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Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church LOOYS



Cheltenham, PA

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

Summer 2019-03



2019 Pilgrimage to Armenia

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 **U**ntil **S**omething **H**appens

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
Kitchen: 267-282-4594
Pastor: Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan
frhakob@holytrinity-pa.org
Church Secretary: Maggie Miller
office@holytrinity-pa.org

REGULAR SUNDAY HOURS OF WORSHIP

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Hanamirian (Chair)	215-431-0589
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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

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Jeanette Der Hagopian	215-672-4188
Leslie Movsesian	215-801-2725

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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

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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.

Let Us Build the Holy Altar of Light

Armenia was the first Christian country in the world to announce Christianity as its state religion, in 301 A.D. Since then, Etchmiadzin has become the spiritual center of all Armenians.

In the 4th century, St. Gregory the Illuminator had a prophetic vision in this place: Jesus Christ descended from heaven and with His golden hammer pointed to the place to build a Church.

St. Gregory invited the Armenian nation to build the Holy Altar for God. Our forefathers listened to his call and with our King Trdat, they built the Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin between 301-303 A.D. and it stands as one of oldest functioning structures in Armenia for all these centuries. Etchmiadzin in Armenian means “the Decent of the Only- Begotten”, (Etch – descent, mi – only, dzin – begotten).

Holy Etchmiadzin was and is the nurturing and caring Mother for the entire Armenian nation. For centuries it has been spreading the Light and the Wisdom of the Gospel to our people in Armenia and the Diaspora. Etchmiadzin not only takes care of our spiritual needs but it also helps us to preserve and develop our language, culture, music, literature and Christian identity.

To emphasize the importance of Etchmiadzin in our life, I would like to remember what some of our writers said about our Spiritual center:

“Universal Cathedral built for us, which the gates of hell cannot destroy, anointed with oil, river of good news, O adorable Mother, Holy Etchmiadzin” (Paghtasar Tbir, 18th century).

“As Armenians we should love Etchmiadzin as our Holy Mother. In this Sanctuary is the heart of the Armenian Nation – the place of the Descent. Love Etchmiadzin, enter inside, kiss the point of Descent and you will have kissed the entire expelled nation, dispersed throughout the universe” (Berj Proshian, 19th century).

Dear Faithful, today our Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin is in dire need of renovation, the walls of the Cathedral need reinforcement, in order to prevent it from the danger of collapse.

The Gospel tells us, “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Let us show our love with action towards our Mother See and help to renovate it and make sure that Etchmiadzin will be there for many centuries to come.

With prayers,
Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan



The Armenian Church this year commemorates St. Shoushan on September 24

A reflection by Deacon Albert Keshgegian

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take words with you and return to the Lord; say to him, "Take away all guilt; accept that which is good, and we will offer the fruit of our lips. Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses; we will say no more, 'Our God,' to the work of our hands. In you the orphan finds mercy."

I will heal their disloyalty; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily, he shall strike root like the forests of Lebanon. His shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like that of Lebanon. They shall again live beneath my shadow, they shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom like the vine, their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like an evergreen cypress; your faithfulness comes from me.

-- Hosea 14:1-8

She was the daughter of the Great Vartan. Her baptismal name was Varteny (Rose) but they also called her Shoushan (Lily). Her father's devotion to Christ and subsequent martyrdom had forged her own strong Christian faith. She married Vazken, the son of the Georgian king, and they had three sons and a daughter. After the death of Shoushan's father-in-law the king, her husband inexplicably changed character. Vazken became power-hungry, and, after visiting the Persian capital, renounced Christianity for paganism. He returned with the Persian king's sister-in-law as his second wife. Shoushan immediately left her husband and sought sanctuary in the church, but he insisted that she also renounce Christianity. He had her imprisoned and tortured. He convinced two of Shoushan's children to convert from Christianity. He insulted her father's name. Still Shoushan clung to her Christian faith. Vazken finally martyred Shoushan, after seven years of imprisonment and torture, in 470 A.D.

Throughout her ordeal St. Shoushan relied upon God to support her. The prophet Hosea, in one of the Old Testament Bible readings on Shoushan's saint day, wrote over a thousand years earlier about how God supports his believers. Although Hosea wrote about God's chosen people Israel, Christ's coming created a new chosen people, a new Israel: all those who became followers of Christ, no matter what their nationality. Hosea called for Israel to return to God and ask forgiveness for having worshipped idols. In God, the orphan will find mercy, wrote Hosea. God will heal their disloyalty and love them freely.

Hosea wrote further, quoting God and using the poetic imagery of the garden, that God will provide the dew to let his followers blossom like a lily (interestingly the meaning of Shoushan's name). God's followers will be like trees that become strongly rooted, and whose shoots spread out, developing to be large and shade-giving. God's followers will have nothing more to do with idols, for God will answer them and care for them. God is like an evergreen tree, always green, always living, providing his fruitfulness all the time.

How could Shoushan turn toward idolatry when she had felt the love of God? How could she accede to her husband's demands when, orphaned by her father's martyrdom, she had felt the mercy of God? How could Shoushan turn away from Christ when she had felt the dew from God, and blossomed as a beautiful lily, even though she was in prison? Shoushan knew that her husband's idols were false and that only God could support and care for her, no matter what the future might bring.

Humanity has felt the love and care that God provides for thousands of years, from even before the time of the prophet Hosea, through the time of St. Vartan and St. Shoushan, to today. God's love is freely given. His caring is more than enough for all. In time of adversity, he will give us as much courage as we need. He supported St. Shoushan throughout her entire ordeal and kept her strong in her Christian faith. He can do the same for us.



Our Gourmet Armenia Legacy

By Elizabeth Barone

During the Summer of 2018, the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC recognized our Armenian culture and heritage at a days-long event open to the public. Our culture, history, music and gourmet food items were on display. It was wonderful to see non-Armenians enjoying their time at the exhibit.

Many months later Lucy Aghazarian approached me with an idea. Let's remember those who came before us by presenting the foods they served their families. Our food palette is not just chicken & pilaf or kebab & souboreg. Our food history is rich with many delicious items and a few forgotten through the years.

Lucy recruited what she affectionately called her legacy super cooks for a special coffee hour on Sunday, June 2. They were Yn. Anna Gevorgyan, Deskouhy Attarian, Angel Tookmanian, Anahid Mahserejian, Alice Torossian, Margo Silk, Suzanna Sherenian, Gay Hagopian, Tanya Paretchan, Maria Javardian, Armenouhi Keshgegian, Aslin Apik, Vickie Shakarjian, Lucv Aghazarian and yours truly.

Our gourmet cooks prepared biber dolma, ismir kufteh, anoushabour, vosbov kufteh, keshgeg, misov kufteh, imrig halvah, paklava, tabouleh, sourish, mazounov kufteh, iman bayildi, kourabia, & roasted eggplant. It was a delicious coffee hour with very few parishioners leaving early. Peanut butter & jelly was available for those not interested but had few takers. Judging by the reception we received, we believe our parishioners enjoyed this activity and would enjoy an encore in the future.

Men's Club "200 Club"

Tickets for the upcoming 2019-20 season have been mailed or distributed prior to Labor Day. As of 8/1/19, seven (7) Tickets are available for purchase by anyone.

A one-time donation of \$100 will entitle you to eight (8) months of drawings, with five winners drawn each month; that's 40 possible chances to win. And your ticket number could be drawn more than once during the Eight monthly drawings.

The first drawing will take place this November and the last drawing next June. Prizes for Winners: Nov 2019 & June 2020 will be \$1000 / \$400 / \$200 / \$200. Dec 2019 thru May 2020 you could win \$500 / \$200 / \$100 / \$100 / \$100.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE MEN'S CLUB: If you already have a ticket, Thank You for your support. Please consider purchasing another ticket or maybe split a ticket with a friend or family member. There will be \$10,000 in Prize Money & \$10,000 donated to the Church!

For Tickets Contact:

Mick Paretchan (215-947-4394)

Larry D. Der Hagopian (215-489-7116)

Mike Tookmanian (484-351-8663)

Mike Santerian (609-352-1575)

Final Winners for 2018-19 Season - June 2019

\$1000 Elizabeth Barone #005

\$400 Harry Shaboian #154

\$200 John Hanamirian #062

\$200 Charlene Simonian #105

\$200 Pauline Chapjian #106

Safety & Emergency Planning

By Mickey Paretchan

Since March 2018, a special Parish Council committee has been working with Safety & Emergency Planning personnel from Cheltenham Township and Montgomery County.

We have reviewed building security, door locking hardware, emergency communications, and "evacuation" or "stay" options. In addition, we have installed five (5) Emergency [911] Buttons in key locations of the building.

The committee has developed Drawings indicating all Exit Doors in our entire facility and they will be posted in various parts of the building. **PLEASE BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THESE EXITS.** The drawings also include a standard protocol (official procedure) for contacting 911 in the event of an aggressive intruder.

In April 2019 we executed a Church School Fire Evacuation drill, and another will be scheduled in the Fall. While we have no reason to believe there is any potential threat to our safety, the possibility exists and we must all plan and behave accordingly.

Finally, it is important that all parishioners are attentive & vigilant when arriving or leaving the church parking areas. Please be aware of unusual or unfamiliar vehicles & pedestrians on the street and in our parking lot.

If you "See Something, Say Something."

Should you have any questions, please contact a Parish Council member for more information.



2019 Harvest Bazaar

We are pleased to announce that the annual Holy Trinity Armenian Church Harvest Bazaar will take place this year on Friday October 25, Saturday October 26 and Sunday October 27.

As always, it will be a weekend filled with food, fun and fellowship. See flyer elsewhere in this issue for more details. This is the biggest church event of the year. We depend 100% on volunteers, and your generous donations. Please give freely of your time and financial support.

Any questions can be directed to Gay Hagopian at arsheeh@aol.com; or you can contact her at 609-502-4995.

Der Hakob and the Parish Council

Seminarian and Newly-Ordained Deacon Spends Summer in Philly

St. Nersess seminarian and deacon, Armen Terjimanian, joined us this summer at Holy Trinity. Dn. Armen is a third-year student and took the summer to satisfy his Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) requirement at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. This internship program with the hospital's chaplains gave Dn. Armen the chance to live out Jesus' words, "I was sick and you visited me," as he learned to offer prayer, comfort, and sometimes just a listening ear to patients and their families. During the summer, Bishop Daniel saw fit to ordain Armen, then a sub-deacon, to the rank of Deacon in a beautiful ordination at St. John Armenian Church in Michigan, where Dn. Armen grew up. Dn. Armen will return to St. Nersess in the



fall for his final year there, but is planning many visits back to Philadelphia. Congratulations, Dn. Armen!

CELEBRATING A HOMECOMING

The Liturgy on July 28, Transfiguration Sunday, was special, not only because it was a major feast day, but also because the celebrant was our own Fr. Hakob. After being away for four weeks in the homeland, leading a parish trip to Armenia then taking some much-deserved vacation time with his family, Der Hayr seemed refreshed and pleased to be back with his Church family.

Along with Yn. Anna and Narek and Vartan (both of whom appeared to have grown a few inches!), the parish welcomed another member of Fr. Hakob's family—his mother, Dyramayr Maro. Presented with a bouquet of flowers, Dyramayr was very gracious and responded warmly to the many faithful who approached her during Fellowship, which was sponsored by the Parish Council. Dyramayr will be spending a few months with her family during this visit, which is her first trip to the U.S. Welcome Dyramayr.



“Be Still and Know that I am God”

By Emily Movsesian

Life can be loud. Joyful noises, clanging cymbals - good or bad - it can be hard to find quiet. From June 6-9, three Holy Trinity parishioners were blessed with a weekend all about the peace and stillness that God offers us, as is written in Psalm 46: “Be still and know that I am God.”

With Nancy Basmajian as retreat co-leader, Ani Peckjian and Emily Movsesian joined 10 fellow quiet-seekers for the inaugural Adult Conference at St. Nersess Seminary. Elise Antreassian and Nancy led the group of “12 disciples” in a peace-filled weekend on the beautiful grounds of St. Nersess Seminary in Armonk, NY.

The participants filled journals with provoking entries with prompts like “What am I Made of?” and a reflection on silence in a loud world. Group sessions included “Does Life Have a Purpose?” (spoiler: yes!) and a moving talk on St. Gregory of Narek and how his natural and man-made surroundings contributed to his passionate prayers.

All throughout the weekend, the participants were well cared for by the selfless and generous seminary staff, including Father Mardiros, who joined us for meals and led a session on our Church as Nurturing Mother; Deacon Levon, who is our technology guy and general do-everything helper; and seminary chef Wilma, who kept us full with her vibrant and diverse meals.

The weekend, including everything learned and all the time spent together, culminated in a beautiful Jashoo Badarak on Saturday evening, the eve of Pentecost, with our newly consecrated Bishop Daniel in attendance. How appropriate it was for the group to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the sending out of the disciples to preach the Gospel. We’re already excited for next year’s conference. Why not join us?



A RECOGNITION

Congratulations go to senior Deacon Albert Keshgegian. Our readers will recall that back in November, Dn. Albert was presented with the coveted St. Nersess Shnorhali Medal by our Primate, Bishop Daniel Findikyan. The occasion was a banquet honoring our deacons and choir members.

The medal was due to be accompanied by a Pontifical Encyclical bestowed by His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, but alas an error in transit occurred, and Dn. Albert was left with an I.O.U. That mistake was rectified on July 28 during the Liturgy when Fr. Hakob presented the encyclical to Dn. Albert. Citing his 60 years of service to our community and listing Dn. Albert’s many accomplishments, Der Hayr passed the scroll to the recipient with a hug and a blessing.

Thank You!

Dear Der Hayr, Parish Council
and my Holy Trinity Family,

I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your many prayers, get- well cards, flowers and goodies during the time I was in the hospital and at rehab recovering from a stroke that I had at the end of May. Your prayers, calls and visits are greatly appreciated and sustained me during my recovery. I am now home and continue to get stronger and, God willing, hope to see you all in church soon.

Love,
Merle Santerian

2020 College Winter Conference

Held at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, Armonk, NY
Thursday, January 2 – Monday, January 6
For more information, go to www.stnersess.edu

**HOLY TRINITY SCHOLARSHIPS ARE
AVAILABLE TO QUALIFYING APPLICANTS.**

Did You Know . . .

that when we participate in Soorp Badarak (Divine Liturgy), we are also being invited to a meal (communion) offered by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As such, we should dress in a manner worthy of that invitation. We ask our faithful to dress appropriately for worship. Please, no very short dresses, shorts or bare shoulders. Thank you.

May the LORD now show you kindness and
faithfulness, and I too will show you the same favor
because you have done this. 2 Samuel 2:6

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John M. Hanamirian

THE WORLD IS MINE

Author Unknown

Today, upon a bus, I saw a very beautiful woman and
wished I were as beautiful.

When suddenly she rose to leave, I saw her hobble
down the aisle.

She had one leg and used a crutch. But as she
passed, she shared a smile.

Oh God, forgive me when I whine. I have two legs; the
world is mine.

I stopped to buy some candy. The lad who sold it had
such charm.

I talked with him, he seemed so glad. If I were late, it'd
do no harm.

And as I left, he said to me, "I thank you, you've been
so kind.

It's nice to talk with folks like you. You see," he said,
"I'm blind."

Oh God, forgive me when I whine. I have two eyes; the
world is mine.

Later while walking down the street, I saw a child I
knew.

He stood and watched the others play, but he did not
know what to do.

I stopped a moment and then I said, "Why don't you
join them dear?"

He looked ahead without a word. I forgot, he couldn't
hear.

Oh God, forgive me when I whine. I have two ears; the
world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go...

With eyes to see the sunset's glow...

With ears to hear what I'd know...

Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.

I've been blessed indeed, the world is mine.

**Wrong is
wrong even if
everyone is
doing it;
right is right
even if no one
is doing it.**



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May 25, 2019:

BRIELLE ANI ALEXANIAN

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Alexanian

Godfather: Vaughn Alexanian

Godmother: Patricia Alexanian



June 2, 2019:

GAYANE WEST

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Smbat Hamazaspyan

Godfather: Tigran Hamazaspyan

Godmother: Rena Hamazaspyan



June 30, 2019:

RAFFI DANIELYAN

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Artashes Danielyan

Godfather: Edward Sakoian

Godmother: Anait Sakoian

FUNERALS: 2019

ALBERT KAPEGHIAN entered into his eternal rest on May 5, 2019. Funeral services were held on May 9, 2019 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Arshen Aivazian.

ROSTOM TANDOURJIAN entered into his eternal rest on May 31, 2019. Funeral services were held on June 5, 2019 at Holy Trinity. The officiating clergy for the service was The Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan.



Address Changes and/or Additions

Ray and Marge Ayoub
margeayoub@gmail.com
(C) 215-262-2711
rayayoub@gmail.com
(C) 215-262-4657

OTHER DONATIONS

In memory of Valery Javakov: Marat Javakov
In memory of our son Martin T. LeCompte: Hank and Brenda LeCompte
Church School graduates: Hagop Kitabjian
Armenian School: Dr. Ohanes Oskanian

Leslie Movsesian

Artist

www.lesliemovsesian.com

Phone: 215.801.2725

lmovsesian365@gmail.com



PORTRAITS
GENRES
ABSTRACTS

OUTREACH IN ARMENIA

As Der Hakob led a pilgrimage to Armenia for two weeks at the start of summer, and beyond that – during the weeks that he stayed for vacation with his family - his heart was intent on making sure that he made time to visit families living in hardship and adversity in order to pray with them and provide some financial assistance to help ease their dire circumstances. He did that often and, surprisingly, many of those on the pilgrimage expressed a desire to join him and see firsthand the difficulties that so many were encountering. In all Der Hayr, alone and with others, visited 30 families and provided financial assistance to them in varying amounts.



The following are to be commended for their quick response and generous hearts when a call was put out seeking donations for this very purpose, with the result being that \$8,400 was donated for those in need.

“Blessed are those who have regard for the weak” (Ps 41:1a).

Ralph and Nane Arpajian, Martin and Deskouhy Attarian, Jeanette Der Hagopian, Harold and Doris Kodikian, Robert and Jean Ohnigian, Doris Alahverde, Ray and Marge Ayoub, Mr. and Mrs. Ohanes Oskanian, Mr. Mike Tookmanian, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Peacock, Greg & Diane Yazujian, Alice Karabian, Mr. and Mrs. David Mears, Larry and Kim Der Hagopian, Florence Boyajian, Michael & Lynn Hajatian, Jr, Harry and Valerie Santerian, Carol Jerrahian, Kim and Gena Willard, Barbara Papazian, Mr. & Mrs. Garo Bashian, Lucy Aghazarian, Ethel Terzian, Ms. Nancy Basmajian, Ms. Gloria Basmajian, Don & Gail Lulejian, David & Marta Brann, David & Alyssa Santerian, Linda Santerian, Alfred Urbano, Liz Barone, Angel Ohanian





Weddings and Events.... Beyond Beautiful!!

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- Bea C. April 2009



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept 15 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Sept 15 - Church School Registration
Sept 28 – Fall into Philly Kef Dance @ Holy Trinity
Oct 6 – Church School Commitment Service
Intercommunal @ AMCC – 3 pm
Oct 25, 26, 27 – Harvest Bazaar
Nov 5, 12, 19 – Bible Study – 10 am
Nov 28 – THANKSGIVING
Dec 8 – Breakfast with Santa
Dec 31 – Pomegranate Sunday

Stewardship in Action

We thank the following individuals for services & materials they provided at no cost to our church.

Kim Willard, Economy Roofing, for once again cleaning and repairing all gutters, downspouts & seams

Robert Barone for replacing faucets in our church kitchen; and also installing a new water heater in the church

John Hanamirian for providing ongoing legal services in conjunction with bequests received from deceased members.

Our Looy's Supporters

As we begin our sixth year printing in color, we are greatly appreciative of the following donors who have contributed to this enhancement, enabling us to produce the best newsletter possible for your reading pleasure.

General Donors

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In Memoriam

- **Janice Pinkerton** by Florence Boyajian
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WHAT THE CHURCH IS...

The Body of Christ
A welcoming community of believers
The children of God
A sanctuary
A house of prayer
The Lord's Home
A loving family
A peaceful haven
A mighty fortress
A safe harbor
Stewardship from the heart
Inclusive

WHAT THE CHURCH IS NOT...

A business
A country club
A cultural organization
An historical society
A building of brick and mortar
A café
A museum
An opera house
A casino
A theater
Exclusive

Welcome Back!

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH SCHOOL OPENING DAY

September 15, 2019

10:30 am to 11:30 am

Registration in Lower Lobby

11:00 am Meet and Greet Your Armenian Language School Teacher

11:30 am Meet and Greet Your Christian Education School Teacher

Fee: We are very thankful to be able to offer our Armenian Language and Christian Education to our youth at no charge this year. We thank the Parish Council for wisely using the monetary support they receive to build up the Body of Christ and to our parishioners who have truly embodied the spirit of a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7) recognizing the importance of the church in their lives and their role as caretakers of God's glory.



CHURCH SCHOOL CELEBRATES GRADUATES

Five young people from our parish graduated from Church School on May 19, receiving their Diocesan diplomas from our pastor, Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan. During the graduation service, witnessed by the staff and students of the school and the parish community, Fr. Hakob anointed the forehead of each student, saying "Sweet ointment in the name of Jesus Christ is poured upon you as a seal of faith that you may serve the Lord with gladness." And likewise, he anointed the palms of the graduates with the words, "This seal in the name of Jesus Christ be to you as a cause for good works and for all virtuous deeds and conduct."

Following the solemn ceremony, the faithful, including family and friends of the graduates, gathered in the church hall for a celebratory brunch, the highlight of which was the cutting of the cake which read "God Bless Our Graduates."



Fall Into Philly



September 28, 2019

@ Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church

8PM – 1AM

A night of great music, dancing and mezza as we *KEF* like our parents taught us!

Featuring the musical artistry of:

**Michael Gostanian (vocals), David Hoplamazian, Chris Marashlian
Christopher Vosbikian, Jake Terkanian, and Robert Boghosian
w / DJ Barone**

Scrumptuous mezza and desserts

A room full of KEF vibes

How do you get on the list?

Advanced purchase pricing:

\$50 for adult

\$25 for age 13-18

Advanced purchase online by August 31st
at **kef.holytrinity-pa.org** will receive a
complimentary drink ticket.

Pricing at the door:

\$60 for adult

\$25 for age 13-18

Or, advanced payment mailed to:**
Holy Trinity Armenian Church
101 Ashmead Rd, Cheltenham, PA 19012
***Include names of attendees*

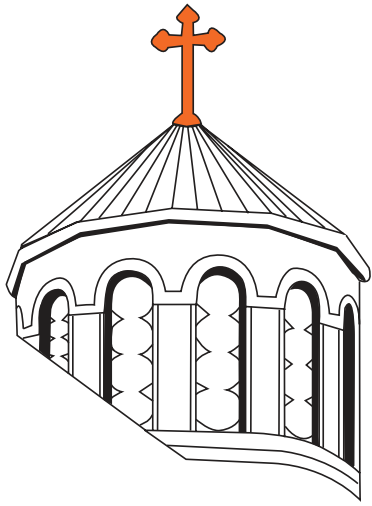
Questions about tickets? Contact any of these helpful folks:

Tom Torcomian (610) 662-7879, Legna Santerian (610) 527-1065
or Erika Torosian (215) 285-1364

This event is being held as a fundraiser for Holy Trinity Armenian Church
www.holytrinity-pa.org / (215) 663-1600

Join Us!

Holy Trinity Armenian Church



2019 Harvest Bazaar



Friday, October 25

Doors Open @ 5:00 pm

Dinner @ 6:00 pm

Saturday, October 26

Doors Open @ 4:00 pm

Dinner @ 5:00 pm

Sunday, October 27

Doors Open after Badarak

Holy Trinity Armenian Church

101 Ashmead Road

Cheltenham, PA 19012

215-663-1600

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

www.holytrinity-pa.org

for Food,
Music, Shopping
and Fun!

The Country Store
The Gift Basket Auction
Armenian Art
The Bake Shop
Vendors
Kids Activities

Entertainment!

**Sunday
Children's
Halloween Parade**



@ Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church

BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST

A Vision for our Diocese

One of most important events at this year's Diocesan Assembly was the Address of our new Primate, Bishop Daniel Findikyan, in which he shared the purpose of the Church. Below are excerpts from his presentation.

THE gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:11-16

UNITY OF FAITH-KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD

Most parishes of our Diocese are observing steady attrition in many aspects of their life. Seeking to attract greater numbers, we have tended to try to be all things for all our people, a sort of marketplace of all things Armenian. But this approach has diluted our specifically God-given, Christian mission. Many attend non-Armenian churches to receive spiritual nourishment, while others who do remain attached to the Armenian Church are relatively uninformed about the fundamentals of the Bible, our Christian responsibilities and privileges, and the witness and life of the Armenian Church. This also applies, most alarmingly, to our church's lay leadership.

Objective: Forming our people into fervent and informed followers of Jesus Christ according to the holy tradition of the Armenian Church becomes a priority of the Diocese, its parishes and all affiliated bodies and organizations. Quality, stimulating Christian education and formation is offered always, everywhere and for everyone, from font to funeral.

EQUIPPING SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY

The Diocese lacks sufficient numbers of theologically trained and competent teachers and mentors to effectively and measurably build up our people, our parishes and our Diocese. In most places it falls largely on the priest's shoulders to spearhead all of the parish's educational and

other properly Christian ministries, a situation that is untenable and contrary to the tradition of the Armenian Church. Many diocesan and parish organizations have strayed from their original apostolic missions and are choking in bureaucracy, inertia and "administrivia."

Objective: In accordance with their baptismal vows, all members of the church are inspired and "equipped" to participate actively in the daily ministries of the Armenian Church, especially in the building-up of our people and parishes. Every member of the church is a servant. Each parish has a core of trained and active apostles, prophets, evangelists, and teachers working with the pastor to "promote the body's growth in building [the parish] up in love." Mentoring becomes the hallmark of our parishes and Diocese in every fact of its life and work.

KNITTING TOGETHER THE BODY IN LOVE: THE HOLY BADARAK

Theologically, biblically, historically and intuitively, the Holy *Badarak* is the centerpiece of the Armenian Church's life and identity. Above all, it is through the *Badarak* that the Church becomes the Body of Christ, the living agent of God's healing in a broken world, armed with "the grace, the love and the divine sanctifying power" of God. Yet this exalted vision is hardly realized in most parishes of our Diocese. The challenge of drawing our people into a meaningful engagement with the *Badarak* is a complex and emotional problem that involves issues of language, culture, a general lack of biblical and liturgical knowledge among our people, societal and economic pressures, and other factors, many of which are out of our control and jurisdiction. Nevertheless, they must be addressed as an issue of primary importance.

Objective: The Holy *Badarak* is once again regarded as the source, heart and summit of our Christian calling within the Armenian Church. Every activity and occupation of the parish feeds, and is fed by, the community's meaningful participation in the *Badarak*. The *Badarak* fuels our faith, inspires us, challenges us, and guides us "into him who is the head, into Christ." The Holy *Badarak* builds up our people, our parishes, and our Diocese into "unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

ANNABELLE ALEXANIAN

Greg and Maria Javardian
NEW TOTAL: \$6,810.00

FLORENCE DANDEGIAN

Greg and Maria Javardian
NEW TOTAL: \$2,482.00

SAM SILK

Brian and Joyce Hoyle
NEW TOTAL: \$2,915.00

ALBERT KAPEGHIAN

Children of Albert Kapeghian
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Ajemian
Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Alexanian
Gary and Eileen Altoonian
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Attarian
Robert and Elizabeth Barone
Nancy and Gloria Basmajian
Florence Boyajian
David and Marta Brann
Anthony and Christine Brocco
Ankine Kapeghian Carlin
& Richard Carlin
Ayshe Chakmaklian
HTAC Choir
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Damerjian Jr.
Maral and Jeff Davis
Jeanette Der Hagopian
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Der Hagopian
Larry and Kim Der Hagopian
Linda Dietrich
Richard and Phyllis Donigian
& Family
Anita Brocco and Patricia Farrington
Garo and Cece Garibian
Ken and Madeline Gureghian
Roupen and Marge Gureghian
Victoria Gureghian

Gay Hagopian
Pauline Haufler
Lynn and Michael Hajatian
Rick and Carrie Haney
Stephen and Nancy Hovnanian
Steven Injaian
Harry and Mary Injaian
Heather Radcliffe and Vince Iosca
Mary and Pearl Jamgoghian
Greg and Maria Javardian
Jane Johnston
Fred and Janet Jordan
John Kapeghian & Family
Nell Kapeghian
Alice Karabian
John Kash
Arousiag Keshishian
Dr. and Mrs. Albert Keshgegian
Joyce Killian
Linda Ljoka
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph LoCasale
Mr. and Mrs. Don Lulejian
Mr. and Mrs. David Mears
Emily Movsesian
Rick and Naomi Mukalian
Murray Family
Alex and Elaine Novak
Frank Ortega
Barbara Papazian
Don and Judy Paretchan
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Peacock
The Peckjian Family
Trisha Piccone
Jennifer Piraine
Anna Polizzi
Denise Rudolf
Virginia Sandler
Merle Santerian
Zevart Shakarjian
Margo Silk

Vache and Nadia Soghomonian
Carol Temoyan
Amy, Emily, Ashley
& Zachary Thompson
Mike Tookmanian
Angel Tookmanian
Karnig and Alice Torossian
Karen Vartanian & Family
Jack Vishab
Richard and Linda Vishab
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Ware
Kim and Gena Willard
Forrest and Kathy Worrell
Greg and Diane Yazujian
Berj and Mary Yeretjian
Rosemarie Zarzatian
TOTAL: \$4,909.17

ROSTOM TANDOURJIAN

Jasen Andersen
Haig and Suzanne Arabian
Dorothy Arakelian
Anahid Azizian
Todd Bandemer
Florence Boyajian
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Damerjian Sr.
Jeanette Der Hagopian
Adria Ermolenko
Gay Hagopian
Gary and Patricia Mahon
James Megargel
Kimberly Kelly
Arax, Anais & Christine Missakian
Tim and Kerry Mentzer
Michele and Mindy Mukalian
Aspire Technology Partners, LLC
Si02 Medical Products
Roland and Mary Telfeyan
TOTAL: \$1,825.90

STEWARDSHIP 2019

Ralph and Nane Arpajian
Hagop Arzoumanian
Steve and Dorie Aslanian
Arthur Baldadian
Stephanie Balint
Robert and Elizabeth Barone
Florence Boyajian
Ayshe Chakmaklian
Jeanette Der Hagopian
Larry and Dorothy (Dolly) Grocott
*Vartuhi Hacikian

Michael and Lynne Hajatian
Elizabeth Hovsepien
Brian and Joyce Hoyle
Harry and Mary Injaian
Mary Jamgochian
Pearl Jamgochian
Alice Karabian
John Kash
Ronald A. Kashkashian
Albert and Patrice Keshgegian
Virginia Knott

Serge and Andrienne Minassian
Emily Movsesian
Barbara Papazian
Michael and Tanya Paretchan
Don and Judy Paretchan
Harry and Valerie Santerian
Kim and Gena Willard
Greg and Diane Yazujian

Total: \$22,565.00

* New stewards since last listing

REFLECTIONS OF A PILGRIMAGE

We share below the memories of many of the participants that Der Hakob led on a life-changing trip to Armenia. Most of the 44 attendees were first-timers, with only a few “repeaters.” Most all can’t wait to return!

What a memorable and amazing trip! This vacation was extra special, as we got to experience it with friends and family. It's too hard to pick one favorite part, but we loved our day at Dadivank in Artsakh. Der Hovanes is doing a remarkable job rebuilding the church, property and chapel. He is a welcoming, charismatic and strong man. He shared stories of his life and how he is fighting for the land in Artsakh. He gave us a tour of his office, conference room and sleeping quarters and prayed with us in his church, St. Katoghike. Yeretsgeen prepared a delicious meal, one of our favorites, all from scratch outside on her make-shift kitchen. It was such an enjoyable day.

Jim & Donna Walter

The Holy Trinity pilgrimage to Armenia was like going home for me. It has been more years than I care to remember since I first visited our motherland. I was curious to see the new Armenia, free from the reigns of Soviet Union. It is absolutely beautiful. Even though I cannot read Armenia and speak poorly, I was comforted looking at the print & hearing the language daily. I shared this visit with my Italian in-laws who thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Thank you, Der Hayr, for inviting us to join you on this journey.

Elizabeth Barone

I found the country beautiful, the people friendly, especially the people in our tour group. I was very grateful for all the helping hands getting off the bus and climbing the many stairs. The food was great – we loved it all. The best part is when Luke had a checkup with his doctor upon our return, all his stats had improved and were as good as they were two years ago. The diet actually improved his health! A highlight of the trip was having lunch at the home of Der Hayr's parents. Der Hayr is a gracious, kind and great priest. Most thankful he was with us.

Annette & Luke Barone

Thank you, Holy Trinity and Der Hakob, for giving us the opportunity to share a beautiful trip to Armenia and Artsakh. What wonderful memories we have of waking in the morning and greeting Mt. Ararat from our balcony, and enjoying the unbelievable Marriott Hotel Armenia breakfast buffet feast, to traveling with a great group of people to see the magnificent sights of Armenia and Artsakh each day. Our tour guide, Marina, was the best!! And the drivers, Hovhannes and Ashod were experts and safely arrived to our destinations. Can't neglect to mention the beautiful evenings walking and taking in the sights of Yerevan at night and meeting friends at the “Meeting Point.” We especially thank Der Hakob for the Hokehankist service that included remembering our parents, Krikor and Veronica Pilbosian. Every day was so well planned.

Rosely & Wally Stronski



We were incredibly fortunate to be part of a life-changing pilgrimage to Armenia this summer, and being there with extended family was a huge bonus. It was the first (and hopefully not last) time for our entire family to set foot on the ground of our Motherland, and it was beyond magnificent! The landscapes of Armenia are breathtakingly beautiful. The architecture from the oldest monasteries to the newest churches is indescribably beautiful... even our best pictures do not do them justice. Perhaps some of our personal highlights of the trip were hearing our daughter sing Soorp Soorp in Saint Mesrop Mashtots Church with her Mom Mom, and then on her own in the Geghard Cave Monastery. We were amazed at how much we felt “at home” and safe. Faces in the crowd seemed “familiar” as though we knew them! The food was fantastic, of course! Fresh lavash and apricots (unlike any you’ll find in America) were part of our everyday staples, and we enjoyed some of the best Lahmajun, Monti and Kebab we’ve ever tasted. On our last day in Yerevan, we asked our daughters if they’d like to come back one day. Our younger daughter said, “no, I don’t want to come back, I want to stay.” It’s been two weeks since we’ve returned from our trip, but a part of our minds and hearts are still there. Tsédesootyoon Hayastan ... we’ve already started our list of additional places we’d like to see when we return!

____ Toleen, Andre, Alexa & Liana Farah

Armenia is a land of fascinating contrasts. There are the centuries-old monasteries that harken to the nation’s Christian heritage. There are the even older pagan temples that speak to Armenia’s dynastic past. There are the simple towns and villages that preserve the culture and traditions of historic Armenia. There are the bland, concrete high-rises that remain from the Soviet era. There are the striking, modern structures of the vibrant city center of Yerevan. And, there is the stunning natural beauty of the Armenian countryside: the rolling hills and majestic mountains, the enormous Lake Sevan, the fields and farms overflowing with the upcoming harvest of fruits, vegetables and spices and the forests, deep green in leafy splendor. But, always, there are the Armenian people, friendly and welcoming, but, more importantly, proud and steadfast in their devotion to their religion, their customs, their nation and each other. A visit to Armenia is to connect with who you are as an Armenian and, if you are not Armenian, to be enlightened about the strength, endurance, and beauty of the Armenian civilization.

____ Chris & Ernie Peacock



Imagine visiting a country and not feeling like a foreigner. Everything was familiar, the delicious food, the language, and the extreme kindness and hospitality of one another. Whether we were with our tour guide, visiting at Der Hayr’s parents’ house or interacting with Armenians throughout the country, we always felt comfortable and at home. Most days we traveled to various monasteries; some were set upon the mountainous terrain or in a scenic canyon. Some of these days we had the beautiful Ararat mountain in the background. Immersed in the architectural beauty and history, some monasteries dated back to the 4th century. On the tour we also had two free days to experience Armenia on our own. One of the days our family decided to help and give back to Armenia. We traveled to Nor Hachn to help clean up a neglected park next to a museum. Shovels were used to dig out bushes, saws trimmed the trees, heavy rocks were moved, trash was cleaned, sledge hammers broke up a massive block of cement holding up a cement pole. And yes, the pole did come down! Not knowing what to expect on this trip, we were pleased to learn more about the history of Christianity and Armenia as each day passed. We feel so fortunate to have experienced this pilgrimage and our wonderful culture.

____ Alyssa, David, Scott & Phillip Santerian

“It is simply in the nature of Armenian to study, to learn, to question, to speculate, to discover, to invent, to revise, to restore, to preserve, to make, and to give.”

William Saroyan

Our trip to Armenia exceeded our expectations by leaps and bounds. Yerevan is happy and charming and comfortable and safe. It's an absolutely beautiful country rich in history and culture. The land is beautiful and its people are beautiful. Filled with love and pride, our people are educated and talented, hard-working and proud. And they are oh so hospitable and welcoming. In Armenia, nobody is a stranger and everyone is family. We felt at home from the first moment we arrived. Our biggest surprise was the vast contrasts we saw. Armenia is flourishing with amazing progress and promise; yet it is still riddled with devastation and despair. It was overwhelming to see the deplorable conditions in which many displaced earthquake families are still living.....conditions unimaginable to all of us here in the USA. However, The Gyumri Technology Center overflows with excitement as it provides exceptional IT educations to Armenians at very modest costs while simultaneously working on impressive global projects for countless recognizable International Companies. Way to go GTC! Our hearts will forever burst with joy as we reminisce about this amazing trip. Without a doubt, experiencing this pilgrimage to our homeland with our Holy Trinity Church family was the icing on the cake for our family. The entire trip felt like one big kef, filled with an enormous range of emotions. It was priceless and we all left yearning for more. So can't wait to see you again Hayastan!

Gena and Kim Willard



Sharing reflections during our trip to Armenia in one paragraph proved to be much more difficult than thought because it was a breathtaking trip on every level. The landscape, food, entertainment, churches and monasteries all blew away any expectations we might have had. However, it was the amazing and beautiful people that touched our hearts the most. We were blessed enough to have the opportunity to visit six families in need in the city of Gyumri. The living conditions, along with the physical and emotional pain and suffering these sweet and precious people endure daily, were an inspiration to our entire family that is hard to express adequately. Their faith and strength in their individual adversities was an incredible testament to the resilience of all Armenians. We couldn't help but be overwhelmed with emotion and we all came away humbled by their outlook, patience and perseverance. It was a moment we will never forget. We returned home from our visit feeling so blessed but for each of us, a part of our hearts will forever remain in Armenia. We look forward to returning one day!

Harry, Valerie, John Paul, Halle & Dylan Santerian

On top of being there with family and friends, it was especially heartwarming to be on the trip with Der Hakob and Yn. Anna, visiting places they cherish. We have always been deeply proud to say "I am Armenian." That now has richer meaning as we better appreciate the quest for a surviving and thriving Armenian homeland and language(s). Along those lines, it was inspiring to see the Gyumri Technology Center and learn that Armenia is highly regarded for entrepreneurial tech/coding across the globe; having a subset of our group visit indigent families nearby made it all poetic truth -- two sides of the same coin. But, nothing could top seeing Mt. Ararat... while realizing that crossing the border to see the opposite view is impossible. Thank God, this trip brought us many steps closer to where our hearts have their roots and home again safely.

Larry & Kim Der Hagopian

It's difficult to briefly reflect on a truly awesome and inspirational journey. This was my husband, Michael, and children, Mike and Maritsa's first trip and my second. Der Hakob's blessed pilgrimage encompassed many aspects of Armenia... the spiritual strength, wondrous landscapes, and the hope and resolve of the Armenian people. Armenia seemed so much larger than I remembered! There were many changes ... new churches, hotels, restaurants, shops, companies, and so many tourists! We were in awe of Yerevan coming alive at night. The people poured out onto Republic Square, North Street, and the Cascades. Yes, there were needy families throughout the city and surrounding towns and villages. Gyumri is still recovering from the earthquake, and the country from years of turmoil within the government. Hope is eternal in Armenia. The ancient churches and monasteries were breathtaking. We noticed people attending and visiting churches. The candles burned brightly throughout the country. Our group included a variety of families, ages, first-time visitors, and those who had visited Armenia in the past. We took hundreds of photos. I believe that we were trying to capture each moment. We laughed, cried, hugged and danced. Visiting Armenia made the candy taste sweeter, the water more thirst-quenching, and the church's incense more fragrant. We left here with hope for a memorable journey; returning with memories, and a stronger love and appreciation of our Armenian brothers and sisters. Many of us hope to return...looking forward to more treasures Armenia has yet to reveal.

Michael, Suzanne, Mike and Maritsa Sherenian

Our pilgrimage to Hayastan was fabulous on many levels. It was inspiring, educational, entertaining, exhilarating to our taste buds, and fun in fellowship with our "family" of 42. Being in the country of my heritage always feels like I am at "home". It is wonderful to walk streets full of Armenians, read signs in Armenian, hear it spoken everywhere, to enjoy the taste of familiar food, hear the beautiful sounds of our liturgy echo in ancient surroundings, walk among the ancient monasteries, churches and khatchkars in abundance that are witness to hundreds of years of our heritage, to touch an artifact that is 30,000 years old, and experience the highs and lows of the Caucasus as we wound ourselves up down and around to and from Artsakh. It was delightful having breakfast with friends, riding together to each destination, sharing experiences, and shopping and sightseeing together. And that is only the tip of the iceberg. Although I was very ready to return to the U.S., I am now ready to return to the ancestral homeland once again.

Doris Kodikian

I experienced a lot of firsts on my third trip to Armenia. I was treated to a beautiful winding ride through the Caucasus Mountains, an air tram to Tatev Monastery, three wonderful museums in Yerevan, a rug cutting ceremony, sharagans sung a cappella in Geghard and St. Mesrop Mashtots, Badarak at St. Hiripsime, a rock-tossing game, a village-life experience, a cultural lavash-making opportunity, wine tasting, an Italian Opera and a Tumanyan Interpretive Dance tribute. This is not to mention all the wonderful new improvements like a Blue Kiwi and moving glass sculptures at the Cascade, several playful fountain parks, and slate paved walkways and gardens in front of Temple Garni. Ask me about the delicious Sturgeon and black glove napkins. Additionally, I learned about new service projects by Paros Foundation and had an opportunity to work with them cleaning up a park. When I booked this trip, I thought this would be my last journey to Armenia, but Armenia has never disappointed. Its hospitality (Der Hayr's family lunch), its continual improvement to infrastructure, and frankly, the familial-pull will always make Armenia a travel option for me. I hope you will have an opportunity to visit one day.

Leslie Movsesian







Armenia Remembered

By Marge Ayoub

Apricots abound

Remarkable Republic Square

Monasteries on mountains

Etchmiadzin audience with
Catholicos

Numerous Vernissage bargains!

Incredible snow-capped Mt.
Ararat

American support and
investment appreciated





Reflections of our youth visiting Armenia

Recently, I was able to go on a trip to Armenia. While I was there, I went with a few others to visit the houses in Gyumri. In all we went to three houses. From start to end, the conditions of the houses decreased by a lot each time.

At the first house, the condition of the house wasn't the worst that we had seen, but it was a small apartment with three people living in it. There was a mother, a father and their daughter. The father was the only person who worked and made money. Sadly, he was injured when metal got into his eye and blinded him. Now, no one in the family was making money. We gave each family money, but we gave this family more as they were going to be evicted from their house.

The next house that we went to was a bunker that had been used for soldiers. It was meant for two soldiers, but five people were living there: a mother, a father, two children and their aunt. There was only one bedroom and a living room for the whole family to stay in. What was extra special about this one was that on the whole dirt road were houses filled with many, many children. There were only about eight houses, but over twenty kids lived there. As we passed, one of the ladies in our group passed each child a one-dollar bill. As soon as they got their dollar bill, they got so excited. One young girl ran up to the donor and gave her a huge hug.

The third and final house that we saw had the worst living condition I have ever seen. The father of the family was abusive and an alcoholic. Because of that, we had to give the mother the money before the father knew we were there. We went to their driveway and handed the mother the money. She thanked us and ran ahead of us to go back inside. When we got to the house, it wasn't a house at all but a rusty, broken-down shed. We walked in and saw the whole family: the mother, a father, a son and a young daughter. In the one-room hut, there was one "bed," a TV, and a blanket. The only other thing was a baby kitten that the daughter was clutching in her arms.

From this experience, I learned to be even more thankful for what I have because so many people have so much less than we do.

Liana Farah (age 13)

My trip to Armenia was surely an unforgettable experience. From touring around to different places to exploring Yerevan at night, this trip is one of my favorites. I learned so much about Armenian culture and history I never knew before. We

went to so many churches, drove along the rolling hills, and travelled to beautiful landscapes that I of course took photos of. My favorite place had to be Lake Sevan. The view was amazing and so worth climbing all the stairs to reach the top where the church was located. Not to mention, I got to jet ski and go in the freezing cold water. There was so much more I loved too. The food itself was a whole new experience, but I fell in love with lavash. I also adored the group I toured with. Everyone was so nice and welcoming, and I got to make new friends. In the end, despite all the tiring walking and the dry hot weather, my trip to Armenia was wondrous, breathtaking, and memorable. I can't wait to go back.

Audrey Movsesian (age 17)



OUR GRADUATES

DR. JESSICA M. JORDAN: graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh with her Au.D. (Doctor of Audiology) degree. She is the daughter of Fred and Janet Jordan and granddaughter of Rosemarie and the late Edward Zarzatian. Jessica will be joining the Department of Audiology at Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA.

DANIEL ASLANIAN: recently graduated from Penn State with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business with a focus in Management and Marketing. It was through this unique concentrated program held at the Altoona, PA satellite campus that he was able to pursue leadership and networking opportunities through a railroad engineering campus organization as well as maintain a strong personal faith through campus Bible Study groups. Daniel always completes his work with a strong connection to the Lord and practices the Holy Spirit in his everyday life. These opportunities throughout his college career in turn achieved a healthier spiritual connection with God on a personal level as well as the blessing to share in mentor leadership with his peers. Upon graduation, Daniel is pursuing a full-time management training program with a freight railroad in the Midwest where he will utilize his skillsets attained in his college curriculum while consistently working and living with a fulfilling practice of the Holy Spirit in his everyday life. Daniel is proud to bring his Armenian heritage to the railroad industry and thanks all at Holy Trinity for his spiritual and cultural upbringing bestowed upon him. Danny is the son of Steve and Dorie Aslanian.



PHILIP SANTERIAN: Phillip Santerian earned his degree of Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in finance and a concentration of corporate finance from Temple University's Fox School of Business. While attending Temple University, Phillip was the Vice President of the Armenian Students Association, analyst in the Fox Fund, Member in the Financial Management Association and Temple University Investment Club, and participated in flag football, basketball, handball, and soccer intramural leagues. His future plans include working in corporate finance either in a finance development program or as a financial analyst. He is the son of David and Alyssa Santerian.



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July 31, 2019

Dear Sunday School Students and Staff of the Eastern Diocese:

On behalf of the Fund for Armenian Relief (FAR), I would like to wholeheartedly thank you and your families for your generous gift of \$20,737.50, which you have designated for our programs combatting Child Malnutrition in rural Armenia.

We were delighted to learn about your enthusiastic participation in a variety of fundraising activities, engaging your friends, family and neighbors, and following the Gospel's lesson of generosity and love.

We say it often, and I would stress it again, as it is very important: with your love and generosity you are conveying a strong message of hope to your less privileged peers in the motherland that you think about and care for them. Child malnutrition is one of the leading causes worldwide of impaired growth in children, and in some regions of Armenia the situation, especially for infants and toddlers, is truly alarming. Helping children eat well and thrive is a major effort and indeed a special passion for FAR.

With your support, FAR's able and devoted staff in Armenia will make sure that hundreds of children in the rural provinces there are provided with the right food on a regular basis. We will also be able to educate parents in the proper nutrition of their children, reaching out to the most impoverished families with basic food packages, especially in the wintertime.

As always, we will make sure that our beneficiaries learn the story of where this gift came from and, in turn, share their joy with you through pictures and stories.

Bless your hearts and thank you so very much.

With kindest regards and appreciation,

Garnik Nanagoulian
Executive Director

Cc: Rt. Rev. Bishop Daniel Findikyan, Primate



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