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Holy Trinity Armenian Church



LOOYS



Cheltenham, PA

July to September 2010

Team Gevorgyan



Hours of Worship

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

Come celebrate with Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan

Upcoming Events

- Family Night Sept 24
- Bazaar Oct. 22-23
- ACYOA Jrs. Sports Weekend Oct. 8-11
- Armenian Language School October 9 (first day)
- Operation Christmas Child/Shoebox presentation Oct 10
- Sunday School Halloween Party Oct 31
- Stewardship Sunday Nov 28
- Sunday School Christmas Party Dec 5

Parish Council Corner

As summer draws to an end and fall begins, I hope that you enjoyed whatever you did, be it traveling, vacationing with family and friends, enjoying the seashore, etc. and are ready to look forward to resuming activities such as going back to school, work, church, etc.

Although church attendance does drop somewhat during the summer, I am happy to say that we did not encounter the drop in attendance which one might expect one to find during the summer months. On the contrary, we had a good number of parishioners and visitors attending church services this summer which was most comforting. In fact, according to the records kept, over the last five years, this year we had a record year the Sunday of the Assumption and Blessing of the Grapes, despite the heat of that day; and for that matter, the heat throughout this summer. I attribute it to the fact that we have a sincere, devoted pastor in our new priest, Der Hakob who is attentive to his parishioners, their cares and needs. He is available whenever one needs him. He has performed many Baptisms, Funerals, and Weddings in the short time he has been with us, and visits shut-ins, and the sick on a regular basis, comforting them and easing their minds. I can attest to this, because I have accompanied him on such an occasion several times.



On a sad note, this August 26, 2010, we lost two great dedicated, hardworking, women of our Parish: Berjoohy Haigazian, who served on our Parish Council and then served as Superintendent of our Sunday school for a number of years as well; and Sarah Terkhanian, who was an active, dedicated member of our Women's Guild who oversaw the kitchen, worked with Lorraine Damerjian, side by side, running the Country Store, choreg, and cheese making, and taking care of the Sunday Coffee Hour after church. May God rest their souls; we will never forget them and their dedication to their church.

Our Parish Council has been working over the summer, having our usual monthly meetings and planning a calendar for the fall and winter months which you can find in our weekly Messenger or on our Web site. One major event is our annual Festival/Bazaar which is planned for the weekend of October 22 and 23, 2010. We need a lot of help, and ask for your help in whatever way you can give it. This is a time when you can give of your time and talent to make this event a successful one. Please do not hesitate to offer your services. If you wish to help, contact anyone on the Parish Council who can direct you to the person(s) who are handling a particular area of the

Bazaar. There is much to be done and YOU can make the difference. Come join us. This is a great way of getting to know your fellow members and make new and lasting friendships.



Sunday school will begin on September 12, and an added attraction will be the formation of an Armenian Language school, headed by Yn. Anna, which will be held on Saturdays, starting sometime in October. This is an opportunity for your child/children to learn our mother language. Registration for both schools will take place on September 12, in our church Lower Lobby.

Our Men's and Women's organization have each planned an enjoyable event for September. The Stewardship Committee will be doing a presentation in the coming months and we hope you will all participate in helping us reach our goal.

On September 14, Der Hayr and his family left for vacation time to visit his family in Khor Virab, Armenia, who haven't seen him or his new son in three years. This will be a joyous occasion for the grandparents to see their grandson, in person, for the first time since his birth. The family will return on October 14. During the time Der Hayr is away we will have visiting priests.

We look forward to seeing you all in church, in the coming days and months ahead, as sisters and brothers in Christ sharing our Christian faith.

Merle Santerian
Parish Council Chairman

Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Glory to the Holy Cross, Alleluia!

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the last of the five major feasts of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It is dedicated to the return of the Holy Cross from captivity, and its subsequent elevation and glorification. In the Armenian Apostolic Church the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated on Sunday during the period between September 11-17. This year that date is September 12, and the Monday following the Feast is a Memorial Day.

On the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (or Triumph of the Cross) we honor the Holy Cross by which Christ redeemed the world. According to early accounts, the public veneration of the relics of True Cross originated in the fourth century. The miraculous discovery of the Cross on September 14, 326, by Saint Helen, mother of Constantine, while she was on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, is the origin of the tradition of celebrating the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross on this date. Constantine later built the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on the site of her



discovery of the cross. On this same pilgrimage, she ordered two other churches built: one in Bethlehem near the Grotto of the Nativity, the other on the Mount of the Ascension, near Jerusalem. In the Western Church, the feast became famous in the seventh century when the Byzantine emperor Heraclitus restored the Holy Cross to Jerusalem in 629 after defeating the Persians who had stolen it.

As Christians we all know how important the Cross is in our Faith. The Cross is the central fact of the Faith It is a symbolic summary of the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ, all in one image. The cross is not only where Christ was crucified, but also where Christ rose from the dead. By losing our life through the Cross, we



save our life. In other words if we live for Christ, we will save our life. However, if we live for ourselves, we will lose our life. This is the law of our being and we can see it in all areas of human life.

The history of the Church teaches us that the saints, who lived for Christ, were neither lonely nor bored. By living for the Cross of Christ, not taste spiritual death at the Last Judgment, but will taste the Kingdom of God. Then crosses become instruments of victory, weapons of salvation, Exaltation, because we no longer lock ourselves up, selfishly giving nothing, but instead looking to others.

St. John Chrysostom said that salvation comes to us through the challenges and difficulties brought to us by others. Only the proud can imagine that salvation comes from ourselves. The Cross because of what it represents is the most universal symbol of the Christian faith. It has inspired both liturgical and private devotions. Placing a Cross in churches or wearing this image on our persons, is a constant reminder and witness of Christ's ultimate triumph, His victory over sin and death through His suffering and dying on the Cross.



The Holy Cross is the symbol of salvation. Through Jesus Christ and the Sacrament of Baptism, those who believe in Him and obey His teachings will enjoy eternal life in the Kingdom of God. If we live life as Jesus did, if we live in His way, His truth and

His life, we will find a freedom that this world cannot give. Dear faithful, let us look to the cross frequently, and realize that when we make the Sign of the Cross we give our mind, soul, heart and body to God.

Our Lord said, "He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake shall find it" (Mt 10:38,39).

Guard us, O Christ our God, under the shadow of your holy and precious cross in peace. Deliver us from enemies visible and invisible. Make us worthy to give thanks to you with the Father and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

Amen

Organizations

ACYOA JUNIORS – SUMMER 2010

It has been a long and fulfilling summer for many of the ACYOA Junior members! From trips to Armenia to weeks at summer camp, the members were active all summer! The members each submitted a sentence or two about their summer experiences. Below is a snapshot of some of the things each member enjoyed during their vacation.

This summer I took a tour to Armenia with the Boston Parish for a week and a half. After visiting Armenia my mom and I went to visit relatives in Turkey for a week and a half as well. When I returned home I spent 9 days at St. Nersess for High School Conference C. - Skye Jilajian

I worked at the local library as a book shelver and for Bensalem Parks and Recreation as a counselor for Little Tikes program this summer. I also expanded my college search and fulfilled my duties as co-chair of the volunteer organization I'm a part of. Jessica Jordan

I was a C.I.T. at St. Vartan Camp for 4 weeks and since I've been home I've been training for the AYF Olympics which will be Labor Day weekend in Phila. I will be throwing the javelin. Drew Doudoukjian

I attended band camp, the Boy Scout National Jamboree, and was stage crew for a local production of Alice in Wonderland. Fred Jordan

T went to visit all the national parks in the west parts of the United States. Also since we didn't go to camp this year Mark, Lindsey, Jake, Michael, John and I went up to visit Camp Nubar at open house. I also went down the shore with my whole family for the week in August. I also help out at a therapeutic horse place called Pegasus Riding Academy for kids that have disabilities every Saturday for 5 hours. Natalie Movsesian

This summer I spent six weeks as a camper at AGBU Camp Nubar in the Catskill Mountains of New York. I then traveled to Seattle, Washington with my family, and went on a seven day Alaskan cruise. Brenda Yazujian

I attended a week-long creative writing camp at Susquehanna University. I also was a counselor for the junior session at St.Nersess, and then attended a St.Nersess High School Conference shortly afterwards. Alise Peckjian

ACYOA Jrs. Sports Weekend Reminder

Just a reminder that ACYOA Jrs.Sports Weekend is coming up soon! As everyone knows the event is being held on the weekend of October 8th- October 11th. This year Holy Trinity is holding this event along with our sister church St. Sahag and St. Mesrob. Friday night welcome and Sunday night Awards banquet will be held at St. Sahag and Mesrob. Saturday night dance and Monday morning breakfast will be held at Holy Trinity. All sporting events will be held Saturday and Sunday at Competitive Edge Sports in King of Prussia. We hope that all of our parishioners will be available to help us make this weekend possible. Please contact Diane Yazujian at dyazs@aol.com if you are able to help house ACYOA Jr. members from visiting churches and contact Leslie Movsesian at plmovsesian@aol.com if you are able to help for any activity that weekend. Natalie Movsesian



ACYOA JUNIORS - END OF SUMMER PARTY

On August 28TH, the ACYOA juniors held its second Annual End of Summer Party. The party was held again this year at the lovely home of Ms. Merle Santerian. ACYOA Juniors from both Holy Trinity and St. Sahag & St. Mesrob enjoyed the beautiful weather, and had a great time swimming, playing volleyball and playing dodgeball. We would like to thank Ms. Merle Santerian for opening her home and the grounds to the ACYOA Juniors for our annual party. Brenda Yazujian

Aid for Friends

It was a long, hot summer and even hotter in the church kitchen, but our dedicated volunteers still managed to produce almost 200 meals for our isolated shut-ins who are given assistance by Aid For Friends. The cooks this past quarter included Armena Bartow, Deskouhy Attarian, Barbara Kumkumian, Ethel Terzian, Alice Charles, Roxie Radynsky, Ayshe Chakmaklian and yours truly. (Some of them actually cooked for both of our summertime sessions.) Monetary donations to offset the cost of our supplies were received from Sarah Terkhanian, Ayshe Chakmaklian and Adrienne Riser. Please keep us in mind when you have some spare time (or spare cash) to help this outreach ministry. Every aspect of help is truly appreciated.

Gratefully, Jeanette Der Hagopian

FALL HIGHLIGHTS from the WOMEN'S GUILD

The revitalized Women's Guild is not one to sit on its laurels. After a restful summer we began making plans for the coming year. Although we are saddened by the recent deaths of Berjoohy Haigazian and Sarah Terkhanian, we pray God will bless our sisters with eternal peace and rest. Each lovely lady generously contributed their talents to our church and dedicated their energies for all of us at Holy Trinity. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Berjoohy Murray, Susan Terkhanian Cannon, Michael Terkhanian and their families.

Following our successful first meeting last year, this year's theme was "Margaritas, Make-up and More..." We began with a fun social cocktail party and a delicious dinner prepared by Lorraine Damerjian and her talented crew. Our members provided salads and scrumptious desserts. The program was a round table event with just about something for everyone. The Sephora Company demonstrated great ideas for new fall make-up looks. Mrs. Adrienne Minassian presented minipaper folding activities that we all could repeat at home. We also had a chance to get a little richer by selling our old gold to Grace and Greg Meranshian. They generously donated 20% of the payout to the Women's Guild. The evening was a win-win party for all attendees. If you missed it, aren't you sorry!!

A trip is planned to the Sculpture Garden in Hamilton, New Jersey for the end of September. This was a visit we have talked about often and finally made happen. After touring the garden with a guide, lunch was available at Steven Starr's Rats Restaurant or the garden café.

October will find us busy helping the Bazaar Committee wherever we are needed. Many of us will provide our talents in the kitchen while others will serve or man one of our tables. The bazaar is financially vital for our church. We hope all of our members participate in at least one event. Not only is it a social event, it is an excellent opportunity to provide Stewardship to our church.

November will be here before we know it. Doris Kodikian will be our guest speaker. She is a specialist on Armenian lace and will share her knowledge with us. Since elections are held in November, we also will elect the new Executive Board. We look forward to our members coming out for a very interesting program and a chance to express their expectations for the future of our Guild.

The winter holidays will be here before we know it. There will be another fun Christmas Party. Details will follow. By the way it is never too late to pay your dues for 2010. The \$10 donation means you are truly a Guild supporter.

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On the occasion of the Feast of Blessed Virgin Mary and the Rite of the Blessing of Grapes, the following have made donations to our Church:

*In memory of MICHAEL & ROSE KARABIAN by Ms. Alice Karabian.

*In honor of DIRAMAYR AIVAZIAN by Karnig and Alice Torossian.

*In memory of HRANT SARKISIAN, MARTIN PARNAGIAN, MARVIN PRESKE, BEDROS and VIRKIN SEMERJIAN, by Mrs. Mary Parnagian and Family.

*In memory of MRS. MARIAN N. KALENIAN by Clarence, Mark and Mariett Kalenian.

*In memory of KEVORK & VERJIN HASHASIAN by Mr. and Mrs. Ohannes Hashas.

*In memory of AVEDIS, MARITZA and ZAVEN TERZIAN by Mr. Edward.

*In memory of MOUSHEGH and SATENIG VISHAB, MR. & MRS. MICHAEL KARABIAN, & MRS. RUTH DESTEFANO by Jack and Helen Vishab.

*In memory of ELIZABETH "BETTIE" ARSLANIAN by John Arslanian.

*In memory of the DAMERJIAN & HINTLIAN FAMILIES by Robert and Lorraine Damerjian.

*In memory of MARIA HACIVASILOGLV by Sarkis Hashas.

*In memory of ARSEN, KATHERINE, JOHN & NICHOLAS KASHKASHIAN by Ronald A. Kashkashian.

*In memory of our angelic grandmothers, ALTOON GARIBIAN & MARIAM VARJABEDIAN, and our beautiful mother, HYARPIE GARIBIAN by Garo Garibian MD, Tanya and Maria.

*In memory of her mother, ANN CHOPOORIAN by Larry and Jeanette Der Hagopian.

*In memory of GARABED & ASDGHIG KESHGEGIAN by Albert and Patrice Keshgegian.

*In memory of JOHN SERABIAN, NED & CORINNE SANTERIAN by Merle Santerian.

*For a Special Thanksgiving by Angel Tookmanian.

*In memory of MARY MIRAKIAN, on her name day, by David and Marta Brann.

*In memory of the DEMIRJIAN FAMILY by William and Diana McGarvey.

*Hagop and Sonia Ergenian.







In Lue of Flowers / Donations

Elizabeth Arslanian

Rose Garabedian Gregory and Maria Javardian NEW TOTAL: \$7,522.00

Dolores Sarkisian

Rose Garabedian

NEW TOTAL: \$ 10,030.00

Rose Karakashian

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John and Selma Alexanian
Mamas and Clara Alexanian
Mr. and Mrs. John DerPilbosian
Mr. and Mrs. Albert DerPilbosian
Grace Edelstein
Rose Z. Garabedian
John, Susan and Lauren Lillis
Janice and Krikor Mardikian
Rose Minassian
Mrs. Veronica Monokian
Richard and Gay Mukalian
Richard Nalbandian Jr.
Richard Nalbandian
Berj and Michele Yeretzian

Aid for Friends

Total: \$375.00

Deskouhy Attarian
Ayshe Chakmaklian
Barbara Kumkumian
Robert and Adrienne Riser
Sarah Terkhanian in memory of
Harry Gutchigian &
Sarkis Lousinian
Ethel Terzian

Camp Javakhk Donors

Harry & Alice Andonian Connie Arko John Arslanian Steve & Doretta Aslanian Armena Bartow David & Marta Brann Robert & Lorraine Damerjian Larry & Jeanette Der Hagopian Rev. Fr. Hakob & Yn. Anna Gevorgyan Beri & Alice Kalustvan Albert & Naomi Kapeghian Alice Karabian John Kash Harry & Anita Mirijanian Berjoohy Murray George & Setta Nazarethian Michael & Legna Santerian Merle Santerian Mark & Silva Santerian

Artak Abgaryan, Vahe Matinyan & Zaven Yeghiazaryan

Edward Terzian Angel Tookmanian

Richard & Evelyn Weinsheimer

Total: \$4,840.00

In Memory of Gary Lulejian

Alex and Annabelle Alexanian Robert and Lorraine Damerjian Mr. and Mrs. Larry Der Hagopian Ann Hanamirian Albert and Naomi Kapeghian Elizabeth Kapeghian Robert Sarkisian Carol and Robert Temoyan Edward and Ethel Terzian Richard and Linda Vishab Berj and Mary Yeretzian

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In Memory of Father Frank Estocin

Edward Terzian

General Donation

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of Peter Terkhanian

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Stewardship in Action

We are so fortunate to have a caring person in the name of Marta Brann who keeps all of us informed of the happenings not only in our Holy Trinity Church but the entire Philadelphia Armenian community by way of her e-blasts. She also shares items of interest about Armenia and all things Armenian and we know that many, many people appreciate the time and effort that goes into this undertaking. Thank you Marta!

Much appreciation also goes to Shant Kapeghian who made a very generous (and unsolicited) donation of cases of two great items. The first was terrycloth backpacks which were given out to the children during our Father's Day church picnic, especially those who were having fun with the dunk tank. And secondly, he donated reusable grocery shopping bags for all of us who are trying to "go green." They are big and roomy. Thank you Shant!

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Our circulation reaches over 500 homes. But we can't do it alone. Thanks to many of the business you see in here, they help to defray the cost.

If you enjoy receiving the Looys and would like to help defray the cost, donations are greatly appreciated!

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Thank you for your support!

Where does my dollar go?

Ever wonder how the heat stays on in church? Or how much it costs to send out the mailing?

Your church has everyday expenses, just like any business. With the help of donations from many folks, along with membership dues and donations, the church is able to keep down expenses.

So, it is simple, the more members we have, the better the church is. Become a member today! Tell a friend too!



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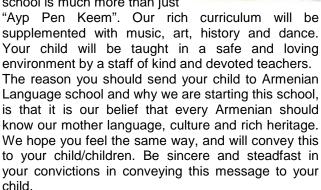
Greg, Grace and Gabrielle Meranshian

News and Notes

Armenian Language School
Dear Parents

Holy Trinity Armenian Church is starting an Armenian Language school this year. We welcome all parents and friends of our parish to join us in this new venture.

The Armenian Language school is much more than just



Classes will take place once a week, on Saturdays at Holy Trinity and will begin at 9:45 am sharp. The morning will begin with a prayer and the school pledge. Dismissal time will be 12: 30 pm for Nursery, Pre-K and K, the remaining grades will be dismissed at 1:00pm. We welcome students from ages 3 to 12.



Registration day will take place on Sunday September 12, 2010, in the Lower Lobby of our church.

Opening day of school will be Saturday, October 9, 2010 and end on June 4, 2011.

Tuition fee will be \$100 for the school year and includes the cost of all the books and materials. We ask that you send a snack or lunch with your child.

We hope you will consider sending your child/children to our Armenian Language school. It will be an exciting year of fun and learning!

Sincerely

Yn. Anna Gevorgyan, Superintendent

About our Family.....

It was a season of great loss and deep sorrow as we said farewell to two of our dear senior ladies: Berjoohy Haigazian and Sarah Terkhanian. They were both true stewards of our church, in very different ways: Berjoohy in her teaching and leadership; and Sarah in her motherly way, always cooking and keeping our kitchen in perfect order. In addition, both were knitters and many of us have benefitted from their fine handwork. Our deepest condolences go to their families: Berjoohy, Michael and Tavit Murray and the entire Haigazian family: and Susan Terkhanian Cannon and Michael Terkhanian and their families. They shall be missed and always remembered...... Congratulations to Garo Garibian, who is the new Chief of Cardiology at Temple Cardiology at Jeanes. His address may have changed, but not the dedicated care he brings to his patients.....Welcome to Taline Noelle, second child and first daughter born to Heather and Krikor Kapeghian. Little Luke must be happy to be a big brother - for sure, Grandmom Betty (Kapeghian) is happy!!....Congratulations to Susan (Terkhanian) and Russ Cannon who were quietly wed in June. We know that their joy is mingled with sadness at the loss of mother Sarah.....Congratulations to two of our dedicated young people. Choir member and soloist Karinne Hovnanian and Deacon Gregory Andonian

were joined in Holy Matrimony and had a fun-filled reception at the Please Touch Museum....Attention all girls - another of our altar servers is no longer available. Jimmy Keshgegian, son of Senior Deacon Albert Keshgegian and wife



Patrice, became engaged to Armine Harutyunyan, originally from Gyumri, Armenia and currently from Detroit. Plans are for a mid-2011 wedding.....Also hot off the press - Erika Hajatian, youngest daughter of Lynn and Mike Hajatian, said "yes!" to Michael Torosian of Upper Darby when he proposed. Plans are underway for a Fall 2011 wedding. Best wishes and much happiness to the newly engaged couples.

New Adresses

Charles & Marguerite Donoian 1840 Frontage Rd. Mark 70 Unit # 908 Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034 1-856-5250-8235 Weddings

August 28, 2010: KARINNE M. HOVNANIAN &

GREGORY G. ANDONIANBest Man: Christopher W. Andonian

We welcome the following new dues-paying members to our church family:

Ralph Arpajian and Nane Hovsepian

Der Hakob Visits AGBU Camp Nubar

During the weekend of July 18th to July 20th, Der Hakob and his family visited AGBU Camp Nubar in the beautiful Catskill Mountains of New York. I was a camper at Camp Nubar for six weeks this summer, and I was excited to see Der Hakob and his family at camp and to visit with them. Der Hakob celebrated Badarak for approximately one hundred and seventy of the campers and the staff, and the entire camp received communion. It was a beautiful day that Sunday, and we were able to have Badarak outside overlooking Camp Nubar's gorgeous Lake Arax. Der Hakob, Yn. Anna and their son Narek had a tour of the camp and participated in some of the camp Everyone at Camp was activities. thankful to have Der Hakob and his



family visit. We hope that Der Hakob can visit Camp Nubar again next summer.

Brenda Yazujian

Shoeboxes are coming.

It's getting close to the time when we'll be filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Start shopping for those items now. Video and presentation on Sunday, October 10th during coffee hour.

Bible Study

Sessions will begin in November. Keep posted for details.



Father's Day Spring Picnic 2010

We had hoped for good weather but what we got on the last day of spring was a scorcher. Fortunately, the hall was kept cool and many guests decided to have their "picnic" inside.

We had an amazing variety of foods, especially in the meat department, where guests had a great assortment of grilled meats from which to choose, all done by our newest members from Yerevan.

There were great activities for the kids including a dunk tank which was perfect in the 90plus degree weather. We think

some of the adults would have liked to get splashed! .

A 50/50 raffle was held and won by Harry Sarkisian who graciously donated his share right back to the church. We even had an art show and the artists' representative generously donated a percentage of his sales to the church. Thankfully, Garo Garibian was the biggest buyer – turns out he had some space on his walls at home that weren't already filled with artwork!

This kind of event is a major undertaking beginning with putting up the tent and taking all the tables, chairs and equipment outside to the picnic area, not to mention the food prep. But we think that we had a great success this year and thank all those who helped in any way.....cooks, set-up, organizers, sellers and most especially all those who attended and supported this year's picnic.





Church members enjoying the Phillies playing the LA Dodgers on August 10th. Pictured are Gregory Meranshian, Diane Williames, Grace and Gabrielle Meranshian, Danny and Steve Aslanian, Greg Mangasarian. Not pictured Harry Mirijanian, Bryan Peckjian, Donald Paretchan and the photographer Ara Shakarjian



Father Hakob attended his first Phillies baseball game on Tuesday, August 10th. Der Hayr was intrigued by the sights and sounds of Citizens Bank Park. He enjoyed the fellowship and sat between Harout Nalbandian and Antranig Garibian so they could explain the rules of the game to him.

HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH MEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

October

Albert & Valerie DerPilbosian - 10/7/1973 Michael & Carol Hanamirian - 10/7/1989 Richard & Evelvn Weinsheimer - 10/9/1971 Steven & Stephanie Balint - 10/12/1997 Berj & Michele Yeretzian, Jr - 10/14/1989 Gregory & Maria Javardian - 10/15/1983 Ara & Virginia Shakarjian - 10/16/1955 Kimon & Sheryl Hatza - 10/16/1982 Donald & Judy Paretchan - 10/18/2009 Michael & Arpena Hajatian, Sr - 10/19/1947 Jake & Gina Terkanian - 10/20/2007 Larry & Jeanette Der Hagopian - 10/24/1964 Steve & Sona Brod - 10/28/1990 Berj & Alice Kalustyan - 10/29/1955

November

Albert & Pauline Chapijan - 11/1/???? Sarkis & Pauline Dedeian - 11/1/1955 Gary & Eileen Altoonian - 11/5/ ???? Ernest & Christine Peacock - 11/6/1976 Haig & Gay Hagopian - 11/11/1979 John & Susan Lillis - 11/12/1988

> Steve & Doretta Aslanian - 11/15/1987 John & Margaret Bandaian - 11/25/2005 Richard & Florence Maloumian - 11/27/1968 David & Marta Brann - 11/29/1980

December

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

OOPS We missed a July Anniversary

Colleen and Gary Papazian Jr. July 24, 2009

HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

October

Marina Hovhannesian - 2 Grace Meranshian - 4 Steve Aslanian - 5 Aram Attarian - 5 Robert King - 5 Jack Vishab - 5 Haig Hagopian - 6 Philip Kazanjian - 6 Matthew Santerian - 6 Lauren Lillis - 7 Janice Owens - 7 Jennifer Hagopian - 8 Carol Momiian - 9 Jeannine Juskalian - 10 Mary Paretchan - 12 Richard Carlucci - 14 Rose Thomassian - 16 Marta Brann - 18 Florence Maloumian - 19 Mary Parnagian - 19 Peter Hovnanian - 20 Jean Ohnigian - 21 Peter Oskanian, Jr. - 23 Christopher Torcomian - 26 Laura Bilazarian - 29 Adrienne Minassian - 29 Tara Zane - 29 Kyle Dunigan - 31 Katie Hashas - 31 Michelle Oskanian - 31

Alice Sisian - 31

November

Naomi Kapeghian - 1 Rosaleen Oskanian - 1 Scott Santerian - 1 Harry Mirijanian - 2 John Oskanian - 3 Dori Juskalian - 4 Kimberly Dunigan - 6 Bennett Ohanes Oskanian - 8 Thomas Torcomian - 8 Lesly Attarian - 10

Angel Tookmanian - 12 Robert Sarkisian - 15 Gary Altoonian - 16 Selma Alexanian - 17 Elizabeth Barone - 17 Shawn Carnevale Jr - 18 Veronica Carnevale - 18 Alice Kalustyan - 18 Raffi Rafiyev - 18 Marie Kazanjian - 21 Stefanie Vishab - 22 Larry D. DerHagopian - 23 Alexander Hatza - 23 Vartan Mazmanian - 24 Madison Radell - 25 Avedis Rafiyev - 25 Levon Attarian - 27 Michael Haiatian, Sr - 27 Gabrielle Meranshian - 28 Valerie DerPilbosian - 29 Joyce Killian - 29 Geena Posey - 29 Yolanda Terzian - 29 Florence Dandegian - 30

December

Alice Karabian - 1 Roman Radynsky - 1 Carol Jerrahian - 2 Kimberly Kalustyan - 2 John Terzian - 3 Nancy Basmajian - 4 Alise Peckjian - 4 Abigail Zane - 4 Sonia Papazian - 5 Robbie Barone - 7 Berjoohy Murray - 7 Robert Damerjian Jr - 9 Barbara Kumkumian - 9 Leslie Movsesian - 9 Linda Vishab - 9 Richard Mukalian - 10 Phillip Santerian - 10



Danielle Sarkisian - 12 Margaret Bandaian - 13 Berj Kalustyan - 14 Michele Yeretzian - 14 Deskouhy Attarian - 15 Natalie Boghosian - 17 Gary Miller - 17 Denise Sisian - 18 Theresa Hovnanian - 22 Gravson Oskanian - 22

Baby Jesus - 25 Maria Javardian - 25 Christina Juskalian - 25 Isabella Balint - 27 Alyce Jilajian - 27 Elize Mazmanian - 27 Jonathan Koengetter - 28 John Tatoian - 28 Alexis Javardian - 29 Adrienne Juskalian - 29

Happy **Birthday Everyone!**

Meditation on the Holy Cross

by Dn. Albert Keshgegian

The Armenian Church celebrates the liturgical season of the Cross, one of the major Church seasons, from mid-September through most of November.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

Everywhere we look there are symbols. We all know what a cigarette with a diagonal line through it and a circle around it means. Each nation has a distinctive flag. The most powerful symbol of all, in its simplest form, consists of two pieces of wood intersecting at right angles to each other. The Cross.

In the ancient world a cross was a means of executing low-class criminals. It was a symbol of shame and humiliation. Jesus Christ, Lord of the universe, allowed himself to be killed on the cross out of such immense love for us that it is impossible for us to fully grasp. In doing so, he took upon himself the punishment for all of our sins. We no longer need to be punished for our mistakes and transgressions; it has already happened if we accept Jesus' gift to us with gratitude, humility, and thanksgiving. And Christ followed his crucifixion with something even more remarkable—his resurrection, proving once and for all that he had the most fundamental power in the universe. He proved that there *is* life after death, not just for him, but potentially for all of us. Christ turned the cross from a symbol of shame and defeat into a symbol of power and victory.

For many, who do not believe, all this seems foolish. This was true in St. Paul's time when he wrote the first letter to the Corinthians, and it's true today, too. But we who believe see the power of the cross. We see it in St. Paul himself, who turned from being a persecutor of Christians into one of the greatest apostles for Christ, proclaiming that he had been crucified with Jesus.

We see the power of the cross when it was found in 326 A.D. and authenticated by placing on it the body of a youth who had recently died; the youth was resurrected! (This event is celebrated yearly as the Feast of the Discovery of the Holy Cross, this year on October 24).

We see the power of the cross when it appeared in the sky over Jerusalem, shining brighter than the sun, in 351 A.D. (Feast of the Apparition of the Holy Cross, this year was on May 2). We see the power of the cross when it was brought back in 629 A.D. from the Persians who had captured it. The cross was elevated and carried with great joy through various countries (including Armenia) back to Jerusalem. Everywhere it was taken, the cross became a symbol of pious worship and gave spiritual comfort to the faithful (Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross this year September 12).

We see the power of the cross in the seventh century monk Totig and his student Hovel, who spent their entire lives praying to find a relic of the cross that had been hidden on Mount Varak since the time of St. Hripsime, nearly 400 years earlier. Totig finally saw the relic in a vision, recovered it, and presented it to the Catholicos, Nersess III (Feast of the Holy Cross of Varak, this year September 26).

We see the power of the cross today in an inner-city gang member who has regularly robbed and killed others in gang fights, but who finds Christ and becomes a productive member of society. Or in the young career woman who has received promotion after promotion and finds herself in a corner office on the fiftieth floor of a skyscraper with floor-to-ceiling windows. As she studies the breathtaking view of the city skyline, she realizes that her life feels empty and hollow, despite all that she has accomplished. "Is this all there is?" she asks, until she discovers Christ and realizes that there is so much more.

And we can feel the power of the cross in ourselves when we realize what Christ did on that cross for us, when we accept his immense gift to us, and when we decide to trust in the power of the cross and the power of God to save us from our sins and grant us eternal life.

Jesus, through your compassion and love

You gave us the greatest gift of all on the cross.

Through your sacrifice for us and your resurrection

You turned the cross from symbol of shame to symbol of life.

Help us, Lord, to accept your sacrifice, So that the power of your cross fills us, And we turn from lives of sin To lives of service to you.



Gabrielle Meranshian's trip to Armenia with Armenian Service Program

When I asked my parents if I was going back to France this summer they said, "yes, for a few hours, before your flight to Armenia"! I was surprised and somewhat annoyed that I was going to be spending three weeks of my precious summer involved in a service program. I was under the impression my parents were definitely sending me back to France after receiving a scholarship for being the best French student in my graduating class. To say the least I did not know what to expect of Armenia! Not only was that the longest time I've spent away from home, I was going to a country I've never been to before! I initially was very skeptical about the whole thing. I was convinced I would get sick and not enjoy my stay. Before I left for Armenia I spoke with many people who had already visited and they all tried to convince me that going to Armenia would be the most amazing and life changing experience...

I thought the only reason why they were so positive was because my trip was already paid in full.

It was a week before I left for Armenia and I was packing my whole room, to make me feel more at home. I needed more room in my luggage and therefore the only solution was vacuumed sealed bags.

Finally, we had arrived at the JFK airport just a few minutes late. It was a little bit of a relief to recognize some faces of the group I would be traveling with. While waiting for the plane to arrive I quietly ate my ten dollar airport sandwich hoping the food in Armenia would be better.



This is me at the Armenian genocide memorial

Our first lay-over was in Paris; I was excited to be there but I also knew there was no turning back now! I attempted to take a short nap but before I knew it the group was boarding for Yerevan! The first thing we did when we arrived at the airport was exchange our money. I lost track of how much I was converting because I was deprived of sleep and I was anxious to learn about their type of currency. We first spent a week in Yerevan and I was having the time of my life! I kept asking myself "why was I so worried to visit?!"

The next week we had traveled to Gyumeri where we helped in a soup kitchen and also contributed to the construction of the Oundjian school for orphans. The soup kitchen was a very touching part. Knowing I had helped unfortunate Armenians, my own people, made me appreciate what I have back home so much more! When it was time for us to finally leave the soup kitchen, the townspeople were hugging and kissing us like we were family. They were genuinely grateful for our help and this was a memory that would never leave my heart.



My friend, Lisa, and I enjoying Lake Sevan

Next, we were on our way to the beautiful Lake Sevan! I've seen pictures and I couldn't believe how more beautiful it was in person! We ate at a restaurant overlooking the lake where the atmosphere was so relaxing, yet so picturesque! Sadly we were only able to spend a day there.

A few days later I finally saw Mount Ararat. I only have one picture that came out semi-clear since it was a cloudy day. Of course when I had seen the mountain I was thinking to myself is this really true? Is this really the mountain I've been learning about and seeing in many books and paintings all my life?! Just admiring this wonderful sight had made me even more proud to be Armenian.

The next sight we had seen that was even more touching was the Armenian Genocide Memorial. Just like Mount Ararat, all the pictures I've seen of the Memorial finally came to life! While standing at the Memorial I felt both sad and thrilled. I was sad because seeing all of this reiterated the horror my ancestors went through during the genocide. On the other hand I was grateful to have the opportunity to be there in person.

My trip with Armenian Service Program was coming to an end and I was just getting used to the food and way of life. Before my trip I was begging my parents to send me to a different country and now I was begging for them to let me stay in Armenia just a few days longer. When I came back home I missed having lavash at every meal and observing the beautiful sights. Not a single thing I had packed in those vacuum-sealed bags could've made me feel more at home than the people of Armenia. It's not a matter of "if" I'm going back, it's a matter of WHENI

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(If joint pledge, then enter total for person listed a A pledge is a personal commitment, in additional goals of Holy Trinity Armenian Church.		ership Dues, to support the n	nission and
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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 or Parish Council Chair, Merle Santerian (215-947-3777 or 215-205-1507).



CHURCH INFORMATION

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

215-663-0428

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan frhakob@holytrinity-pa.org Church Secretary Email: Maggie Coyne office@holytrinity-pa.org

REGULAR SUNDAY HOURS OF WORSHIP

Divine Liturgy (Soorp Badarak): 10:30 AM Sunday School: 10:30 AM

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Merle Santerian (Chairman)	215-947-3777
Jeanette Der Hagopian (Vice Chair)	215-672-4188
John Hanamirian (Treasurer)	856-489-9809
Antranig Garibian (Asst. Treasurer)	215-680-5581
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Robert Damerjian	856-667-5296
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Lorraine Damerjian (Organist)	215-572-8465
George Nazarethian (Treasurer)	856-858-5090

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Diane Williames (Superintendent) 215-725-8563

MEN'S CLUB

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Michael Paretchan (Secretary)	215-947-4394
Richard Weinsheimer (Treasurer)	215-673-8116
Michael Tookmanian (Assistant)	215-637-8304

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Diane Yazujian (Parent Advisor)	215-362-6691
Natalie Movsesian (Cochairman)	215-947-5670
Brenda Yazujian (Cochairman)	215-362-6691

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Liz Barone (Cochairman)	610-449-2236
Nancy Hovnanian (Cochairman)	856-234-7361
Valerie Santerian (Secretary)	215-540-9575
Melissa Paretchan (Corres. Secy.)	215-743-6925
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Editorial Staff Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan Jeanette Der Hagopian Naomi Mukalian Maggie Coyne

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



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