDAY WORSHIP:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Morning Services | 9:15 a.m. |
| Sunday School & Adult Christian Ed Class | 9:30 a.m. |
| Divine Liturgy | 10:00 a.m. |

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**Charles Tutunjian**
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Latham, NY 12110 785-9423
E-mail: chastutu@gmail.com

| **CHURCH ORGANIZATION CONTACTS**: | | **PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON**: |
|---|---|---|
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| ACYOA Srs. | Jonathan Dadekian . . . . . 346-1819 | Yervant Kutchukian |
| Armenian School | Anahid Altounian . . . . . 463-2625 | Charles Tutunjian |
| Bible Study | Elsie Vozzy . . . . . 373-0242 | Yervant Kutchukian |
| Choir Director | Dn. Rafi Topalian . . . . . 272-2000 | Ron Kaiser |
| St. Peter Adult Fellowship | David Quinones . . . . . 274-4558 | Edward Belemjian |
| Sunday School | Yn. Paulette Doudoukjian. . 505-9893 | Leon Kaiser |
| Women's Guild | Mary Panjarjian . . . . . 729-4493 | Breann Parseghian |

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

| MAY-JULY SCHEDULE FOR PUBLICATION | |
|---|---|
| Articles Deadline | Monday, June 15 |
| Typing and Proofreading | Mon, June 15 - Fri, June 26 |
| To Printer | Friday, June 26 |
| Mailing | Wednesday, July 1 |

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: Yn. Paulette Doudoukjian & Joyce Kenosian
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: **$50 - Sam P. Boyian, Barbara Hrachian; $40 - Girard & Virginia Kasparian (CA); $25 - Helga Apkarian, Hrant & Alice Bardakjian, George & Elsie Bedrosian, Dorothy Giunta.**

Please use the form below to send your donation to:
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I prefer to have my issue of *Loosaper* sent to my ☐ home address and/or my ☐ e-mail address.

**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.

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA (EASTERN)
ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ ԱՐԵՒԵԼԵԱՆ ԹԵՄԻ

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

## THE EASTER MESSAGE OF ARCHBISHOP KHAJAG BARSAMIAN

***Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America***

# You Will Be My Witnesses

*Jesus replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.* (Acts 1:7-9)

THE BOOK OF ACTS BEGINS WITH AN ENDING: Jesus Christ's valedictory words to his disciples, just before he is "lifted up" out of human sight, to sit at the right hand of God. Before he does so, the risen Christ reminds his followers that human beings are limited creatures: even after the miracle of Christ's resurrection, the ways of God will always be mysterious to man, and some things are simply beyond man's capacity to know.

But in the very next moment he reassures the disciples that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit, to make them "witnesses" in their home city, the surrounding countryside, and indeed "to the ends of the earth." We are given in these words a vision of the future: of distant lands, and even distant times, where the followers of Jesus will be witnesses—or to use the Greek term, *martures*, "martyrs"—for the truth of Christ.

It is an especially poignant thought for us this Easter, one hundred years after the greatest episode of martyrdom our people have ever known. For it was in the distant land of Asia Minor (the cradle of the Christian church), some nineteen centuries after our Lord's ascension, that the Armenian people became Christ's witnesses.

The Armenian Genocide was not the first time Armenian Christians had suffered martyrdom. And sadly, neither would it be the last time martyrs would be made in our world—as the very headlines of today cry out to us. But the scale of the Genocide, the magnitude of the loss in human and civilizational terms, sets it apart—and defies comprehension even a century later.

And yet a century of reflection has also confirmed a feeling in our hearts—opened our minds to the realization that the Genocide is something larger, morally, than a national cataclysm. A realization has dawned that the people we lost—our own *mayrigs* and *hayrigs*, and ancestors who never had a chance to have progeny of their own—achieved, in their suffering and sacrifice, a significance that speaks to all of humanity.

We will act on that realization on April 23 of this year, during an historic ceremony at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. There, in the sight of our entire undivided church, the martyrs who died for their faith in 1915 will be acknowledged as saints of the Armenian Church. Forever afterwards we will regard them as exemplars of victorious faith, and not as figures of pity and injustice. We will no longer pray for the souls of our martyrs, but instead we will ask *them*, as saints, to pray *for us*. We will come to regard the items they left to us, even their photographs, as holy relics touched by the saints.

The canonization of our Genocide martyrs should become a transformative experience for us, in ways we cannot fully comprehend from our vantage point today. This year is only the beginning of understanding for us as a people. We can only imagine how the canonization might affect the perspective our people bring to the Genocide in the future.

The disciples standing with Jesus prior to his ascension must have had a similar experience. They had lived through the horrors of Christ's passion, crucifixion, and death; they had felt their own hearts engulfed in desperation and regret. And yet having endured all that, here they were, with their Lord palpably living before them, watching as he was lifted up into glory.

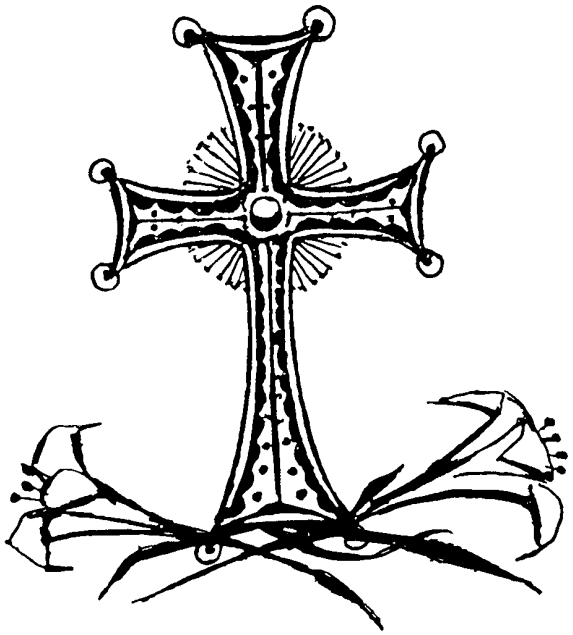
It is the Easter story that gives us the proper perspective from which to view the sainthood of our Genocide martyrs. For through the miracle of our Lord's resurrection we can see that the scars we bear today, the losses we have endured—whether inflicted one hundred years ago, or last night—Christ has borne before us. He accepted them in anticipation of our own afflictions, out of his love for us, to show he abides with us in triumph as well as tragedy.

The resurrection, above all, promises those who bear witness to our Lord that they will be remembered by him, lifted up, and made new in God's eternal kingdom.

That is the hope that Easter eternally represents. We can enter upon it, too, if we so choose. And Jesus Christ is our doorway. Let us carry that prayer in our hearts this Easter, as we affirm:

*Krisdos haryav ee merelotz! Orhnyal eh harootiunun Krisdosee!*
Christ is risen from the dead! Blessed is the resurrection of Christ!

Easter 2015



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA (EASTERN)
ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ ԱՐԵՒԵԼԵԱՆ ԹԵՄԻ

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

# ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՈՅ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ ԱՐԵՒԵԼԵԱՆ ԹԵՄԻ ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴ ԳԵՐԾ. Տ. ԽԱԺԱԿ ԱՐՔ. ՊԱՐՍԱՄԵԱՆԻ ՋԱՏԿԱԿԱՆ ՊԱՏԳԱՄԸ

## Իմ վկաներս պիտի ըլլաք

*Յիսուս պատասխանեց անոնց. «Ձեզի չի վերաբերիր գիտնալ ժամն ու ժամանակը զոր Հայրը սահմանած է իր սեփական իշխանութեամբ: Բայց երբ Սուրբ Հոգին իջնէ ձեր վրայ՝ դուք զօրութիւն պիտի ստանաք, եւ իմ վկաներս պիտի ըլլաք Երուսաղէմի, ամբողջ Հրէաստանի եւ Սամարիայի մէջ, եւ մինչեւ երկրիս ծայրերը»: Այս խօսքերն ըսելէ ետք, մինչ անոնք կը նայէին՝ համբարձաւ, եւ ամպ մը ծածկեց զայն անոնց աչքերէն:* (Գործք Ա. 7-9)

Գործք Առաքելոց գիրքը վերջաբանով մը կը սկսի. Յիսուս Քրիստոսի հրաժեշտի խօսքով՝ ուղղուած իր աշակերտներուն, մարդկային աչքերու տեսողութենէն «համբառնալէ» առաջ՝ իր Հօրը աջ կողմը նստելու համար: Յարուցեալ Քրիստոսը կը յիշեցնէ իր աշակերտներուն թէ մարդ արարածներու կարողութիւնները սահմանափակ են, նոյնիսկ Քրիստոսի հրաշալի Յարութենէն ետք, թէ Աստուծոյ գործերը միշտ խորհրդաւոր պիտի ըլլան մարդուն համար, եւ թէ կարգ մը բաներ պարզապէս վեր են մարդկային հասկացողութենէ:

Բայց յաջորդ խօսքերով ան կը վստահեցնէ իր աշակերտները թէ անոնք Սուրբ Հոգիի զօրութիւնը պիտի ստանան եւ «վկաներ» պիտի ըլլան իրենց քաղաքներուն եւ շրջակայքի բնակավայրերուն մէջ, ու արդարեւ «մինչեւ երկրիս ծայրերը»: Հրաժեշտի այս խօսքին մէջ կը բացուի տեսիլքը ապագային, հեռաւոր երկիրներու եւ նոյնիսկ հեռաւոր ժամանակներու՝ երբ Յիսուսի հետեւորդները իր վկաները պիտի ըլլան - կամ, Յունարէն բառը գործածելով՝ *մարտիրոսներ* - Քրիստոսի ճշմարտութեան սիրոյն:

Յատկապէս նշանակալից է այս մտածումը մեզի համար այս տարի՝ երբ կը նշենք մեր ժողովուրդի նահատակութեան մեծագոյն ղէպքին հարիւրամեակը: Հեռաւոր Փոքր Ասիայի, Քրիստոնեայ Եկեղեցւոյ օրրանին մէջ, Քրիստոսի համբարձումէն մօտ 1900 տարիներ ետք, Հայ ժողովուրդը Քրիստոսի վկայ դարձաւ:

Հայոց Ցեղասպանութիւնը առաջին անգամը չէր երբ Հայ քրիստոնեաներ կը մարտիրոսանային: Ու դժբախտաբար վերջին անգամը պիտի չըլլայ՝ երբ մեր աշխարհը մարտիրոսներ պիտի տեսնէ - ինչպէս կը կարդանք մեր օրերու ամէնօրեայ լուրերուն մէջ: Բայց Ցեղասպանութեան տարողութիւնը, աւերին ծաւալը՝ մարդկային կորուստի ու քաղաքակրթութեան չափանիշներով, կը զատորոշէ զայն - ու կը մնայ հասկացողութենէ վեր՝ նոյնիսկ դար մը ետք:

Եւ ահա դար մը անցած՝ յետադարձ ակնարկ մը կը հաստատէ ինչ որ կը զգանք մեր սրտերուն մէջ: Իրողութիւն է որ Ցեղասպանութիւնը բարոյապէս աւելի մեծ իրադարձութիւն մըն է քան ազգային աղէտ մը, եւ որ մեր մէջ կ՚արթնցնէ գիտակցութիւնը թէ անոնք՝ որոնք կորսնցուցինք մեր մայրերն ու հայրերը, մեր նախնիքը՝ որոնք առիթը չունեցան ծնունդ տալու իրենց սերունդներուն իրենց ցաւին ու տառապանքին մէջ իսկ կրցան իրագործել նշանակալից իրողութիւն մը՝ որ կը խօսի համայն մարդկութեան:

Այս իրողութիւնը աւելի եւս պիտի իմաստաւորուի այս տարի Ապրիլ 23-ին՝ Մայր Աթոռ Ս. Էջմիածնի մէջ՝ պատմական արարողութեան մը ընթացքին: Այդ պահուն, ի տես մեր ամբողջ ու միասնական եկեղեցիին, 1915-ի մեր մարտիրոսները՝ որոնք նահատակուեցան իրենց հաւատքին համար, պիտի սրբադասուին Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ կողմէ: Այդ օրուընէ ետք զանոնք պիտի տեսնենք որպէս յաղթական հաւատքի օրինակելի վկաներ, եւ ո՛չ թէ միայն որպէս անարդարութեան խղճալի զոհեր: Այլեւս պիտի դադրինք մեր նահատակներու հոգիներուն համար աղօթելէ, ու

փոխարէն պիտի դիմենք իրենց՝ որպէս սուրբեր բարեխօսելու մեզի համար: Այն բոլոր իրերը որ անոնք թողած են մեզի, նոյնիսկ իրենց լուսանկարները, մեզի համար պիտի ըլլան սրբոց նշխարներ:

Չեղասպանութեան նահատակներուն սրբադասումը մեզի համար պէտք է ըլլայ այլակերպութեան առիթ մը, թէկուզ տակաւին անկարող ըլլանք ըմբռնելու անոր տարողութիւնը այժմու մեր դիտանկիւնէն նայած: Որպէս ժողովուրդ, այս տարի սկիզբն է միայն հասկնալու տարողութիւնը: Հիմա միայն կրնանք երեւակայել թէ սրբադասումը ի՛նչ ազդեցութիւն պիտի ունենայ մեր ժողովուրդի ապագայի մտապատկերին վրայ՝ Չեղասպանութեան նկատմամբ:

Իսկ համբարձման ատեն՝ Յիսուսի հետ գտնուող աշակերտները նման փորձառութիւն մը պէտք է ունեցած ըլլային: Անոնք ապրած էին Քրիստոսի չարչարանքներուն, խաչելութեան եւ մահուան արհաւիրքը. իրենց սրտերը պատուած էին վշտի ու անյուսութեան զգացումներով: Բայց այս բոլորէն ետք, հիմա իրենց առջեւ շօշափելիօրէն կը կենար իրենց Տէրը, իրենց աչքերը յառած անոր՝ մինչ ան կը համբառնար փառքով:

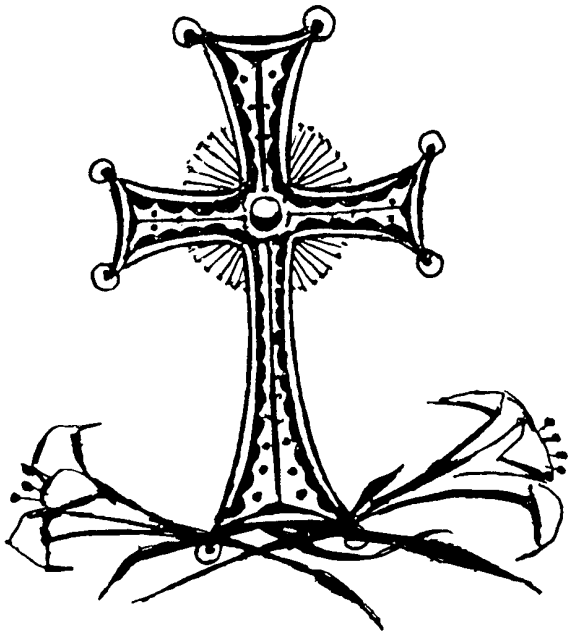
Քրիստոսի Յարութիւնն է՝ ի վերջոյ որ մեզի կու տայ ուղիղ դիտանկիւնը տեսնելու Չեղասպանութեան նահատակներուն սրբադասումը. որովհետեւ մեր Տիրոջ Յարութեան հրաշքին շնորհիւ է որ կրնանք տեսնել թէ ներկայի մեր վէրքերը, մեր կորուստները - ըլլան անոնք հարիւր տարի առաջ կամ երէկ - Քրիստոս կրեց մեզմէ առաջ: Ան իր տառապանքները տարաւ ի հաշիւ մեր վիշտերուն, մեզի հանդէպ ունեցած իր սիրով, ցոյց տալու մեզի թէ ան բաժնեկից է թէ՛ մեր յաղթանակներուն եւ թէ՛ մեր ցաւերուն:

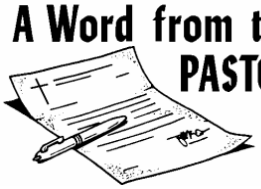
Քրիստոսի Յարութիւնն է, ամէն բանէ աւելի, որ կը հաստատէ մեր Տիրոջ խոստումը թէ ինք պիտի յիշէ անոնք՝ որոնք իր վկաները կը դառնան, պիտի վերացնէ զանոնք, եւ նոր արարածներ դարձնէ Աստուծոյ յաւիտենական արքայութեան մէջ:

Ա՛յս է Զատկուան յաւիտենական յոյսը: Մենք եւս բաժնեկից կրնանք դառնալ այդ յոյսին՝ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի միջոցաւ: Թող այդ յոյսը ապրի մեր սրտերուն մէջ՝ երբ իրարու կ՚աւետենք.

ՔՐԻՍՏՈՍ ՅԱՐԵԱՒ Ի ՄԵՌԵԼՈՑ
ՕՐՀՆԵԱԼ Է ՅԱՐՈՒԹԻՒՆՆ ՔՐԻՍՏՈՍԻ

Ս. Զատիկ 2015





## A Word from the PASTOR . . . Rev. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian

### 'A LONG WINTER'

*(Spiritual message recently shared via e-mail and Facebook.)*

This winter we've had lots of snow, record breaking cold, extreme wind chills, historic icicles, and again more snow. Aren't we all ready for warmer weather to help us thaw out and feel better? It's amazing what warmth can do! We save money on using less heat in our homes; we don't have to warm up our cars for 15 minutes; we do not have to wear layers upon layers of clothing, gloves, hats, scarves, thermals, etc…

We just seem to function better in the spring time. The world around us seems to come back to life -- the grass gets greener, flowers begin to sprout and buds form on trees. The thaw from the cold chill even helps our mind. We seem to think a bit more clearer and not focused on avoiding frostbite! The gripping cold can do a number on our body, mind, and even our soul.

As a parish priest, I notice that attendance drops dramatically in the winter months. It's harder for people to get out of their homes and worship in God's House. The church building can feel cold. We may be less motivated to pray. And perhaps we fill our soul with other forms of warmth in the winter months.

Make no mistake, the only true warmth we find is found in our faith and belief in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is the true light that has come to enlighten every person. When we look to scripture to find images of Christ as a source of warmth for the soul, it becomes quite evident, even in the depths of our coldest days on earth that Jesus Christ is light, warmth, fire.

Here are some scripture references to support this notion:

- John 8:12 ~ When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world."
- Matthew 4:16 ~ The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned.
- Matthew 17:2 ~ His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.
- Ephesians 5:14 ~ Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The theology of the Armenian Church also stresses the fact that Jesus Christ is warmth and fire for our souls. Let's take a look at one of the twenty-four prayers found in "I confess with Faith" written by St. Nersess Shnorhali, a great saint and prolific writer of the Armenian Church.

Shnorhali prays -- "O Christ, who are the Living Fire, inflame my soul with the fire of Your love, which You did send forth upon the earth, that it may burn the stains of my soul, sanctify my conscience, purge the sins of my body, and kindle in my heart the light of Your knowledge. Have mercy upon Your Creatures and upon me, a great sinner." (Prayer #10)

Do not be fooled, during all four seasons, the Armenian Church *is* a place to receive the light of Christ, which in turn will shed light and warmth on your darkest and coldest days. The Armenian Church is here for you and you are here on earth to be a worshipping part of the Church.

Let us remember the words of a great Armenian poet, Vahan Tekeyan, as he describes the The Armenian Church: "The Armenian Church is a peaceful haven across turbulent seas. It is fire and light in the cold of night; it is shady forest in the scorching midday sun where lilies bloom by the River of Hymns."

Let's go, fire up those bodies, minds, and souls and join us this Sunday for the warming worship found in The Armenian Church.

*God bless you! Fr. Stepanos*

## Parish Council Message

After two years as Parish Council Chair, I will be stepping down from the position in April. However, I will remain a member of the Parish Council for another year, and I look forward to working with the new Chair and helping to ensure a smooth transition.

The goal of any Parish Council should be to advance the mission of the Church and take steps to ensure its long term future. During the past two years, I believe that we have continued the progress made by previous Councils in several important ways – these include repainting the sanctuary, repairing our leaky flat roofs, and fixing the lights in the main parking lot.

Our current initiative – the Postoian Pavilion Project – will be another positive addition to the Church grounds that will hopefully serve us well for many years to come. Looking further ahead, a committee has been formed to explore options for renovating the Gdanian Auditorium. This is another project which holds great promise for the Church.

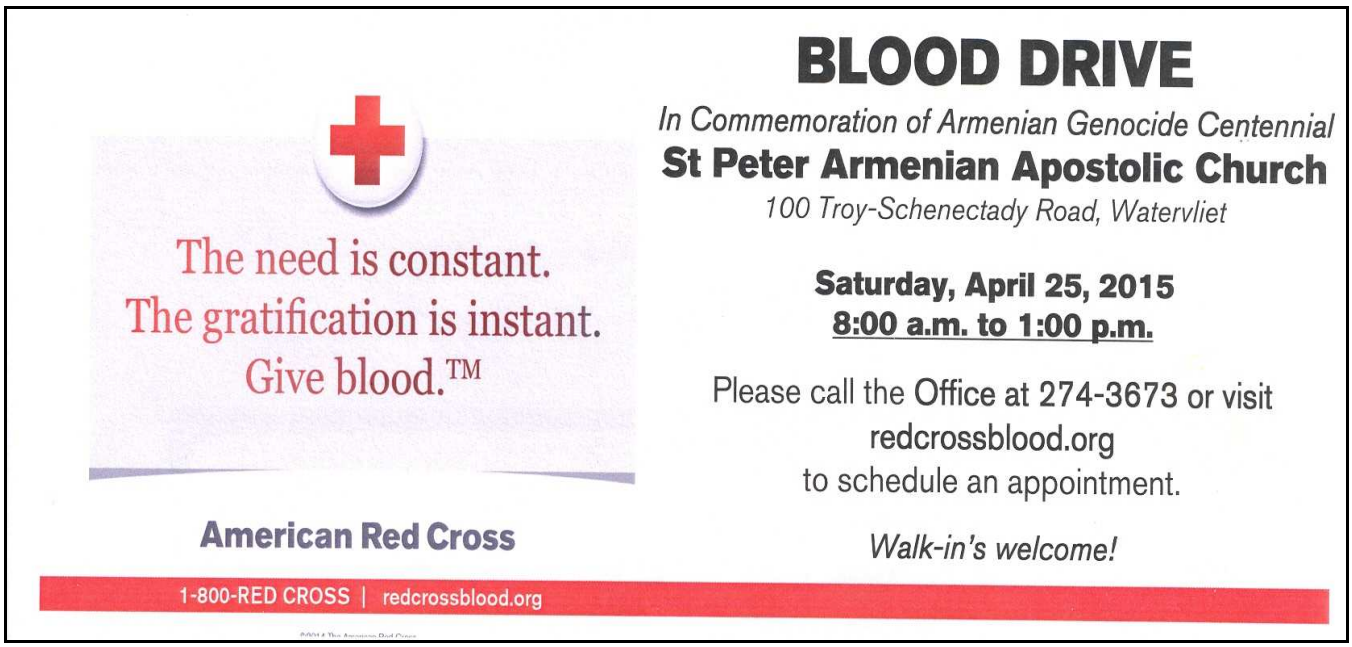
That said, there is still much work to do. Two areas of focus will continue to be bolstering the Church's finances and engaging new parishioners. These will no doubt be long-term challenges, but I am confident that St. Peter's will meet these challenges head-on – just as we always do.

On a personal note, I would like to extend my thanks to Der Stepanos, Lori Payette, and all the past and present members of the Parish Council who have helped make this job so much easier than it might have been otherwise.

And of course, I also want to thank all the members of the Parish who do so much for the Church on a regular basis. One of the benefits of being Council Chairman is having the opportunity to see and hear about all the little things that parishioners do behind the scenes for the benefit of the Church – things that often go unnoticed or which are known to only a few. If I were to compile a list of such things it would fill multiple pages of the *Loosaper*.

It has been an honor and a privilege having served in this role. I step down knowing that St. Peter Armenian Church has a bright future ahead, as I look forward to playing a role in helping the Church continue to serve the needs of its community members.

*Gil Chorbajian*
*Parish Council Chairman*



*The following is a list of participants to date in our 2015 Membership/Stewardship Pledge program. At the end of each year, a Membership Dues/Stewardship Pledge Form is mailed to all parishioners requesting their annual Dues/Pledge commitment for the following year. The list below represents those who have made that commitment thus far for 2015; please accept our thanks. If your name does not appear in the list, please consider making that commitment now by completing the form on the following page or by contacting the church office.*

# 2015 Membership / Stewardship Participants

Rosemary Ammian
Winifred Ammian
Helga Apkarian
Beatrice Arzoumanian*
Gerald Arzoumanian*
Aram A. Atashian, Jr.
Betty Avakian
Shirley Avakian
Nazar J. Bakerian
Ashley Bedian*
Robert & Sandra Bedian
George & Elsie Bedrosian
Donald & Rhonda Boyajian
Leonard & Antoinette Buchakjian
Charles & Alice Chorbajian
Gilbert & Bridgette Chorbajian
Herbert & Linda Chorbajian
Robert & Holly Dadekian*
Rich DeMartino & Barbara Derian*
Isabel Derian
Paul & Melissa DerOhannesian*
Dr. & Mrs. Neil Devejian*
Suzanne Dickinson*
Marguerite Djehizian
Yn. Paulette Doudoukjian*
Arleen Drooby
Sherry Edwards
John & Debbie Ekmalian
Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian*
Arpy Ernest
Sarkis✞ & Julie Garabedian
Sabella Gasanova and
Konstanin Sarumov*
Yn. Zabelle Gdanian
Sonia Hachigian
Joanne C. Hartunian*
Mary Hartunian
Richard & Beth Hartunian
Barbara Hrachian*
Seren Hrachian
Suren & Sarah Hrachian
Hripsime & Phyllis Jevanian*
Donald Kaiser
Leon & Susan Kaiser
Ronald P. Kaiser
Edward & Lucille Kaprielian
Grace Karian
Doris Kasarjian Kavoukian (CA)
Linda Kazanjian
Robert Kazanjian (GA)
James & Marion Kehrer
Martin & Joyce Kenosian
David Ketchoyan
Karen Khachadourian
Russell & Sandra Kilidjian
Harry & Marion Koshgarian*
Peter Koshgarian*
Isabel Krempa*
Steven Krempa*
Charles & Patricia Krikorian
Lucy Krikorian
Armenak & Winifred Kutchukian
George & Virginia Mahserjian
Nellie Marderosian
Katrina Mayba
Sean & Alice McMullan
Andrey & Varvara Meshkov
David & Carmen Minassian
H. Khachik & Mary Minassian
R. Mihran & Ovsanna Mooradian
Robert Moroukian*
Lucy Morton
Gregory & Marjorie✞ Nazarian
Betty Jane Nevins
John & Karen Nevins
Joseph & Patricia O'Keefe
George & Elizabeth Osganian*
Mary Panjarjian
Florence Paparian
Helen Paparian
David & Breann Parseghian
Kevork Parseghian
David F. Quinones
Alice Sanjian Rotondi
George & Joanne Scaringe
Charlotte Sevazlian
Farid F. Shafik, MD (CT)*
Harry R. Shamlian*
Lucille Shamlian
Toros Shamlian, Jr.
Carole Kazanjian Smith (FL)
Leo Sogoian
Lucille Sogoian
Susan Sogoian
Josephine Speanburg
Claudia Suppa
Fay Talarico (GA)
Kevork Torossian
Charles & Carol Tutunjian
Edward & Adrina Tutunjian
Nazar & Joan Tutunjian
Vartan Vartanian, Jr.
Daniel Vartigian
Ralph Vartigian
Susan Wendt*
Alice✞ Wildman
Mary Yegoryan and
Alex Safarov

✞Deceased

***Is Your Name Here?***

**Indicates those who have increased their pledge from the previous year or are new to the Membership Dues / Stewardship Pledge program this year. We thank you!*

## "GIFT OF PRAYER" MINISTRY

Prayers may be requested for healing, recognition or remembrance and may be made by contacting the church office. Both the person making the prayer request, as well as the people we are praying for, will be remembered. A beautiful "Gift of Prayer" card will be sent out to the person(s) as an acknowledgment of your prayer request.

# 2015 Membership Dues/Stewardship Pledge Form

Name(s): _____

Please list name(s) of all committed givers.

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

***"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you.""***

*(Deut 16:17)*

## St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church
## Membership Dues and Stewardship Pledge Form — Giving 2015

There are two categories listed below. Membership Dues are necessary for St. Peter Church to pay to the Diocese in New York City. Stewardship pledge is an individual commitment to help meet the needs of our own St. Peter Church parish.

A) **Membership Dues for 2015***.....$_____

($150 times the number of each dues-paying member in household.)
Dues-paying members of St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church must be at least 18 years of age and pay the annual dues of $150 in order to be in good standing. Only dues-paying members in good standing may vote at Parish Assembly Meetings or hold elective offices.

B) **Stewardship Pledge for 2015**.....$_____

(Total for all persons listed above.)
A pledge is a personal commitment, in addition to or besides Membership Dues, to support the mission and goal of St. Peter Armenian Church.

C) **Total Contribution for 2015**.....$_____

(Add Line A and Line B)

SIGNATURE:_____ DATE:_____

Please return this completed form to the church office as soon as possible to activate your 2015 Dues/ Pledge account. No payment is necessary to submit a Pledge Form. It is asked that Dues/Pledge monies be paid by the end of the 2015 calendar year.* Payments may now be made online through the St. Peter Church website www.stpeterarmenianchurch.com.

If you have any questions on how to fill out this form, please call the church office at 274-3673. Once this form has been submitted, you will be assigned an account number and offering envelopes (if you choose to use them) can be picked up the following week at the church office.

***According to Diocesan by-laws, Dues must be paid in full prior to end of the calendar year.**

❒ **Yes,** please issue me a box of offering envelopes.

❒ **No,** a box of offering envelopes will not be needed.

## Church Organization News

# *Women's Guild*

I am honored to again serve as Chairman of the Women's Guild of the St. Peter Armenian Church. I am very excited as we move forward with a host of events that will bring our community to the forefront in the Capital District, specifically on the occasion of the Centennial Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide of 1915. It is befitting for us to show our resilience, dedication and talents through our culture, traditions and cuisine.

For those of you who were unable to attend our general membership meeting last November, the newly elected executive board members are: Mary Panjarjian, Chairman; Claudia Suppa, Vice Chairman; Alice McMullen, Treasurer; Phyllis Jevanian, Recording Secretary; Holly Dadekian, Correspondence Secretary; Alice Chorbajian, Valerie Demarest, Charlotte Sevazlian, and Carol Tutunjian as Advisors; and Sharon Foley as Ex-Officio.

We had a successful Tahin Hatz Bake Day thanks to the many hands that came together to roll, make, bake and wow everyone that purchased them. I thank Lucy Morton for taking the orders and reservations for the Michink (Mid-Lenten) dinner that followed on Wednesday March 18th. Many thanks to our veteran members Alice Chorbajian, Adrina Tutunjian and Mary Hartunian for their expertise in making the Vosbov Kufte. It was delicious! A special thank you to Linda Simidian for her help in the kitchen as well.

On Sunday, March 22, we commemorated Saintly Women's Day with an appropriate program dedicated to the legacy of the women of the Armenian Genocide, many of whom endured horrific atrocities and yet remained strong in their Christian faith. Thanks to them we are here today to tell the world about their story, our story.

Below is a list of important dates/events that you may want to mark on your calendar and save this copy of Loosaper for easy reference-

**Saturday, April 18:** A '*Spring Fling'* outing is planned for a fun trip to the Grapevine Farms in Cobbleskill for lunch and relaxation. Space is limited, therefore reservations are required and can be made by contacting Claudia Suppa at (518) 783-1262.

**Saturday, May 16:** The annual *Mother's Day Luncheon* will be held this year at Bellini's Restaurant, 19 Clifton Country Road, Clifton Park starting at 12:30 p.m. Cost is $28 for adults; $15 for children under age 12. There is a delightful array of luncheon entrees from which to choose. Reservations are required and must by made by May 9 by calling Dolly Shamlian at 640-9678. Dolly will also take your entrée selection. (See flyer in this issue for full details.)

**Saturday & Sunday, June 6 & 7:** Don't forget to visit the Hye Bake Shop at this year's Armenian Festival with a wide variety of Armenian treats prepared by the St. Peter Women's Guild. (See flyer in this issue for more details on the Festival.) Please sign up on the volunteer board as soon as it is made available. We need everyone's participation to make this year's Festival the best ever! We can accomplish that if we all work together in harmony and goodwill with one goal in mind; serving God and our beloved Church.

As always, dues are due. See Alice McMullen to receive your new membership book, or if you prefer to send a check, please mail it to St. Peter Armenian Church, PO Box 196, Watervliet, NY 12189.

Our group was saddened at losing two of our dear members, Alice Wildman and Aghavni Topalian. They will be sorely missed. May God enlighten their souls. May their lives inspire us to cherish this organization and inspire others to join us and find out what the Women's Guild is all about.

*God bless!*
*Mary Panjarjian, Chairman*

# *Sunday School*

The 2014-15 "Think Orange" Sunday School year is coming to an end with the last day of classes on Sunday, May 17 (prior to Memorial Day and the Armenian Festival). With the events taking place in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the next few weeks will be challenging; however, the staff is determined to get in as much class time as possible. Please note the following schedule of classes and kindly make every effort to bring your children to church on time on Sunday mornings, at 9:30 a.m. sharp!!

**April 12** - regular class schedule
**April 19** - regular class schedule; Sunday School hosted coffee hour following services
**April 26** - no Church or Sunday School; Times Square Genocide Commemoration*
**May 3** - no Sunday School; Church Services being held at Holy Cross, Troy
**May 10** - regular class schedule
**May 17** - last day of classes with closing exercises and Sunday School hosted coffee hour

Please note that the Adult Christian Education classes held on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. are also still going strong! It's never too late to join in. The adult classes have made for a great year for discussion as part of our overall "Think Orange" goal!

Thank you to all families who participated in the Sunday School Lenten Drive Project. We will collect all the money on Sunday, April 19; then send the total amount to the Diocesan Department of Christian Education for distribution to the two chosen funds: Helping Children Out of Poverty and United to End Genocide. We welcome additional donations from parishioners to combine with our Sunday School efforts. Please see me if you are interested in making a contribution.

I thank my staff for their dedication as we all worked this year to make everyone "Think Orange!"

*Parishes in the Northeast have been asked to cancel services on Sunday, April 26 in order that as many clergy and parishioners as possible be present in New York for the 100th Anniversary Commemoration of the Genocide. Sunday and Armenian School students have been asked to participate by processing to Times Square from the Diocese. Round-trip transportation from Watervliet is available for $22 per person by contacting the St. Peter Church office. Sandwiches will be provided at the Cathedral at 11:00 a.m. with a procession departure to Times Square at 11:45 a.m. *The Diocese needs to know of the participation of our students in the procession. Please contact me with your intent to attend as soon as possible.*

*Paulette Doudoukjian*

# *St. Peter Adult Fellowship*

The Executive Committee is busy planning our annual program including luncheons, field trips, social fellowship and related activities. Our primary concern is having activities that would be of interest to members of our adult and elderly community. Our activities are open. “Membership” is not a requirement to participate. In fact, we encourage your interest and participation, which would be used as a measure of our success; therefore, please look at all our activities as an open invitation to participate, without incurring any obligation to formally join the group.

One of our usual special activities is to attend a musical theater presentation and luncheon each year at the Mac-Haydn Theater in Chatham, NY. This year we are planning on attending the August 5th matinee performance of “West Side Story” preceded by lunch at the Jackson’s Old Chatham House. We have ideal seats, some in the front row so that we could accommodate the handicapped. Since we carpool, the cost is reasonable. If interested, contact Martin Kenosian at (518) 785-3140.

Information on our activities is published in the church’s Sunday Bulletin, as well as an e-mail version distributed each week. If you wish, we can add you to the list for our calling committee to personally contact you with details on each of our activities. Please tell us of your interest, by contacting our church office. We are looking forward to an interesting and enjoyable year.

*Martin Kenosian*

# Parish Community News

## Sacraments and Rites

**Funerals**

**Sarkis Garabedian** entered his eternal rest on February 2, 2015. He is survived by his beloved wife of over 66 years, Julie M. Tutunjian Garabedian; two daughters, Lucy (Augustus) Vozzy and Linda (James) Khachadourian; a son, Christopher (Dawn) Garabedian; five grandchildren; and six great grandchildren. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on February 7, 2015.

**Alice N. Wildman** entered her eternal rest on February 18, 2015. She is survived by a daughter, Janice (Martin) Toomajian; two grandchildren, Martin & Anne Toomajian; three nephews; two nieces; two sisters-in-law; and several grandnephews and grandnieces. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on February 23, 2015.

**Edward A. Belemjian** entered his eternal rest on February 26, 2015. He is survived by two sons, Dr. Mark (Rhoda) Belemjian (MA) and David Belemjian; two grandchildren, Jacob & Madeline Belemjian (MA); a brother, John Belemjian (FL); a sister, Lucille Dolab (CA); and several nieces and nephews. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on March 2, 2015.

**Aghavni Topalian** entered her eternal rest on March 3, 2015. She is survived by two sons, Berj (Lusine) Topalian and Rafi (Marianne) Topalian; two grandchildren, Natalie & Bedros "Peter" Topalian; a step-granddaughter, Sarah; a niece, Carolyn (Frank) Marchese; a great niece and a great nephew; and many wonderful friends. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on March 9, 2015.

**Marjorie Ann Nazarian** entered her eternal rest on March 18, 2015. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Gregory Nazarian; two daughters, Kimberly (Jay) Ashby (OH) and Marion (James) Kehrer; a sister-in-law and best friend, Lucy Krikorian; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on March 21, 2015.

**Richard 'Dick' Dildarian** entered his eternal rest on March 29, 2015. He is survived by three daughters, Lorraine (Reginald) Thorne, Carol (Richard) Sherwood, and Diane (Paul) Surabian (RI); eight grandchildren; and his dear friend and brother-in-law, Harry Keyishian. The funeral service was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on April 4, 2015.

**Karasoonk** (40-Day Memorial)

February 1, 2015 — **Mary Shanks** - requested by Mary P. Shanks; Cecilia Burgess.

March 1, 2015 — **Berjouhe (Virginia) Azizian** - requested by Irina, Edward, Guerman, Felix, Adria, Felipe, Mia, and Rogiom Ermolenko.

March 22, 2015 — **Sarkis Garabedian** - requested by Julie Garabedian; Augustus & Elsie Vozzy & Family; Christopher & Dawn Garabedian & Family; James & Linda Khachadourian & Family.

**Dareleetz** (First Anniversary)

February 1, 2015 — **Vahan Zarifian** - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Suppa & Family.

## Hokehankist

February 1, 2015 — **Alice Zarifian; Roger & Christine Suppa; Armenag & Aghavne Guendjoian; Bedros & Gadar Zarifian** - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Suppa & Family.

**Setrak Avedisian; Varujan Avedisian; Rehan Melkonian; Mariam Melkonian; Araksi Melkonian** - requested by Anoosh Abdo.

**Sergy & Hasmik Avetisian; Aida Avetisian; Armen & Araxi Avetisian; Hasmik Avetisian** - requested by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).

March 1, 2015 — **The 21 Coptic Martyrs; for all the Christians of the Middle East** - requested by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).

**John Jevanian; Martin & Alice Jevanian; Hrant & Orzen Siekertzian; Lillian Badishkanian; Stepan Siekertzian** - requested by Jevanian, Tutunjian, and McMullan Families.

**Khachadour Karayan; Gulenya Gitgian; Siroun Gitgian; Lousazeen Karagozian; Sadie Karagozian; Nazar Karagozian** - requested by Vartan & Liza Karayan.

**R. Paul Moroukian, Sr.; Alice Moroukian** (Twenty-Fifth Anniversary) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. R. Paul Moroukian, Jr. & Family; Mr. & Mrs. Gary Clark & Family; Pamela Moroukian (IL).

**Ann Vartigian** (Eighth Anniversary) - requested by Ralph Vartigian; Curt & Debbie Erlandson (NJ); Stephen & Ashley Schindewolf; Craig & Evan Schindewolf; Dan & Karen Vartigian; George & Betty Osganian & Family; Dick & Libby Osganian & Family; Bertha Kazanjian; Rosemary Ammian; Charleen Akullian; Doris Kasarjian Kavoukian; Jim & Mary Kalteux.

March 22, 2015 — **Khachadour Nakeshjian; Satenig Nakeshjian; Mildren & George Shilo; Joan Quinones** - requested by David Quinones & Family.

## Altar Flowers

February 1, 2015 — Mary P. Shanks in memory of **Jimmie & Mary Shanks.**

March 1, 2015 — George & Dick Osganian & Families in memory of **Ann Vartigian.**

## Altar Candles

February 1, 2015 — Mary P. Shanks in memory of **Jimmie & Mary Shanks.**

March 29, 2015 — Florence Paparian in memory of **Natalie Kachougian** (Second Anniversary).

## Palm Sunday & Easter Flowers

The palm trees that decorated the sanctuary and the palms distributed on Palm Sunday, March 29, were donated by Mary Hartunian in memory of **Katherine Mahserjian.**

Easter lilies for Holy Week and Easter were donated by: Betty Avakian and Shirley Avakian & Family in memory of **Avakian & Baronian** Families; Yn. Zabel Gdanian in memory of **Fr. Garen Gdanian;** Sonia Hachigian in loving memory of **Sarkis Hachigian;** Isabel Krempa in memory of **loved ones;** Betty Jane Nevins in memory of **William T. Nevins, Sr.**

## 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 completing the request form available in this issue or 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.

| | |
|---|---|
| February 1, 2015 | **Edward Belemjian, Sarkis Garabedian, Suren & Sarah Hrachian, Gary Krikorian, Betty Jane Nevins, Joan Prince, Anna Pascazio, and Joan Tutunjian** - prayers of healing and restoration. |
| March 1, 2015 | **Hrant Bardakjian** - prayers of healing and restoration as requested by Dolly Shamlian. |
| March 22, 2015 | **Aghavni Topalian✞ and Rose Lana✞** - prayers of remembrance as requested by Isabel Derian. |
| March 29, 2015 | **Claire Wakeman✞** - prayers of remembrance as requested by Barbara Derian & Richard DeMartino. |

## Special Donations

An additional **Gift of Love** donation on the occasion of the St. Peter Armenian Church 115th Anniversary in October 2014 was received from Mark Anigian & Family ($10).

Additional **Christmas Yughakin** donations were received from the following: Anonymous ($100), Robert & Elizabeth Runnells (ME) ($100); Ann Serian ($50), Betty Avakian ($50), and Sam P. Boyian ($35).

**General donations** were received from the following: **A neighbor of the Doudoukjians** ($10) in appreciation of Jonah shoveling snow for them; **Michael Jesep** ($25), Jonah Doudoukjian's 8th grade teacher, in appreciation of Fr. Stepanos' class presentation on the Armenian Genocide; **Ara & Rachel Altounian** ($150) in memory of Harry Dolab.

Donations totaling $473.00 were received in a special plate collection on March 1, 2015 for an **Armenian family in Dallas, Texas** who lost their business and livelihood in a fire.

The **Sunday School and Armenian School** donated their coffee hour basket collection from March 8 ($39) to help offset the cost of tuning the piano in the church hall.

Donations totaling $218.00 were received in a special plate collection on March 22, 2015 for the **Women's Guild Central Council** in commemoration of Saintly Women's Day.

Donations totaling $501 were received in a special plate collection on March 29, 2015 for the **family of James Brad Nicholson,** who passed away very suddenly on January 21. James is the grandson-in-law of Russ and Sandy Kilidjian. May God's peace and comfort be with the family during these difficult times.

Donations totaling $940.83 were received at the first in the series of events being held in 2015 to commemorate the **100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.** These proceeds will go toward offsetting the cost of bus transportation to New York City to attend the commemoration event, hosted by the Knights & Daughters of Vartan, that is taking place in Times Square on Sunday, April 26. Refer to the page in this issue for more information about the bus trip and many more events taking place in commemoration of this special Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

## 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.

| | |
|---|---|
| March 8 | **St. Peter Armenian School & Sunday School**<br>*Lenten program and Sunday School Lenten Drive* |
| March 22 | **St. Peter Women's Guild**<br>*in commemoration of Saintly Women's Day* |

## Words of Thanks

*Fr. Stepanos,*

*On behalf of myself and all the wonderful students of Team 83, we want you to know how much we appreciate you taking time out of your busy day to share your knowledge and wisdom about this important subject [the Armenian Genocide].*

*(From Jonah Doudoukjian's 8th grade social studies teacher at Iroquois Middle School, Niskayuna.)*

*Best, best wishes, Michael Jesep*

*To our St. Peter Church Family,*

*Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the hospital visits, cards, calls, words of encouragement, and especially for the prayers during my recent surgery and illness. Your prayers and caring thoughtfulness brings me each day closer to recovery.*

*A special thank you to Fr. Stepanos and Fr. Bedros Shetilian for the prayers and visits both in the hospital and at home, as well as to the St. Peter Church Sunday School students for the thoughtful card they sent — it indeed put a smile on my face.*

*I pray God will continue to restore my health and that I may return to serve our Lord again each Sunday. Thank you and may God bless each and everyone of you.*

*Hrant [and Alice] Bardakjian*

## Announcements

**2015 GRADUATES:** We ask all who are to graduate from High School, College or a University this spring to kindly send their names to the church office by Monday, June 15, for publication in the next issue of *Loosaper.* Please include the name of the school, the degree which you will receive and your future plans.

## Rite of Grave Blessing

Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian will be available on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, to perform the Rite of Grave Blessing at the following locations:

**Elmwood Cemetery in Troy**
from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

**Albany Rural Cemetery**
from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Memory Gardens**
from 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Visits to other cemeteries may be made by contacting the church office by Friday, May 22.

# In Lieu of Flowers Donations

## IN MEMORY OF EDWARD A. BELEMJIAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| $ 500 | Dr/Mrs Robert Dadekian | | |
| 250 | Jack & Lucille Dolab & Family (CA) | Joseph Fogarty | |
| 200 | Richard & Valerie Buchakjian | The Chekijian Family | Mr/Mrs Zaven Dadekian (NJ) |
| | John & Freda Kaladjian & Family (CAN) | Clare & Thomas O'Brien (OH) | Bett Ounjian (CAN) |
| | | Toros Shamlian, Jr. | Adrina & Edward Tutunjian and Ballmer, Carroll & Roberts Families |
| 150 | Mr/Mrs Herbert Chorbajian | | |
| 100 | Ara Baligian | George & Lisa Bedian | Judy & Eugene Bedian |
| | Glenn & Diane Belemjian (TN) | Michael & Sue Belemjian | Greg & Mary Belemjian & Family |
| | Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian | Joyce Dadekian | and Chuck Belemjian (CA) |
| | DerOhannesian Families | Karnig & Karen Durgarian (MA) | John & Deborah Ekmalian |
| | Leonard & Lissa Fine | Barbara & Frank Flores (IL) | George & Estella Hovnanian |
| | Ronald Kaiser & Family | D. Edward Kebabjian | Mr/Mrs Martin Kenosian |
| | Mr/Mrs Harry Koshgarian | Matthew & Lisa Natcharian (CT) | Zareh & Lori Orchanian (MA) |
| | Mary & Ara Panjarjian | Gladys Prince | Mr/Mrs Peter Prince |
| | Steven & Brenda Prince (MD) | Dean Shahinian (VA) | Craig & Karin Shamlian |
| | David & Kathi Shamlian | Harry & Kate Shamlian | Lucille Shamlian |
| | Haig Soultanian | | |
| 50 | Brian & Garyn A'Hearn | Ara & Rachael Altounian | Beatrice & Gerald Arzoumanian |
| | Thomas & Carol Asbanian (NJ) | Linda Bedian | John & Carol Belemjian (FL) |
| | Helen Bezjian | Denis & Brita Chagnon | Holly D. Chenaille |
| | Mr/Mrs Gilbert Chorbajian & Family | Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian | Yn. Zabelle Gdanian |
| | George Hachigian and | Mary Hartunian | Jeri & Judi Humphries (MA) |
| | Helena & Jean Ekmalian | Fran Kaiser | Mr/Mrs Edward Kaprielian |
| | James & Marion Kehrer | James & Linda Khachadourian | Mr/Mrs Russell Kilidjian |
| | Isabel Krempa | Mr/Mrs Arthur Mahserjian | George & Virginia Mahserjian |
| | Shelley & Will Martin | Mr/Mrs R. Mihran Mooradian | Mr/Mrs R. Paul Moroukian, Jr. |
| | George & Elizabeth Osganian | Florence Paparian | Joan Porcelli |
| | Gregory & Lisa Prince (CA) | Kay Schanz & Family | Clare T. Schisa |
| | Linda Simidian | Chuck & Carol Tutunjian | |
| 40 | Winnie Ammian | Mr/Mrs Girard Kasparian (CA) | Sam & Sylvia Mahserjian |
| | Pam & Ed Taft | | |
| 35 | Carol & Dennis Fitzgerald | | |
| 30 | Harry & Eleanor Demirgian (MA) | Mr/Mrs Thomas A. O'Brien, Sr. | |
| 25 | Rosemary Ammian | Mr/Mrs Nazareth Azarian (CT) | Bob & Sandy Bedian |
| | George & Elsie Bedrosian | Linda & Carmen Cambareri | Mike & Joanne Coogan |
| | Mary Jane Corley (PA) | Jonathan & Violet Dadekian | Mr/Mrs Garo Derian |
| | Suzanne Dickinson | Suzanne Elmasian (MA) | Arpy Ernest |
| | Carol & Charley Flanagan | Mr/Mrs Edward Garabedian (MA) | Joanne Hartunian |
| | Barbara Hrachian | Charlene A. Hrachian | Seren Hrachian |
| | Mr/Mrs David Jermakian | Leon & Susan Kaiser | Grace Karian |
| | & Family (MA) | Bertha Kazanjian | Sarkis & Nancy Kazarian (FL) |
| | Mr/Mrs Peter Koshgarian | Jack Krikorian (CT) | Diana Malkonian |
| | Dorothy Mikhitarian | Mr/Mrs H. Khachik Minassian | Mark Moroukian |
| | Steven & Karen Omatian (MA) | Arlene A. Ounjian (PA) | Hazel P. Smith |
| | Lucy Taraian | Troy Chromatic Concerts | Vartan Vartanian, Jr. |
| 20 | Shirley Avakian | Hrant & Alice Bardakjian | Thomas & Mary Connors (MA) |
| | Dr. Ara Kayayan | Leo & Donna Kazanjian | Levon & Karen Khachadourian |
| | Grace Koshgarian | Norma Shiatte | |
| 15 | Mr/Mrs Charles Alund | Susan DerMargosian (CT) | Robert & Arleen Drooby |
| | Linda Kazanjian | Carolyn Marchese | Ralph Vartigian |
| 10 | Betty Avakian | Lucy Morton | Charlotte Sevazlian |
| 5 | Anonymous | | |

**Total: $8,865**

## IN MEMORY OF SARKIS GARABEDIAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| $ 500 | Thomas R. Newkirk | | |
| 200 | Rose A. Watkins | | |
| 100 | Robert & Holly Dadekian<br>Joseph Montarello | LaMarche Sanfranko Law PLLC | Light of the World Christian Church |
| 75 | Toros Shamlian, Jr. | | |
| 50 | Rosalyn Baker<br>Frank, Toni & Luba Grasso<br>Mr/Mrs Martin Kenosian<br>Melchizedeks MC Inc.<br>Verdile's of Troy | James & Marina Carter (VT)<br>Ronald Kaiser & Family<br>Harry & Rosemary Khachadoorian<br>Kathi & Matt Shortell | Harold & Mary Curley<br>Bertha Kazanjian<br>Robert & Jocelyn Kivort<br>Tutunjian/Swift Family (FL) |
| 45.50 | John Sweeney | | |
| 40 | Mr/Mrs Donald Boyajian | George & Virginia Mahserjian | |
| 35 | Beatrice Arzoumanian | | |
| 31.70 | Brad Prill | | |
| 30 | Clare T. Schisa | | |
| 25 | Robert & Sandra Bedian<br>Ron & Jacalyn Franzen<br>Mary Hartunian<br>Diana R. Malkonian<br>Joan M. Prince<br>Susan & Kai Wendt | Jennifer N. Bedrosian (NJ)<br>Yn. Zabel Gdanian<br>Barbara Hrachian<br>Mr/Mrs R. Paul Moroukian, Jr.<br>Lucille Shamlian | Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian<br>Joanne Hartunian<br>Seren Hrachian<br>Sharon & Doug Pauley and<br>Eleanor Meeson |
| 20 | Leon & Susan Kaiser<br>Mary Panjarjian | Nancy Liberty<br>Ralph Vartigian | Tom & Joyce Paff<br>Denise & Rose Ziter |
| 15 | Hrant & Alice Bardakjian | Mr/Mrs Robert Drooby | Russ & Elinor Laustrup |
| 10 | Linda Kazanjian | Lucy Morton | |

**Total: $2,607.20**

## IN MEMORY OF AGHAVNI TOPALIAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| $ 100 | Levon Bedrosian, MD | Robert & Holly Dadekian | Ed & Mary Alice Morgan |
| 75 | Dickinson, Moore, Aceti<br>& Babb Families | Kelly-Haller Family and<br>Cindy Linder & George Harris | Toros Shamlian, Jr. |
| 50 | Mr/Mrs Kirkor Agopyan<br>George Hachigian and<br>Helena & Jean Ekmalian<br>Mr/Mrs Arthur Mahserjian<br>Ida & Sarkis Mihranian, Jr.<br>Craig & Karin Shamlian<br>Lucille Shamlian | Mark & Hourig Dekermendjian<br>Ronald Kaiser & Family<br>Isabel Krempa<br>George & Virginia Mahserjian<br>Mr/Mrs R. Paul Moroukian, Jr.<br>David & Kathi Shamlian<br>Mr/Mrs Charles Tutunjian | Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian<br>Mr/Mrs Martin Kenosian<br>Lucy Krikorian<br>Carolyn Marchese<br>Ohan & Rita Ohanian<br>Harry & Kate Shamlian<br>Mr/Mrs Nazar Tutunjian |
| 40 | Sam & Sylvia Mahserjian | | |
| 30 | Beatrice Arzoumanian | Gerald Arzoumanian | |
| 25 | Ara & Rachel Altounian<br>Hrant & Alice Bardakjian<br>Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian<br>Yn. Zabel Gdanian<br>Mary Hartunian<br>Diana Malkonian<br>Nora's Grocery | Harry & Mary Ammian<br>George & Elsie Bedrosian<br>Satenik Demirdjian<br>Phillip & Linda Gross<br>Mr/Mrs Charles Krikorian<br>Sean & Alice McMullan | Rosemary Ammian<br>Titiana Bedrosian<br>Mr/Mrs Garo Derian<br>Sarkis & Heidi Guleserian<br>Maureen Loudis & David Rutland, Sr.<br>Anahid Minassian |
| 20 | Alis & Murat Acemoglu<br>Joann Green<br>Grace Karian<br>Mr/Mrs John Khachadourian<br>Charlotte Sevazlian | Shirley & John Avakian<br>Carol Iacocca<br>Greg & Ayda Karian<br>Mr/Mrs Sarkis Minassian<br>Mr/Mrs Martiros Tchilingarian | Hagop & Nectar Derian<br>Hrepsime Jevanian<br>Dr. Ara Kayayan<br>Mary Panjarjian<br>Edward & Adrina Tutunjian |
| 10 | Betty Avakian<br>Lucy Morton | Linda Kazanjian<br>Ralph Vartigian | Mr/Mrs Nercess Minassian |

**Total: $2,450**

## IN MEMORY OF ALEXANDER & MARION ARGHNIAN

$ 50 Winifred Ammian

**New Total: $150**

## IN MEMORY OF PHILIP J. NATCHARIAN

$ 100 Jack & Lucille Dolab & Family (CA)

**New Total: $7,135**

## IN MEMORY OF MARY SHANKS

$ 40 George & Virginia Mahserjian

**New Total: $260**

## IN MEMORY OF RICHARD TERZIAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| $ 100 | Ara Baligian | Sherry A. Edwards | Russ & Sandy Kilidjian |
| | Harry & Marion Koshgarian | | |
| 50 | Matthew & Lisa Natcharian (CT) | | |
| 40 | George & Virginia Mahserjian | | |
| 25 | Marion A. Jaffarian | Mr/Mrs R. Paul Moroukian, Jr. | Lucille Shamlian |
| 20 | Hrepsime Jevanian | | |
| 10 | Lucy Morton | | |

**Total: $595**

## IN MEMORY OF ALICE WILDMAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| $ 250 | Virginia C. Gregg | Matthew & Lisa Natcharian & Family (CT) | |
| 200 | Joseph & Mary Brady | | |
| 150 | Toros Shamlian, Jr. | | |
| 100 | Erin & Rich Bibber (MA) | Robert & Holly Dadekian | Mr/Mrs Martin Kenosian |
| | Judy Melikian (MA) | Harry & Kate Shamlian | Haig Soultanian |
| | Edward L. Toomajian | Frances Toomajian | Mary Wagner |
| 75 | Mr/Mrs Herbert Chorbajian | Rich & Sonia Matulewicz (RI) | |
| 51 | NYS Office of the Medicaid Inspector General | | |
| 50 | Ara Baligian | Gary & Laura Chagachbanian (NJ) | Lucy Chagachbanian (NJ) |
| | Craig & Karin Shamlian | Holly D. Chenaille | Marguerite Djehizian |
| | Mr. & Mrs. Russell Kilidjian | Isabel Krempa | Mr/Mrs Arthur Mahserjian |
| | Carol Mattozza | Adriadne Matulewicz and | Mr/Mrs R. Mihran Mooradian |
| | Robert & Amy Morris | Jason Gomez (RI) | Cindy & Scott Secor & Family |
| | David & Kathi Shamlian | Lucille Shamlian | |
| 40 | Amy & Mike Holloway | George & Virginia Mahserjian | |
| 25 | Beatrice Arzoumanian | George & Elsie Bedrosian | Joseph & Muriel Brady |
| | Linda Calamaras | Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian | Nancy Clark |
| | Yn. Zabel Gdanian | Crispin C. Hall, Jr. | Mary Hartunian |
| | Barbara Hrachian | Leon & Susan Kaiser | Ronald Kaiser & Family |
| | Grace Karian | Mr/Mrs Patrick D. Mackey | Diana R. Malkonian |
| | Mr/Mrs H. Khachik Minassian | Mr/Mrs R. Paul Moroukian, Jr. | George & Elizabeth Osganian |
| | Clare T. Schisa | Sylvia Shanley (FL) | Eugene & Donna St. John |
| | George & Clara Steiner | Edward & Adrina Tutunjian | Kevin & Casey Walsh |
| | Diane S. Williams | | |
| 20 | Winnie Ammian | Mary & Jeff Holt | Grace Koshgarian |
| | Mary Panjarjian | | |
| 15 | Shirley Avakian | Mr/Mrs Levon Khachadourian | Nancy & Ralph Marino |
| 10 | Lucy Morton | Tom & Joyce Paff | David & Susan Seim |
| | Ralph Vartigian | | |
| 5 | Anonymous | Betty Avakian | |

**Total: $3,631**

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

## PAVILION PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS

*as of April 7, 2015*

*We appreciate all who have contributed to the project so far (below), with donations totaling over $25,000 toward our $30,000 fundraising goal. We're almost there! If you have not done so already, please consider making your contribution as soon as possible — a donation form is available on the following page.*

Dikran Abajian
Winifred Ammian
Anonymous
Beatrice & Gerald Arzoumanian
George & Lisa Bedian
Dr. Levon Bedrosian
Bob's Lawn Service
John & Alyson Buff & Family
Geoffrey Chorbajian and Shaily Rahman
Isabel Derian
Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian
Sonia Hachigian
Barbara Hrachian
Kimberly Kachougian (NJ)
Ron Kaiser Family
Gregory Kechejian, MD (MA)
Brenda & John Khederian (MA)
Grace Koshgarian
John Messikian
Alice Muradliyan (CA)
Richard Osganian
Karen Bedrosian Richardson (NJ)
Mr/Mrs George P. Scaringe
Shank & Falvey Insurance
Lee R. Vartigian

Brian & Garyn A'Hearn
Richard & Joan Ammian (FL)
Helga Apkarian
Robert & Sandra Bedian
Ashley A. Bedian
Mr/Mrs George Bedrosian
Bryce Funeral Home Inc.
Gil & Bridgette Chorbajian
Tina Cochran
Joyce Dadekian
Paul Dichian
Yn. Zabelle Gdanian
Mr/Mrs Richard Hartunian
M/Mrs Vartan Jerian
Francine Kaiser
James & Mary Kalteux
Martin & Joyce Kenosian
Dr. Kurken Kirk (KY)
Mr/Mrs Armenak Kutchukian
Mr/Mrs Raffe P. Moroukian, Jr. & Family
Helen Paparian
Alice Sanjian Rotondi
Lucille Shamlian
Carole A. Smith (FL)

Charleen Akullian
Rosemary Ammian
John S. Arakelian
Judy & Eugene Bedian
Petty Officer Michael K. Bedian, USN
Helen Bezjian*
Mr/Mrs Richard Buchakjian
Andrea Chorbajian
Robert & Holly Dadekian
Richard & Barbara DeMartino
Suzanne Dickinson
Rosemary Gilchrist
*in memory of George Bakerian*
Robin & John Jerian
Don Kaiser
Edward & Lucille Kaprielian
*in honor of Suren & Sarah Hrachian*
Peter Koshgarian
Vyacheslav Kyaruns
Mr/Mrs Robert Moroukian
Robert Ohanesian (VA)
Rita Petithory
Michelle & Chuck Saye
Toros Shamlian, Jr.
Charles & Carol Tutunjian

**This [donation] is in Thanksgiving for all the prayers, visits and calls of concern from Der Stepanos and the St. Peter Church family concerning my son John who is now, thank God, recovering.*
*Helen Bezjian*

**Save the date!**

**St. Peter Armenian Church**
**2015 ARMENIAN FESTIVAL ~ June 6 & 7**

**Delicious Armenian Food - Homemade Pastries - Live Music**
**Traditional Dance - Cooking Demonstrations**
**Boutique Shopping - Raffle Prizes - Children's Games - MORE!**

# Pavilion Project

## *WE'RE ALMOST THERE!*

Preparation for the Pavilion Project will begin with excavation in early April; construction of the 42' x 80' structure is slated to begin in May.

We appreciate all who have contributed to the project so far, with donations totaling over $25,000 toward our $30,000 fundraising goal. We're almost there!

If you haven't already done so, please send in your contribution to this exciting new project so the needed funds are available by the end of construction, well in advance of the upcoming Annual Armenian Festival in June. Complete the section below and submit your contribution made payable to 'St. Peter Armenian Church' to the church office as soon as possible, indicating 'Pavilion Project' in the memo of your check.

*sample pavilion*

Enclosed is my (our) donation of $_____ toward the Pavilion Project.

Name: _____ Member No: _____
*(if applicable)*

Address: _____

_____

*Mail to St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church, PO Box 196, Watervliet, NY 12189.*

## Community News

**8th ANNUAL CAREGIVER RESOURCE DAY, Saturday, April 18:** As a means of support to provide caregivers of the Capital District with the tools and support needed to best assist their loved ones and themselves, a conference will be held at Grace Fellowship Church, 20 Delatour Road, Watervliet from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturday, April 18. The day will include various exhibitors and workshops and is free of charge thanks to the generous support of their sponsors. While there is no charge to attend, registration is required by calling Albany Guardian Society's telephone registration line at (518) 269-3976.

**2015 ST. NERSESS SUMMER CONFERENCES:** Participants of the summer youth conferences have the opportunity to explore their faith and the heritage of the Armenian Church with friends in a safe, fun and unique environment. Clergy and lay church leaders instruct the participants in the fundamentals of the Armenian Church's faith and traditions, and they encourage frank discussion about issues important to young people today. Sports, day-trips, home-cooked meals, and memorable traditions make for a well-rounded and innovative experience where young people make deep, lasting friendships and discover their place in the Armenian Church. The following programs are available this year:

**Deacons' Training Program:** June 24-July 1
**High School Conference A:** July 3-12
**High School Conference B:** July 17-July 26
**Post High School Conference:** July 28-August 2

The High School Conferences are open to students entering 9-12th grades in September 2015. Older students are invited to attend the Post High School Conference. Space is limited to 30 participants for each conference. Registration and payments can be made online at www. stnersess.edu/conferences. Or, for more information, e-mail info@stnersess,edu.

### ST. VARTAN CAMP 2015

The St. Vartan Camp program is for campers ages 8 to 15. The camp provides a physically, emotionally and spiritually healthy environment in which young Armenian-American Christians can grow and flourish as they learn about and develop a deeper understanding of their Armenian faith and culture. The camp is housed at the Diocesan Ararat Center in Greenville, NY.

The following programs for Counselors-in-Training (CIT) and one- and two-week sessions are:

**Counselor-in-Training (CIT)** Tuition: $600
**Session A:** June 27-July 11; **Session B:** July 11-25; **Session C:** July 25-August 8

**Program Dates & Tuition**
**Session A** Two-week session: June 28-July 11 ($990)
**Session A** One-week session: June 28-July 4 or July 5-11 ($590)
**Session B** Two-week session: July 12-25 ($990)
**Session B** One-week session: July 12-18 or July 19-25 ($590)
**Session C** Two-week session: July 26-August 8 ($990)
**Session C** One-week session: July 26-August 1 or August 2-8 ($590)

To register online go to www.diocesansummercamps.org or, for more information, contact Jennifer Morris by calling (248) 648-0702 or e-mail at JenniferM@armeniandiocese.org or Lorie Odabashian at (212) 686-0710 ext 143 or LorieO@armeniandiocese.org. St. Peter Church youth may be eligible for assistance with camp tuition. Contact the church office at (518) 274-3673 for more information.

# ՀԱՅՐԵՆԻՔԻՍ ՀԵՏ

**Յովհաննէս Թումանեան**

# WITH MY FATHERLAND

**Hovhannes Toumanian**

Վաղուց թէեւ իմ հայեացքը անյայտին է ու հեռուն
Ու իմ սիրտը իմ մըտքի հետ անհուններն է թափառում,
Բայց կարօտով ամէն անգամ երբ դառնում եմ դէպի քեզ՝
Մըղկըտում է սիրտըս անվերջ քո թառանչից աղեկէզ,
Ու գաղթական զաւակներիդ լուռ շարքերից ուժասպառ,
Եւ գիւղերից, եւ շէներից՝ տըխո՜ւր, դատարկ ու խաւար,
Ձարկուա՜ծ հայրենիք,
Ջրկուա՜ծ հայրենիք:

Խըռնըւում են մըտքիս հանդէպ բանակները անհամար,
Տըրորում են քո երեսը, քո դաշտերը ծաղկավառ,
Ու ջարդարար վոհմակները աղաղակով վայրենի,
Աւարներով, աւերներով, խըմըջոյքներով արիւնի,
Որ դարձըրին քեզ մըշտական սեւ ու սուգի մի հովիտ,
Խեղճ ու լալկան քո երգերով, հայեացքներով անժըպիտ,
Ողբի՜ հայրենիք,
Որբի՜ հայրենիք:

Բայց հին ու նոր քո վէրքերով կանգնած ես դու կենդանի,
Կանգնած խոհո՜ւն, խորհըրդաւոր ճամբին նորի ու հընի.
Հառաչանքով սըրտի խորքից խօսք ես խօսում Աստծու հետ
Ու խորհում ես խորին խորհուրդ տանջանքներում չարաղետ,
Խորհում ես դու էն մեծ խօսքը, որ 'տի ասես աշխարհքին
Ու պիտ դառնաս էն երկիրը, ուր ծըգտում է մեր հոգին,
Յոյսի՜ հայրենիք,
Լոյսի՜ հայրենիք:

Ու պիտի գայ հանուր կեանքի արշալոյսը վառ հագած,
Հազա՜ր-հազար լուսապայծառ հոգիներով ճառագած,
Ու երկնահաս քո բարձունքի, Արարատի սուրբ լանջին,
Կենսաժըպիտ իր շողերը պիտի ժըպտան առաջին,
Ու պոետներ, որ չեն պըղծել իրենց շուրթերն անէծքով,
Պիտի գովեն քո նոր կեանքը նոր երգերով, նոր խօսքով,
Իմ նո՜ր հայրենիք,
Հզօ՜ր հայրենիք...

Though for long my gaze has been on the unknown and the distant,
And my heart, along with my mind, traipses the infinite,
Yet, every time I turn to you with longing,
My heart is torn over your distressing wail,
Over the silent rows of your exhausted sons in exile,
Over your sad, vacant and dark villages and towns.
Oppressed homeland of mine,
Bereaved homeland of mine.

The cluster of countless armies pile up before my mind,
Which trampled your face and your flower-filled fields,
And murderous crowds with ferocious shout,
With plunder, with carnage, with feasts of blood,
That made you an eternal valley of darkness and sorrow,
With your wretched songs, your sullen gaze.
Homeland of laments,
Homeland of orphans.

Yet you stand alive with your wounds ancient and new,
You stand pensive at the cryptic crossroads of old and new,
You speak to God with sighs from the depths of your heart,
And think profound thoughts in times of rueful woe,
You ponder the great discourse you wish to deliver the world,
To become the land to which our souls aspire.
Homeland of hope,
Homeland of light.

But the ardently clad daybreak of habitual life will arrive,
Gleaming with thousands of radiant souls,
And upon your skyward summit, on the holy slopes of Ararat,
Its quickening early rays will radiate;
And poets, who have not defiled their lips with curse,
Will praise your life with new song and new word.
Revived homeland of mine,
All-mighty homeland of mine!

(Translated by Vatsche Barsoumian)

# Armenian Genocide Commemoration – Calendar of Events

*The following is a list of community events taking place in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.*

**HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY @ Shaker High School, Wednesday, April 15, 6:00 p.m.**
2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. All are invited to attend the White Rose exhibit starting at 6:00 p.m. with the program beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Shaker High School Auditorium, 445 Watervliet Shaker Road, Latham. Guest speakers include Ivan Vamos, Holocaust Survivor, and Ralph Enokian, Armenian Genocide Lecturer.

**PETER BALAKIAN LECTURE @ Siena College, Loudonville, Thursday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.**
*Sponsored by Siena College and The Capital District Genocide Committee.* Renowned author on the topic of the Armenian Genocide, Dr. Peter Balakian presents 'After the Armenian Genocide: the Power of Imagination' at the Alumni Recreation Center of Siena College, 515 Loudon Road, Loudonville. A reception will follow at 8:00 p.m.

**REQUIEM SERVICE @ Troy Genocide Monument, Friday, April 24, 6:15 p.m.**
*Sponsored by ANCA, Knights & Daughters of Vartan, Homenetmen of Albany.* A requiem service will be held at the monument located in Riverfront Park followed by dinner and program at Holy Cross Armenian Church, Troy.

**DOCUMENARY @ WMHT ~ Friday, April 24, 10:00 p.m.**
Tune in to WMHT, PBS Channel 17, for a documentary on the Armenian Genocide.

**BLOOD DRIVE @ St. Peter Armenian Church, Saturday, April 25, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**
*Sponsored by the American Red Cross and the St. Peter ACYOA Juniors.* This is the 5th Annual Blood Drive held in commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. Contact the St. Peter Church office to make an appointment or visit www.redrossblood.org. Walk-ins also welcome!

**BUS TRIP TO TIMES SQUARE, New York City , Sunday, April 26**
*Commemoration program hosted by the Knights & Daughters of Vartan.* Two Yankee Trail buses have been charted to provide round-trip transportation to this historic event. Ticket price is $22 per person, which includes gratuity for the drivers. Contact the St. Peter Church office to reserve your seat(s) on a bus AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Your reservations must then be confirmed with your payment of $22 per person by April 15. Checks should be made payable to 'St. Peter Armenian Church' indicating 'NYC Bus Trip' in the memo. If your reservation is not confirmed with your payment by April 15, that seat(s) then becomes available -- your reservation will not be held without payment after April 15. Departure will be from St. Peter Armenian Church at 7:45am sharp, leaving the New York area by 4:45 p.m. Expected time of arrival back at St. Peter Armenian Church will be approximately 8:00 p.m. ***(Note: No services will be held at St. Peter Armenian Church that day.)***

**JOINT BADARAK SERVICE @ Holy Cross Armenian Church, Sunday, May 3, 10:00 a.m.**
*Hosted by Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church, Troy.* In solemn remembrance of the victims of Armenian Genocide of 1915, the communities of Holy Cross & St. Peter Armenian Churches will worship together at Holy Cross Armenian Church, 255 Spring Avenue, Troy. ***(Note: No services will be held at St. Peter Armenian Church that day.)***

**HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH' CONCERT @ Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Albany, Sunday, May 3, 3:00 p.m.** (sharp)
*Sponsored by Christian Arts International.* This special presentation of Handel's Messiah will feature Mezzo Soprano Solange Merdinian, Jessica Grace Melger, Joshua Alain Boullion, and Nicholas Wiggins, accompanied by a professional orchestra made up of members from the Albany and Schenectady Symphony orchestras. Special guest soloist will be Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian, Parish Priest of St. Peter Armenian Church, Watervliet, NY. Our Savior's Lutheran Church is located at 63 Mountain View Avenue, Albany. Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 for seniors and children age 13 and under. Tickets can be obtained by contacting Christian Arts International, Inc. at (518) 459-3152 or Christianarts@nycap.rr.com. *(Please note that the doors will be closed sharply at 3:00 p.m. After that, no one will be allowed into the concert until intermission.)*

**SPECIAL PROGRAM & SOCIAL @ American Italian Heritage Museum, Thursday, May 21, 7:30 p.m.**
*Hosted by Prof. Phillip DiNovo and the American Italian community.* All are invited for a special program in recognition of the centennial of the Armenian Genocide to be held at the American Italian Heritage Museum, 1227 Central Avenue, Albany. Refreshments will be served.

**MEMORIAL CONCERT @ Our Lady of Victory Church, Sunday, October 11, 3:00 p.m.**
*Hosted by the Capital District Armenian Genocide Committee and the New York Catholic Chorale.* A special memorial concert and reception will be held at Our Lady of Victory Church, 55 N. Lake Avenue, Troy. For more information, contact Rafi Topalian at raftop@aol.com or (518) 272-2000.

**CLASSICAL PIANO CONCERT @ RPI Cultural Center, Friday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.**
*Hosted by the Knights & Daughters of Vartan, and sponsored by the Dayian Family.* A classical piano concert of all Armenian composer selections will be performed by Hayarpi Girgoryan (from Yerevan), dedicated to the Genocide Centennial. The concert will be held at the RPI Cultural Center, 2125 Burdett Avenue, Troy. Ticket information will be available in the near future.

# «ԷՅՏՍ»

«Էյտս» հիւանդութիւնը ամբողջ Ամերիկան տառապեցնող վէրք մըն է: Հակառակ ասոր որ «էյտս» բառը ամենուն բերանն է, բայց եւ այնպէս այս հիւանդութեան մասին շատ բաներ անյայտ են, անորոշ են, եւ կը մնանք մութին մէջ: Ո՛չ բժիշկներ եւ ո՛չ ալ գիտնական մարդիկ կը կարողանան պատասխան մը տալ այս հիւանդութեան շուրջ հիւսուող անհատնում հարցումներուն: Վախն ու կասկածները ամենուրեք են: Եւ սկսած ենք «էյտս» հիւանդութիւնը «համաճարակ» անուանել: «Էյտս»ը գոյութիւն ունի աշխարհի ամէն երկիրներուն մէջն ալ: «Էյտս»ը կը վարակէ թէ՛ աղքատը եւ թէ՛ հարուստը. թէ՛ գիտնականը եւ թէ՛ անուսը: «Էյտս» ունեցողները եղած են թէ՛ կրօնաւոր եւ թէ՛ անկրօն եւ անբարոյ մարդիկ:

Կարգ մը ծխականներ ինծի կը հարցնեն.. «Տէ՛ր Հայր, "էյտս" հիւանդութիւնը աստուածային պատուհա՞ս մըն է»: Բազմաթիւ քարոզիչներ եւ մերօրեայ մարգարէներ կը գոչեն ըսելով.. «Այո՛, "էյտս" հիւանդութիւնը աստուածային պատիժ մըն է եւ մեզի կը ղրկուի մարդերուս անբարոյ կեցցաղին պատճառաւ»: Ես ո՛չ մեծանուն քարոզիչ եմ եւ ո՛չ ալ մարգարէ: Եւ ո՛չ իմ Հայրապետս եւ ո՛չ ալ իմ Առաջնորդս «էյտս»ի մասին նման յայտարարութիւն կատարած են: Բայց անվարան կրնամ ըսել որ մերօրեայ աւետարանիչները անսխալական չեն:

Որպէս քահանայ ես կը հաւատամ անշուշտ որ մեր Տէր Աստուածը յաճախ բարկացած է, եւ յաճախ պատժած է Ջինք մտիկ չընող եւ մեղաւոր մարդիկը: Սոդոմն ու Գոմորը այրեցաւ եւ Ջրհեղեղը պատահեցաւ մարդերուս անսահման եւ անասելի մեղքերուն պատճառաւ: Բայց չեմ խորհիր որ Աստուած այս օրերուս որոշած է Իր արարածները պատժել «էյտս» անունով հիւանդութեան միջոցաւ: Մարդիկ «էյտս»էն զատ ենթակայ են բազմաթիւ այլ հիւանդութեանց: Քաղցկեղը, սրտի հիւանդութիւնը, շաքարախտը եւ բազմաթիւ այլ հիւանդութիւններ այնքան մահացու

են՝ որքան է «էյտս» հիւանդութիւնը: Եթէ ճշմարիտ է որ «էյտս»ը Աստուծոյ կողմէ ղրկուած պատիժ մըն է, ուրեմն ինչո՞ւ բոլոր միւս հիւանդութիւններն ալ չնկատենք աստուածային պատուհաս: Չմոռնանք սակայն որ հիւանդութիւնները զատողութիւն դնել չեն գիտեր: Հիւանդութիւնը կու գայ թէ՛ չարին եւ թէ՛ բարիին հաւասարապէս: Ո՛չ սիրելիներ, չխաբենք մենք զմեզ, «էյտս» հիւանդութիւնը երկինքէն ղրկուած պատուհաս մը չէ: Աստուծոյ բարկութեան ճշաններն պէտք է սկսինք փնտռել այլ տեղ:

Մարդիկ կան՝ որոնք «էյտս»ով տառապող անձերուն հանդէպ ատելութիւն կը սնուցանեն: Հիւանդէն հեռու կը մնան: Անոր «հեռու կեցիր» կ'ըսեն: Շատեր հիւանդը առանձին վիճակի մէջ կը թողուն: Նոյնիսկ սպանութիւն կատարուած է դիմացինը «էյտս» ունի ըսելով: Կաթոլիկ Եկեղեցին այսօր մեծ դժուարութեանց առջեւ կը գտնուի՝ քանի որ շատեր Հաղորդութեան Սկիհէն հեռու կը մնան «էյտս» հիւանդութենէն չվարակուելու մտահոգութեամբ:

Ձեմ գիտեր թէ քանիներդ «էյտս» հիւանդութենէն տառապող հիւանդ տեսած էք: Այս հիւանդներու վիճակը եւ տեսքը շատ խղճալի է: Անոնք յարատեւ վախի եւ սարսափի մէջ են: Կը խորհին որ ոչ ոք զիրենք կը սիրէ: Սակայն մայր մը լալագին խոստովանեցաւ.. «Ես իմ որդիս կը սիրեմ: Անոր քով կը պառկիմ, զինք կը գրկեմ, եւ իր երեսը համբոյրներով կ'ողողեմ:»

Քրիստոսի օրերուն «էյտս» հիւանդութիւնը չկար: Բայց բազմաթիւ բորոտներ կային: Բորոտները ժողովուրդին մէջ բնակելու իրաւունք չունէին: Բորոտները կը քարկոծուէին: բայց Յիսուս բորոտներուն քով գնաց: Անոնց հետ խօսեցաւ: Իր սուրբ ձեռքերովը դպաւ անոնց: Յիսուս բորոտները բժշկեց:

«Էյտս»ով տառապող հիւանդները ես նկատած եմ նման այլ հիւանդներու: Այցելած եմ անոնց եւ աղօթած անոնց համար: «Էյտս» հիւանդութիւնը ունեցողին հանդէպ չկամութիւն ցոյց տալը եւ կամ զանոնք խնամքէ զրկելը կը նկատեմ հակառակ աստուածային կամքին:

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# Peter Balakian, Ph.D.

## *"After the Armenian Genocide: the Power of Imagination"*

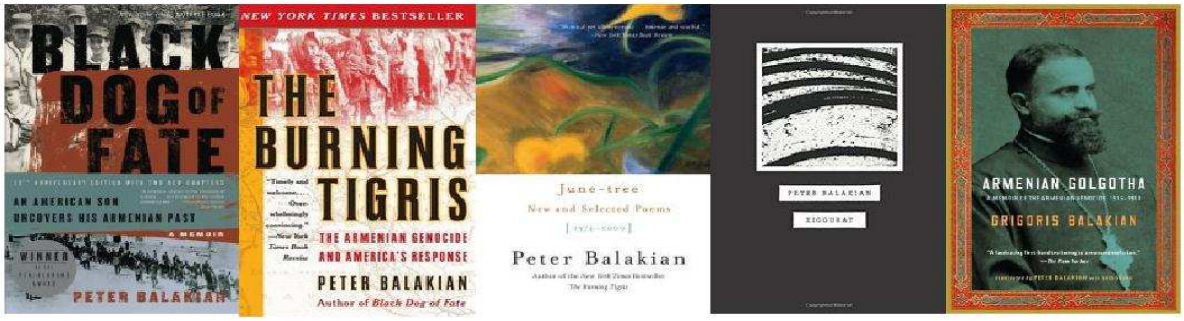
**Thursday, April 16, 2015**
**7:00PM**
**Siena College - ARC**

Dr. Peter Balakian is currently Donald M. and Constance H. Rebar Professor of the Humanities in the department of English, and Director of Creative Writing at Colgate University. In addition to his five books of poems, his works include a memoir *Black Dog of Fate*, winner of the PEN/Albrand Prize for memoir and a *New York Times* Notable Book, and *The Burning Tigris: The Armenian Genocide and America's Response*, winner of the 2005 Raphael Lemkin Prize and a *New York Times Notable Book* and *New York Times* and national best seller.

**A reception featuring Armenian desserts will follow at 8:00PM.**

**For more information contact Rafi Topalian at 518-810-5018 or rafitop@aol.com or Peter Ellard at pellard@siena.edu**

**More information on the speaker can be found at http://www.peterbalakian.com/**

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# Armenian Genocide

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**Followed by**

Dinner & Program
**Holy Cross Armenian Church**
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# 1915 2015

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Centennial of the Armenian
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May 3rd. 3:00 PM

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# Solange Merdinian

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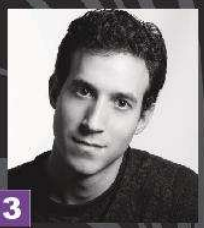

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1915-2015

*www.solangemerdinian.com and www.newdocta.org*

Women's Guild

# MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

Saturday
May 16, 2015
12:30 PM
Adults: $28.00
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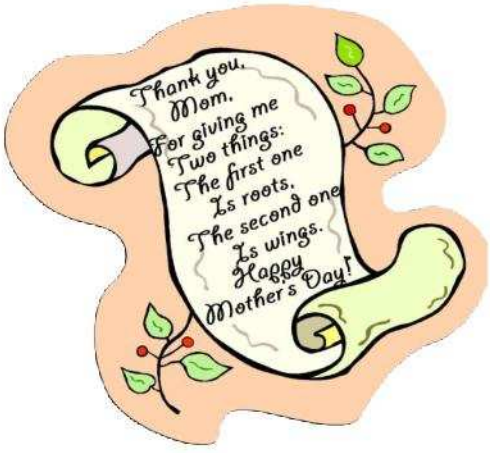
**Bolognese** pappardelle pasta, meat sauce of veal, beef & pork, Stanislaus tomatoes, shaved parmigiano

**Balsamico Panini** balsamic glazed chicken, caramelized onions, roasted tomatoes, provolone

**Vedura Panini** artichoke hearts, red peppers, spinach, fontina, fresh pesto

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**Sunday**
## JUNE 7TH
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## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday, April 10 | **Adult Bible Study Class:** Conference Room ~ 10:00am |
| Sunday, April 12 | **Coffee Hour:** Hosted by Belemjian Family following services |
| Wednesday, April 15 | **Holocaust Remembrance Day:** Shaker High School ~ 6:00pm<br>Ralph Enokian, guest speaker on Armenian Genocide |
| Thursday, April 16 | **Peter Balakian Lecture:** Siena College Alumni Recreation Center ~ 7:00pm |
| Friday, April 17 | **AM Prayer Group:** 10:00am |
| Saturday, April 18 | **Women's Guild Outing:** Grapevine Farms, Cobleskill |
| Sunday, April 19 | **Coffee Hour:** Hosted by Sunday School following services |
| Friday, April 24 | **Adult Bible Study Class:** Conference Room ~ 10:00am |
| | **Requiem Service:** Troy Genocide Monument ~ 6:15pm<br>Followed by dinner and program at Holy Cross Armenian Church, Troy |
| Saturday, April 25 | **ACYOA Jrs. & American Red Cross Blood Drive:**<br>Gdanian Auditorium ~ 8:00am to 1:00pm |
| Sunday, April 26 | **Bus Trip to Times Square:** Departure from St. Peter Church ~ 7:45am<br>***No services at St. Peter Armenian Church that morning*** |
| Friday, May 1 | **AM Prayer Group:** 10:00am |
| | **FESTIVAL PREP:** Yalanchi rolling at 4:00pm (Holly Dadekian, Coordinator) |
| Sunday, May 3 | **Joint Badarak Service:** Holy Cross Armenian Church, Troy ~ 10:00am<br>***No services at St. Peter Armenian Church that morning*** |
| | **Handel's 'Messiah' Concert:** Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Albany ~ 3:00pm<br>Featuring Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian as guest soloist |
| May 4 - 10 | **Annual Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly** |
| Friday, May 8 | **Adult Bible Study Class:** Conference Room ~ 10:00am |
| Friday, May 15 | **AM Prayer Group:** 10:00am |
| Saturday, May 16 | **Women's Guild Mother's Day Luncheon:** Bellini's Clifton Park ~ 12:30pm |
| Sunday, May 17 | **Last day of Sunday School:** Closing exercises and Sunday School hosted Coffee Hour following services |
| Thursday, May 21 | **Armenian Genocide Program:** Italian American Heritage Museum ~ 7:00pm |
| Friday, May 22 | **Adult Bible Study Class:** Conference Room ~ 10:00am |
| Monday, May 25 | **Memorial Day Grave Blessings:** *See schedule inside* |
| Friday, May 29 | **AM Prayer Group:** 10:00am |
| Saturday, June 6 | **ARMENIAN FESTIVAL ~ DAY 1:** Noon - 8:00pm |
| Sunday, June 7 | **ARMENIAN FESTIVAL ~ DAY 2:** Noon - 5:00pm |