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# Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church

# LOOYS



Cheltenham, PA

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

Fall 2019-04



**Article on Page 13**

## 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**

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## Contact Information



**Holy Trinity Armenian Church**  
101 Ashmead Road, Cheltenham, PA 19012  
[www.holytrinity-pa.org](http://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  
Kitchen: 267-282-4594  
Pastor: Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan  
[frhakob@holytrinity-pa.org](mailto:frhakob@holytrinity-pa.org)  
Church Secretary: Maggie Miller  
[office@holytrinity-pa.org](mailto: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
Larry D. Der Hagopian (Vice Chair)	215-489-7116
Don Paretchan (Treasurer)	610-608-1866
Gregory Javardian (Asst. Treasurer)	215-938-7893
Elizabeth Barone (Secretary)	610-449-2236
Steve Aslanian	215-771-1157
Garo Garibian	215-884-9292
Arousiag Keshishian	215-982-0520
Mickey Paretchan	215-947-4394
Mike Santerian	610-527-1065
Nicklas Terkanian	610-348-7678

### DIOCESAN DELEGATES

Nancy Basmajian	215-722-3369
Jeanette Der Hagopian	215-672-4188
Leslie Movsesian	215-801-2725

### 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
Leslie Movesian (Co-Superintendent)	215-801-2725

### MEN'S CLUB

Michael Paretchan	215-947-4394
Michael Tookmanian	484-351-8663

### BOOKSTORE

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

### ACYOA Jrs.

Christine Grigoryan (Chair)	
Mariana Majian (Parent Advisor)	215-758-2664

### LADIES of HOLY TRINITY

Elizabeth Barone (Coordinator)	610-449-2236
Lorraine Damerjian (Treasurer)	215-572-8465

### INTERCOMMUNAL

Ara Shakarjian	215-886-1904
Tanya Paretchan	215-947-4394
Emily Movsesian	734-277-2753

### COFFEE HOUR COORDINATOR

Jeanette Der Hagopian	215-672-4188
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### ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nancy Basmajian (Coordinator)	215-722-3369
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### *Editorial Staff*

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

### *Photographers*

*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.*

# How to Make Right Decisions

I am sure that every person wants to make a right decision.

During their lifetime, people have to make many different decisions, for example: which school to attend, whom to get married, where to work, what kind of house to buy, with whom to be a friend, where to go to church, what religion to practice and the list can go on and on.

Some decisions are not important. For example, if we drink apple juice instead of orange juice it's not going to affect our lives that much. But for important things, we want to make the right decision because we are going to face the consequences of our decisions. Many people have ruined their lives or ended them because they made a bad decision. People make a lot of bad decisions because they don't know where they want to go in life.

Jesus knew what His purpose was for being here, "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Many people wanted to make Him a King but Jesus refused to let that happen. He made it clear that he did not come to solve a political issue but something more important: He came for sinners or for those who were spiritually sick.

Our decisions are based on what is more important for us. If our earthly life is the only life that we are going to live, then we will concentrate on this life only. But if we believe that there is a heavenly life and God put us here for a purpose, then we will make our decisions according to His will.

What is our purpose here on earth? If we consider ourselves as followers of Christ, then we should be the salt and the light of this world. "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:13-16).

What should we do when we have to make an important decision? The Bible says, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7). This tells us that we should look for the answer in God's word, the Bible and we should ask God in prayer, knock and wait for God to open that door.

With prayers,  
Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan





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# Parish Council News

By John Hanamirian, Chair

We didn't have a column in the last issue. I started to write about charging for Sunday School and there was debate about raising the issue because it challenges the notion that Christian Education should be available at no cost. Our Parish Council was divided on the issue. We decided to defer the issue for a year.

I didn't like not writing about the Sunday School issue because I felt as if we were suppressing information or speech. I said at the time that my Sunday School teachers, and maybe it was Marta and I apologize if it isn't perceived by her as credit, said that "God listens to all voices." We need to listen to all voices on the issues that affect our Parish whether we like the sound of the voice or what a speaker has to say.

I agree that, ideally, Christian Education or Armenian Church School Education should be available to all at no cost and our Parish Council wants our children to have the benefits of Armenian Church School education in every form. The Parish Council was proposing to reinstate the fees only for the cost of materials and only charging that fee to non-members; there would be no fee for members. That fee was \$25.00, representing the costs of paper and markers and other supplies for the year. The dialogue at Parish Council was more about encouraging, obtaining and retaining members than it was about the financial aspects of charging for Church School. The discussion centered on whether charging, having people economically invested, would actually make it more likely that the parents would bring their children to Church School.

I think you know how I feel. Just pay the membership dues and let's start there. If you can't, we will waive them. If you send your children to use the programs or if you eat the choreg and cheese and drink the coffee, pay something for it. Somebody came to Church and made the choreg for you. Somebody volunteered their Sunday morning to teach your child. Put five dollars in the basket for the food and give the Church School \$20.00 for the markers and paper for a year of education and for teaching your children for 3 hours on a Sunday for 20 weeks. Okay, I'm done.

Next, the Active Shooter Policy. This is something we have spent a great deal of time on and have taken very much to heart. It is about our children and our parishioners. Mickey, Michael, Larry and Arous have spent countless hours with the Township, with our security company and with other experts evaluating our existing security systems and evaluating the best ways to assure our overall safety in the event we have a situation with an active shooter. The unfortunate reality of that situation is that "run, hide, fight" is the protocol most advanced by all of the experts. We think that having armed guards and all sorts of sophisticated detection equipment is the answer, but the reality is that it is not and that these acts of terror are too unpredictable to avert by traditional means. So, we do our best, we implement our best security systems, we are aware of our surroundings and if you see something suspicious, and just as the highway signs as you are traveling into the New York City crossings, if you see something suspicious, report it. If you see someone sitting in their car in the parking lot whom you do not recognize, say something to someone. Be involved. Get involved. It is your church, your home.

Finally, we have done a lot this year. Gay did a terrific job on the Bazaar and had a lot of help from a lot of our usual and new volunteers. Thank you to all. Everything went incredibly well and it was just fun. Our Church School enrollment continues to grow. Thank you, Yn. Anna and Leslie for doing such a great job running the School. The children and parents are lucky to have you.





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## ABOUT OUR FAMILY

Since this column did not appear in the last issue because of space restrictions, we nevertheless want to send best wishes out to two special members of our church family: **Merle Santerian** who is working to recover from effects of a stroke she suffered in May; and **Steve Hovnanian** who is much recovered from the very serious foot injury he sustained as the result of a car accident. We are so happy to see them at church regularly once again....We have many milestones birthdays that have taken place for which we send hearty HT wishes. Among them are **Greg Javardian** (he and wife Maria celebrated during a trip on the Amalfi Coast), **Betty Kapeghian**, **David Brann**, and **Marta Brann**....Continued happiness for **Harry and Stephanie Vartanian** as they celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary with a trip to Hawaii, surely a trip they'll never forget....And in the midst of sunny days, there is also sorrow. Our sincere condolences to **Valerie DerPilbosian**, daughters **Lisa, Monique and Melissa**, and their families, as they grieve the loss of their beloved husband, father and grandfather, Albert. He was raised at Holy Trinity as were his daughters years later...At the same time, we extend deepest

sympathy to **Brenda and Skye Jilajian** on the passing of their loving mother and grandmother, Alyce. Though she only relocated to our community in her later years, she and we truly felt deeply connected. We were looking forward to celebrating her 100th birthday with us (in 14 months) but it was not to be..... One of our greatest joys this summer, as a church family, was meeting **Diramayr Maro**, who came to visit when Der Hayr and family returned to the States from Armenia. Though she stayed for seven weeks, it wasn't long enough for us, and we hope she will be back soon for an even longer visit....Congratulations to **Gary Altoonian** who had five of his works selected for exhibit in the 13th Annual Juried Photography Exhibit at the Media Arts Council Gallery. Bravo to him for "making the cut"... Best wishes to newlyweds, **Greg Bilizarian and Karina Totah**, who were united in marriage in a grand ceremony and reception at the Revolutionary Museum. Congrats also to parents, **Robin & Pete Bilizarian**....Congratulations to **Laurie and Kyle Kahoun**, on the arrival of their first child, Madison; and to first-time MedzMom, **Zepure Mahserejian** and **Great MedzMom, Anahid Mahserejian**. Their blessings are now multiplied....More happiness is in store for **Tina Hagopian** with her proposal from long-time beau, **Joe LaRose**. We'll be listening for wedding news!....We are happy to see **Robert Barone and Selma Alexanian** back at church after lengthy illnesses....Our prayers continue for **Armen Mirakian** who has been struggling through a serious illness. Though he may live in New York, he is still our "home-grown" boy!....Happiness galore to **Michael & Ani (Minassian) Hajatian** who greeted their first child, daughter Sevan Cecile, in



California where they reside. Overjoyed also are grandparents, **Lynn & Mike Hajatian** and **Great-Grandmom, Penny Hajatian**....Sending a shout-out to **Dominique Damerjian** for receiving her White Coat as she continues her education in the Doctor of Pharmacy program at the University of Sciences. Proud Dad, **Robert**, and grandparents, **Lorraine and Bob Damerjian**, were on hand to witness the happy event....With Thanksgiving just behind us and Christmas before us, life will be getting even busier. Hopefully, you'll be able to slow down, now and then, to catch your breath and especially count your blessings and consider the ways in which you can bless others in the New Year. Have a safe and joyous holiday.



## A Commitment to our Youth

Following Liturgy on Sunday, October 6, Der Hakob conducted A Commitment Service, designed by the Diocesan Department of Christian Education, in which the entire community was asked to stand and pledge its support for the parish's Christian education program.

Participating in the service were school Superintendents Leslie Movsesian and Yn. Anna Gevorgyan, along with various segments of the school community, including teachers, parents and students. Most poignant was when Der Hayr asked the entire community to acknowledge its partnership in the faith formation of its children and young people. Parishioners stood and affirmed loudly with "We will with the help of God!"

Fr. Hakob's closing prayer expressed the purpose of the ceremony with the words, "O God, send your Holy Spirit to empower these teachers, students, parents, and parishioners. Give the children a lively joy in their learning. To teachers, give wisdom, skill and love. Bless families as they nurture one another. Imbue the Armenian Church with renewed commitment to its teaching ministry. Give strength to all of us as we seek to serve you and support one another. Amen."



### Leslie Movsesian

Artist

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PORTRAITS  
GENRES  
ABSTRACTS



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## Address Changes and/or Additions

Greg and Karinne Andonian  
524 Eaglebrook Drive  
Moorestown NJ 08057

Joyce Killian (Temporary)  
110 Rodeo Drive  
Oyster Bay Cove NY 11791

### FUNERALS: 2019

**ELIZE MAZMANIAN** entered into her eternal rest on August 1, 2019. Funeral services were held on August 9, 2019 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**YURIK ALOIAN** entered into his eternal rest on August 7, 2019. Funeral services were held on August 9, 2019 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**LIDIA GRIGORYAN** entered into her eternal rest on August 30, 2019. Funeral services were held on September 3, 2019 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**CYNTHIA SEMERJIAN** entered into her eternal rest on August 16, 2019. Funeral services were held on September 4, 2019 at Arlington Cemetery. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**ALYOSHA TADEVOSYAN** entered into his eternal rest on August 31, 2019. Funeral services were held on September 7, 2019 at Ivy Hill Cemetery. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**ALBERT DERPILBOSIAN** entered into his eternal rest on October 22, 2019. Funeral services were held on October 28, 2019 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.

**ALYCE JILAJIAN** entered into her eternal rest on October 23, 2019. Funeral services were held on October 29, 2019 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.



**Vaughn Derassouyan**



Realtor



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**August 3, 2019: SIMONA OGANISEAN**  
 Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vardgas Oganisean  
 Godfather: Sergey Chernyavskiy  
 Godmother: Anaida Badalyan



**October 27, 2019: LEON MARK MARGARYAN**  
 Son of Mr. and Mrs. Davit Margaryan  
 Godfather: Arshak Chilingaryan  
 Godmother: Satenik Galstyan

## BAPTISMS



**August 10, 2019:**  
**SERGEY GELLER & TAMARA TATEVOSIAN**  
 Brother of the Cross: Ihor Omelyanskyy

## WEDDINGS

**The most beautiful  
 things are not  
 associated with  
 money; they are  
 memories and  
 moments. If you  
 don't celebrate  
 those, they can  
 pass you by.**

*Alek Wek*

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

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*- Bea C. April 2009*



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## DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

On Sunday, October 13, Der Hakob, Yn. Anna, and parishioners of Holy Trinity were pleased to welcome our Primate, His Grace Bishop Daniel, where he delivered an inspiring sermon during Badarak. Joining him was Deacon Eric Vozzy of our Diocese.

Afterwards, a delicious repast was enjoyed by all in conjunction with the Annual Appeal reception, hosted by Dr. Garo and Cecelia Garibian. Parish Council Chairman John Hanamirian presented a gift of \$2500 to Bishop Daniel & Laurie Onanian on behalf of the parish in support of the Annual Appeal.

Those assembled responded positively to the messages offered by our beloved Der Hakob and Dn. Garo Garbian, both of whom spoke about the importance of the Diocese in our parish lives and the necessity of supporting them financially. Der Hayr summed it up perfectly when he said, "The Diocese is like our family; and families help each other!" Following them, Laurie Onanian, Director of Development, and His Grace, Bishop Daniel, shared the many needs that exist at the Diocese so that the Primate's vision of "Building up the Body of Christ" can be met.

On that same day, a new program began during Badarak with the active participation of many of the Church School students who will now regularly serve in the choir or on the altar as often as twice a month as we work to create a successful Junior Choir and Altar Servers program. Under the direction of Karinne Andonian for the choir and Greg Andonian for the altar servers, our hope is that a new generation of servers will help build up our choir and altar servers to offset the dwindling numbers as people age.

The day ended with thanks to all who made it such a success, including photographers Ara Shakarjian and Gary Altoonian for capturing all of the moments of a special day. Pictures can be viewed on our website ([www.holytrinity-pa.org](http://www.holytrinity-pa.org)) under the News and Events tab.





# GREAT CROWD + GREAT MUSIC = GREAT KEF!

By Kim and Larry Der Hagopian



Classic met contemporary on Saturday night, September 28th at Fall Into Philly Kef. Santerian Hall was filled with the classic sounds of Kef music, courtesy of Holy Trinity's own David Hoplamazian (on violin), Jake Terkanian (on dumbeg) and their talented bandmates. DJ Robbie Barone kept the dance floor hopping (make that Michigan hopping - haha!) to Armenian and American tunes. His perfect lighting effects and the sparkly table décor took our already-beautiful Santerian Hall to a new level. High-top tables from A to Z Party Rental and a cool lounge area with tavloo boards and salt lamps created a sleek vibe, perfect for mingling. The scrumptious mezze and desserts from our resident culinary wizards were show-stoppers, as usual.

We are grateful to the full team who gave time, talent and treasure – and collaborated over many emails and texts and chats - to make it all happen! Cheers to all who supported the event by buying tickets and attending! This wonderful event brought together different generations, different social groups, and party-lovers from different churches in a modern atmosphere with a proud nod to tradition.



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# A Reflection on Advent and Christmas

By Deacon Albert Keshgegian

The stores have been decorated and ready to go since before Halloween. Santa has arrived at the mall before Thanksgiving and kids are lined up to see him. Everywhere people are rushing about, searching for just the right present, just the perfect Christmas tree, baking fancy decorated cookies, planning family activities and get-togethers, and making sure that everything is in place for the “best Christmas ever.”

And from every radio station, and even from every store, we hear Christmas music. Much of it doesn't have to do with the true meaning of Christmas at all, but every so often one of the songs we hear reminds us what Christmas is, or should be all about. And every year, it seems, one of those carols, or just a line from a carol, stands out to me, as if I'm hearing it for the first time, even though I grew up singing the carol in school and had heard it and sung it many times.

Last year it was a line from “Joy to the World”: “Let every heart prepare him room.”

It's so easy as we rush about with the busy-ness of preparing for Christmas, trying to remember everything and everyone on our to-do list, not to leave room in our lives and in our hearts for the most important person of all, the one whose birthday we are celebrating—Jesus.

Jesus Christ is knocking on the door of our hearts every Christmas, just as his parents knocked on the door of the inn that first Christmas. There was no room for them in the inn back then; can we make room in our hearts for Jesus now? What will we gain if we do?

It was St. John Chrysostom who said, “Find the door of your heart, you will discover it is the door of the kingdom of God”.

In this busy season we should take some time to focus inward, rather than outward, as we cross off each completed chore on our list with satisfaction. If we do, there is indeed much to be gained. We need to look within, find the door to our hearts, prepare room in our hearts for Jesus, and let him in when he knocks. When Jesus fills our hearts we walk with him and realize the true meanings of Christmas: God's pure love reaching out to us and becoming human, bridging the chasm our sins have created between ourselves and our Father, and giving the hope through Christ of eternal life in God's kingdom for each and every one of us. Truly a message of “Joy to the World”!



*"Christmas gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the important things around us."*

David Cameron



## OUR KHACHKAR

By Lucy Aghazarian

If you missed the magnificent exhibit of Armenian Medieval Art last winter at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York which brought together, among other things, beautifully illuminated manuscripts and giant stone crosses known as “khachkars,” you may take comfort knowing that we, at Holy Trinity Armenian Church, have our very own khachkar adorning the front lawn of the church.

While ours is not several centuries old, its symbolism and spirit are akin to those towering stone slabs found in cemeteries and shrines throughout the Armenian uplands from earliest times in history.

They were erected mainly to remember and honor the dead, as well as for the spiritual salvation of living persons. Our granite khachkar with the traditional carvings of an Armenian cross, sprouting tendrils, grapevines and pomegranates was unveiled in 1996 during the tenure of Very Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Dz. Melkonian, of blessed memory, with an initial bequest from the estate of Paul Garabedian and the donations of more than 50 Holy Trinity Church families.

Our khachkar is dedicated to “the memory of the Armenians massacred during the Genocide of 1915.” But, it is also intended to remind us not only of our tragic past, but to continue to uphold our Christian tradition into the future.

For the last several years, overgrown shrubs have partially hidden our khachkar, but thanks to the efforts of Father Hakob, assisted by Maggie Miller, all of its sides and its inscriptions are in full view, and new landscaping has been implemented. Everyone who comes to our church is invited to stop by the khachkar, take in its beauty and remember for what it stands.

*Note: Historical information on khachkars from Armenia: Art, Religion, and Trade in the Middle Ages, edited by Helen Evans and The Met, distributed by Yale University Press, New Haven and London*

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# Join us in January for Family Worship Month

## **JANUARY 5 - 3:00 p.m.**

Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy

Church School Christmas Pageant  
Pot Luck Fellowship



## **JANUARY 12**

The Blessing of Water Service in Remembrance of Our Lord's Baptism



## **JANUARY 19**

A "Simultaneous Translation" of selected *sharagans* (hymns) from the Divine Liturgy which contain some of the most profound words concerning our faith

A Service of Remembrance and Lighting of Candles for those in our community who passed away in 2019

## **JANUARY 26**

A Question-and-Answer session (everything and anything you wanted to know about our faith) will replace Fr. Hakob's sermon. During the month of January, the faithful are invited to place their questions in the Question Box available in the narthex.



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# GARIBIAN

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General Civil Litigation  
Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution

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# 2019 Harvest Bazaar

By Gay Hagopian, Chair

Another successful Harvest Bazaar came to a close on Sunday October 27th after three glorious days of food, fun and fellowship. Young and old alike enjoyed the sumptuous buffet and baked goods, the Country Store, raffles, prizes, the Silent Auction, Attic Treasures, Armenian wine and spirits, Armenian art and gifts, jewelry and fragrances, entertainment, and of course, our annual Halloween parade.

There was no shortage of volunteers. Thank you to everyone who so willingly gave of their time and talents to make this bazaar a success. So many people worked tirelessly for weeks before the bazaar to prepare the delicious foods we all enjoy. We were even pleasantly surprised by some new faces who stepped up to join us. So many people asked, "How can I help you?" "What can I do?" Even our children were so enthusiastic about helping that it shows the comfort they feel as part of our church family.

Thank you to all of you who supported us in any way: with your donations, with your service and with your attendance. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Below is the list of volunteers we would like to thank. Whether you could spare only a couple of hours or gave 100 hours of your time, your contributions were greatly appreciated.

Patty Alexanian  
John and Tamar Arslanian  
Robbie Barone  
Florence Boyajian  
Paul Chakmakjian  
Lorraine Damerjian  
Maral Davis  
Jeanette Der Hagopian  
Drew Doudoukjian  
Der Hakob and Yn. Anna Gevorgyan  
Vicki Gureghian  
Michael and Lynn Hajatian  
Nancy Hovnanian  
Krikor and Alex Javardian  
Janet Jordan  
Markrid Keshishian  
Ernest and Gina Mamikonyan  
Rick and Naomi Mukalian  
Sona Nalbandian  
Michael and Tanya Paretchan  
Chris Sadjian-Peacock  
Michael and Legna Santerian  
Carol Temoyan  
Nick Terkanian  
Ana Torcomian  
Erika Torosian  
Greg Yazujian  
Joyce Hoyle

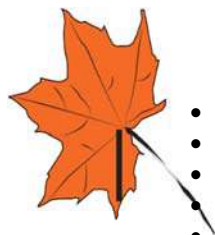
Gary Altoonian  
Steve Aslanian  
Lisa Berberian  
Marta Brann  
John Chalikian  
Robert Damerjian  
Gary and Sue Der Hagopian  
Larry and Kim Der Hagopian  
Cece Garibian  
Narek Gevorgyan  
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Matthew Sadjian  
Vicki Shakarjian  
Christine Temoyan  
Gina Terkanian  
Tom Torcomian  
Lora Tourigian Maul  
Mary Yeretjian  
Ayshe Chakmaklian  
Selma Alexanian

Krikor Andonian  
Liz Barone  
Debra Boyajian  
Melanie Burrows  
Pauline Chapjian  
Robert Damerjian, Jr.  
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Vartan Gevorgyan  
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Angel Tookmanian  
Alice Torosian  
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*We apologize for the omission of anyone's name in error. Please contact the church office if your name is missing from this list.*





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- Walter Bagian in memory of Bagian/Zoolalian and Dadekian/Babolian Families
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- Ronald A. Kashkashian in memory of Arsen and Katherine Kashkashian
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- David and Marta Brann
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- Sheryl Santerian Hatza
- Mardie Juskalian
- Serge and Adrienne Minassian in memory of Beatrice Minassian and Rose Timourian
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- Michael Tookmanian in memory of Elizabeth and Garabed Tookmanian
- Rosemarie Zarzatian in memory of Edward L. Zarzatian
- Richard and Linda Vishab

## **Bronze**

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- Robert and Lorraine Damerjian in memory of David and Tevalinda Damerjian and Nubar and Araxie Hintlian
- Janice and Robert King and Family in memory of Albert and Naomi Kapeghian

## **Additional Donations**

- Yn. Anna Gevorgyan - Muhamara
- Shant Kapeghian, Shorethings Enterprises - Bazaar banner, t-shirts, "onsies", Armenian pins and tattoos
- Jeanetter DerHagopian - Eetch
- Margo Silk and Joyce Hoyle - Vegetables for Tourshi
- Carol Temoyan - Feta cheese for boreg
- Anne and George Terkanian - Cuisinart large capacity food processor

**Thank You To All Our Supporters**









# Thank You

To All my fellow Parish Council Members for another wonderful year of our serving the Parish together:

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, President  
Larry D. DerHagopian, Vice Chairman  
Don Paretchan, Treasurer  
Michael Santerian, Asst. Treasurer  
Elizabeth Barone, Secretary  
Steve Aslanian  
Garro Garibian  
Gay Hagopian  
Arousiag Keshishian  
Mickey Paretchan  
Nicklas Terkanian

John M. Hanamirian





## *An Invitation to Married Couples...*

### **An Evening Retreat on Christian Marriage**

A warm and friendly evening, including dinner, facilitated by  
Elise Antreassian, Director of Christian Education, Diocese of the Armenian Church

**Saturday, January 25, 2020 – 5:00–9:00 pm**

#### **EMAIL FROM THE CREATOR OF MARRIAGE:**

*"Loved the wedding! Now Invite Me to the Marriage."*

Calling all married couples. . . . Is the hectic pace of life and its demands becoming a challenge?

Is it hard to tell the difference between God's vision and the world's vision for your marriage?

Join us for a respite of good food, fun and fellowship as we take time to explore  
God's vision of marriage.

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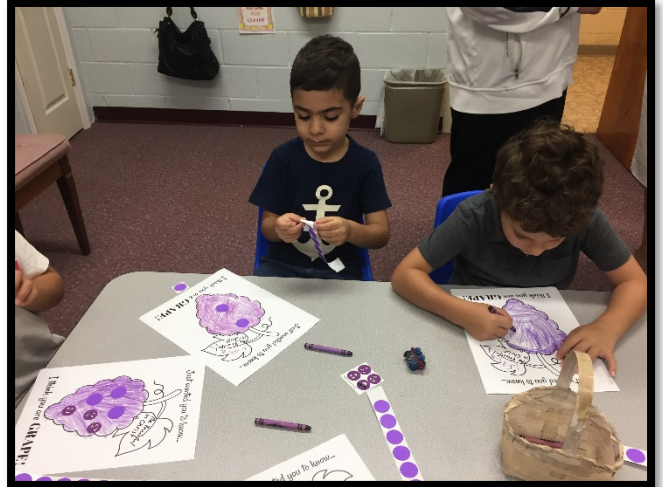
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## OORAKH AMARR @ HOLY TRINITY

Holy Trinity's Church School created a "Happy Summer" program this year - Oorakh Amarr - to encourage young families to attend church all year round. This summer enrichment program offered a fun lesson plan one Sunday a month around Pentecost, Transfiguration and the Assumption of St. Mary in an attempt to sustain momentum for continual attendance and to learn about some of our Church's important feast days.

On Pentecost Sunday, June 9th, 17 elementary age children celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Christian Church with the story of Pentecost told to them around the "camp fire." They made fun crafts of fire flame head bands and decorated kites with images from the story. They learned how to say hello in several different languages and how to say Dove and Happy Birthday in Armenian. They listened to the music of Arakeloh Aghavnoh and sung Patee Daretartz to the church. They left with ice cream cake in their stomachs and a pinwheel for their gardens to remind them of the Holy Spirit every time they see the pinwheel spin. Oorakh Amarr!



Oorakh Amarr continued the Happy Summer program on July 28th with the Transfiguration of Christ and Vartavar lessons and festivities for the youth. The children made sunshine masks to remember how Christ's face radiated like the sun as he was transfigured before three of his disciples and made tissue paper roses as part of the tradition of Vartavar. They learned how to say Transfiguration and Rose in Armenian. Afterwards they went outside and enjoyed Vartavar water fun, "cleansing" each other with spray bottles, sprinklers and pails of water. They left with ice pops, wet Oorakh Amarr T-shirts and smiles from ear to ear.



The third part of the Oorakh Amarr program ended with the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God. The children watched the Bread and Salt video, "Mother of God," narrated by Arpi Nakashian, of the Diocesan Department of Creative Ministries, then colored an image of grapes and adorned it with purple stickers that smelled like grapes when you scratched them! They hung their grapes on a vine that read "I am the vine and you are the branches." They taste tested their favorite grape; purple, green or cotton candy grapes! They ended the fun with a grape vine tongue twister game before heading up to church to view the Blessing of the Grapes ceremony.



It truly was an **OORAKH AMARR** during church for the younger students of our Church School.



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# Another Sports Weekend

By Margarita Badalyan



Advanced Tavloo, Ping Pong, Beginners, and Advanced Chess and more. Those who do not play, watch and have fun supporting the players. After a day of competing, the kids get ready with their friends for the dance! There is a dance on Saturday and Sunday night. The room of the dance is decorated, and everyone comes nicely dressed.

This October, the two Philadelphia churches – St. Sahag & St Mesrob and Holy Trinity hosted Sports Weekend. This Sports Weekend was exceptional and distinct from the rest because the kids stayed in cabins at a camp instead of family homes. With cabins, everyone was able to spend even more time together. In addition to this, at the Philly Sports Weekend, we had soccer as one of the options for sports! Soccer was not an option



Sports Weekend is a weekend of excitement and reunion. Twice a year, Armenian youth from all over the East Coast of the United States gather together-from New Hampshire to Florida. For two days, the kids meet Armenians their age, reunite with/make life-long friends, play sports, and win trophies for their church. It is an opportunity to meet amazing people who share their background. At the event, the ACYOA also usually has a charity service done to teach kids to give back. The day of departure is the hardest day for everyone.

At Sports Weekend, each church has its own sports team. They compete against each other in sports such as Girls Volleyball/Basketball, Boys Volleyball/Basketball, etc. There are also individuals sports such as Beginners and



for many years, so many of the youth enjoyed playing it this year. The Philadelphia team won a trophy for first place in Girls' Basketball! As for individual sports, two brothers from the Holy Trinity Armenian Church won first place in both advanced and beginners' chess: Hayk and Tigran Safaryan.

As always, it was great to participate in Sports Weekend and we always look forward to the next one!

**“A friend loveth  
at all times.”**

**– Proverbs 17:17**

---

## BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST: BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL

We remind our faithful that for what amounts to a mere \$5.00 a week, you can enjoy and support the following:

- A meaningful worship experience through the regular celebration of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Church
- The sacraments and blessing services of the Church
- A professionally designed Armenian Christian education program for children and teens, toddler through Grade 11, with a nurturing staff of administrators and teachers
- Language instruction, both Eastern and Western, which includes reading, writing and conversation
- A dynamic ministry for our youth through the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America (ACYOA)
- Adult faith formation initiatives which include Bible study, spiritual retreats, lectures, and more
- Opportunities to serve through Aid for Friends in which we prepare meals for local shut-ins and our Christmas Shoebox Project that donates gifts to disadvantaged children throughout the world
- A Country Store offering various Armenian breads, pastries and other delicacies
- A Bookstore which provides books and gift items related to faith and culture
- A weekly Coffee Fellowship in a hospitable, friendly, and family-oriented atmosphere...and more!



*You are the body of Christ!  
Each one of you is a part of it.*





---

## MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### January

Lucy Aghazarian - 1  
Joyce Hoyle - 2  
Kimberly Der Hagopian - 4  
Drew Doudoukjian - 4  
Serge Minassian - 4  
Andrea Minassian - 5  
Mark Santerian - 5  
Alec Yeretzian - 5  
Laura Temoyan - 6  
Nicole Santerian - 7  
Berj Yeretzian, Sr - 7  
Stepan Andonian - 8  
Naomi Mukalian - 8  
Diane Williames - 8  
Lori Sarkisian - 9  
Lucine King - 10  
Rose Carlucci - 13  
Fred Jordan - 13  
Sona Nalbandian - 13  
Arax Gargan - 16  
Victoria Gureghian - 16  
Larry Grocott - 17  
Amy Terkanian - 17  
Maria Danielyan - 17  
Dylan Santerian - 18  
Halle Santerian - 18  
Ella Hanamirian - 22  
Nareg Kaprielian - 22  
Albert Keshgegian - 22  
Gavin Pica - 22  
John Williames - 22  
Daniel Aslanian - 23  
Betty Hovsepian - 24  
Hagop Arzoumanian - 25  
Sophia Carnevale - 26  
Martin Gutchigian - 28  
Gay Hagopian - 29  
Daniela Garibian - 30  
John Hanamirian - 30  
Pauline Dedeian - 31

### February

Rev Fr Hakob Gevorgyan - 2  
Aren Torcomian - 2  
Frederick Jordan, Jr - 3  
Dariko Danielyan - 3  
Anna Hanamirian - 4  
Michael Santerian - 4  
Kyle Burrows - 6  
Eileen Carr - 6  
Michael Hajatian, Jr - 6  
Melanie Minassian - 7  
Gregory Yazujian - 7  
Ashley Radell - 8  
Van Injaian - 9  
Mickey Sherian - 9  
Michael Hajatian - 10  
Franklin Vartanian - 10  
Patil Boghosian - 11  
Benjamin Koengetter - 11  
Ricky Mukalian - 14  
Ayshe Chakmaklian - 15  
Vartan Gevorgyan - 15  
Pearl Jamgochian - 17  
Wilson Theobald - 17  
Gale Zorian - 17  
John Bandaian - 18  
Gloria Basmajian - 18  
Timothy Gargan - 18  
Manoug Hovhannesian - 18  
Alexander Balint - 20  
Janice Kapeghian King - 20  
Edward Tatoian - 20  
Brenda Yazujian - 21  
George Arslanian - 22  
Jonathon Tancredi - 22  
Diran Alexanian - 23  
Michael Yazujian - 23  
Tamara Brod - 25  
Doretta Aslanian - 28

### March

Doris Alahverde - 1  
Michael Damerjian - 1  
Paul Movsesian - 1  
Peter Ohnigian - 1  
Toros Torcomian - 1  
Deran Maloumian - 2  
Miles Hanamirian - 3  
Barbara Papazian - 3  
Anna Polizzi - 4  
Gary DerHagopian, Jr - 5  
Gary Papazian, Jr - 6  
John Kash - 6  
Casey Baldadian - 7  
Michael Tookmanian - 7  
Braxton Pica - 10  
Robin Bilazarian - 11  
Florence Boyajian - 12  
Kevin Kalustyan - 13  
Jaclyn King - 13  
Nishan Boyajian - 14  
Scott King - 14  
Robert Damerjian - 15  
Mikenzie Juskalian - 20  
Nancy Hovnanian - 21  
Michael Juskalian - 22  
Melody Damerjian - 23  
Michael Santerian - 23  
Robert Damerjian, Sr - 24  
Michael Paretchan, Jr. - 24  
Terri Sadjian-Mears - 25  
Brenda Jilajian - 26  
Mary Yeretzian - 26  
Skye Jilajian - 27

## MEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

### January

Peter & Rosaleen Oskanian	1/6/2001
Richard & Rose Carlucci	1/10/1954
Michael & Tanya Paretchan	1/15/1972
Tom & Barbara Harmon	1/21/2006
Diran & Andrea Alexanian	1/29/2000
Gary & Susan DerHagopian	1/31/1981



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### **ANNABELLE ALEXANIAN**

Albert Kalafian

**NEW TOTAL: \$6,835.00**

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Hagop Arzoumanian  
Harout and Lena Arzoumanian  
Nancy and Gloria Basmajian  
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Jeff and Maral Davis  
Jeanette Der Hagopian  
Angela DiPrinzio  
Kayane Janjigian  
Fred and Janet Jordan  
Dr. Hagop Mazmanian  
Mazmanian Family  
Mary Pattoukian & Armen  
Pattoukian  
Phila. Hand to Shoulder Center  
Merle Santerian  
Krikor and Sossi Soghomonian  
Janet Soghomonian  
Mike Tookmanian  
Angel Tookmanian  
Paul and Jamie Torna  
Mr. and Mrs. Karnig Torossian  
Haig and Anahid Yeranossian  
Kalousd and Lucy Yeranossian  
Rosemarie Zarzatian  
Zerounian Family  
**TOTAL: \$1,760.00**

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Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Alexanian  
Gary and Eileen Altoonian  
Lenape Dist. Education Assoc.  
Dyan G. Ayjian  
Steven Barsamian  
Nancy and Gloria Basmajian  
David and Marta Brann  
Nancy and Bill Brennan  
John Chalikian  
Pauline Chapjian  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Damerjian Sr.  
Jeanette Der Hagopian

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Antranig Garibian (Deacon's Fee)  
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Roupen and Marge Gureghian  
Gay, Tina & Marie Hagopian  
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Lynn and Michael Hajatian  
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Stephen and Nancy Hovnanian  
Peter Hovnanian  
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John Kash  
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Mike Tookmanian  
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Jill Karagezian  
John Kash  
Joyce Killian  
Lisa Kouzoujian  
Ruth and Lisa Melian  
Grace Meranshian  
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Mary Parnagian  
Anna Polizzi  
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In memory of our mother/grandmother Elize Mazmanian  
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**Donation to ACYOA:** Walter Bagian

**Donation to the Philly Kef Dance:** Vicken Bazarbashian



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Ronald A. Kashkashian

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In  
Loving  
Memory  
of

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On the occasion of Der Hakob's 10th anniversary of his ordination, he was presented with a gift of a new set of vestments, gifted by David & Marta Brann who donated the fabric and custom-made & donated by Silva Hovhannesian. They were recently completed and used by Der Hakob for the first time recently.







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*Holy Trinity Armenian  
Apostolic Church*



Armenian Christmas Services 2020



Sunday, January 5, 2020

Christmas Eve

3:00 PM Divine Liturgy

Christmas Pageant

Please bring food to share during fellowship



Monday, January 6, 2020

Christmas Day

10:30 AM Divine Liturgy



Sunday, January 12, 2020

10:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Followed by Blessing of the Water

Godfather: Gregory Andonian



Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

Website: [www.holytrinity-pa.org](http://www.holytrinity-pa.org) Email: [office@holytrinity-pa.org](mailto:office@holytrinity-pa.org)  
office ph. (215) 663-1600 fax (215) 663-1757

Holy Trinity Armenian Church  
101 Ashmead Road  
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*Traditional services for \$7995 not including cemetery and cash advance items and discount for pre-payments*