

Սուրբ Երրորդութիւն Զայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի

Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church



LOOYS



Cheltenham, PA

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

Winter 2022-01



Annual Lunch with Santa

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

Barbara Harmon (Chair)	609-605-0489
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Don Paretchan (Treasurer)	610-608-1866
Nicklas Terkanian (Asst. Treasurer)	610-348-7678
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Gay Hagopian	609-502-4995
Arousiag Keshishian	215-982-0520
Mickey Paretchan	215-947-4394

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Jeanette Der Hagopian	215-672-4188

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Jeanette Der Hagopian (Co-Director)	215-672-4188
Lorraine Damerjian (Organist)	215-572-8465
Steve Aslanian (Treasurer)	215-757-2622

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ACYOA Jrs.

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LADIES of HOLY TRINITY

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INTERCOMMUNAL

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Emily Movsesian	734-277-2753

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Berjoohy Murray	856-912-2417
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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.

FEAR OR FAITH?

I believe most of the people during their lifetime have had, at least once, fear in their hearts, which is normal because we are human beings. But to live with fear all the time is not normal and healthy.

In the Bible we read the following, “The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged” (Deuteronomy 31: 8). I am sure we all have examples from our life about how many times God did help or rescue us from storms or difficulties. But often we have a short memory. We forget that the same God who helped us before will do the same thing again today if we have faith in Him, if we call His name.

When we travel or go to any place, we like to have someone with us. That way our trip becomes more interesting and enjoyable. Our life is a journey. During this journey we have with us not only our family members and friends, but most importantly, we have God with us. The same God who created us, who walks with us every day and who leads us into His kingdom. God always likes to hold our hand but we are the ones who leave His hand and wander around and try to find comfort and safety in the wrong places.

Even Jesus’ disciples who were with Him most of the time of His ministry and saw all of His miracles had doubt and fear. “One day Jesus said to His disciples, ‘Let us go across to the other side of the lake.’ So they put out, and while they were sailing He fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to Him and woke Him up, shouting, ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’ And He woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was calm. He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?’” (Luke 8:22-25).

Our soldiers in Armenia and Artsakh are good examples of faith and bravery. I don’t know any other country in the world where soldiers are living in trenches for a few decades to protect their country from the enemy. Our soldiers don’t have luxurious conditions in which to live and serve. They serve during the day and at night, during hot and cold weather, without heat and electricity, while the enemy is brutal and shrewd. The faith of our soldiers in God and love towards our homeland makes them fearless and gives them courage and inspiration to stand firm. We can learn a lot from our 18- 19- and 20-year-old soldiers who sacrifice their lives knowingly and willingly, so that we can have our homeland.

Dear Faithful, as in many things we have choices. In this case also, we have a choice between fear and faith. Let us strive to choose faith.

With prayers,
Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan

faith
— OVER —
fear

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalms 23:4

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Barbara Harmon, Chair

These past few months have been interesting to say the least. We were just getting back to close to "normal" and found ourselves a few steps back. Please remember that the church will continue to be here for all of us, and if we have not seen you in a while, we are ready to welcome you back with open arms! If you have been with us all along, that is wonderful.

First and foremost: I have to say a big THANK YOU ... to our outgoing Parish Council Chairman, John Hanamirian and Vice Chairman, Larry Der Hagopian. I personally want to thank them both for guiding me through these months as a "rookie chairman." I have had many questions, and both are always there to help. I cannot thank you enough. Hope to see you both back on the Council soon.

I am happy to report that with the arduous work and dedication of Maggie Miller, our secretary, the hall rentals for 2021 exceeded the budget, and was the highest total on record.

Our custodian situation has been resolved as of December 1. Our custodian of many years, Tyrome, left us in early 2020, and we had a cleaning service fill in during the pandemic. We have now hired Tyrone's son, Jay, as our new custodian. The Council has been busy working on many projects. One project was trying to organize our kitchen. Gay Hagopian took on this tremendous task with the help of Berjoohy Murray. Together they cleaned out drawers, closets, and shelving. The old commercial coffee urn has been removed, and a new microwave was purchased. Thanks girls!

We look forward to being able to fellowship again soon. Our church family sorely misses being able to "visit" with their friends after church in a relaxed and comfortable setting, especially since many of them have fewer opportunities to socialize at other times in this Covid-environment. With prayers and hope, after two years, this pandemic will soon be history.

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stronger
together*

Injured?



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A Reflection by Deacon Albert Keshgegian

*When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?
You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:
all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,
the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.
LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth! (Psalm 8:3-9)*

It's a day that's been celebrated yearly since 1970. At first only in the United States, in 1990 it became global. On April 22 we celebrate Earth Day, now in 193 countries involving over one billion people, to demonstrate support for environmental protection.

People are urged to reduce, reuse, and recycle. To decrease their use of plastic and the sizes of packaging. To plant more trees and native plants. To conserve water and energy. Even to use longer-life light bulbs.

Part of the concern for environment is pollution. Single-use plastics are a problem. There is an island of floating plastic pieces in the Pacific that is three times the size of France. Multiple human activities add chemicals and unwanted particles to the air we breathe, potentially affecting our health.

A major part of the concern for the environment is the presence of climate change. Although the reasons for this have been debated, most scientists think it is due to human actions, such as carbon emissions (e.g., from automobile exhaust or factories), deforestation (because trees remove carbon dioxide from the air), and so on.

No matter what the cause, there is no doubt that climate change is happening, and the effects are a serious problem. The year 2020 was the second hottest globally in history. Since 2000 we have seen 19 of the hottest years on record. Storms are more severe, droughts are increasing. Less rainfall in many areas, especially in the West, is resulting in smaller crop yields, financial problems for farmers, and more expensive food for all. Hurricanes, tornados, and forest fires leave many homeless, injured, or worse.

Earth Day reminds us that we need to work together now, not later, to save our planet and its natural resources. It's an absolute imperative.

Even more importantly, it's what God wants us to do.

Genesis tells us that God created humans to have dominion, to be in charge of, all that he created on earth. The psalm above reminds us of this. God is so much greater than humans. His power created the moon and planets and stars. His power created all that exists on earth. And yet he put humans, beings lower than the angels, in charge of his creations.

We don't own this planet or anything on it, all of which is God's. We are caretakers, to merely preserve, care for, and make more abundant the goodness around us. When we do the opposite, when we contribute to pollution, climate change, and their deleterious effects, we are going against the will of God.

God wants us to praise him and glorify him by doing all we can to protect the environment, not only for the benefit of everyone alive today, but also for all the generations of our children and grandchildren that are to come.

ABOUT OUR FAMILY

The Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations took place in many homes with caution as the Covid pandemic continued to be the topic of conversation. Who would have imagined that two years later, we would still be living with it overtaking our lives. We live in hope that the strength of it diminishes sooner than later.....PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE: Birthday wishes to those who have already celebrated milestones, or will be in the coming weeks and months: **Patty Alexanian, Michael Murray, Mariana Majian, Mary Yeretzian, Dorothy Grocott, John Chalikian, Lorraine Damerjian, Berjouhy Bosnian, Richard Vishab and Ernie Peacock**. But the big winners of the birthday lottery are a brother/sister duo. **Marty Gutchigian**, our longest living Holy Trinity member, became a Centenarian (100!) and sister, **Ayshe Chakmaklian**, became a Nonagenarian (90) just weeks later. They both deserve a big shout-out!!!!....And continuing, we celebrate the largest number of milestone anniversaries in one issue ever: **Tanya & Mickey Parechan** (50), **Anne & George Terkanian** (50), **Robin & Peter Bilazarian** (45), **Diane & Richard Doudoukjian** (45), **Grace & Greg Meranshian** (40), **Janet & Fred Jordan** (30), **Alyssa & David Santerian** (30) and **Legna & Michael Santerian** (20) **Yergar Dareener**.... Congrats to **Dn. Armen Terjimanian** who ran his 12th full marathon, in as many years and reached the goal he set for himself. Well done!...We are filled with profound sorrow at the untimely passing of **Dorie Aslanian** early in the new year and extend our deepest sympathy to her husband, **Steve**, and children, **Megan** and **Danny**. They have been active members since they relocated to our area many years ago....We also extend sincere condolences to the families of those who have lost their loved ones during this past season: **Theodora Mirakian, Alice Charles, Jeannine Juskalian, Sarkis Hashas and Nevart Kaprielian**. May the comfort of the Holy Spirit be with all of them....It was joyful for us to see one of our own return to his home-town parish for the baptism of his children. **Michael Hajatian** and wife, **Ani**, enjoyed an extended visit with family over the holidays while at the same time celebrating the baptism of their daughters, **Sevan and Sophe**. As a parish family, we celebrated with them as well....We also welcomed newcomers to our community, Ken & Anahid Smith, when their son, Kenneth Ashot, was baptized....The joy continued for the **Richard Nalbandian** Family with the baptism of children, **Noor and Richard**. May God watch over our newly baptized babies always....Keeping in our prayers those who have been in various stages of medical issues: **Robert Barone, Melani Kodikian, Nezihe Hashas, Selma Alexanian and Penny Hajatian**. **Antzadz Ullah**..... Bundles of joy for **Alice & Karnig Torossian** as they welcomed their first great-grandchild, **Hadassah Love**, on New Year's Day. We also congratulate Hadassah's parents, **Talene & Sama**, and first-time grandparents, **Nelly & Billy Brown**....As we close this issue, we sadly report that our resident groundhog, **Punxsutawney Phil**, saw his shadow, so we **WILL** have six more weeks of winter – but doesn't he always say that???....Until next time - be safe, be happy, be at peace.

ADDRESS CHANGES AND/OR ADDITIONS

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and Vrezh Israyelyan
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Philadelphia PA 19115

Ruzanna Israyelyan and
George Akhobadze
9090 Ferndale St
Philadelphia PA 19115

Brenda Yazujian
227 Park Avenue Unit C
Hoboken NJ 07030
Phone: 215-847-5496
byazujian@gmail.com

NEW MEMBER

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

Ruzanna Israyelyan and George Akhobadze, Anna Stepanyan and Vrezh Israyelyan, Krikor and Alex Javardian, Michael Torosian, Brenda Yazujian



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EASTER SERVICES 2022

Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church



April 14, 2022 Holy Thursday

7:00 PM - Washing of the Feet

8:00 PM - Betrayal and Passion of Our Lord



April 15, 2022 Holy Friday

7:00 PM - The Entombment of Our Lord Jesus Christ



April 16, 2022 Holy Saturday

Easter Eve

7:00 PM - Divine Liturgy

Following Liturgy - Home Blessing/Fellowship



April 17, 2022 Easter Sunday

The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

10:00 AM - Morning Services

10:30 AM - Divine Liturgy



Krzesdos Haryav ee Merglots
Orhnial eh Haroutiunn Krzesdosi



ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS 2022

Armenian Christmas Eve (Jan 5) and Christmas morning (Jan 6) had fewer attendees than usual, but January 9, with the Coronavirus still looming and the threat of icy roads, more than 60 brave souls came out to celebrate Armenian Christmas, without all the trappings of the traditional Christmas overshadowing the true meaning of the holiday. In our Armenian tradition, we enjoy celebrating not only the birth of Christ, but also His baptism. The altar and choir servers were few but the spirit was abundant as we enjoyed the joyful Armenian Hymns, sung only once a year, dedicated to Christ's baptism. Choir Director, Karinne Andonian, even directed the congregation to join in with the singing of the AMEN ALELOOYAs.



Donald Paretchan, a long-time active parishioner, served as Godfather this year. By tradition, the one who serves in that role is blessed to take home the large cross used in the Blessing of Water Service for a period of forty days. Fr. Hakob took the opportunity to thank Don for his many years of service on the Parish Council in various capacities and especially his outstanding work as Treasurer.

Der Hayr's pastoral message reminded us that with Jesus's birth, "He should be born in our hearts over and over again, and especially when we are celebrating His birth every year." He continued, "the Birth and Resurrection of Jesus Christ are two of the most important events in all of human history." He also shared the teaching of Church Father Athanasius (298-273): "The Son of God became man that man might become [more like] God."

The services filled us with uplifted spirits, encouraging us to live joyfully regardless of external circumstances in our lives. "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13).





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BAPTISMS:

November 27, 2021: SEVAN CECILE HAJATIAN
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hajatian
Godfather: Grigor Harutunian

November 27, 2021: SOPHENE ARAX HAJATIAN
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hajatian
Godfather: Michael Torosian

December 5, 2021: KENNETH ASHOT SMITH
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith
Godfather: Radek Pawlowski

January 9, 2022: NOOR NALBANDIAN
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nalbandian III
Godfather: Paul Oflazian

January 9, 2022: RICHARD NALBANDIAN
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nalbandian III
Godfather: Douglas Nalbandian



Noor and Richard Nalbandian



Sevan and Sophene Hajatian



Kenneth Ashot Smith

FUNERALS: 2021

ALICE CHARLES entered into her eternal rest on November 26, 2021. Funeral services were held on December 3, 2021, at Whitmarsh Memorial Park.

JEANNINE JUSKALIAN entered into her eternal rest on December 5, 2021. Funeral services were held on December 14, 2021, at Greenmount Cemetery.

SARKIS HASHAS entered into his eternal rest on December 13, 2021. Funeral services were held on December 19, 2021, at Bryer's Funeral Home.

NEVART KAPRIELIAN entered into her eternal rest on December 26, 2021. Funeral services were held on December 30, 2021, at North Cedar Hill Cemetery.



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It is a privilege to be part of the Philadelphia Armenian Community and to continue the legacy of our parents and grandparents. Please contact Garibian Law Offices if we may be of service to you.

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PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In December, Der Hakob learned that a church community in the small village of Byurakan in Armenia, with meager funds available, had hopes of having a hantess and distributing some small gifts to their children as part of the holiday celebrations. Because of his Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Der Hayr was able to provide a small monetary gift to his clergy brother to help bring joy in this holiest and happiest of seasons.

This Fund is supported by donations of our faithful in order to reach out to our brothers and sisters in need, among us or in our homeland, as a reflection of Christ's teaching. If you would like to support this ministry, please send your check to Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Memo: Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Much appreciation goes to the those who have contributed to this ministry: Diane & Greg Yazujian, Chris & Ernie Peacock, Merle Santerian, Jared DeRentz, Lucy Aghazarian, Garo & Cece Garibian and Jeanette Der Hagopian.



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

The Bible in the Armenian Church

The following is the third installment of a four-part adult education series on the Bible in the Armenian Church, written by Rev. Fr. Vazken Movsesian of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church.

OTHER BOOKS

Toward the end of the second century AD, there were all sorts of books existing in the Christian communities. For example, there was the Gospel of Thomas, or, as the author called his book, The Secret Words Which Jesus the Living Spoke and Jude Thomas Wrote Down. This book is a compilation of 118 different sayings attributed to Jesus. Some believe it to be a more complete Sermon on the Mount. Some of the passages in this book are also found in the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke.

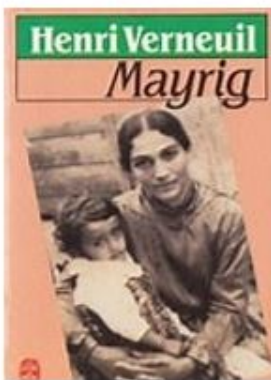
There was also a book called the Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus Christ. It is one of the more fascinating books of what is called the New Testament apocrypha or "hidden books." This book is a compilation of stories relating to the young Jesus. Many of these stories seem to be derived from events and occurrences in the synoptic Gospels. One story relates how Jesus, while still in the cradle, looks up at his mother and says, "Mary, I am the Son of God." Another story is generated from the account of the anointing of Jesus by Mary Magdalene. The story claims an old lady kept Jesus' navel string in an alabaster box of old oil of spikenard. It was out of this box that Mary took the oil to anoint Jesus. Still another story relates how Jesus, and some other young boys were molding clay figures of animals. Upon Jesus' command, the clay figures that He made begin to walk and fly. The entire book is filled with miraculous stories of this nature. Some other books of this genre include, The Gospel of Nicodemus, The Gospel of Peter, the Epistle of Jesus Christ and Abgarus the King of Edessa.

So, the early Church Fathers had before them many books relating in some fashion or form to the Lord Jesus Christ. After studying these books and sifting through their content they had to decide which were authentic and which were fictitious and/or represented a heretical view. It was the Church Fathers who decided what was to be considered "The Bible," designating them as scriptural canon. In canon 85 of the Canons of the Holy and Renowned Apostles there is a list of all the books which are to be considered sacred and to be read in the Church. All the books that are in the Bible as we know it today are in this list, except the Book of Revelation. It was in 419 AD, at the Regional Council held in Carthage that the Book of Revelation was accepted as being canonical.

Meanwhile, during the fifth century a monumental task was under-way in Armenia.

Until then the Scriptures were read in Greek in the Armenian churches. Sts. Sahag and Mesrob embarked upon the task of translating the Bible into Armenian. St. Mesrob found the necessary tool for doing this with the invention of the Armenian alphabet. The Armenian translation of the Bible has been referred to as the "Queen of Translations," because of its accuracy and style of perfection.

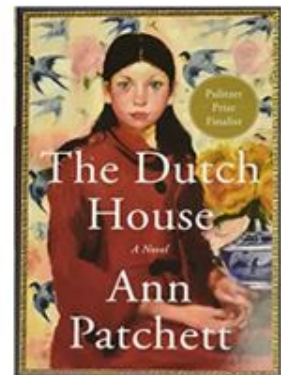
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Holy Trinity ZOOM Book Club

April 21: Mayrig by Henri Verneuil,
facilitated by Elise Antreassian (translator)

June 2: The Dutch House by Anne Patchett,
facilitated by Suzanne Sherenian



To receive the ZOOM link for either, or both, of these book discussions,
contact: nancybasmajian@verizon.net

CHURCH SCHOOL ARMENIAN LANGUAGE

The last two years have been extraordinary and unpredictable more than like any other time. With in-person activities and celebrations postponed, life seemed to be put on hold. However, we have developed various ways to interact with our students throughout the school year. An event related to such was when our class had the honor to present two great Armenian songs at the celebration banquet for Archbishop Vicken Aykazian and for Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, and all the guests on October 17, 2021. It was an essential and inspiring mission for our students - to perform for guests and their families in October. Karine Nersisyan, Mari Kocharyan, Sona Melyan, Vardan Gevorgyan, Samvel Pogosyan presented excellent performances, singing, and dancing.



They performed:

1. «Էրեբունի-Երևան» - բառերի հեղինակը Պարույր Սևակն է
"Erebuni - "Yerevan" by Paruyr Sevak, music by Edgar Hovhannisyan
(Student choir with piano accompaniment [by Stephan Sarkissian])
2. «Ես իմ անուշ Հայաստանի» - Եղիշե Չարենց
"Es Im Anush Hayastani" by Yegishe Charents
(Student choir with piano accompaniment "Henseli" by Alexander Spendiarayan)

With love,
Yn. Anna Gevorgyan

TIME FOR A CHANGE

It's a new year and we are looking for those people who would like to try something new. Consider joining the Chorag Team, when available, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow church members while, at the same time, providing stewardship by your service. There is no ongoing commitment – only the date to which you commit. If interested, contact Jeanette Der Hagopian (choirboss@hotmail.com or 215-672-4188) and we will add your name to the list of volunteers for a future cooking session!

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A CHRISTMAS STAPLE

By Erika Torosian

On December 5, children, big and small, gathered in the church hall to kick off the Christmas season. Holy Trinity Armenian Church School's annual Lunch with Santa was a festive affair filled with a delicious lunch, Christmas cookies, and tons of activities for the kids.

Ornament and tree decorating, photo ops and musical chairs, and the highly anticipated visit from Santa Claus were just a few favorites that kept the fun flowing - with DJ Robbie, a Lunch with Santa staple, playing our favorite Christmas hits (and even some in Armenian) to get us dancing. But the very best part of the afternoon was being together, seeing all the smiling faces, and grabbing a church family photo with Der Hayr.

A very big thank you to Sabrina Garibian for organizing the event, and to all those who supported. From decorations and set-up to cookie contributions and clean-up, we appreciate all the help and the strong attendance that made the day a success. Special thanks to Karinnè Andonian, Steve Aslanian, Rob Barone, Gloria Basmajian, Sue DerHagopian, Alessandra Garibian, Antranig Garibian, Cecelia Garibian, Valentina Garibian, Nareg Gevorgyan, Vicki Gureghian, Gay Hagopian, Ani Hajatian, Lynn Hajatian, Nancy Hovnanian, Janet Jordan, Arousiag Keshishian (Grace and Lenna, too!), Armine Keshgegian, Tanya Paretchan, Brian Peckjian, Margo Silk, Amy Terkanian, and Stephanie Vartanian.





MEN'S CLUB 2021-2022 "200 CLUB" Winners – Congratulations !!

Nov. 2021

\$1000 Rich & Linda Boornazian #144
 \$400 Garo Garibian #185
 \$200 George Mukalian #179
 \$200 Kim & Gena Willard #141
 \$200 Mary Parnagian #188

Dec. 2021

\$500 Berjouhy Bosnian #126
 \$200 Valerie DerPilbosian #095
 \$100 Todd & Seta Pica #148
 \$100 Mary Parnagian #020
 \$100 Tom & Barb Harmon #145

Jan. 2022

\$500 Mark Kapeghian #164
 \$200 Debbie Pica #011
 \$100 Jack Baker #001
 \$100 Alice Endrigian #100
 \$100 Maggie Miller #074



POMEGRANATE BLESSING SERVICE

Our new tradition continued on Sunday, January 2, 2022, when a Pomegranate Blessing Service was conducted following Badarak. In the Armenian tradition, the pomegranate, as a national symbol, reflects the meaning of life, prosperity and abundance. In Christian symbolism the pomegranate represents the blood shed by Jesus Christ, symbolizing also the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and the diversity of God's grace.

In the interpretations of our church fathers, the pomegranate is presented that the church members are as diverse as the granules of the pomegranate but the pomegranate is covered by a solid peel, all being united in one Church. This Service is meant to be conducted within thirty minutes of the start of a new year, but for the sake of practicality, it has been done on the last Sunday of the year, or the first Sunday of the new year, whichever is closest to the first day of the new year. At the conclusion of the service, each family was given a pomegranate as a reminder of its Armenian and Christian symbolism.

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OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

By Jeanette Der Hagopian, Coordinator



After skipping year 2020 due to Covid, 2021 marked the 15th year of our parishioners stepping up to fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, one of the many ministries of Samaritan's Purse.

This project was created by Samaritan's Purse in 1993 and since then, over 188 million shoeboxes have been filled for children around the world, including Armenia. Our total of filled shoeboxes since our own beginning is exactly 1100 boxes, a mere "drop in the bucket" with what is collected worldwide, so we keep striving to do better. But...we also recognize that every single "drop" counts – and for that reason, we don't stop.

I express my sincere thanks to all who have again opened their hearts and filled shoeboxes in 2021. Many of you are "repeaters" and have been participating in this project EVERY year since inception. May God bless all who have answered His

call by bringing Christmas joy to the children in so many impoverished countries, and may He inspire others to join us in this endeavor in the future.

Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

Matthew 19:21

HOLY TRINITY BOOK CLUB ZOOMS INTO 2022

The newest initiative of our Adult Christian Education ministry—the Zoom Book Club—began 2022 with a compelling page-turner entitled "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. The discussion group of 18 individuals, including regulars and a few newcomers, talked about plot development, important characters, scenes, and quotations that touched their hearts. Together with Fr. Hakob and facilitator Nancy Basmajian, participants explored the nature of grief and the enduring grace of God.

Look for information about the book club's future selections here in the Loos —ALL ARE WELCOME!



DAY OF REMEMBRANCE 2022

With Love, We Remember



Family and friends of those in our community who passed away in 2021 participated in a “Day of Remembrance” or Merelotz on Sunday, January 16. Following Badarak, Der Hakob spoke to the families saying, “Your loss is also a loss for us, your faith community, and we are here to comfort you.” The service, now in its eighth year, was a simple gesture on the part of the parish to let families know that their loss is shared and remembered. (In the Armenian Church, the dead are considered part of the corporate body of the living church.)

When Der Hakob invited representatives from each family to come forward, they processed to the chancel and, saying the name of their loved one, lit a candle from a center candle symbolizing Christ—the light of the world. Candles were lit by spouses, parents, children, and friends of...

Doris Alahverde, George Arslanian, Deskouky Attarian, Leno Bakuntz, Alice Charles, Nazareth Hajinian, Sarkis Hashas, Harry Injaian, Jeannine Juskalian, Nevart Kaprielian, Volodia Khachatryan, Virginia Shakarjian, Laura Torcomian

The candles remained lit in the chancel during the hokehankisd service which followed. Afterwards, parishioners and family members alike expressed how moved and inspired they were by the ceremony.



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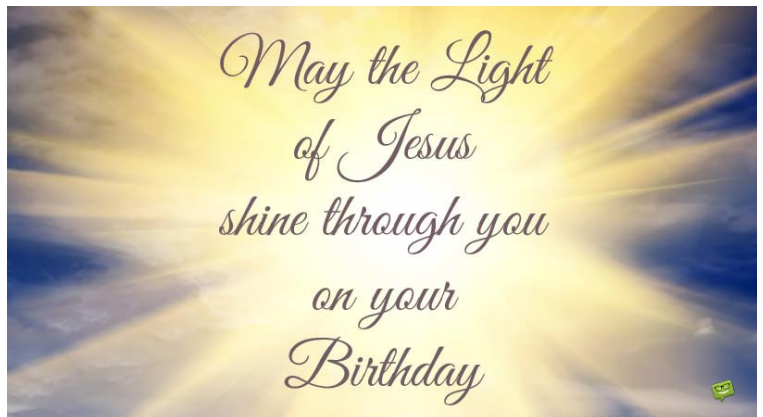
Holy Trinity Armenian Church

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<u>April</u>	Madeleine Theobald - 22	Kayli Tancredi - 18	Barbara Harmon - 7
Lucille Thomassian - 1	Donald Paretchan - 23	Ana Karagiannis - 18	Alyssa Santerian - 7
Erika Hajatian - 2	Rita Stepanian - 23	Diane Yazujian - 18	Talene Peckjian - 9
Todd Pica - 2	Daniel Montanez - 24	Ronald Asadoorian - 19	Ines Alexanian - 13
Nezihe Hashas - 3	Pauline Haufler - 25	Peter Bilazarian - 20	Shannon King - 13
Jake Terkanian - 4	Ani Javardian - 25	Mark Keshgegian - 21	Ernest Peacock - 13
Gena Willard - 4	Cathy Gargan - 26	Ara Shakarjian - 21	Mary Injaian - 14
Christine Williamses - 4	Cole Owens - 26	Paul G. Bogosian - 21	Dominique
Christine Boyajian - 5	Lorraine Damerjian - 28	Stephen Hovnanian - 22	Damerjian - 15
Etienne Boyajian - 5	<u>May</u>	Lucas Terkanian - 22	Herbert S. Theobald - 15
Michael Paretchan - 5	Dorothy Grocott - 1	Gustavo Alexanian - 23	Tom Harmon - 17
Jeanette Der Hagopian - 6	George Terkanian - 1	Valentina Garibian - 23	Claire Theobald - 18
Megan Aslanian - 7	Ankine Kapeghian - 5	Richard Vishab - 23	John Chalikian - 20
Alessandra Garibian - 7	John Paul Santerian - 7	Krikor Javardian - 24	Germaine Hashas - 21
Narek Gevorgyan - 7	Christopher Bennuhan - 9	Lori Vishab - 25	Narthy Hajinian - 22
Harout Nalbandian - 7	Lauren Mukalian - 9	Garo Hovnanian - 26	Carol Temoyan - 22
Cole Koengetter - 11	Brenda LeCompte - 9	Audrey Movsesian - 28	Steven Balint - 23
Maggie Tandourjian - 11	Andrea LeCompte - 10	Cameron Santerian - 28	Yn. Anna Gevorgyan - 24
Kalie Kalustyan - 13	Stephanie Balint - 12	Edward Attarian - 30	Ken King - 24
Lynne Asadourian - 14	Diane Doudoukjian - 12	Denise Hess - 30	Seta Pica - 24
Berjouhy Bosnian - 14	Tomas Montanez - 12	Mikaela Juskalian - 30	Chloe Dunigan - 25
Ani Gooshian - 14	Zachary Hajinian - 14	Matthew Worrell - 30	Joseph Polizzi - 25
Veron Monokian - 14	Daniel Dunigan - 15	Gregory Meranshian - 31	Sarine Kaprielian - 26
Tanya Paretchan - 14	Tavit Murray - 15	<u>June</u>	Berj Yeretzian Jr. - 26
Alice Torossian - 15	Armen Simonyan - 15	Ethel Terzian - 1	Rosemary Zarzatian - 27
Elize Taylor Radall - 15	Melissa DerPilbosian - 16	Alexandra Brod - 3	Artashes Danielyan - 27
Vani Hanamirian - 17	Silva Santerian - 17	Paul Terkanian - 5	Gregory Javardian - 30
Silva Hovhannesian - 19	Elias Terkanian - 18	Bryan Peckjian - 6	
Alexander Oskanian - 21			

MEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

<u>April</u>		<u>June</u>	
Ohannes & Irene Oskanian	4/4/1964	Nicklas & Amy Terkanian	6/9/2007
George & Anne Terkanian	4/8/1972	Ronald & Millicent Asadoorian	6/9/1963
Richard & Diane Doudoukjian	4/17/1977	Toros & Anita Torcomian	6/12/2010
Timothy & Cathy Gargan	4/17/1988	Jennifer & Greg Ermentrout	6/22/2012
Larry & Dorothy Grocott	4/19/1968	Johnny & Marcelle Alexanian	6/22/2014
Richard & Linda Vishab	4/20/1968	Brian & Joyce Hoyle	6/23/1990
Fred & Denise Hess	4/30/1973	Kristine & Jonathan Koengetter	6/28/2008
		Karnig & Alice Torossian	6/30/1968
<u>May</u>			
Larry D. & Kimberly Der Hagopian	5/5/2012		
Herbert S. & Azlen Theobald	5/10/2003		
Michael, Jr. & Melissa Paretchan	5/13/2006		
Robert & Jean Ohnigian	5/14/1994		
Gregory & Grace Meranshian	5/16/1982		
David & Alyssa Santerian	5/17/1992		
Peter & Robin Bilazarian	5/22/1977		
Janice & Christopher Owens	5/24/1998		
Stephen & Nancy Hovnanian	5/24/1975		
Robbie & Christy Barone	5/24/2015		
Gregory & Diane Yazujian	5/25/1985		
Arthur & Casey Baldadian	5/27/1976		
Michael & Legna Santerian	5/28/2002		
Fred & Janet Jordan	5/30/1992		



STEWARDSHIP 2021

*Diran and Andrea Alexanian
Ralph and Nane Arpajian
Hagop Arzoumanian
*Ronald and Millicent Asadoorian
Steve and Dorie Aslanian
Arthur Baldadian
Robert and Elizabeth Barone
Peter Bilazarian
Florence Boyajian
David and Marta Brann
Ayshe Chakmaklian
Robert and Lorraine Damerjian
Jeanette Der Hagopian
Larry and Kim Der Hagopian
Garo and Cece Garibian
Rev. Fr. Hakob
and Yn. Anna Gevorgyan

Michael and Lynn Hajatian
John Hanamirian
Harry and Mary Injaian
Mary Jamgochian
Pearl Jamgochian
Fred and Janet Jordan
Alice Karabian
John Kash
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Albert and Patrice Keshgegian
Virgina Knott
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kocharian
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Hank and Brenda LeCompte
Richard and Florence Maloumian Sr.
Serge and Andrienne Minassian
Barbara Papazian

Don and Judy Paretchan
Michael and Tanya Paretchan
*Dan and Jodi Radell
Merle Santerian
Harry and Valerie Santerian
Alice Sisian
Denise Sisian
*John and Nina Tancredi
Emily and Dn. Armen Terjimanian
Thomas Torcomian
Jack Vishab
*Jack M. Vishab
Richard and Linda Vishab
Kim and Gena Willard
Gregory and Diane Yazujian
Rosemarie Zarzatian

Total: \$35,810.90

* New stewards since last listing

STEWARDSHIP 2022

Ralph and Nane Arpajian
Steve and Dorie Aslanian
Arthur Baldadian
Stephanie & Steve Balint

Jeanette Der Hagopian
Ruzanna Israyelyan
Mary Jamgochian
Pearl Jamgochian

John Kash
Albert and Patrice Keshgegian
Don and Judy Paretchan
Denise Sisian

Total: \$12,840.55

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Barbara Papazian
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NAZARETH HAJINIAN

Florence Boyajian
NEW TOTAL: \$780.00

LAURA TORCOMIAN

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kurkjian
NEW TOTAL: \$4,847.53

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Suzanne Bouloutian
Joseph and Jason Charles
Jeanette Der Hagopian
Aram and Serpouhie Ghazarian

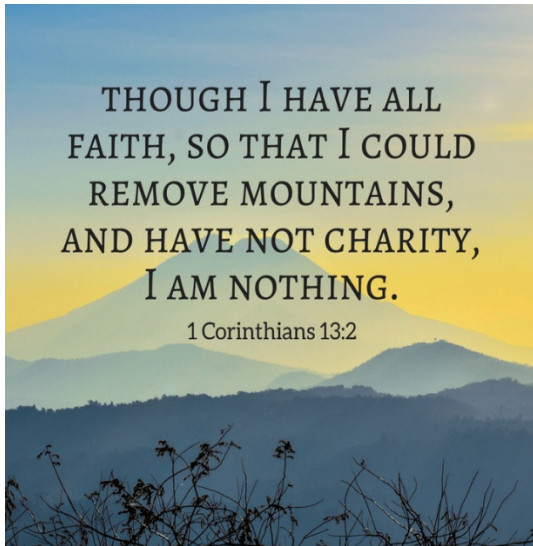
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Joyce Killian
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Merle Santerian
Les and Anne Marie Schmalbach
Denise Sisian
Mary Yeretjian
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In memory of Theodora Mirakian

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Beatrice Minassian & Rose Timourian by Serge & Adrienne Minassian
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The Goushian Family by Berj & Suzanne Goushian
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