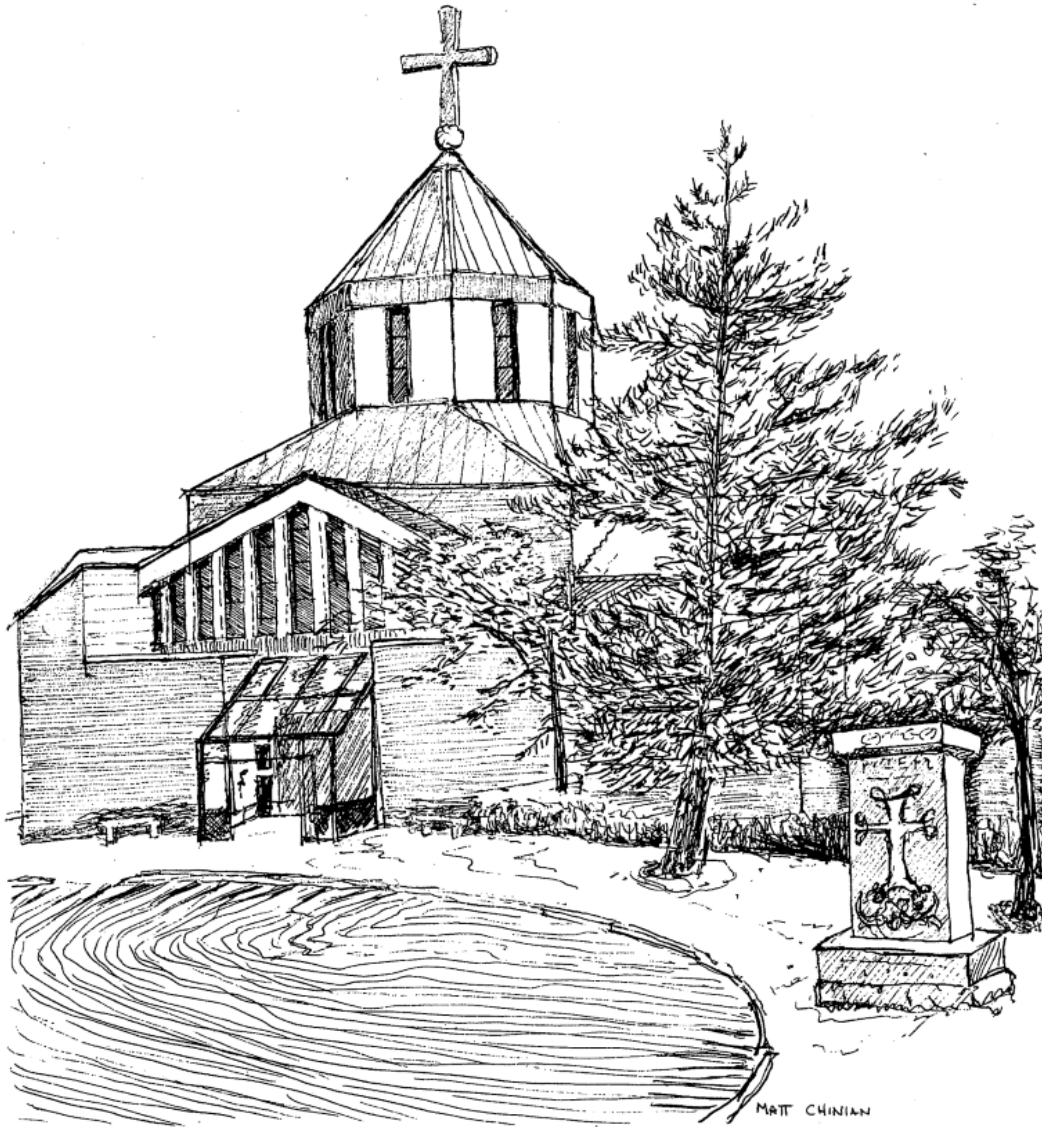


ԼՈՒՍԱԲԵՐ LOOSAPER



Սուրբ Պետրոս Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցի

ST. PETER ARMENIAN CHURCH

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

WINTER 2019

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. |
| | Adult Christian Education Class | 9:30 a.m. |
| | Sunday School | 10:00 a.m. |
| | Divine Liturgy | 10:15 a.m. |

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| OFFICE HOURS: | Monday-Friday | 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|

Rev. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian, Parish Priest

808 Red Oak Drive
 Niskayuna, NY 12309 (518) 377-7448
 E-mail: frstepd@gmail.com

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| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| ACYOA Jrs. | Sarah McMullan | (518) 371-6878 |
| ACYOA Srs. | Thomas Nevins | (518) 590-4886 |
| Armenian School | Anahid Altounian | (518) 463-2625 |
| Bible Study | Elsie Vozzy | (518) 373-0242 |
| Choir Director | Dn. Rafi Topalian | (518) 272-2000 |
| College Group | | |
| Prayer Group | Winnie Kutchukian | (518) 732-7486 |
| Sunday School | Yn. Paulette Doudoukjian | (518) 505-9893 |
| Women's Guild, Chair | Marion Kehrer | (518) 461-9325 |

PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON:

Garro Derian
 R. Paul Moroukian
 Dr. Ara Kayayan
 Roswita Fragomeni
 Richard DeMartino
 Garro Derian
 Roswita Fragomeni
 Charles Tutunjian
 Sharon Foley

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

SPRING 2019 SCHEDULE FOR PUBLICATION

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Articles Deadline | Monday, March 18 |
| Typing and Proofreading | Monday, Mar. 18 - Friday, Mar. 29 |
| To Printer | Tuesday, April 2 |
| Mailing | Thursday, April 4 |

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, Gil Chorbajian, and Nora Derian

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 **\$480** from the following: **Anonymous; James & Mary Kaltuex; all those listed in the New Year’s message in this issue.**

Please use the form below to send your donation to:

“St. Peter Armenian Church”

PO Box 196, Watervliet, NY 12189

PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION FOR THE *LOOSAPER* in the amount of \$ _____

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

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.

Remember St. Peter Armenian Church in your will!

**NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS KAREKIN II
SUPREME PATRIARCH AND CATHOLICOS OF ALL ARMENIANS
Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin**

Dear Faithful in the Homeland and the Diaspora,

It is the festive day of New Year. We extend Our Pontifical love and blessings from the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin to you dear faithful people of Armenia. With warm feelings, we extend our best wishes to those who carry out their duties at this moment at the place of service; officers and soldiers of our army who keep the borders of their homeland unapproachable; those who are united in the churches for prayer and all our children gathered around the festive tables.

On the New Year's Eve, we extend our gratitude to God, that he kept our Homeland and worldwide people in peace in the passing year, blessed with the good, righteous earnings and achievements in the national and church life. We also thank God that through the patriotic spirit and reasonableness of our nation the political developments in our country had a peaceful course and we are welcoming 2019 with expectations of positive changes. Every new year is a new beginning, full of expectations of the new, with the desire for the better and perfect. We are connecting with the New Year what we would like to reform, manage and soon see the fulfillment of our goals. The need for reform and civic zeal that are present in our lives will surely bring good results, more care, more effort and aspiration, to strengthen the foundations of the legal state, the fair and law-abiding society, to prosper our country and our entire national life. This is our way that we have to keep constant, always remembering that Armenia's development and power is the core and condition of our national aspirations for the security of Artsakh and the viability of the Diaspora.

Dear beloved, at this moment, when our intentions with good expectations are addressed to the future and our plans, through our Pontifical message we convey Lord's message: "This is my command: Love each other" (John 15:17). Our life becomes meaningful with the existence of the divine love. Where there is love there is strength in faith, there is hope abundant and solidarity is prosperous with righteousness and good deeds. "Love never fails", (1 Corinthians 13:8), says the Apostle. Yes, it grows like leaven, becomes a curve, a steadily effort, a commitment by which our life will be upheld.

With these thoughts and joyous spirit we command our pious people, to continue to live and act by supporting each other and to put dedicated efforts for the strength of our motherland and our spiritual and national life.

We wish peace to the world, peace to our homeland; steadfastness to our statehood and blessings to our worldwide Armenian nation and the entire people. May the year 2019 bring joy to our families and progress and achievements to our lives.

Happy New Year!



Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Գարեգին Բ Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսի ամանորյա ուղերձը

Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածին, Տեղեկատվական համակարգ, 1 Հունվարի, 2019

Միրելի բարեպաշտ ժողովուրդ ի Հայաստան, Արցախ և ի Սփյուռք,

Ամանորի բերկրալի առիթով Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածնից ողջունում և Հայրապետական Մեր սերն ու օրհնությունն ենք բերում ամենքիդ: Ջերմ զգացումներով Մեր բարեմաղթանքներն ենք հղում այս պահին ծառայության վայրում իրենց պարտականություններն իրականացնողներին, հայրենյաց սահմանները անառիկ պահող մեր բանակի սպաներին ու զինվորներին, եկեղեցիներում աղոթքի համախմբվածներին, տոնական սեղանների շուրջ հավաքված Մեր բոլոր զավակներին:

Նոր տարվա սեմին գոհություն ենք հայտնում Աստծուն, որ անցնող 2018 թվականին խաղաղ պահեց մեր հայրենիքը և աշխարհասփյուռ մեր ժողովրդին, օրհնեց բարիքով, արդար վաստակով և ձեռքբերումներով՝ ազգային ու եկեղեցական կյանքում: Գոհություն ենք առ Աստված բարձրացնում նաև, որ մեր ժողովրդի ազգասեր ոգու և ողջամտության շնորհիվ խաղաղ ընթացք ունեցան քաղաքական զարգացումները մեր երկրում, և մենք այսօր 2019 թվականը դիմավորում ենք դրական տեղաշարժերի ապաստումներով:

Ամեն նոր տարի նոր սկիզբ է, որը լի է նորի ակնկալությամբ, ավելի լավի ու կատարյալի ձգտումով: Նոր տարվա հետ կապում ենք այն ամենը, ինչը կուզենայինք բարեփոխել, կարգավորել և շուտով տեսնել մեր նպատակների իրականացումը: Բարեփոխումների պահանջը և քաղաքացիական նախանձախնդրությունը, որ առկա են այսօր մեր կյանքում, անկասկած, բարի արդյունքներ պիտի բերեն, առավել խնամք, առավել ջանք ու ձգտում՝ ամրապնդելու հիմքեր իրավական պետության, արդար, օրինահարգ հասարակության, շենացնելու մեր երկիրը և համայն ազգային կյանքը: Մա է մեր ուղին, որը հաստատուն պիտի պահենք՝ միշտ հիշելով, որ Հայաստանի զարգացումը և հզորությունը ազգային մեր իրձերի իրագործման առանցքն է և պայմանը Արցախի ապահովության և Սփյուռքի կենսունակության:

Միրելիներ, այս պահին, երբ բարի սպասումների հետ մեր մտահայացքը ուղղված է գալիքին, մեր ծրագրերին ու անելիքներին, հայրական հորդորով փոխանցում ենք ձեզ մեր Տիրոջ կենարար պատգամը. «Այս եմ պատվիրում ձեզ, որ սիրեք միմյանց» (Հովհ. ԺԵ 17): Մեր կյանքը իմաստավորվում է տերունապատվեր սիրո առկայությամբ: Որտեղ սերն է, այնտեղ հավատն է գորանում, այնտեղ հույսն է առատանում, համերաշխությունը արդարությամբ ու բարի գործերով պտղաբերում: «Մերը երբեք չի անհետանում» (Ա Կորնթ. ԺԳ 8), - ասում է առաքյալը: Այո՛, այն թթվանքի նման աճում է, դառնում կորով, անդուլ ջանք, հանձնառություն, որոնցով պիտի ապահովվի մեր կյանքի վերընթացը:

Այս մտորումներով և հոգու ուրախությամբ պատգամում ենք մեր բարեպաշտ ժողովրդին՝ սիրով ու լավատեսությամբ, միմյանց աջակից շարունակել ապրել ու գործել և նվիրյալ ջանքեր ներդնել ի գորացում հայրենի մեր երկրի և հոգևոր ու ազգային մեր կյանքի:

Մաղթում ենք խաղաղություն աշխարհին, խաղաղություն՝ մեր հայրենիքին, անսասանություն՝ մեր պետականությանը, շնորհաբատ օրհնություն՝ աշխարհասփյուռ ազգիս հայոց և բոլոր ժողովուրդներին: Թող 2019 թվականը ուրախություն բերի մեր ընտանիքներին և առաջընթաց ու ձեռքբերումներ՝ մեր կյանքին:

Շնորհավոր նոր տարի:

Diocesan News

EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF VERY REV. FR. DANIEL FINDIKYAN

The Eastern Diocese is pleased to announce that a date has been set for the episcopal ordination of the Diocesan Primate, the Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan. His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, has confirmed that, on the weekend of May 11-12, 2019, he will consecrate Fr. Findikyan as a bishop of the Armenian Church, in a solemn ceremony at the Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin, in the Republic of Armenia.

Fr. Findikyan was elected as the Diocese's 12th Primate on May 4, 2018, by the delegates of the 116th Diocesan Assembly. His election was blessed and confirmed by the Catholicos of All Armenians on May 8. Fr. Findikyan is the first clergyman born in America to serve in the capacity of a diocesan primate, and he will be the second American-born clergyman to be elevated to the episcopate.

The Primate will return to New York to celebrate his *antranig badarak* (inaugural Divine Liturgy) as a bishop in St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral, currently scheduled for Saturday, May 18. A reception for the public will follow.

Consideration is being given for a group from St. Peter Armenian Church to travel to New York City for this service. Whether we carpool, rent a passenger van, or charter a bus, will be determined by the number of those who may be interested in going together as a group. If at all interested, please let Fr. Stepanos or the St. Peter Church office know so we may plan accordingly. Then more details will be announced in the future.

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2019 DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMPS

Online registrations and applications for Hye Camp and St. Vartan Camp are now available through the camp website at www.diocesansummercamps.org!

The 2019 St. Vartan Camp dates are:

- Staff Training: Wednesday, June 26 – Saturday, June 29
- Session A: Sunday, June 30 – Saturday, July 13
- Session B: Sunday, July 14 – Saturday, July 27
- Session C: Sunday, July 28 – Saturday, August 10

Contact Kathryn Ashbahian at kathryna@armeniandiocese.org with any St. Vartan Camp questions.

The 2019 Hye Camp dates are:

- Staff Training: Wednesday, July 24 – Saturday, July 27
- Camp Week: Saturday, July 27 - Saturday, August 3

Contact Jennifer Morris at jenniferm@armeniandiocese.org with any Hye Camp questions.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2019

DIOCESAN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Once again, our Diocese will be granting scholarships to undergraduate students for the 2019-2020 academic year. These scholarships are earmarked for Armenian American students attending accredited four-year undergraduate university programs. The scholarship program is open to U.S. citizens only and preference will be given to those who are active in the life of the Armenian Church. The application and reference forms must be submitted electronically. The forms can be found on the Diocesan website at <https://armenianchurch.us/scholarships/>. All applications must be accompanied by a recommendation from the parish priest.

A Word from the PASTOR



... Rev. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian

Happy New Year and Happy 2019!

With the tick of the clock from 11:59pm to 12:00am on December 31, 2018, we were thrust into a new year — January 1, 2019! Along with that, comes the desire that everything worthy of discard in 2018 is dumped and, in a magical moment, 2019 is bright with hope and prospect.

During our New Year's celebrations, we enjoy friends, family, food, and good times. At the beginning of a new year, we take time to reflect on our lives during the past year. We then make resolutions to ourselves and others that require change and transformation. Unfortunately, statistics say that about 80% of people never fulfill their New Year's resolutions.

Our faith teaches us about how to make change and transformation in our lives. It is through knowledge and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ. When we commune with Christ, we are fully in Christ, then we become anew. St. Paul says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone; the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17)

With this New Year 2019, try making a commitment to Jesus Christ. Strengthen your faith, come to church, receive His Body and Blood, and grow in faith through the Liturgy. That commitment will help you recommit to your "New" resolutions.



God's Blessings, Fr. Stepanos

Thank you to all of the following for their support of the Christmas/New Year's Greetings program. They too wish to extend their New Year's greetings to their St. Peter Armenian Church family and friends:

Alice & Charles Chorbajian

Isabel Derian

Sue Dickinson

Robert & Arleen Drooby

Debbie & Frenchie Ekmalian

Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian & Family

Leon & Susan Kaiser

Kevork "George" Keleshian & Family

Sylva, Artie, Rachael & Nora Mahserjian

Sarkis & Ida Mihranian

Rita Ishkanian Petithory & Ani Petithory

Toros Shamlan

Guy & Elsie Vozzy



A Message from the Parish Council

Did you notice? Sometime during the first week in December, our altar curtain came down. It had not been working properly for many months. It would not close completely and a deacon would often have to manually rearrange the drape to close the gap. Over the years, a number of repairs have been made to the curtain; however, it had reached a point where the fabric had become too frayed. It simply needed to be replaced!

Parish Council member, Patty O'Keefe, took on the task of finding a suitable replacement. She consulted with Proctor's Theater and learned of who made their theater curtains. That led Patty to a firm in Queensbury who agreed to take on this project. In order to get the same cross embroidered on the new curtain, our curtain was removed and shipped to Georgia. It is there that a laser image of the cross was scanned and transferred to the new material so that the embroidering could begin. It is expected that the new altar curtain will be in place well before the upcoming Lenten season.

In 2016, Father Daniel Findikyan wrote, "For worshipers in the Armenian Rite, the closed curtain practically defines Lent. Strange as it may seem, nothing is more natural to an Armenian than coming to church on a Lenten Sunday to worship in complete visual isolation from the Eucharist ..."

The perfect ending to this story came from the Bardakjian family. They were looking for a memorial opportunity to remember our beloved Deacon Hrant. When Der Hayr shared with them the need to replace the altar curtain they agreed that the new curtain was a perfect memorial for Deacon Hrant.

As we approach the Lenten season, take a moment to appreciate our new altar curtain and to remember Deacon Hrant Bardakjian.

Roswita Fragomeni, Parish Council Chairman

POSITION AVAILABLE: Assistance is needed with office administration duties, specifically where it involves maintaining and updating the church's official website. Someone with computer skills and knowledge of WordPress and basic HTML in website builders is needed in order to keep our site current and relevant. If applicable to you, please consider volunteering approximately an hour or two of your time per week to St. Peter Armenian Church. Work can be done remotely from any computer with information provided in our weekly e-bulletin as well as submitted by the church office.

Evening Service & Prayer

***"Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,
and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice."***

Psalm 141:2

The traditional Evening Service is a part of the seven daily prayer services of the Armenian Church and has been offered for the faithful for two millennia.

The service will be led by the youth of St. Peter Armenian Church.

This service is open to all and will be conducted mostly in English

Evening Service (Vespers) ~ 5:30-6:00pm

Prayer and Quiet Reflection ~ 6:00-6:30pm

Join us at St. Peter Armenian Church

for this special evening service

on the following three Saturdays:

February 16 * April 13 * June 15

The following is a list of participants to date in our 2019 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 2019; 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.

2019 Membership / Stewardship Participants

Rosemary Ammian
Winifred Ammian
Helga Apkarian*
Beatrice Arzoumanian
Gerald Arzoumanian
Zovig Ashjian*
Betty Avakian
Nazar J. Bakerian*
Ara Baligian*
Linda Bedian
Robert & Sandra Bedian
George & Elsie Bedrosian
Leonard & Antoinette Buchakjian
Charles & Alice Chorbajian
Herbert & Linda Chorbajian
Robert & Holly Dadekian
Isabel Derian
Rich DeMartino & Barbara Derian
Suzanne Dickinson*
Yn. Paulette Doudoukjian*
Arleen Drooby
Sherry Edwards
John & Debbie Ekmalian
Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian*
Arpy Ernest
Sharon Foley & Valerie Demarest

Julie Garabedian
Joanne C. Hartunian*
Richard & Beth Hartunian
Seren Hrachian*
Sarah Hrachian
Hripsime & Phyllis Jevanian*
Linda Kazanjian*
James & Marion Kehrer
Karen Khachadourian
Isabel Krempa
Steven Krempa
Virginia Mahserjian
Gregory Mardigian
Christopher Martin
Katrina Mayba
Lori Megherian
Sarkis & Ida Mihranian
Mary Minassian
R. Mihran & Ovsanna Mooradian
Lucy Morton
Gregory Nazarian
John & Karen Nevins
Thomas Berj Nevins*
Joseph & Patricia O'Keefe
George & Elizabeth Osganian
Mary Panjarjian

Florence Paparian*
Helen Paparian*
David & Breann Parseghian
David F. Quinones*
George & Joanne Scaringe
Charlotte Sevezlian
Farid F. Shafik, MD (CT)
Toros Shamlian, Jr.
Mary P. Shanks
Carole Kazanjian Smith
Leo Sogioian
Lucille Sogioian
Susan Sogioian
Hariton Sprinceanu
Claudia Suppa*
Charles & Carol Tutunjian*
Daniel Vartigian
David Vartigian

*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!*

*Note: The above list does not constitute those who are eligible to participate in the Annual Parish Assembly taking place on March 3, 2019; eligibility requires membership dues for **2018** be paid in full.*

The Annual Parish Assembly

is being held
Sunday, March 3, 2019
following services

- ♦ All parishioners should make every effort to attend and hear the issues. A light lunch will be served.
- ♦ All dues-paying members (in good standing for 2018) are encouraged to come cast their vote for elected officials of the parish. Contact the church office if you have questions regarding your 2018 membership status.

2019 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 2019

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 2019***\$ _____

(\$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 2019**\$ _____

(Total for all persons listed above.)

A pledge is a personal commitment, in addition to or besides Membership Dues, to support the mission and goals of St. Peter Armenian Church.

C) **Total Contribution for 2019**\$ _____

(Add Line A and Line B)

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Please return this completed form to the church office as soon as possible to activate your 2019 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 2019 calendar year.*

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.

Kitchen Renovation Project Update

Additional donations and pledge payments continue to come in for the Kitchen Renovation Project. We are very close to completely paying off the total expense of our newly renovated kitchen equipped with new appliances, storage, and work space. In addition to donations and pledges, monies have been and continue to be raised in a variety of creative ways, such as through AmazonSmile, RoundUp, and Clynk.

Of these three fundraising efforts, RoundUp has proven to be the most lucrative so far, raising \$269.17 since its launch in October 2018, with only eight parishioners having registered. Thank you to the following for contributing their “loose” change through their registered credit card: Zovig Ashjian, Gil Chorbajian, Sue Dickinson, Paulette Doudoukjian, Roswita Fragomeni, Joanne Hartunian, Patty O’Keefe, and Charles Tutunjian. Registering a credit card only needs to be done once and takes just a couple of minutes. Please consider donating your “loose” change to St. Peter Armenian Church through the RoundUp application on your smartphone. *(See page in this issue for more details on this and other ways to give.)*

We especially thank Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian who, through Facebook, raised \$1,315 by asking his Facebook friends to consider a donation to the Kitchen Renovation project on the occasion of his birthday in November. We also thank Valerie Demarest for raising \$100 through Facebook for the Kitchen Renovation project.

We acknowledge, with sincere thanks, those who have contributed directly to the church through their donation to the Kitchen Renovation Project since those listed in the last issue of Loosaper:

The Ashby Family (OH)
Helen Bezjian
Richard & Valerie Buchakjian
Gil & Bridgette Chorbajian
Garos & Maria Derian

Hagop & Nectar Derian
Paul & Melissa DerOhannesian
Christina Kasparian
Girard Kasparian (CA)
Robert Kazanjian (GA)

Richard & Joan Mahserjian & Family
Sam & Sylvia Mahserjian
R. Mihran & Ovsanna Mooradian
Marie (Banjarjian) Nalbandian
St. Peter Women’s Guild

A complete list of all project donors will be included in a special program at the conclusion of the project fundraising campaign later this year.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to contribute towards the Kitchen Renovation project, please consider doing so. You may make a direct payment or a pledge to be met by July 2019. *(Please use the Kitchen Renovation Commitment Form on the following page when submitting your payment or pledge.)* We only need about \$14,000 to close the gap on the entire project. Thank you for your support.

*Paulette Doudoukjian
Kitchen Fundraising Committee Chair*

LAHMEJUNE LUNCHEON

Hosted by the St. Peter Women’s Guild

Sunday, February 24

following worship services that morning

Two homemade lahmejune, salad, dessert, and coffee

Cost: \$12 per person

Reservations are required by February 18

by contacting Sue Dickinson at (518) 869-0544 or sdickin@nycap.rr.com

The Lahmejune will be homemade with helping hands needed on Saturday, February 23.

St. Peter Armenian Church Kitchen Renovation Commitment Form

Honor the Past • Serve the Present • Provide for the Future

Pledge Card

1 ☐ **YES! I/WE WILL GLADLY HELP PROVIDE FOR THE FUTURE BY DONATING/PLEDGING TO THE KITCHEN RENOVATION PROJECT.**

2 ☐ \$20,000 ☐ \$15,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ \$5,000
☐ \$2,500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ Other _____

This donation is in honor of _____

This donation is in memory of _____

All donors and messages will be acknowledged in the Loosaper, on our Website, and in a concluding event program.

3 ☐ **I PLAN TO MAKE A ONE-TIME DONATION.**

☐ **I PLAN TO PLEDGE AND MAKE PAYMENTS AS FOLLOWS** *(please indicate your schedule):*

We are requesting that all pledges be paid by July 2019

4 ☐ Enclosed is my one-time donation ☐ Enclosed is my first pledge installment
☐ Bill my Credit Card *

** Please make a secure credit card donation online at www.stpeterarmenianchurch.com or call the church office at 518-274-3673 to provide your credit card information. Note that there will be a 4% convenience fee added to the total amount you charge.*

5 Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received: _____ Ck#: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Balance: \$ _____

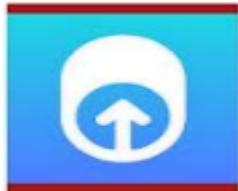
**PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION OR PLEDGE TO:
St. Peter Armenian Church • PO Box 196, Watervliet, NY 12189**

www.stpeterarmenianchurch.com 518-274-3673 office@stpeterarmenianchurch.org

Creative and Easy Ways to Support the Kitchen Renovation Fund

SHOP ON AMAZON AND THE CHURCH WINS TOO

If you shop Amazon, then please consider shopping **Amazonsmile.com** and you will be helping the Church. St. Peter Armenian Church has partnered with **Amazonsmile.com** as a registered charity. So next time you shop online, be sure to sign in through **Amazonsmile.com**, select "St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church" as your chosen charity (this step only needs to be done once), then continue shopping as usual. A small percentage of all eligible purchases will be donated to the church. If all of our Amazon shoppers out there did this, it could really amount to something. But please don't forget to sign in through **Amazonsmile.com** each time.



ROUND UP LOOSE CHANGE FOR ST. PETER

Download the application "Round Up" on your smart phone, choose "St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church" as your charity of choice, connect one of your credit cards (or two or three) and everytime you make a purchase, the amount will be rounded up with that "loose" change collected for an automatic end of the month donation to St. Peter. **This is SO easy and takes no thought after your initial set up. Please consider signing up today!**

ST. PETER RECYCLE PROGRAM

Our church is now registered with Clynk... a program offered through Hannaford stores as a way to donate the refund from your redeemable bottles and cans. ***It's so easy and simple.***

Take a specially tagged green bag from a Parish Council member, fill the bag with your redeemable bottles and soda cans, then drop the bag off at any Hannaford bottle redemption location. That's it! No need to insert bottles/cans into a machine and there is no collection slip. The money from returns will be sent directly to the Church on a monthly basis.



Love It or List It with Linda Bedian of Howard Hanna Realty

List or sell a house with Linda Bedian and she will donate \$400 to the Kitchen Fund in your name. For more information, contact Linda at (518) 207-5082 or lindabedian@howardhanna.com.

If you have a business and are interested in offering something similar or a matching program to benefit the Kitchen Renovation Campaign, please call Paulette Doudoukjian at (518) 505-9893.

GIVE THE GIFT OF STOCKS

Church Organizations News

Women's Guild

What an exciting year 2018 was for our church community! We all worked together and, in June, we had the most successful Annual Armenian Festival to date. Our youth hosted an incredible Sports Weekend in October, bringing together the future leaders of our church for sports competitions and forming friendships. Lastly, the Women's Guild embarked on the complete renovation of the church's kitchen, of which we love and are so very proud.

Now, as the kitchen is not exclusively utilized by the women of the parish, we invite all of you, men and women, to come and enjoy the fellowship and camaraderie that exists in this vital organization called the "Women's Guild." Each and every one of you, the young and the young at heart, is invited and welcome to participate in doing God's work and helping our church stay alive and thrive.

We truly appreciate your continued support in the past and look forward to sharing our wonderful Women's Guild experience with you in the New Year and beyond.

We especially thank everyone for making the 2018 Holiday Bazaar a huge success, following which the Women's Guild was able to make a \$15,000 donation to the church's General Fund.

Please contact any Executive Committee member with any questions and to offer your ideas that will make our organization even better and stronger.

*Sincerely,
The 2019 Women's Guild Executive Committee*



*This is a list of upcoming events sponsored by the St. Peter Women's Guild.
It is not all-inclusive and subject to change. Stay tuned for more details as they become available.*

Sunday, February 24: Lahmejune Luncheon, after services

Two lahmejune, salad, dessert, coffee. Cost is \$12/person.

Reservations are required by February 18 by contacting

Sue Dickinson at (518) 869-0544 or sdickin@nycap.rr.com.

(The lahmejune will be homemade with helping hands needed on February 23.)

Wednesday, March 27: Mid-Lenten Dinner, 5:00-7:00pm

(Volunteers to assist with baking Tahin Hatz appreciated on March 23.)

Sunday, March 31: Saintly Women's Day / Women's Guild Day

(This date is tentative with Sunday, April 7 also being considered.)

Thursday, April 18: Holy Thursday Breakfast

(Following Holy Thursday services that morning.)

Saturday & Sunday, June 1 & 2: Armenian Festival

(Baking prep dates will be announced.)

Saturday, August 17: Jazz on the Hill

(Jazz on the Hill is back!! Mark your calendar now!)

Sunday, November 10: General Membership Meeting/Luncheon

(All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend!)

Adult Christian Education

What is Adult Christian Education? This class is offered to present God's word in the Bible through scripture study and as a preparation to participate in and understand our Badarak.

This class, coordinated by Rhonda Boyajian, meets on Sunday mornings 9:30-10:15am in the Adult Christian Education classroom located on the upper level of the church. There are three weekends noted in the schedule below when Dr. Roberta Ervine will be offering classes on Saturday evening as well as Sunday morning. Her Saturday classes are primarily for teachers of the Armenian School and Sunday School; however, all interested adults are also welcome to attend. The Saturday evening classes are held 6:00-7:30pm.

Please follow St. Peter Armenian Church on Facebook. Scriptures/Topics being presented in class will be posted every Monday and Friday. If scripture is being presented, all are encouraged to read the reference before attending class. Also, any changes or cancellations to our schedule it will be posted there.

Materials needed: A Bible (your own personal copy if you prefer or one will be provided) and a notebook. Assignments: Class participation, and a two-paragraph paper is due on Sunday, May 12 on the following topic: "How has what you've learned changed/affected your relationship with God, your prayer life, and experience in our Badarak?"

WINTER/SPRING 2019 CLASS SCHEDULE

(Sundays at 9:30am, except where noted.)

January 6: Exegesis on Luke 2:15-20 with Rhonda Boyajian

January 13: Exegesis on Luke 2:8-14 with Rhonda Boyajian

January 20: Exegesis on John 2:1-11 with Rhonda Boyajian

Saturday, January 26, 6:00pm: Exegesis with Dr. Roberta Ervine

Sunday, January 27: Exegesis with Dr. Roberta Ervine

February 3: Exegesis with Dn. Alex Calikyan

February 10: Exegesis with Dn. Alex Calikyan

February 17: with Rhonda Boyajian

February 24: *to be announced*

March 3: Exegesis on the Book of Job with Arpi Nakashian

March 10: Historical study of Armenians with Dr. Ara Kayayan

March 17: Historical study of Armenians with Dr. Ara Kayayan

March 24: Exegesis on the Book of Job with Arpi Nakashian

Saturday, April 6, 6:00pm: Exegesis with Dr. Roberta Ervine

April 7: Exegesis with Dr. Roberta Ervine

April 14: Evening Prayers with Roswita Fragomeni

April 21: No class (Easter Sunday)

April 28: Exegesis with Lucy Vozzy

May 5: Exegesis with Guy Vozzy

May 12: Exegesis with Guy Vozzy (two-paragraph assignment due)

May 19: Exegesis with Guy Vozzy — Have a nice summer!

St. Peter Church Choir

Rehearsals for the St. Peter Church Choir are held on the third Thursday of each month. The next rehearsal will be held on Thursday, February 21. Anyone interested in joining the choir is invited to attend at any time. Questions and comments about the choir are always welcome and appreciated by contacting Choir Director, Rafi Topalian, at (518) 272-2000, (518) 810-5018, or by e-mail at rafitop@aol.com.

Sunday School

The St. Peter Armenian Church Sunday School started classes on September 16, 2018, with 14 registered students. We offer weekly classes and, on one Sunday a month we sponsor a parish-wide coffee hour with a group activity.

On November 17, 2018, three members of the St. Peter Sunday School drove to Providence, RI for the New England Region Sunday School Teacher's Workshop: Co-Superintendents, Yn. Paulette Doudoukjian and Alice McMullan, as well as one student, Gloria Doudoukjian. It was an informative workshop with the theme, "Help! It's 2018 and I'm a Sunday School Teacher!" It was an exploration of what instructors need to know and do to make a difference in and out of the classroom. The workshop was led by Elise Antreassian, Director of the Department of Christian Education.

For the month of December, the Sunday School participated in a fundraising activity entitled "Project Warmth." This was a Diocesan-directed Advent project supporting Soorp Asvadzadzin School in Vardenis, Armenia. This school has an enrollment of 130 children from kindergarten-age students through teenagers and was in desperate need of a permanent heating system in order to conduct school through the harsh winter months. Through the generosity of people throughout the Diocese, including our parish, the Diocese was able to surpass this goal and the new heating system has been installed!

We look forward to the next few months of continued Sunday School education and fellowship. Please join us for our next Sunday School-hosted coffee hour on February 10 and again on March 17.

Alice McMullan, Co-Superintendent

A.C.Y.O.A. Seniors

The ACYOA Seniors had a fun-filled outing to Lucky Strike Social in Albany on Wednesday evening, January 9. The group had a great time starting the new year by bowling a couple of games and catching up with each other, as the spring semester began for those currently in school. Anyone interested in attending future events, is asked to contact Matt O'Keefe or the St. Peter Church office. We will text, email, or post information on events through social media. Let us know how you want to be kept informed.



A.C.Y.O.A. Juniors

Christian Brothers Academy graciously offered the use of their facility, at no charge, for the ACYOA Jrs. Sports Weekend that took place in October 2018. It was decided to offer a gift of appreciation to CBA from proceeds of the Sports Weekend. Below is their letter of reply:

Dear Friends of CBA,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$500 to Christian Brothers Academy. We would not succeed in our mission to provide the highest education for young men if it were not for your commitment, support, and generosity.

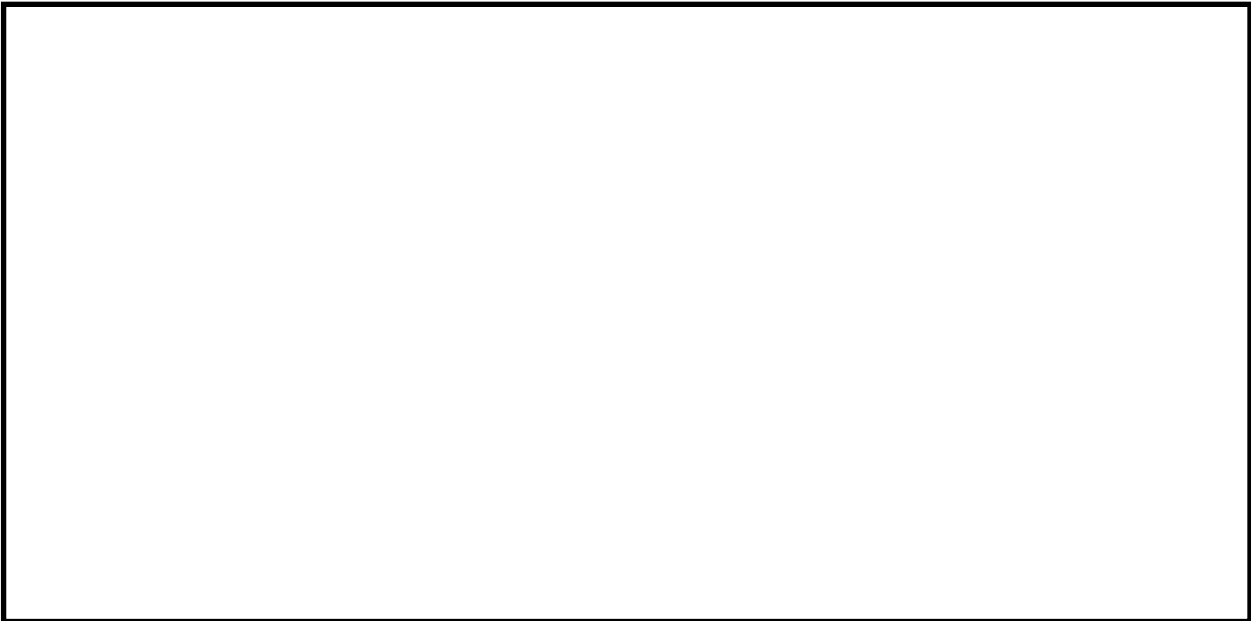
We are deeply grateful that, with your help, we can provide access for all boys to receive a Lasallian education as is the mission of our patron Saint John Baptist de La Salle.

Your generosity empowers young men and infuses moral and character development as part of their education at CBA, giving them the tools to be a positive change in our world.

The Christian Brothers, faculty, and staff thank you for support our efforts and mission. Saint John Baptist de La Salle, pray for us. Live Jesus in our hearts forever!

Colleen Ward

Director of Institutional Advancement



ABOVE: St. Peter ACYOA youth, parents, and advisors gathered together recently at Akira Japanese Restaurant in Glenmont to celebrate the successful Sports Weekend in October 2018.

St. Peter Book Club

The next gathering of the St. Peter Church Book Club will be held at the church on Wednesday, February 27 at 7:00pm. The selection for this month is *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean. This nonfiction book gives readers a true crime investigation of the 1986 fire that destroyed the Los Angeles Public Library, but also takes a look at how important libraries and books are to us all. As an added note, Ms. Orlean will be in Albany on March 1 appearing on behalf of the NYS Writers Institute at the Recital Hall in the Performing Arts Center on the UAlbany campus. For more information, contact Bill Rainbolt, at bill.mindfulness@gmail.com

The gathering for March will take place on Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00pm. The selection for this month is *Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor, and Laughter are at the Heart of Spiritual Life* by James Martin.

Parish Community News

Sacraments and Rites

Karasonk (40-Day Memorial)

December 30, 2018 **Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian** - requested by Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).

Dareleetz (First Anniversary)

December 9, 2018 **June Atashian** - requested by Tamara, Mark, Olivia & Joseph DeSanctis.

Murad Khalaf - requested by The Karayan & Khalaf Families.

Hokehankist

November 11, 2018 **Departed Veterans of our Community** - requested by Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).

Garabed, Gulenia & Tavit Dekermenjian; Seta & Kevork Dekermenjian; Abraham, Azniv & Zarouhi Guleserian; Karl Yalian; Hratch Apanosian; Sarkis & Alice Khanjian; Avedis & Lousadzin Guleserian; Hagop & Alice Atamian; Joe Kazarian - requested by The Derian Family; Heidi & Sarkis Guleserian & Family; Hagop & Maral Khanjian; Zovig Kayserian.

Rose Moroukian - requested by Charles & Alice Chorbajian & Family; Virginia Mahserjian & Family.

Joseph & Hripsime Vartanesian - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Vartanesian (NC).

Agnes Wiswall - requested by the St. Peter Armenian Church Parish Council, clergy, parishioners, and friends.

December 9, 2018 **Aram Atashian** (Twenty-Seventh Anniversary); **Tara Atashian** (Eighth Anniversary) - requested by Tamara, Mark, Olivia & Joseph DeSanctis.

Virginia & Edward Belemjian - requested by David & Lori Belemjian.

Paul DerOhannesian; Arsen DerOhannesian; Makrouhi DerOhannesian; Nelly Tanguy; Frances Vliet - requested by Paul & Melissa DerOhannesian & Family.

Lynne Carole Hartunian and the other 269 victims of Pan Am Flight #103 who died in the terrorist bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland on December 21, 1988 (Thirtieth Anniversary); **Joseph Hartunian** - requested by Joanne Hartunian; Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hartunian & Family; Mr. & Mrs. Joseph O'Keefe & Family.

Terwant Karagozian - requested by The Karayan & Khalaf Families.

Robert W. Meeson, Sr. (Eleventh Anniversary) - requested by Eleanor Meeson; Sharon & Doug Pauley; Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Meeson, Jr. & Family.

December 23, 2018 **All those who lost their lives in the 1988 earthquake in Armenia and its aftermath** - requested by Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).

Chamiram Artinian; Elizabeth Artinian Goebel - requested by The Foley Family.

- December 23, 2018 **Sirarpi & Karnik Babikian** - requested by the Clergy, Parish Council, parishioners and friends of St. Peter Armenian Church.
- Harry & Virginia Dolab** - requested by Chorbajian, Ekmalian & Hachigian Families; Ara & Rachel Altounian.
- James & Nancy Hachigian; Sarkis & Helhna Hachigian; Dorothy (Hachigian) Tammian; Lucy (Hachigian) Ohanian; Mary Hachigian; Ardaches Ekmalian; Vartanouch (Ekmalian) Kalustian; Jirayr & Ann Hachigian; Jean (Frenchie) Ekmalian (Thirty-Second Anniversary); Henry & Silva Haroyan; Paul Ekmalian; Michael Kurkjian; Joseph Mardigian; Sarkis & Sonia Hachigian; John & Betty Howard; Joseph Grandato; Girard Hachigian; Jack Hachigian** - requested by Chorbajian, Ekmalian & Hachigian Families.
- George & Lucy Krikorian; Gary & Patricia Krikorian** - requested by Chorbajian, Ekmalian & Hachigian Families; Greg Nazarian; The Ashby Family (OH); The Kehrer Family.
- Mary Shanks** (Fourth Anniversary on December 18); **Jimmie B. Shanks** - requested by Mary P. Shanks.
- December 30, 2018 **Rehan Melkonian; Mariam Melkonian; Setrak Avedissian; Varoujan Avedissian; Araxie Avedissian; Aram Khatchadourian** - requested by Norayr & Anoush Arakelian.
- Hampartzoum & Vartanoush Moroukian; Alice Moroukian** - requested by Mr. & Mrs. R. Paul Moroukian, Jr. & Family; Mr. & Mrs. Gary Clark & Family; Pamela Moroukian.
- January 27, 2019 **Leo Buchakjian; Margaret Buchakjian Wilsey; Paul Wilsey** - requested by Mary & Gary Sobo, Leonard & Antoinette Buchakjian, Leo & Elaine Buchakjian, and Christine & Scott McCarthy and Families.
- Ann & Ralph Vartigian** - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Vartigian & Family; Mr. & Mrs. David Vartigian & Family; Deborah Erlandson & Family; George & Richard Osganian & Families; Bertha Kazanjian.
- Vahan Zarifian** (Fifth Anniversary); **Alice Zarifian; Armen & Aghavne Guendjoian; Bedros & Gadar Zarifian; Roger & Christine Suppa** - requested by Pat & Claudia Suppa.

Altar Flowers

- December 23, 2018 **Joanne Hartunian & Family** *in memory of Lynne Carol Hartunian & Joseph Hartunian.*

Altar Candles

- December 24, 2018 **David & Lori Belemjian** *in memory of Virginia & Edward Belemjian.*
- January 6, 2019 **Mr. & Mrs. Charles Chorbajian** *in memory of Ghevont & Anna Chorbajian.*

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias decorating the church for the Christmas season have been donated by the following: **Betty Avakian and Shirley Avakian & Family** *in memory of Avakian & Baronian Families;* **Herb & Linda Chorbajian** *in memory of Ghevont & Anna Chorbajian and Carney & Charlotte Postoian;* **Marion Jaffarian** *in memory of Paul Jaffarian;* **Mary P. Shanks** *in memory of Jimmie & Mary Shanks;* **Janis Talarico Urban** *in memory of Fay & Henry "Hank" Talarico, Paul Urban, Carol Duro, and Julianna Hamada.*

Christmas Decorations

Wreaths decorating the altar area during the Christmas season were donated by **John & Debbie Ekmalian** *in memory of Chorbajian, Ekmalian, Moroukian, and Hachigian Families.* The Christmas tree in the sanctuary was donated by the **Mahserjian Family.**

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.

December 23, 2018 **Nancy & Vin DeMartino** - prayers of healing as requested by Richard DeMartino & Barbara Derian.

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.

November 18, 2018 **Sunday School Staff** *for fellowship and family activity.*

December 16, 2018 **Sunday School Staff** *for fellowship and family activity.*

January 13, 2019 **Sunday School Staff** *for fellowship and family activity.*

Special Donations

A total of \$266.00 was received in a **special plate collection** taken on November 25 to aid victims of California wildfires.

A total of \$349.00 was received in a **special plate collection** taken on December 23 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the 1988 earthquake that destroyed the cities of Gyumri and Spitak, Armenia. Funds raised as a directive of His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, were sent to the Mother See to fund a humanitarian project that aims to help the people of Armenia who live in inadequate housing.

Donations to the **General Fund** totaling \$18,227.00 were received from the following: **Mark Anigian; Dr. Neil Devejian; Dr. Ara Kayayan; Anthony & Elaine McCann** *in support of the Nor Serund Concert sponsored by the St. Peter Armenian School on October 18, 2018; St. Peter Women's Guild.*

Note of Thanks

Members of St. Peter & Fr. Stepanos,

"Sending you good wishes and holiday cheer for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

"Thank you for all that you do and for all the help that you have given to us; it's truly appreciated."

[will remain anonymous]



St. Peter Armenian Church

2019 Lenten Services

Wednesday evenings during Lent

March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3 & 10 ~ 7:00pm

Gift of Love Donations

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Rosemary Ammian | Anonymous | Brian Apkarian |
| Helga Apkarian | Kyle & Penny Apkarian (OH) | Aram Atashjian |
| Betty Avakian | Nazar J. Bakarian | Linda Bedian |
| George & Elsie Bedrosian | Richard DeMartino & Barbara Derian | Tamara DeSanctis |
| Paul Dichian | Rev/Mrs Stepanos Doudoukjian | Debbie & John Ekmalian |
| Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian | Arpy Ernest | Roswita Fragomeni |
| Joanne Hartunian | Marion Jaffarian | Leon & Susan Kaiser |
| Ash Karapetian & Jen Kurkjian (CA) | Denis E. Kebabjian | James & Linda Khachadourian |
| Russ & Sandy Kilidjian | Jeffrey & Nadia Knorr | Arthur & Shigeko Koshkorian (VA) |
| Audrey Ohnikian (FL) | Mr/Mrs Joseph O'Keefe | George & Elizabeth Osganian |
| Florence Paparian | Mr/Mrs Peter Prince | Theodore & Grace (Jaffarian) Sapino (FL) |
| Mr/Mrs George Scaringe | Ani Tashjian Weiss | <i>in memory of Toros & Miriam Jaffarian</i> |
| Peter & Maryanne Topian | Mr/Mrs Charles Tutunjian | |
| Total: \$2,683 | | |

Christmas Yughakin Donations

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Mr/Mrs Kirkor Agopyan | Brian & Garyn (Gdanian) A'Hearn | Mrs. Vartouhi Allahverdi |
| Rosemary Ammian | Winifred Ammian | Mark Anigian |
| Anonymous (2) | Brian Apkarian | Helga Apkarian |
| George & Elsie Arakelian | Aram Atashian | Nazar Bakerian |
| Mr/Mrs J. Albert Barsamian | Robert & Sandra Bedian | George & Elsie Bedrosian |
| Helen Bezjian | Peter & Patty Boorujy (NJ) | David & Roseann Caruso |
| Gil & Bridgette Chorbajian | Herb & Linda Chorbajian | Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian |
| Mike & Joanne Coogan & Family | Richard DeMartino & Barbara Derian | Isabel Derian |
| Paul & Melissa DerOhannesian | Paul Dichian | Rev/Mrs Stepanos Doudoukjian |
| Sherry A. Edwards | Frenchie & Debbie Ekmalian | Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian |
| Arpy Ernest | Roswita Fragomeni | Barouyr Hairabedian |
| Joanne Hartunian | Mary Hartunian | Mr/Mrs Richard Hartunian |
| Andrew & Virginia Hyra | Charles H. Israelian | Marion Jaffarian |
| Hrepsime & Phyllis Jevanian | Mr/Mrs Leon Kaiser | <i>in memory of Paul Jaffarian</i> |
| Ash Karapetian & Jen Kurkjian (CA) | Hagop Kazanjian | Linda Kazanjian |
| D. Eddy Kebabjian | Michael & Dianne Koshgorian | Isabel Krempe |
| Steven Krempe | Slava & Irina Kyaruns & Family | Dawn Essegian Lajeunesse |
| Virginia Mahserjian | Katrina Mayba | Sean & Alice McMullan |
| George & Sally (Mahserjian) McNeff | Yn. Yefkin Megherian | Ida & Sarkis Mihranian |
| Mary P. Minassian | Mihran & Ovsanna Mooradian | Lucy Morton |
| <i>in memory of H. Khachik Minassian</i> | Ohan & Rita Ohanian | George & Betty Osganian |
| Mary Panjarjian | Florence Paparian | Helen Paparian |
| Jackie Prince | David F. Quinones | Theodore & Grace (Jaffarian) Sapino (FL) |
| Mr/Mrs George Scaringe | Ann Serian | <i>in memory of Toros Jaffarian</i> |
| Lucille Sogorian | Susan Sogorian | Artin & Mary Sukljian |
| Claudia & Pat Suppa | Christian Tashjian | Mr/Mrs Charles Tutunjian |
| Mr/Mrs Gary Vartanian | Guy & Elsie Vozzy | Susan & Kai Wendt |
| Total: \$4,565 | | |

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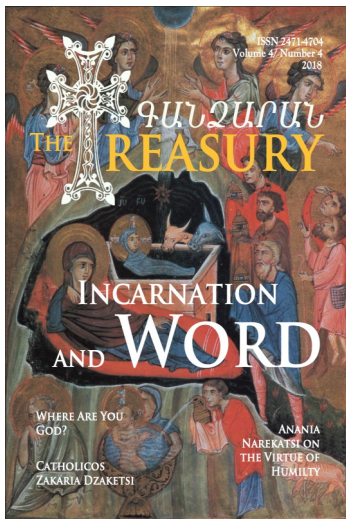
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|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Arghnian, Hyra & Shufelt Families | Jennifer & Craig Blair | George Hachigian & Helena Ekmalian |
| Dan & Joyce Micare | Donna Sabatino | Lynn Thibeault |
| Total: \$320 | | |

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

Community News

VARTANANTZ DAY COMMEMORATION, February 17, 2019: The Knights & Daughters of Vartan will host their annual Vartanantz Day Commemoration at Holy Cross Armenian Church (255 Spring Avenue, Troy) on Sunday, February 17 at 12:30 p.m. with visiting pastor, Archpriest Fr. Gomidas Baghsarian presiding. The public is cordially invited. The program will include entertainment and guest speaker, Dr. Arthur Kubikian, DDS, Clinical Assistant Professor, NYU College of Dentistry, Dept. of Endodontics. A full course luncheon will be served. Cost for the luncheon is \$15 for adults; free for children under age 12. To RSVP or for more information, contact Ara Altounian at (518) 339-5816 or at altounian@earthlink.net.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF VOSKI: Nor Voskiank is a fellowship of men and women working toward the revival and restoration of Armenian Orthodox theology and life within the Armenian Church at large. The fellowship is named after St. Voski and his companions (the Voskians) who were a group of Christian martyrs and monastics from the first century, many of whom were students of St. Thaddeus. According to tradition, St. Thaddeus ordained as their leader a priest called Chrysos (Greek for “gold,” Armenian “voski”), and thereafter the group came to be known as the Voskians.



In the spirit of the Voskians, Nor Voskiank seeks to support the cultivation of a thriving, united, worldwide Armenian Christian community through prayer, fellowship, and the publication of practical, educational resources covering the entire breadth of Christian life as lived, interpreted, and testified to by the Armenian Church since ancient times. *The Treasury* is published quarterly and subscriptions are available by request. To contact us or donate, please visit www.St.Voski.org.

Nor Vioskiank is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that depends entirely on your generous support for its ministry. For a one-year subscription to *The Treasury*, please send a tax-deductible gift of \$30 payable to “Fellowship of St. Voski,” PO Box 377, Sutton MA 01590. Every issue of *The Treasury* is available to read free of charge on their website. Also, visit *Fellowship at St. Voski* on Facebook.

A Pilgrimage of Faith & Heritage: **St. Peter Armenian Church Parishioners & Friends** **JOURNEY TO ARMENIA** **June 29 - July 10, 2019**

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contact Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian at frstepd@gmail.com
or by calling the St. Peter Church office at (518) 274-3673.

Der Garen's† Column

Քրիստոս միամիտ եւ պարզամիտ մէկն է, ըրածն ու ըսածը չի գիտեր: Բայց Քրիստոս ոչ միայն գիտէր թէ ի՞նչ կ'ընէ, այլ կը յայտարարէր. «Ես պատրաստ եմ իմ անձս զոհելու մեղաւորներու փրկութեան համար»: Եւ արդարեւ Քրիստոս իր անձը զոհեց մեղաւոր մարդոց համար: Խաչուեցաւ, մահացաւ եւ թաղուեցաւ: Իր սուրբ եւ կարմիր արիւնովը մեզ ազատեց սատանայի իշխանութենէն:

Մեղքերու թողութիւն շնորհելը Քրիստոսի վարդապետութեան ամենէն կարեւոր պատգամներէն մէկն է: Առանց «մեղաց թողութեան»՝ Քրիստոսի վարդապետութիւնը տարածուած կրօնք մը ըլլալէ դադրած կ'ըլլար: Քրիստոսի Ընդհանրական եւ Առաքելական Եկեղեցին իր Հաւատամքին մէկ անբաժան մասը ըրած է «Հաւատամք ի քաւութիւն եւ ի թողութիւն մեղաց» խօսքը: Ապաշխարութեան Խորհուրդը էական սեպուած Խորհուրդներու խումբին կը պատկանի: Ապաշխարութիւնը մեղքերու թողութիւն ստանալու Խորհուրդն է:

Երբ Քրիստոս մեղաւորներուն թողութիւն կը շնորհէր՝ Հրեաները Անոր կը հարցնէին. «Քեզի ո՞վ իշխանութիւն տուած է»: Քրիստոս սակայն Հրեաները անտես ըրաւ եւ իր ունեցած իշխանութիւնը փոխանցեց իր աշակերտներուն: Ահա թէ ինչու Քրիստոսի եկեղեցւոյն մէջ ամէն ձեռնադրեալ քահանայ «մեղաց թողութիւն» շնորհելու իշխանութիւն ունի:

Եթէ Քրիստոս մեղքերու թողութիւն կը շնորհէ՝ կ'ուզէ սակայն որ մենք ալ իրարու մեղքերու թողութիւն շնորհենք: «Եթէ դուք իրարու անցնորդ ըլլաք՝ Աստուած ալ ձեզի անցնորդ կ'ըլլայ», ըսաւ Ան: Եւ Պետրոս Առաքեալի հարցումին պատասխանելով պատուիրեց. «Մենք պէտք է մեր եղբօր 77 անգամ 7 մեղքերու թողութիւն շնորհենք»:

Եթէ Քրիստոս եւ մեր եղբայրը պատրաստ են մեզի ներում շնորհել՝ մենք սակայն պատրա՞ստ ենք ներում խնդրել: Պատրա՞ստ ենք անառակ որդիին նման ծունկի գալ եւ յայտարարել. «Հա՛յր, մեղալ յերկինս եւ առաջի քո»: Պատրա՞ստ ենք մաքսաւորին նման զղջալ եւ ըսել. «Աստուած իմ, քաւեա զմեղս իմ»:

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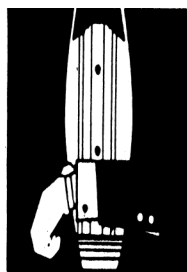
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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

(Look for more details on most of these events inside this issue.)

All events and activities are held at St. Peter Armenian Church, unless otherwise noted.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Thurs, February 7 | Little Faithfuls Potluck & Story Time ~ 5:00pm |
| Fri, February 8 | AM Prayer Group ~ 10:30am |
| Friday evenings | Armenian School ~ 6:30-8:00pm |
| Sun, February 10 | Fellowship Hour open to all ~ immediately following worship services <i>hosted by the St. Peter Sunday School</i> |
| Fri, February 15 | Adult Bible Study Class ~ 10:30am |
| Sat, February 16 | Evening (Vespers) Service & Prayer ~ 5:30-6:30pm |
| Sun, February 17 | Vartanantz Day Commemoration ~ 12:30pm <i>Hosted by the Knights & Daughters of Vartan</i> <i>To take place at Holy Cross Armenian Church, Troy</i> |
| Thurs, February 21 | St. Peter Choir Rehearsal ~ 7:00pm |
| Fri, February 22 | AM Prayer Group ~ 10:30am |
| Sun, February 24 | LAHMENJUNE LUNCHEON ~ 12:30pm <i>Hosted by the St. Peter Women's Guild (details inside)</i> |
| Wed, February 27 | St. Peter Book Club ~ 7:00pm |
| Fri, March 1 | Adult Bible Study Class ~ 10:30am |
| Sun, March 3 | ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY ~ following worship services |
| Mon, March 4 | Lent Begins! |
| Wed, March 6 | Lenten Service ~ 7:00pm (every Wednesday evening during Lent) |
| Fri, March 8 | AM Prayer Group ~ 10:30am |
| Sun, March 17 | Fellowship Hour open to all ~ immediately following worship services <i>hosted by the St. Peter Sunday School with a luncheon provided</i> <i>by Berjouhi Shamounian, Marik Shohmelian, and Nayiri Tournayan.</i> |

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