#### Սուրբ Երրորդութիւն Յայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի

# Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church



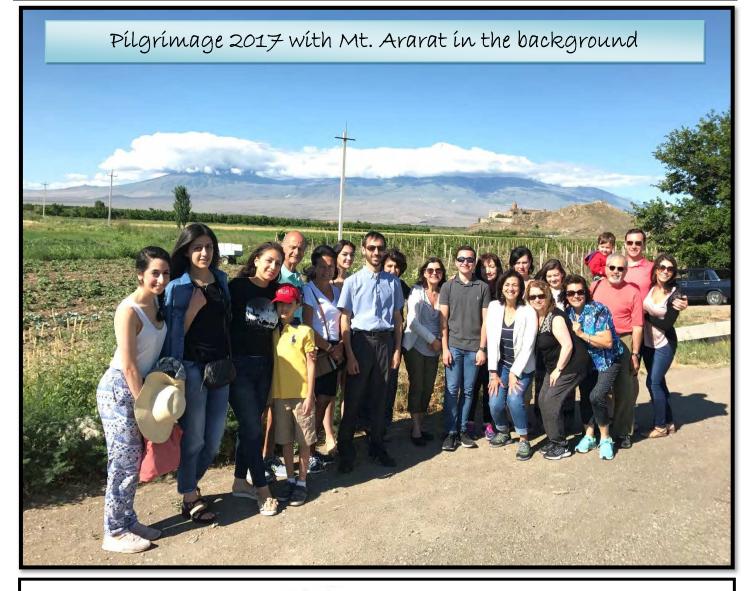
LOOYS



Cheltenham, PA

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

Summer 2017



#### **Hours of Worship**

- Morning Service: 10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy: 10:30 AM

#### **Church School**

- Language Instruction: 10:15-11:15

- Christian Education: 11:20-12:15



#### **Upcoming Events**

Read what's been happening at our church and be a part of what's coming up!

Pray Until Something Happens

#### LOOYS -LIGHT

"In the beginning when God created the heavens and earth, the earth was formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light; and there was light.' And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day" (Genesis 1:1-5).

The light helps us to see all things around us; for example, the colors, nature, beauty, people, animals. It also helps us to read, to drive, to work and to get around.

In the absence of light we will be in darkness. Without light there will be no life on this earth. The light always brings happiness and joy into our life. And every morning when we see the light, it gives us spiritual nourishment and hope that life continues.

In the Gospel, Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the Light of life" (John 8:12). Before Jesus came into this world, it was very hard, for people to understand all the prophets. With His coming, as true Light, He enlightened our minds and made it clear that if we want to live in the light or to be the children of the Light, then we have to believe in Him and follow Him.

When we walk in the darkness we can get lost. But if we have a flashlight with us, it would be easier for us to find our way. In this life, Jesus is like a flashlight for us who can lead us in the right direction, to everlasting life where there is no darkness but only light. If we don't believe in True Light who is Jesus Christ and don't follow Him, we will be lost forever.

In closing, I would like to say a few words about our little light - the Looys. The Armenian translation of light is looys. Years ago a group of our dedicated parishioners started to publish the Holy Trinity parish magazine which they called

Looys. During the years, the Looys already has proven its effectiveness in the life of our parishioners. I have heard nothing but good comments about the Looys, not only from our parishioners but also from non-parishioners throughout the Diocese. I hope that this little light which we call Looys will continue to shed a light in the hearts of our readers. May God always bless all our parishioners and our Looys staff, including those who contribute articles, photography, etc., to this publication.

I pray that the True Light - Jesus Christ - will always enlighten us and lead us to our Heavenly Father who lives in everlasting light.

With prayers,

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

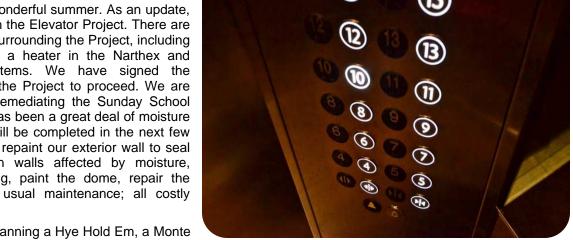
John 8



#### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By John Hanamirian

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. As an update, we are moving along with the Elevator Project. There are a lot of logistical issues surrounding the Project, including the need to reconfigure a heater in the Narthex and modify our alarm systems. We have signed the necessary contracts for the Project to proceed. We are also in the process of remediating the Sunday School classroom where there has been a great deal of moisture damage. That process will be completed in the next few weeks. We also need to repaint our exterior wall to seal the brick, repair certain walls affected by moisture, overhaul our landscaping, paint the dome, repair the dome leaking and our usual maintenance; all costly endeavors.



On fundraising, we are planning a Hye Hold Em, a Monte

Carlo night and we recently sent out a request for contributions for the Elevator Project. We are pleased with the contributions to date. Everyone seems to be digging deep to help offset the tremendous cost. We hope to finish the year with strength in our finances, but we budgeted for the effect of the Elevator Project. Our operating costs remain the same or higher and we need everyone's help, every year.

The Church has been very active with young children. The ACYOA will soon be growing. How proud to have my daughter writing in this same issue. Our Church School anticipates record enrollment. Our future looks very bright. In that vein, someone recently asked me why the Church School sent around two email about registration, one identifying a fee for Sunday School for the children of members and one for the children of non-members and in the second email, the fee structure was altered to reflect a single fee for both members and non-members.

Respectfully, we have to curb this.

In each instance, we are asking the Church to subsidize our children and ourselves if we do not pay dues, but ask for



something in return. We ask for hours of volunteer time in teaching our children or we ask the Church for resources in the form of books, a classroom, heat, electricity and air conditioning. Those resources are paid by someone. If you cannot afford to be a member of the Church, that is, of course, an issue we as a charitable religious organization must understand and we are acutely sensitive and accommodating. If you believe, however, that the Church should provide an education for a child, understand that someone else is paying your bill. We pay fees for Saturday soccer, we pay to go to Funzone, Pump it Up and in public schools, we often contribute funds for a pool of resources to supplement our children's education. We also pay for phones, games, toys, music and babysitting. Babysitting. Someone staying with your children and just watching them, we pay sometimes \$10.00 or more per hour. The Church asks for \$25.00 for a year of Sundays. Let's give that and then some to the Church for teaching our children.

In the coming months, with so much that will be happening in our Parish, we hope that you and your family will be active participants and enjoy the community we have built.

#### **ABOUT OUR FAMILY**

The last vestiges of summer will soon be but a memory and we joyfully return to a fuller schedule of activities at church. Look for them elsewhere in this issue, as well as in our Sunday Messenger, and plan to be a part of them for enjoyment, entertainment and especially for spiritual growth....Celebrations took place for some of our church family members during the summer. Best wishes to Harry Injaian on the occasion of his 90th birthday, celebrated by friends and family at the Riverton Country Club. Ninety is the new 75!....It was a double celebration as Martin Attarian marked his 90th birthday and, with his bride, Deskouhy, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary at a love-filled party with their very large family and close friends.... Continuing on with special occasions, a shout-out to Helen Mirijanian who celebrated her own milestone birthday with family and friends. We miss seeing you, Helen!...The Hajatian Clan has grown once again with the arrival of Tula Torosian, newly-born daughter of Erika and Michael and sister to Tomas. Congrats to all of them, including grandparents, Mike & Lynn Hajatian, and great-grandmom, Penny....Special milestone wedding anniversaries included Serge & Adrienne Minassian (60), Bob & Lorraine Damerjian (55), Mike & Lynn Hajatian (45), Robert & Liz Barone (45) and Steve & Dorie Aslanian (30). And finally, a "can you believe it" milestone birthday for Dr/Dn Garo Garibian also came to pass. To all of them we say "Congratulations and many more!".... Our HT family offers deepest condolences to the Albert Aloyian family on the sudden passing of their young son, Artur. May the Holy Spirit provide comfort to them in their grief....Sadly, we also lost two elders in our church. Harry Andonian passed away peacefully after a lengthy illness which kept him away from church for more than two years. And our Choir mourns the passing of 70-year member, John Arslanian, who died peacefully at the age of 90 after being away from church most of this year. We extend our deepest condolences to John's children - Gregory, Lucille and John & their families, and to his brother, George, and sister Alice (Jean) Sarkisian. Both Harry and John were life-long members of our church who served in many ways with devotion and commitment. They shall be missed! ....Congratulations to Mariam (Alverdyan) & Andrey Sysovev who welcomed first son, Mark and joined big sister Elena in the family. We look forward to watching him grow....On the "Sick List" – please remember the following in your prayers as they continue in their various infirmities: Annabelle (Lee) Alexanian, Albert Santerian, Hagop Arzoumanian, Richard Kazigian and Alice Sisian....Last but not least, we congratulate our own Liz Barone who was re-elected to the Women's Guild Central Council at the last Diocesan Assembly. It's a tribute to Liz's dedication that even though our church no longer has a functioning Women's Guild, she is still willing to serve for the betterment of all that the women do- in any shape or form - in parishes throughout our Diocese.....Till the next issue, we wish you a harvest of love, peace and contentment.

#### ADDRESS CHANGES AND/OR ADDITIONS

Mary Sarkisian 3306 Embarcadero Court Springfield PA 19064

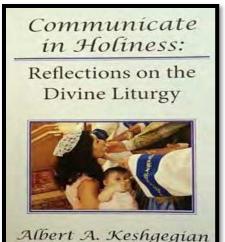
Ani Gooshian 449 West Montgomery Avenue Unit 403 Haverford, PA 19041 Home#: 610-642-4120



Marguerite Donoian 49 Whyte Drive Voorhees NJ 08043

Alyce Jilajian 51 E Oleander Drive Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Eric Silk 250 N Columbus Blvd Apt 1308 Philadelphia, PA 19106



# WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW DUES-PAYING MEMBER TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Alex Yavru-Sakuk

#### **NEW IN THE BOOKSTORE!**

Communicate in Holiness: Reflections on the Divine Liturgy by Deacon Albert Keshgegian. In his most recent book, Dn. Albert clearly and succinctly presents the whole process of our Divine Liturgy, as well as the meanings and messages that each part has for us. He has also included many important and beautiful descriptive pictures of the Liturgy. 78 pages, \$10. (The Bookstore is open every Sunday after Liturgy—please stop in and browse.)

#### IN MEMORIAM - HARRY ANDONIAN

Harry Andonian, 92, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, August 19, 2017 after an extended illness. Harry was born in New York City, the youngest of three children, to Zaruhe and Avedis Andonian. After graduation from Pearl River High School, New York in 1943, Harry proudly served his country in the U. S. Navy during World War II for three years and was honorably discharged as a 2nd class aviation radioman. Harry's passion for education led him to further studies at Champlain College and then to Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree.



Harry grew up in various locations in New York, later moving to our area and settling in Levittown in 1958. His career took him to Rohm and Haas, Cities Service and Mobil Oil after which he began his retirement.

Locally, he was an active member in Focal Planes Camera Club and Middletown Senior Center (Scrabble group). He had a passion for Armenian culture and history, gardening, photography, Scrabble and crosswords.

Harry's service in the Armenian community was mostly through his lifelong membership at Holy Trinity Armenian Church. During his many years of service, he was a Sunday School teacher and later held the position of Superintendent. He served with dedication on the Parish Council and could often be called upon to recall happenings and events of long past – being a historian and archivist of the church. For many years, he represented our church at the International Folk Fair, sharing the teachings of our faith, culture and history with the thousands of people who attended the annual event. He also served faithfully on the well-known Philadelphia Intercommunal Committee for many years. On the occasion of the church's 50th anniversary of the consecration of the Cheltenham location, Harry was recognized with the Holy Trinity Parish Award for dedicated and committed service to our church.

Harry is survived by his son, Leon and wife, Yong.

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#### WEDDINGS

JUNE 4, 2017: JOSEPH FISCHER & ZARUHI ALAYAN BROTHER OF THE CROSS: HOVHANNES ALAYAN

#### **FUNERALS: 2017**

**ANITA MIRIJANIAN** entered into her eternal rest on June 2, 2017. Funeral services were held on June 8, 2017 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**ARTUR ALOIAN** entered into his eternal rest on July 9, 2017. Funeral services were held on July 12, 2017 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**HARRY A. ANDONIAN** entered into his eternal rest on August 19, 2017. Funeral services were held on August 28, 2017 at James O. Bradley Funeral Home. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**JOHN ARSLANIAN** entered into his eternal rest on September 1, 2017. Funeral services were held on September 6, 2017 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.





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#### STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

Our church is fortunate to have many individuals who donate their various services for our benefit. This month we send a SHOUT-OUT to Kim Willard, Economy Roofing, who continues to handle our ongoing roofing needs. Recently he also provided roofing guidance with our new gazebo situated on the back church lot. All that he does is greatly appreciated!



#### COFFEE HOUR COORDINATOR

Merle Santerian is looking for a replacement in her role as Coffee Hour Coordinator OR someone who is willing to share the responsibilities of running this position. It does not require doing the work alone but seeking volunteers who can help on a rotating basis. The rewards of serving your church are innumerable as well as rewarding. Please contact Merle for more information if interested.



#### **UNSUNG HERO**

While everyone is enjoying their coffee and refreshments on Sundays during our Fellowship Hour, we salute our very own Steve Aslanian who is — most Sundays - always cheerfully leading the clean-up process that takes place somewhat "behind the scenes." Please thank him when you see him — better yet, offer a helping hand!

#### **CHRISTIANS**

By Maya Angelou

When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'" I'm whispering "I was lost, Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride
I'm confessing that I stumble
and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But God believes I am worth it.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not holier than thou, I'm just a simple sinner Who received God's good grace somehow!



#### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Megan Aslanian, daughter of Steven and Dorie Aslanian and sister to Danny, graduated from Immaculata University in May with a Bachelors of Music in Music Therapy with a concentration in voice and flute. This summer she worked for The Cadets Drum and Bugle Corp based out of Allentown Pennsylvania. She will begin her music therapy internship at Matheny Medical and Educational Center in Peapack New Jersey in September and will be finishing in February 2018. She will be working with older adults with developmental and physical disabilities and elementary school children. In addition to her internship, Megan will be teaching music lessons in voice, guitar, piano, and flute at Music and Arts to students of all ages. After her internship, Megan will be busy studying to become board certified in her field and will begin applying for full time jobs. Megan would like to eventually gain her masters in music therapy and a doctoral degree. At church, Megan participated in Sunday School, ACYOA, and the church choir.





<u>Veronica Carnevale</u> graduated from Stockton University with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Studies with a Concentration in Accounting. Her future plans include traveling and finding a career she loves. Her parents are Victoria Shakarjian and Shawn Carnevale.

<u>Peter Ohnigian</u> graduated from Haverford High School and is looking forward to pursuing a degree in Geology at Temple University. During high school, he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and was heavily involved in his school's music program as he played the trumpet in wind ensemble, football band, and competition marching band. He participated in the ACYOA Juniors for five years and served as co-chairman for one year. His parents, Bob and Jean Ohnigian, look forward to seeing Peter join the Armenian Students Association at Temple University.

<u>Michael Santerian</u> graduated from Upper Dublin High School. In the fall he will be attending Temple University's Fox School of Business. Michael was Homeroom Representative, and was active in Spanish Club, Ping Pong Club and Gusto Warriors during his high school years. He is the son of

David & Alyssa Santerian.

<u>Scott Santerian</u> earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics with a concentration in Astronomy from Kutztown University. His future plans include working in the field of defense contracting. Scott was the Vice President of the Society of Physics Students and played on the Kutztown University Roller Hockey club. He is the son of David & Alyssa Santerian.

<u>Brenda Yazujian</u>, daughter of Gregory and Diane Yazujian, and Granddaughter of Jack Vishab and Vera Hartunian graduated from Marist College in May 2017. She graduated with magna cum laude honors, with a Bachelors of Science majoring in Fashion Merchandising with a concentration in business and a minor in product development. Brenda spent her summer at AGBU Camp Nubar as the Girls Head, and now is seeking a position in fashion merchandising, product development or marketing.

# WE'RE PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND THE PERSON YOU'VE BECOME!



#### **GOOD WORKS ABOUND**

More than one year ago, on a visit to the Aragatsotn Diocese in Ashtarak, Armenia, one of our parishioners learned of their needs for major and significant property improvements. However, before a shovel could even dig a hole, everything needed to be pre-planned and approved because the church and property are listed on the historical registry of Armenia. Additionally, approval was also required from the Architectural and Preservation Committee at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin.

With the work now completed, we are happy to report that they have



installed major fencing around different areas of the property, with cross ornamentation for the front of the property; and two vehicle and three pedestrian entry gates with walkways were built. The project also included the construction of a two-story building on the property to house an internet and media office, and a social services office. Finally, the grounds were landscaped with 45 fruit-bearing trees with water lines brought onto the property to provide irrigation.

We salute our own good stewards, Garo and Cece Garibian, for being one of two major donors to fund this project. Their generous deeds reach far and wide.





#### A REFLECTION - THE FIRST MAN

By Deacon Albert Keshgegian

Last summer Patrice and I had the opportunity to go on a Mediterranean cruise. Before going on the ship, we spent a few days in Rome and, along with other sightseeing, took a tour of the Vatican museum, Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica. The sights and crowds were both impressive. Among all the great art in the Vatican two pieces stood out in my mind. One is a large statue of our own St. Gregory the Illuminator, who is regarded as a saint in the Roman Catholic Church as well as ours, standing in a prominent place in the courtyard between St. Peter's and the Sistine Chapel. The other is the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, completely covered by scenes from the Bible, painted by Michelangelo in the early 16th century, and considered one of the greatest masterpieces in the history of art. The centerpiece of the ceiling design is a depiction of the Creation of Adam.

The First Book of Most Genesis

Genesis

CHAPTER 1

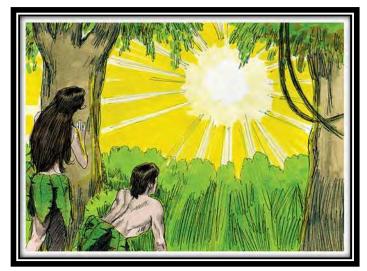
The "beginning God created the upon the early heaven and the earth was without form."

The And the earth was without form. It was upon the early heaven and the earth was without form. It was upon the early heaven the land and and early hand the Spirit of the was lated the land. It was a fact there be left and God said. Ight and God said light and God saw the lated the light was good and God divided the light was good and God divided the light. I was good and God called the light Day was good and God called the light Day was good and God called the light. And God said the lated high the light and god and God called the light Day was good and God called the light. And God said the lated high the lated high the lated high lated high

The book of Genesis tells us that God created Adam in his own image (1:26-27) and "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life" (2:7). Michelangelo had a different vision and interpretation.

The fresco depicts Adam in the lower left, reclining languidly and looking very passive, perhaps not yet quite alive. Adam is looking at God and extending his hand out to God, but also in a listless manner, with his forefinger bent down.

God looks very different. He is at the fresco's upper right, surrounded by angels, looking deliberate and purposeful, forefinger stretched straight, not quite yet touching Adam's finger, with all the power and majesty that belong to God alone. God is about to impart the energy of life to Adam. You can almost see and feel the energy, like a spark of electricity, which will flow in a moment between God and man, giving life to the first human being.



God reached out to Adam at the beginning, and he has reached out to humanity countless times throughout the years since. He rescued the Israelites from bondage in Egypt. He inspired the prophets to warn the Jews that they were not following him and were falling into sin. He sent his only Son to suffer and die for our sins. He inspired the saints to do great works or sacrifice their lives for him.

And God continues to reach out to each and every one of us. He loved Adam, to create him in his image and give him life. And that greatest power and energy in the universe loves each of us so very much. He wants us to live in his energy, protected in his power, secure in his love. Adam responded to God by reaching out back to him, albeit hesitantly, as best as he could. We need to respond, too, and accept the love and many other gifts that God offers us.





# Weddings and Events.... Beyond Beautiful!!

After visiting so many florists, it was a relief to find someone who could work with my ideas and just make them that much better. Thank you for helping me make my special day so beautiful and elegant."
- Bea C. April 2009



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#### A SCRIPTURAL SUMMER AT HOLY TRINITY

Unlike many parishes that cut back on their activities during the summer months, our faithful were given several opportunities to learn and grow in the Lord during June and July. Whether at one of our three neighborhood home studies or at our church home, over 40 people gathered together in small groups for Bible study.

During three Wednesday evenings in June, three Holy Trinity families graciously hosted a Bible study in their homes—Nancy and Steve Hovnanian, Jeanette and Larry Der Hagopian and Albert and Patrice Keshgegian. More than a dozen people participated in each home. Those who attended especially enjoyed the casual atmosphere which proved more conducive to conversation.





In addition to the home studies, a four-week series on the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament was offered on Wednesday evenings at church; more than a dozen individuals participated. Perhaps the surprising reaction came during Fr. Hakob's presentation on the Song of Solomon, when participants broke out in a spontaneous rendition of Khorhoort Khoreen! All the programs were led by Fr. Hakob and his handpicked team of facilitators including Deacon Albert Keshgegian parishioners Brian Hoyle and Leslie Movsesian.

The study of Scripture is nothing new at Holy Trinity; our parish has consistently provided weekday morning Bible studies for several years. In an effort, however, to reach out to those unable to attend because of work conflicts or travel distance, Fr. Hakob and our Adult Christian Education team decided to sponsor these initiatives in the evening and in various locales.

When asked to describe their experience, participants responded with the following words: new, different, enjoyable, fun and lighthearted. There's nothing more to say!

### HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

#### Presents

### THE INSTRUCTED LITURGY

Sunday, October 1, 2017 10:30 to noon

#### Celebrant:

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan

Commentary by:

Ashot Balasanyan & Ani Peckjian



The Instructed Liturgy is a unique educational opportunity to help the faithful grow in their knowledge and experience of the Divine Liturgy at the most effective time—as it is unfolding before them. The commentary will interrupt the Badarak in progress several times in order to explain what is happening and why. This is a must for all those wishing to deepen their understanding of Liturgy and enhance their participation in worship.

**Please note:** Because the introduction is the longest and most informative section of the commentary and comes at the very beginning of Badarak, we must stress the importance of being **prompt**. It is crucial that you be present for the entire Liturgy.

Special fellowship to follow honoring the recent publication of "Communicate in Holiness: Reflections on the Divine Liturgy" by Deacon Albert Keshgegian

Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Cheltenham, PA • Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor www.holytrinity-pa.org

#### THERE AND BACK AGAIN: AN ARMENIAN'S JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND

By Ani Peckjian

As a participant in the Young Adult Pilgrimage to Jerusalem, I was introduced to the Holy Land and followed the footsteps of our Lord from His birth in Bethlehem to His Ascension at the Mount of Olives. The trip took place from June 6 to 16 and was guided by Der Hovsep Karapetyan of St. Mary's Armenian Church of Washington, D.C. Our sights took us to the desert surrounding the River Jordan, Dead Sea, the Western Wall, and the depths of spirituality at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.



THE CHURCH OF "THE LORD'S PRAYER"

Our group was composed of Armenian students from around the country. We traced Jesus Christ's birthplace in Bethlehem and participated in Badarak at the Church of the Nativity and the Armenian Church of the Virgin Mary, Mary's Tomb. The Birthplace and Baptism at the River Jordan were as would be expected: a small grotto for His Birthplace, and small river area for baptism, humbling sites powerfully spiritual, in particular when we could place our feet and hands in the River Jordan that our Lord had blessed with His Baptism. Pater Noster (where Jesus Christ said the words "Thy will be done" for the first time, teaching the disciples how to pray) was moving in the multiple translations of the Lord's Prayer in languages such as Chinese, Sanskrit, Arabic, and, of

We also had the privilege to see the Church of Transfiguration at Mount Tabor, The Garden of Gethsemane, and to take a boat cruise on the Sea of Galilee. Along these journeys, we had Bible study in relation to the site we visited, with time to meditate on the spirituality of the site. We had an the Patriarch audience with Nourhan, where we asked questions and viewed magnificent artwork in his office. Our journey ended at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, viewing the location where Christ's cross had been found (but is now lost), Golgotha,

course, Armenian.

the place where Christ was crucified, and touring the Church at night, being

"locked in" with our group given a quieter, more meaningful tour of the Church complex by Der Hovsep.

My thoughts return to Jerusalem and friends I have made on this most unique journey. My faith has become more complete by connecting the physical sites of the Holy Land and the metaphysical practice of our faith through the Badarak and the Bible.

# GARIBIAN — LAW OFFICES——



Antranig Garibian is pleased to announce the opening of Garibian Law Offices, P.C.

Garibian Law Offices, P.C. represents clients throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Delaware. The firm offers experienced legal service and representation uniquely tailored to the specific needs of each client.

We aggressively fight for individuals and businesses who find themselves involved in legal disputes and litigation. It is our mission to protect our clients' interests and to deliver results. We also provide careful and strategic advice and counsel to businesses across a variety of sectors with respect to business

formation, contract analysis, strategy planning and the challenges faced by business owners on a daily basis.

It is a special privilege to have been raised in the Philadelphia Armenian Community and to be able to continue the legacy of our parents and grandparents. Please contact Garibian Law Offices if our firm may be of service to you.

# PRACTICE AREAS

Commercial and Corporate Litigation

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Insurance Litigation

General Civil Litigation

Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution

#### **2017 ASP TRIP**

By Ani Javardian

I had the pleasure of taking part in the Diocesanrun Armenia Service Program (ASP) with many other Armenian young adults across the Midwest and East Coast. Our days consisted of touring, service, shopping, exploring parts of the country and lots of eating. We spent our first three days stationed in Yerevan touring places like Lake Sevan (and swimming there too!). visiting Geghart Monastery, and the Temple of Garni. After a few short, yet jam-packed days, we began our long drive to the Aragats Mountains. This was mine, and most of the other participant's favorite part of the trip. Here we spent four days with children at a governmentsponsored summer camp with 400 children who are either orphans (since their parents are Syrian refugees) or come from extremely poor living situations in Javagh, Georgia or Armenia. At this camp we danced endlessly with the children to both Armenian and American music, played sports, painted, braided hair, cooked and just spent time with them. Amazing relationships were created in just those four short days, and it may have been the hardest goodbye we have ever had to experience.

We spent the remainder of our trip back in Yerevan at the FAR or Fund for Armenian Relief Orphanage as well as another orphanage for disabled children. We also had the honor of meeting with Vehapar and attending Badarak at The Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin. We spent the next day at Khor Virap, where St. Gregory spent 13 years in a pit by the order of Tiridates III. Next we drove four hours to Tatev after which we had to take a 10-minute cable car in order to get to the isolated monastery (which is the longest reversible cableway in the world (5752 m. as recorded in the Guinness Book of Records). We had the chance to meet the only living Armenian monk and learn about how he performs Badarak three times a day.

I am so lucky to have experienced this trip of a lifetime and make amazing friends along the way. I would be happy to share my experience with anyone, and especially anyone who is interested in taking part in this trip in the future.



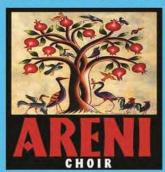




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 Armenian Martyr's Congregational Church
 St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

**Sunday, October 15, 2017, at 2P.M.** 



HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH 101 ASHMEAD ROAD, CHELTENHAM, PA 19012

#### REFLECTIONS FROM A PILGRIMAGE

By Gabrielle Meranshian

During a period of ten days beginning in late June, more than twenty participants from Philadelphia, New York, Washington, Connecticut and Paris were led on a pilgrimage to Armenia by Rev.Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan of Holy Trinity Armenian Church in Cheltenham.

A pilgrimage is a journey one takes in search of a religious meaning. Taking a pilgrimage to one's homeland is unlike any other journey. It is more than a journey: it is a spiritual quest fulfilled by being able to walk in the footsteps of our ancestors, being able to eat the fruits from the trees that were planted by our ancestors and finally having the chance to see the sites that we've only had the opportunity to hear of and see pictures of as children growing up.

During the pilgrimage we had the opportunity to see the natural landscapes created by God from Mt. Ararat to the shores of Lake Sevan and to the alpine hills of Dilijan. Although Armenians have been dispersed around the world for over 100 years, we were brought together by the Grace of God to take this pilgrimage together back to our homeland.

A few of the people on the pilgrimage were part of the Knights of the Vartan and had raised money the previous year for the Artsakh Relief Fund during their annual convocation. At the time the money was raised, the members of the Knights of Vartan had no idea they would be blessed with the opportunity to personally disperse the money raised to three deserving families. This was truly one of the high points of the pilgrimage.

I have been blessed to visit Armenia four times and every experience was a new memory in the making. I was immersed into the culture and had first-hand experience of daily Armenian living. In addition to seeing the magnificent sites of Armenia, our group had the opportunity to see the village of the Ararat region where our Der Hakob was raised. His family welcomed us into their home and provided us with a home-cooked ethnic cuisine. It was during this meal at Der Hayr's home where we were able to experience the loving hospitality of the Armenian people.

These experiences only motivate me to want to return again. I am already planning my fifth trip to Armenia, God willing!





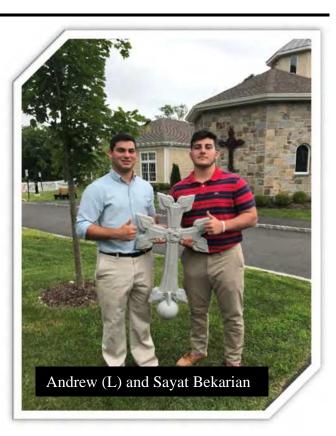
#### THE ST. NERSESS EXPERIENCE

By Andrew Movsesian

This summer I attended the St. Nersess High School Conference. Initially, I was hesitant to go and even when I got there, I was still questioning my decision. However, my mind was quickly changed when I met the welcoming staff and other youth. It was a smaller group of kids, which was a good thing because we all got to know each other quite well, and I enjoyed the company of everyone there.

Throughout the day, we had events/activities like Armenian class, Bible study, and lectures. I found all of these interesting and engaging and I learned many new things either about the world, the Armenian Church, Armenian Culture, or myself. The four hours of free time wasn't bad either. This served as a great time to catch up on some much needed sleep or hang out with friends. Many of us, including counselors, partook in a basketball league which kept us busy all of the time.

I was also blessed to be a part of the blessing of the new cross that went on top of the chapel at the seminary. I had a wonderful experience at St. Nersess summer conference, and a few friends and I are already planning to go back next year for the post-high session.



### ave this Date to Celebrate

December 10, 2017





### Friday, October 27

Doors Open @ 5:00 PM, Dinner @ 6:00 PM

### Saturday, October 28

Doors Open @ 4:00 PM, Dinner @ 5:00 PM

Sunday, October 29 **Doors Open after Badarak** 

#### **Holy Trinity Armenian Church**

101 Ashmead Road Cheltenham, PA 19012 215-663-1600

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

www.holytrinity-pa.org



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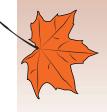
The Gift Basket Auction

Armenian Art

The Bake Shop

Vendors

Kids Activities





### **Entertainment!**

Children's Halloween Parade







@ Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church

#### REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED IN ARMENIA

After the Pilgrimage that Der Hakob led to Armenia in June, he and his family extended their time in Armenia in order to spend more time with their families whom they see infrequently. During that time, Der Hakob visited more than ten families who were in dire circumstances and personally distributed monies that had been donated to him by parishioners before he left the United States.

Deep appreciation is extended to the following who so graciously and generously made donations for this purpose: Garo and Cece Garibian, Karen Kirakozov, Vatche and Nadia Soghomonian, Gregory and Diane Yazujian, Alice Karabian, and Denise and Antoine Apelian van Veen.

Below are pictures of some of the families who were visited.









Thank you to Der Hayr, the Parish Council, our Delegates and Diocesan Council and the other Church organizations, for allowing me to continue in the role of Parish Council Chair. Each person below gives their time and effort tirelessly and entirely without fanfare:

#### **Unsung Heroes**

Every Altar server
Every Angel in the Choir
Every Church School Administrator, Teacher or Assistant
Every Men's Club and Women's Guild member
Every ACYOA member and leader

#### **Parish Council**

Merle Santerian
Gary Berberian
Barbara Harmon
Gregory Javardian
Elizabeth Barone
Anton Balasanyan
Larry D. Der Hagopian
Garo Garibian
Mickey Paretchan
Nicklas Terkanian

#### **Diocesan Council and Delegates**

Antranig Garibian Nancy Basmajian Anne Terkanian

#### ACYOA MINI-BEACH PARTY

By Ella Hanamirian

Just before Labor Day, the ACYOA Juniors got together to go to the beach! Kyle Dunigan, Andrew Movsesian and Peter Ohnigian all drove down to Chadwick Beach to join my sister, Vani, and me at our family's shore house for the day. Before we all went to the beach, we had a breakfast of choereg and string cheese and then went to pack up the cars. When we got to the beach, it was so hot that most of us just wanted to go into the water. Those who hadn't been to Chadwick Beach before were amazed at how clear the water was - and also how cold! There were some stingrays in the water that day too, which was a bit of a scare for all of us. We went surfing and caught up on our summers before it was time to go back to the house for a late lunch. When we got back, Ms. Hanamirian had prepared sandwiches and we all ate together. After lunch it was time to drive back home because a lot of us had pre-season athletics the next day. It was a very fun trip and we had a great time, despite missing all our other ACYOA members!

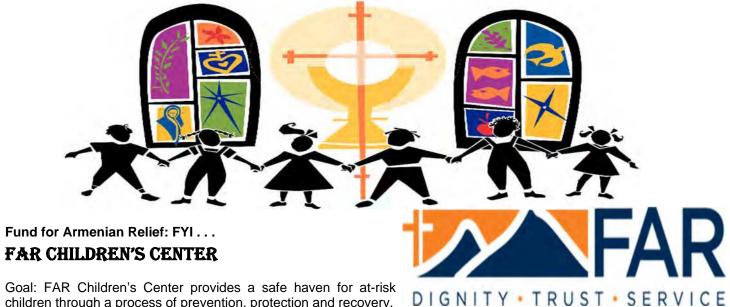
#### CHURCH SCHOOL

By Patti Ayjian Smith (Co-Superintendent)

Welcome back to our new and returning families. We are excited to have Nancy Hovnanian back as our Co-Superintendent of Christian Education. As many of you may know, Nancy has been superintendent for many years in the past. I would also like to welcome Sabrina Garibian as our new kindergarten teacher! We are blessed and thankful to have them both as part of our Church School family.

The Church School is excited about implementing a new incentive program, our Sunday School Store. Students will be rewarded tickets for attendance, class participation, good citizenship, acts of kindness, etc. These tickets can be redeemed for various prizes.

Please consider volunteering your time for our children. We are looking for volunteers to help with special occasion events, communion breakfasts, the Sunday School Store, and substitutes. Stop by The Sunday School office for more information. It is ONLY with your active participation that we are able to share Christ's message of love for your children.



children through a process of prevention, protection and recovery.

Objectives: to contribute to child protection through lobbying, advocacy and application of social technologies; to provide short-term rehabilitation services to children such as shelter, medical care, psychosocial support and legal assistance; to build the capacity of child protection specialists; to increase public awareness of child protection issues in Armenia

Types of Services: Social work: assessment, evaluation and counseling for the child and family; healthcare: examination on site and at local medical centers, treatment plans and follow up; psychological therapy: evaluation and counseling for the child and family; art therapy: studio art sessions to foster self-expression and creativity; social pedagogical support: individual and group sessions to develop cognitive and behavioral skills, interpersonal communication and intellectual capacity; police support: 24 hour legal and emergency services; parental skills development; vocational training programs; shelter and crisis intervention; hotline and helpline service; provision of social assistance packages for children and families at risk.

For more information on FAR and to find out how you can help, go to: www.farusa.org.

#### MEN'S CLUB "200 CLUB"

Only seven (7) Tickets remain for the upcoming 2017-18 season. A one-time donation of \$100 will entitle you to eight (8) months of drawings, with five winners drawn each month. Your ticket number could be drawn more than once in the eight monthly drawings. In fact, several ticket holders have won twice this past season!

The first drawing will take place in November and the last in June 2018; the prizes in those two months will be \$1000 / \$400 / \$200 / \$200 / \$200. The other six months will be \$500 / \$200 / \$100 / \$100. And your chances are better than the lottery! \*\*If you already have a ticket, please consider another one or maybe split a ticket with a friend or family member.\*\*

#### There will be \$10,000 in Prize Money & \$10,000 for the Church!

Contact Larry Der Hagopian (215-672-4188) or Mick Paretchan (215-947-4394) for tickets.



Sept 17 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross & "Saving the Tomb" update

Sept 24 – Flora Keshgegian, guest speaker during fellowship

Oct 1 – Instructional Divine Liturgy

& Albert Keshgegian New Book Reception

Oct 15 - Areni Choir - Intercommunal Program

Oct 20 - Growing Up Armenian: Blessings & Challenges

Oct 27, 28, 29 - Annual Harvest Bazaar

Nov 5 – A Simultaneous Translation (Badarak)

Nov 12 - Godparents Blessing Service

Dec 3 – Stewardship Sunday

Dec 10 - Der Hakob's 10th Anniversary of Ordination

Dec 17 – Breakfast with Santa

Dec 31 – Pomegranate Sunday



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In memory of Hermina Karakashian

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In honor of Martin Attarian's 90th Birthday

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Total: \$2,125.00

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Albert Aloian and Family Garo and Cecelia Garibian

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\*Peter and Robin Bilazarian
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Ara and Virginia Shakarjian
Mickey Sherian
Ethel Terzian
Richard and Linda Vishab
Richard Weinsheimer
Kim and Gena Willard
Gregory and Diane Yazujian
Total: \$26,220.00

\* New stewards since last listing.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." —Winston Churchill

#### HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

#### MEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

| _ |     |    |     |
|---|-----|----|-----|
| О | Cto | nn | ıΔr |
| v | CL  |    | -   |

| Todd & Seta Pica              | 10/2/2004   |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Albert & Valerie DerPilbosian | 10/ 7/1973  |
| Steven & Stephanie Balint     | 10/12/1997  |
| Berj & Michele Yeretzian, Jr  | 10/ 14/1989 |
| Garo & Tamar Hovnanian        | 10/14/2006  |
| Gregory & Maria Javardian     | 10/15/1983  |
| Ara & Virginia Shakarjian     | 10/ 16/1955 |
| Donald & Judy Paretchan       | 10/18/2009  |
| Jake & Gina Terkanian         | 10/20/2007  |
| Larry & Jeanette Der Hagopian | 10/24/1964  |
| Steve & Mary Sona Brod        | 10/28/1990  |
| Berj & Alice Kalustyan        | 10/29/1955  |

#### November

| Gary & Eileen Altoonian      | 11/5/ ???? |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Ernest & Christine Peacock   | 11/6/1976  |
| John & Susan Lillis          | 11/12/1988 |
| Phil & Alyssa Worrell        | 11/13/2010 |
| Steve & Doretta Aslanian     | 11/15/1987 |
| John & Margaret Bandaian     | 11/25/2005 |
| Ralph & Nane Arpajian        | 11/26/2010 |
| Richard & Florence Maloumian | 11/27/1968 |
| David & Marta Brann          | 11/29/1980 |
|                              |            |

#### December

| Terri Sadjian-Mears         | 12/1/1984  |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Robert & Janice King        | 12/3/1983  |
| Albert & Patrice Keshgegian | 12/22/1974 |
| Melani & Kyle Burrows       | 12/29/2007 |
| Robert & Elizabeth Barone   | 12/30/1972 |

#### MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

#### October

Marina Hovhannesian - 2 Grace Meranshian - 4 Spencer Murray - 4 Steve Aslanian - 5 Aram Attarian - 5 Robert King - 5 Jack Vishab - 5 Matthew Santerian - 6 Lauren Lillis - 7 Janice Owens - 7 Brianna Juskalian - 10 Jeannine Juskalian - 10 Tomas Torosian - 11 Richard Carlucci - 14 Marta Brann - 18 Karinne Andonian - 19 Florence Maloumian - 19 Mary Parnagian - 19 Peter Hovnanian - 20 Jean Ohnigian - 21 Henry LeCompte - 22 Peter Oskanian, Jr. – 23 Lilit Andonian - 23 Christopher Torcomian - 26 Ella Hovnanian - 27 Laura Bilazarian - 29 Adrienne Minassian - 29 Tara Zane - 29 Kyle Dunigan - 31 Katie Hashas - 31 Michelle Oskanian - 31 Alice Sisian - 31

#### **November**

Rosaleen Oskanian - 1 Scott Santerian - 1 Annabel Hovnanian - 3 John Oskanian - 3 Dori Juskalian - 4 Kimberly Dunigan – 6 Bennett Oskanian - 8 Thomas Torcomian - 8 Lesly Attarian - 10 Patty Alexanian - 12 Angel Tookmanian - 12 Gary Altoonian - 16 Selma Alexanian - 17 Elizabeth Barone - 17 Shawn Carnevale Jr - 18 Veronica Carnevale - 18 Alice Kalustvan - 18 Janet Hashas - 20 Marie Kazanjian - 21 Stefanie Vishab - 22 Larry D. DerHagopian - 23 Vartan Mazmanian - 24 Madison Radell - 25 Timothy Worrell - 26 Vaughn Alexanian - 27 Levon Attarian - 27 Gabrielle Meranshian - 28 Valerie DerPilbosian - 29 Joyce Killian - 29 Florence Dandegian - 30

#### December

Alice Karabian - 1 Kimberly Kalustyan - 2 John Terzian - 3 Alise Peckjian - 4 Abigail Zane - 4 Sonia Papazian - 5 Robbie Barone - 7 Berjoohy Murray - 7 Robert Damerijan Jr – 9 Mariana Majian - 9 Leslie Movsesian - 9 Linda Vishab - 9 Richard Mukalian - 10 Phillip Santerian - 10 Danielle Sarkisian - 12 Margaret Bandaian - 13 Berj Kalustyan - 14 Michele Yeretzian - 14 Deskouhy Attarian - 15 Natalie Boghosian - 17 Denise Sisian - 18 Helen Terzian Gallagher - 22 Theresa Hovnanian - 22 Grayson Oskanian - 22 Natalie Movsesian - 24 Baby Jesus - 25 Maria Javardian - 25 Christina Juskalian - 25 Alexander Griffin - 25 Isabella Balint - 27 Alvce Jilaiian - 27 Elize Mazmanian - 27 Jonothan Koengetter - 28 Alexis Javardian - 29 Adrienne Juskalian - 29

Michael Alexanian - 31

Nancy Basmajian - 4

# GODPARENTS SUNDAY



# CELEBRATING GODPARENTS AND GODCHILDREN THE LOVE THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Godparents and godchildren of all ages are invited to join our parish in honor of their sacred bond. Be in church for a joyous renewal of baptismal vows and for parish fellowship afterwards.

#### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017**

Immediately following the Divine Liturgy

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Cheltenham, PA

Children are lovingly cared for by their parents. So what is the role of the godparent? Godparents are charged with the spiritual care of the child.

In Greek (the language of the New Testament) baptism meant "to dip," which originally referred to dipping cloth in a pool of dye over and over until the color was right and ready to set. How appropriate a word it is for starting a new life as a new person of a new faith!

John the Baptist told of the coming of Jesus, who would "baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Luke 3:16). He baptized Jesus Himself, an extraordinary event that became the model for Christian initiation. People learning the new faith sought a "sponsor," a knowledgeable Christian to instruct, guide and pray with them. This was the start of the idea of a "godparent." It evolved into a lifetime relationship. Baptism was just the beginning...

A resource of the Department of Christian Education

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#### **Contact Information**



#### Holy Trinity Armenian Church 101 Ashmead Road, Cheltenham, PA 19012 www.holytrinity-pa.org

Items for inclusion in the Sunday Messenger or requests for Requiem Services or Special Prayers should be sent to the church office by Wednesday for the upcoming Sunday. For all emergencies, please contact Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan at the church 215-663-1600 (cell 917-213-8658).

|     | IDOLL | INICOD | LACITARA |
|-----|-------|--------|----------|
| CHU | IKCH  | INFUR  | MATION   |

Office Telephone: 215-663-1600
Pastor: Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan
frhakob@holytrinity-pa.org
Church Secretary: Maggie Miller
office@holytrinity-pa.org

#### **REGULAR SUNDAY HOURS OF WORSHIP**

Morning Service: 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Soorp Badarak): 10:30 AM Church School: 10:15 AM

#### **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

| John Hanamirian (Chair)             | 215-431-0589 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Merle Santerian (Vice Chair)        | 215-947-3777 |
| Gary Berberian (Treasurer)          | 609-871-3782 |
| Gregory Javardian (Asst. Treasurer) | 215-938-7893 |
| Elizabeth Barone (Secretary)        | 610-449-2236 |
| Anton Balasanyan                    | 267-237-7492 |
| Larry D. Der Hagopian               | 215-489-7116 |
| Garo Garibian                       | 215-884-9292 |
| Barbara Harmon                      | 609-605-0489 |
| Mickey Paretchan                    | 215-947-4394 |
| Nicklas Terkanian                   | 610-348-7678 |
|                                     |              |

#### **DIOCESAN DELEGATES**

| Nancy Basmajian | 215-722-3369 |
|-----------------|--------------|
| John Hanamirian | 856-489-9809 |
| Anne Terkanian  | 215-822-8436 |

#### **CHOIR**

| Jeanette Der Hagopian (Co-Director) | 215-672-4188 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Karinne' Andonian (Co-Director)     | 609-760-4993 |
| Lorraine Damerjian (Organist)       | 215-572-8465 |
| Steve Aslanian (Treasurer)          | 215-757-2622 |

#### **CHURCH SCHOOL**

Yn. Anna Gevorgyan (Co-Superintendent) 215-938-1313 Patti Ayjian Smith (Co-Superintendent) 610-812-6052 Nancy Hovnanian (Co-Superintendent) 609-922-1101

#### **MEN'S CLUB**

| Larry Der Hagopian | 215-672-4188 |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Michael Paretchan  | 215-947-4394 |
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#### **BOOKSTORE**

| Gloria Basmajian    | 215-722-3369 |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Virginia Shakarjian | 215-886-1904 |

#### **ACYOA Jrs.**

| Andrew Movsesian (Chair)<br>Robert Ohnigian (Treasurer)<br>Mariana Majian (Parent Advisor) | 610-716-7452<br>215-758-2664                 |
|--|--|
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