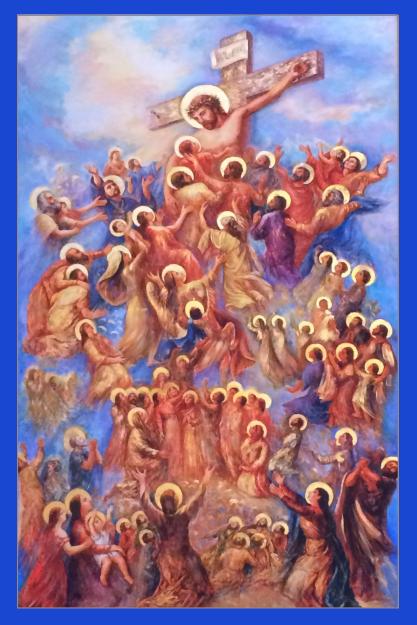
# APUS JRAK

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# U. Ստեփանոս Հայց. Առաքելական Եկեղեցի St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church

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Visit www.SoorpStepanos.org for information about our church & events

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### **COVER PAGE:**

"Icon of Armenian Genocide Martyrs" By Rudik Petrosyan, newly commissioned for churches of the Eastern Prelacy, depicting the crucified Christ welcoming the Holy Martyrs into Heaven. Ն.Ս.O.S.S. ԱՐԱՄ Ա. ԿԱԹՈՂՒԿՈՍՒ ԾԱՌԱՅՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՔՍԱՆԱՄԵԱԿԻ ՆՇՈՒՄ CATHOLICOS ARAM I: CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

# SAVETHEDATE

20-Ամեակ Նորին Սուրբ Օծութիւն Տ. Տ. ԱՐԱՄ Ա. ԿԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍԻ Գահակալութեան

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Enthronement of His Holiness Aram I

Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia



Sunday, October 9, 2016
Marriot at Glenpointe, Teaneck, New Jersey

ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴԱՐԱՆ THE ARMENIAN PRELACY

Մեծի Տանն Կիլիկիոյ Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Արամ Ա. Կաթողիկոսի աւելի քան երկու տասնամեակներու հեռատես ծառայութիւնը պիտի նշուի Կիրակի օր, Հոկտեմբեր 9, 2016. Օրուան տօնախմբութիւնը պիտի սկսի Վեհափառ Հայրապետի Հովուապետական Ս. Պատարագի մատուցումով Ռիճֆիլտ, Նիւ Ճըրզիի Սրբոց Վարդանանց Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ։ Յետմիջօրէին այս առիթով պատրաստուած յատուկ մշակութային յայտագիր մը տեղի պիտի ունենայ Թինէք, Նիւ Ճըրզիի Marriott at Glenpointe պանդոկին մէջ, որմէ ետք նոյն վայրին մէջ տեղի պիտի ունենայ հանդիսաւոր ճաշկերոյթ եւ քսանամեակին նուիրուած շքահանդէս։ Սոյն հանդիսութիւնը Նորին Սուրբ Օծութեան պատուող միակ ձեռնարկն է որ տեղի պիտի ունենայ Ամերիկայի Արեւելեան Թեմէն ներս։

Յատուկ յուշամատնանի մը պատրաստութիւնը կը նախատնսուի, որ պիտի թուէ Վնհափառ հայրապնտի զանազան մարզնրէ ննրս բազմաբնղուն վաստակն ու նկնղնցւոյ նւ ազգին համար իր նուիրական ծառայութիւնը ։

Նորին Սուրբ Օծութիւնը կաթողիկոս օծուած է Յուլիս 1, 1995. Վերջին քսանմէկ տարիներու իր առաջնորդութեան ընթացքին Մեծի Տանն կիլիկիոյ պատմութեան նոր էջ մը բացուած է՝ լեցուած բազմատեսակի նորանոր յաջող նախաձեռնութիւններով զօրացնելով, որոնք թափ տուած են զանազան դաստիարակչական, կրօնական եւ մշակութային ծրագիրներու. Սփիւռքն ու Հայրենիքը, Էքիւմենիզմը ու միջ-կրօնական յարաբերութիւններ քաջալերելով, Հայ Դատը պաշտպանելով ու կիլիկիոյ Մ. Աթոռի ֆիզիքական եւ հոգեւոր ածումը մշակելով։

The more than two decades of visionary leadership of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of the Great House of Cilicia, will be marked on Sunday, October 9. The celebratory day will begin with a Pontifical Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, New Jersey, celebrated by His Holiness. In the afternoon a special cultural program prepared specifically for this occasion will take place at the Marriott at Glenpointe in Teaneck, New Jersey, that will be followed with a banquet and anniversary celebration at the same venue. This event will be the one and only celebration honoring His Holiness within the Eastern Prelacy.

A special commemorative booklet is being prepared on this occasion that will chronicle the many accomplishments of His Holiness in different fields of his distinguished service to church and nation..

His Holiness was consecrated Catholicos of Cilicia on July 1, 1995. During the past twenty-one years under his leadership a new page in the history of the ancient Holy See of Cilicia has been filled with many accomplishments that include new initiatives for educational religious and cultural programs, strengthening the Diaspora and the Homeland, promoting and supporting ecumenism and interfaith relations, defending the Armenian Cause, and nurturing the physical and spiritual growth of the Cilician See.

### WHAT IS THAT NEW PICTURE ON THE WALL?

### And, Why Is It So Special?

The cover on this issue of the JRAK features the new painting that has been placed in each of the Eastern Prelacy churches. The paintings were consecrated as holy icons on March 12, 2016 in New York's St. Illuminator's Cathedral, by His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan and distributed to all of the various parishes. The consecration took place on the occasion of the Feast of St. Gregory the Illuminator's entry into the deep dungeon (*Khor Virab*). Because there have been so many questions about the painting from parishioners, I thought I would devote this issue's Pastor's Message to answering those questions by explaining more about the picture and its origin.

"Icon of Armenian Genocide Martyrs" is the official designation of the painting and it depicts Christ on the Cross with His right arm outstretched to gather to Him the holy martyrs of the genocide and welcome them into His heavenly kingdom.

The first question that was asked about the icon was why we did not have the same picture as St. James, which is a copy of the one consecrated in Holy Etchmiadzin on April 23, 2015. My answer to that is that whichever church you go to, you will see the same people or themes expressed through the eyes of different artists. Icons, both in style and content, are often very different from one another depending on who conceived and painted that particular icon. Thus, while all Armenian churches have the Holy Mother of God with the infant Jesus on



her lap, in very few cases do those pictures resemble each other. The same goes for pictures of the Crucifixion. No two are the same. Even in Etchmiadzin, during the canonization service, there were two icons of the Holy Martyrs that were consecrated, one for the Holy See of Etchmiadzin and one for the Holy See of Cilicia in Antelias. So why don't we have a copy of the one that was consecrated for Antelias? The answer to that question lies not so much in the quality, style or artistic merit of the icon, but rather in our Prelate's sensitivity to history and the profound theological meaning that lies behind this depiction of the

The original painting that inspired the idea behind this one was displayed above the Holy Altar in the Armenian Church in Der Zor, which as you know was obliterated by Muslim extremists last year. A similar-themed picture was blessed and installed several years ago at St. Illuminator's Cathedral in New York city as a memorial to the Martyrs. I do not know if that original painting in Der Zor was saved or not, but I am proud to say that at least its original concept lives on in the churches of the Eastern Prelacy thanks to His Eminence's thoughtfulness.

There are a few comments I wish to make about the picture itself. Whereas the colors of the original were muted, vibrant colors are used in this painting to express the joy of the Saints approaching the Heavenly abode of their Holy Lord and Savior. Please note that there are people depicted from every walk of life; young and old; male and female; rich and poor; elergy and laity. In contrast to the original, all of the figures depicted have halos, which is customary for the depiction of saints and when looking at the actual picture on the wall, you notice how the halos of the saints (*Loosabesag* in Armenian) seem to shine brightly as with an ethereal and heavenly fire. Notice also the theological symbolism of the painting. Usually the Crucifixion of Christ is depicted in a somber manner. Generally icons of the crucifixion are displayed during Great Lent and Holy Week or in miniature paintings placed in the Gospel narratives of that particular event. Far from being somber, however, as I pointed out, this is a joyous picture wherein the crucified Christ has detached His right hand from the "Wood of Life" (i.e. the Cross) in order to welcome (not just comfort as in the original) the slaughtered innocents into their new heavenly abode.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Anahid Najarian for her generous donation of this superb and beautiful holy icon. Thank you also to Raffi Manjikian and Chris Hajian who traveled to St. Illuminator's Cathedral in New York City to transport the massive painting.

Prayerfully,

Fr. antrang

### Ի՞ՆՉ Է ՊԱՏԻ ՎՐԱՅ ԶԵՏԵՂՈՒԱԾ ՆՈՐ ՆկԱՐԸ

### Եւ Ի՞նչ կր Նշանակէ

ՃՐԱԳի սոյն թուին կողքին վրայ գտնուած նկարը Ամերիկայի Արեւելեան թեմի ամէն մէկ եկեղեցւոյ մէջ զետեղուած է որպէս սրբպատկեր Ապրիլեան Սուրբ Նահատակներուն։ Նկարները օծուեցան Մարտ 12, 2016-ին Նիւ Եորքի Ս. Լուսաւորիչ Մայր Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ ձեռամբ Բարձրաշնորհ Տէր Օշական Արքեպս. Չօլոյեանի, Սուրբ Գրիգոր Լուսաւորչի «Մուտն Ի Վիրապ» տօնին առիթով եւ դրկուեցան թեմիս բոլոր եկեղեցիներուն։ Որովհետեւ մեր ծխականներուն կողմէ կարգ մը հարցումներ եղած են նկարին մասին, ուզեցի այս թիւին Հովիւի Պատգամը նուիրել սոյն հարցումներու պատասխանին, բացատրելով նկարին ու իր ծագման մասին։

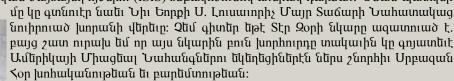
Նկարին պաշտօնական տիտղոսն է «Սրբանկար Հայոց Ցեղասպանութեան Նահատակներու» եւ կը ներկայացնէ Խաչեցեալ Քրիստոսը որ Իր աջ ձեռքը խաչէն հանած՝ կը դիմաւորէ Մեծ Եղեռնի նահատակուած ժողովուրդը Իր

Երկնաւոր Թագաւորութնան։

Առաջին հարցումը նկարին մասին այն էր թէ՝ ինչո՞ւ մենք չունեցանք Ս. Յակոբ Եկեղեցւոյ զետեղուած նոյն նկարէն որ Ապրիլ 23, 2016-ին Ս. Էջմիածնի մէջ օծուեցաւ։ Պատասխանս հետեւեալն էր՝ թէ որեւէ եկեղեցի որ մտնէք, հայ կամ օտար, պիտի տեսնէք զանազան նկարներ որոնք իրարմէ կը տարբերին սակայն նոյն անձը կամ դէպքը կը պատկերացնեն։ Օրինակի համար, ամէն Հայ եկեղեցի Սուրբ Խորանին վրայ զետեղուած ունի Ս. Աստուածածնի եւ մանուկ Յիսուսի սրբանկարը, բայց ո՛չ նոյն նկարը։ Նոյնն է պարագան Տիրոջ խաչելութիւնը պատկերացնող նկարներուն. ամէն մէկ եկեղեցւոյ մէջ իրար նման, բայց իրարմէ ալ տարբեր պատկերներ են։ Նոյնիսկ Էջմիածնի մէջ սրբադասման արարողութեան ընթացքին, երկու տարբեր նկարներ օծուեցան, մէկը Մայր Աթոռ Ս. Էջմիածնի համար իսկ միւսը՝ Մեծի Տանն կիլիկիոյ կաթողիկոսութեան համար։ (Տեսէ՛ք նախորդ էջի լուսանկարը)։

Լաւ, ուրեմն, ինչո՞ւ Անթիլիասի համար պատրաստուած եւ օծուած նկարին նմանը չունինք։ Սոյն հարցումի պատասխանը չի գտնուիր նկարին որակին, ոճին կամ արուեստական արժէքին մէջ. որքան կը կայանայ մեր Սրբազան Հօր կրած սէրն ու յարգանքը՝ պատմութեան հանդէպ եւ Աստուածաբանական խոր իմաստին, որ կր կրէ Սուրբ Նահատակներու այս պատկերացման։

Բուն պատկերը (Տեսէ՛ք վերեւի աջ կողմի նկարը) որ ներշնջած է մեր նորը՝ զետեղուած էր Տէր Զօրի նահատակաց յիշատակին կառուցուած մատրան մէջ, որ անցեալ տարի իսլամական ծայռայեղ ոյժերու (ISIS) ռմբակոծումով աւերակ դարձաւ։ Նման պատկեր



Երկու խօսք ալ կ՜ուզեմ աւելցնել նկարին մասին։ Բունը մութ գոյներով գծուած էր. լուսաւոր բաժինը միայն Քրիստոսի գլխուն շուրջ։ Բայց նորը՝փայլուն եւ պայծառ ներկերով՝ գոլագնելու համար նահատակներուն անհուն ուրախութիւնը զոր զգացին երբ, սրբացած՝ կը մօտենային իրենց Տիրոջ եւ Փրկչին։ Նկատի առէ՛ք նաեւ որ կեանքի ամէն խաւերէն նկոկայացուցիչներ կան՝ երիտասարդ եւ ծերունի, արու եւ էք, հարուստ եւ աղքատ. նկնղնգական նւ աշխարհական։ Ամէնքն ալ լուսապսակ ունին իրենգ գլխին վերելը, ինչ որ բնական է սուրբերու նկարներու պարագային. սակայն այնքա՜ն փայլուն եւ լուսաւոր են որ կարծէք թէ կը ցոլացնեն Աստուածային հրեղէն լոյսը։ Ընդհանրապէս Քրիստոսի խաչելութիւնը նրկնային ներկայացնող նկարներ մթագին եւ նսեմ ձեւով կր գծուին եւ եկեղեցւոյ մէջ կր զուզադրուին Մեծ Պահքի կամ Աւագ Շաբթուան ընթագքին։ Սակայն սոյն նկարը բերկրալի կերպով կը ներկայացնէ Խաչեցեալ Փրկիչը, որ Իր աջ ձեռքը «Կենաց Փայտ»էն քաշած՝ կր դիմաւորէ Երկինք հասած իրենց հաւատքի համար սպաննուած անմեղ գոհերը։

Այս առիթով խորին շնորհակալութիւններս կը յայտնեմ Տիկ. Անահիտ Նաճարեանին, այս հոյակապ եւ գեղեցիկ սրբանկարը նուիրելուն համար։ Շնորհակալութիւն նաեւ Պ. Ռաֆֆի Մանճիկեանին եւ Քրիս Հաճեանին որ յանձն առին մինչեւ Նիւ Եորք ճամբորդել նկարը փոխադրելու եւ զետեղելու եկեղեցւոյ մէջ։

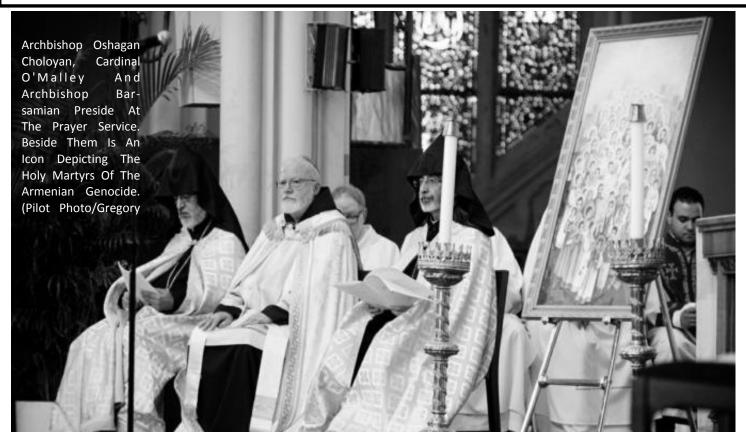
Աղоթարար`





Chermely Che Alej May Hume

### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION



### ARCHDIOCESAN PRAYER SERVICE RECALLS ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The haunting drone of Armenia's national instrument, the duduk, echoed through the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, marking the beginning of the Archdiocese of Boston's first ever commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, April 23. Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley presided at the ecumenical service, alongside Archbishop Khajag Barsamian of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan from the Eastern Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church, vicar general Msgr. Andon Atamian of the Armenian Catholic Eparchy of the United States and Canada, and the Reverend Avedis Boynerian, of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America. Also at the service were representatives from the Anti-Defamation League, the Anglican Diocese in New England, the Community of Sant'Egidio, the Coptic Orthodox Church, the Emmanuel Gospel Center, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Focolare Movement, the Islamic Center of Boston, the Massachusetts Council of Churches, and the Syrian Orthodox Church.

In his homily, Cardinal O'Malley spoke on God's unfaltering love for his people, and how we must never forget that love, "especially in moments of darkness and pain." "It is that faith, have not yet managed to take the necessary steps toward unity that memory, that conviction that allows us to recall the genocide of a century ago and to know that the love and power of God is stronger than death. Christ's cross has conquered sin and death for us," the Cardinal said.

"By the same token, it is important that we do not allow the events of the genocide to slip into oblivion. We must raise the alarm, we must keep the memory alive, so that the future will be safer." he continued.

He noted that by remembering instances of mass slaughter, such as the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust, we can help to "prevent more genocide in the future."

"We must never allow the world to vilify people because of their race, their religion, their nationality, their language, their politics. The world needs the voice of a sentinel, crying out the warnings of danger that lurk when people nurture the darkness of hatred and prejudice in their hearts," he stressed.

The cardinal drew to mind the murder of Christians around the world by the Islamic State, and invoked the words of Pope Francis. "Pope Francis, in an interview that he gave over a year ago used the term 'ecumenism of blood.' The Holy Father commented on how in some countries they kill Christians for wearing a cross or for having a bible. They do not ask whether they are Catholics or Anglicans or Lutherans or Orthodox -- they are killed because they are Christians," he stated.

"Pope Francis said 'We are united in blood even though we among us, and perhaps the time has not yet come. Unity is a gift we need to ask for," he continued. "Hopefully the example and the witness of the faith of these martyrs will help us to grow closer to one another and be more faithful to our vocation as disciples of Jesus Christ," the Cardinal affirmed.

### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATIONS (Cont.)

congratulated Pope Francis for acknowledging the Armenian Genocide on the 100th anniversary of the event last year. "His the meaning of the genocide," the Archbishop said. "It is the Holiness, Pope Francis, has stood firmly on the side of the truth and reminder of our Lord's passion, in which Armenian Christians morality. When he acknowledged the first genocide of the 20th shared a century ago, in which other people would later share, and in century, his declaration prompted similar acknowledgments from many more organizations and countries, beginning with the European parliament," he said. "Today's event, hosted by His Eminence Cardinal Sean O'Malley at the Archdiocese of Boston, is a continuation of that Christian solidarity. Behold how good and during the service, including the Hymn for the Holy Martyrs' of how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity," he continued.

Francis' acknowledgment, and thanked Cardinal O'Malley for hosting the prayer service. "Today, thanks to the generous spirit of His Eminence Cardinal O'Malley, we are again honoring the

Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan offered an address, in which he memory of those who perished 101 years ago, and it is fitting that we should do so beneath the cross of Christ, for the cross illuminates which, people are sharing down to our own days. But, the cross is also a symbol of victory over suffering, the victory promised by God to his faithful servant," he continued.

A number of the hymns and prayers were said in Armenian 1915, which called on the martyrs of the genocide to beseech God to keep Armenia in peace. Following the service, a reception was held In his own address, Archbishop Barsamian also noted Pope in the Cathedral High School gymnasium, where there was an exchange of gifts between the Armenian and Catholic bishops.

BY MARK LABBE, Pilot Staff



### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION IN PEABODY

The Armenian community of the Boston area and many prominent government representatives from Massachusetts came together for the 101st anniversary commemoration of the Armenian Genocide at the Massachusetts State House on April 22. As many as 275 people filled the House Chamber. Massachusetts State Rep. Alemian of Weymouth, and stooped by to greet the students of St. Jonathan Hecht of Watertown and Cambridge served as the master Stephen's Armenian Elementary School.

of ceremonies for a nearly two-hour program of music, awards and speeches. Former Boston Mayor and U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican, Ray Flynn was the keynote speaker. Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker made a spontaneous visit to the gathering where (below, left to right) he spoke movingly to the audience, visited with 106-year old parishioner and genocide survivor Starrie







### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATIONS (Cont.)

### ANNUAL GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION IN PEABODY FEATURES GUEST SPEAKER MRS. HOURY BOYAMIAN



On the morning of April 25, Armenians of Peabody, Mass. and their friends assembled to commemorate the Armenian Genocide with the participation of many local elected officials. At the start of Approximately 60 people attended the program.

Mayor Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr. of Peabody was ill, and was represented by State Rep. Tom Walsh of the 12<sup>th</sup> Essex District. Fr. State Sen. Joan Lovely of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Essex District, State Rep. Antranig Baljian of St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church Theodore C. Speliotus of Danvers, Peabody City Councilors Tom opened the event with a prayer. His son, Fr. Stephan Baljian of St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church of Merrimack Valley, was also Committeeman Jarrod Hochman. There was strong Greek support present. Mary Bellavance of the mayor's office welcomed the for the event, as exemplified by the presence of Fr. Anthony guests.

Elementary School in Watertown, was the keynote speaker. She summarized the events of the Armenian Genocide through the story

of her father Karnig Panian, a genocide survivor who managed to overcome the extreme trauma and obstacles of his early life to become an educator and vice-principal at an Armenian school in Beirut, Lebanon. His life serves as an example of both the brutality of the Genocide and the resilience of the Armenian people.

Boyamian and her sister recently had their father's Armenianlanguage memoirs translated into English and published under the title Goodbye, Antoura. Copies were given to several of the officials present at the event.

Rep. Walsh presented the proclamation from Mayor Bettencourt which proclaimed April 25 to be the day to commemorate the 101st anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in Peabody and to remember "the 1,500,000 people of Armenian ancestry who lost their lives in the Genocide of 1915-1923."

Peabody has commemorated the Armenian Genocide annually since 1991. Then-mayor Peter Torigian wanted to provide an opportunity for Armenians living in the North Shore area to come together locally on the model of the annual commemoration in Boston proper. His successors, Michael J. Bonfanti and Bettencourt, fortunately continued this tradition, and the Torigian family has helped support it, along with various Armenian community leaders. In a sense, the event now is also a tribute to the popularity and legacy of Torigian. His wife Jackie was present at the program, the program, the Armenian flag was raised outside of town hall. which concluded with a reception with a variety of delicious foods provided by Peabody town hall and the Armenian community.

Dignitaries present in the audience included Massachusetts Gould, Dave Gravel and James Moutsoulas, and School Pantilyan from Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church of Peabody Houry Boyamian, principal of St. Stephen's Armenian as well as several of the officials present of Greek origin.

> By Aram Arkun Armenian Mirror-Spectator Staff

### APRIL 24, 2016: HUNDREDS PROTEST AT TURKISH CONSULATE IN BOSTON THEN MARCH TO ARMENIAN HERITAGE PARK





Photo: Araz Chiloyan

### 2016 NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

By NRA Delegate Tamar Kanarian



The 2016 National Representatives Assembly (NRA) of the Eastern Prelacy was hosted by St. Sarkis Church of Douglaston, NY from May 12-14. The NRA was preceded by the clergy conference that took place on May 13. Clergy and lay delegates deliberated on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, to review the past year and to prepare the agenda for the forthcoming year.

Archbishop Oshagan set the tone of the Assembly with his keynote address that was devoted to service, in keeping with the "Year of Service" declared by His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia. Elected to serve as co-chairmen were Jack Mardoian from Chicago and Aram Hovagimian from Philadelphia. Elected to serve as secretaries were Melanie Mesrobian and Very Rev. Fr. Sahag Yemishian.

Delegates were asked to focus their time in the following panel groups: AREC, ANEC, By-Laws, Budget/Finances, Youth Ministry, and Security/Insurance.

### By-Laws

One by-law amendment was submitted the Assembly regarding a change to expedite a voting procedure. The by-law change did not pass.

### Armenian Religious Education Council (AREC)

Delegates who participated in this panel discussed ways to improve and grow AREC programs, especially participation in all of its programs by all parishioners. Three major topics of discussion were: Datev Institute, Sunday School, and Adult Christian Education.

It is encouraged that all parish Board of Trustees (BOT), NRA Delegates and parish priests institute a "Datev Day" program by showing video clips, distribution of flyers and holding discussions about Datev. It is also suggested that each parish help to secure one to two participants to the Datev institute each year and

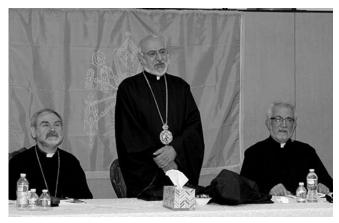
possibly include a line item in their budget to help send campers. Sunday School continues to be a item of importance and the panel would like to see greater involvement from parents, especially as we see a growing trend in parents simply 'dropping off' their children and not partaking in church services or other areas of Sunday School. It is asked that the parish priest, BOT, and NRA delegates seriously examine this issue in each of their parishes. Finally, the panel reviewed Adult Christian Education as an area to improve and help to motivate young members of the church to connect with their faith and church. The panel recommends education using the commentary on the Nicene Creed by Archbishop Zarch Aznavourian of blessed memory and encourages Dn. Shant Kazanjian to continue his work on the Catechism particularly on the sacraments of Christian initiation namely Baptism, Chrismation, and the Eucharist.

### Armenian National Education Committee (ANEC)

The Armenian National and Education Committee discussed the current functions and programs of ANEC, which is led by executive director Dr. Vartan Matiossian. In this panel, he discussed the main functions of ANEC as an advisory body for the schools under the jurisdiction of the Prelacy. He also noted that technology has been thoroughly inserted into the work of ANEC, including new features such as teleconferences with school principals and teachers.

Dr. Matiossian also presented the Siamanto Academy, which was reintroduced in 2014 in New Jersey. He also discussed other ongoing features in the field of technology, including the columns "This Week in Armenian History" and "Armenian Language Corner," which run in "Crossroads" before being stored in special blogs. The delegates would like to see the potential of these programs augmented to a wider base and audience in the coming year.

### 2016 NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY (Cont.)





### **Budget Panel**

The Budget Panel was led by Dan Gulbenkian, CPA, an Executive Council member and Treasurer of the Prelacy. Dan presented a review of his work which is the basis for much of this Summary. Based in New York, Dan had the opportunity to work on-site and spent many hours restoring the Prelacy's books after certain journal entries and account information had been lost. This process included (but was not limited to) upgrading the Prelacy's accounting software, reviewing and analyzing the underlying data, and reconciling its books, records, and bank statements. As of May, 2016, the Executive Council was in the process of selecting a CPA firm to perform an independent audit of its books and records for FY2016.

The Executive Committee proposed a \$1.333 million budget for FY2017 which contained a \$333,423 shortfall to be funded by distributions and/or borrowings from the Prelacy Endowment Fund. The Budget Panel and Assembly discussed and voted on funding various Budget items and offsetting them through different means (Parish Quotas, fundraising, expense cuts, etc.). While the quota amount for St. Stephen's has not yet been determined by the Executive Council, overall parish quotas were budgeted to increase 7 to 18%.

### Youth Ministry

The panel on Youth Ministry discussed the challenges parishes face in engaging and developing youth to be active citizens of their parish community. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on Christian education in cooperation with existing programs that work for each parish.

The panel presented a resolution that the Religious Council address liquor liability appoint a committee of clergy and lay members to develop a Bill Waldorf an insurar curriculum that focuses on the following: The Bible, specializing in group Armenian Church History, and Ethics; working with the AYF and HMEM in developing programs that will foster religious parishes in the prelacy.

education in their programs, and finally, to budget \$60,000 for the hire of a youth coordinator to develop and implement religious programs and initiatives and who would be a resource to local parish priests and their boards.

### Security and Insurance

**Security-** This session discussed the need for each parish to have a safety and security plan for their church. The plan should cover how the parish and Board of Trustees will respond to circumstances such as: fire and weather emergencies, bomb

threats/threats of violence, medical emergencies, gas/water leaks, downed utility lines, unwanted intruders, and other safety needs specific to each parish.

It was recommended that each parish engage local police and fire authorities to evaluate their premises and provide tips and suggestions for how to respond in case of the above circumstances. Parishes should build relationships with their local authorities to share information and learning.

There may need to be a separate plan created for each building the church owns. When emergencies arise it is critical to know where people are and in which rooms. Facility maps should be attached to the plan created identifying where utilities are located including alarms, utility cutoff switches, fuse boxes etc. Such maps should be presented to law enforcement for them to have on file in case of emergency.

Insurance- There was a discussion on insurance needs for each parish — including directors and officers insurance, general liability, property etc. Parishes should review their hall rental agreements to be sure they are properly drafted to address liquor liability and caterers / food service licenses. Bill Waldorf an insurance agent from a NY insurance agency specializing in group coverage for religious institutions, presented on the benefits of having one master policy for all parishes in the prelacy.

### 2016 NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY (Cont.)



They interacted with the residents with prayer, Christian love, fellowship, bonding, singing, and even dancing to the piano and voice of resident Sosy Kadian. The Sunday and Armenian school students of Providence's Sts. Vartanantz Church "cared enough to send the very best" to the elderly by creating greeting cards with messages that were presented to the residents by Yn. Debbie Nazarian.

With total agreement the *Yeretzgins* said, "When one attends a conference such as this, there is nothing more gratifying than to depart feeling energized, enlightened, encouraged, motivated, inspired, refreshed and ready to return to our communities with a renewed spirit in Jesus Christ."

### 2016 CONFERENCE OF YERETZGINS

Continuing the practice first initiated several years ago, this year the *Yeretzgins* of the Eastern Prelacy convened a conference during the National Representative Assembly. Yn. Joanna Baghsarian was asked to honor the requests of Catholicos Aram and Archbishop Oshagan and organize a conference with "Service" as the theme. Executive Council member Karen Jehanian was given the task to facilitate and execute the conference.

The conference began with a meditation and a *sharagan*—a spiritual hymn of praise by Yn. Alice Baljian from the St. Gregory community of North Andover, Massachusetts. Speakers included: Yn. Joanna Baghsarian, who spoke on "Prayer—A Holy Occupation; and Yn. Margaret Stepanian, who described her many years of service as a "helpmate to her husband" and as a servant to her community. Group discussions followed to share how "service" is working in their respective homes and communities.

The next day, the *Yeretzgins* turned "service" into "action" when they went to the New York Armenian Home in Flushing, New York, where they were welcomed by the Home's director, Jenny Akopyan. The Home is home to 25 Armenians from five continents. Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian, pastor of St. Illuminator Cathedral, opened with a prayer and morning service. Yn. Ojeen Lakissian, gifted in baking and cake artistry, prepared festive baskets of choreg for each resident. The *Yeretzgeens* were paired with residents from the same Province of their ancestral heritage and personally presented a basket to each resident.



### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LADIES GUILDS

As it does each year the National Association of Ladies Guilds (NALG) convened its annual meeting concurrent with the National Representative Assembly.

The basic purpose of the NALG is to help strengthen and promote the activities of Ladies' Guilds; to inspire members to learn the doctrines and traditions of the Armenian Church; to cooperate and maintain harmonious relationships with all other organizations under the jurisdiction of the Eastern Prelacy. In addition the NALG has been a source of support for charitable and educational projects in the United States and Armenia, and in recent years for the Fund for Syrian Armenian Relief.

The newly elected Executive of the NALG consists of: Joyce Bagdasarian, chair; Madonna Kzirian, vice chair; Rosemary Khachadoorian, treasurer; Maggie Kouyoumdjian, corresponding secretary; Margaret Stepanian, recording secretary.

### VERY REV. FR. SAHAG YEMISHIAN ELEVATED TO DZAYRAKOUYN VARTABED









Very Rev. Fr. Sahag Yemishian, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Worcester, Massachusetts, was elevated to the rank of *Dzayrakouyn Vartabed* on Sunday, May 29 at St. Stephen's Church in Watertown, Massachusetts.

The elevation, granted by His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, was conferred by the Prelate Archbishop Oshagan during the Divine Liturgy celebrated by Bishop Anoushavan, Vicar General of the Prelacy. A reception in Hayr Sahag's honor followed in the church hall.

The degree of *Dzayrakouyn Vartabed* (Archimandrite Superior) confers ten advanced theological degrees in addition to the four given at the time of elevation to the rank of *Vartabed* (Doctor). This ceremony is usually conducted at the Catholicosate in Antelias, so most of the faithful in the United States or elsewhere have not witnessed this impressive ceremony.

The service itself consists of the presentation and examination of the candidate's faith and knowledge, after which the various degrees are conferred through the singing of special hymns, the recitation of Psalms and readings, and prayers. Throughout the service, the Archimandrite's staff, which symbolizes the candidate's authority to preach, is veiled, until the conclusion of the services when the newly elevated clergyman receives the staff and delivers his sermon.

Archpriest Fr. Antranig Baljian, pastor of St. Stephen's Church, said his parish was honored to host this occasion that

provided the opportunity for parishioners to witness this historic and moving religious event.

A reception, prepared by St. Stephen's Ladies' Guild, was held after the service. Mr. Raffi Manjikian, Chairman of St. Stephen's Board of Trustees and Mr. George Aghjayan, Chairman of Worcester's Holy Trinity Church Board of Trustees both congratulated Hayr Sourp on his elevation. And Mr. Aghjayan presented Hayr Sourp with a Hand Cross on behalf of His entire parish.

On this occasion, the Prelate, His Eminence Abp. Oshagan Choloyan gifted the new Staff used during the ceremony to St. Stephen's as a token of his gratitude for our support and for undertaking the hosting of this unprecedented and historic event.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank His Eminence for his generosity and his fatherly concern and love for our parish. Special thanks to St. Stephen's Ladies' Guild for preparing the food for the post-elevation reception. Special thanks and kudos to the joint Worcester/Watertown church choirs who beautifully sang the Yegmalian Badarak and the special hymns for the occasion under the direction of our church choir director, Karen Demirjian.

We would also like to congratulate Hayr Sahag on his elevation to Dzayrakouyn Vartabed, and wish him God's blessings. We also congratulate the Board of Trustees, church affiliated bodies and the entire congregation of our sister Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Worcester.





### COMMUNITY NEWS

### IN MEMORIAM ARCHPRIEST FR. DR. MESROB TASHJIAN



funeral services for Rev. Church lowed at Forest Lawn Sunday Schools.

(Hollywood Hills) cemetery. He is survived by his Yeretzgin Carmine and sons Vatche and Hagop.

Archpriest Fr. Mesrob Tashjian was born in Aleppo on May 15, 1924, where he received his primary education. He continued his education at St. James Armenian Theological Seminary in Jerusalem, after which he entered the teaching profession. In 1961 he was ordained into the priesthood by Archbishop Hrant Khatchadourian, at Sts. Vartanantz Church in Providence, Rhode Island, where he served as parish pastor until his retirement in 1998. Der Hayr also served on the Prelacy's Executive and Religious

Archbishop Oshagan Councils for many terms beginning in 1963, including many years Choloyan officiated at as chairman of the Religious Council.

During this time, he received a Master of Arts degree in Archpriest Fr. Mesrob Biblical Studies from Providence College, and later a Doctorate of Tashjian, D.Min., who Ministry degree from Boston University. Alongside his pastorship at died on Saturday, July Sts. Vartanantz Church, Fr. Mesrob was a teacher and eloquent The final conse- speaker with weekly broadcasts on Voice of America in Washington cration (Extreme Unc- and hundreds of lectures on theological matters. A prolific writer, tion) took place Friday, he was a frequent contributor to the Prelacy's monthly publication July 29, at St. Mary's Outreach from its first issue in 1978 and into the 1990s with articles Glendale, in both English and Armenian. He was instrumental in the California. Interment fol- production of curricula and educational resources for the Prelacy's

> May his memory be blessed forever. PASTOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES





### MEGERDICHIAN HAND-MADE METAL MINIATURES AT LYNN MUSEUM

On June 8, 2016 Der Hayr and Yeretzgin traveled to Lynn Massachusetts to attend a lecture by parishioner and former Board of Trustees member Robert Megerdichian on his father's collection of miniatures, which he fashioned himself out of metal in his spare time. Robert's father Abraham was also a long-time member of St. Stephen's and also served on the Church Board of Trustees for many years. Co-incidentally, Robert's mother Eugenie was born, raised and served as a nurse in Lynn. The lecture took place at the Lynn Museum, where, Robert has arranged for the museum to host an Armenian Textile exhibit next year! Sunday Schoolteacher Mary Mooradian, who was also present (and took the picture at left) organized the original exhibit as a project for our Sunday School and shown on April 24. She is also "very excited to work on organizing this special project! It is a great opportunity to share the Armenian culture with the community." Mary also writes, "If you have a special piece we can include, please contact me." Anyone interested may contact Mary through the church office.

### FLORENCE MARKARIAN HONORED AS MOTHER OF THE YEAR

Long-time parishioner and dedicated church member, Florence Markarian, was honored as Mother of the Year by the Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Jamaica Plain, MA, on May 7, 2016. Florence, a resident of the Center was honored as part of its yearly celebration of Mothers' Day. Present at this year's celebration were Florence's husband Joe, members of her family and our pastor, Fr. Antranig Baljian who was the guest speaker. Der Hayr praised Florence for her unwavering support and dedicated service for her work on behalf of the church, the Ladies' Guild and the Annual Bazaar.

This picture from our archives shows Florence and her husband Joe receiving one of several citations presented on the occasion of the Year of the Armenian elderly in 2014.



### COMMUNITY NEWS (Cont.)

# NKR MP LERNIK HOVHANNISYAN SPEAKS IN WATERTOWN



'If we lose Artsakh, then we risk losing Armenia. The enemy clearly wants to see us as a stateless people, and so we must do everything in our power to win this battle of survival. We have no right to lose this war.' (Photo:Tamar Kanarian)

As part of his Eastern **United States speaking tour organized by the Artsakh Fund of the Eastern** U.S. and the Hairenik Association, Lernik Hovhannisyan, a member of the Armenian Revolutionary

Federation (ARF) parliamentary faction in the Nagorno-Karabagh Republic (NKR/Artsakh), addressed the Greater Boston Armenian community at the St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church hall in Watertown on June 9. The event was hosted by the ARF Boston "Sardarabad" *Gomideyoutiun* and the St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church.

Hovhannisyan gave a detailed account of the large-scale military aggression launched by Azerbaijani forces in early April and the "Four-Day War" that ensued. "Despite Azerbaijani aggression, our military was able to hold back enemy forces, and launched their own counter-attacks and offensives. The 18- to 20-year-old Armenian soldiers—who were born in an independent Armenia and Artsakh and had not lived under Soviet rule—displayed bravery and determination, which perhaps surpassed that of the previous generation which fought in the early 1990's. I participated in the NKR War from 1992-93, and I did not see this level of dedication then," Hovhannisyan said during his presentation.

During his address, Hovhannisyan stressed the importance of protecting Artsakh and how losing it would have serious consequences for Armenians locally and internationally. "If we lose Artsakh, then we risk losing Armenia. The enemy clearly wants to see us as a stateless people, and so we must do everything in our power to win this battle of survival. We have no right to lose this war," Hovhannisyan said.

Excerpted from the Armenian Weekly
By Rupen Janbazian



### **GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS**

**TINA BARSOUMIAN,** daughter of Ara & Brenda Barsoumian, graduated from Watertown High School and will attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute. She's also a graduate from St. Stephen's Saturday and Sunday School.

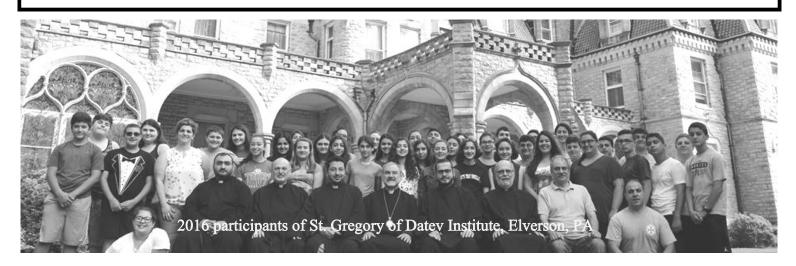
**DAVID ARA HACKETT**, son of David & Nora Hackett, Graduated from Boston College with a MBA/JD.

**ANI K. HACKETT**, daughter of David & Nora Hackett, graduated from Belmont High School and will be attending Babson College.

**SARAH MARKARIAN**, daughter of Thomas & Debbie Markarian, graduated from Boston Collegiate Charter School and will attend University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth. She also graduated from St. Stephen's Sunday School

**ALEXANDER MATOSSIAN,** son of Hagop & Linda Matossian and grandson of Flora Matossian, graduated from Malden Catholic High School and will attend University of Massachusetts-Amherst perusing a Business degree.

### ST. GREGORY OF DATEV 30th ANNUAL SUMMER PROGRAM IN ELVERSON



The St. Gregory of Datev Institute held its 30th annual Summer Program for youth ages 13-18 at St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, Pennsylvania, from July 3-10, 2016, with the participation of 38 students.

Sponsored by the Prelacy's Armenian Religious Education Council (AREC), and directed by Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, the Institute graduated five students this year, students who have completed four weeklong programs, one week each year, in all receiving over one hundred hours of instructions in the elements of the Christian faith.

The Instructors of the Institute were: His Grace Bishop Anoushavan, Very Rev. Fr. Zareh, Rev. Fr. Antranig Baljian, Rev. Fr. Gomidas Baghsarian, Rev. Fr. Sarkis Aktavoukian, Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian, Dn. Shant Kazanjian, Dn. James Haddad, and Mrs. Maggie Kouyoumdjian.









# LADIES GUILD NEWS Isabel Avedikian, Chairlady

We have had a very busy spring, starting with a fantastic LUAU on April 30<sup>th</sup> which included Hawaian inspired food, a band and hula dancers. A great job as usual by Becky Megerdichian! See her article below.

Following our April meeting, we had a very interesting talk by Tom Vartabedian and Philip Brown regarding their book, "THE ARMENIANS OF MERRIMAC VALLEY".

On May 29<sup>th</sup>, we provided a luncheon after church services for the elevation of Father Sahag Yemishian of Worcester to Dzayrakooyn Vartabed under the auspices of His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan. There were about 250 people in attendance both from our community and the Worcester Church community.

And for our final meeting of the Ladies' Guild year, we had our annual Pot Luck Supper with delicious Kheyma and salad made by Zabel Hoosian, in addition to the many delicious dishes contributed by our members.

We look forward to our next meeting in September.

### LUAU PARTY By: Becky Megerdichian

On April 30 members of the Ladies Guild and their guests donned Hawaiian shirts and pinned flowers in their hair to attend a Luau in St. Stephen's "Tiki Hut" in the Church Hall. Walking into the garden setting brought back memories of some of the members' earlier trips to the Hawaiian Islands. Polynesian decor was everywhere, along with several varieties of flowers. The main dinner course was Hawaiian chicken and rice and dessert consisted of pineapple fruit and upside-down cake made by the Ladies Guild. John Baboian and his "Aloha" trio serenaded us, with John playing the volcano-black ukulele he had acquired in Hawaii. They even regaled us with a pair of Armenian numbers with a Hawaiian twist. A special dance group of eight women from the Reagle Players of Waltham performed an island dance choreographed by Eddie Megerdichian. Naturally we had a limbo dance that included everyone as the limbo stick skirted over every table. The tiki bar did a brisk business. Just another wonderful night out with the Ladies Guild in the Church Hall...

The Ladies Guild thanks the executive and the event committee consisting of Anoush Knaian, Becky Megerdichian, Brenda Barsoumian, Esther Chakmakjian, Haig Megerdichian, Jean Harr, Lori Krikorian, Robin Hines, Sossie Megerdichian, Susan Guzelian, and Taline Megerdichian.

Keep your eyes open for the next Ladies Guild special themed event.

Aloha





### The Armenian Kitchen Cookbook

Our Ladies Guild Cookbook is \$18 and can be purchased from the Church Office. If you wish to have the cookbook mailed to you please mail a \$22 check payable to St. Stephen's Ladies Guild.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Nayiri Baljian Bell, Principal

### Year-End Message from Principal

Dear Students, Teachers, and Parents:

I want to thank you all for a wonderful year and let you know how much I have enjoyed serving as principal.

First and foremost, I extend a special thanks to our dedicated and talented teaching staff. Thank you for your service!

To our dear students: It has been so fun to learn and to grow with you this year. I hope you have a wonderful vacation and I will look forward to seeing you at church this summer.

To the parents: Thank you for trusting us to participate in the Christian formation of your children. Christian formation is an ongoing process. As parents, we are responsible for bringing up our children in the faith, which means not only bringing them to Sunday School, but also bringing them to Badarak, praying with them at home, reading the Bible together with them, and performing acts of service. This is how we engage the heads, hands, and hearts of our children in a way that is truly Christian formative. It is always hard to incorporate new elements into our routine, especially when there are already so many things competing for our time (in my family, that would be hockey!). At the same time, our faith tells us that nothing is more important than to seek God first. In that respect, I look forward to seeing our Sunday School students in church even though Sunday School is on hiatus, I look forward to hearing about the prayers and passages they learned over the summer, and I look forward to hearing examples of how they loved others like Jesus did through their acts of service and kindness when we convene back in the fall.

To our graduates: You are a special group and I am lucky to have been your teacher for four years. We studied the Badarak, we investigated the historical Case for Christ and the scientific Case for a Creator, we read the Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe and discovered that C.S. Lewis was really telling the story of Christianity in this classic book, and we had some pretty good ethical debates. Now you are about to set off on the next great adventure of your life and I wish you nothing but success in your academic pursuits, future career and personal relationships. My prayer is that your greatest success will be in your love for God and neighbor and your service to our church. God says to put Him first and that everything else will fall into place. I believe this with all my heart and I look forward to seeing how the story of your life unfolds in pursuit of God's purpose. I will keep you close to my heart and pray that God's blessings go with you alwavs.

And last, but not least, to Mr. Aftandilian on your retirement: Thank you for 30 years of faithful dedication to St. Stephen's Sunday School, as a teacher and as Vice Principal. You have been an inspiration and a role model of church and community service to all of us. You have encouraged, organized, and uplifted each of us on many occasions. I personally thank you for showing me the ropes this year and for taking over the Sunday School completely these last several weeks during my maternity leave!

The Sunday School wrapped up a busy year and fruitful year, with over 120 students, 7 interns and 14 staff meeting weekly to learn about God and our Armenian faith heritage and to serve our church.

### Please join us for the 2016-2017 school year!

We invite and encourage you to join us this fall the first day of Sunday School on September 11, 2016. All students, age 3 through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome.

### Curriculum Overview

### Nursery-Grade 3 Curriculum

In grades N-3, we use the David C. Cook curriculum, which is authorized by the Prelacy, in order to provide a solid Biblical/Christian ethical foundation for the children. It is a fantastic program through which children learn about key topics like loving others, sharing, and giving through Bible stories, crafts, and other engaging activities.

### Grades 4-8 Curriculum

Our middle grades work with the "We Believe" curriculum, also authorized by the Prelacy. "We Believe" continues with the same Biblical/Christian ethical framework, but looks at topics through the lens of the Armenian Church. Students have the chance to learn about what it means to be a Christian in the context of the Armenian Apostolic Church, and also about our holy services, our saints, and our history. It is a very strong program and has been recently overhauled for a 21<sup>st</sup>-Century audience.

### High School Curriculum

The High School works in thematic units throughout the year. Examples of past units include:

"Who am I?" – assessing my personality type & understanding God's unconditional love for me

Gospel of Mark deep-dive – understanding the message of Jesus & the disciples response to him

The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe – analyzing this classic book by C.S. Lewis, one of the great Christian authors of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, to discover biblical and Christological themes

### Intern Program

Our Sunday School program culminates in a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade intern year. Our interns choose their area of service, including helping in classrooms, singing in the choir, working with the Trustees, and doing special maintenance and administrative projects that are helping to strengthen our Sunday School and church. The interns are a key part of our Sunday School and the sense of service and commitment that the internship instills is important for cultivating future church leaders.

### Service Activities

St. Stephen's places a strong emphasis on community service throughout the year, running charitable drives almost year-round and engaging the students in other ways as well. Examples include:

**Weekly collection** – weekly student donations are used to sponsor orphans in Armenia

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS (Cont.)

Winter coat drive – last year our community contributed 75 coats to those less fortunate!

**Nursing home visit** – students traveled by bus to sing Christmas carols to nursing home residents

**Lenten food drive** – last year we collected 100 full bags of groceries for the Watertown Food Pantry!

Church clean up – Sunday School students and staff give back to the church by helping the Board of Trustees during their annual Church Clean Up Day on the Saturday before Palm Sunday.

Congrats to our 2016 Graduates!

Special thanks to this year's 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students for their faithful service as interns. We have enjoyed watching you grow throughout your years in Sunday School and we congratulate you and your families on your successful completion of the St. Stephen's Sunday School program. We wish you nothing but God's grace and blessing as you head off to college.

Melanie Aftandilian – Skidmore College
Kirk Aharonian – University of Oklahoma
Tina Barsoumian – Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Ani Chobanian – Mass College of Pharmacy and Health Science
Alex Gebeyan - University of Massachusetts - Lowell
Ani Hackett – Babson College
Antranig Kechejian – Boston University

We are so proud of you!



2016 Graduates with Der Antranig and Mr. John Aftandilian

# FIRST DAY of SUNDAY SCHOOL / REGISTRATION DAY / FAMILY PICNIC Sunday, September 11, 2016, 10:00 A.M. Church Hall

- -Meet to register at 10:00 A.M. in the Church Hall. For all students, interns, teachers and parents.
- -Students and teachers will meet by class. Parents are encouraged and welcomed to join.
- -September 11, 2016, Sunday School Picnic will be held after church on church grounds.

All returning students will receive pre-printed Registration Forms in early September to bring on Registration Day, Blank forms will be available for new students.

For questions, please contact: Nayiri Baljian Bell, Principal 617-470-8435

ststephensundayschool@gmail.com

# St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School



# Fall Session Begins on Monday October 3, 2016

Class meeting dates: October 3, 17, 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28 December 5, 12

Each Monday the children will enjoy a special program to help them develop their listening and Armenian language skills, as well as, their creativity and physical coordination through a pleasant musical experience.

Adults will enjoy companionship, support and the joy of interacting with their child in a relaxed atmosphere.







All classes are 45 minutes, held on Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m. St. Stephen's Armenian Preschool, 46 Elton Ave. Watertown

To register please call 617-923-0501 or email morchanian@ssaes.org
For more information check the school website www.ssaes.org
Registration Fee \$100



### Մ. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ՎԱՐԺԱՐԱՆ 2015-2016 ՏԱՐԵՇՐՋԱՆԻ ԱՄԱՎԵՐՋԻ ՀԱՆԴԷՄՆԵՐ

Տնօրէնուհի՛ Հուրի Պոյամնան

U. Ստեփանոս Ազգ. Վարժարանը յաջողութեամբ բոլորեց իր 32րդ դպրոցական տարեշրջանը։ Մանկապարտեզի ամավերջի հանդեսը տեղի ունեցաւ Յունիս 16ին, իսկ Նախակրթարանի հանդեսը տեղի ունեցաւ Յունիս 17ին, ներկայութեամբ մեծ թիւով ծնողներու, բարեկամներու եւ շրջանի հայ եկեղեցիներու հոգեւոր հովիւներուն։

Իր խօսքին մեջ Տնօրենուհին, Տիկ. Պոյամեան յիշեց դպրոցի կազմակերպած

- Տարեկան Գիտութեան Շաբաթը
- 30-Ամեակի Յանդիսութիւնը
- Աւարտական Կարգի 13րդ Տարեկան Յայաստան Այցելութիւնը
- Յայաստանի Յանրապետութեան Նախագահի եւ իր պատուիրակութեան դպրոց այցելութիւնը

Ան շնորհակալութիւն յայտնեց Ուսուցչական Կազմին, Գրասենեակի Անձնակազմին, Ծնողական Յանձնախումբին, Դպրոցի Խնամակալութեան եւ Յանձնախումբերուն, ինչպես նաեւ բոլոր այն կազմակերպութիւններուն եւ անհատներուն, որոնք կր նպաստեն դպրոցի վերելքին։

Յունիս 16ին, Տիկին Պոյամեանը պատուեց Մանկամսուրի մանկավարժ ուսուցչուհի Տիկ. Մարալ Տէրտէրեանը իր 25 տարուայ ծառայութեան համար։ Իսկ Յունիս 17ին, ան պատուեց երկու նուիրեալ անձնակազմի անդամներ Տիկ. Արլէթ Աշճեանը իր 10 տարուայ ծառայութեան եւ Տիկ. Նորա Յաքէթր իր 15 տարուայ ծառայութեան համար։

Փոքրերու հանդեսը նուիրուած էր Խաղաղութեան, իսկ Նախակրթարնի Յանդեսը Դպրոցի 30-Ամեակին, Յայաստանի Անկախութեան 25-Ամեակի եւ Ընկերային Ծառայութեան, որովհետեւ Մեծն Տանն Կիլիկիոյ Կաթողիկոս Արամ Ա. մասնաւոր կոնդակով 2016-ը հռչակած է Ծառայութեան Տարի։ Նախակրթարանի Յանդեսի, նիւթը համադրուած է հմուտօրեն հայերենի դասատու՝ տիկին Արտեմիս Մկրտիչեանի կողմե։ Երկու հանդեսներուն իր փակման խօսքին մէջ, Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ. Քինյ. Պալճեանը իր գնահատանքի խօսքը ըսաւ Տնօրենութեան եւ Ուսուցչական Կազմին իրենց տարած աշխատանքին եւ նուիրումին համար։

Մանկապարտեզեն շրջանաւարտ եղան.- 21 աշակերտներ։ Նելլի Աղաճանեան, Ճիանա Ալեքսանտրեան, Յարութ Արթինեան, Նարա Պեհպահանի, Աւետիս Պել, Արիանա Պութիեթ, Էմմա Ֆոնթց, Իզապել Ֆոնթց, Արմեն Կալայեան, Ստեփան Կիւզելեան, Ճուլիա Քեպաճեան, Դաւիթ Օկանեսեան, Լորի Փանոսեան, Կասիա Սարգիսեան, Տաթեւիկ Սարգիսեան, Լիանա Սերատարեան, Արման Ստեփանեան, Պելիսա Թամպուրինի, Քլոի Թինքճեան, Կասիա Թոքաճեան եւ Նայիրի Եագուպեան։

Նախակրթարանեն շրջանաւարտ եղան.- Քրիս Աշճեան, Թալին Անթոն, Ալեք Տէր Սիրաքեան, Ալիք Յասրճեան, Սոֆիա Գաիվէճեան, Վանա Գարակէօզեան, Ալեքսանտր Նալպանտեան, Էնտրու Սարգիսեան, Սեւան Սուքիասեան, Ալիք Ստեփանեան, Սեւանա Ստեփանեան, Բենիամին Սուրէնեան, եւ Իզապէլ Թէնէքէճեան։

Նախակրթարանի վկայականներու բաշխումեն յետոյ տնօրենը բաժնեց 2015-2016 Տարեշրջանի Մրցանակները.-

- 1.- Յայերէն Դասընթացքներու Մրցանակներ
  - Ազգային Առաջնորդարանի Մրցանակը ստացան՝ Քրիս Աշճեան, Էնտրու Սարգիսեան, Բենիամին Սուրէնեան, Ալիք Ստեփանեան, Սեւանա Ստեփանեան, Ալիք Յասրճեան եւ Վանա ԳարակԷօզեան
  - Դպրոցի Մրցանակը ստացան։ Իզապէլ Թէնէքէճեան, Սոֆիա Գահվէճեան, Թալին Անթոն, Ալեք Տէր Սիրաքեան, Ալեքսանտր Նալպանտեան եւ Սեւան Սուքիասեան։
  - Յայ Օգնութեան Միութեան Մրցանակը ստացաւ՝ Պիանքա Թամպուրինի։
- 2.- Նախագահական Մրցանակները ստացան
  - Ուսման մեջ Գերազանցութեան Մրցանակ՝ Բենիամին Սուրէնեան, Սոֆիա Գահվէճեան, Էնտրու Սարգիսեան, Ալիք Ստեփանեան եւ Քրիս Աշճեան։
  - Ուսման մեջ Յառաջդիմութեան Մրցանակ՝ Ալիք Յասրճեան, Սեւան Սուքիասեան եւ Ալեք Տէր Սիրաքեան։
- 3.- Վարքի Մրցանակ Վանա Գարակեօցեան
- 4.- 3.Օ.Մ.ի Շարադրական Մրցումին
  - Դ<u>. Դասարան</u>

Առաջին Մրցանակ՝ Ձեփիւռ Մէրտինօղլու

Երկրորդ Մրցանակ՝ Անտրէաս Գահվէճեան Երրորդ Մրցանակ՝ Կրէկըրի Թինքճեան եւ Մարալ

Աբրահամեան Առաջին Մրցանակ (Անգլերեն)՝ Անտրե Մոնթերօ, Երկրորդ Մրցանակ (Անգլերեն)՝ Սիենա Սողոմոնեան

<u>Ե. Դասարաև</u>

Առաջին Մրցանակ՝ Սեւանա Ստեփանեան եւ Ալիք Ստեփանեան

Երկրորդ Մրցանակ՝ Քրիս Աշճեան

Երրորդ Մրցանակ՝ Վանա Գարակեօզեան

Երկրորդ Մրցանակ (Անգլերէն)՝ Թալին Անթոն

- Երրորդ Մրցանակ (Անգլերեն)՝ Բենիամին Սուրենեան
- 5.- Նշան եւ Արշալոյս Նաճարեան՝ Մրցանակ Արուեստի մէջ՝ Սիէնա Սողոմոնեան Երաժշտութեան մէջ՝ Կրէկըրի Թինքճեան (իւրաքանչիւրը ստացաւ 200 տոլարի կրթաթոշակ)
- 6.- Անահիտ Գազազեան Կրթաթոշակը՝ ստացան Յայերենի մեջ փայլուն աշակերտներ

Գրիգոր Իսկենտերեան եւ Մարալ Աբրահամեան (իւրաքանչիւրը ստացաւ 100 տոլարի կրթաթոշակ)

# ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2015 - 2016 Graduation Ceremonies

By Houry Boyamian, Principal



In June 2016, St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School (SSAES) successfully completed its 32<sup>nd</sup> academic year. The Graduation Ceremonies were held on June 16 (K) and June 17 (Elementary).

In her remarks the Principal, Mrs. Houry Boyamian, focused on:

- -The 13th Graduating Class Trip to Armenia
- -The Annual STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Week and the Science Fair
- -The School's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- -And the visit to the school of the President of the Republic of Armenia and his delegation

She thanked the faculty, the administrative staff, the PTO, the parent volunteers, the school board and committees, the St. Stephen's Church board of trustees, Rev. Fr. Archpriest Antranig Baljian, as well as all the organizations and individuals that contribute to the advancement of the school.

On June 16, Mrs. Boyamian honored Mrs. Maral Derderian for 25 years of dedicated service in the preschool and on June 17, Mrs. Boyamian honored two administrators. Nora Hackett received the Golden Logo of the school for her 15 years of dedicated service as assistant treasurer and Arlet Ashjian received the Silver Logo of the school for her 10 year dedicated service as administrative assistant.

This year, the Kindergarten graduation program was dedicated to Peace, while the Elementary graduation program focused on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school, the 25th Anniversary of the Republic of Armenia, as well as on Community Service, as His Holiness, Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia declared 2016 the Year of Service.

On both days, Archpriest Antranig Baljian expressed his appreciation to the administration and faculty for their dedication and effort.

- On June 16, 21 students graduated from Kindergarten. They are: Nellie Aghajanyan, Gianna Alexanderian, Harout Artinian, Nara Behbahani, Avedis Bell, Ariana Bouthiete, Emma Fontes, Isabel Fontes, Armen Galaian, Stepan Guzelian, Julia Kebadjian, David Oganesian, Lori Panossian, Gassia Sarkissian, Tatevik Sarkissian, Liana Seraderian, Arman Stepanian, Belissa Tamburrini, Chloe Tinkjian, Gacia Tokadjian and Nairi Yacubian.
- On June 17, 13 students graduated from our Elementary School. They are: Taline Antoine, Chris Ashjian, Alec Der-Sirakian, Alique Haserjian, Sophia Kahvejian, Vana Karaguessian, Alexander Nalbandyan, Andrew Sarkissian, Sevan Soukiasian, Alique Stepanian, Sevana Stepanian, Benjamin Surenian and Izabell Tenekedzhyan.

### Awards 2016

### I- Awards for Excellence in Armenian Studies - Gr. 5

- •Prelacy Award: Chris Ashjian, Andrew Sarkissian, Benjamin Surenian, Alique Stepanian, Sevana Stepanian, Alique Haserjian and Vana Karaguezian
- •School Award: Izabell Tenekedzhyan, Sophia Kahvejian, Taline Antoine, Alec Der Sirakian, Alexander Nalbandyan, Sevan Soukiassian
  - Armenian Relief Society Award: Bianca Tamburrini (Gr. 4)

### II- President's Education Award - Gr. 5

- •Presidential Award for Academic Excellence: Benjamin Surenian, Sophia Kahvejian, Andrew Sarkissian, Alique Stepanian and Chris Ashjian
- •Presidential Award for Academic Achievement: Alique Haserjian, Sevan Soukiasian, Alec Der Sirakian

### III- American Citizenship Award – Gr. 5: Vana Karaguesian

### IV-Certificate of Recognition.- Gr. 5

- -Excellence in Language Arts-Taline Antoine and Vana Karaguessian
- -Special Strength in Math-Sevana Stepanian
- -Special Strength in Social Studies-Alexander Nalbandyan
- -Interest in Science -Izabell Tenekedzhvan

# VI-Nishan and Arshalouys Najarian Scholarship Fund for Music and Art: (\$200 each) (Gr. 4)

Sienna Soghomonian (Art) and Gregory Tinkjian (Music)

# VII-Anahid Kazazian Scholarship for Excellence in Armenian Studies (\$100 each) (Gr. 4)

Krikor Iskenderian and Maral Abrahamian

### V- ARS Essay Contest

### Grade 4

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Zepure Merdinoglu 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Antrias Kahvejian 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Gregory Tinkjian 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Maral Abrahamian

1<sup>st</sup> Place (English): Andre Monteiro 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (English): Sienna Soghomonian

### Grade 5

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Sevana Stepanian 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Alique Stepanian 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Chris Ashjian 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Vana Karaguezian

2<sup>nd</sup> Place (English): Taline Antoine 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (English): Benjamin Surenian

**Presidential Award for Educational Excellence**: The purpose of this award is to recognize the academic success of students who have excelled in their studies and who have earned high scores in the Standardized Tests.

<u>Presidential Award</u> <u>for Educational Achievement</u>: The purpose of this award is to reward students who work hard and give their best effort in school.

### *The American Citizenship Award* Recognizes students who:

- . Show a positive attitude toward classmates, school and community
- . Display an understanding and appreciation of civic responsibility
- . Possess strength of character and the courage to do what is right

# ST. STEPHEN'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATION 2015–2016 Academic Year



Fifth grade graduates with Der Antranig Baljian, Mrs. Houry Boyamian, Principal, Mrs. Ardemis Mgrdichian, Armenian Teacher & Ms. Elizabeth Strasser, English Teacher



Kindergarten Graduates

# SCENES FROM ST. STEPHEN'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATION 2015 - 2016 Academic Year







Mrs. Houry Boyamian and Mrs. Maral Orchanian presented the Silver Logo of the school to honor Nursery II teacher, Mrs. Maral Derderian (25 years), Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Nora Hackett (15 years) and the Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Arlet Ashjian (10 years) for their years of dedicated service in the school



The Pre-School students performing during the year end graduation ceremony

### ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DONATIONS

### In Memory of Iskohie Boyamian

Total Donations - \$3,465

Knarig Aboyan

Diana Adamian

Kourken, Nora, Tamar & Garni Aroyan

Sossi Aroyan

Nishan & Margrit Atinizian

**Anoush Balian** 

Jirayr & Annie Balikian

Mary Bergoudian & Susan Hazarvartian

Nellie Bogosian

Hagop & Araxie Boyamian

Yervant Chekijian

Azad Chitchian

Arman & Sossy Derian

Ara & Janet Dermovsesian

Armine Erol

Arpine Festekdjian-Fereshetian

Edward & Anna Garabedian

Thomas Gengozian & Sally Vanerian

Haig Goudsouzian & Jarka Dearstyne

Charles & Joyce Guleserian

Mr. & Mrs. Arman Halajian

Mark & Elaine Jefferson

Vartkes & Elissa Karaian

Edward & Nirva Kazanjian & Family

Roselore Kebadjian

Krikor & Annie Keikian

Berjouhi Keledjian

Gloria Khederian

Michele M. Kolligian

Nancy R. Kolligian

Paul & Seta Kousharian

Mardirosian Charitable Foundation

Zareh & Hasmig Maserejian

Edward & Julie Mesrobian

Mary Minasian

Mihran & Rosalyn Minassian

Mildred Nahabedian

Jacob & Audry Pilibosian

Araxie Poladian

Random House

Arshalouys Sarkissian

Hagop & Nadia Ucuzian

Alice Vosgerichian

Garo & Aida Yavshayan

Raffi & Carol Yeghiayan

Maro Yeretsian

Hagop & Annie Youssoufian & Family

Houry Youssoufian

Sonia Zorian

### In Memory of Artoun Nazareth Festekjian

Total Donations - \$200

Nazaret & Lena DerKevorkian

### In Honor of Sona Ficiciyan's Birthday

Total Donations - \$25

Martin & Lusine Haroutunian

### In Memory of Vatche Haserjian

Total Donations - \$1,615

Scott & Jill Alexander & Family

Raffi & Sandra Bedrosian

Crossmark N.E. Office

Pascal & Sevan Gebeyan

Gerard & Mary Gharios

Eric & Amy Guzelian

Sako, Ani, Dzovag & Paul Kassabian

Hagop & Leslie Minassian

Madeleine Minassian

Minas Minassian & Maria Mele-Georges

Jirair & Hasmig Momdjian

Arshalous Orchanian

Mr. & Mrs. Minas Ourfalian & Family

Peter Taslakian & Family

### In Honor of Ara & Heather Krafian

Total Donations - \$250

Garo & Melanie Lachinian

### Araxie Poladian Scholarship Fund

Total Donations - \$500

Araxie Poladian

### Albert & Lena Sarkissian Scholarship Fund

Total Donations - \$600

Ray & Susan Bagdasarian

Gregory & Laura Srebotnik

### **General Donations**

Watertown Savings Bank Customer Choice Award	\$3,500
Hai Guin Scholarship Assoc.	\$2,000
Pashalian Fund	\$750
ARS Cambridge Shushi Chapter	\$250
Anahid Kazazian Scholarship	\$200
Charles & Manoushag Garabedian	\$100

# St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School





# Tap & Clap

A Music & Movement Program For children 9 months to 17 months

Friday Mornings 9:30 am - 10:30 am FALL SESSION Begins on Friday September 30, 2016

St. Stephen's Armenian Preschool, 46 Elton Ave., Watertown Group meeting dates: September 30, October 7, 14, 21, 28, November 4, 18, December 2, 9, 16.

Tap & Clap classes will provide toddlers the opportunity to engage in music and movement activities that encourage social, emotional, physical and musical growth and development. Children, accompanied by their parent, will sing, clap, dance and play in an engaging musical environment.

To register Please Call the Preschool Office: Phone: 617-923-0501 or E-mail: morchanian@ssaes.org Registration Fee \$75



### ԼՈՒՐԵՐ Ս. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ՇԱԲԱԹՕՐԵԱՅ ՀԱՅ ԴՊՐՈՅԷՆ Մայիս - Օգոստոս 2016 Տնօրէնուհի՛ Մայտա Մեյթոնեան

### 2015-2016 Տարեշրջան Եւ Ամավերջի Հանդէս

U. Ստեփանոս Շաբաթօրեայ Հայ Դպրոցը յաջողութեամբ բոլորեց իր 79րդ տարեշրջանը, շնորհիւ իր նուիրեալ ուսուցիչ-ուսուցչուհիներուն տարած անխոնջ աշխատանքին: Ձեր վարձքը կատար սիրելի ուսուցիչներ։

Մեծի Տանն Կիլիկիոյ S.S. Արամ Ա. Վեհափառի որոշումով 2016 տարին հոչակուած է , «Ծառայութեան Տարի»:

Միրելի ծնողներ, գնահատելի է ձեր ունեցած սէրը դպրոցին հանդէպ։ Ուսուցչական կազմին կողքին, իւրաքանչիւրդ կերպով մը ձեր ծառայութիւնը կը բերէք մեր ազգի գեյատեւման պայքարին եւ մեր ապագայ սերունդի հայապահպանման աշխատանքին։ Ձեռք-ձեռքի տալով շարունակենք այս նուիրական աշխատանքը, պահպանենք մեր քաղցրահնչիւն մայրենի լեզուն եւ ապահովենք մեր ազգի գոյատեւումն ու փրկենք մեր զաւակները այլասերումէ եւ կորուստէ։

Դպրոցիս 7, 9րդ տարեշրջանը՝ 2015-2016, սկսաւ Սեպտեմբեր 12ին 132 աշակերտներով եւ աւարտին հասաւ Յունիս 11ին։ Ինչպէս գիտէք, ունինք Մանկամսուրէն Տասներկրորդ դասարան։ Դպրոցի ուսուցչական կազմին կողքին ունինք փոխուսուցիչ Պրն. Կարպիս Գոձանեան եւ փոխ-ուսուցչուհիներ Նարդուհի Ապրիմեան եւ Լորիկ Մանձիկեան։ Ձեր բոլորին վարձքը կատար սիրելիներ։

Դպրոցի դասընթացքը շաբաթը միայն երեք ժամ է։ Կը դասաւանդուին Հայերէն, գրականութիւն, հայոց պատմութիւն, հայկական պարն ու երգը։ Կ'օգտագործենք արդի դասագիրքեր եւ աշխատանքային տետրակներ։ Տարուան ընթացքին յատկապէս կը նշենք Մեպտեմբեր 21՝ Հայաստանի անկախութեան օրը, Մշակոյթի ամիսը, Ամանորը, Վարդանանցը, Մայիս 28ր ինչպէս նաեւ Մեծ Եղեռնը:

Ինչպէս ամէն տարի, այս տարի եւս դպրոցը իր մասնակցութիւնը բերաւ եկեղեցական արարողութիւններուն։ Ճրագալոյցի եւ Խթման երեկոներուն Սուրբ Գիրքէն ընթերցումներ կատարեցին ընտրուած խումբ մը աշակերտաշակերտուհիներ։ Մեծ Պահքի շրջանին հսկումի արարողութիւններուն դարձեալ մասնակցեցան զանազան դասարաններէ ընտրուած խումբ մը աշակերտներ։ Սրբոց Վարդանանցի Օրը երեկոյեան պատարագէն ետք աշակերտութիւնը օրուան պատշաձ յայտագիր մը ներկայացուց եկեղեցւոյ մէջ, արժանանալով ներկաներու գնահատանքին։

Չորրորդէն ութերորդ դասարաններու կարգ մը աշակերտները մասնակցեցան Հայ Օգնութեան Միութեան Արեւելեան ԱՄՆ-ի Շրջանային Վարչութեան կազմակերպած շարադրութեան մրցումին։ ԱՄՆի Արեւելեան Շրջանի միօրեայ վարժարաններու հայերէն ներկայացուած շարադրութիւններու բաժնէն երրորդ եւ չորրորդ դասարաններու խմբակէն երրորդ հանդիսացաւ Վարդինէ Քէչէձեան, հինգերորդ եւ վեցերորդ դասարաններու խմբակէն երրորդ հանդիսացաւ Թամար Չափրազեան, իսկ եօթներորդ եւ ութերորդ կարգերու խմբակէն առաջին հանդիսացաւ Կասիա Ոսպիկեան եւ երրորդ՝ Անի Մանձիկեան։

Մրտի մեծ գոհունակութեամբ կ՛ըսեմ որ ՇՈՂԵՐ տարեգիրքի պատրաստութեան աշխատանքներուն օգնեցին Պրն. Մուրատ Մանուկեան եւ Տիկ. Երան Մանձիկեանը, իսկ Մփիւռք պարբերաթերթը տասներորդ դասարանը՝ Պրն. Սարգիս Գարակէօզեանի ցուցմունքներով: Բարձր կը գնահատեմ ուսուցիչներուն տարած աշխատանքը։

Այս տարուան Տասներկրորդ դասարանի մեր շրջանաւարտներն են.- Անի Չոպանեան, Շանթ Քէչէձեան, Անդրանիկ Քէչէձեան, Վարագ Մուրատեան, Թինա Պարսումեան եւ Ռոբերթ Թուխմանեան :

Միրելի շրջանաւարտներ, կը շնորհաւորեմ ձեզ եւ ձեր ծնողքը, կը մաղթեմ նորանոր յաջողութիւններ եւ իրականացում ձեր բոլոր երազներուն։ Մի՛ մոռնաք մեր մայրենի լեզուն, հպարտ եղէք ձեր հայութեամբ, զօրավիգ կանգնեցէք հայ դատի իրականացման եւ ապրեցէք այնպէս որ չզղջաք։ Յիշեցէք որ Հայրենիքը վառ յոյսերով եւ կարօտով կը նայի ձեզի. սատարեցէք անոր վերելքին եւ բարօրութեան։ Եղէք տիպար հայեր եւ լաւ քաղաքացիներ։ Հայ դպրոցը թող ըլլայ ձեր սիրոյ եւ հոգատարութեան առարկան։ Յաջողութիւն բոլորիդ։

Դպրոցի ամավերջի հանդէսը տեղի ունեցաւ Շաբաթ Յունիս 11, 2016 երեկոյեան ժամը 6։30ին, Հայ Մշակութային եւ Կրթական Կեդրոնի Յովնանեան սրահին մէջ, հովանաւորութեամբ Արժ. Տ. Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ. ՊալՃեանին. ներկայ էին հիւրեր, խնամակալ մարմինի անդամներ, ծնողական յանձնախումբը, ինչպէս նաեւ աւելի քան 300 հանդիսատեսներ։

Հանդէսի բացումը եղաւ, Մեր Հայրենիքով, ապա խնամակալ մարմինի ատենապետ Պրն. Մանուէլ Բարսեղեան իր բացման խօսքով գնահատեց տեսչուհին, ուսուցչական կազմը, խնամակալ մարմինի անդամները, ինչպէս նաեւ ծնողական յանձնախումբի տիկինները:

Հանդէսը նուիրուած էր Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան 25ամեակին եւ Հայոց Բանակին։

Այս առթիւ կ'ուզեմ լիշել

Աւետիս Ահարոնեանի անմոռանալի ու մարգարէական ծանօթ պատգամը.-

Հաւատա՛, հայրենիք, վիրաւոր ու արիւնաքամ, դուն դարձեալ պիտի ապրիս, վասնզի անապատների՝ բոլոր ոռնացող խուժաններն իսկ անզօր են սպաննել լոյսը, որ մի բարի աստուած, մի գթոտ աստուած մի օր քո կարկառուն բազուկների մէջ դրեց, ո՛վ դու լոյսի հայրենիք, լոյսի հայրենիք:

Փառք ու պատիւ մեր հայրենիքը կերտողներուն եւ բանակին մէջ ծառայող հայ զինուորին։

Առաջին հերթին սրահ մուտք գործեցին տասներկրորդ կարգի շրջանաւարտները: Անոնք մաս առ մաս իրենց պատրաստած ուղերձի ընթերցումը չկատարելէ ետք ստացան իրենց վկայականները:

Վկայականները շրջանաւարտներուն յանձնելէ ետք, Խնամակալ Մարմինը իւրաքանչիւր շրջանաւարտի նուիրեց յուշատախտակ մը, ինչպէս նաեւ յուշանուէր մը Անի Չոպանեանին եւ Ռոպերթ Թուխմանեանին 12 տարիներ յարատեւ դպրոց յամախած րլյայնուն համար։



### ԼՈՒՐԵՐ Ս. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ՇԱԲԱԹՕՐԵԱՅ ՀԱՅ ԴՊՐՈՅԷՆ Մայիս - Օգոստոս 2016 Տնօրէնուհի՜ Մայտա Մելքոնեան

ՀՕՄի Լէօլա Սասունի եւ Շուշի մասնաձիւղերու հայերէնի մրցանակը ստացաւ Թինա Պարսումեան եւ դպրոցին կողմէ՝ Վարագ Մուրատեան, Անդրանիկ Քէչէձեան եւ Շանթ Քէչէձեան:

Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ. ՊալՃեան գնահատեց աշակերտներ՝ Անի Չոպանեան եւ Թինա Պարսումեան, որոնք իրենց ծառայութիւնը բերած են եկեղեցւոյ եւ նուիրեց «Հաւատով Խոստովանիմ» գրքոյկը։ Ինչպէս նաեւ առ ի գնահատանք իւրաքանչիւր շրջանաւարտի յանձնեց Զարեհ Արքեպիսկոպոս Ազնաւուրեանի գրած Մեկնութիւն Հայ Եկեղեցւոյ Հաւատամքի գիրքը։

Յայտագրի առաջին բաժնով Մանկամսուրի եւ Մանկապարտէզի սիրասուն փոքրիկները, հպարտօրէն բեմ բարձրացան զինուորական եւ եռագոյն տարազներով եւ յաջորդաբար ներկայացուցին հայ զինուորին եւ մեր հայրենիքին նուիրուած երգեր ու արտասանութիւններ խանդավառելով ներկաները։

Անոնց յաջորդեցին առաջին, երկրորդ եւ երրորդ դասարաններու աշակերտները, որոնք ներկայացուցին «Զինուորիկն Եմ Ես» եւ «Փոքրիկ Զինուորներ երգերը», ինչպէս նաեւ «Անգին Հայաստան» ոտանաւորը։

Ապա բեմ բարձրացան չորրորդէն իններորդ դասարաններու աշակերտները: Դ., Ե. եւ Զ. կարգերու աշակերտները արտասանեցին «Նոր Երեւան» քերթուածը, ապա բոլորը միասին երգեցին «Եռագոյն» երգը , որուն յաջորդեց «Ազգիս» ոտանաւորը Է. եւ Ը. կարգերու կողմէ։ Յետոյ բոլորը միասին գեղեցիկ կերպով երգեցին «Ազգ Փառապանծ» եւ «Սարդարապատ» երգերը։

Այս խանդավառ երգերուն յաջորդեց Արցախի հերոս մայրերուն նուիրուած «Ով Հայոց Մայրեր» երգը, սքանչելի կատարողութեամբ Ժ. Կարգի աշակերտուհի՝ Մէրի Գալստեանի, որուն յաջորդեց ԺԱ. եւ ԺԲ. դասարաններու աշակերտներու պատրաստած «Անկախութիւն» շարժապատկերի ցուցադրութիւնը։ Տեղին է նշել թէ այս շարժապատկերի նիւթը, խաղարկութիւնը եւ արձանագրութիւնը իրենց յղացումն, խաղարկութիւնն եւ արձանագրութիւնն էր։ Ապրիք բոլորդ։

Վերջապէս առաջինէն ութերորդ կարգերու աշակերտները մեծ խանդավառութեամբ յաջորդական խումբերով ներկայացուցին Հանինա, Լուտկի, Քոչարի եւ Վերվեռի պարերը, պարուսոյց՝ Արման Մնացականեանի ղեկավարութեամբ։

Տարեկան զեկոյցը տուաւ տեսչուհին՝ Տիկ. Մայտա Մելքոնեան, որ շեշտեց ծնողներու համագործակցութեան անհրաժեշտութիւնը եւ Շաբաթօրեայ դպրոցի կարեւորութիւնը այս օտար ափերուն։ Տեսչուհին իր զեկոյցէն ետք բեմ հրաւիրեց ՀՕՄի շարադրութեան մրցումի մրցանակակիրներ Վարդինէ Քէչենեան, Թամար Չափրազեան, Կասիա եւ Անի Մանձիկեան ու իրենց յանձնեց մրցանակները:

Խնամակալ Մարմինը գնահատելով Տիկ. Լիլի Պարսումեանի, Op. Oժենի Ապրաձեանի եւ նախկին տարիներու պարուսոյց՝ Պրն. Յակոբ Քէսիսեանի 35 տարիներէ աւելի տարած աշխատանքը դպրոցէն ներս, դպրոցի անունը կրող մէկական գարդասեղ նուիրեց իւրաքանչիւրին։

Խնամակալ մարմինը գնահատելով տնօրէնուհիին տարած աշխատանքը ծաղկեփունջով մը պատուեց զինք, ինչպէս նաեւ ուսուցչական կազմին եւ ծնողական յանձնախումբին նուիրեց մէկական ծաղկեկողով, որոնք կր զարդարէին բեմը։

Հանդէսը փակուեցաւ տէր հօր աղօթքով։

Տեղին է յիշել թէ հանդէսի օրուան կէսօրին, խնամակալ մարմինի նախաձեռնութեամբ, դպրոցի ծնողական յանձնախումբը այս տարի եւս համադամ ձաշեր պատրաստած էր ի պատիւ շրջանաւարտներուն։ Ճաշին ներկայ էին Տէր Հայրը, խնամակալ մարմինի եւ ծնողական յանձնախումբի անդամները եւ ուսուցչական կազմը։ Գեղեցիկ սովորութիւն մը որ բարձր գնահատանքի արժանի է։

Դպրոցի ուսուցչական կազմին, աշակերտութեան եւ իմ կողմէս կ'ուզեմ յատուկ շնորհակալական խօսք ուղղել Խնամակալ Մարմինի անդամներուն, որոնք ամբողջ տարուան ընթացքին մեծ նուիրումով աշխատանք կը տանին դպրոցի յառաջացման եւ վերելքին ի խնդիր։ Ձեր վարձքը կատար։

Դպրոցի վերամուտի թուականն է Սեպտ. 10, 2016 Շաբաթ առաւօտեան ժամը 9-ին։

Կ'ուզեմ շնորհակալութիւն յայտնել հոգեւոր հովիւ Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ. Պալձեանին, դպրոցի ծնողական յանձնախումբին, եկեղեցւոյ հոգաբարձութեան, ՀՕՄի մասնաձիւղերուն, եւ Կիրակնօրեայ վարժարանի անձնակազմին, Կեդրոնի վարչութեան, Համազգայինին, Սարդարապատ կոմիտէին, ՀՄԸՄին եւ բոլոր անոնց, որոնք կը նպաստեն դպրոցի բարօրութեան եւ վերելքին։

Յատուկ շնորհակալութեան եւ գնահատանքի խօսք ունիմ նաեւ ուսուցչական կազմին։

### Special Thanks also to the following donors

On the GRADUATION DAY, June 11, 2016	
Agop KessissianIMO Vatche Haserjian	\$50.00
Hovsep H. MelkeshianFlowers for the stage	\$50.00
Linda & Steven KechejianCelebration gift for	\$200.00
their son's, Antranig Kechejian's, Graduation	
Haikouhie Deirmenjian Bouquet for Principal	\$100.00
Mrs. Mayda Melkonian	



### ST. STEPHEN'S SATURDAY SCHOOL May - August 2016 Mayda Melkonian, Principal

### St. Stephen's Saturday School 2015 – 2016 Academic Year and Year End Hantes

St. Stephen's Armenian Saturday School resumed its 79th academic year on Sept. 12, 2015, with the enrollment of 132 students. A year-end closing ceremony on June 11, 2016 at A.C.E.C. marked the conclusion of a very successful year.

The school sponsored students, whose parents were not able to pay their tuition. Classes ranged from Nursery to Twelfth grade. The school hours were 9:30 am. – 12:30 pm. for Nursery to 9th grade, and 9:30 am. – 12:00 for classes 10, 11 and 12.

We continued sponsoring 2 orphans from Armenia through ARS Eastern USA.

This is the 14th year that "SHOGHER" the year book is published, which was distributed to the students at the day of the bantes

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Mr. Mourad Manougian and 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Mrs. Yeran Manjikian for their help in preparing the yearbook.

During the academic year, 10th grade students with the help of their teacher published the periodical "SPURK" and distributed to the students to read during history hour. I deeply appreciated the work.

On June 11, after classes were over, the School Board and the Parents' Committee organized a luncheon for the graduates. It was held at the church hall. Fr. Antranig Baljian, the teaching staff and The School Board members were present. Heartfelt thanks to all of them. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

The year-end graduation exercises held on June 11, 2016 at the ACEC at 6:30 pm under the auspices of Fr. Antranig Baljian were very successful.

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence of Armenia , so the hantes program was dedicated to the Independence and to the Armenian Army.

The hantes proceeded as follows:

First, the graduation ceremony of 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Our 12th grade graduates are Ani Chobanian, Shant Kechejian, Antranig Kechejian, Varak Mouradian, Tina Barsoumian, and Robert Toukhmanian. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to the graduates and their parents.

The following awards were presented at the graduation.

- •On behalf of The School Board, the chairperson awarded an honorary plaque to each graduate.
- •On behalf of ARS Leola Sasouni and Shushi chapters the principal presented the Armenian award to Tina Barsoumian.
- •Ani Chobanian and Robert Toukhmanian each received an award for their continuous attendance.

The principal also awarded Varak Mouradian, Shant Kechejian, and Antranig Kechejian.

Fr. Antranig Baljian presented "Commentary on the NICENE CREED" book to each graduate, and "In Faith I Confess" to Ani Chobanian and Tina Barsoumian as an appreciation of their participation in the church services throughout the years.

The graduation was followed by Nursery students dressed in red, blue, and orange, and Kindergarten students dressed as soldiers,

who presented songs and poems, praising Armenia and the soldiers. 1st through 3rd grade students also presented songs and the poem "Ankin Hayasdan".

4th, 5th, and 6th grade students recited the poem "Nor Yerevan", while 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders presented the poem "Azkis". Then the choir sang beautiful Armenian songs, "Yerakouyn", "Azk Parabandz", and "Sartarabad".

This was followed by "Ov Hayots Mayrer", a song dedicated to Artsakh's mothers, beautifully performed by 10<sup>th</sup> grade student Meri Galsdyan.

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students played a movie called "ANGAKHOOTIUN" (freedom). This movie was their own creation. Written, acted and directed by them.

Finally the students 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, in 4 groups consequently presented beautiful Armenian dances directed by Dance teacher Arman Mnatsakanyan.

The whole program was greatly appreciated and praised by all present.

The principal invited Fr. Antranig Baljian and the chairperson Mr. Manuel Parseghian to the stage. The chairperson praised the dedication and hard work of our teachers, specifically Mrs. Lily Barsoumian, Mr. Hagop Kessissian and Ms. Ojeny Abrajian , who have been teaching for more than 35 years. He then along with Fr. Antranig Baljian and the principal Mrs. Mayda Melkonian presented each a pin engraved with the schools name.

During April our students from grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> participated in the essay contest organized by ARS Eastern USA Regional Board.

From one day schools/Armenian essays, grades 3 and 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> place was awarded to Vatine Kechejian. Grades 5 and 6, 3<sup>rd</sup> place was awarded to Tamar Chaprazian, and grades 7 and 8, 1<sup>st</sup> place was awarded to Gacia Vosbigian and 3<sup>rd</sup> to Ani Manjikian.

The principal invited them to the stage and presented them their awards. Congratulations to all.

At the end of the program the chairperson of the Board thanked and praised the teachers, board members and parents' committee for their dedication and hard work throughout the year and presented flowers to all. Also Mrs. Anahid Najarian, on behalf of The Board presented a beautiful bouquet of flowers to the principal.

Fr. Antranig Baljian addressed the graduates and the audience and gave his blessings to all.

On behalf of the teachers, students and myself, I would like to thank School Board members for their support, dedication and hard work during the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and heartfelt thanks to Rev. Antranig Baljian, the Church Board of Trustees, Armenian Relief Society, ANEC Board members, A.C.E.C. Board, Sartarabad Gomideh, Hairenik Ass., The Parents' Committee, Armenian Radio Hour, Sunday School staff, Hamazkayin, HMEM, and to every individual and organization that contributed to the success of the school.

Special Thanks to our wonderful and dedicated teachers.

The first day of classes for the year 2016-2017 is September 10, 2016 at 9 a.m. Registrations will be administered the same day.

## ST. STEPHEN'S SATURDAY SCHOOL YEAR END CEREMONY PICTURES





# ST. STEPHEN'S SATURDAY SCHOOL YEAR END CEREMONY PICTURES (Cont.)







# ST. STEPHEN'S SATURDAY SCHOOL YEAR END CEREMONY PICTURES (Cont.)











### **SACRAMENTS**



### **BAPTISMS**

**DALITA AGHAVNI PARIS BELL,** Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. James & Nayiri Bell, was baptized on April 15, 2016. Her Godparents were Rev. Fr. Stephan & Yn. Alice Baljian.

**ROSTOM KIRKORYAN,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Kevork & Anna Kirkoryan, was baptized on May 8, 2016. His Godparents were Armen Mkrtchian & Liana Yesayan.

**NOAH SAMUEL KALESHIAN,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Armen & Sheena Kaleshian, was baptized on May 15, 2016. His Godparents were Raffi Varjabedian & Kristin Manjikian.

**GORDON ZACHARY RYAN,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Kevin & Robin Ryan, was baptized on May 21, 2016. His Godparents were Aram Manoukian & Lorig Manoukian.

**ALEKSEI HAMALIAN,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Ari & Olya Hamalian, was baptized on June 12, 2016. His Godparents were Arek & Eileen Hamalian.

**ANDREW MANGUIKIAN,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Andre & Jessica Manguikian, was baptized on June 18, 2016. His Godparents were Steven & Michelle Crafts.

**ALEXANDER LEVON KRIKORIAN,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Christopher & Karina Krikorian, was baptized on July 24, 2016. His Godparents were Mark Krikorian & Christina Akaraz.

**CRISTIAN VALENTINO JONIAUX,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Andre Danilo & Michelle Joniaux, was baptized on July 30, 2016. His Godparents were Joel Torres & Daniela Vazquez.

**ANTHONY JAMES KEFALIS,** Son of Thomas Kefalis & Liana Manasseh, was baptized on August 6, 2016. His Godparents were Alex Manassah & Kristin Burke.

**SHANT ARMEN DIMITIAN, Jr.,** Son of Thomas Shant & Berjouhi Dimitian, was baptized on August 7, 2016. His Godparents were Shant Bassmajian & Nicole Vellucci.

**ALIK KEVORK ARAKELIAN,** Son of Mr. & Mrs. Andre Sebouh & Leeza Arakelian, was baptized on August 14, 2016. His Godparents were Shant Yeretzian & Tania Doub.

We extend our congratulations to the newly baptized, their parents and godparents.

Pastor & Board of Trustees



### **WEDDINGS**

NARE MEKHITARIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Krikor & Rosa Mekhitarian was wed to EDWARD FRANCIS O'DONNELL NEE, son of Mr. & Mrs. Edward & Patricia Nee, on April 30, 2016. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Bryan Chu & Tiffany Hashiba.

NATALIE KOUYOUMJIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. George & Zepur Kouyoumjian was wed to HAROUT KASBARIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Zarch & Nanor Kasbarian, on May 28, 2016. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Christopher Kasbarian & Nina Jaklian.

**RACHEL OKERMAN**, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William & Laura Okerman was wed to **TOBIAS ADAM LOUIE**, son of Mr. & Mrs. Clarence & Tina Louie, on June 11, 2016. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Matthew Hays & Caitlin Craparo.

MARIA ESPERANZA KASPARIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Antranig & Maria Kasparian was wed to **DANIEL ALEXANDER DICENSO**, son of Mrs. Maria DiCenso, on June 18, 2016. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Tim Han & Nadine Londino.

ALEXANDRA SEEROUN BASTAJIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Levon & Deanna Bastajian was wed to ARMEN JILIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Jean & Zepur Jillian, on June 25, 2016. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Christopher Jilian & Lara Kechichian.

ANOUSH ESSAJANIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Simon & Mary-Lou Essajanian was wed to BRYAN SCHLUNTZ, son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Margaret Schluntz, on July 16, 2016. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Matthew Oliver & Sossi Essajanian & Dzovig Parsehian.

On this happy occasion, we wholeheartedly congratulate the newly married couples, wishing them a happy and healthy life together.

Pastor & Board of Trustees

### **SACRAMENTS**



### **FUNERALS**

### PHILIP NALBANDIAN

(Funeral Home Service) April 6, 2016

### DR. HAGOP JANESSIAN

April 7, 2016

### MARY DAKESSIAN

April 13, 2016

### MANUEL DONABEDIAN

April 22, 2016

### SHOGHIK AVAKIAN

May 2, 2016

### **EDMUND JAGASPANIAN**

(Memorial Service) May 3, 2016

### ANNE MARDEROSIAN

(Funeral Home Service) May 4, 2016

### ALBERT VASKEN DERIAN

(Funeral Home Service) May 9, 2016

### GEORGES G. BEZIDJIAN

June 3, 2016

### LOURINE HIRD

(Funeral Home Service) June 3, 2016

### VATCHE HASERJIAN

June 7, 2016

### **ESTHER KACHADORIAN**

July 6, 2016

### VIRGINIA OHANESIAN

July 25, 2016

### **EDWARD YERVANT LATIFIAN**

(Funeral Home Service) July 25, 2016

### HEROPSIMA DERAKJIAN

July 28, 2016

### MARGARET SHAKARIAN

July 29, 2016

May the comfort of the Holy Spirit be with the families of all the deceased.

Pastor and Board of Trustees

### **SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH!**

"God loves a cheerful giver."
(II Cor. 9:7)

There is no more satisfying a feeling than giving to the Church. Your generosity helps to maintain community outreach and ensure that many others will be affected by your kindness. Not sure how you can give? Let us give you some ideas:

<u>CASH DONATIONS</u>: This is the most common form of charitable giving. All gifts mailed to the Church by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year qualify for tax deduction in that same year. Please be as generous as you can and give in relation to your ability.

**SECURITIES:** Stocks, bond, & mutual funds are gifts that just keep giving! You will not only enjoy a tax deduction for the fair market value of the gift, but will save on capital gains tax that would be due if you sold your securities differently.

**THROUGH A WILL OR A LIVING TRUST:** Leave a lasting legacy by remembering the Church in your will, in a living trust, in an insurance policy, or a retirement account. It is never too late, or a bad time, to review long term financial planning.

**ENDOWMENT:** Gifts can be used to add to our endowment fund. If you would like to honor a special someone or make a donation in the name of a loved one, this is the right place to invest. These funds are invested by the Church and will continue to grow so that we may become more inclusive in our goal to enhance our spiritual outreach.



### IN MEMORY OF ANTRANIG HAMPARIAN

Total \$ 1,585.00

Mrs. Ada Hamparian Armen & Esther Chakmakjian & Sons David & Tamar Hamparian & Sons John & Krista Aftandilian John & Karen Aharonian Isabel Avedikian Ara & Brenda Barsoumian Marie Bazarian Debra Garabedian Vartkes & Audrey Guzelian Eric & Amy Guzelian
Andrew & Alice Guzelian
Dr. & Mrs. David & Nora Hackett
Mrs. Margaret Hazerjian
George G. Hazerjian
Dennis Huebner
Ohan & Sonia Iradian
Mary Jelalian
Ara & Heather Krafian
Mrs. Mary Krafian
Ms. Lori Krikorian & Family

Harry & Norma Megerdichian Robert & Becky Megerdichian Walter & Deanne Nahabedian Missak & Angie Ourfalian Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Sferrino George K. Tekeyan Rosemary Tekeyan Luniewicz Ashkhen & Shoushig Vanerian Ani Yessaillian Melkon & Arpi Yessaillian

### IN MEMORY OF KOREN AHARONIAN

Total \$ 720.00

Lee Aharonian Gregory Aharonian John & Karen Aharonian

Astor & Lucy Guzelian

David & Sharon Demarco Mark & Barbara Bagdasarian Rose Tufenkjian & Diane Matevosian Annette Gassett Dickran & Marilyn Haroian Harry & Norma Megerdichian

### IN MEMORY OF DR. HAGOP JANESSIAN

Total \$ 890.00

Mrs. Seta Janessian & Family Kevork & Mania Boyajian Bedros & Arev Der Vartanian Mr. & Mrs. Simon Essajanian Shake Hagopian Jack & Dzovig Hajian Olga Hovagimian Hovaness, Angela & Sona Hovanisian Nazeli Krikorian Mr. & Mrs. Jack Palanjian Thomas Gengozian & Sally Vanerian Khajag & Ardemis Mgrdichian Krikor & Nora Mouradian Sayat Nova Dance Co.

### IN MEMORY OF MANUEL DONABEDIAN

Total \$ 1,3250.00

Daniel Donabedian Hagop & Stella Bekarian Shake Gabriel Nora & Mary Minasian Anjel Minasian Charles & Hripsime Minasian Janet & Edward Saker

### IN MEMORY OF MARY DAKESSIAN

Total \$ 2,170.00

Kevork & Endza Abdalian Knarig Aboyan Anonymous Hermine Artarian Hovsep Avedikian Yn. Cheryl & Barbara Baljian Missak & Lili Barsoumian Ara & Brenda Barsoumian

Takohie Bechirian

Kaprel & Margrit Chavushian Berj & Annie Chekijian Avedis & Arousyag Dakessian Maria Derderian Peter R. Geyoghlian Mari Imirze Ojenie Kavlakian Kuzenian Family Flora Matossian Anjel Minasian
Charles & Hripsime Minasian
Carolyn Mugar
Harry & Hripsime Parsekian
Tirfanda Sarkissian
Charles & Ara Talanian
George, Rima & Markrid Haroutiounian
Nishan & Marguerette Zoboyan & Family

### IN MEMORY OF SHOGHIK AVAKIAN

Total \$ 1,140.00

Alice Ayanian Raffi & Silva Ayanyan Bazarbachian Family Azad Chitchian Karnig & Meri Demirjhian Emmanuel & Mariam Der Torossian Sirarpi & Varteni Jamakorzian Sarkis & Chake Kebabjian Ervant & Anahit Kibarian Mr. & Mrs. Roupen Kiredjian Yeprem & Mayda Melkonian Zarouhi Minasian Hovannes & Mary Minasian & Family Toros & Zevart Moushigian Harout & Lena Sajonian Samir & Krina Tarabelsi & Family The Mulligan Family

### IN MEMORY OF ANNE MARDEROSIAN

Total \$ 445.00

Susan Krikorian & Jack Jaffe Anahid Changelian Richard, Susan & Sema Chebookjian Mary Jelalian John & Alice Karnikyan Stephen Karoghlanian Jr. St. Stephen's Ladies Guild Harry & Norma Megerdichian Jeanne Nahabedian Carl & Valerie Narsasian Gladys Terzian

### IN MEMORY OF GEORGES BEZIDJIAN

Total \$ 2,710.00

Mrs. Elisa Bezidjian & Families
Antranik & Lucie Aghdamlian & Family
Armand & Helene Andreassian
Mrs. Aghavni Arakelian & Family
David K. James & Arleen Ashjian & Olivia
Mr. & Mrs. Avedis Barmakian
Zepure Barounis-Nakkashian
Mrs. Armine Barsoumian
Hagop & Stella Bekarian
Pauline P. Coutlis
Emmanuel & Mariam Der Torossian
Mr. & Mrs. Arshag Derderian

Takouhy Frengulian
Richard & Houry Haroutunian
Martin & Juliette Hatzadourian
Margaret Hazerjian
David & Carol Hazerjian
George G. Hazerjian
Doris Hazerjian & Stephen
Garbis & Marie Kaladjian
Zarouhe & Veken Kebabjian
Sarkis & Chake Kebabjian
Levon & Shake Khatchadourian
Dr. Ida Malian

Archalos Merdkhanian
Avedis & Hilda Merdkhanian & Family
Nora & Mary Minasian
Garo & Salpi Ostayan & Family
Roupen & Rita Panian
Harry & Hripsime Parsekian
Krikor & Houri Saghbazarian
Sarkis & Elsie Sarkisian
Azad & Nevart Sipilian
Mr. & Mrs. Berdj Soultanian
Raffi & Mari Zargarian
Mr. & Mrs. Garbis Zerdelian

### ADDITION MEMORIAL DONATIONS

# In Memory of KIRK AHARONIAN Grand Total \$ 6,345.00

David & Joyce Kederian-Chiulli George & Dorothy Elanjian Alice Gelenian Dr. & Mrs. John Saryan

# In Memory of VAROUJAN ASBEDIAN Grand Total \$ 1,470.00

Dr. & Mrs. John Saryan

# In Memory of ELIZABETH KOUYOUMJIAN Grand Total \$ 1,460.00

Natalie Ruo

# In Memory of KHACHER DOSTOOMIAN Grand Total \$ 2,005.00

John & Alice Karnikyan Melkon & Arpi Yessailian (Omitted by mistake from the last issue of Jrak)

# In Memory of ROSE DADOORIAN Grand Total \$ 105.00

The Khachadoorian & Costner Families

# In Memory of LENNY FERRIGNO Total \$ 20.00

Mr. & Mrs. Nazareth Sarkissian

# In Memory of ALICE TUTUNJIAN Grand Total \$ 9,140.00

Simon & Lucy Essajanian Sarah Janigian

# In Memory of AREK SHAHINIAN Total \$ 20.00

Janet Karamians

# In Memory of KEVORKIAN FAMILY Total \$ 50.00

Maria Gougian

# In Memory of AZNIV POLADIAN Total \$ 100.00

Ken, Steve & Dian Hachikian

# In Memory of EDMUND JAGASPANIAN Total \$ 250.00

Rouben & Lida Surenian & Family Janet Karamians

# In Memory of VATCHE HASERJIAN Total \$ 170.00

Rev. & Mrs. Avedis & Arpi Boynerian William & Bernadette Breheny Diane M. Bruzzese Larry & Cheryl Smith

# In Memory of ALBERT DERIAN Total \$ 25.00

Charles & Zabel Hoosian

# In Memory of PHILIP NALBANDIAN Total \$ 250.00

Marilyn Nalbandian

# In Memory of ESTHER KACHADORIAN Total \$ 115.00

Lee Aharonian & Gregory Aharonian Robert & Christine Kochem Mary, Jeane & Krstine Kotelly Edward Sahagian

### MADAGH Total \$ 4,610.00

Mrs. Lee Aharonian
John & Margaret Ahigian
Mrs. June Ajemian
IMO Leon B. Ajemian
Mrs. Starrie Alemian
Isabel Avedikian
Queenie Aykanian
Diana Aykanian
Zabelle Hajian Azablar
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Azizian
Mr. Dickran Babigian
Mrs. Hripsime Badrikian
Rev. & Mrs. Antranig Baljian

Barbarab Baljian

Mr. & Mrs. Razmik Banosian Samuel & Aida Bejakian John & Zovig Boyajian Anahid Changelian Houry Daghlian Mrs. Mariam Daoudian David & Sharon Demarco Mrs. Anna Demurjian Dorothy Esperian Mrs. Sirarpi Fermanian Ron Iverson & Gail Guzelian Michael & Susan Guzelian

Diana Hachikian Yeretzgin Zevart Hagopian Jack & Dzovig Hajian Christopher Hajian
Mrs. Ada Hamparian
Dickran & Marilyn Haroian
John & Debra Haroian
Mr. & Mrs. John Harr
Mrs. Margaret Hazerjian
Mrs. Olga Hovagimian
Ohan & Sonia Iradian
Mr. & Mrs. George Kaderian
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kanarian

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kanarian Mrs. Virginia Karamanian Janet Karamians John & Alice Karnikyan

John & Alice Karnikyan Gregory & Sossi Kazandjian Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kechejian Mrs. Takouhie Kefeyan Sousi Keshishian

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Keumurian

In Loving Memory of newly deceased

late Mr. Khatchig Afarian Mr. & Mrs. Hovnan Keumurian Kenneth & Rosalie Kizirian Mr. & Mrs. Armen Knaian

Rose Krikorian

Dr. & Mrs. Shavarsh Majarian

Nairi Makarian

Mrs. Lucille Manuelian Edward & Zella Marootian John & Helene Meghrian Mrs. Flora Matossian IMO Mother & Husband Edward & Ossan Merjikian

Ankeen Merzikian Mary Mooradian

Walter & Deanne Nahabedian Carl & Valerie Narsasian Mrs. Araxy Nigoghossian Mr. & Mrs. Mardiros Petrossian

Sarah Sahagian Pauline Sanasarian

Nazaret & Yeghsa Sarkissian Mr. Albert Savadian, Sr. & Family

Alice Setian Helen H. Sevagian

Mr. Tatul Sonentz Papazian Mrs. Surpig Stepanian Rouben & Lida Surenian James & Carol Tateossian Armen & Eugenie Tekneyan

Marjorie Terzian Allan G. Tutunjian

Ashkhen & Shoushig Vanerian Mr. & Mrs. Kegham Varjabedian

Kohar Voskanian

IMO of Husband and Family's good health

Angela Yavanian

Rima Sen Yousefian-Zeroonian

Chake Zarougian

### **GENERAL DONATIONS**

MONTHLY TITHE:

BUY A SHINGLE:

Alice Setian

Sossie Terlemezian Robinson

DONATIONS TO CHURCH:	
St. Stephen's Ladies Guild	17,000
Ogenie Abradjian	50
(Prayer for good Health)	
David & Marie-Louise Bean	50
(On the happy occasion of the ma	arriage
of their daughter Andrea to Andr	ew
Tobio in York Harbor, Maine on	May
14, 2016. Proud grandfather is	
John Hovhaness Zakarian)	
Richard & Alleen Ghazaryans	75
(On the happy occasion of their	
daughter's 40 Day Blessing &	
Dedication to the church)	
Diana Hachikian	100
Olga Hovagimian	50
(On the happy occasion of her	
grandson's Simon & his bride	
Jackie's wedding)	
Mrs. Mary Ishkanian	20
Janet Karamians	50
Mr. Kevork Ourfalian	50
Nazaret & Yeghsa Sarkissian	20
EASTER YOUGHAKIN Grand Total: 5,220.00	

David & Joyce Kederian-Chiulli

Varu John & Armine Mahdasian

James & Nayiri Bell	750
ANNUAL DOANTION	
Christopher Hajian	50
DONATIONS TO JRAK	
Marie Bazarian	30
Mrs. Eva S. Guzelian	50
Ohan & Sonia Iradian	25
(IMO Papken Apelian)	
Mrs. Flora Matossian	25
(On the happy occasion of	<i>her</i>
grandson's High School G	raduation)
John & Helene Meghrian	25
Mr. Kevork Ourfalian	50
Alice Setian	20
Marjorie Terzian	10
Joanne E. Wortman	25

# 500 30 50 00 25 A3 M 25 7) 25 50 200 10 25

### 100 500 **RD**

# MONETARY DONATION TOWARD GRAPES

Anahid Najarian 20 (IMO of her mother)

# HAYR SAHAG YEMISHIAN'S ELEVATION CEREMONY

Arzroon & Janet Abrahamian	100
The Ladies Guild of The Armenian	400
Holy Trinity Church in Worcester	
Mr. & Mrs. George Kaderian	15

# ON THE OCCASION OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

- Mr. & Mrs. Adour & Nancy Tutunjian donated all the grapes for our Annual Picnic at Camp Haiastan, on July 31st and also on August 14, for the day of The Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God.
- Mr. & Mrs. Vasken & Silva Momjian donated the Madagh and related expenses for blessing at the Church's annual picnic in Memory of Barkev Goulgoulian (deceased in Syria).
- Mr. Vartan Inguilizian donated Incense (Khoung) to the church for Dalita Bell's good health.

### CHURCH ANNUAL PICNIC





We had a another successful picnic at Camp Haiastan in Franklin, MA on Sunday, July 31. The picnic was attended by people from near and far including many campers and their families. While picnic staff worked hard in the kitchen to meet the demand of those waiting to be served delicious Armenian food, many danced to the lively and beautiful dance music played by "The All-Star Armenian Picnic Band". The annual blessing of Grapes and *Madagh* service was performed by our Prelate, His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan, with the participation of our Pastor and clergy from neighboring churches, Very Rev. Sahag Yemishian of Worcester, Rev. Archpriest Gomidas Baghsarian of Providence, Rev. Fr. Michael Der Khosrofian of Whitinsville. Many thanks to the ARS for providing a bus from Watertown to the Camp in Franklin. This provided easy transportation for more than 30 people. Thank you to Bazaar co-chairs Michael Guzelian and Steve Megerdichian as well as to all those who worked so hard preparing, cooking and serving the food as well as setting up and cleanup, especially our young people.



The "Buy a Shingle" campaign to retire the mortgage on the "Green House" will continue. Thus far close to 15% of the target amount has been raised from the generosity of those who have donated to this worthwhile project. Contributions to this ongoing campaign may be made to St. Stephen's:

Yes, I want to help St. Stephen's Church retire the debt on the Green House.

\* \$1,000 to buy 2 pallets

\* \$500 to buy a pallet

\* \$250 to buy a half pallet

\* \$100 to buy a pair of shingles

\* \$50 to buy a shingle

\* \$ ——— hammer & nails (other)

Please send checks to St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church Attn: "Buy a Shingle"

### SUPPORT THE JRAK

Enclosed is my donation to help keep this important link to the St. Stephen's community operating.

NAME:		
ADDRESS:		
DONATION	AMOUNT:	
	Kindly send your donations to the church office, 38 Elton Ave., Watertown, MA	

### PEW DEDICATION

+ 4 + 4 + 4 + 4

Dear Friends

During the past ten years from our ongoing project of pew dedications has been met with a strong response and we are grateful for all those gifts. As another milestone in our Church's life is approaching, the  $60^{th}$  Anniversary of our Church's founding, consider dedicating a portion of a pew as part of your year-end charitable gift. A brass dedication plaque will be placed at each location on a pew; the gift for each plaque has been set at \$500.

Please contact Raffi Manjikian 617-932-1854 or email him at rmmpesc@verizon.net. Raffi will guide you through the process to fulfill your dedication.



### WEEKLY E-BULLETIN

St. Stephen's Trustees have instituted an E-Bulletin in order to optimize communication with our parishioners, which will be sent out to our e-mail list on a weekly basis every Friday. The Bulletin contains liturgical information, such as readings and requiems as well as a schedule of church events.

If you have not received a copy of this new publication, and wish to do so, please go to our website at www.soorpstepanos.org to add your email address to our list.



### GOD'S HOUSE. YOUR HOME

If you are not currently a dues-paying member of our church, we invite you to consider becoming one. Annual dues are \$150.00 (less than 42 cents a day) payable weekly, monthly or in a lump sum. God depends on you to keep His church strong and viable in order to continue its ministry of service in meeting the spiritual, sacramental and educational needs of all of our parishioners.

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. Other Hours by Appointment

### **CHURCH SCHEDULE**

9:30 A.M. Morning Service 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy 11:00 A.M. Sermon

Holy Communion 11:30 A.M. Requiem Service 11:50 A.M.

Noon Dismissal

### ADDRESS CHANGES

In order to keep our records up to date and your receipt of JRAK on time and accurate, kindly inform us of corrections, changes of address, etc. Please send all corrections, along with the old address and incorrect names, to: St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church, 38 Elton Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472.

### **Հ**በԳԵՀԱՆԳՒՍՏ

Հոգնհանգիստի համար հաճնգէք հնռաձայննյ նկնդնգող գրասենեակ մինչեւ հինգշաբթի կ.ե. ժամը 3:00, որպէսզի կարենանք անունները հրատարակել կիրակնօրեայ Նուիրատուութիւնները կարելի է թնոթիկին մէջ։ հետեւեալ ձեւերով, Գարթով, նամակով, կատարել անձամբ նկնղեցւոյ գրասնննակը կամ ալ կիրակի օրը՝ նկնոնգլու մէջ, Հոգաբարձութնան գրասնննակը։

### **REOUIEM**

For Requiem Service, please call the church office at (617) 924-7562 by 3 P.M. by the Thursday prior to the Sunday that the requiem is to be held, so we can include the names in the Sunday Bulletin. Donations may be made in several ways: by credit card, mailing to the office, paying at the church office or on Sunday in church.

### **LADIES GUILD**

Women of all ages who desire to serve their church are invited to join the Ladies Guild. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, beginning with a social period from 6:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Meetings run from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Last Sunday of each month at 11:30, during School year.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CHURCH CHAT

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at noon, during school year.

### HALL RENTALS

If you are interested in renting the Church Hall for a private function, please contact the church office.

### **SACRAMENTS**

For Sacraments please call the church office

### **NEW WEEKLY E-BULLETIN**

In order to optimize communication with our parishioners, St. Stephen's Church has instituted an E-Bulletin which will be sent out to our e-mail list on a weekly basis every Friday. The bulletin contains liturgical information, such as readings and requiems, as well as a schedule of church events. If you wish to receive a copy of this new publication, please go to our website at www.soorpstepanos.org to add your email address to our list.

### **OBSERVED HOLIDAYS**

The office will be closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, January 6 (Armenian Christmas), Vartanantz Day, April 24, Armenian Independence Day (May 28), Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving Day, day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Day.

### **HOME VISITS**

Der Hayr and the Board of Trustees understand that sometimes it is difficult for all of our parishioners to participate in Sunday services. If you are in failing health, or are unable to get to church because of a disability, please call the Church office to arrange for a home visit. Please call the church office at (617) 924-7562.

### **HOME BLESSINGS (SCHEDULED)**

Traditionally, home blessings are done yearly – after Armenian Christmas and before Paregentan (Lent). But, if you would like to schedule a home blessing after Easter Sunday, please call the church office at (617) 924-7562.

### **HOSPITAL VISITS**

Եթէ հիւանդ մր ունիք ձևր տան մէջ կամ հիւանդանոցը և կր փափաքիք հովիւին այցելութիւնը, հաճեզէք հեռաձայնել ជៃប្រជាជិត្តកោរ ណូយបាជិប្បាយបាន

Der Hayr and the Board of Trustees encourage all parishioners to inform us of any relative, immediate family member, or church member who is in the hospital and wishes to be visited by Der Hayr. These visits can help to lift the spirit of the patient and offer support and guidance. Please call the church office for more information at (617) 924-7562.

### ԽՄՔԱԳՐԱՆԱՆ ՆԱԶՄ

Խմբագրական կազմը կը ջանայ իր լաւագոյնը կատարել, սակայն մոռացում կամ սխալ արձանագրութիւններ կրնան պատահիլ, այդ պարագային հաճնզէք նկնղնգող գրասենեակը տեղեակ պահել որպէսզի սրբագրենք լաջորդ Ճրագի թիւին մէջ։

### **EDITORIAL BOARD**

Although we try our best in preparing this newsletter, errors occasionally do slip by. Please accept our apologies and inform the church office so the information can be printed correctly in the next issue of The Jrak.

ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GREATER BOSTON 38 Elton Avenue NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID BOSTON, MASS PERMIT NO. 59729

### U. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ≺ԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՅ ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՅԻՈՅ

# 60րդ ՊԱՉԱՐ

ՈԻՐԲԱԹ եւ ՇԱԲԱԹ, ՆՈՅԵՄԲԵՐ 4 եւ 5, 2016

Առաւօտեան ժամը 10-էն մինչեւ երեկոյեան 9:30

Հայ Մշակութային եւ Կրթական Կեդրոնի Սրահին մեջ 47 Նիքըլզ Էվընիւ, Ուոթըրթաուն, Մէս.

> Ճաշ`ժամը 11:30-էն սկսեալ մինչեւ երեկոյեան ժամը 8:30

### Համեղ Խորովածի Տեսակներ

- Հայկական Անուշեղէններ Երշիկ Ձեռագործներ
  - Գիրքերու Վաճառք Փոքրերու Խաղեր
- Վիճակահանութիւն Աճուրդ եւ Անակնկալներ

Ուրբաթ եւ Շաբաթ երեկոյեան ժամը 7էն սկսեալ տեղի պիտի ունենայ Աճուրդ Չանազան Առարկաներու եւ Մարզական Խաղերու Տոմսեր

Յաւելեալ տեղեկութիւններու համար հեռաձայնել եկեղեցւոյ գրասենեակ (617) 924-7562

եկե՛ք ձեր հարազատներով եւ քաջալերեցեք Եկեղեցւոյ Պազարը

# ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

# 60<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BAZAAR

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4 & 5, 2016

10 A.M. – 9:30 P.M.

Armenian Cultural & Educational Center 47 Nichols Avenue, Watertown, MA

Meals served from 11:30 A.M. - 8:30 P.M. (Take out is available)

• Delicious Meals • Armenian Pastries •

**Gourmet • Gift Shoppe • Raffles • Attic Treasures** 

Friday and Saturday – Live Auction Starts at 7:00 P.M.

For more information please contact the Church Office at (617) 924-7562

**COME SUPPORT OUR CHURCH BAZAAR!**