#### Սուրբ Երրորդութիւն Յայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի

# Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church



LOOYS



Cheltenham, PA April to May 2015



Icon Representing the Canonization of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide

PRAYER FOR INTERCESSION of the Holy Martyrs of Armenian Genocide

CHRIST OUR GOD, you crown your saints with triumph and you do the will of all who fear you, looking after your creatures with love and kindness. Hear us from your holy and heavenly realm by the intercession of the Holy Mother of God and by the prayers of all your saints, especially the Holy Martyrs who gave their lives during the Armenian Genocide for faith and for the homeland, whom we commemorate today. Hear us Lord, and show us your mercy. Forgive, redeem and pardon our sins. Make us worthy thankfully to glorify you with the Father and with the Holy Spirit. Now and always unto the ages of ages. Amen.

#### **Hours of Worship**

- Morning Service: 10:00 AM
- Divine Liturgy: 10:30 AM
- Sunday Church School: 10:15 AM

Come celebrate with Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan



#### **Upcoming Events**

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

Pray Until Something Happens

#### CANONIZATION OF ARMENIAN MARTYRS

Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan

From 1894 to 1915 more than 1.5 million Armenians were killed in Ottoman Turkey. This was a well-organized crime against Armenian Christians who were living in the territory of the Ottoman Empire. Many Armenians had a chance to reject Christ and Christianity and become Muslims and save their lives, but they chose to die for Christ.

Every year on April 24, Armenians around the world commemorate the victims of the Armenian Genocide. This year 2015 is the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and on this occasion the Armenian Church celebrated a special Service on April 23, 2015 at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. At this time those who died for their faith during the Genocide were canonized into sainthood. We don't know exactly how many of them died for their faith but we know that there were many and it is assumed that most of our Genocide victims died for their faith and homeland.

With this special service of canonization, the Armenian Church recognized their faithfulness to Christ and their holy works which, of course, are known to God and are proven by many witnesses. Canonization means to declare a deceased person an officially recognized saint, sanctioned by ecclesiastical authority. The last time that the Armenian Church canonized a saint was almost 400 years ago and that was St. Movses Datevaci.

In the early Christian Church there were four conditions for canonizing saints:

- Being martyred for the Christian faith and homeland
- Living a Holy life
- Performing miracles
- Preaching and spreading the Christian faith

The canonization of our Martyrs has brought great happiness and hope to our nation. After April 24, 2015 we will celebrate the Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide as we celebrate other Armenian Church Saints.

After this, there no longer will be a Requiem Service for the Genocide victims. Now we can pray to them as our Saints or Martyrs who will be able to intercede for us before God. I believe that many of us have ancestral family members who perished during the Armenian Genocide and you may feel their closeness in praying the **Prayer for Intercession** as shown on the cover.

"The canonization of the martyrs of the genocide brings life-giving new breath, grace and blessing to our national and geelesiastical life."

Catholics of All Armenians, Karekin II





#### **Parish Council Update**

I am so proud to have been elected to the role of Parish Council Chair. I have a deep respect for all of the members of the Parish Council and consider it a privilege to be asked to help that group in this endeavor.

In the first month, we of course had all of the events surrounding the Centennial of the Genocide. I went to the Genocide Walk which was well attended and supported by the City of Philadelphia. The next week was the Love Park 100 Minutes of Silence and a historic Badarak at St. Sahag's with an outdoor candlelight Memorial Service that followed. All very compelling.

A few weeks later, I attended the Diocesan Assembly Meeting in Washington D.C. While there I attended my first Parish Council Chairperson's workshop. That activity is very

worthwhile as the leaders of the member churches exchange ideas on everything, including, most significantly, membership and stewardship. I would really like to focus our efforts there and try and generate some greater interest in support through stewardship.

In May, we had an incredible program presentation from Dr. Garo Garibian on the return of the Cross to the Armenian Church in Aghtamar. As an inset to the presentation, Mr. Ohannes Hashas was acknowledged for his efforts to accomplish that goal.

The Legacy Project for all of the five Armenian Churches is coordinated by two of our Parish members, Meredith Hanamirian and Margo Silk (the third coordinator is Lisa Manookian). This Project involves gathering Genocide histories from families and compiling them into a book that will be published and sold in Churches in the fall of 2015.

Finally, on the Parish Council business side, we have obtained approval to designate two parking spaces on Ashmead Road in front of the Church as handicapped parking only spaces. This is an effort to help some of our disabled parishioners reach the Church area without climbing the inside stairs.

I look forward to the coming year and helping to serve this Parish. If there is anything that I can do to help, please reach out

John M. Hanamirian Chair

The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down. The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.

Psalm 145:14-15



#### **ABOUT OUR FAMILY**

Spirits are uplifted now that we are long past the dreary and bitter days of winter....

Thank you, Alice Torossian, for again making hundreds of palm crosses for all of us on Palm Sunday. We so appreciate it....With great sadness, we learned of the passing of Jeanette Nazarian, a true steward of St. Gregory Illuminator and a good friend to our parish, whose untimely and unexpected death brought sorrow to many. We continue to pray for her mother and sister who are grieving....Welcome, Christy Hoks, to our Armenian Church family through your baptism and chrismation. By the time you read this, Christy & Robbie Barone will have entered into the sacrament of matrimony followed by a "jumpin" reception. We send our best wishes to the newlyweds and congratulate Liz and Robert Barone and the entire Hoks family on this happy occasion....Milestone birthday greetings to two of our great guys: John Kash (80) and Don Paretchan (70). We wish you healthy and peaceful days and thank you both for your leadership at church... Keep in your prayers those among us who are in different stages of medical issues, and especially Karnig Torossian, Alice Charles and Bobby Sarkisian. We wish them improved health in the days

ahead....Congrats to Maggie Miller, our secretary, who welcomed her fifth grandchild - Charlotte Regan. Blessings to all of them..... Many of our active members are celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries and we extend our very best wishes to all of them. We begin with the most remarkable – Berj and Mary Yeretzian, who clock in at 65 years! We continue with Ohannes and Nezihe Hashas (60), Steve and Nancy Hovnanian (40), Tom and Fran Torcomian (35), John and Diane Williames (35) and Greg and Diane Yazujian (30). May God continue to "shine His face" upon all of



you!....We are delighted to report that we have a new member to our ever-growing church family: Valentina Marie Garibian, who was joyfully welcomed by parents Antranig and Sabrina and siblings, Raffi and Alessandra. Atchkerneet Looys to all including the Garibian grandparents! .... Kudos to Lindsey Santerian and Ned Moore, grandchildren of Merle Santerian, for being part of the formation of an Armenian Club at Penn State University, Main Campus, which helped spread awareness of the Armenian Genocide. And even better, they were recognized as the Student Club of the month. You guys rock!!!...We are thankful that, by the grace of God, Anne and George Terkanian were spared from life-threatening injuries following a very serious automobile accident. May they soon return to complete wellbeing.....Welcome to the lazy, hazy days of summer, and as we usually remind all at this time of year - God never takes a

vacation - so we hope to see you some summer Sundays.

#### **BAPTISMS:**

March 29, 2015: CHRISTINE MELISA HOKS (ADULT)

Daughter of Michael Hoks and Mary Long

Godfather: Albert Sarkessian Godmother: Nerme Sarkessian

#### **WEDDINGS:**

May 24, 2015:

**ROBERT BARONE & CHRISTINE HOKS** 

Best Man: Kevin Toll

Brother in the Cross: Christopher Barone

#### **FUNERALS: 2015**

<u>TALINE KING</u> entered into her eternal rest on February 28, 2015. Funeral services were held on March 6, 2015 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**<u>LILLIAN AMBARIAN</u>** entered into her eternal rest on April 3, 2015. Funeral services were held on April 7, 2015 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**SAHAK MARKARIAN** entered into his eternal rest on May 23, 2015. Funeral services were held on May 27, 2015 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

All who passed away in 2014: By Mickey Sherian

Ann & Deran Chopoorian: By Larry & Jeanette Der Hagopian

Nicole Der Hagopian: By Gena & Kim Willard

John & Nicholas Kashkashian: By Ronald A. Kashkashian Nectar & Barbara Kumkumian: By Aram Kumkumian

Kayane, Garabed & John Goushian: By Mr. & Mrs. Berj Goushian

Ned Santerian: By Merle Santerian

Albert Torcomian: By Tom & Fran Torcomian Michael & Rose Karabian: By Alice Karabian

Charles Sisian: By Virginia Knott

Garabed & Kayane Goushian: By Jack C. Goushian, Esq. Beatrice Minassian: By Serge & Adrienne Minassian

Karnig & Rose Thomassian: By Carlene & Lucille Thomassian

Hacatur Hashas: By Janet Hashas

Diramayr Serbouhi Arzoumanian: By Hagop Arzoumanian

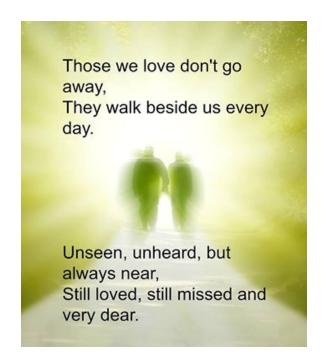
John & Mary Mirakian: By David & Marta Brann

John Juskalian: Jeannine Juskalian

Artur Aznavuryan: By Armenoui Aznavuryan

Garabed & Asdghig Keshgegian: By Albert & Patrice Keshgegian Pearl Joseph & Dorothy Walton: By Dorothy (Dollie) Serabian Grocott

Sooren & Mary Paretchan: By Robert & Diane Paretchan



#### Address Changes and/or Additions

Carol Jerrahian Miller 1200 Dermond Road #1 Drexell Hill, PA 19026 Connie P. Arko 16101 Delaire Landing Road Philadelphia, PA 19114 Dr. Albert Aloian 23 Hillside Avenue Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006 Harry Kalafian 138 Shelmire Street Jenkintown, PA 19046

Ani Gooshian - 267-265-9944



#### To the Church Members and Friends of Holy Trinity Armenian Church;

We, the Radynsky family, would like to say thank you for your most generous donations related to the loss of our home following a tragic fire. Words are simply inadequate to express our gratitude! Your thoughts and prayers for us have truly been heard as we start to rebuild with the support of so many. We are truly blessed to live among such wonderful people! Though the road ahead is a long one, we are beginning to move forward. Please know that though we are still struggling with the enormity of this loss, we are amazed at the blessings we see every day with God's angels who live all around us. Again, thank you all!

Sincerely,

Douglas, Sharon, Sara, Brian and Roxie Radynsky

We thank our good friends at Vraim Funeral Home, Inc. who included the following heartfelt message on the home page of their website (vraimfh.com) on April 24th.

Today marks the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

Today is recognized as the start of the systematic genocide of 1.5 Million Armenians and 250,000 Greeks by the Ottoman Turks during the first world war. Our meager words cannot begin to capture the events of the 20th century's first genocide. The thoughts and prayers of all of us here are with the Armenian community now and forever.

Vraim Funeral Home, Inc



We welcome the following new dues-paying members to our church family: Connie Paparian Arko and Albert Aloian

#### **Almost-Summer Picnic!!**

It may have been held indoors, but the picnic on May 31 had all the elements needed to make it a great success. Weather was beautiful outside so the ACYOA Jrs. could wash cars, but it was cool and comfortable inside; delicious food which just about sold out; nostalgic Armenian music; and getting caught up with the snowbirds who have returned from wintering down south. Thanks are extended to Greg Meranshian, Larry D. Der Hagopian and new groom Robbie Barone – and their crew - for handling all the meat from start to mouth! Smoothly manning the kitchen were Barbara Harmon, Vicki Gureghian, Patty Alexanian, Lisa Viarengo Beberian, Tanya Paretchan, Maria Javardian and Merle Santerian. Special thanks go to the Araxes Band consisting of Ralph Arpajian, Greg Arslanian, Rich Shelengian, Jim Gulezian & Ed Ounjian who stepped up and volunteered to play for us. Just like an old-fashioned Armenian picnic! In addition to the workers listed above, there were, of course, many



Vartan ponders what should he drink with his water ice...

more helpers throughout the day - too numerous to mention - from the bar, to the buffet table to the cashiers and more! We couldn't have done it without all of you .... THANK YOU!!!





#### **MEN'S CLUB \$200 CLUB**

Just think, a donation of \$100 provides you with 40 chances to win, anywhere from \$100 to \$1000!! And you are helping the church with one of its largest means of financial income each year. Please see or call Larry Der Hagopian (215-672-4188) or Paretchan (215-947-4394) Mick purchase 200 CLUB tickets for the upcoming 2015-16 season (five chances per month from November through June). REMEMBER-THE ODDS ARE IN YOUR FAVOR AND THE CHURCH BENEFITS AS WELL!

#### **Calendar of Events**

July 9, 16, 23, 30; Summer Bible Study

July 12: Transfiguration of our Lord

Aug 16; Blessing of Grapes Luncheon Program for Yeghishe Srpazan

Sept 13; Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Church School Opening

Luncheon and Video Program "From Victims to Victors: The Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide"

Oct 3: Concelebrated Liturgy Luncheon & Program to follow Oct 23, 24, 25: Harvest Bazaar



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vaughnderassouyan@yahoo.com vaughnderassouyan.kwrealty.com



ATTENTION GRADUATES - The September issue of the Looys will include information about all graduates. Anyone wishing to submit a write-up and/or picture should submit it to looys@holytrinity-pa.org by August 24th. Pictures should be submitted in high resolution color.

# An "inspirational talk" given by Dn. Albert Keshgegian in church on Mother's Day

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. Jn. 10:1-10

As I was thinking about what to talk about today, it occurred to me that there is a lot going on this second Sunday in May, and there are several streams of thought coming together.

First of all, it is, of course, Mother's Day, and we wish to congratulate and thank all mothers. When you think about what a mother is and what a mother does, you think of hard work and sacrifice and above all love. My mother was no exception. My parents had a corner grocery store and my father and mother shared the work in that. Every morning she would get up early and open the store at 7 am, and my father took the late shift and closed it at 9 or 10 pm. Of course there were also the running of the household and caring for my sister and me. Fortunately, my maternal grandmother lived with us and helped with the housework and the children. She was like a second mother to my sister and me. Whenever I think of my mother or grandmother, I always feel their love for me, and I love them back. And that's probably the way it is when most people think about their mother.

The only sacrifice and love even greater than a mother's is the love Christ has for us and how he sacrificed his life for our sake. In the church calendar, today is the 6th Sunday of the Resurrection. We continue to celebrate Christ's triumph over death and the powers of evil and we look forward to celebrating his ascension into heaven this Thursday. And on this day the Church has chosen one of the famous "I am" passages in the Gospel of John as the lesson. The other three Gospels talk mostly about what Jesus did and the precepts that he taught. The Gospel of John is a little different, because it also teaches a lot about who Jesus was. And it does



a lot of this teaching in poetic language. Much of this teaching is in the "I am" discourse passages. There are seven of these in the Gospel of John: "I am the bread of life," "I am the light of the world," "I am the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep," "I am the resurrection and the life," "I am the way, and the truth, and the life," "I am the true vine." In each of these, after that initial "I am" statement, Jesus goes on to elaborate on it and explain what he means.

In today's reading, Jesus says, "I am the gate for the sheep," He explains that when thieves come to steal the sheep, they sneak in – they get in by any way they can, except the front gate. But the true shepherd (and Jesus is also the shepherd) comes in through that gate. The sheep know him and recognize his voice and follow him. By analogy, we are the sheep. And there is only one way for us to go that leads to eternal life. Only by going through the gate that is Christ will we be saved, will we find our pasture that is God's kingdom, and will we share in the abundant life that Christ promises.

On this day we are also marking the winding down of all the commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, with the culminating activities that took place this weekend in Washington. Over the last couple of months there have been concerts, films, exhibits, lectures, marches, rallies, a mass by the Pope, and religious observances within our own Armenian Church. Very importantly, our Church canonized those martyrs of the Genocide who died for their faith in Christ. They have been declared saints of the Church. Those who died in the Genocide include three of my own grandparents, as well as aunts and uncles. And my parents and grandmother, whom I mentioned a few minutes ago, were all survivors of those same events.

We don't know for sure exactly who among those that died in the Genocide are included in the group of saints. Only God knows that. He knows each of them by name, he understands the sacrifice they made for their faith, and he lovingly shares his kingdom in heaven with them even today. The Church believes that when ordinary people die, they go into a sleep...a sleep that will last until Judgment Day, when Christ returns in power and everyone is judged. But if you are a saint, you are someone who has followed Christ as your example, as what is most important in your life. You are someone that God has already judged to be worthy of his kingdom. So you are not asleep, but God has already brought you to heaven to be with him. And saints serve as examples or role models for us, of how we should live our lives. The saints' lives and their faith or contributions to the church should be relevant to us. That is why having contemporary saints, as well as ancient saints, is so powerful.

The individuals who died in the Genocide for their faith understood the meaning of today's Gospel message. They felt the love of Christ and the sacrifice he made for them. They were ready to make their own sacrifice, and realized that the only way to abundant true life, meaning eternal life with God, is through the door that is Christ, even if that meant the end of their life on earth. That is their legacy to us.

As we reflect on the many activities and observances that have remembered and honored the martyrs of the Genocide, let's not forget their spiritual example and their message for us – that there is nothing more important on earth than the love and sacrifice of Christ. And we need to return his love with our own love for him, with faith in his promises, and with hope of abundant life with God.

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BRINGING AWARENESS AND RECOGNITION TO THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

By Krikor Javardian

As many of you are well aware, April 24th was the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide which saw 1,500,000 Armenians perish at the order of the Ottoman Turks beginning in 1915. There were also at least 500,000 Greeks and Assyrians killed by the Turks during this time in order to cleanse the Ottoman Empire of its Christian minorities and enhance the Turkish identity. It was one of history's darkest events and one of the worst cases of attempted mass

extermination. It has been referred to as the "Forgotten Genocide" but that label is becoming less and less applicable as awareness is spreading. This article is intended to bring more awareness to those who know little or nothing about the Armenian Genocide and to stress why awareness and recognition is so imperative.

As deep-rooted and painful as the Genocide is for Armenians and others affected, it should have a heavy impact on mankind as well. This devastating event in history unfortunately paved the way for the occurrence of future genocides. For example, the infamous Adolph Hitler when readying and comforting his troops in preparation to carry out the Holocaust in Poland, said, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"



Well, Hitler was flat out wrong, but further awareness and recognition is still needed. The government of Turkey denies at all costs that their ancestors committed genocide. The Turkish government throws money at and threatens foreign governments to not use the word "genocide" when describing what happened to the Armenians. This is primarily due to Turkey's fear of a negative impact on their nationalism, possible repercussions, and the stubborn belief that it's simply impossible for their ancestors to commit such a ghastly crime. Turkey even recently threatened the Vatican and Pope Francis after his recognition of the Armenian Genocide. Furthermore, after the European Parliament recently urged Turkey to "come to terms with its past," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey said the message would "go in one ear and out from the other."

Unfortunately, the U.S. government and President Obama also do not recognize the Armenian Genocide. President Obama yet again this year opted not to use the word "genocide" when describing the tragic events of 1915 despite the President's promise to do so when campaigning for presidency. He even then said the facts of the Armenian Genocide are "undeniable" and criticized President Bush and other White House officials for not using the term.



Turkey's constant threats, despite its "ally" status, have resulted in a gag rule which the U.S. federal government abides by even though, on the state level, 43 U.S. states have formally recognized the Armenian Genocide. Quite frankly, it is deeply troubling that our leader and government cannot simply do the right thing and properly label unfortunate history because of submission to Turkish policies and appearament.

As shameful as that is, I am immensely proud of how much the Armenian Genocide is recognized globally, and how resilient Armenians have been since the Genocide. The Armenian Genocide was meant to be perfectly executed, covered up, and forgotten. Well, it was clearly not perfectly executed as there are over 10 million Armenians worldwide, it was not covered up properly as Turkey still bears a massively heavy burden, and it most certainly has not been forgotten nor will it ever be. The Turkish government will never be able to shed its disgraceful past until it faces the truth as it will never overcome the unbending resilience it has continuously faced.

That being said, there are some Turks both in Turkey and worldwide who acknowledge the Armenian Genocide and show sincere remorse for the acts of their ancestors and government. I have even met a few of these individuals personally. If only the Turkish government could adopt this mindset, but instead they steadfastly deny the Armenian Genocide and attempt to manipulate history in a tactical manner. Genocide scholars have stated that the denial of genocide (or any crime against humanity for that matter) is the final stage of carrying out genocide. Turkey has fanatically attempted to carry out this final stage of denial since 1915 in order to fully execute the Ottoman Empire's intent to exterminate the Armenian race with no consequence.

When dealing with tragic large-scale crimes against humanity, such as genocide, truth and justice must come to the surface. Without such consequences, history is bound to repeat itself time and time again. By not being held accountable, what is restraining other malicious governments and countries from carrying out genocides? The answer is nothing, and that is why several other calamitous genocides have occurred since 1915. One of the most renowned intellects in history, Albert Einstein, once stated, "The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it." I couldn't agree more with this statement, and the direct relevance it holds when dealing with genocide and crimes against humanity.

Much of the worldwide Armenian population and those others who are impacted by this event have done nearly everything in their power to

bring awareness to the Armenian Genocide. But for those others who are unaware, please take a few minutes to learn more about this catastrophic event in our history as people. Or if you are aware, please educate others on this topic and inform them as much as possible. By doing so, you can take a stance against genocide, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. The more you know, the more you can do and prevent. Your willingness to learn about or inform others of this subject and your desire to advance human values through awareness and recognition can leave an everlasting impact. We shall never forget all of those who perished in the Armenian Genocide, and by remembering these recently sainted martyrs, let's do everything we can to ensure that no group of people ever has to endure what happened to the Armenians 100 years ago.









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JOHN M. HANAMIRIAN

Managing Shareholder | jmh@hgklawyers.com



ANTRANIG GARIBIAN
Shareholder | ag@hgklawyers.com

### HANAMIRIAN, GARIBIAN & KRANJAC, P.C.

40 E. MAIN STREET MOORESTOWN, NJ 08057 30 WALL STREET NEW YORK, NY 10005

1010 N. BANCROFT PARKWAY, ST 22 WILMINGTON, DE 19805

0 856.793.9092 F 856.793.9121 W hgklawyers.com E info@hgklawyers.com



#### **Member Wedding Anniversaries**

#### July

Albert & Naomi Kapeghian 7/3/1954 Sarkis & Katie Hashas 7/12/1959 William & Diana McGarvey 7/12/1986 Mark & Silva Santerian Gary Jr & Colleen Papazian Antranig & Sabrina Garibian Garen & Diana Boghosian



#### Daniel & Kimberly Dunigan 8/11/1996 Garo & Cecelia Garibian 8/12/2011 Michael & Lynn Hajatian, Jr. 8/12/1972 Paul & Leslie Movsesian 8/18/1990 Vartan & Elize Mazmanian 8/19/1962 Ken & Lucine King 8/20/1994 Aram & Lucy Aghazarian 8/22/1964 Ara & May Arzoumanian 8/27/2005 Gary & Sonia Papazian 8/28/1954 Gregory & Karinne Andonian 8/28/2010 Serge & Adrienne Minassian 8/31/1957

August

#### September

Fred & Michele Oskanian 9/3/1994 Kim & Gena Willard 9/9/2001 Richard & Naomi Mukalian 9/13/1981 Peter & Theresa Hovnanian 9/14/1986 Robert, Sr & Lorraine Damerjian 9/15/1962 George & Marguerite Arslanian 9/19/1965 Robert, Jr & Melody Damerjian 9/19/1993 Van & Suzanne Injaian 9/24/1961 9/26/1998 Michael & Dori Juskalian Henry & Brenda LeCompte 9/27/???? Harry & Valerie Santerian 9/29/1996 John, Jr & Adrienne Juskalian 9/29/1984



#### Member Birthdays

July Richard Weinsheimer - 1

Fred Hess - 2 Nazig Rafiyev - 2 Linda Santerian - 2

James Der Hagopian - 4

Colleen Papazian - 5

Lynn Hajatian - 6 Jon Sarkisian - 6

Alice Charles - 7

Robert King - 8

Melani Burrows - 9

Andrea Alexanian - 10

Mary Jamgochian - 12

Garen Boghosian - 16

Judy Paretchan - 18

Alex Alexanian - 19

Susan DerHagopian - 20

Janet Jordan - 20

Raffi Kaprielian - 21

Garo Garibian - 22

Lili Oflazian - 24

Lindsey Santerian - 24

Noushig Hovhannesian - 26

Logan Radell - 26

Kristine Koengetter - 28

Melissa Paretchan - 28

Sarkis Hashas – 3

Michael Hanamirian - 5 Rose Minassian - 5

Martin Attarian - 6

Christian Balint - 7

Kim Willard - 7

Brennan Pica - 8

Antranig Garibian - 9

Maxwell Hanamirian - 11 Artur Gyulnazaryan - 12

Merle Santerian - 12

Anne Terkanian - 17

Jeannine Carol Juskalian - 19

Robert Barone - 21

Jessica Jordan - 23

Nicklas Terkanian - 23

Kylemore Hajinian - 26

Peter Oskanian - 27

Christine Peacock - 28

Virginia Knott - 29 Frederick Oskanian - 29 Christine Temovan - 29 Gregory Andonian - 30 Harry Sarkisian - 30

August Breanna Asadoorian - 1 Jessica Sarkisian - 1 Gine Terkanian - 1 Diana Boghosian - 2 Michael Hanamirian Jr - 2 Albert Santerian - 2 Richard Doudoukjian - 3 Nane Hovsepian Arpajian - 3 Elizabeth Kapeghian - 3 Meredith Hanamirian - 4 Jeff Haiatian - 6 Heather Maloumian - 6 Helen Mirijanian - 6 Kristen Santerian - 9 Ohannes Hashas - 10 Mary Ohnigian - 10 Adrienne Movsesian - 11 Kelsey Sarkisian - 12 John DerHagopian - 14 Gregory Keshgegian - 14 Marsha Marshall - 14 Alvssa Worrell - 14 Hermine Bennuhan - 15 Norik Gyulnazaryan - 15 Richard Maloumian - 15 Robert Zane - 15 Marguerite Arslanian - 17 Kimberly Asadoorian - 17 Stephanie Williames - 17 Millicent Asadourian - 18 Larry Der Hagopian - 19 Daniel Mazmanian - 19 Nazareth Hajinian - 20 Araxie Radynsky - 20

Albert DerPilbosian - 24 Sue Iniaian - 26 Helen Kazigian - 26 Donna Sarkisian - 27 Aram Kumkumian - 28 William McGarvey - 28 Arthur Baldadian - 30 Richard Maloumian - 30 Shirley Hajatian - 31 Cate Zane - 31

#### September

Brayden Asadoorian - 1 Gary DerHagopian - 3 Gianna Tancredi - 3 Jenna Tancredi - 3 Andrew Movsesian - 5 Paul Oflazian Jr - 6 Marie Hagopian - 7 Sabrina Garibian - 9 Patrice Keshgegian - 10 Mark Santerian - 10 Ralph Arpajian - 11 George Medzigian - 12 David Santerian - 12 Ani Gargan – 14 Vahan Paretchan - 16 Annabelle Alexanian - 17 Adrienne Leck - 17 David Brann - 18 Johnny Alexanian - 19 Arpena Hajatian - 19 John Juskalian Jr - 19 John Lillis - 21 Valerie Santerian - 21 Greg Bilazarian - 22 Raffi Garibian - 23 Diana McGarvey - 23 Legna Santerian - 23 Ani Peckijan - 25 Christopher Boyajian – 26 Carlene Thomassian - 26 Phil Worrell - 27 Christopher Owens - 28 Tyler Juskalian - 29 Robert Ohnigian - 29

Mary Sarkisian - 22

Azlen Oskanian - 23

Harry Santerian - 23

Azlen Theobald - 23

Tavit Murray - 23

#### HOLY TRINITY WELCOMES FR. UNTZAG NALBANDIAN

On Sunday, March 8, parishioners at Holy Trinity were treated to an extra special time of fellowship following Badarak as they welcomed Rev. Fr. Untzag Nalbandian, pastor of The Armenian Church of the Holy Ascension in Trumbull, CT. He was there to share tidbits from his recently published book, "Fate, Faith, Fun."

The program began with a little background history provided by Dottie Bengoian, who is not only a parishioner of his church, but also the editor of this book. Fr. Untzag then took to the podium and explained how he hoped this book would be of interest not only to Armenians, but non-Armenians as well. He shared a sampling of the stories in his book – some comical, some insightful with lessons to be learned and others filled with wisdom.

The gathered crowd greatly enjoyed hearing some of the experiences he has had throughout his thirty-seven years as an ordained priest of the Armenian Church. At the conclusion of the Q & A, he left us with the wise words of the late Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Torkom Manoogian: "If you have not taught them, you cannot demand of them."



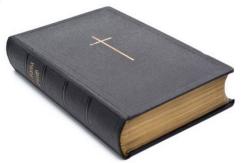




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Holy Trinity Armenian Church | 101 Ashmead Road | Cheltenham, PA 19012

Thank you for your support!

#### A UNIQUE OCCASION

A group of Holy Trinity parishioners, led by Der Hakob, travelled to Lafayette College in Easton, PA on April 8 to participate in a Divine Liturgy in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. It was the college community's way of recognizing the milestone anniversary.

The Liturgy, which took place in the campus' Colton Chapel, was sponsored by the Acopian family and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, and organized by Dr. Rachel Goshgarian, Assistant Professor of History and former Director of the Zohrab Information Center of the Diocese.

The Liturgy was celebrated by His Eminence Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, the Ecumenical Director and Legate of our Diocese. Assisting with the Badarak in the role of deacon was our own Der Hakob, who along with Choir Director, Jeanette Der Hagopian, and several of our choir members, provided an inspiring Badarak for the students and local Armenian families who attended.

When asked about the decision to commemorate the anniversary with a Liturgy, Dr. Goshgarian said, "I thought that introducing the community...to observe [an] Armenian church service would be really interesting for some students, because it's unique and it's a really old service."

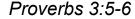
"The Armenian Genocide for 100 years now has been vehemently denied by Turkey," said Alex Karapetian, who was present at the Liturgy. "The United States until this day still doesn't recognize it as the Armenian Genocide because Turkey puts so much pressure on the U.S. They'll call it everything that is synonym of the word genocide like massacre and atrocities, but the word genocide is not used, which is unfortunate."

In his sermon, Archbishop Vicken said, "I hope that 100 years from now, we will look back on the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide as a moment when people began to expect different things; as a moment when we started to expect recognition and reconciliation."

A lovely reception providing refreshment and fellowship for the participants, including the college President and the members of the Acopian family, followed.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him,

and he will make your paths straight.









# FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF ST. MARY THE GOD BEARER &



# BLESSING OF THE GRAPES

# Holy Tripity Armenian Apostolic Church Sunday August 16, 2015

Blessing of the Grapes following the Liturgy

We encourage you to send in your donations for the Grape Blessing by filling out the form below.



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(Circle one) In Memory/Honor of:	The survey of the same of the
	The state of the s
Enclosed Donation:	



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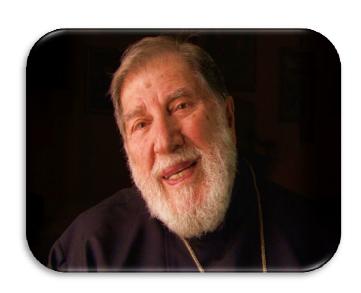


# The Pastor and Parish Council of Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church cordially invite you to a 90th Birthday Celebration honoring

The Most Rev. Archbishop Yeghishe Gizirian

Sunday, August 16, 2015 following the traditional Blessing of Grapes

Sponsorships are invited for \$50 or \$100, a portion of which will be gifted to a charity in Armenia of Srpazan's choice.



#### • FOR RESERVATIONS -- DEADLINE: AUGUST 2, 2015 (No tickets sold at the door)

Please make check payable to *Holy Trinity Armenian Church* and mail with this form to 101 Ashmead Road, Cheltenham, PA 19012

	Reservation Name		
	Number of Adult	x \$20.00 =	\$
	Number of Children (ages 7-12	2): x \$10.00 =	\$
	Number of Children (6 and under	): No Charge	
•	FOR SPONSORSHIP:		
	List name(s) for program booklet		
	Phone No. or E-mail	Amount	\$
		TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	\$

NOTE: For a table of 8 or 10, list names on reverse side of this form.

Contact names: Lorraine Damerjian (215-572-8465) or Jeanette Der Hagopian (215-206-0440)

#### THE WOMEN'S CORNER

Liz Barone. Chair

I had the honor to represent Holy Trinity at the annual Women's Guild Assembly in Washington, DC, the same weekend as the Armenian Genocide Centennial. It was an amazing experience to be surrounded by over 2000 fellow Armenians who shared the same emotions as the weekend events unfolded.

Our theme was the "Legacy of our Martyrs." Aside from the regular business meeting agenda, we met with Dr. Tamar Wasoian who facilitated an interactive workshop - "Honoring Our Roots: Branching Out." As participants we were able to share our memories about our mothers and grandmothers. We created a "Legacy Tree" honoring the Martyrs and survivors of the Genocide and we expressed our hopes for the future.

I hope I will be able to present a copy of the tree in the fall. Attending the Ecumenical service at the National Cathedral and the Divine Liturgy at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception were personally extremely fulfilling. I hope those who could not attend had the opportunity to witness the services on television.

Summer is here. Time to rest up before we rev up for the Fall Bazaar.



#### **ACYOA JUNIORS SPRING 2015**

By Peter Ohnigian

This past spring, Holy Trinity's ACYOA Juniors have enjoyed giving back to the church. The first annual event this spring was the Palm Sunday banquet hosted by the ACYOA Juniors. We served lunch to the church parishioners and put together an entertaining program including a skit performed by members of the ACYOA Juniors and piano performances by Andrew Movsesian and Shannon King.

The second event was the fundraising ACYOA car wash during the annual church picnic. Before starting the car wash, we enjoyed a picnic lunch with our families. After eating, we gathered our cleaning supplies and got to washing cars. The event had a good turnout and many people got to leave church

in sparkling, clean cars. Overall, our experiences with the ACYOA continue to be exciting and many of us are ready to attend our Armenian summer camps this summer as campers and CITs. We look forward to being together again this coming fall

A Note from Former Parent Advisor, Leslie Movsesian

Our ACYOA Junior group won the ACYOA Junior Chapter "A" Award for its past year of activities! It was presented to our co-chairs Ani Javardian and Ashot Balasanyan at the Hye M'rtsoon Sports Weekend! This award is given to an ACYOA Junior organization that has done its best to create an atmosphere conducive to Christian love, education, and service. The award can be viewed on the lower hall trophy case. Congratulations! It has been a pleasure working with all of you!

#### ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

<u>Summer Bible Study:</u> Thursdays @ 10:00 on July 9, 16, 23, 30 Leaders: Der Hakob Gevorgyan, Dn. Albert Keshgegian, Brian Hovle, Nancy Basmajian

Sunday, September 13: <u>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</u> Guest Celebrant: Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, Director of the Zohrab Information Center, Diocese of the Armenian Church, NYC

Luncheon and Video/Program to follow: "From Victims to Victors: The Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide"



Oriental Orthodox Concelebrated Liturgy

An historic and extraordinary event for our parish community!

For the first-time ever, we will host clergy and members of our sister Oriental Orthodox Churches for worship and fellowship.

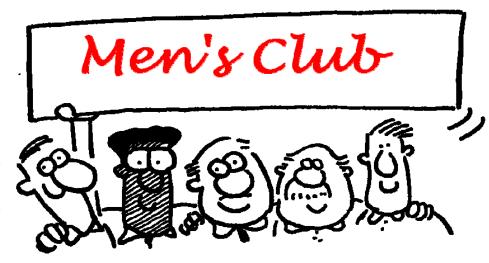


#### **MEN'S CLUB**

Harry Mirijanian, Chair

It has been quite some time since my last report but as you all know, my status has left me with little or no time to function as Chairman of the Men's Club. My duties as caregiver for my dear wife, Anita, have prevented me from doing these things.

It is so important that I inform our parishioners that all is well and that our condition has not suffered in any way due to the magnificent work of Larry Der Hagopian, who has performed perfectly in my absence. He has not missed any month's drawings and also created a



50/50 project which drew \$185 profit which, in turn, was sent to the orphans belonging to the CASP organization.

We are also very fortunate to have Mickey Paretchan who replaced our dear friend, Dick Weinsheimer, as Treasurer. Mickey and Larry are to be commended for their fine work and I am very proud of them.

#### **MEN'S CLUB "200 CLUB" WINNERS**

#### November 2014

\$1000 Tony Houghton #85

\$400 Edward Attarian #14

\$200 Haig Dadourian #193

\$200 Shant Kapeghian #76

\$200 Jack Vishab #23

#### December 2014

\$500 George Arslanian #107

\$200 Dave Donaldson #179

\$100 Larry DerHagopian #69

\$100 Mickey Sherian #35

\$100 Harry Shaboian #154

#### January 2015

\$500 Kim Willard #65

\$200 George Mukalian #3

\$100 Ed Terzian #7

\$100 Mike Santerian #172

\$100 Ethel Terzian #147

#### February 2015

\$500 Mike Scutti #93

\$200 Paul Borian #151

\$100 Harry Kalafian #106

\$100 L. DerHagopian / John Arslanian #127

\$100 Joyce Hoyle #131

#### March 2015

\$500.00 Berj Yeretzian #28

\$200.00 Dick Weinsheimer #141

\$100.00 Albert DerPilbosian #95

\$100.00 Pearl Jamgochian #167

\$100.00 Mick Paretchan #55

#### April 2015

\$500.00 Harry Andonian #178

\$200.00 Paul Walski #82

\$100.00 Berj Yeretzian #112

\$100.00 Linda Fuchs #29

\$100.00 Mark & Silva Santerian #173

#### May 2015

\$500.00 John Hanamirian #62

\$200.00 Pearl Jamgochian #167

\$100.00 Harry Mirijanian #156

\$100.00 John Chalikian #198

\$100.00 Jim McConomy #87

#### June 2015

\$1000.00 Ed Terzian #30

\$400.00 Mark Potts #86

\$200.00 Carlene Thomassian #61

\$200.00 Larry DerHagopian #111

\$200.00 Martin Attarian #162

# "J' can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

#### CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

"Love the lord God and serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, and teach these things to your children at all times." --- Deuteronomy 11: 13, 19.(paraphrase)

#### From Co-Superintendent, Gail Lulejian:

As our school year comes to a close we are thankful for the many blessings that God has given us. Our classrooms have been bustling all year with many young children in attendance thanks to the commitment and often helpful young parents.

Our continued dedication of teachers is really the glue that holds our church school together as they prepare lessons and seek to teach and show God's love to their students whether two or ten students are in attendance on any given Sunday.

The Lenten season once again caused us to reflect on God's provision as the children made fleece blankets to raise money for FAR and United to End Genocide. The blankets were donated to Project Linus which supports children who have cancer, are terminally ill, or just in need in Philadelphia, all led by Kim Santerian.



We are particularly joyful as four students graduated this year Alex Aloian, Arthur Bagdasarian, Ashot Balasanyan, and Ani Javardian. In addition we are grateful to Gloria Basmajian, our Registrar who has faithfully maintained accurate records of attendance. We have chosen to reinstate awarding students with exemplary attendance. The following students received a first year pin: Jessica Badishyan, Ashot Balasanyan, and Vartan Gevorgyan. Several students received pins for excellent attendance for the past two years: Narek Gevorgyan, Audrey Movsessian, and Lucas Terkanian.

During the luncheon which followed, Superintendent Gail Lulejian presented a gift to each graduate—a lapel pin of the Armenian letter of their name—graciously donated by Grace and Gregory Meranshian, which they have been doing for the graduates for many years. Der Hakob then assisted the grads with the traditional cutting of the cake, a fitting end to a joyous celebration for the entire Holy Trinity family.

We are also happy to announce Summer Sundays for students ages 5 and up during July. We will be showing videos of Veggie Tales and Bible stories in our large classroom during Liturgy. We would welcome any students 12 and over as helpers. We hope to see many of our students as they are able to attend over the summer.

#### From Co-Superintendent, Yn. Anna Gevorgyan:

With the blessings of our Lord, the second semester of our Armenian language classes was very fruitful. On May 17, the day of the luncheon celebrating The Holy Cross of Akhtamar and Mr. Ohannes Hashas, our older grade students performed in a beautiful program, directed by Sabina Khachatryan, dedicated to the Armenian Genocide Centennial. It was called "Past and Present," which represented the past victories, heroes and achievements in literature and science, as well as the great tragedy and loss of the Armenian people. Despite that, Armenians continued to believe, create, dance and sing no matter where their fate took them.

At our annual picnic on May 31, our precious kindergarten students performed a beautiful Armenian dance. Following them, first graders presented a short play in Armenian.

This year we had three Armenian language graduates who attended our language classes since our humble beginning. We are proud of them because neither they nor their parents wavered in their commitment and obligation of making sure that they came to the Armenian language and religion classes faithfully. We hope that they will continue to reinforce whatever they have learned in the church school by practicing it on a daily basis.

A special "Thank You" to our dedicated and enthusiastic teachers for making this possible.



### CELEBRATING THE AGHTAMAR CHURCH AND OHANNES HASHAS

Close to 200 parishioners, family and friends attended a luncheon on May 17, 2015, to celebrate the cross on the Church of Aghtamar and to honor the person who was instrumental in making it happen. Thanks to the unceasing efforts of Ohannes Hashas, he was able to influence the Turkish government to grant permission for a cross, donated by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, to be placed on the dome of the church. A second cross, donated by Mr. Hashas, will soon be erected as well, fulfilling a life-long dream of his.



The day began with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy by His Eminence, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Eastern Diocese. Also participating was His Grace, Archbishop Vicken Aykazian and our very own, Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

An informative video and story about the Church of Aghtamar was lovingly prepared and narrated by Dr. Garo Garibian, who accompanied Mr. Hashas and his two grandsons to Aghtamar in 2014 to partake in the first Badarak done in the church since the Genocide in 1915. Dr. Garibian concluded with, "For those who ask 'What can only one person do,' this is an example we should all learn from. If you put your heart to it, you can do anything. All you need is 'Faith, Hope and Love' as we are told by St. Peter in his Letter to the Corinthians, and Mr. Hashas has all of them."

Archbishop Vicken spoke about changing attitudes among the people in Turkey. While the official government continues to falsify history, many across the country have clamored for recognition of the Armenian Genocide. "People like Ohannes are helping to build bridges between our two peoples," he said.

Fr. Hakob shared a story that when Mr. Hashas was in the hospital in very critical condition, he visited him several times and each time Ohannes opened his eyes he said, "Der Hayr, I have unfinished work. I need a little more time. I want to see the cross on top of the Aghtamar Church and then I can close my eyes peacefully." Der Hakob responded, "Ohannes, God knows your heart and I am sure that He will provide you enough time to finish His work, because you are doing it for His glory." He concluded his remarks by saying, "Today Mr. Hashas is here with us and the Cross is on top of the Aghtamar Church."

Following moving remarks by our Primate, His Eminence presented Mr. Hashas with the St. Vartan Award on behalf of our Diocese for "being instrumental in tirelessly working toward

having the crosses erected on this ancient Armenian Church. His tenacity and perseverance paid off for the glory of God and for the joy the Armenian people."

In recognition of this wonderful luncheon and event, we wish to acknowledge all those who were instrumental in making this event a great success. In addition to our role as Co-Chairs, our committee consisted of Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Dr. Garo Garibian and AnneTerkanian.

Much appreciation is extended to those who assisted us, and without whose tremendous help we could not have succeeded: Selma Alexanian, Alice Karabian, Leslie Movsesian, Ethel Terzian, Rosemary Zarzatian, Maggie Miller, Michelle Oskanian, Isabella Virgi, and Alexander & Grayson Oskanian.

A special "Thank You" to the Armenian Language School students who performed and served: Alex & Andre Aloian, Arthur & Eric Bagdasarian, Ashot Balasanyan, Ella &Vani Hanamirian, Diego Montanez, Andrew & Audrey Movsesian, and Nane & Shushan Onanian.

Addditionally, we are grateful to: John Alexanian, photography; Ara Shakajian, video; Sabina Khachatrian and Yn. Anna Gevorgyan, Armenian School Program Directors; Maria Danielyan, piano selection; Anton Balasanyan, recitation; dessert pastries: Karine Hovhanesian, Yn. Anna Gevorgyan, Berjoohy Murray, Zepure Mahserejian and Anne Terkanian; Dr. and Mrs. Garo Garibian, wine; and Blake Florist (Phil McGee), centerpieces.

Pauline Chapjian and Merle Santerian Co-Chairs

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

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- Bea C. April 2009



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Because of space limitations, we are unable to list the individual donors who have contributed to in-lieu-of flowers, but each family has been provided with the complete listing donated in memory of their loved one. With deep appreciation, we gratefully acknowledge the memorial donations for those who have fallen asleep in Christ.

**EVELYN WEINSHEIMER** 

**HELEN VISHAB** NEW TOTAL: \$8,085.00 TALINE KING **SAHAK MARKARIAN** TOTAL: \$900.00

NEW TOTAL: \$3,780.00

In Memory of Lillian Ambarian Florence Boyajian Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kalafian Robert and Susan Karpinski Harry and Grace Surabian

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In memory of Ronald Gooshian John and Claire Boursalian

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George and Ani Semerjian

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Butch Kumkumian & Jane Sklencar

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In Honor and loving Memory of our beloved parents; Setta & George Nazarethian on Mother's Day & Father's Day

John and Janet Nazarethian Nancy Wiseley





#### **LOOYS SUPPORTERS**

With deep appreciation, we acknowledge those who have contributed to the color upgrade of the Looys by becoming a Supporter and/or making a donation in memory of a loved one.

Rev. Fr. Hakob & Yn. Anna Gevorgyan, Florence Boyajian, Kim & Gena Willard, Ronald A. Kashkashian, John & Meredith Hanamirian, Mr. & Mrs. Berj Goushian, Nancy & Gloria Basmajian, Larry & Jeanette Der Hagopian, Garo & Cecelia Garibian, Terri Sadjian-Mears & David Mears, Lynn & Michael Hajatian, Melinee Derassouyan, Don & Judy Paretchan, Kim & Larry D. Der Hagopian, Arpena Hajatian, Karnig & Alice Torossian, Jack C. Goushian, Esq., Albert & Pauline Chapjian, Harry Sarkisian, Harry & Mary Injaian, George & Anne Terkanian, Janet Hashas, Alice Charles, Ayshe Chakmaklian, Garen & Diane Boghosian, Stephen & Nancy Hovnanian & Family, David & Marta Brann, Greg & Maria Javardian

# Thanks to our Supporters

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#### **STEWARDSHIP 2015**

\*Albert Aloian, Florence Altoonian, Ralph and Nane Arpajian, John Arslanian, \*Hagop Arzoumanian, Steve and Dorrie Aslanian, \*Walter Bagian, Arthur Baldadian, \*Steve and Stephanie Balint, \*Florence Boyajian, Ayshe Chakmaklian, \*Alice Charles, Larry and Jeanette Der Hagopian, \*Larry and Kim Der Hagopian,\*Elizabeth Hovsepian, Brian and Joyce Hoyle, \*Mary Jamgochian, \*Pearl Jamgochian, \*Alice Karabian, \*John Kash, Ronald A. Kashkashian, \*Richard and Helen Kazigian, \*Albert and Patrice Keshgegian, \*Virginia Knott, \*Richard and Florence Maloumian, Emily Movsesian, \*Don and Judy Paretchan, \*Michael and Tanya Paretchan, \*Merle Santerian, \*Mickey Sherian, \*Alice Sisian, \*Denise Sisian, \*Edward Tatoian, \* Richard Weinsheimer, \*Kim and Gena Willard

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#### Stewardship in Action

We thank the following who have given of their time, talent & treasure with the following endeavors:

- Rick Mukalian who installed a speaker in the kitchen so that when people are working in the kitchen on Sunday mornings for our behalf, they can still hear the Badarak
- Boris Avakyan who repaired and refinished cracks in the hall pillars to help maintain our beautiful hall
- · Gregory Javardian for providing two "No Trespassing" signs for our church property

#### **HOLY TRINITY'S ANNUITIES**

Over the past few years, we have successfully developed an income stream to help us maintain a break-even budget thanks to Endowments and the gas pipeline. The money generated will pay for 15% of our normal operating expenses this year. Our goal is to at least double the amount, in order to be able to further reduce funding requests in the future. The principal should stay in reserve and not be available for spending, just like an annuity. This will help us even more in future years.

In 2015, we have a break-even budget which includes growth from the following:

Account Name	2013 Income	2014 Income
Lillian Avrigian Memorial Fund	\$53.53	\$55.22
Acabe & Roxie Boornazian Endowment Fund	\$615.59	\$635.05
Aram & Rose Boornazian Endowment Fund	\$267.65	\$276.11
Chalikian Family Memorial Fund	\$2,956.47	\$3,049.95
Nicole Der Hagopian Memorial Fund	\$1,196.48	\$1,236.47
Donchian, Hajeian, Chirkinian Fund	\$500.35	\$516.20
Karapet B. Garibian Endowment Fund	\$691.18	\$713.03
Niaz Garibian Memorial Fund	\$53.53	\$55.22
Mary Mirakian Sunday School Fund	\$406.21	\$419.06
Elsie Parnagian Youth Endowment Fund	\$317.68	\$327.73
Dr. Corinne Santerian Moore Endowment Fund	\$371.68	\$383.43
Ned Santerian Family Endowment Fund	\$588.82	\$607.44
Elizabeth Tookmanian Endowment Fund	\$119.39	\$123.17
V. Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Melkonian Endowment Fund	\$730.93	\$754.05
Nicole Der Hagopian Memorial Fund	\$279.91	\$288.84
Subtotals:	\$9,149.41	\$9,440.99
HT INVESTMENTS (Pipeline)	\$13,504.91	\$17,313.08
Patriarch Torkom Manoogian Fund	\$567.73	\$745.65
Totals:	\$23,222.05	\$27,499.72

Investment Growth:

George Ananian I and II Endowment (Investment Comm.) \$19,021.00 Vera Kazigian Endowment (Investment Comm.) \$ 829.00

TOTAL Income and Investment Growth: \$ 47.349.72

The endowment process is a great way to help the Church in the future years.

You may want to consider this as a way to bequeath money to the Church; and to perpetuate your family name for years to come





#### **Adult Education Makes an Impact at Holy Trinity**

Between March and May of this year, many of our faithful participated in various adult Christian educational and spiritual programming. For example:

Honoring Women of the Armenian Genocide: On March 15, the Women's Guild commemorated Saintly Women's Day by honoring the unnamed women of the Genocide in a short service led by Der Hakob following Liturgy. Perhaps the most touching portion of the service was hearing the voices of the many anonymous women who perished in the horrific events of 1915. Several young mothers from our community—Karinne Andonian, Yn. Anna Gevorgyan, Mariana Majian, Legna Santerian, Nadia Soghomonian, Amy Terkanian and Laura Yavru-Sakuk—along with Liz Barone, the Chair of the Women's Guild, participated in the service.

Raising Children for God: On March 22, a group of young men and women—all parents of infants and toddlers—came together for a workshop on "Raising Children for God: Rules for



Fighting Fair." Parishioner Melody Damerjian, who holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and works part-time as a spiritual director and a psychologist, conducted the workshop with an emphasis on sensitive issues. Before she reviewed the "rules" for fighting fair, she emphasized effective communication as the key to a healthy relationship and gave the participants some tips on how to listen and express feelings. At the end of the workshop, she distributed a self-test called "How Solid is Your Relationship?" for couples to complete and share at home. Participants were also given "God's Instructions on Marriage" which provided couples with the Scriptural foundation of Christian marriage.

**Book and Brunch:** Book lovers and adults looking for answers to the difficult question of forgiveness, gathered on four



Tuesday mornings in April to discuss a book by Simon Weisenthal entitled *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness.* The "brunch" part of the program took the group to various local restaurants to enjoy fellowship at local eateries and continue the conversation. The following are comments from a few of the participants:

Patty Alexanian: "The topic of forgiveness is very important. I learned so much by reading about and discussing other people's experiences and viewpoints. Through God's grace and example, I see many possibilities that I never saw before. "

Jeanette Der Hagopian: "Reading about and sharing thoughts on forgiveness reminded me of two very important factors: that we really can't expect forgiveness from our Heavenly Father without being willing to offer it ourselves; and that the need to do it has all to do with healing ourselves, regardless of whether it is well received by the other party or if justice is ever served."

Ruth Melian: "Our book study reinforced my belief that forgiveness is not always easy, but it is the path that Christians should follow, set by the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. It also made me more aware of how people of other faiths and other paths view forgiveness, especially if the other party does not show regret or is not available to express remorse. This truly was a revelation for me. I enjoyed the very thoughtful and open discussion."

Ara Shakarjian: "My read on the last four weeks was the open response and feelings we shared about forgiveness. The topic was difficult but timely with all of the Genocide activity reminding us that 'We will never forget'. How precious it is to share one's deep thoughts and feelings at times like this. The beauty of it is that we can let it out and let GOD into our hearts."

Merle Santerian: "I enjoyed the book very much and learned a lot about what the Jews and others believe about forgiveness. It was quite enlightening. I only wish we had more time to discuss it."



Women's Ministry: An initiative that began last year for "mothers only" has broadened its scope to include all women. Thanks to the efforts of Leslie Movsesian, who observed a need in our parish, women of all ages, met for the fourth time on May 3 to learn more about their faith and share their life and family experiences. Participants took a fun "test" to determine their individual temperaments and examined biblical passages on spiritual gifts to see how their individuality can be used by the Holy Spirit to build up the Body of Christ, the Church. The women were unanimous in their wish for more programming geared to their specific faith needs.

#### **Annual Lenten Series at Holy Trinity**

Although Mother Nature stepped in and changed our six-part Friday Night Lenten Series into a four-part series, the Holy Trinity parishioners who participated were enlightened and inspired by the Peace or Rest service, which began each evening and by the speakers and the shared fellowship over traditional Lenten dishes. (The parish was forced to cancel two programs because of hazardous weather conditions—the winter of 2015 was not a friendly one!)

The first program featured the Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, who spoke on "Ten Things You Should Know about Great Lent," thus preparing the faithful for a meaningful Lenten season. Currently serving the Diocese as Director of the Zohrab Information Center, Fr. Daniel has become a regular—and very popular—speaker at Holy Trinity. (We are pleased to announce that he will be returning this September and again in October for two very special events—look for details coming soon.)

Well-known local attorney Mark Momjian, on the following Friday, presented "Odds and Ends: The Momjian Collection of Armenian Ephemera." Mark recently served as the Co-Chair of the Armenian Genocide Symposium and Exhibit, one of the most successful events held in commemoration of the centennial of the Armenian Genocide. His presentation, attended by over 50 people, proved both fascinating and poignant.

"Finding God" was the topic of the lone female presenter of the series. Melody Damerjian, the wife of Parish Council member Robert Damerjian, Jr. and the mother of three students in our Church School, spoke on how we can enrich our spiritual growth and come closer to being with God. Most parishioners were surprised to learn that Melody holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and works part-time as a spiritual counselor and psychologist.

And finally, what would Lent be like without a rousing game of Jeopardy?! This year's theme focused on our parish's 80-year history—categories on the game board included *Holy Trinity Firsts, Ordinations at Holy Trinity, Stained-Glass Windows, Holy Trinity Shepherds and North Philly and Cheltenham Milestones.* Nick Terkanian returned for his second stint as our game show host, and kept his cool even while the competition got heated. But it was all in good fun; and as always, no one remembers who actually won the game!

At the close of each program, Der Hakob thanked the speakers and most especially the dinner hosts who graciously sponsored and prepared the Lenten meals; they were Yeretzgin Anna Gevorgyan and Karine Hovhanessian, Margo and Sam Silk, Lorraine and Bob Damerjian and Jeanette and Larry Der Hagopian.



#### **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).

#### **CHURCH INFORMATION**

Office Telephone: 215-663-1600 Office Fax: 215-663-1757

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**

Garen Boghosian (Secretary)	215-779-7540
Jeanette Der Hagopian (Vice Chair)	215-672-4188
Larry D. Der Hagopian	215-489-7116
Garo Garibian	215-884-9292
John Hanamirian (Chair)	215-431-0589
Barbara Harmon	609-605-0489
Brian Hoyle	609-654-0081
Gregory Javardian (Asst. Treasurer)	215-938-7893
Richard Mukalian	610-296-2769
Donald Paretchan (Treasurer)	215-659-1079
Merle Santerian	215-947-3737

#### **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
Gail Lulejian (Co-Superintendent)	215-443-0606

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

Harry Mirijanian (Chairman)	215-333-7723
Michael Paretchan (Treasurer)	215-947-4394
Michael Tookmanian (Assistant)	215-637-8304

#### **BOOKSTORE**

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

#### **ACYOA Jrs.**

Michele Oskanian (Parent Advisor) Melissa Paretchan (Parent Advisor) Ani Javardian (Co-Chair) Ashot Balasanyan (Co-Chair)

#### **WOMEN'S GUILD**

Liz Barone (Co-Chairman)	610-449-2236
Berjoohy Murray (Co-Chairman)	
Melissa Paretchan (Corres. Secy)	215-743-6925
Lorraine Damerjian (Treasurer)	215-572-8465

#### INTERCOMMUNAL

Ara Shakarjian	215-886-1904
Harry Mirijanian	215-333-7723
Tanya Paretchan	215-947-4394

#### **COFFEE HOUR COORDINATOR**

Merle Santerian 215-947-3777

#### **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Nancy Basmajian (Director) 215-722-3369

#### Editorial Staff

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan Jeanette Der Hagopian Larry D. Der Hagopian Maggie Miller Naomi Mukalian

> <u>Photographers</u> John Alexanian Ara Shakarjian

The mission of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox
Church is to preach the Gospel of Our Lord
Jesus Christ and to proclaim its message of
salvation. This mission is realized through
worship, education, witness, service, and a
common life in Christ as expressed in the
distinctive faith- experience of the Armenian
people. All the faithful of the Armenian
Church — both clergy and laity — are called to
participate fully in this mission.

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