

SPRING-SUMMER
2022

ԼՈՒՍԱՔԵՐ LOOSAPER

2022 ARMENIAN FESTIVAL RETURNS TO ITS FULL GLORY

It was a beautiful weather weekend that ushered in a successful three-day Armenian Festival on June 3-5, 2022. This year marked the first time we were back in person since 2019, and it seemed we didn't skip a beat in our coordination and organization. Everyone came together seamlessly to pull off a busy but very well-received event with delicious Armenian cuisine, mouth-watering desserts, festive entertainment and activities, and an array of vendors... all while providing a cultural flair.

Thank you to the numerous volunteers who worked tirelessly in preparation for the event and during the weekend itself. A special appreciation is extended to Lori Payette, our church office manager, for handling all the big and small details that many don't think about; to Harry Tutunjian for spearheading the sponsorship program; John "Frenchie" Ekmalian for coordinating the BBQ area and set up; Sonya Moroukian and her creative design and decorative touches; John Avakian for handling the beverage area; Bob Bedian for driving the "Hye Cart" ushering people to and from the parking lot; the Women's Guild for their many hours of food preparation; all the various food coordinators; and Fr. Stepanos and the Parish Council members for their unwavering support in our ability to bring it all together.



(continued on page 3)

Սուրբ Պետրոս Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցի ST. PETER ARMENIAN CHURCH

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- 2022 Armenian Festival
- Upcoming Events
- The Matthew Activity
- HIMA Home Project
- Summer outing to Moreau Lake State Park
- Women's Symposium '22
- Special Parish Assembly
- Parish Get-Away Weekend at the Ararat Center
- Message on Advent by Adn. Hagop Derian (in Armenian)

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Women's Guild

Nancy Kassabian, Co-Chair
Sonya Moroukian, Co-Chair
PC Liaison: Raffi Moroukian

LOOSAPER DONATIONS

Many thanks to the most recent donors who offered to help offset the cost of our church publication with donations totaling \$100:

- **Holly Chenaille**
- **Charlene Hrachian**
- **Arthur Koshkorian (VA)**

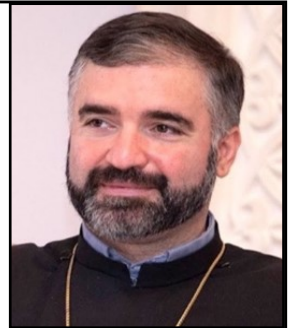
Donations for *Loosaper* may be sent to "St. Peter Armenian Church" and mailed to PO Box 196, Watervliet, NY 12189 or securely given through PayPal under office@stpeterarmenianchurch.org.

PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIMATE

On Saturday, July 16, our Primate of the Eastern Diocese, Very Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan, was seriously injured in an automobile accident while traveling to St. Vartan Camp. He is at Albany Medical Center and has undergone several surgeries to his hip and ankles. He has a long road of recovery ahead of him and will need continued prayers. He will remain at Albany Med until it is appropriate and safe to transfer him to New York City for continued care and rehabilitation.

Fr. Mesrop expressed his personal thanks to all the caring physicians and nurses at Albany Medical Center and the numerous Armenian doctors and nurses from the region who have looked in on him as well as many others from around the country who have contacted the Diocese offering their counsel, including members of the Armenian American Health Professionals Organization (AAHPO). Fr. Mesrop also expressed his appreciation to Fr. Stepanos and to the St. Peter Armenian Church Parish Council and parishioners for their extended support during this difficult time. He is appreciative of all the prayers and the outreach of our community.

His Holiness Karekin II made a brief visit to the Eastern Diocese (July 18-29) and made a point to visit Fr. Mesrop in the hospital numerous times as well as a brief visit to St. Vartan Camp. There were no public events scheduled for the Catholicos' visit. He held several meetings with leaders of the Diocese and Armenian Organizations.



Cover Story (cont'd)

2022 Armenian Festival

We extend a special thank you to all of our very generous sponsors, especially our **Diamond level sponsors**, Glenmont Self Storage, Hilltop Plaza, and Tri City Rentals, and our **Platinum level sponsors**, ARAX Properties, CD Perry LLC, Moroukian Wealth Management Group, and Wealth One.



We also acknowledge and thank our **Gold level sponsors**: The Buchakjian Families and Robert & Holly Dadekian; our **Silver level sponsors**: Isabel Krempa, Ida & Sarkis Mihranian, Jr., Pioneer Bank, Twin Bridges Waste & Recycling, and Uncle Sam Outfitters, Inc.; and our **Bronze level sponsors**: Anonymous, Bob's Diner, Catskill Hudson Bank, Alice & Charles Chorbajian, Linda & Herb Chorbajian, DeMartino/Derian Family, DerOhannesian & DerOhannesian Law, Felthousen's Florist, Barbara Hrachian, Krikor & Nancy Kassabian, Hon. John T. McDonald III, S&G Truck Repairs, Inc./Guleserian Family, Toros Shamlan, Jr., and Var Management. A special thank you also to Adirondack Beverage!

Thank you also to all of those who bought tickets for the 50/50 cash raffle. Sales from the raffle totaled \$6,000. Fifty percent of the total was split between three prizes: 25% to our first place winner, Gloria Doudoukjian (whose ticket was purchased by her grandfather, Mr. Girard Kasparian); 15% to the second place winner, Paul Kahian; and 10% to the third place winner, Arthur Koshkorian (VA). Congratulations to these lucky winners!

We are pleased to announce that the net profit of the Festival amounted to \$47,550. Again, this would not have been possible without the efforts of so many hard working, dedicated people.

A Festival Volunteer Appreciation dinner took place on June 22 to thank these individuals, where constructive input and ideas were generated to further improve this event. We are already looking forward to next year, June 2-4, 2023!

With our gratitude,
Chuck Tutunjian & Paulette Doudoukjian
Event Co-Chairs

"I sincerely thank all the barbecuers and the set-up and clean-up crew who helped at the Festival this year. I appreciate all the hard work and dedication in making this event a success. Hope to see you all at our next big event!"

Thank you Buddy Buddies, Frenchie

Pastor's Message

Rev. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian

Dear Faithful,

Over the past two years, we have all struggled in one way or another with a global pandemic. It has challenged us in many ways that we never thought prior - spiritually, physically, and emotionally. While we have yearned for the days of old, we have also learned a new way of life. It is time to start anew, reboot our bodies, souls and minds, and look forward to rejuvenation at St. Peter Armenian Church. We are open, celebrating Liturgy every Sunday, doing God's work in the community, and celebrating the life that God has given us.

As we continue through the year 2022 at St. Peter Armenian Church, we dedicate all that we do moving forward for the celebration of life. In our Liturgy (Badarak), which is uniquely expressed in the Armenian Church, we proclaim the words of our Lord: "I am the resurrection and the life." Each Sunday, we celebrate this life-giving experience, as the chalice of our Lord is presented to the people, with the priest saying, "This is life, hope of resurrection, expiation, and remission of sins." This liturgical expression of God's love for us cannot be replicated anywhere else. Join us on Sunday mornings as we dedicate our lives to this hope that we find in Jesus Christ.

We welcome you and your family this year as we commit to doing God's work in the community and participating in the many life-giving activities at St. Peter Armenian Church.

God bless you, Fr. Stepanos

Upcoming Events

SUNDAY: August 14

2nd Annual Picnic in "Armenia"

Experience what a picnic would be like in our homeland of Armenia. Enjoy the music, food, and dance that will take you back to our Motherland. Enjoy *Khoravats* (kebab) and all the trimmings. This event takes place on the major feast day of *Asdvadzadzin* / Assumption of Mary. On this day, we will also enjoy the traditional Blessing of the Grapes service.

WEDNESDAYS: Aug. 17 & Nov. 9

"Prayers for Healing" Services @ 7pm

All are invited to participate in this ancient service of the Armenian Church known as Prayers for Healing - "Khachahankist." We are all in need or know of those in need of healing, whether emotionally, physically, or spiritually. *"The Lord heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds. —Psalm 147"*

THURSDAY: August 18

Movie & Discussion Night under the pavilion

Join us on Thursday, August 18, at 7:00pm on beautiful summer night under the Postoian Pavilion for family movie night. Feature film to be shown is **"Blue Miracle."** This movie is based on a true story, "To save their cash-strapped orphanage, a guardian and his kids partner with a washed-up boat captain for a chance to win a lucrative fishing competition. And, of course, there will be homemade popcorn!"

SATURDAY-SUNDAY: October 1-2

St. Peter Parish Get-Away Weekend

Enjoy a two-day getaway to our diocesan Ararat Center in Greenville, NY, along with other members of our church family. We will soak in the fall foliage of the Catskill Mountains and enjoy local excursions. We'll share in fun activities and discussions, have a camp fire with s'mores, and culminate in the celebration of Divine Liturgy. (see flyer)

SATURDAY: November 19

"Gratitude" Retreat

This will be an opportunity for our community to reflect on the definition of gratitude and the spiritual, physical, and mental benefits of having a grateful heart. We will explore the reasons why we are grateful and how to live with gratitude at the center of our being.



The Matthew Activity

based on Matthew 25:14-30

Question: *How do you get 43 Armenians to agree on the same thing?* Answer: **The Matthew Activity**

Fr. Stepanos teased parishioners for weeks about a mystery event that all were invited to attend. He said, "The more who attend the event, the more enriching and fulfilling it will be!" In the mailing announcing the event, was a dollar coin, and all were encouraged to bring it to the event. In total, 330 letters with \$330.00 worth of dollar coins were mailed out to our local parish mailing list. Then, on Sunday, May 15, 43 curious parishioners and Der Hayr met under the Postoian Pavilion for the unveiling of the secret activity.



The event began by Der Hayr pointing out that he had arranged the folding chairs into eight circles of five or six chairs. Then, he told the story (Matthew 25: 14-30) of a man who gave coins to each of his three servants; to one he gave five coins, to another two coins, and to the last one coin. The first two invested and multiplied the money. The third buried the coin given to him. The master was pleased with the first two servants, saying to each, "Well done, good and faithful servant." To the third, he expressed his disappointment: "Thou wicked and slothful servant." The meaning of the parable is that we, as children of God, must prepare ourselves for the Kingdom of God. We prepare by having faith and then putting that faith into action by being stewards of our time, talents, and treasure.



The challenge for the group of 43 was to decide on a single organization to receive a charitable donation (the value of the coins distributed to the parish and more). This was not an easy task.

Kickoff round: Each of the eight groups had five minutes to agree on a charity. Each member within each group made a pitch for their charity of choice and discussions took place. Charities included St. Jude Children's Hospital, Armenian charities, Bethesda House

and other homeless shelters, Alzheimer's, Senior Centers, and our parish's HIMA Home in Armenia. All worthy choices. At the end of five minutes, each of the eight groups were successful, through discussion and consideration, at reaching a consensus on one charity. So, after round one, the group as a whole went from 43 worthy causes to eight.

Round two: Each group joined an adjacent group to form four groups to discuss and consider each other's first round selection. The goal again was for each group to emerge with a single chosen cause. After ten minutes, each group reached consensus and the number of charities in contention was reduced to four.

Round three: The groups again merged, this time into two groups, and a new discussion ensued to choose one cause per group. After fifteen minutes, the number of causes was reduced to two.

The final round: Now it was time to merge into one group of all 43 to pitch and consider the final two charitable causes. Passionate appeals were made for children's hospitals, which was originally proposed by Kevin Kayayan, and HIMA Home, a shelter for girls and young women in Armenia, originally proposed by Sonya Moroukian and later advocated by Guy Vozzy. Then anonymous (eyes closed and show of hands) voting took place. The winner? **HIMA Home!** Within an hour of incremental discussions, the 43 participants selected the charity of choice to receive the donation. *(See the following page for information on this very important project and consider your five-year pledge or one-time donation.)*

The success of this endeavor demonstrated that through passion, consideration, discussion, mutual respect, and consensus building, harmony of thought can be achieved. It also demonstrated how we as a community can prayerfully put our money and talents together and make an impact in other people's lives.

The Matthew Activity is not over! YOU can still be a part of the St. Peter parish team as we raise money for the HIMA Home, an endeavor that was conceived from our parish trip to Armenia in 2019, and spearheaded by Sarine Moroukian. Please send back your dollar coin, as well as any additional donation so we can multiply our talent to help the less fortunate in Armenia. To date, an additional \$1,400 has been generated from The Matthew Activity for the HIMA Home project.

Brian Apkarian, Parish Council Chairman

Facts and Figures

2.8K Children

- Living in child residential care & educational centers throughout Armenia or
- Living in difficult life situations

80% of these children HAVE a home to go to

- Either they're reunited with their biological families or
- Placed in alternative family care (like foster care)

20% of DO NOT have a home to go to (THE PROBLEM)

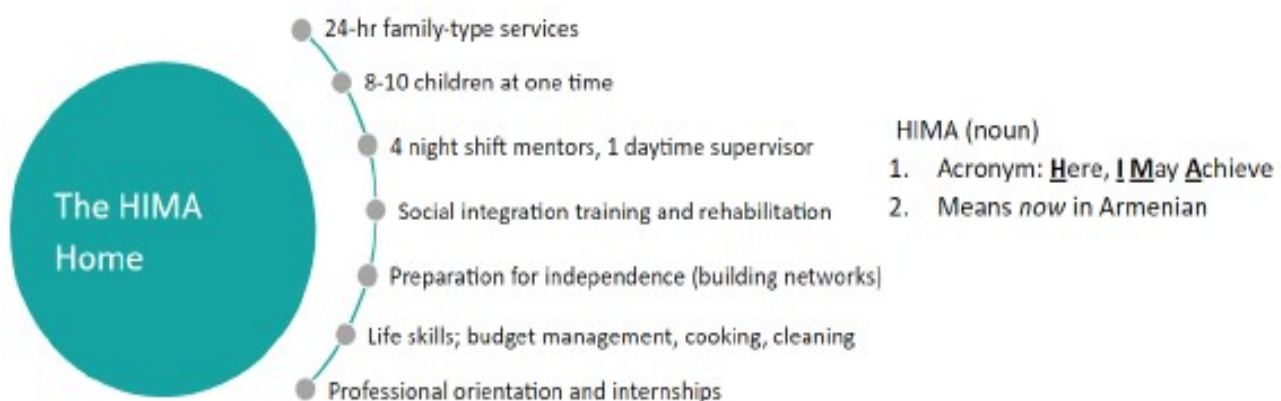
- Their parents are unwilling to take them back or their return to the family is not in the child's best interests
- Adaptation to a new family environment would be very challenging
- Children 12-18 have a lower chance of being adopted/going into foster care
- Their parents are unwilling to take them back or their return to the family is not in the best interest of the children

Of the 20%

- All Boys are required to go into the military when they turn 18
- Some Girls – don't have a support system after 18, and are targeted for prostitution

The Solution: The HIMA Home

Small Group Home (SGH) will be a supervised independent living house for children 14-21 who are unable to be placed in foster care or reunited with their families*.



DECLARATION OF INTENT

**This pledge is restricted for the HIMA Home Project
Fund for Armenian Relief (FAR)**

5-Year Pledge Options (circle one)

- 1 \$500 per year (\$42/month)
 - Update on fund spend every 6 months
 - Monthly update on children via photo or video

- 2 \$1,000 per year (\$83/month)
 - A Brick with your name or family name in the sidewalk of the home
 - Update on fund spend every 6 months
 - Monthly update on children via photo or video

- 3 \$1,001 - \$2,500 per year
 - Name engraved on plaque to be mounted at the entrance of the house
 - Update on fund spend every 6 months
 - Monthly update on children via photo or video

- 4 \$2,501 - \$5,000+ per year
 - Name engraved on plaque to be mounted at the entrance of the house
 - Naming of one of the bedrooms after you or your family
 - Update on fund spend every 6 months
 - Monthly update on children via photo or video

I (we) hereby make donation pledge in the sum of \$_____ USD each year, for a period of 5 years, to assist in meeting the needs of the HIMA Home project and the needs of the people of Armenia.

My gift is in the form of: ☐ check ☐ securities

Name: (please print) _____

Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ /2022

Checks and securities should be made payable to St. Peter Armenian Church. All gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Reminders are sent as per donor's requested schedule.

Church Organization News



ST. PETER WOMEN'S GUILD 2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Co-Chair

Sonya Moroukian
Co-Chair

Francine Kaiser
Treasurer

Zovig Ashjian
Assistant Treasurer

Charlene Hrachian
Recording Secretary

Valerie Demarest
Fellowship Coordinator

Sharon Foley
Outreach Coordinator

Advisors:
Phyllis Jevanian
Claudia Suppa
Carol Tutunjian

*"The Guild
encourages all
women of the
community to be
part of this
organization."*

Women's Guild

The St. Peter Women's Guild continue with outreach projects to benefit the local community. After the successful Program Warmth collection of hats, mittens, scarves, etc., the next project was **"Soup Kitchen in a Can."** Over 245 cans of nutritious soup were donated to two Watervliet not-for-profit organizations. At the Redemption Church of Christ in Watervliet, Fr. Stepanos and Women's Guild Outreach Coordinator, Sharon Foley, met with the church's pastor, Fr. Massry, and his daughter and were given a tour of the church and meal distribution area. They seem to have a fine-tuned machine working in their ministries, and there are lots of opportunities for us, as a Women's Guild and as a parish, to assist and support them. The second donation was delivered to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Watervliet by Sharon Foley and Women's Guild Co-Chair, Nancy Kassabian.



BOOKS, BOOKS, and more BOOKS! A huge THANK YOU to all those who graciously donated to our Women's Guild/Sunday School **"Bookworm Literacy Project."** A total of 66 books, 40 activity books, several unique creativity kits, 22 boxes of crayons, and a few markers were collected. We are happy to report that our donation will be made to the Ronald McDonald House in Albany. The total donation will be split between their residential facility and local hospitals where they have programs for children as they undergo critical life-saving treatments. Stay tuned for the next Women's Guild community outreach opportunity coming soon.

The **Mid-Lenten Dinner**, hosted by the Women's Guild on March 23, was a resounding success. A delicious meal was served to our guests consisting of fish, coleslaw, fabulous vosbov kufte, and St. Peter's famous "Tahinov Hatz." Thank you to all who coordinated and helped with this community event.

Women's Guild Fellowship Coordinator, Valerie Demarest, has arranged for several social opportunities open to all. On March 8, a small group attended Agatha Christie's **"Death on the Nile"** movie at Regal Cinema in Colonie Center. Even more attended **"Anything Goes - The Musical"** on March 27 at the same theatre. On May 3, Fr. Stepanos joined the group for a showing of **"Father Stu."**

The Women's Guild hosted **"Blossoms of Faith: A Mother's Day Celebration"** on Saturday, May 7, at Paolo Lombardi's Ristorante in Wynantskill. Thank you to Yn. Paulette for chairing this event with the help of executive committee members. This was a delightful afternoon with a delicious buffet brunch, lots of raffle prizes, and several games of Mother's Day Bingo. Congratulations to well-deserved "Mother of the Year," Sue Dickinson. Sue was so overwhelmed, especially by the surprise of her daughter, granddaughters, and daughter-in-law who also attended the event.



The Women's Guild coordinated many, many baking days in preparation of the (very successful) **Armenian Festival** held June 3-5. Appetizers, entrees, and desserts were varied and catered to all! Many, many thanks to all who volunteered weeks in advance of the Festival as well as through the Festival weekend. With the many "helping hands," we accomplished a sell-out success! Truly, St. Peter's village at work (and play)!

Church Organization News

Women's Guild

Sixteen ladies attended the “Van Gogh Immersive Experience” in Schenectady on June 18, followed by sharing a meal together at Katie O'Brynes in Schenectady.



The most recent fellowship event was another movie night to see “Elvis” at Regal Cinema in Colonie Center on July 5. Look for information on future fellowship opportunities, and please plan to join us — such as Family Fun Day (*see below*).

All are invited to a **Family Fun Day** at Moreau Lake State Park (605 Old Saratoga Road, Gansevoort) on Saturday, August 27. This event is open to all beginning at 11:00am and is hosted by the St. Peter Women's Guild. See flyer in this issue for more information.

The Guild encourages all women of the community to be part of this organization - to work together for our spiritual growth and for our church. No experience is necessary to join or volunteer at any time. If you ever have any questions, please contact Nancy Kassabian at nkassabian@yahoo.com.

*In friendship and faith,
Nancy Kassabian, Co-Chair
Sonya Moroukian, Co-Chair*



**Thank you to all those
who donated to the
Women's Guild/
Sunday School**

**BOOKWORM
LITERACY
PROJECT**

***See article for
more details.***



**NOW TAKING ORDERS
FOR LAHMEJUNE!**

The St. Peter Women's Guild is offering freshly prepared Lahmejune (beef only) for purchase by the dozen.

Cost is \$30/dozen with a two dozen limit per person. Place your order at lahmejuneorders@gmail.com.

Leave your name, contact information, and quantity requested. You will be notified when your order is ready for pickup. Only cash or check will be accepted at the time of pickup.

St. Peter Women's Guild Fellowship
presents

FAMILY FUN DAY

at

Moreau Lake State Park

605 Old Saratoga Road
Gansevoort, NY

on

Saturday, August 27
starting at 11:00 am



- ◆ Please sign up through this QR code to bring a potluck item to share.

Note that we will barbecue all meats there.



SCAN ME

- ◆ The Women's Guild will provide the paper products, charcoal, ice, pop-up tents, and music!
- ◆ Bring your own lawn chairs, beverages, frisbees, and board games (tavloo).
- ◆ Other activities available include: swimming, hiking trails, kayaking/boating, Nature Center, fishing, volleyball, cornhole, and more!
- ◆ \$8 per car to enter the park, so carpooling is encouraged.



FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:

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vdemarest61@gmail.com



2022 SYMPOSIUM

FAITH BUILDING WOMEN

A daylong conference created for women, by women.

**OCTOBER 15, 2022 | CHECK IN 10AM
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CAMBRIDGE, MA**

Keynote speakers Dr. Roberta Ervine & Arpi Nakashian
Lunch included
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**REGISTRATION BEGINS AUGUST 15
REGISTER AT WWW.FAITHBUILDINGWOMEN.COM**

Limited spaces
Contact Rhonda Boyajian
faithbuildingwomen@gmail.com or
www.faithbuildingwomen.com

Group rates available at Freeport Hotel | Book by **9/14**

This event is done under the auspices of Adult Christian Education
at St. Peter Armenian Church Watervliet, NY.

Church Organization News



***Here is the Church.
Here is the Steeple.
Open the doors
and see all the people.***



"In God's House"
*Made by Sako Hoglund
based on a sermon from
Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.*



Sako and Fr. Stepanos.

Sunday School / Little Faithfuls

The St. Peter Sunday School and the Little Faithfuls enjoyed gathering in person this year. It was exciting to again walk into our classrooms full of energy and love. "Mrs. Holly! Guess what?!" I heard stories of past events, school, sports, and family. Each child chose a colored block to be "home base" and then hopped, skipped, and jumped as we learned finger games, sang songs, and had our lesson for the week. The children have learned some basic knowledge, such as the name of our church, from where we get our stories (the Bible), and making the Lord's Prayer in Armenian and English a regular part of their lives.

As our lessons came to a conclusion, we enjoyed having choreg, rojig, something to drink, and lots of laughs before going upstairs to join their families in worship service. If you happened to be in church that particular day, you may have noticed the Little Faithfuls quietly doing their finger rhyme during Badarak and smiling with joy.

Holly Dadekian, Little Faithfuls Teacher

Sunday School classes this school year were held in-person twice a month. Staff and students baked choreg together on March 27. Thank you to Lena Guleserian-Hoglund for leading this project and for all those who participated. We learned that, when the yeast is incorporated with other substances, it expands and rises which also represents the love that God has for each one of us. When God's love is in us, it grows and other people can see it.



The older class studied the Creed and its significance as well as the meaning of other parts of the Badarak, while other classes were learning Bible stories. Closing exercises were held on Sunday, June 12.

Activities and outings will be planned for all families throughout the summer. The first was a fun evening at Huck Finn's Playland on June 23.



*Left: Alana & Nina Mayba
Above: Gloria & Fr. Stepanos
Doudoukjian.*

Alice McMullan, Sunday School Superintendent

Church Organization News

Armenian School

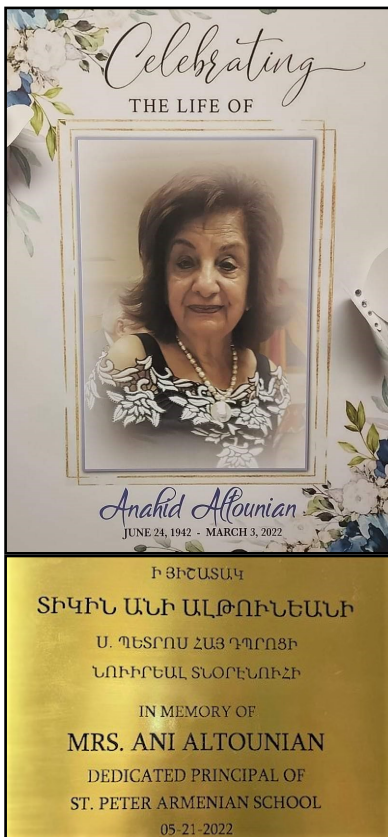
On May 21, 2022 the Armenian School held its year-end Hantess followed by a commemorative program honoring the life and legacy of our school principal, Mrs. Ani Altounian. The Hantess started with a traditional Armenian dance followed by many recitations and songs presented by each of our students. As always, they all performed exceptionally thanks to the dedication of their teachers and parents.

At the beginning of the commemorative program, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian and Fr. Gomidas Baghsarian blessed a plaque honoring Mrs. Altounian. The program included performances by current and past students of the Armenian School, as follows:

- * “Ես իմ անուշ Հայաստանի” (My sweet Armenia) - Poem, Amy Karageozian
- * “Հարսնացու Սինիքից» (The Bride from Siunic) - Dance, Nanor Karageozian
- * “Խոնարհում եմ ձեր առջև” (I bow my head to you) - Poem, Yervant Bardakjian
- * “Melody - Aram Khatchaturian” - Piano, Satig Amirbekian
- * “Աւանդական պար” (Traditional dance) - Dance, Jackie Kubikian
- * “Կարօտ Հայ լեզուի” (Ode to the Armenian language) - Reading, Patrick Kayayan
- * “Elegy - Arno Babajanyan” - Piano, Suzie Amirbekian
- * “Կեանքին սերմերը ու արդիւնքները” (The seeds and crops of her life) - Dn. Yervant Kutchukian
- * “Միքելի ուսուցիչ” - Song, Patrick Kayayan; Piano accompaniment, Mrs. Alice Kurkjian
- * Video presentation: “Our memories of Mrs. Ani” by past students

The program ended with a candlelight vigil held by all past and present students and teachers in attendance while Jackie Kubikian sang “Giligia.” Fr. Stepanos then announced the decision by our Parish Council to rename the Armenian School to the “St. Peter - Ani Altounian Armenian School.” Mrs. Altounian will always be remembered for her dedication to the teaching of our beautiful language. Her exemplary work and legacy will be continued by her students and the dedicated staff of Armenian school teachers.

Dr. Ara Kayayan, Armenian School Principal



Church Organization News

Armenian School



Here are a few Armenian words and phrases for your trip to the doctor. In Armenian, many words are derived from verbs or combined with another word to make a new one.

For example:

POOJEL (բուժել) means to heal. Derived from POOJEL, the more commonly used word is **PJEESHG** (բժիշկ), which means Doctor. When a word is familiar to you, like **TEGH** (դեղ), which means medication, then a **TEGHARAN** (դեղսրահ) will be the pharmacy; **TEGHAKORDZ** (դեղագործ) will be the pharmacist, and **TEGHAHAD** (դեղահատ) will be the pill.

Here are a few useful sentences :

PJEESHG, KLOOKHS GEH TZAVEE (Doctor, my head hurts.)

TEGH MEH GOOZEM VOR LAVANAM (I need a medication to get better.)

HEEVANT EM, HEEVANTANOTZ GERTAM (I am ill, I am going to the hospital.)

ANTZADZ TOGH ELLA, PAREE ABAKEENOOM (Let it be a passing, I wish you a good recovery.)

Moving with Maria



Maria Derian will continue to offer a 60-minute Zumba/exercise class every morning Monday through Saturday from 9:30-10:30am through August 31. Evening classes will no longer be provided unless scheduled with Maria in advance. There is no charge for these popular classes; however, Maria asks that participants consider a donation to "St. Peter Armenian Church."

Since the last issue of Loosaper, additional donations have been received from the following: **Sossie Arlia, Liliana Basmadjian, Judy Bedian, Linda Bedian, Paulette Doudoukjian** (in honor of Maria's Valentine's birthday), **Sandra Kershaw, Talar Sarafian (NJ), Judith Stento, and Carol Tutunjian**. To date, \$7,795 has been raised thanks to all the participants and donors with special thanks to Maria for her boundless energy and dedication to health and fitness and to her St. Peter Armenian Church.

March 2022 marked two years since the classes began with over 700 classes having been offered. These classes continue to be well attended and offer, not only physical fitness, but spiritual fitness as well. Each class begins with a prayer and a scripture reading to enlighten the heart and soul as well as the body. Contact Maria at



Maria coordinated an outing to the St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Monastery in Roscoe, NY, on May 22. The group enjoyed a delicious lunch and a tour of the magnificent facility.

Inside the monastery, we all prayed, saying the Hayr Mer and Der Voghormia. The monk there was so touched by seeing us praying faithfully that he lit a candle for us and later showed us two relics of St. Nektarios - a flower that was buried in his coffin (still fresh) and a piece of his cloths. We felt so blessed to be there and plan to return in September.

What are your treasures? What do you seek?

On June 16, close to 25 ACYOA Seniors and Juniors participated in the 2nd annual BBQ, Bonfire & Discussion. Although we could not do a bonfire because of strong winds, the rain held out until the end of the evening. Thanks to Artie Mahserjian for being our griller and for parents helping out throughout the evening. A special thank you to Maria Derian, Rebecca Dearstyne, and Paulette Doudoukjian for parental assistance.

Prior to our dinner, we had two icebreaker activities; the first was "The Interview." Everyone paired off and asked four questions to each other then introduced their partner to the group. The next activity challenged our youth to use their creative minds and theatrical skills. The group broke up into five groups of four or five people and were given a bag filled with various items. Ten minutes later, each group performed a theatrical presentation, "Skit in a Bag." There were many laughs and smiles. We have many talented and creative actors and actresses!



After enjoying delicious hamburgers and hotdogs, pilaf and salad, we then began our discussion that was based on Matthew 6:19-34. The ACYOA held in-depth discussions, which lasted about an hour, based on the following thought- and spirit-provoking questions: What are your physical treasures? What are treasures in heaven? What are examples of treasures in heaven that you store up here on earth? Why is your heart

connected with your treasure? What do you worry about in life? What are the idols that we seek in our lives? What is idolatry? What things do we make our "gods"? What are the things we worship? What does it mean to "seek God's kingdom and His righteousness first"? How do we do that? How can we do that? Why is it important to live in the "today"? Why does God want us to live in the moment?

It was evident from the discussion that our youth left feeling strengthened in their faith and with more determination and conviction to "seek God's kingdom and His righteousness here on earth." What are your treasures? What do you seek?

Matthew 6:19-34

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, 23 but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 "No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? 28 And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' 32 For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

34 "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Special Parish Assembly

is being held
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
following services

- All parishioners should make every effort to attend and hear the proposals.
- Dues-paying members in good standing for 2022 or 2021, are encouraged to participate and cast your vote.

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!



KEY TOPIC

Capital
Campaign
including
front entryway,
parking lots,
and other
projects.

*Sandwiches will be
provided*

St. Peter Parish Get-Away Weekend at the Ararat Center



Saturday & Sunday October 1 & 2

- \$150—Single
- \$175—Couple
- \$200—Family of 3
- \$225—Family of 4
- \$250—Family of 5

*Prices include occupancy, Saturday dinner, Sunday Brunch, and snacks
Sunday Brunch only—\$25 (Sunday Liturgy will begin at 10:30am)*

Come enjoy a two-day parish family get-away at the Ararat Center in Greenville. We'll experience the fall foliage of the Catskill mountains, enjoy local excursions, have fun activities & discussions, a campfire with s'mores, and celebration of Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT WITH A \$50 DEPOSIT SUBMITTED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Parish Community News

Sacraments and Rites



BEFORE YOU BOOK!

Please keep in mind, when planning that special event -- wedding or baptism, please check with the church office and/or Fr. Stepanos FIRST.

Before you book a hall or make reservations at a restaurant, it is imperative that you make sure Fr. Stepanos and the church are available for performing the sacrament.



SACRAMENTS

In the Armenian Church, the word խորհուրդ (*khoroort*) is best translated to “mystery” and is not limited to the seven ceremonies that are defined as “the sacraments:” baptism, confirmation, holy communion, penance, matrimony, ordination, and anointing of the sick. The traditional understanding of the Armenian Church, as testified by our church fathers, liturgical rite, theology, and canons, is that every liturgical service conducted by the church is a sacrament or mystery in the fullest sense of that term.

Baptisms

Joel Hovsep Fereshetian, son of Damon & Joyce (Dadekian) Fereshetian, on May 14, 2022. Godfather, Jonathan Dadekian; Godmother, Anne Dadekian; Celebrant, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Alina Nazalee Fereshetian, daughter of Damon & Joyce (Dadekian) Fereshetian, on May 14, 2022. Godfather, Tyler Baker; Godmother, Cerise Baker; Celebrant, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Brayden Bayly, son of Todd & Ashley (Gross) Bayly, on July 2, 2022. Godfather, Thomas Boudreau; Godmother, Kaylin Dawson; Celebrant, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Liam Martin, son of Daniel & Cecilia (Iglesias) Martin, on July 23, 2022. Godfather, Brian Donovan; Godmother, Veronica Figueras; Celebrant, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Marriages

Daniel McKenna, son of Patrick & Susan (Dwyer) McKenna, and **Renee Martin**, daughter of Will & Shelley (Smith) Martin, were married at St. Peter Armenian Church on May 13, 2022. Godfather, Christopher Martin; Best Man, Jonathan Perkins; Celebrant, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Kenneth R. Macleod, son of Kenneth & Pauline (Mauro) Macleod, and **Kimberly J. Kachougian**, daughter of Harry & Natalie (Paparian) Kachougian, were married at St. Peter Armenian Church on June 11, 2022. Godfather/Best Man, Dakes P. Gaston; Main of Honor, Romy Horn; Celebrant, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Funerals

Nellie M. Marderosian entered her eternal rest on February 3, 2022. She is survived by her children, William Marderosian, Jr., Sonya Decerce, and Armand (Kelly) Marderosian; and three grandchildren. The funeral service was conducted at St. Peter Armenian Church by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on February 9.

Joyce (McCollum) Kenosian entered her eternal rest on March 29, 2022. She is survived by four brothers, five sisters, forty nieces and nephews, and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews. The funeral service was conducted at Parker Bros. Memorial Funeral Home in Watervliet by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on April 1.

Artin Sukljian entered his eternal rest on May 4, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Mary Saklajian; his children, Serena O'Connor, Moe Saklajian, and Linda Johnson; and many friends. A private funeral service for the family was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on May 9.

Deborah A. Chorbajian (Ekmalian) entered her eternal rest on May 13, 2022. She is survived by her husband, John “Frenchie” Ekmalian; her parents, Charles & Alice Chorbajian; mother-in-law, Helena Ekmalian; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins. The funeral service was conducted at St. Peter Armenian Church by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on May 19.

Marguerite Djehizian entered her eternal rest on June 7, 2022. She is survived by a sister, Elisabeth Chamberlain; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. A private service for the family was conducted by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on June 11.

Andre Assalian entered his eternal rest on July 5, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Anne; their four children, Therese (Michael), Denise (Brian), John, and Andrew (Coleen); eight grandchildren; and extended family in Montreal. The funeral service was conducted at St. Peter Armenian Church by Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian on July 14.

Hokehankist (Requiem Service)

FEBRUARY 13, 2022:

- **Leo Buchakjian; Margaret Buchakjian Wilsey; Paul Wilsey** as requested by *Mary & Gary Sobo; Leonard & Antoinette Buchakjian; Leo & Elaine Buchakjian; Christine & Scott McCarthy and families.*
- **Sarkis Chetjein** (Second Anniversary); **Seroun Chetjein** as requested by *Leza & Vartan Karayan.*
- **Arzrouni Hovsepian** (Eighteenth Anniversary) as requested by *Hovsepian Family.*
- **Carol Mattozza** (40-Day Memorial - Karasoonk) as requested by *Grace Koshgarian.*
- **George Osganian** (First Anniversary - Dareleetz) as requested by *Betty Osganian & Family; Richard Osganian & Family (NC); David Vartigian & Family; Daniel Vartigian & Family; Deborah Erlandson & Family (NJ); Mike & Sue Barner; Greg & Jennifer Osganian.*

FEBRUARY 20, 2022:

- **Russell J. Kilidjian** (First Anniversary - Dareleetz); **Rose Ketchoyan** (Tenth Anniversary) as requested by *Sandy Kilidjian; Melanie Kilian & Jim; Russ & Angie Kilidjian; Leta Hunter; David Ketchoyan.*
- **Edward Belemjian** (Seventh Anniversary); **Virginia Belemjian; Jacob & Mary Belemjian; Haig & Araxi Chekijian** as requested by *David & Lori (Payette) Belemjian.*

MARCH 20, 2022:

- **Marie Banjarjian** (40-Day Memorial - Karasoonk); **Hagop Nalbandian** as requested by *Berjouhi & Fouad Shamounian; Maria & Garo Derian & Family; Johnny & Susan Shamounian; Raffi & Jamie Chamoun; Mary & Armen Shohmelian & Family; Dr. Ara Kayayan.*
- **Mary DerBedrosian** (Twenty-Fourth Anniversary) as requested by *Karen Bedrosian Richardson.*
- **Anna Kenosian Kaiser** (Twenty-Fifth Anniversary) as requested by *Leon & Susan Kaiser; Donald Kaiser & Family; Francine Kaiser and Henry Kaiser, Jr. & Family; Ron & Terri Kaiser; Stephanie Kaiser; Ron Kaiser, Jr. & Family.*

APRIL 3, 2022:

- **Bagrat Aghayan** (First Anniversary - Dareleetz); **Rafik Ghazaryan** (Second Anniversary) as requested by *Aghayan & Ghazaryan Family.*
- **Eleanor Meeson** (First Anniversary - Dareleetz) as requested by *Sharon & Doug Pauley.*
- **Henry & Fay Talarico; Paul Urban; Frank & Julia Urban; Carol Duro; Juliana Hamada; Talarico, Parsakian, Simonian, Sogoian, Duro, Hamada & Urban Families** as requested by *Urban & Hamada Families.*

MAY 1, 2022:

- **George Dayian** (40-Day Memorial - Karasoonk) as requested by *the Dayian & Abdalian Family; Sharon Foley & Valerie Demarest; Diana Malkonian; Ara Altounian; Mary Panjarjian; Virginia Mahserjian; Christine Hagopian (MA).*
- **Julie Garabedian** (First Anniversary - Dareleetz), **Sarkis Garabedian** as requested by *Guy, Lucy & Eric Vozzy.*
- **Joseph Amorosi** (Second Anniversary) as requested by *Brenda Torosian.*
- **Sonja Apkarian; Nazelie Apkarian** as requested by *Roswita Fragomeni.*
- **Rev. Arten & Yn. Mary Ashjian; Haig & Makrouhie Ejdaharian; Varoujan Ejdaharian** as requested by *Zovig Ashjian.*
- **Nevart & Garabed Garoogian** as requested by *the estate of Margaret Avakian.*

In Loving Memory



"O Christ, Son of God, forbearing and compassionate, have compassion, in your love as our creator, upon the souls of your servants who are at rest, especially upon the souls of your servants (name of departed), for whom we are offering these prayers. Be mindful of them in the great day of the coming of your kingdom. Make them worthy of mercy, of expiation and forgiveness of sins. Glorify them and rank them with the company of your saints at your right hand.

For you are the Lord and creator of all, judge of the living and of the dead. And to you is befitting glory, dominion and honor, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

—from the Requiem Prayer

Parish Community News

Sacraments and Rites

"O Lord,
direct our steps
on the path of
peace. O Lord,
direct and guide
our souls and
the souls of
all the faithful
to walk on the
path of
righteousness
and into eternal
life."

Thank You

"On behalf of Charlie & Alice Chorbajian and myself, I sincerely thank all those who attended our dear Debbie's wake and funeral and all those who participated in the service. Thank you also to everyone who offered words of sympathy and comfort, donations to the church, and calls and visits to mom and dad. Your love and support is greatly appreciated."

Sincerely,

John "Frenchie" Ekmalian

MAY 1, 2022: (continued)

- **William & Betty Jane Nevins** as requested by Lenore Nevins.
- **Rosanne (Moroukian) Vartanian** (Fifteenth Anniversary) as requested by Vartan Vartanian; Mark Moroukian & Family; Joanne & Michael Coogan & Family; Gary Vartanian.

MAY 8, 2022:

- **Gabriel Sahdo; Arshak Avedesian; Rehan Zakarian; Vartanoush Zakarian; Aznif Zakarian; Setrak Avedesian; Varuj Avedesian; Maryam Melkonian; Araksi Avedesian** as requested by Anoush & Norayr Arakelian; Nuna Sahdo; Mr. & Mrs. Hagop Derian.
- **Melkon Y. Sinanian** as requested by Fr. Stepanos, Paulette, Jonah & Gloria Doudoukjian.
- **Philip (Krikor) Gabriel Zadigian** (40th Anniversary); **Gabriel Zadigian** (One Hundred First Anniversary); **Agnes Azadian; Cecilia (Azadian) Burgess; Frank Azadian; Jimmie B. & Mary (Azadian) Shanks** as requested by Catherine (Zadigian) Knauer and Phyllis (Zadigian) Burger.

MAY 22, 2022:

- **Joyce Kenosian** (40-Day Memorial - Karasoonk) as requested by Leon & Susan Kaiser; Ron & Terri Kaiser & Family; Don Kaiser; Henry Kaiser, Jr.; Francine Kaiser & Family.
- **Annie Altounian** as requested by Zareh Altounian; Raffi Altounian; Mr. & Mrs. Ohan Ohanian; Mr. & Mrs. David Kubikian & Family; Sarkis & Heidi Guleserian & Family; Levon & Zovig Kayserian (MA); Gerald Arzoumanian & Sonia Kazandjian; Dr. Ara Kayayan; the St. Peter Armenian Church Parish Priest, Parish Council, and Armenian School.
- **Samuel Apkarian** (Fifteenth Anniversary) as requested by Helga Apkarian & Family.
- **Beatrice Arzoumanian** (Second Anniversary) as requested by Gerald Arzoumanian & Sonia Kazandjian; Zareh Altounian; Raffi Altounian; Mr. & Mrs. Ohan Ohanian; Mr. & Mrs. David Kubikian & Family.
- **Takouhi Karayan** (Fourth Anniversary) as requested by the Karayan Family

JUNE 19, 2022:

- **Deborah A. Chorbajian (Ekmalian)** (40-Day Memorial - Karasoonk) as requested by John "Frenchie" Ekmalian; Charles & Alice Chorbajian; Helena Ekmalian; Gean Ekmalian & Terri; Herb & Linda Chorbajian & Family; Virginia Mahserjian; Arthur Mahserjian & Family; Christine Hagopian & Family (MA); Linda Kazanjian; Robert & Arleen Drooby; Peter & Patty Boorijy (NJ); Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moroukian; Betty Avakian & Family; Michael & Joanne Coogan; Mr. & Mrs. Berj Topalian; Mary Hartunian.
- **Apkar Apkarian; Charles Apkarian; Melkon Hougasian** as requested by Roswita Fragomeni.
- **Kevork Lehemjian** (First Anniversary - Dareleetz) as requested by Leza & Vartan Karayan.

JUNE 26, 2022:

- **Fr. Garen & Yn. Zabelle Gdanian; Khoren & Ovsanna Kludjian; Beatrice Kludjian Watson; Zareh Berj Kludjian; Kevork & Siranoush Gdanian; Hagop & Puzant Gdanian; Sarkis & Azniv Parseghian; Anna Gdanian** as requested by Brian & Garyn (Gdanian) A'Hearn.
- **Russell Kilidjian** (on the occasion of his 92nd birthday on June 27) as requested by Sandy Kilidjian.

JUNE 26, 2022: *(continued)*

- **Michael & Mary Koshgarian, George & Rosemary Koshgarian, Khachig & Sadie Koshgarian, and Krikor & Zechia Kerkunian** *as requested by Arthur Koshkorian (VA).*

JULY 17, 2022:

- **Marguerite Djehizian** (40-Day Memorial - Karasoonk) *requested by the family of Marguerite Djehizian; Mary Hartunian; Bertha Kazanjian (MA).*
- **Leo & Rosine Kazanjian; Ginny Kazanjian; Mark Kapriel Kazanjian** *as requested by Robert Kazanjian & Family; Levon & Karen Khachadourian; Leo & Donna Kazanjian & Family; Toros Shamlian, Jr.; Mary Hartunian; Bertha Kazanjian (MA).*
- **Garrett Meeson** (Second Anniversary); **Matthew Billetts** (40-Day Memorial - Karasoonk) *as requested by Sharon & Doug Pauley.*
- **Bishop Papken Varjabedian** (Twenty-Second Anniversary) *as requested by the estate of Bishop Papken Varjabedian.*

Altar Flowers & Altar Candles

Altar Flowers & Candles were donated on February 13, 2022 by **Elizabeth Osganian & Family** *in memory of George Osganian.*

Altar Candles were donated on February 27, 2022 by **Arpy Ernest & Rick Carson and Katrina & Chris Mayba & Family** *in memory of Fr. Garen Gdanian and Khoren Kludjian on the occasion of their Name Day.*

Altar Flowers & Candles were donated on March 6, 2022 by **Elizabeth Osganian, Eric & Amy Osganian, Michael & Debbi Osganian, Mark & Lee Ann Osganian, Richard & Libby Osganian (NC), David & Susan Vartigian, Daniel & Karen Vartigian, Mike & Susan Barner (NC), and Greg & Jennifer Osganian** *in memory of George Osganian on the occasion of his birthday that day.*

The palm trees that decorated the sanctuary and the palms distributed on Palm Sunday, April 10, were donated by **Mary Hartunian** *in memory of Katherine Mahserjian.*

Easter lilies and flowers for Holy Week and Easter were donated by the following: **Robert & Holly Dadekian** *in memory of Sarkis & Shushan Boyajian, Armen & Victoria Dadekian, Hovsep Horasanian & Rose Mardossian, Kaiser & Dirouhi Kazarian, Peter Kazarian, and George Kazarian; Krikor & Nancy Kassabian* *in memory of Shnorig Bazarian; Ida & Sarkis Mihranian, Jr.* *in memory of loved ones; Betty Osganian & Family, Richard Osganian & Family, and Vartigian Families* *in memory of George Osganian.*

Altar Flowers were donated on May 1, 2022 by **Zovig Ashjian** *in memory of loved ones.*

Altar Candles were donated on May 1, 2022 by **Dayian & Abdalian Family** *in memory of George Dayian.*

Flowers distributed on the occasion of Mother's Day on May 8 were donated in honor of all mothers by **John "Frenchie" Ekmalian** *in memory of Edward Belemjian.*

Altar Flowers were donated on May 22 by the **Chorbajian & Ekmalian Families** *in memory of Debbie Chorbajian.*

Altar Flowers & Candles were donated on June 26 by **Sandy Kilidjian** *in memory of Russell Kilidjian on the occasion of his 92nd birthday on June 27.*

Altar Candles were donated on June 26 by **Arthur Koshkorian (VA)** *in memory of loved ones.*

Altar Candles were donated on July 17 by **Daniel, Alison & Yvette Khachadourian** *in memory of loved ones.*

Altar Flowers were donated on July 31 by the **Kutchukian Family** *in honor of Bishop Daniel Findikyan's visit to our parish as guest celebrant and preacher.*

PEW PLATE DONATIONS

Pew plates are a nice way to pay tribute to someone special and can be donated in honor of or in memory of friends or family members.

Consider also donating a pew plate in honor of someone for a special occasion such as a wedding date/anniversary, birth announcement, baptism, graduation, etc.

The required donation for each plate is \$150. Please contact the church office for more information or to make arrangements for a plate engraving.

ALTAR FLOWERS and ALTAR CANDLES

One way to celebrate the life of a loved family member or a friend is to donate either altar flowers or candles for Sunday worship service.

This can be for a name day, birthday, anniversary, or on the occasion of a requiem (Hokehankist).

Please call the church office to make the necessary arrangements.



In Lieu of Flowers

Sincere appreciation and acknowledgement are extended to the following for their donations:

In memory of ANAHID “ANNIE” ALTOUNIAN

Mariam Aghayan
Ara & Rachel Altounian
Amirbekian Family
Hratch & Nina Astarjian
and Sona Timerdjian (MA)
Melissa Coler
Leon & Rita Dekermendjian
Hagop & Nectar Derian
Leon & Nayeri Elebyjian
Ghazaryan & Aghayan Families
Lisa (Kazanjan) Harootunian (RI)
The Hogle Family
Hrant & Shake Kargayan (CA)
Bertha Kazanjian (MA)
Daniel Kubikian & Stacey Yandoli (NJ)
Frank & Carolyn Marchese
Megan & James Morrell
Leona Ohanian (CA)
Nichole & Luke Rigolosi
Garos Shohmelian
Kathleen Tamer
Kapo & Zepur Vanaian
c/o Srpouie Ashjian

Naszik Aghazarian &
Alice Semerjian
Gerald Arzoumanian
Raffi & Leeza Bardakjian
Helen Bezjian
Robert & Holly Dadekian
Survant Demirjian
Sue Dickinson
Aram & Rita Fereshetian (MA)
Goudsouzian Family
Mary Hartunian
Homenetmen of Albany
John & Samantha Karian
Knights of Vartan Davros Lodge 25
Mr/Mrs Charles Mahserjian
Aurelian & Joslin Mardirosian (MA)
Cheryl Ohanesian
Amar & Reena Parikh
Fouad Berjouhi Shamounian
Susan Sogioian
Mr/Mrs Berj Topalian
Hrag & Lara Zethian (CA)
Alice Zobian

Papken & Yenan Akkelian
c/o Canolian Gem (QC)
Lara & Ara Ashjian
Khachik Barkamian
Herb & Linda Chorbajian
Violet Mirzoyan Dadekian
Garos & Maria Derian
Helena Ekmalian & Family
Michael Fiske
Sarkis & Heidi Guleserian
Janice Hogle
Raffi & Aline Jamgotchian (NJ)
Dr. Ara Kayayan
Mr/Mrs Jeffrey Knorr
Diana Malkonian
R. Paul & Sonya Moroukian
Jacqueline Ohanian
Paul & Linda Patruno (NJ)
Armen & Mary Shohemlian
Moe & Sonia Sukljan
Tony & Nayeri Tournayan
Zetlian Family (CA)

TOTAL: \$5,866*

**Donations made in memory of Annie Altounian will be given to the St. Peter Armenian School.*

In memory of DEBORAH A. CHORBAJIAN (EKMALIAN)

Brian & Garyn (Gdanian) A'Hearn
Harry & Mary Ammian
Diane C. Andonian (MA)
Ara & Nancy Balian & Family (MA)
Linda Bedian
George & Elsie Bedrosian
Suzanne & Elli Benno
Peter & Patty Booruji and
Sarah & Bryan Kershner (NJ)
Herb & Linda Chorbajian
John & Jean Colaneri
Violet Mirzoyan Dadekian
Mr/Mrs Hagop Derian
Lucille Dolab & Family (CA)
Helena Ekmalian & Grandchildren
James J. Falasco, Jr.
Sonia Garabedian (MA)
Christine Hagopian (MA)
Mary Hartunian
Barbara Hrachian
Frank V. Iannone
Francine Kaiser
Mary Kalteux
Arthur & JoAnn Kazanjian
Linda Kazanjian

Ara & Rachel Altounian
Rosemary Ammian
Gerald Arzoumanian
Eugene & Judy Bedian
Mr/Mrs Robert Bedian
Karen Bedrosian-Richardson
Helen Bezjian
Mark & Mary Ann Borlawsky
John Chiamonte
Bob & Mary Ann Clark
Mr/Mrs Michael Coogan & Family
Richard DeMartino
and Barbara Derian
Mr/Mrs Robert Drooby
Gean Ekmalian & Terri
Diane Ferrigno (MA)
Mr/Mrs Phillip Gross, Jr.
Lisa (Kazanjan) Harootunian (RI)
Mr/Mrs Richard Hartunian
Charlene Hrachian
Marion Jaffarian
Leon & Susan Kaiser
Mr/Mrs Harry Kandoian
Bertha Kazanjian (MA)
Mr/Mrs Edward K. Kazanjian (MA)

American Legion Post #927
Winnie Ammian
Avakian & Kamalian Family
George & Lisa Bedian
Rosalee Bedian
Dave & Lori (Payette) Belemjian
Paula Bohigian (MA)
Mr/Mrs Donald Boyajian
Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian
Laura Clark & Family
Robert & Holly Dadekian
Garos & Maria Derian
Sue Dickinson
John “Frenchie” Ekmalian
Levon & Nayeri Eleyjian
John & Lisa Fuller
Richard Grossi
Patricia Hartman
David & Carol Hazerjian (MA)
Seren Hrachian
Raffi & Aline Jamgotchian (NJ)
Ron & Terri Kaiser & Family
Mr/Mrs Edward Kaprielian
Leo A. Kazanjian
James & Marion Kehrer

continued . . .

In Lieu of Flowers

Sincere appreciation and acknowledgement are extended to the following for their donations:

In memory of **DEBORAH A. CHORBAJIAN (EKMALIAN)** *(continued)*

Levon & Karen Khachadourian	Yvette Khachadourian	Catherine Knauer
Mr/Mrs Peter Koshgarian	Marie Kouyoumjian (MA)	Rose-Ellen Luther
Mr/Mrs Arthur Mahserjian	Sam & Sylvia Mahserjian	Ronald & Lois Malconian (MA)
Frank & Carolyn Marchese	Will & Shelley Martin	Richard & Sonia (Soultanian)
Mr/Mrs Sean McMullan	Sally Mahserjian McNeff Family	Matulewicz (RI)
Jack & Marge McNulty	Ida & Sarkis Mihranian, Jr.	Mary Minassian
Pamela Moroukian	R. Paul & Sonya Moroukian	Shirley Moroukian
Mark Moroukian & Family	Robert & Theresa Moroukian	Matthew P. Natcharian
Elsie Nigohosian & Family (PA)	and Family	Cheryl Ohanesian
Mr/Mrs Ohan Ohanian	Mr/Mrs Joseph O'Keefe	Mary Panjarjian
Kevoork & Mary Parseghian	Gwendolyn Peterson	Dominick Rappazzo
Dick & Peggy Rendert	George & Joanne Scaringe	Joanne P. Scheibly
Lori Schindler	Harry & Kate Shamlian	Mr/Mrs Craig Shamlian
Mr/Mrs David Shamlian	Toros Shamlian, Jr.	Linda Simidian
Carole Kazanjian Smith (FL)	Lucille Sogioan	Susan Sogioan
Pat & Claudia Suppa	Ted's Floor Covering Inc.	Mr/Mrs Berj Topalian
Edward & Adrina Tutunjian	Charles & Carol Tutunjian & Family	Mr/Mrs Gary Vartanian
Vartan Vartanian Jr.	Patty Vartigian	Guy & Lucy Vozzy
Colin Woods	Mr/Mrs Neville Woods	

TOTAL: \$11,555

In memory of **MARIE BANJARJIAN**

Gerald Arzoumanian	Liliana Basmadjian	Garo & Maria Derian
Hagop & Nectar Derian	Sarkis & Heidi Guleserian	Raffi & Aline Jamgotchian (NJ)
Krikor & Nancy Kassabian	Dr. Ara Kayayan	Donald Lee
Mr/Mrs Sean McMullan	Nercess & Lori Minassian	R. Paul & Sonya Moroukian
Ohan & Rita Ohanian	Ara & Lara Shajian	Armen Shohmelian & Family
Tournayan Family	VanRensselaer Manor	

TOTAL: \$910

In memory of **MARGUERITE DJEHIZIAN**

Ara & Nancy Balian	Peter & Patty Boorujy (NJ)	The Family of Marguerite Djehizian
Robert & Arleen Drooby	Mary Hartunian	Linda Kazanjian
Mr/Mrs Arthur Kazanjian	Bertha Kazanjian (MA) and	John & Sossy Khachadourian
Mary Minassian	Lisa (Kazanjian) Harootunian (RI)	George & Joanne Scaringe
Mr/Mrs Craig Shamlian	Mr/Mrs David Shamlian	Mr/Mrs Harry Shamlian
Toros Shamlian, Jr.	Carole Kazanjian Smith (FL)	Arda Tchekmeian (FL)
Edward & Adrina Tutunjian	Patty Vartigian	

TOTAL: \$1,760

In memory of **JOYCE KENOSIAN**

Mr/Mrs Robert Bedian	Herb & Linda Chorbajian	Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian
Adrienne Daniels	Frenchie & Debbie Ekmalian	Mr/Mrs Ralph Enokian
Mary Hartunian	Barabara Hrachian	Charlene Hrachian
Mr/Mrs Seren Hrachian	Francine Kaiser	Mr/Mrs Leon Kaiser
Ron & Terri Kaiser, Stephanie Kaiser,	Edward & Lucille Kaprielian	Will & Shelley Martin
and Ronald & Emily Kaiser & Family	R. Paul & Sonya Moroukian	Joyce Paff
Marilyn C. Parker	Leon Sedefian	The Families of Margaret See,
Toros Shamlian, Jr.	Susan Sogioan	Dorothy Hadley, Jennifer Collindres,
Edward & Adrina Tutunjian		Matt Kaiser, Meredith Kaiser,
		Stephanie Kaiser, Ronnie Paul
		Kaiser, and Nicole Herlands

TOTAL: \$1,835

In Lieu of Flowers *(continued)*

Sincere appreciation and acknowledgement are extended to the following for their donations:

In memory of **GEORGE DAYIAN**

Richard Amiraian
Herb & Linda Chorbajian
Mr/Mrs Ralph Enokian
Mr/Mrs Seren Hrachian
Will & Shelley Martin
Susan Sogorian

Mr/Mrs Robert Bedian
Robert & Holly Dadekian
Sharon Foley & Valerie Demarest
Dr. Ara Kayayan
R. Paul & Sonya Moroukian

Helen Bezjian
Karen Dayian
Mary Hartunian
Dawn Ann Lajeunesse
Lucille Sogorian

TOTAL: \$1,110

In memory of **JOANNE HARTUNIAN**

Cheney Family
Beth Geragosian & Jeff Stehr
Kathi & Matt Shortell

Herb & Linda Chorbajian
Raffi & Aline Jamgotchian (NJ)

Robert & Holly Dadekian
Judi Ragotzkie

NEW TOTAL: \$9,145

In memory of **NELLIE MARDEROSIAN**

Bertha Kazanjian & Family (MA)

Susan Sogorian

TOTAL: \$50

EASTER 2022 (Yughakin) Donations

Sincere appreciation and acknowledgement are extended to the following for their donations:

Mr/Mrs Kirkor Agopyan
Mark Anigian
Ashby/Nazarian Family (OH)
Nazar Bakerian
Rosalee Bedian
Dave & Roseann Caruso
Michael & Joanne Coogan & Family
Richard DeMartino and
Barbara Derian
Fr. Stepanos & Paulette
Doudoukjian & Family
Roswita Fragomeni
Mr/Mrs Richard Hartunian
Charles & Delia Israelian
Phyllis Jevanian
Mr/Mrs Leon Kaiser
Edward & Lucille Kaprielian
Krikor & Nancy Kassabian
Linda Kazanjian
Arthur & Shigeko Koshkorian (VA)
Kyaruns Family
Will & Shelley Martin
Yn. Yefkin Megherian
Ovsanna Mooradian
Shirley Moroukian
Cheryl Ohanesian
Mary Panjarjian
Richard Roomian
Toros Shamlan, Jr.
Mr/Mrs Artin Sukljian
Mr/Mrs Charles Tutunjan
Daniel Vartigian

Brian & Garyn (Gdanian) A'Hearn
Anonymous (3)
Aram A. Atashian
Alice Bardakjian (IN)
George & Elsie Bedrosian
Matt & Alane Chinian
Robert & Holly Dadekian
Hagop & Nectar Derian
Paul Dichian
Frenchie & Debbie Ekmalian
Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian
Phillip & Linda Gross
Tim & Lena (Guleserian) Hoglund
Marion Jaffarian
Kim Kachougian & Ken MacLeod
Ron & Terri Kaiser
Murat Kasparian
Bertha Kazanjian
Sandra Kilidjian
Isabel Krempa
Gregory Mardigian
Katrina Mayba
Ida & Sarkis Mihranian, Jr.
R. Paul & Sonya Moroukian
Judith O'Hare Newman (CA)
Joseph & Patty O'Keefe
Helen Paparian
Debbie & Steven Sawyer (NH)
Lucille Sogorian
Pat & Claudia Suppa
Mr/Mrs Gary Vartanian
The Wendt Family

Vartouhi Allehverdi
Helga Apkarian
Betty Avakian
J. Albert & Alice Barsamian
Peter & Patty Boorujy (NJ)
Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian
Adrienne Daniels
Paul & Melissa DerOhannessian
Sue Dickinson
Helena Ekmalian
Arpy Ernest
Mary Hartunian
Andrew & Virginia Hyra
Vartan & Lynne Jerian
Francine Kaiser
Mary Kalteux
Girard Kasparian (CA)
Hagop Kazanjian
Catherine Knauer
Steven Krempa
Christopher Martin
Sally Mahserjian McNeff
Mary Minassian
Robert & Theresa Moroukian
Elsie Nigohosian (PA)
Elizabeth Osganian
David & Breann Parseghian
Mr/Mrs George Scaringe
Susan Sogorian
Brenda M. Torosian
Marian Varteresian (MA)
Michael Hams & Laura Zarougian

TOTAL: \$5,635

Special Donations

Stewardship Gifts

We offer our gratitude and thanks for those making Stewardship contributions to the church as follows:

- **Dr. & Mrs. Vardan Amirbekian**
- **Kim Nazarian Ashby (OH)**
- **Haroutioun Balian**
- **David & Roseann Caruso**
- **Robert & Holly Dadekian** *in honor of the baptism of Joel & Alina Fereshetian*
- **Robert & Holly Dadekian** *in celebration of Jonathan & Anne Dadekian.*
- **Mr. & Mrs. Charles Doudoukjian (DE)** *"Thank you for the prayers."*
- **Mr. & Mrs. John Doudoukjian (SC)**
- **Aleta Baligian Heidt**
- **Charlene Hrachian**
- **Wilma Petrossian (CT)**
- **Leon Sedefian**
- **Dn. Eric Vozzy**

Thank You

TOTAL: \$ 2,915

Additional Donations

Donations totaling \$651 were received in a special plate collection on Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022, for the **Pastor's Discretionary Fund**. Thank you to all those who made contributions to assist those in need throughout the year.

Additional Christmas (Yughakin) offerings were received by **Mark Anigian, The Ashby Family (OH), and Kevin & Thea Stewart** bringing the total amount of donations for the 2021-2022 Christmas season to \$6,235.

In addition to first aid/medical supplies, a total of \$2,267 was collected to assist with the **Ukrainian Medical Supply Drive**. The donations and collected items were given to the two area Ukrainian Churches in Watervliet and Troy.

A special collection was also taken on April 27 and May 1, by Diocesan directive, to assist our **Armenian brothers and sisters** who are suffering in Ukraine. A total of \$782 was raised and sent to the Diocese to aid the Primate of Ukraine who is doing his best to care for his community under nightmarish circumstances.

Another special collection, by Diocesan directive, was taken on June 19 to assist **Armenian clergymen and their families** in Armenia. A total of \$2,035 was collected and sent to the Diocese for this effort.

Thank you to the **anonymous donor** who provided the funds for the church to purchase a defibrillator. This life-saving device will be installed after proper training has been provided.

*"Thank you for your generous donation of \$782 (dated 6/5/2022) to the **Ukrainian Armenian Relief Fund**. We have all witnessed the heartbreaking images from Ukraine and are deeply grateful that you are answering our call to support our Armenian brethren. As indicated by our Primate, we are sending money directly to Ukraine on a regular basis in support of the Armenian community."*

*Laurie Onanian
Diocesan Development Director*



ST. PETER HELPING HANDS

Thank you to all the "St. Peter Helping Hands" in April who volunteered to prepare and deliver baked ziti dinners to several shut-ins, those who are marginalized, as well as for others in the Capital District.

There will be other opportunities for outreach to offer a kindness to those in our community.

PLEASE BE A "ST. PETER HELPING HAND!"

"Thank you so much for the delicious ziti dinner. I really appreciated and enjoyed it. It's so nice not to be forgotten."

"Thank you so much for the baked ziti. It was very good and we enjoyed it. Wishing you and yours many blessings."

Message of Advent

ԳԱԼՍՏԵԱՆ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ

by Archdeacon Hagop Derian

Այսօրուան աւետարանը երբ կը կարդանք, կը տեսնենք Քրիստոսի ամենէն խիստ եւ հանդիմանական խօսքը, ուղուած փարիսեցիներուն ու դպիրներուն, որոնք իրենց կեղծաւորութեամբ «երկար աղօղքներ կընէին», իսկ միւս կողմէն «այրիներուն տուները կը լափէին»:

Յիսուս որ կը կարդար մարդոց սրտերը ու գիտեր անոնց խորհուրդները, կը տեսներ այս փարիսեցիներուն բոլոր կեղծաւորութիւններն ու անիրաւութիւնները. անոր համար զիրենք կոչեց «յիմարներ եւ կոյրեր»: Ուրիշ տեղ մը դարձեալ, ըսաւ. «կոյր առաջնորդներ»:

Քրիստոս կեղծաւորութիւնը չէր սիրեր եւ կեղծաւոր փարիսեցիներուն երբեք չհանդուրժեց: Երբեք չըսաւ «վնաս չունի, այդպես վարժուեր են. Այդպես թող ընեն: Երբեք թոյլ չգտնուեցաւ անորենիւթիւններու հանդեպ: Անոր համար է որ կեղծաւոր փարիսեցիներուն ըսաւ «ՎԱՅ ՁԵՁԻ»:

Քրիստոսի ամենէն խիստ եւ ամենէն ծանր խօսքը այս եղած է, «ՎԱՅ ՁԵՁԻ»:

Այսօրուայ աւետարանին մէջ կը տեսնենք որ Յիսուս 8 տեսակ «ՎԱՅԵՐ» կը կարդայ, այդ կեղծաւոր փարիսեցիներուն գլխուն:

«ՎԱՅ ՁԵՁԻ», կեղծաւոր դպիրներ ու փարիսեցիներ». որ փոխանակ մարդիկը երկնքի արքայութեան առաջնորդելու. «կը փակէք երկնքի արքայութիւնը մարդոց առջեւ: Դուք չէք մտնէր, իսկ անոնք որոնք կը մտնեն թոյլ չէք տար»:

«ՎԱՅ ՁԵՁԻ» կեղծաւոր դպիրներ ու փարիսեցիներ, որ կը մաքրէք բաժակին ու պնակին դուրսի կողմը, իսկ ներսէն լի են գողութեամբ եւ աղտեղութեամբ»:

«ՎԱՅ ՁԵՁԻ» կեղծաւոր դպիրներ ու փարիսեցիներ, որովհետեւ նման էք սպիտակ ծեփուած գերեզմաններու, որոնք դուրսէն գեղեցիկ կերելին, մինչ ներսէն լի են մեռելներու ոսկորներով եւ ամէն տեսակ պղծութեամբ»:

Այս ինքն ըսել կուզէր . դուք փարիսեցիներ, որ կաշխատիք միայն դուրսէն՝ մաքուր, բարի եւ արդար երեւնալ, սակայն ձեր սրտերը լեցուն են կեղծաւորությամբ, անարդարութեամբ եւ ամէն տեսակի աղտոտութիւններով:

Message of Advent

Ու այսպէս երբ Յիսուս այսքան զօրաւոր կերպով կը խարազանէ «կը հանդիմանէ» զիրենք, անոնք՝ փոխանակ իրենց յանցանքը ընդունելով զոչալու եւ շտկուելու, աւելի կը խստանան իրեն դէմ ու կորոշեն անպայման մեռցնել զինքը:

Այդպէս են մարդիկ ընդհանրապէս. Ոչ միայն չեն ուզեր ընդունիլ իրենց յանցանքները, այլ աւելի կը խստանան իրենց յանցանքները խօսողներուն դէմ:

Յանցանք ընդունիլը, միայն ազնիւ ու պարկեշտ մարդոց յատուկ է: Տգէտ ու կարծրասիրտ մարդիկ չեն կրնար իրենց յանցանքը ընդունիլ:

ՀԻՄԱ ՏԵՍՆԵՆՔ ԹԷ ՄԵՆՔ ԻՆՉՊԷՍ ԵՆՔ:

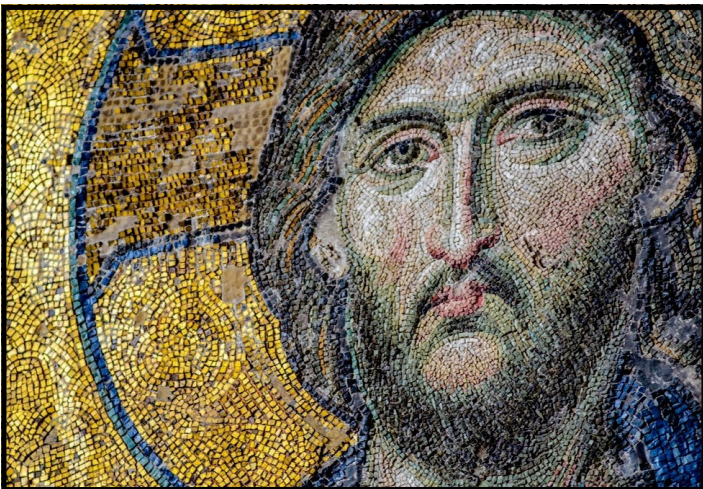
Եթէ պատահի որ այսօր Յիսուս գայ եւ բարկութեամբ մեր յանցանքները կամ սխալները մեր երեսին գառնէ, արդեօք մենք պիտի զգաստանանք՞ եւ ընդունինք՞ մեր յանցանքները. թէ ոչ ... ՄԻԱՅՆ ՊԻՏԻ ԼՍԵՆՔ..., ԱՌԱՆՑ ՇԱՏ ԱԿԱՆՉ ՏԱԼՈՒ ԱՅԴ ԽՕՍՔԵՐՈՒՆ... Ու պիտի մնանք այնպէս, ինչպէս որ ենք, առանց փոխիւելու:

Խորհինք ասոր մասին եւ ըստ այնմ ապրինք:

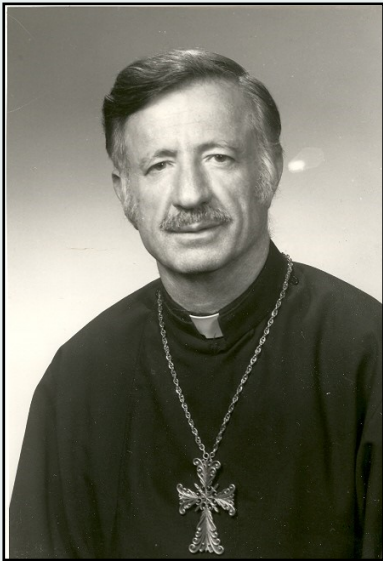
Ապրինք այնպէս, որ մեր կեանքը հաճելի երեւնայ Աստուծոյ աչքին:

Եւ երբ օր մը Յիսուս մեզի ալ գայ, չ'հանդիմանէ մեզ ըսելով, ՎԱՅ ՁԵՁԻ

ՅԱԿՈՒ ՏԵՐԵԱՆ



Advent calls to mind the birth and revelation of our Savior, his subsequent sacrifice for mankind, and his victory over sin and death. As the last Sunday of Lent, this day is especially devoted to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, reminding us that he is our eternal Lord and King. Just as everything once began with God, so too will everything one day end with Him.



This message is shared from chapter 3 of the 1997 published book of short sermons by our beloved pastor emeritus, Rev. Fr. Garen Gdanian.

ԱՅՍՕՐ

ՔՈՒ

ՏՈՒՆԴ

ՊԻՏԻ

ԳԱՄ

Կարճ Քարոզներ

Դրեց

**“Today I Will
Come to Your
House”**

Short sermons
written by
Archpriest Garen
Gdanian

ԱՅՍՕՐ ՔՈՒ ՏՈՒՆԴ ՊԻՏԻ ԳԱՄ

Քրիստոս Ձաթնախն այս խոսքերը ըստ. “Այսօր բոլոր տունը պիտի գամ:” Եթէ Քրիստոս, նոյն խոսքերը ինձի ըսէ եւ տունս գայ, Ինք եւ ես, իմ տունիս մէջ ի՞նչ պիտի ընենք: Իրարու հետ ի՞նչպէս ժամանակ պիտի անցնենք: Մեր խօսակցութեան նիւթը ի՞նչ պիտի ըլլայ:

Անշուշտ նստելով Քրիստոսին հետ Թաշ/ու պիտի չխաղամ: Ոչ ալ թէլէվիզիոնի վրայ ժամերով ֆուտբոլ պիտի դիտենք: Ըսել չեմ ուզեր որ վերոյիշեալները դէշ բաներ են: Եկէք ուրեմն, նոր Կտակարանին երթանք եւ տեսնենք թէ, երբ Քրիստոս մէկու մը տունը կ'երթայ, Ինք եւ տնեցիները ի՞նչ կ'ընեն եւ կամ ի՞նչ բանի մասին կը խօսին: Դեռեւս անոնցմէ մենք եւս կրնանք օրինակ առնել:

Առնենք Քրիստոսի մայրը: Սուրբ Կոյս Մարիամը: Երբ հրեշտակը Մարիամին աւետեց որ Քրիստոսի մայրը պիտի ըլլայ, ատեն մը վախցաւ: Բայց շուտով ինքզինքը գտաւ եւ ամենայն վստահութեամբ յայտարարեց. “Կամ Աղախին Տեառն: Եղիցի ինձ ըստ բանի քում:” Եւ երբ իր մայր ըլլալը իրականացաւ. “Մեծացուցէ անձն իմ զՏէր”ը չարադրեց եւ երգեց:

Առնենք Մարիամի աղգականն ու Յովհաննէս Մկրտչի մայրը՝ Եղիսարէթը: Երբ Մարիամ փութաց անոր տունը երթալ իրեն տրուած բարի լուրը յայտնելու, Եղիսարէթ խոստովանեցաւ եւ ըսաւ. “Ողորդեց ճշմարտութեամբ իմ յորովայնի իմում:”

Եթէ ուրեմն, Մարիամն ու Եղիսարէթը դեռ չձնած Քրիստոսի ներկայութեան, ցնծութեամբ եւ խնդութեամբ տոգորուեցան, մենք եւս կրնանք մեր Քրիստոսը զիմաւորել երգով եւ նուագով, ծափերով եւ պարերով երբ ան բարեհաճի մեր տունը այցելել:

Առնենք Պետրոս Առաքեալը: Ան ինքզինք կը նկատէր առաքեալներուն բերանախօսը: Ան էր նաեւ որ Քրիստոսի հանդէպ ունեցաւ հակասական զգացումներ: Երբ Քրիստոս, “Բազում ձուկերու” հրաշքը գործադրեց, Պետրոս “ահիւ եւ զողութեամբ” Քրիստոսի ոտքերը ինկաւ եւ աղաղակեց. “Ի բաց երթ յինչն, զի այր մեղաւոր եմ:” Թափօր լեռան վրայ պատահող այլակերպութեան հրաշքէն ապշած,

նորէն ինքն էր որ խօսեցաւ եւ ըսաւ:—“ Բարևոք է մեզ աստ լինել:” Ոտնորւայի պահուն, Պետրոս նախ մերժեց որ Քրիստոս իր ոտքը լուայ: Բայց երբ իմացաւ որ այդպէսով Քրիստոսէն անմասն պիտի մնայ, պնդեց որ Քրիստոս լուայ “ոչ միայն իր ոտքերը այլ նաեւ ձեռքերը եւ գլուխը:” Այսպէս ուրեմն, երբ Քրիստոս մեր տունը դայ, վստահ եմ որ Պետրոսի նման, չատերս եւս պիտի շուարինք եւ պիտի չկարենանք արտայայտել մեր զգացումներուն ամբողջութիւնը :

Առնենք մաքսաւորն ու աւաղակապետը, անառակ որդին եւ շատ մը ուրիշներ որոնք Քրիստոսի աստուածութեան ի տես ուրիշ ոչինչ կրցան ըսել, բայց միայն արտասուել եւ պաղատիլ: “Աստուած իմ քաւեա զիս զմեղաւորս”, “ընկալ զիս որպէս մի ի ծառայից քոց”, “յիշեա զիս յորժամ դաս արքայութեամբ քո:” Վստահ եմ որ երբ Քրիստոս մեր տունը դայ, մենք եւս իր առաջը պիտի երթանք, եւ մեր սիրտն ու հոգին թեթեւցենք: Պիտի խոստովանինք իրեն մեր մարդկային մեղքերը եւ պիտի ստանանք իրմէ լժշկութիւն հոգւոյ եւ մարմնոյ: Եւ ինք մտիկ պիտի ընէ մեզի որքան ալ երկարապատում ըլլան մեր մեղքերուն չարանը:

Երբ Քրիստոս Զաքէոսին տունը մտաւ. Զաքէոս ամբողջովին փոխուեցաւ. եւ նոր մարդ դարձաւ: Մարիամ Մագթաղենեցին լացաւ, անխօս մնաց եւ անուշահոտ իւղերով սծեց իր սիրելի վարդապետին ոտքերը: Իրեն ունեկողի հետեւորդ մը այնքան հիացած էր որ “Տէր ուստ մեզ կալ աղօթիս” ըսաւ: Խեղճ հայր մը որուն որդին այսահար էր Քրիստոսին մօտեցաւ եւ ըսաւ: “Ով Տէր ես կը հաւատամ քեզի: Բայց երբեմն հաւատքիս մէջ պակասաւոր կը դռնուիմ: Տէր օգնէ իմ անհատաւորութեան:” Ըսել ուզածս ան է որ երբ Քրիստոս մեր տունը դայ “ոչ մենք եւ ոչ ալ ինք խօսելիքի պակասութիւն պիտի տեսնանք:

Ամէն մարդ Քրիստոսի այցելութեան փափաքող չէ սակայն: Շատեր մերժեցին զինք: “Մեր գիւղէն դնա” ըսին Իրեն: Փարիսեցիք իր մահը ուղեցին: Եւ Յուդա համբոյժներով մատնեց զինք: Վստահ եմ որ այսօր եւս զինք մերժողներ կան: Կարծես թէ այսպիսիներուն համար է որ, Քրիստոս մարդարեւցաւ եւ ըսաւ. “Իմ երեսս պիտի չտեսնէք այլեւս, մինչեւ որ երդէք եւ ըսէք: Սրհնեալ եկեալ անուամբ Տեսուն որհնեալ որ դալոց ես:”

ՄԱՅ 1985

FROM THE LIFE OF FR. GAREN GDANIAN

February 1, 1925: Born in Aleppo, Syria, to Kevork and Siranoosh (Tavookjian) Gdanian, with a Baptismal name of Sarkis.

1930-1938: Educated in Aleppo Armenian School System.

1938-1944: Studied and was graduated from Jerusalem Seminary

1944-1945: Taught in Zavarian Armenian School, Aleppo, Syria

1945-1947: Studied and was graduated from Antelias Seminary, Beirut, Lebanon

September 1947: Came to the United States by invitation of The Most Rev. Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan.

1947-1950: Studied and received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge, Mass.

December 19, 1948: Was ordained a priest by The Most Rev. Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan at St. Vartanantz Armenian Church of Lowell, Mass.

1948-1957: Served at the above parish.

August 27, 1952: Married to former Isabelle Kludjian and went on to have three children, two daughters and one son.

1957-1967: Served as a member of the Diocesan Council for Religious Education of New York City.

1957-1970: Served as the Pastor of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church, New York City.

August 31, 1964: Received permission by His Holiness, Vasken I, to wear a Pectoral Cross.

September 1970: Elected as the Pastor of St. Peter Armenian Church

of Watervliet, New York.

1971-1975: Served as member of the Diocesan Council, New York City.

1977: Received floral Pilon (Phelonion—Cope).

1984: Elevated to the rank of *Avak Kahana* (Senior Priest).

September 1989: Retired but continued to serve when and where needed.

June 27, 2013: Entered his eternal rest.

Community News



Dr. Maggie Joel



Sarah & Kaelyn McMullan

Congratulations to . . .

Dr. Maggie Joel, daughter of Gregory Gosian (OH), graduated from The Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine with a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine. Maggie is the granddaughter of Dr. A. Nancy Avakian.

Sarah McMullan, daughter of Sean & Alice McMullan, graduated from The College of St. Rose with a Bachelor's of Sciences degree in Biology. Sarah will be attending Albany Medical College in the fall to further her studies for a PhD in Biology.

Kaelyn McMullan, daughter of Sean & Alice McMullan, graduated from Hudson Valley Community College with an associate's degree in Applied Science in health and wellness. Kaelyn will continue her study at Utica College in the fall.

Jonathan & Anne (Toomajian) Dadekian, who were married on February 12, 2021 and are expecting the arrival of a baby this December. Congratulations also to the grandparents, Robert & Holly Dadekian and Martin & Janice Toomajian, and to big sister, Aileen.



In Remembrance

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of:

Elizabeth Dorothy "Betty" Watkinson, who entered her eternal rest on February 28, 2022. Betty is survived by her children, Mary Jane Madden, John Watkinson III (AZ), Timothy (Ellen Tanner) Watkinson, Anne (Leonard) Visconti (CA), Christopher (Margaret) Watkinson, Paul (Jennifer) Watkinson (CA), Beth (Richard) Hartunian, James (Sharon) Watkinson; 14 grandchildren; and 13 great grandchildren. A private funeral service was held for close friends and family.

Anahid "Annie" Altounian, who entered her eternal rest on March 3, 2022. Annie is survived by her husband of 48 years, Zareh Altounian; their son, Raffi Altounian; siblings, Ohan (Rita) Ohanian, Jacqueline Ohanian, Dickra (Aline) Ohanian, the late Hratch (Silva) Ohanian; brother-in-law, Zaven Altounian; and several nieces, nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews. Annie was the principal of the St. Peter Armenian School for decades, dedicated to preserving the Armenian language and heritage in our community. A funeral service was held at Holy Cross Armenian Church (Troy) on March 8, 2022.

Dr. George Dayian, who entered his eternal rest on March 23, 2022. George is survived by his wife Karen; son, Hon. Michael (Hayarpi) Dayian; daughter, Claudie (David) Abdalian; and four grandchildren. At George's request, a private funeral service was held for close friends and family.

Artin Sukljian, who entered his eternal rest on May 4, 2022. Artin is survived by his wife of 70 years, Mary Saklajian; children, Serena O'Connor, Moe Saklajian, and Linda Johnson; and many friends. A private funeral service was held for the family.

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