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# Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church



# LOOYS



Cheltenham, PA

Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor

Winter 2024-01

## Armenian Christmas Pageant



### 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!

**P**ray **U**ntil **S**omething **H**appens

## Contact Information



**Holy Trinity Armenian Church**  
101 Ashmead Road, Cheltenham, PA 19012  
[www.holytrinity-pa.org](http://www.holytrinity-pa.org)

Items for inclusion in the Sunday Messenger or requests for Requiem Services or Special Prayers should be sent to the church office by Wednesday for the upcoming Sunday. For all emergencies, please contact Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan at the church 215-663-1600 (cell 917-213-8658).

### CHURCH INFORMATION

Office Telephone: 215-663-1600  
Kitchen: 267-282-4594  
Pastor: Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan  
[frhakob@holytrinity-pa.org](mailto:frhakob@holytrinity-pa.org)  
Church Secretary: Sabrinna Dabney  
[office@holytrinity-pa.org](mailto:office@holytrinity-pa.org)

### REGULAR SUNDAY HOURS OF WORSHIP

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

### PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Hanamirian (Chair)	215-660-0000
Barbara Harmon (Vice Chair)	609-605-0489
Don Paretchan (Treasurer)	610-608-1866
Michael Santerian (Asst. Treasurer)	610-527-1065
Steve Aslanian (Secretary)	215-771-1157
Greg Andonian	330-283-3729
Ralph Arpajian	215-518-4159
Rob Barone	610-529-2178
Larry Der Hagopian	215-489-7116
David Santerian	215-518-2256
Margo Silk	856-425-6565

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Emily Terjimanian	734-277-2753

### CHOIR

Karinne' Andonian (Director)	609-760-4993
Emily Terjimanian (Asst Director)	734-277-2753
Lorraine Damerjian (Organist)	215-572-8465
Steve Aslanian (Treasurer)	215-757-2622

### CHURCH SCHOOL

Yn. Anna Gevorgyan (Co-Superintendent)	215-938-1313
Leslie Movsesian (Co-Superintendent)	215-801-2725

### MEN'S CLUB

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

### BOOKSTORE

Gloria Basmajian	215-722-3369
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### ACYOA Jrs.

Jessica Badishyan (President)	
Narek Gevorgyan (Vice-President)	
Mariana Majian (Parent Advisor)	215-758-2664
Alex Yavru-Sakuk (Parent Advisor)	917-603-0407
Instagram:	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/htac_acyoajrs">https://www.instagram.com/htac_acyoajrs</a>

### LADIES of HOLY TRINITY

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

### INTERCOMMUNAL

Tanya Paretchan	215-947-4394
Emily Movsesian	734-277-2753

### COFFEE HOUR COORDINATORS

Jeanette Der Hagopian	215-672-4188
Berjoohy Murray	856-912-2417

### 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*

### *Images Provided by*

*John Alexanian  
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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.

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## I Desire Mercy, Not Sacrifice

Jesus said these words when He had dinner with tax collectors and sinners.

When the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when He heard this, He said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick Do. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners" (Matthew 9 :11-13).

In the Old Testament we read that people were offering many different kinds of sacrifices. But in the New Testament we learn that Christ is the Ultimate Sacrifice, who died on the cross for us and paid the penalty for our sins. That's why He said, "I desire mercy, and not sacrifice."

Now, let us see what Jesus expects from us when He says "I desire mercy, ...". The word "mercy" comes from the medieval Latin *merced* or *merces*, which means "price paid.". It has the connotation of forgiveness, benevolence and kindness. Mercy is often used in a religious context of giving alms, caring for the sick or the poor.

In the New Testament, we see several times how Jesus had compassion and showed His mercy to people; He gave sight to the blind, cured the sick and fed thousands of people. By His own life, Jesus not only gave us a great example of true mercy but He also gave us specific lessons how to be merciful.

'Come, you that are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you gave Me clothing, I was sick and you took care of Me, I was in prison and you visited Me....' Truly just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to Me' (Matthew 23:31-40). This explains everything what we are supposed to do as Christians. These things are not hard to do; only we should have willingness to do them.

We all are sinners, even the saints were sinners. For example, in the Book of Lamentation, St. Gregory of Narek talks about his sins and mistakes. We sin knowingly or unknowingly, willingly or unwillingly and God knows about this. Which means we are not perfect since only God is perfect, but this doesn't mean that we can continue our mistakes. Every person should work hard to minimize those mistakes.

Dear parishioners, the good news is that Christ paid the penalty for our sins, He knows our shortcomings and He urges us to be merciful so we can inherit His kingdom and enjoy His presence forever and ever. Amen

With prayers,  
Hakob Gevorgyan



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## FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

By: John Hanamirian

I hope everyone is doing well. We are approaching the end of another Term for our Parish Council and I want to thank everyone for their efforts along the way. You really don't see what people do unless you are involved day-to-day. We have an incredible group of volunteers, giving so much of their time to our Church. Really, for myself and my family; thank you.

Next, we have a few things happening this coming year. We will have a banquet for our Primate in May and it seems nearly every week, our Adult Christian Education team, ACYOA, Sunday School, Ladies of Holy Trinity, Men's Club and others have an event planned. The spirit in the Church is strong.

Okay, let's talk about Artsakh and Armenia in general. If you have internet access, a newspaper, a TV, or a radio, you know there has been months long "conflict" in Gaza. The reason you know so much is because the Israeli and Palestinian leaders use the media, in all forms, to make you aware of their respective narratives. Access to media and money are power. If we want to be heard, instead of lamenting what we don't have or being victims, we can devote our energy and efforts to attaining those levels of visibility. We are very close. We have generated countless books detailing our history, we have mainstream movies about the Genocide and we are in the news, but we need more. We are in the third generation coming from Genocide, my generation is among the most well-educated in the World and the generation behind us has done and will do even more. Again, complaining about your plight does not change anything. If we want to enlist the world to our cause, we need to first help ourselves. We know how. We have been here for nearly 6000 years and we are the best and brightest.



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## A reflection on the Resurrection by Deacon Albert Keshgegian:

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Christ is risen from the dead!

Come O peoples, sing to the Lord: Alleluia!

(Glory to the Father and Son and Holy Spirit,

Now, and forever and ever, amen)

To him who is risen from the dead, alleluia!

To him who has enlightened the world, alleluia!

--Midday Hymn (just before Gospel Procession/Soorp Asdvadz), Divine Liturgy, Easter season

Some songs are memorable because of their musicality – their melody or rhythm, or both. Others we remember for their lyrics, which can be meaningful to our personal history, our own experiences or memories. Or the lyrics bring out in us strong emotions –happiness, sadness, love, regret. And then there are songs that are memorable both for their musicality and what they speak of.

Kovya Yeroosaghem uzder (above) is one of those songs or hymns that has it all. We hear it only a few times a year – on the Sundays from Easter to Ascension, but it always has a powerful effect on me and, I'm sure, on many others.

The hymn describes Christ as the enlightener of the world, as he described himself (John 8:12). Before Christ, humanity was lost in the darkness of sin; Christ came and taught us how we could come out of the chaos and confusion of darkness and into the certainty and serenity of God's light, of having God in the center of our lives, guiding us to his truth and to doing the work that is pleasing to him.

Of course, the hymn also speaks of the resurrection of Christ, the single most important event in the history of the world. That event offered us all the hope of eternal life with God. The hymn does not speak of that hope, but it is surely implied.

The hymn focuses instead on the reaction of humanity to the resurrection: come, peoples, sing to the lord, come and praise the lord ("alleluia")! The immense feelings of joy and thanksgiving shine so clearly.

But there is more. The melody of the hymn is upbeat and uplifting, reflecting the joyous, victorious feeling that Christians all share. In some Armenian churches on Easter day, there may even be a deacon highlighting the singing and melody with the playing of cymbals.

And there is even more! The line "to him who is risen from the dead" starts with high notes that come rapidly upon the heels of the previous line— it's as if we cannot contain ourselves with the happiness and joy that we feel.

It's hard to describe in words the feelings and emotions conveyed by both the message and music of this beautiful hymn. Make a point of listening to it carefully yourself sometime in church during the Easter season. You will feel anew what Easter and the Resurrection mean to us and greet each other with enthusiasm and devotion:

Kreesdos haryav ee merelotz!  
Christ has risen from the dead!

Orhnyal eh harootyoonun Kreesdosee!  
Blessed is the resurrection of Christ!



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## ABOUT OUR FAMILY

At this point in time, I think we are more than ready for warmer temps, less rain and sunny skies!...We are delighted to share that the amazing **Marty Gutchigian** recently celebrated his 102nd birthday, looking and feeling great (see inset picture Perhaps you'd like to share your secret with your church family, Marty?...Condolences to the family of **Van Injaian**, brother of the late Harry and cousin to the Kapeghian families. Van was a lifelong member of Holy Trinity and many of our senior members may remember Van's active involvement in the Cam-Phi Armenian Men's Athletic Association which was created by all the Armenian churches in the Delaware County.... Praying for **Lucy Aghazarian** who sadly had a serious fall in church on a Sunday with the result of a fractured hip and necessary surgery. Please keep Lucy in your prayers .... Wishing a speedy recovery to Anne Terkanian who recently had successful knee replacement surgery....With sorrow, we extend deepest sympathy to the family of **Ara Shakarjian** who passed away in his 95th year. For many years, Ara documented the activities at Holy Trinity with his camera, providing us with memorable pictures throughout the years. In his later years, we did not see him often, but he always knew when something was going on at church which could use his photography skills and he would just show up without a call from Der Hakob....Belated congratulations to our senior deacon, **Albert Keshgegian** upon celebrating a milestone birthday. May peace and good health always surround him....If you haven't been to **Cafe Pom** yet, you're missing one of our local treasures. Go for a meal, a snack or just to shop. You will not leave empty-handed!...Happy to share that **Berjoohy Murray** has been doing the necessary (& painful) physical therapy to help her recover from an auto accident and subsequent surgery which left her with a severely torn rotator cuff. Her commitment and determination to recovery is unwavering....congratulations to **Harry Vartanian** who was recently admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in his career as a patent attorney. Fun fact: the ceremony at City Hall took place on his birthday - better than a cake!...Look forward to seeing many of you at church....Until we meet again, be safe, be happy, be at peace.



Marty (r) with son



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## MEN'S CLUB NEWS

By Mickey Paretchan

We would like to thank those ticket holders who generously donated some of their winnings back to the Mens' Club. In 2023, this enabled us to continue our annual sponsorship of two Armenian children through CASP for \$500. Plus, we made separate donations to FAR and the Knights of Vartan for Artsakh Relief totaling \$1,400! We are so pleased that we could be a conduit for our members to provide support for our homeland.

## ZOOM BOOK CLUB

By: Suzanne Sherenian

Readers are flocking to the Zoom Book Club! January's selection, the Orphan Train, facilitated by Don Paretchan was attended by over 20 individuals! This year, we have tried to introduce a variety of genres to our members and the choices are appealing!

Looking ahead, the February 22nd selection is the classic novel, My Antonia, by Willa Cather. Cather created one of the most winning heroines in American fiction. Antonia's calm, strength and high spirits made her emblematic of the virtues Cather most admired in her country. The novel chronicles the struggle of Antonia's immigrant Bohemian family with life in the Nebraska prairie. This selection is a divergence from our usual modern day written novels, but allows us to experience the language and style of the past.

We will continue our year with the selection, Orhan's Inheritance, by Aline Ohannesian. Ohannesian draws from her own family's dark history to create a powerful story of love and reclamation. It is a breathtaking work of historical fiction and proof that the past can sometimes rewrite the future. It is a novel that delves into the darkest corners of human history and emerges with a tenuous sense of hope.

Please join us for our book discussions! New members are always welcome!!!!

## We Remember with Love

Family and friends of faithful who passed away in 2023 participated in a "Day of Remembrance" or Merelotz on Sunday, January 14, 2024. It was the tenth consecutive year in which Holy Trinity held the ceremony. Following Badarak, Fr. 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 was a simple gesture on the part of the parish to let families know that they share their loss and remember. (In the Armenian Church, the dead are considered part of the corporate body of the living church.)

When Fr. Hakob invited representatives from each family to come forward, they preceded 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, children, siblings, and friends of...

- Elmira Agabekyan
- Nancy Meranshian Derderian
- Vera Hartunian
- Berdj Kalustyan
- Veronica (Ronnie) Monokian
- Evgenia Movsesian
- Judy Paretchan
- Bryan Peckjian
- Araxie (Roxie) Radynsky
- Alice Sisian
- Stephan Topalian
- Veronica Torcomian



— LEST WE FORGET —

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**Robbie Barone**  
**GODFATHER OF THE WATER BLESSING**



And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward.”

Matthew 10:42



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# ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'G. Nanagoulian'.

Garnik Nanagoulian  
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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bree Carriglio'.

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Albert A. Keshgegian

Moreover, in my delight in the house of my God, the treasure I have of gold and silver, I give to the house of my God, over and above all that I have already provided for the holy temple

1 Chronicles 29:3



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**Angel Tookmanian** / In Memory of Arshag, Eugenie & Garo Yeterian

## CHURCH SCHOOL - A NEW YEAR BEGINS

The Church School started its spring semester on January 21st with a fun-filled assembly of music bell-ringing to sharagans led by Emily Terjimanian and an art service project of Valentine-themed tray favors, for the Meals on Wheels program at the Montgomery County Adult Activity Center in Ambler Pa, led by Brenda Jilajian. They topped off the day with pizza and ice cream!

We had a fun filled day of music bell ringing with Emily Terjimanian and an art service project for Meals on Wheels with Brenda Jilajian to kick off the start to our spring semester! See you next week for regular classes.

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## CELEBRATING ARMENIAN ARTISTS

On Sunday afternoon, February 18, the Holy Trinity Banquet Hall in Cheltenham, PA. was filled with nearly 350 guests who were eager to enjoy the song and dance performance of the Folk Ensemble from Armenia in celebration of Vartanantz. The event was organized by the Philadelphia Inter-communal Committee. Host pastor, Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, welcomed everyone by reminding them of the importance of Vartanantz in Armenia's history. Guests were dazzled by the artistry of the dancers and were moved by the sounds of the age-old instruments – duduk, kanoon and dumbeg - opening their hearts and minds to the homeland. The joy, applause and elevated energy seen throughout the room left no doubt that this was a most worthy concert.







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DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN  
CHURCH OF AMERICA (EASTERN)  
BISHOP MESROP PARSAMYAN, PRIMATE

December 27, 2023

Holy Trinity Armenian Church  
Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan  
101 Ashmead Rd  
Cheltenham, PA 19012-1501

Dear Fr. Hakob:

Thank you for your generous donation of **\$2,500.00 dated December 13, 2023** to the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern) in support of our special humanitarian appeal to benefit our brethren forced to leave their homes in Artsakh. This Diocesan-wide fundraising effort will assist the refugees fleeing from Artsakh to Armenia. The new realities for Artsakh are heartbreaking, but we now must turn our focus on its people, as they are forced from the native land they defended at great cost. Please note that 100 percent of the fundraising proceeds will go to Holy Etchmiadzin for direct distribution to the Artsakh refugees.

As you may be aware, His Holiness Karekin II has directed the Social Services department of the Mother See to organize efforts to provide this much needed humanitarian assistance.

We are most grateful for your leadership in offering such generous financial support and compassionate concern. Thanks to you, and numerous other faithful members of our Eastern Diocese, we are confident that together we will strongly support our Artsakhtsi brethren as they now take refuge in Armenia.

Again, please accept our deepest gratitude for your loving support. Together we will demonstrate to our brothers and sisters that they are not alone. We pray to our Lord Jesus Christ to place his protection over his devoted children as they make their way from Artsakh into Armenia.

Warm regards,

*Laurie Onanian*

Laurie Onanian  
Development Director

This letter serves as a receipt for your donation. You received no goods or services and therefore this donation is tax-deductible (ID#13-1628202) to the fullest extent of the law.

*Dear Der Hakob,  
This generous gift will  
do much to help our brothers  
& sisters from Artsakh.  
Thank you & your  
entire parish!  
Warmly,  
Laurie*

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## THE LADIES OF HOLY TRINITY IN REVIEW

By: Elizabeth Barone

Our previous year (2023) began on a bright note. Yn. Anna & Mariana Majian organized a “Do It Yourself Tea Party” last January. This event was a hugely successful, bringing over 100 ladies and younger ones also to church on a Saturday afternoon. They brought everything to create a festive atmosphere. Each table bought whatever they needed to create the table’s theme, and they were creative, entertaining and full of bling. After enjoying a unique get-together, they disassembled their presentations leaving us with happy memories.

We sponsored the annual traditional Lenten luncheon which was very successful. Our guests enjoyed a delicious Lenten meal & socialized with friends before ACE welcomed our guest speaker, Chris Zakian, Communications Director, at our Diocese.

While attending the Annual Women’s Guild Assembly, I learned that many Guilds offered cooking classes via zoom. When I brought the idea back home, Yn. Anna said no to zoom when we can do it in person. So in the fall, she organized an in-person cooking demonstration where we learned to make gata, a delicious Armenian sweet. She planned a lovely reception & invited Margarita Ananyants to demonstrate the recipe & encouraged us to participate. We all left with gata & the recipe. We look forward to another cooking class.

Another idea which was presented at the Assembly was that many Guilds honor ladies who have passed. We discovered there are over 50 women who were active members of the Guild at Holy Trinity. Breaking the list into groups, we have requested Hokehankist, in groups of six names, until all the ladies have been remembered & blessed by Der Hayr.

We are major supporters of the annual Bazaar. Our ladies volunteer their time for many weeks beforehand to make the delicious foods that are served. This event not only brought our parish together but it was an opportunity to welcome guests to enjoy our hospitality. The Bazaar was very successful which is always a major fundraising event.

The Country Store is our primary vehicle to raise money which we donate back to the Church & allows us to sponsor four CASP children. Many of our ladies volunteer their time to make choreg & tell baneeer. We enjoy seeing old friends as we work to stock the freezer. As a result of our hard work, we donated \$10,000 to the Church & \$1,000 to support four CASP children.

The Ladies of Holy Trinity are NOT a private social group. Far from it, this group is open to all the women in our parish. Just speak to Yn. Anna expressing your interest. Do not be shy or think you have no time. The experience is rewarding as you work side-by-side with other volunteers. While getting to know other members who are also helping to serve the church, you become a more active member of Holy Trinity...and you wonder why it took you so long to get involved with your Church.



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## SACRAMENTS

### Funerals

Stephan Topalian – October 19, 2023  
Laura Nerkararyan – January 13, 2024  
Van Injaian – January 14, 2024  
Gelezar Zouloian – January 23, 2024  
Frank Murphy – January 31, 2024



### Baptisms

Alex Aloian – February 4, 2024  
Andre Aloian – February 4, 2024



I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

- Matthew 3:11



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FUND FOR ARMENIAN RELIEF  
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December 27, 2023

Holy Trinity Armenian Church  
101 Ashmead Road  
Cheltenham, PA 19012-1599

Dear Friends:

I would like to thank you for your generous contribution of **\$1,000.00 dated December 20, 2023**. Supporters like you are essential for FAR to carry out its mission of helping to create a stronger Armenia. We simply cannot do our work without you.

Through your contribution, you are empowering Armenians to create a better future for themselves and their nation.

We are sincerely grateful for your support, and we hope you will consider supporting us again in the future. We would be delighted if you would like to follow the progress of our projects on our website at [www.farusa.org](http://www.farusa.org), our blog, and on Facebook and Twitter and see your donation at work!

You may also check your gift details below:

**Date: December 20, 2023**

**Amount: \$1,000.00**

**Designation: Emergency Humanitarian Aid for Artsakh**

**Project: Supporting Artsakh Refugees 2023**

**Appeal: Christmas 2023**

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Once again, thank you so much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'G. Nanagoulian'.

Garnik Nanagoulian  
FAR Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bree Carriglio'.

Bree Carriglio  
Director of Development

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# SAVE THE DATE



Sunday, May 19, 2024

Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Cheltenham, PA

A celebration welcoming our Primate  
following the Divine Liturgy

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## Saintly Women's Day

By: Elizabeth Barone

This program, created by our Diocese many years ago, honors the female saints of our Armenian Church. It has not been celebrated since the COVID Epidemic of 2020. This year our local celebration was held at St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Church on Saturday, February 24th. All Armenian women from the five area churches were invited to celebrate the life of Saint Hripsime. The profits from the celebration will be donated to CASP & Vanadzor, the Armenian Home for the Aged.

The day began with a prayer service commemorating St. Hripsime and was led by Der Armash & Der Hakob & assisted by Fr. Asadur and Rev. Heather Ohanesian. This was followed by a delicious Lenten luncheon prepared by the Women's Guild of St. Sahag.

The keynote speaker was Arpi Nakashian who spoke on the life of Khosrovidukht, an 8th century hymnographer. She was the only woman to write a Sharagan. She wrote a special one to honor her brother Vahan, a famous Armenian general.

The highlight of the afternoon was the panel discussion hosted by Yn. Angel Metjian and led by the area Yeretzgins, Yn. Maran from St. Sahag, Yn. Arpie from St. Mark's and our very own Yn. Anna. They were charming, informative, & endearing. They answered questions from the audience. Their husbands joined them for a group picture.

The program ended with prayer led by Der Hakob. We will meet again next year when Holy Trinity will host this event.



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## ACYOA Jrs. REFLECTIONS

ByTomas Majian

The weekend of January 19th my family and friends from church took part in an ACYOA JRS and SUNDAY SCHOOL FAMILY ski trip. We had a great time, with a lot of people coming and enjoying the weekend with their loved ones. We created so many memories that will last a lifetime. We stayed at a cozy hotel near the mountain and spent the weekend skiing. The hotel had a nice little pool which we all enjoyed to the fullest.

My favorite part of the trip depends on the day you ask me. It's either when we were all at the pool enjoying our stay, or when we all had dinner together. The pool is fun, but more fun is when we all enjoy each other's company and feast as we laugh.

Those are the things that make memories. Sure, skiing also is debatable for this title, but usually, we are just making sure everyone is safe. One of my favorite times was when we sat down to eat and we talked about all the fun times we had on the trip. It's moments like these that we need to cherish and keep in mind the time we spend with friends and families.

So let's make memories together and cherish the time we spend with our loved ones because time flies by, and we don't want to miss out on all the fun! Last but not least, I want to thank my amazing Aunt Sabrina for organizing such a memorable and fun trip. I cannot wait to do it all again next year with even more people and make it a tradition that others can share with us.



## POON PAREGENTAN A HUGE SUCCESS

The Church School held a wonderful celebration for Poon Paregentan with music, games, crafts and good food on Feb 11th. Thank you to Yn. Anna and her crew of helpers and donors: Robbie Barone, Hripsime and Artash Danielyan, Garo Garibian, Janet Jordan, Arousiag Keshishian, Mariana Majian, Nick Terkanian, Tatev Melyan, Gina and Jake Terkanian, Vache Soghomonian, Stephen Sarkissian. Flora Safarian, Steve Aslanian, Christina Bagdasaryan, and the ACYOA Juniors! One of the favorites for the youngsters was the cotton candy being made by Vartan Gevorgyan.







*Diane Sarkisian*

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