# MILL \* JRAK

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

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### **CONTENTS**

HOLIDAY GREETINGS	3
DER ANTRANIG'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE	4
COMMUNITY NEWS	6
66thCHURCH BAZAAR	14
PRELACY NEWS	17
LADIES GUILD NEWS	18
OBITUARIES TROOPER TAMAR ANOUSH BUCCI VARTAN SERADERIAN CHARLES KEUMURIAN DN. ABRAHAM BARDAKJIAN	20
ST. GREGORY OF DATEV SUMMER PROGRAM	22
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS & DONATIONS	24
SATURDAY SCHOOL NEWS	34
SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS	39
DONATIONS  Memorial  General & Jrak  Madagh  2020 Christmas Youghakin  2021 Easter Youghakin	42 50 52 53 54
SUPPORT THE JRAK	55
PEW DEDICATION	55
WEEKLY E-BULLETIN	55
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE	55
SACRAMENTS	56
SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH	58
FOR YOUR INFORMATION	59
WORLD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES	60

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Բոլոր մեր սիրելի ծխականներուն եւ բարեկամներուն համար կ՜աղօթենք առ Աստուած, որ մեր Տիրոջ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի Ծննդեան եւ Աստուածայայտնութեան այս գեղեցիկ եղանակի ընթացքին, դուք բոլորդ ստանաք Իր առատ եւ բարի օրհնութիւնները։ Քրիստոս Ծնաւ եւ Յայտնեցաւ։ Ձեզ եւ Մեզ Մեծ Աւետիս։

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For all our parishioners and friends, we pray that God will bless you all during this most wonderful and holy season of the Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. May He grant you His abundant blessings of joy and peace. Christ is born and revealed. Unto you and unto us great tidings!

Pastor and Board of Trustees



Happy New Year and Merry Christmas



#### THE THRE WISE WOMEN

REV. FR. ANTRANIG BALJIAN

Before you think that there is a typo in the title of this message, please be assured that there is not and I am indeed writing about three very important women who play an important role in Jesus' birth narrative. All three of these very special women are mentioned by name, and so I would like to take a closer look at them to see who they are, not because I am trying to be politically correct, but rather because the lessons these three teach us are HUGE!

Back to the Wise Men or Three Kings for a moment: We don't know too much about them except for the fact that they came from the East "following a star" that led them to the newborn Jesus to whom they gave gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. That's it. Not even their names are mentioned.

I must also say that although we don't know a lot about the wise women, we do know a little bit more about them than the men. These are the women.

#### **ANNA**



The first of the three wise women is Anna. Listen to what the gospel of Luke (5: 36-38) says about her: "There was a very old prophet, a widow named Anna, daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher. She had been married for only seven years and was now eighty-four years old. She never left the temple; day and night

she worshiped God, fasting and praying. That very same hour she arrived and gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free." So not too much to build a story on, but enough to see that she was special enough not only to have her name written, but also her age, the names of her parents, her lineage and the fact that she was a prophet: i.e. a person chosen to speak for God.

Anna/hannah means 'grace' or 'favor'. She is identified as the daughter of Phan'u-el, which means 'face of god'. Interestingly, she fulfilled her father's patrimony since Anna was among the first to literally recognize the face of God when she saw the infant Jesus.

The most important part of her story is her **faithfulness**. She would go every day to the temple to pray, with hopes of seeing the chosen one of Israel. The text of the bible scripture that I read says she was married for seven years

and was 84 years old. But the passage is ambiguous in the Greek. It can also be read as she was married for seven years and was a widow for 84 years. Since at that time it was unlawful for a woman to be married before the age of 14, Anna could have been well over a hundred years old when she recognized the savior.

#### **ELIZABETH**

The second wise woman is Elizabeth. According to the gospel of Luke, Elizabeth was "of the daughters of Aaron". She was married to a priest named Zechariah, and one day while he was in the temple of the Lord, Zechariah was visited by the angel Gabriel. The angel said to him: "Do not be afraid,



Zechariah; your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.

Zechariah was not really happy at the news. In fact, he doubted it was even true. For his doubt, he was struck dumb and couldn't speak again until his son was born. It wasn't a punishment, but a lesson that those who do not hear God's words should not speak them. Remember he was a priest in the temple.

Elizabeth wasn't happy either. You see, she was pretty old when she found out she was having a baby and was very ashamed, because having babies was for young people. Someone so old who was going to have a baby, would be laughed and scoffed at. So Elizabeth went into seclusion to escape the mockery she would receive from her neighbors.

After five months, Elizabeth finally realized that her baby was given to her by God saying "The lord has done this for me," and came out of seclusion. Just about a month after that, Elizabeth's relative Mary came to escape the same sort of negative attention that Elizabeth had experienced. You see, Mary was not married, yet she was going to have a baby. Nobody knew that the baby inside her was from God.

When Mary reached Elizabeth's house in the hill country of Judah, she called out a greeting, and the bible

#### PASTOR'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE (Cont.)

says "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy lord, all the apostles came from all around the known Spirit and in a loud voice cried out to Mary: You're so world where they were preaching, in order to pay their blessed among women, and the baby in your womb is respects. They carried her to the tomb where she would also blessed! And why am I so blessed that the mother of be laid to rest. All of the apostles were present except the my lord comes and visits me?"

Just as Elizabeth proclaimed that Mary carried the chosen one of God, so too did Elizabeth's son, John the Baptist 30 years later, proclaim Jesus to be the savior of the world.



#### **MARY**

The last wise woman of the Christmas story is Mary. If many people didn't know who Anna and Elizabeth were, everyone certainly knows who Mary is.

What we know about her from the written tradition of the bible is that she was betrothed or engaged to

marry a man named Joseph; that she was visited by an angel who told her that she was going to have a baby put into her womb by God; that she was ashamed and went to see her relative Elizabeth, which I just told you about.

After she returned home to her betrothed, the two of them had to go to Bethlehem because of a census being conducted by the Roman government.

Of course you know the rest of the story. In fact we are celebrating it today. Mary gave birth to the Savior of the world and the King of the universe in a stable; in a town called Bethlehem from two ancient Hebrew words meaning literally, house of bread; an appropriate name for the birthplace of Jesus, who called himself the bread of life.

Not much more than this is known about Mary, except for the fact that she was a witness to her son's Passion and Crucifixion some thirty-three years after she gave birth to him and that from the cross, Jesus placed her in the care of his beloved disciple, John.

Oral tradition tells us a lot more, such as her parents were named Joachim (Hovagim) and Anna. That at the age of three she was sent to the temple to be a consecrated maiden, serving there until her betrothal to Joseph. Tradition tells us that Joseph was an older widower and Mary a young girl of around fourteen years old: a common age for girls to be married in those days.

Tradition also tells us that when Mary fell asleep in the lord, all the apostles came from all around the known world where they were preaching, in order to pay their respects. They carried her to the tomb where she would be laid to rest. All of the apostles were present except the oldest, St. Bartholomew. He was the furthest away and was not able to arrive before her entombment; her burial. He was heartbroken that he was not able to see Mary and pay his final respects. He begged his brother apostles to allow hime to go down to the tomb and see her one last time. They all agreed and set off together to the place where she was laid to rest. When they got there, they found the tomb empty and knew that her beloved son, Jesus had come to take his mother directly to heaven. And because she had been assumed or "taken up" to heaven, we celebrate the day of her Assumption every year on the Sunday nearest august 15.

So while, we often speak about the wise men of the Christmas stories and the wonderful qualities they demonstrated such as perseverance; learning; obedience and trust; we learn many lessons from the three wise women we encounter in the Christmas story.

From Anna we learn faith and perseverance; from Elizabeth we learn about "being righteous before god and walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the lord, blameless" as the bible says of her and her husband.

And from Mary we learn the lesson's of obedience, love, devotion, trust and humility. I would like to close with the beautiful words Mary spoke when Elizabeth greeted her; it embodies the very spirit of the Christmas season"

"My heart praises the lord; my soul is glad because of God my Savior, for he has remembered me, his lowly servant! From now on all people will call me happy, because of the great things the mighty God has done for me. His name is holy; from one generation to another he shows mercy to those who honor him. He has stretched out his mighty arm and scattered the proud with all their plans. He has brought down mighty kings from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away with empty hands. He has kept the promise he made to our ancestors, and has come to the help of his servant Israel. He has remembered to show mercy to Abraham and to all his descendants forever!"

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### CHILDREN'S COMMUNION/BREAKFAST TO GO



January 1, 2022. What a blessing it was to start the new year in our sanctuary, offering the gift of communion to our St. Stephen's students -- Sunday, Saturday, and Elementary -- along with their parents. What a beautiful way to start the year in prayer and gratitude and asking God to bless us all with health, happiness, and prosperity this year. The Traditional breakfast of *Choreg* and cheese was packed in special Christmas themed bags for everyone to take home and enjoy.





#### NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY SERVICES

On Thursday, January 6, under threat of a new COVID-19 surge, St. Stephen's celebrated the Birth and Baptism of Our Lord with Holy *Badarak* and the Blessing of Water ceremony. On this occasion, Patrick Mulvey was the Godfather of the Cross.



#### PRELATE'S VISIT

On Saturday May 21, 2022 the Board of Trustees hosted the first *Prelate's Bikeathon* in Watertown under the auspices of our Prelate, H.E. Archbishop AnoushIan Tanielian. The 10 mile event took place in 90-degree weather on the Department of Conservation & Recreation bike path along the Charles River. Surpazan, who is an avid bicyclist, led a group of 25 participants who raised \$2,000 for our sisters and brothers in Lebanon.

All participants received a commemorative 65<sup>th</sup> church anniversary tee shirt, water and snacks to keep up their energy during the bikeathon.

#### ORDINATIONS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATION



On Saturday evening May 21, 2022, H.E. Archbishop Anoushavan presided over the elevation of Acolytes (Hagop Ketchedjian, Aram Stepanian, Avedis Bell, and Daniel Alexander). The four young men received the rite of tonsure and the minor orders of service

into the Holy Armenian Church. Their new responsibilities would now include cleaning the church, ensuring the candles are lit, publicly reciting the Psalms and reading from the Old and New Testaments, as well as serving on the altar during Holy Badarak.

In addition, David Toramanian was ordained a Subdeacon granting him the right to cense the congregation with the pourvar during Badarak, and to wash and place the empty chalice back in the niche at the end of Badarak.



Sunday School graduation exercises were presided over by Anoushavan Surpazan in the afternoon of May 21<sup>st</sup>. Eight students graduated this year. The Board is very proud of all of our bright graduates.



On Sunday morning May 22, 2022 H.E. Archbishop Anoushavan celebrated an Episcopal Holy *Badarak* and ordained Subdeacon *Hovhanness John Daghlian* to the full rank of Deacon. This ordination into the diaconate gave Deacon Hovhanness the right to read the Gospel and perform the *Veraperoum* (Greater Entrance) of the Holy Chalice.

At the end of Badarak Surpazan presented young Christian Manjikian, one of this year's Sunday School graduates, a special certificate of appreciation for having had perfect attendance for his fifteen years in Sunday School (see separate article).

Following church services, a luncheon was served in honor of the newly ordained Deacon, Subdeacon and Acolytes, with more than 80 people in attendance. A surprise anniversary cake was presented to Surpazan who is celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination into the priesthood.



#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### CHURCH PICNIC

On August 7, 2022, as a result of the restrictions imposed at Camp Haiastan, for the second consecutive year, the annual picnic was hosted on the church grounds. This change in venue resulted in cooking our traditional picnic dinners at the church with festive tents erected in the middle of Artsakh Street and on the south lawn. Blessing of the Grapes was



performed in front of the tent before a large group of our faithful parishioners. We were blessed with picture perfect weather and wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by all. This year we were honored by a visitation from Very Reverend Father Barouyr Shernezian, Dean of the Seminary in Bikfaya, who celebrated Holy Badarak and presided over the blessing

of the grapes.



#### Feast of the Assumption

On August 14, 2022 the day of Holy Asdvadzadzin under the auspices of H.E. Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian, our church received our portion of the newly blessed Holy Muron. Surpazan Hayr celebrated the Holy Badarak and performed the blessing of water with the new muron. Parishioners witnessed this unique service and received the blessed water.

A miniature replica of the Holy Vessel was used to transport our portion of the Holy Muron; Surpazan explained how the old *Muron* from years past was poured into the Holy Vessel by H.H. Aram I and comingled with the new batch of Muron. This comingling links the past history of the church to the present.





Immediately after the Badarak, Surpazan led the faithful parishioners outside to the rededication and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the reconstructed walkway to the Khatch Kar. The existing walkway had deteriorated over the past 29+ years. Dn. Hovhanness John Daghlian designed a simple but elegant walkway that complemented the beautiful Khatch Kar. Additionally spotlights were installed for both the Armenian & American flags and accent lights for the Khatch Kar. Construction cost totaled just over \$17,000.00 several faithful parishioners donated over \$12,000.00.

On the observance of Holy Asdvadzadzin, Surpazan Hayr blessed grapes at the front of the church and took a group photo with all the parishioners.



#### YOUTH ORIENTED ACTIVITIES



By now, most of you are home for the summer. Whether you are in between years or have just graduated and are looking for a job or applying to graduate school. I am sure you are glad to be home. I urge you to enjoy this opportunity to relax in the company of your family and become reacquainted with your friends. Homecoming is always good; especially when you get to enjoy Mom's cooking again and the luxury of relaxing without the pressure of having to do homework or worry about passing an exam.

You know, in the Armenian church we believe that the church is our spiritual I are all literally reborn through the Holy Font. So if you think about it for realize that summer is not just a time to enjoy the home of your biological fam stop by and say hello to your spiritual family. And to partake in Holy Com Lord's Table and greet your heavenly Father with prayer. I, for one would be see you and say Hi!

As you propare for the next stage of your life, whether entering colleg-higher grade; beginning work or going off to graduate school, the Board higher grade; beginning work or going off to graduate school, the Board thinking of you and praying for you. Cherish the time you have now. It relax and refresh at home and worship and pray at church so you will be new challenges of the coming year. If you are anxious about next year, here to help with our prayers. Please know that you will always be z important part of our St. Stephen's family, no matter where you are next y

Jesus told His followers, ""Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me." (John 14:1)

With Love and prayer

Rev. Fr. autamin Baljian Pastor and Board of Trustees

#### College Outreach

College Student Care packages, a concept borrowed from Yeretzgin Lucine Daghlian who would send her grandchildren "care packages" goodies and notes of encouragement before their final exams, was adopted by the Trustees, on



Trustees assembling the College Care Packages

January 18, 2022. For the second time over 100 students from our parish received a box with a note of spiritual encouragement from Der Hayr and goodies to enjoy when preparing for their exams.

This new tradition will be kept up for the Spring and Fall school semesters. We received very positive feedback from the students and their parents.

#### COMMUNITY NEWS -- EASTER CELEBRATION

On April 17, 2022, the parish observed Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter without any COVID restrictions for the first time since 2019. Below is a photographic essay of that special week, beginning with church clean up day.













## COMMUNITY NEWS -- PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION & BAKE SALE











#### COMMUNITY NEWS -- HOLY TUESDAY OBSERVANCE



## Remembrance of the Ten Maidens





















### COMMUNITY NEWS -- MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICES











## COMMUNITY NEWS -- COMMUNION BREAKFAST-TO-GO HOLY EASTER AND APRIL 24 LITURGIES













#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**



A new chapter started in the life of St. Stephen's Church in New Britain, CT. Three joyous occasions coincided on Sunday, Oct. 16, as His Eminence Archbishop Anoushavan, Prelate, introduced Rev. Fr. Samuel Ajemian, the parish's new Pastor, to the faithful. On the same day, the church celebrated its 97th anniversary, when it also received the newly consecrated Holy *Muron*, followed by the Blessing of Water.

The Prelate invoked the example of prophet Samuel in his presentation of the new Pastor, remarking on the talents God has endowed him with at his young age. He begged for the parishioners' support, urging them to be the wind beneath his wings for the success of his service to the community.

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, a reception was held in the parish hall to welcome Rev. Fr. Ajemian and his wife Patil, during which Hagop Khachadourian, chairman of the Prelacy Executive Council, and Raffi Manjikian, the Executive Council representative with the community, delivered remarks to the public. Fr. Samuel, in turn, addressed the attendees with words of gratitude for the opportunity God has given him to serve the faithful, this time at St. Stephen's Church in Connecticut, one of the Oldest in the United States. He also thanked the Prelate as well as the Religious and Lay Council for their trust in him.



"Finally, in words addressed to you, dear parishioners of St. Stephen's Church, from now on we have become one family," Fr. Samuel said. "The pain of anyone of us is the pain of everybody, and so are the joys and successes."

Fr. Ajemian, after his arrival to the United States, spent a period of internship at St. Stephen's Church in Watertown, Massachusetts, under the supervision of Archpriest Fr. Antranig Baljian, Pastor. On Saturday, October 15, the community of Watertown had a farewell service and reception for Der Samuel, Yn. Patil, and their daughter Pardi.



#### GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS

At 69 years young and possibly the oldest member of his graduate school class of 2022, Robert Megerdichian received his Master of Science degree in Nonprofit Management from Worcester State University on the auspicious day of Friday, May 13, 2022. Formerly from Cambridge, Robert lives in Methuen with his wife, Becky, chairperson of the Ladies Guild. Together they promote the metal art of Robert's late father, Abraham. With his newly minted degree, Robert is now looking for leads to work at a museum as he transitions to another career. Robert still runs his business of restoring old baseball gloves. The Boston Globe has called him the Glove Whisperer.

#### ST. STEPHEN'S 66th CHURCH BAZAAR

Richard Piligian - 2022 Bazaar Chair

The church hall was filled with nervous anticipation as dozens of volunteer workers prepared for the inflow of thousands of people from across New England at the start of the 66th Annual Church Bazaar. On November 4th and 5th, for the first time in over 40 years, the St. Stephens bazaar was held in the church hall. The theme of this years event, "Back where it all began", brought refreshing new excitement to the bazaar. The hall was filled with booths for delicious pastries, gournet food items, a country store and crafts and goods in a gift shoppe. The remainder of the hall was full of tables for enjoying the expertly prepared chicken, losh and shish kebab dinners as well as the many other food items sold. An unusually warm autumn weekend allowed hundreds to take full advantage of a welcoming and beautifully decorated tent outside on the side lawn.

The bazaar was a culmination of months of hard work by scores of parishioners involved in the baking, cooking, crafting and other preparations. The resulting tables overflowing with choreg, kata, boreg, khadayif, paklava, manti, kufteh, yalanchi, tourshi, tel banir and many other goodies. In addition, the Country store offered up a myriad of grocery items that would accent any home kitchen. The Annual Raffle with \$10,000.00 in prizes will have the winning tickets drawn on December 18, at the celebration of our church's 65th Anniversary. There also will be an on-line Christmas Auction that will run from December 10th to Christmas Eve. The bazaar committee would like to thank the dozens of businesses, families and individuals who helped sponsor our bazaar. Your generosity helped make our bazaar what it was a great success!

The hard work paid off with great attendance, fantastic fellowship, wonderful memories and another successful bazaar for the church. Thank-you to each and every one for your help, donations, enthusiasm, patience and smiles that brought our success!













#### ST. STEPHEN'S 66th CHURCH BAZAAR PHOTOS























#### ST. STEPHEN'S 66th CHURCH BAZAAR PHOTOS



















#### **PRELACY NEWS**

#### NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD IN PENNSYLVANIA



The prevailing mood at the first face-to-face National Representative Assembly was one of joy and optimism, after two years in which the world was shaken by a global pandemic, wars, and new ways of interacting and working as entire countries went into lockdown. Yet many challenges lie ahead, which were addressed in the course of the sessions at St. Gregory the Illuminator Church in Philadelphia on May 12-14.

In the message addressed to the Assembly, His Holiness Catholicos Aram I stressed that the church is not an organization. "It is a mission," he said, and clergy and delegates worked in that spirit as they mapped out their plans for the future of the Prelacy.

Other than the standard reviews and voting, one major novelty at the last Assembly was the decision to create a committee that will review and catalog existing content on Prelacy sites (AREC, ANEC, Crossroads, etc.). This new body will also develop an integrated content and marketing outreach plan; develop guidance for churches on content and digital outreach; spearhead the development of new, innovative and professionally made educational videos, live videos and other materials, and will allocate funds for this endeavor which may include content development, marketing consultants and paid advertising.

The move is based on the Prelacy's bold response to the unprecedented challenges posed by the Covid pandemic, which forced it to embrace digital communication to reach out to the faithful. As the world returns to its pre-pandemic routines, it is also clear that new communication and work habits are here to stay. The National Representative Assembly (NRA) of the Eastern Prelacy was hosted by St. Gregory the Illuminator Church of Philadelphia, PA, on May 12-14, 2022. During the last session on

Saturday, May 14, His Eminence Archbishop Anoushavan was reelected as Prelate for the next term of four years.

"I would like to thank you all for trusting me to serve as Prelate for a second term," Archbishop Anoushavan said in a brief address to the Assembly after the election. "Together, we will carry out all the programs proposed at the NRA."

He also stressed that the parishes, the Prelacy and the Catholicosate were united in their vision, which was a source of strength for all of them. "May God always protect the Armenian Church and the Eastern Prelacy of the United States, along with all its structures and sister organizations."

Earlier on Saturday, there were elections for the Religious and Lay Councils. Archpriest Fr. Antranig Baljian, pastor of St. Stephen's Church (Watertown, MA) and incumbent, and Very Rev. Fr. Boghos Tinkjian, pastor of All Saints Church (Glenview, II.), were elected to the Religious Council. Dr. Raffi Manjikian, Mr. John Kulungian, Mr. Aram Hovagimian (incumbents), Mr. Aram Sarafian, and Mr. Richard Kanarian were elected to the Lay Councils.

On Friday, May 13, at the end of the second day of deliberations of the National Representative Assembly, the Eastern Prelacy hosted a reception at the Founders Hall of St. Gregory the Illuminator Church in Philadelphia, PA. After the opening prayer by Archbishop Anoushavan, Prelate, and the dinner, the master of ceremonies, Mr. Hagop Khatchadourian, Chairman of the Executive Council, offered opening remarks, where he announced the guest of honor of the evening, the Honorable Robert Menendez, Senator from New Jersey and Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. Senate, who was accompanied by his wife Nadine Arslanian and her daughter Sabine.

## LADIES GUILD NEWS Becky Megerdichian, Chairlady

During COVID the Ladies Guild lost 15 members. Our prayers and blessings continue to go out to their families and friends. In September 2021 we had a Memorial Luncheon for those ladies. It was a lovely and sentimental afternoon. For Christmas, we had a merry time and went to the Reagle Music Theatre show at Waltham High School, then out to dinner. During Lent we had a vegetarian Take-Out Dinner and were happy to be back together having our Palm Sunday Bake Sale.

Come join the Ladies Guild and feel the gift of giving and helping your Church. Make new friends and enjoy learning new ways of believing in yourself. God directs everyone in a different way. When I joined the Ladies Guild I felt good inside myself though I was afraid because I didn't know anyone. But here I am, the Chairperson, and I thank God for helping me be who I am. Come, be part of people who give. If you have any questions, please call Becky at 617-852-1315.

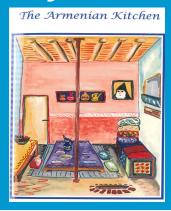
Prayer: The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. God is Love. Whoever lives in Love lives in God and God lives in them.







The Perfect Gift for any Occasion!



## The Armenian Kitchen Cookbook

Our Ladies Guild Cookbook is \$20 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.

## A PARISH CELEBRATION OF ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS

Sunday January 8, 2023 Church Hall

12:30 pm

LUNCHEON - Armenian fare

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE -

Sandi Bedrosian and students

## \$20 per person

Please RSVP by Dec 28, 2022 Isabel Avedikian 781-444-6320 (home) or iavedikian@hotmail.com (email)







### Please make checks payable to:

St. Stephen's Ladies' Guild

### Mail to:

St. Stephen's Armenian Church Attention: Ladies' Guild 38 Elton Avenue Watertown, MA 02472

Hosted by the St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church Ladies Guild. All are welcome!

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### TROOPER TAMAR ANOUSH BUCCI 1988-2022



Tamar Anoush Bucci, a proud Massachusetts State Trooper, gave her life in the line of duty on March 4, 2022 while helping a disabled vehicle. Tamar was pronounced deceased at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston where family and thousands of members of Law Enforcement gathered to support their fallen sister.

Tamar was born on March 2nd 1988 in Melrose.

Massachusetts, Christened at St. Stephen's and was raised in Andover. Tamar was beautiful from the inside out. When she walked into a room people were drawn to her magnetic energy. She had a way of making others feel at home with her radiating smile and playful sense of humor. Tamar knew how to find joy in difficult times and never hesitated to put herself behind the needs of others.

Tamar was strong minded and would march to the beat of her own drum. She lived her life unapologetically with an unwavering commitment to her beliefs and values. Although Tamar aspired to be a State Trooper from a young age, she explored many different careers but never felt fulfilled until she was accepted into the State Police Academy. On May 6, 2020 at Gillette Stadium, Tamar graduated as a member of the 85th RTT. Tamar was beaming with pride as she celebrated this monumental occasion surrounded by family and friends. This was the start of her greatest dream.

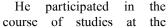
Tamar Bucci became the 22nd trooper to fall in the line of duty in Massachusetts. Tamar was killed while trying to help others. There is no one that could give this meaning as much justice as Tamar and there is no greater act of sacrifice than to give one's life for another.

She is beloved by her mother and stepfather, Maral and Jim Burditt; her father Anthony Bucci; her sister and brother-in-law, Talena and Andrew Lange; her sister, brother-in-law, nephew and niece, Karissa, Brian, Landon and Lenna Holmes; half-brother Dante Bucci and step-siblings Laney and Troy Burditt; grandmothers Rosemarie Keefe and Aroussiak Dakessian; aunt and uncle Mary and Dave Geaslen; aunt and uncle Susan and Toros Vosbigian; aunt Silva Dakessian. She is also survived by many close and loving cousins, friends and thousands of men and women of the Massachusetts State Police.

Tamar was baptized at St. Stephens on May 15, 1988 with her older sister Talena. Our pastor, Fr. Antranig was invited to perform Tamar's wake service at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Revere on Tuesday March 8, accompanied by Rev. Fr. Samuel Ajemian, The two clergymen also took part in the Funeral Mass on Wednesday morning at the same church.

#### VARTAN SERADERIAN 1922-2022

Vartan Seraydarian was Born February 5, 1922 in Aintab. From a very young age he began his service to the Armenian Church being ordained an acolyte at St. Asdvadzadzin Church in Aleppo, where he persistently and regularly participated in the daily and Sunday morning sacred rites and services of the church, by singing and serving at the Altar.





Cilician and *Grtasirats* Armenian academies and after graduation from the latter, was accepted into the Armenian Theological Seminary in Antelias, Lebanon, vowing to dedicate himself to the service of the Armenian Church and to Armenian education as a Choirmaster and teacher. He completed the Seminary's four-year course of study in three years, simultaneously taking special courses in music and conducting. He was both a soloist and a director in the Cathedral of Antelias, often gathering around him the students of the seminary for further tutoring. He consecrated his entire life to music, and especially to the sacred music of the Armenian Church.

Affectionately known as Baron Vartan, he became a devoted choirmaster in St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Aleppo (1941-1961), where he also taught at the Sahagian Academy; St. Nishan Cathedral in Beirut (1961-1979) where he also taught at the church school, and St. Stephen's Church in Watertown, MA (1980-2005) Aside from directing the choir and overseeing the liturgical life of St. Stephen's he also organized seminars to teach the proper execution of Armenian sacred music, especially Holy Week hymns and rites, as he had been entrusted by Catholicos Khoren I, of blessed memory.

He has touched the lives of generations of students now scattered throughout the world. In recognition of his numerous achievements, Baron Vartan was invested in 1999 by His Holiness Aram I with the order of Mesrob Mashdots for his lifelong service to the Armenian Church.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 2 at St. Stephen's Church with Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Prelate of the Eastern Prelacy presiding over the funeral services with the participation of area clergy.

The Pastor, Board of Trustees, affiliated organizations, and St. Stephen's family at-large extend our condolences to Mr. Seraydarian's family members and loved ones.

He was predeceased by his loving wife Florence and is survived by his children: Mr. and Mrs. Manoog and Rita Seraydarian and their children Taniel and Meline; Dr. and Mrs. Vatche and Seza Seraydarian and their children Liana, Sarin and Tsoler, and Mrs. Silvi Seraydarian and her children Arek and Van Adourian

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### CHARLES GARABED KEUMURIAN 1928-2022



Charles Garabed Keumurian of Watertown passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on October 25, 2022 at 94 years old. Charlie was born on January 6, 1928 in Cambridge, Massachusetts to the late Hampartsoum & Mary (Boyajian) Keumurian. Charles grew up in Cambridge and attended The Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. As a child, he worked at his father's bakery,

delivering donuts every morning before going to school.

Shortly after graduating high school, he was drafted into the US Army. During the Korean War he was deployed to Germany and served there for 2 years. While there he joined a computer training program which led to his working on IBM computers.

Upon his return to the States, he began working at Liggett's Pharmacy as a manager before joining IBM. In 1955 he was asked to join the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a Magnetic Tape Coordinator. While at the IRS he developed and implemented the magnetic tape system for 1099 tax forms. After a 30-year career at the IRS, Charlie spent an additional 20+ years working as a tax consultant for Bank of Boston.

In June of 1965, Charlie went on a church pilgrimage which brought him to Beirut, Lebanon. While in Lebanon, he was introduced to Sirvart Kevorkian. Charlie did not need much time upon first meeting her to ask her to marry him and return to America. Charlie and Sirvart were married in Beirut just ten days after they met. Sirvart joined him in America six weeks later and they settled in Watertown and had 2 children: Dalita and Charles Antranig. Later they were blessed with 2 grandchildren, Jackson and Josephine, to whom Charlie was a doting "Grampy".

A devoted church servant, Charlie took these words of St. Paul's words to heart: "Live a life that measures up to the standard God set when he called you." (Eph. 4:4) Throughout the years, Charlie served as a member of the church Board of Trustees and as a delegate of the church to the National Delegate Assembly. He gave the whole measure of himself to serve God! He and Sirvart were in Church every Sunday, and for the past many years, Charlie became one of our honorary greeters who manned the Trustee desk, helping and guiding people into church. He certainly used the spiritual gifts God had endowed him with to serve faithfully and wholeheartedly "in order to build up the body of Christ." (Eph. 4:12)

Charlie is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Sirvart (Kevorkian) Keumurian whom he loved deeply and cared for greatly. He was a devoted father to Dalita Keumurian of Brooklyn, NY and Charles A. Keumurian and his wife Katherine of Watertown. He was the loving grandfather to Josephine Keumurian and Jackson Charles Goldstein. He was the dear brother to Hovnan Keumurian and his wife Eleanor of Billerica, Hampar Keumurian of Avon, and Jack Keumurian and his wife

Queenie of Watertown and the late Magtan Keumurian. Additionally, he leaves behind 2 generations of loving nieces and nephews.

#### DEACON ABRAHAM BARDAKJIAN 1934-2022

Abraham was Born in Aleppo, Syria on February 17, 1934 to Hagop & Lucine Berkhoudian Bardakjian. He was the brother of Puzant and the late Avedis, Levon and Mari. He grew up and attended school in Aleppo and then apprenticed to learn to become a tailor, a craft that he practiced throughout his life.



On May 25, 1966, he married Sonia Markarian in Aleppo. The following year, the couple moved to Kuwait for a job opportunity and were gifted with their first child, a daughter whom they named Lucine, after Abraham's mother. They went on to have another daughter Taline and two sons, Jack and Robert.

While in Kuwait, Abraham began serving in the newly-built local Armenian Church. In 1971, Abraham's family emigrated to America and settled in Watertown, where Abraham joined them the following year.

He continued his service to the Church and became the sexton of St. Stephen's, was ordained Deacon and served on the Altar for many years until relocating to Stoneham.

Abraham returned to his original trade, working for various businesses as a master tailor, including the renowned and prestigious Andover Tailor Shop in Harvard Square for many years. Being hardworking and industrious, Abraham often worked for more than one business at a time and even did jobs from home. All of this hard work he did for his family.

He was a quiet man with a wonderful sense of humor and a rich baritone voice. He was gregarious and had a great smile which immediately endeared him to people. He enjoyed walking the mall near his home and often watched hockey games on TV. He delighted in social events and just being with friends and family. He enjoyed a happy marriage and a wonderful relationship with his wife Sonia for over 55 years.

Heartfelt sympathies to wife Sonia; children Lucine Ricci and her husband Kenneth of Stoneham, Jack and his wife Maral of Boca Raton, FL, Robert and his wife Allina of Los Angeles, CA. To his beloved grandchildren: Jessica, Nicholas and Matthew Ricci and Shant, Shiraz, Chantal and Colette Bardakjian as well as to his many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

#### ST. GREGORY OF DATEV 32nd ANNUAL SUMMER PROGRAM IN ELVERSON, PA



The Prelacy's Annual St. Gregory of Datev Institute Summer Program took place from June 26, at the St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, Pennsylvania, after a 2-year hiatus due to Covid, with the participation of 35 students and 14 clergymen and lay leaders from 10 parishes. The Institute offers a unique Christian educational program for our youth with three-pronged objectives: instructions in the elements of the Christian faith, brief daily worship and prayer services, and social and sports activities. Directed by Rev. Fr. Archpriest Antranig Baljian, pastor of St. Stephen's Church of Watertown, Massachusetts, the program concluded on Sunday, July 3, with the Divine Liturgy at St. Gregory the Illuminator Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The curriculum of the Datev Program is designed to be completed in four years, one week each summer. Those who complete the program have the opportunity to return for postgraduate classes. The Institute holds all five levels of classes concurrently. Each year, the students receive about 20 hours of instruction. The curriculum includes the Bible, sacraments, Armenian Church feasts and saints, Armenian Church history and creeds, prayer and worship, as well as discussions on contemporary issues.

This year, exceptionally, due to the Covid hiatus, the Institute combined the 4th and 5th level classes and offered pre-Datev classes. The Institute registered 14 students in level one, eight in level two, five in level three, four in levels 4-5, and four in pre-Datev. The four graduates of the Datev Institute were: Mary Ashbahian and Sarineh Cunningham from St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church (Watertown, Massachusetts), Taleen Lakissian from St. Illuminator's Cathedral (New York City), and Anna Tekeyan from Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church (Ridgefield, New Jersey).



Datev 2022 graduates with Rev. Fr. Archpriest Antranig Baljian, Stephen's pastor of St. Armenian Apostolic Church of Watertown, Massachusetts, and the director of the Institute, Archdeacon and Shant Kazanjian, Prelacy's Director of Christian Education (Left to right: Sarineh Cunningham, Mary Ashbahian, Taleen Lakissian, and Anna Tekeyan.

#### ST. GREGORY OF DATEV 32nd ANNUAL SUMMER PROGRAM IN ELVERSON, PA



**Datev Instructors and Staff** 







Boston Datevatsis with Der Antranig.

L to R. Hagop Ketchedjian (3),
Mary Ashbahian (4), Katrina

Arvestian (2), Tiffany Arvestian (2),
Sarineh Cunningham (4), and former

Datev Graduate from Boston.

Ani Chobanian Nalbandian.









#### Ս. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ՎԱՐԺԱՐԱՆ

Յունուար - Դեկտեմբեր, 2022 Հուրի Պոլամեան՝ Տնօրէնուհի

Այս ամառ առանց դադարի աշխատեցանք, լաւագոյն պայմաններ ստեղծելու մեր աշակերտներուն եւ ուսուցիչներուն, համար։ Սբ. Ստեփանոս Ազգ. Վարժարանը 2022-2023 Դպրոցական Տարեշրջանը սկսաւ Սեպտեմբեր 7, 2022-ին։ Առաւօտեան Հաւաքին, Արժ. Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ. Դալճեանը և Տիկին Պոյամեանը իրենց խօսքին մէջ յաջող դպրոցական տարի մը մաղթեցին Նախակրթարանի ուսուցիչներուն եւ աշակերտներուն։

#### Ընդունելութիւն

Աշնան` իւրաքանչիւր խումբերու համար ընդունելութիւն կազմակերպեցինք, ծնողներուն տեղեակ պահելու համար մեր ուսումնական ծրագրէն։

- -Մեպտեմբեր 20-ին Ա. Ե. Կարգեր
- -Մեպտեմբեր 29-ին Մանկամսուր
- -<ոկտեմբեր 5-ին Մանկապարտէզ

#### <u>Վիճակացոյցներ</u>

Նախակրթարանի աշակերտները վիճակացոյց կը ստանան տարին երեք անգամ իսկ Մանկամսուրի և Մանկապարտէզի աշակերտները տարին երկու անգամ։ Աշնան Նախակրթարանի ծնողները համակարգիչով կրցան տեսնել իրենց զաւակներու վիճակացոյցները Նոյեմբեր 10-ին, Նոյեմբեր 14-Նոյեմբեր 18 Նախակրթարանի ուսուցիչները տեսակցեցան ծնողներուն հետ, իրենց զաւակներու կատարած յառաջդիմութեան մասին տեղեկութիւն տալու համար։ Իսկ Մանկապարտէզի ուսուցիչները ծնողներուն հետ տեսնուեցան նմանապէս Նոյեմբեր 14-ի շաբաթը։

#### Հայ Մշակոյթի Օրուայ Տօնակատարութիւն

Հայ Մշակոյթի օրը նշուեցաւ Մանկապարտէզէն մինչեւ Ե. դասարաններու կողմէ ճոխ յայտագրով մը, որ կ՛ընդգրկէր խմբական եւ անհատական ելոյթներ, երգով, արտասանութեամբ եւ երաժշտական գործիքներով։

Իսկ Մանկամսուրի կարգերը ելոյթ ունեցան իրենց դասարաններուն մէջ հայ Մշակոյթի նուիրուած երգերով եւ արտասանութիւններով։ Քոլոր ծնողները հրաւիրուած էին այս ձեռնարկներուն։

#### Արտադասարանային Ձեռնարկ

Այս աշնան կրցանք կրկին դպրոցին մէջ հետեւեալ արտադասարանային դասընթացքները հրամցնել, Ճատրակ, Արուեստ, Դաշնամուր եւ Մարզական Խաղեր։

#### Ծնողական Մարմնի Ձեռնարկներ

Ծնողական Յանձնախումբը կազմակերպեց Բարի Գալուստի Նախաճաշ մը նախակրթարանի ուսուցիչներուն եւ ծնողներուն համար, ապա մանկամսուրի եւ մանկապարտէզի ծնողներուն համար։

Իսկ Հալօուինի առիթով անոնք կազմակերպեցին Trunk or Treat:

#### Խնամակալութեան Ձեռնարկներ

-Կիրակի Հոկտեմբեր 2-ին, Խնամակալութիւնը կազմակերպեց Բարի Գալուստի Ձեռնարկ մը Եկեղեցւոյ Սրահին, Պարտէզին, եւ Մանկամսուրի Խաղավայրին մէջ, Եկեղեցւոյ արարողութենէն ետք, որուն ընթացքին Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ. ՊալՃեանը դպրոցին համար մասնաւոր քարոզ մը տուաւ։









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

January - December 2022 Houry Boyamian, Principal





We worked very hard this summer to get ready for the new academic year, creating the best learning and working conditions possible for our students and teachers.

On September 7, the Opening Day, at the Morning Assembly, Rev. Fr. Antranig Baljian and Mrs. Boyamian expressed their best wishes to the students and teachers for a productive school year.

#### Our staff for 2022-2023 school year is as follows:

Mrs. Houry Boyamian (M.Ed.) Principal

Mrs. Maral Orchanian (M.Ed.) Preschool Director

Mrs. Arlet Ashjian (AA) Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Maro Arakelian (B.A.) Assistant Treasurer

Mrs. Catherine Izzo (M.Ed.) K-5 Curriculum Coordinator

Mrs. Ardemis Megerdichian Armenian Teacher (Gr 1-5)

Mrs. Alik Arzoumanian (M.S) Armenian Teacher (K)

Ms. Kiely Goss (B.S.) Grade 5 Teacher

Mrs. Elaine Joyce (M.Ed.) Grade 4 Teacher

Ms. Mariah Silva (B.S.) Grade 3 Teacher

Ms. Lauren daSilva (M.Ed.) Grade 2 Teacher

Ms. Jade Tang (M.Ed.) Grade 1 Teacher

Ms. Diane Chiappinelli (M.Ed.) Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Michele Arthur (M.Ed.) Math Resource/Computer T

Mr. Richard Samaria (M.S) Physical Education (K-5)

Mrs. Maro Arakelian (BA) Music Teacher (K-5)

Ms. Arevik Tserunyan (MA) Art Teacher (K-5)

Rev. Fr. Antranig Baljian, Religion (2-5)

Mrs. Nayiri Baljian Bell (MA), Religion (2-5)

Mrs. Tirouhi Bazarbashian (EEC Lead Teacher) NIIA Teacher

Mrs. Yelena Hakobyan (EEC T/BA Music) NIIA T. Ass. & Preschool Music Teacher

Mrs. Maral Derderian (B.S.) NIIB Teacher

Mrs. Margarita Harutyunyan (EEC Lead Teacher) NIIB T-Ass.

Mrs. Anna Kupelian (M.A.) NIA Co-Teacher

Mrs. Svetlana Vehapetian (EEC Lead Teacher) NIA Co-T

Mrs. Vicky Ashjian (EEC Lead Teacher) NIB Teacher

Mrs. Laura Terzian (EEC Lead Teacher) PreN Teacher

Mrs. Siranush Tenekedzhvan (EEC Teacher) PreN Teacher

#### Open House/Curriculum Night Schedule

This year the Curriculum Night was held in person and on separate days for each group at the end of September.

#### Armenian Cultural Day Celebration – October 26 & 27

This year the Armenian Cultural Day Celebrations were held in person. Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students got ready for the celebration. Preschool grades performed songs and poems in their classrooms, while K-5 classes gathered in the ACEC Hovnanian Hall for group and individual poetry recitals and musical presentations, using voice or musical instruments (Violin, Piano) in the presence of their parents.

#### Report Cards

Grades 1-5 parents were able to view their children's report cards on November 10. This was followed by virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences.

#### After School Programs

The following after school programs were offered:

-At the Elementary: Chess, Art, Piano, Basketball and other sports

-At the Preschool: Art and After School Sports

#### **PTO Events**

-The PTO organized a Welcome Breakfast for the parents as well as for the teachers on September 7, at the Elementary School and on September 14, at the Preschool

-Trunk or Treat at the ACEC parking lot on Friday October 21.

#### **School Board Events**

-On Sunday October 2, the School Board hosted a Welcome Back Picnic in the St. Stephen's Church Hall, Church Grounds and the Preschool Playground following a special sermon and prayer of blessing for our school at St. Stephen's Church.

#### AISNE Presentation for Parents - September 29

Our accrediting body, the Association of Independent Schools in New England (AISNE) organized an important presentation for their member schools. The topic of this presentation was "The Unlikely Art of Parental Pressure": A Positive Approach to Pushing Your Child to Be Their Best Self. It allowed parents to consider how to push kids to succeed and find happiness in a challenging world. It provided steps to nurture motivation, improve interactions with children, build deep connections and help kids become their best selves.

#### AISNE Presentation for Educators - October 3

Offering Mental Health Support in Schools: Incorporating

#### **Boundaries and Balance**

The presentation focused on strategies for offering support and giving students all they need to navigate distress and anxiety, within appropriate boundaries.

#### The National Theatre for Children (NTC) – October 19

The Power Squad was a 35-minute assembly about energy efficiency for students in Grades 3-5. Two professional actors from NTC performed a series of comedic and educational sketches on the topic of energy conservation.

#### Մբ. Ստեփանոս Ազգային Վարժարանի 2022 Տարեշրջանի Ամավերջի Հանդէսներ



2022-ի Յունիսին, Մբ. Ստեփանոս Ազգային Վարժարանը յաջողութեամբ բոլորեց իր 38-րդ ուսումնական տարեշրջանը, շնորհիւ մեր որակաւոր եւ նուիրուած ուսուցիչներուն, արդիական ուսումնական ծրագրին եւ ուսումնական ծրագիրը Ճոխացնող արտադասարանային դասրնթացքներուն։

Ամավերջի Հանդէսները տեղի ունեցան Յունիս 16-ին (Մանկապարտէզ) և Յունիս 17-ին (Նախակրթարան), ներկայութեամբ խանդավառ ծնողներու և շրջանի Հայ եկեղեցիներու հովիւներուն։

Նախակրթարանի Հանդէսը նուիրուած էր Արցախ-Հայաստան-Սփիւռք Միասնութեան թեմային, որը ներկայացուեցաւ երգերով, արտասանութիւններով եւ պարով։

Իր խօսքին մէջ, Տնօրէնուհի Տիկին Հուրի Պոյամեան յայտնեց, որ Համաձարակը արգելք չկրցաւ հանդիսանալ, որ դպրոցը տօնէ կամ ոգեկոչէ մեր տօները, ինչպէս Մշակոյթի Օր, Վարդանանց, Ապրիլ 24 եւ Մայիս 28։ Երկու տարուան ընդմիջումէ ետք, դպրոցը կրցաւ նաև կազմակերպել Աւարտական Դասարանի Հայաստան Այցելութիւնը թէ 2022-ի եւ թէ 2021-ի աւարտականներուն համար։ Ան շնորհակալութիւն յայտնեց ուսուցչական և վարչական կազմերուն, ծնողական մարմնին, դպրոցի խնամակալութեան և յանձնախումբերուն, Մբ. Ստեփանոս Եկեղեցւոյ Հովիւ Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ Պալձեանին և Հոգաբարձութեան, ինչպէս նաև բոլոր այն անհատներուն և կազմակերպութիւններուն որոնք կը նպաստեն դպրոցի վերելքին։

Յունիս 16-ին Տիկին Պոյամեանը Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ. Պալձեանին հետ միասին պատուեցին Նորա Հաքէթը իր 21 տարիներու անձնուէր ծառայութեան համար, իբրեւ գանձապահ, իրեն տալով Արեւելեան Թեմի Առաջնորդ, Արքեպիսկոպոս Անուշաւան Դանիէլեանի Գնահատագիրը։

Բոլոր կարգերու ելոյթէն վերջ Տէր Անդրանիկ իր գնահատանքը յայտնեց ուսուցիչներուն և տնօրէնութեան իրենց արդիւնաբեր աշխատանքին համար, իսկ աշակերտներուն իրենց գեղեցիկ ելոյթին համար։

Տնօրէնը և Եկեղեցւոյ Հովիւը կատարեցին վկայականներու բաշխումը։ Յունիս 16-ին, Մանկապարտէզէն վկայական ստացան, Խորէն Տէնիկըն, Մեւակ Գարակէօզեան, Տանթէ Գարպունարի, Էնտրու Մանկիքեան, Լեւոն Լուարասի, Էմմա Օրջանեան, Լուսինէ Զուրաբեան, Նիքըլըս Տանիոս, Ալեքսանտր Գրիգորեան, Անի Քէշիշեան, Մանահին Արզումանեան Շուարց, Էվա Կիրակոսեան, Արեգ Պապ Միքայէլեան, Դիանա Օհաննէսեան, Արեւ Յակոբեան, Միլվի Սաիտ, Արէն Էքմէքձի, Պրէյտըն Տուխանեան, Տալիթա Պէլ եւ Անյա Սավօ։





Յունիս 17-ին, Նախակրթարանէն վկայական ստացան՝ Սիրան Առաքելեան, Իւա Խալարեան, Օլիւիա Տիմոբուլոս, Արտա Մահսէրէձեան, Ճիզէլ Թարապուլսի, Ալին Միքայէլեան, Լիանա Իսկէնտէրեան, Ճոզէֆին Քէոմիւրեան եւ Լոռի Կարապետեան։

#### 2022 –ի Մրցանակներ

Հայերէնի Դասընթացքներու Մրցանակներ – Ե. Դասարան -Ազգային Առաջնորդարանի Մրցանակ՝ Սիրան Առաքելեան, Այգի Արզումանեան, Ալին Միքայէլեան, Իւա Խալարեան, Լիանա Իսկէնտէրեան;

**-Հայ Օգնութեան Միութեան Մրցանակ**՝ Հայերէն Սահուն Արտայայտութեան համար, Լոռի Կարապետեան;

-Դպրոցի Կրթական Մարմնի Մրցանակ ՝ Ջանասէրութեան համար, Օլիւիա Տիմոբուլոս, Արտա Մահսէրէձեան, ձեզէլ Թարապլսի;

**Նախագահական Մրցանակներ**- Ե. Դասարան

-**Գերազանցութեան Մրցանակ՝** (կը վերաբերի բոլոր նիւթերու) Սիրան Առաքելեան եւ Այգի Արզումանեան;

-Ուշագրաւ Յառաջդիմութեան Մրցանակ՝ (կը վերաբերի բոլոր նիւթերու) Ալին Միքայէլեան, Իւա Խալարեան եւ Լիանա Իսկէնտէրեան;

#### ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2022 GRADUATION CEREMONY Houry Boyamian, Principal



St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School (SSAES) successfully completed its 38th academic year, thanks to a highly competent and dedicated teaching staff, individualized instruction, specialist teachers, updated teaching materials and curriculum, use of technology, many after school enrichment programs and a comprehensive assessment program.

The Graduation Ceremonies were held on June 16 (Kindergarten) and June 17 (Elementary). Both Kindergarten and Grade 5 students presented poems, songs and an Armenian Dance. In addition, the fifth graders read their farewells.

In her remarks, Principal Houry Boyamian announced that in addition to completing fully the curriculum in each grade, the school was able to conduct many extra-curricular activities. She stated, that the pandemic did not stop the school in celebrating or commemorating our traditional holidays, such as Armenian Cultural Day, Vartanants Day, May 28, a commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, two Talent Shows, a Visit to the Armenian Museum of America, and a two-week Trip to Armenia for fifth graders. She concluded her remarks by expressing her profound gratitude to the Teaching and Administrative Staff, to the School Board, the Education, Health and Technology Committees, as well as to Der Antranig and the St. Stephen's Church Board of Trustees. She thanked the parents for their encouragement and unwavering support in another challenging year with the Pandemic.



On June 16, Fr. Baljian and Principal Boyamian honored Nora Hackett, for her 21 years of dedicated service assistant treasurer of the school, with a Certificate of Appreciation awarded by His Eminence Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Prelate of the Eastern Prelacy. Nora retired at the end of June after being part of the St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School family from the day it opened its doors. Her father, Yervant

Krafian, was one of the founding members of the school. She has held roles at SSAES from the beginning starting as a volunteer, a parent, a PTO Chair, an alumni parent and assistant treasurer for 21 years. All three of Nora's children, are alumni of St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School.

-On June 16, the following students graduated from Kidergarten: Arek Babb-Mikaelian, Dalita Bell, Dante Carbunari, Khoren Dennigan, Brayden Duhanyan, Aren Ekmekji, Eva Giragosian, Arev Hacobian, Sevag Karagozian, Ani Kechichian, Lara Kirejian, Alexander Krikorian, Levon Luarasi, Andrew

Manguikian, Nicholas Ntasios, Emma Orchanian, Diana Ohannesian, Sylvie Said, Anya Savo, Sanahin Arzoumanian Schwartz, Lucine Zurabyan.

-On June 17, the following students graduated from our Elementary School bringing the number of our graduates up to 358. They are: Siran Arakelian, Aiki Arzoumanian, Olivia Dimopoulos, Lori Garbedian, Leanna Iskenderian, Josephine Keumurian, Eva Khalarian, Arda Mahserejian, Aline Mikaelian, Giselle Tarabelsi.

In his Remarks, Rev. Archpriest Antranig Baljian, expressed his appreciation to the administration and faculty for their dedication and effort, in providing an excellent education to all students. Then Fr. Baljian and Principal Boyamian presented the diplomas and the awards to the graduates.

#### 2022 Graduating Class Awards

**I-Prelacy Award for Excellence in Armenian** (silver coin of Levon the  $1^{st}$ ):

Siran Arakelian, Aiki Arzoumanian, Aline Mikaelian, Eva Khalarian, Leanna Iskenderian

**II- Armenian Relief Society Award:** Lori Garabedian (Excellence for Oral Expression)

#### III- President's Education Awards- Grade 5

-Presidential Award for Academic Excellence: Siran Arakelian and Aiki Arzoumanian

-Presidential Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement: Aline Mikaelian, Eva Khalarian and Leanna Iskenderian

<u>Presidential Award for Educational Excellence</u>: 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

#### IV-Certificate of Recognition for Special Strength (All Subjects)

- -Siran Arakelian: Class Historian
- -Aiki Arzoumanian: Most Inquisitive about Space
- -Olivia Dimopoulos: Always willing to try new things
- -Lori Garabedian: Is inventive in math connections, history & science explanations
- -Leanna Iskenderian: Excited to Learn Everyday
- -Josephine Keumurian: Eager to Learn
- -Eva Khalarian: Helps Others as a Leader
- -Arda Mahserejian: She is a kind friend and helps others to feel included
- -Aline Mikaelian: Understands Graphs
- -Giselle Tarabelsi: She works hard to do always the right thing

## V-Certificate of Recognition for their Special Strength (Armenian Studies)

Olivia Dimopoulos, Arda Mahserejian, Giselle Tarabelsi: Hard Worker

Josephine Keumurian: Eager to Learn

#### ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATION PHOTOS

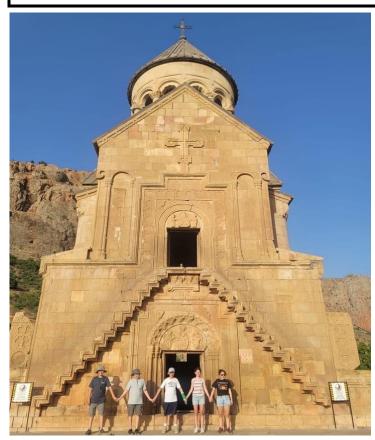






#### ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ARMENIA TRIP PHOTOS















## ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2021 ANNUAL FUND DONATIONS

Avak & Christine Kahvejian	\$10,000	Edward & Ida Babroudi	\$100
Kevork & Margrit Atinizian	\$5,000	Hovik & Margarit Belorian	\$100
Jeffrey & Nancy Bilezikian	\$5,000	Paul Boyajian	\$100
Hajjar Family Fund	\$5,000	Argishti & Talin Chaparian	\$100
Christian & Taline Kebadjian	\$2,500	Raffi & Maria Chapian	\$100
Alice Setian	\$2,500	Saro Derian & Dan Miller	\$100
ARS Cambridge Shushi Chapter	\$2,000	Bedig & Arevig DerVartanian	\$100
Nancy Kolligian	\$1,500	Diane Dileo	\$100
Eric & Amy Guzelian	\$1,300	George & Dorothy Elanjian	\$100
Dikran & Maro Meguerditchian	\$1,300	Marian Felegian	\$100
Armenian-American Veterans	\$1,000	Sarkis & Jeannette Gennetian	\$100
Armen & Pauline Barooshian	\$1.000	Mark & Melissa Giragosian	\$100
Avedis & Houry Boyamian	\$1,000	Ruth Hagopian	\$100
Yervant Chekijian	\$1,000	Jack Hajian	\$100
Art Ghazaryan	\$1,000	Lucy Hoosian	\$100
Gail Guzelian & Ron Iverson	\$1,000	Harry Kalajian, Jr.	\$100
Michael & Susan Guzelian	\$1,000	John & Seta Kaleshian	\$100
Ara & Heather Krafian	\$1,000	John & Alice Karnikyan	\$100
Garo Mikaelian & Ani Inguilizian	\$1,000	Steven & Linda Kechejian	\$100
Meher & Nanor Nerkizian	\$1,000	John & Tamara Kefeyan	\$100
Thomas Gengozian & Sally Vanerian	\$800	Levon & Shake Khatchadourian	\$100
Penguin Random House		Armen & Anoush Knaian	\$100
*Match for Thomas Gengozian	\$800	Walter & Deanne Nahabedian	\$100
Jean Froundjian	\$750	Louis & Elenne Najarian	\$100
Charles & Sona Aslanian	\$600	Carl & Valerie Narsasian	\$100
John Aftandilian & Krista Aslanian	\$500	Evelyn Petrossian	\$100
Anonymous	\$500	Audrey Pilibosian	\$100
Shant & Kara Banosian	\$500	David & Heidi Shamlian	\$100
Hagop & Aida Dakessian	\$500	Stephen & Esther Stepanian	\$100
Vahe & Maria Ghahraman	\$500	Joshua & Diana Tevekelian	\$100
Astor & Lucy Guzelian	\$500	Allan Tutunjian	\$100
Stephen & Christine Kanarian	\$500	Zabelle Hajian Azablar	\$50
Sevag & Rouzan Abrahamian	\$250	John & Lisa Baboian	\$50
John & Sophie Bilezikian	\$250	Der Antranig & Yn. Arpineh Baljian	\$50
David & Nora Hackett	\$250	Hasmig DerVartanian	\$50
Missak & Angelique Ourfalian	\$250	Kegham & Rose Ghazarians	\$50
Sebuh Petrosian	\$250	Ruben Ghazaryans	\$50
Haig Toomajanian	\$250	Yn. Zevart Hagopian	\$50
Hagop & Arpie Ashjian	\$200	Ronald Karjian	\$50
Ara & Nancy Balian	\$200	Lois Kolgian	\$50
Ara & Peggy Ghazarians	\$200	Nevart Kouyoumjian	\$50
Andrew & Alice Guzelian	\$200	Zareh & Hasmig Maserejian	\$50
Aurelian & Anahid Mardiros	\$200	Stephen & Tina Mosca	\$50
Zella Marootian	\$200	Shahan Nercessian & Ani Tahmassian	\$50
Sarkis & Seta Ourfalian	\$200	Raffi Varjabedian	\$50
Benevity: Match for T. Chaparian	\$191	Michael Graham & Dina Apovian	\$40
Simon & Mary Lou Essajanian	\$150	George & Nevart Kaderian	\$40
Kevork Ourfalian	\$150	Simon & Elizabeth Valendi	\$35
Der Arakel & Yn Natasha Aljalian	\$100	Jilda Balian	\$25
Ned & Aroxie Apigian	\$100	Benevity: Match for Y. Belkina	\$25
Mary Arabian	\$100	Paul Davis	\$25
Ara & Maro Arakelian	\$100	Ada Hamparian	\$25
Nigoghos & Roset Atinizian	\$100		

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

In Memory of Ara Aftandilian

Total Donations – \$100

Deanna Yeransian

In Memory of Stella Aftandilian Total Donations – \$4,340

John & Krista Aftandilian & Family

Violette Aftandilian

Yervand & Siroun Aftandilian

Armenian Youth Federation

Leona Arsenian

Avedis & Houry Boyamian

Jean Boyle

Aram Chobanian

Thelma DerAvedisian

Loretta Gelenian

Eric & Amy Guzelian

Michael & Susan Guzelian & Family

David & Nora Hackett

Kevork & Nora Imirzian

Karekin & Esperanza Jelalian

John & Ardemis Jerikian

Avak & Christine Kahvejian

Robert & Marianne Kaloosdian

John & Tamar Kefeyan & Family

Michele Kolligian &

Robert Khederian

Ara & Heather Krafian

Beverly Lutz & Robert Tremblay

Jack & Christine Mardoian

Pamela, Caroline & Olivia McGrath

Peter & Michele Mnatzakanian

Carolyn Mugar

**Evelyn Petrossian** 

Janet Prifti & Roger Allegro

John & Debra Saryan

Vartan & Hourig Soukiasian

Lucy Talanian

In Memory of Abraham Bardakjian

Total Donations – \$250

Joseph & Azniv Keikian Eric & Salpi Markarian

Sonya Eldakkache

In Memory of Starrie Alemian

Total Donations – \$150

Larry & Janice Atkinson

In Memory of Vasken Basmajian

Total Donations – \$100

Vasken & Houri Ghougassian

In Memory of Azadouhie Frounjian

Total Donations – \$50

Apet Torosian

In Memory of Varujan Ganjian

Total Donations – \$100

Raffi & Mari Zargarian

In Memory of Kegham Ghazarian

Total Donations – \$2,205

Hagop & Linda Ghazarian

Vasken & Holly Ghazarian & Family

Leo & Sonya Sullivan

Robert & Manoush Kazazian

Nazar & Mayda Aroyan

Harvey & Sara Berman

Vatche & Sonya Boyadjian

Mike & Carolyn Dwyer

Dzaghig Ghazarian

Vahik Ghazarian

7 Cl

Zaven Ghazarian

Marie & Seta Jilian

Norman & Stefanie Jessiman

Michele Koppelman

Locks & Keys of Woburn, Inc.

Stepan Manjikian

Mass. Locksmiths Assoc., Inc.

Michael & Marianne Murkidjanian

Shahe & Zovig Nalbandian

Linda Ovoian

Robert & Rosine Patterson

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Roy

Elizabeth Stefanik

Bernard & Carol Stollar

Christina Sullivan

Ara & Sossy Yogurtian

In Memory of Norair Kazarian

Total Donations – \$325

Narini Badalian

Martha Martents

Aida & Steve Parnagian

Ani Tahmassian

Maral & John Orchanian

In Memory of Hagop Markarian

Total Donations – \$250

Douglas Doo

Alex & Carol Khalarian

In Memory of Satenik Manjikian

Total Donations - \$200

Leo Sullivan

In Memory of Vartan Nerkizian

Total Donations – \$50

Vartan & Nayiri Manjikian & Family

In Honor of Houry Boyamian

Total Donations – \$50

Carl Narsasian

In Honor of Kevork Atinizian's

Birthday

Total Donations – \$6,000

Nishan & Margrit Atinizian

John Yardemian & Carolyn Atinizian

Araxi Poladian Scholarship Fund

Total Donations – \$500

Araxi Poladian

**General Donations** 

AYF \$11,710.00

Hai Guin Scholarship Altan & Rita Marash

\$2,000.00 \$40.00

**Estate Donations** 

Adele F. Manuelian \$100,000.00

Rose Krikorian

Grand Total: \$84,750.24

Araxy M. Toomajanian \$21,392.63

WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS

## **MANOUG & ME**

## **Music and Movement Program**

For Children 18 months to 2.9 years old

Develop your child's listening and Armenian language skills
through our engaging and interactive musical experience.

You'll see improvement in their physical coordination,
ability to take direction from an instructor during group-play,
and a growing love for music.

Come sing and play with us!



Spring Session Begins March 6, 2023

> Meeting Dates: March 6, 20, 27 April 3, 10 May 1, 8, 15, 22 June 5

Classes are held Monday mornings

Class 1: 9:00am-9:45am Class 2: 10:00am-10:45am

Each child must be accompanied by an adult





To register
please contact the
Preschool office at:
(617) 923-0501
or email
MORCHANIAN@SSAES.ORG

Registration Fee: \$130



St. Stephen's Armenian Preschool, 46 Elton Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472

## ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR







### PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023

ORIENTATION/OPEN HOUSE IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023 FROM 9:00AM-10:00AM

- Accredited by the Association of Independent Schools in New England (AISNE)
- Preschool licensed by the Massachusetts
   Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)
- Experienced and Massachusetts Certified Faculty
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#### ԼՈՒՐԵՐ Ս. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ՇԱԲԱԹՕՐԵԱՅ ՀԱՅ ԴՊՐՈՅԷՆ Յունուար - Դեկտեմբեր, 2022 Մայտա Մեյքոնեան՝ Տնօրէնուհի՜



Սբ. Ստեփանոս Շաբաթօրեայ Դայ Դպրոցը յաջողութեամբ բոլորեց իր 85րդ տարեշրջանը, շնորհիւ իր ուսուցիչուսուցչուհիներու տարած անխոնջ աշխատանքին։ Ձեր վարձքը կատար սիրելի ուսուցիչներ։

Դպրոցին 85րդ տարեշրջանը, 2021-2022, սկսած Էր Սեպտեմբեր 11ին, 87 աշակերտներով եւ աւարտին հասաւ Յունիս 11ին։

Տասներորդ, տասնըմԷկերորդ եւ տասներկրորդ դասարաններու աշակերտները Ազգային Ուսումնական Խորհուրդի՝ Սիամանթօ լսարանի վարիչ տնօրէնին միջոցաւ արձանագրուեցան Յայ Յամացանցային Յամալսարան, Երեւան, Յայաստան։ Յեռավար տեսակապի միջոցաւ ընթացող դասընթացքը մեկնարկեց Սեպտեմբեր 18, 2021-ին։ Աշակերտները դպրոց կու գան 9։30-ին եւ մինչեւ 10։30 Պրն. Սարգիս Գարակէօզեանի ցուցմունքներով կը հետեւին դպրոցի ծրագրին։

Ինչպէս գիտէք, ունինք Մանկամսուրէն Տասներկրորդ դասարան։ Դպրոցի ուսուցչական կազմին կողքին ունինք փոխ-ուսուցչուհիներ՝ Տիկին՝ Վերա Իսկէնտէրեան եւ Տիկին Նարդուհի Ապրիմեան եւ օգնականուհի՝ մեր շրջանաւարտներէն Օր. Թինա Կոտիկեան։ Ձեր բոլորին վարձքը կատար սիրելիներ։

Դպրոցի դասընթացքը շաբաթը միայն երեք ժամ է։ Կը դասաւանդուին Յայերեն, գրականութիւն, հայոց պատ-մութիւն, հայկական պարն ու երգը։ Կ՚օգտագործենք արդի դասագիրքեր եւ աշխատանքային տետրակներ։ Տարուան ընթացքին յատկապես կը նշենք Սեպտեմբեր 21՝ Յայաստանի անկախութեան օրը, Մշակոյթի ամիսը, Ամանորը, Վարդանանցը, Մայիս 28ը ինչպես նաեւ Մեծ Եղեռնը։

Այս տարեշրջանին յատուկ ծրագիր մը սկսանք Մանկապարտեզի եւ Մանկամսուրի երեխաներուն առաջին պահուան համար, որ կը վարէ Տիկ. Թէնի Աբէլեան Դաճճար։ Գլխաւոր միտքը Խաղի հաճոյքի ճամբով լեզուին դռները պարզել երեխաներուն մօտ։ Ժողովրդական երգերն ու տօները, որոնք մեզ կը կապեն մեր հարուստ անցեալին, խաղերուն ու երգերուն հիմը կը կազմեն։ Բացայայտօրէն "Սորվիլ"ը իրար հետ խնդալով, երգելով, վազելով եւ

բաժնելով կ՛ընթանայ, ինչ որ բառերուն իմաստը շատ աւելի կը հաստատե երեխաներուն մեջ։

Իսկ մեր ուսուցիչներեն հինգ հոգի մասնակցեցան Ազգային Առաջնորդարանի Խորհուրդի նախաձեռնութեամբ եւ Գալուստ Կիւլպենկեան Յիմնարկութեան հովանաւորութեամբ հիմնուսը ուղղուած ուսուցիչներու ուղղուած մանկավարժական առցանց Ծրագրին, որուն նպատակն է զանազան մասնագետներու ուղեկցութեամբ վերապատրաստել ուսուցիչները տարեկան մօտ յիսուն ժամ։ Տիկիններ Նայիրի Մանճիկեան, Սիլվա Կոտիկեան եւ Էլիզապեթ Աղբալարեան երկու տարիէ իվեր կը մասնակցին, իսկ Անի Գըլըճեան եւ Նորմա Դեմիրճեան մէկ տարի։

Ինչպես ամեն տարի, այս տարի եւս դպրոցը իր մասնակցութիւնը բերաւ եկեղեցական արարողութիւններուն։ Ճրագալոյցի եւ Խթման երեկոներուն Սուրբ Գիրքեն ընթերցումներ կատարեցին ընտրուած խումբ մը աշակերտաշակերտուհիներ։ Մեծ Պահքի շրջանին հսկումի արարողութիւններուն դարձեալ մասնակցեցան զանազան դասարաններե ընտրուած խումբ մը աշակերտներ։ Սրբոց Վարդանանցի Օրը երեկոյեան ժամերգութենեն ետք աշակերտութիւնը օրուան պատշաճ յայտագիր մը ներկայացուց եկեղեցւոյ մեջ, արժանանալով ներկաներու գնահատանքին։



Առաջինեն 8րդ դասարաններու աշակերտները Շաբաթ, Ապրիլ 2ին, այցելեցին "Յամազգային Յայագիտական Միութեան" շենքը, ուր ծանօթացան եւ ունկնդրեցին Նորա Գայսերեանի հեղինակած ԱՆՊԱՐՏԵԼԻ ՁԱՊԷԼը գիրքը։ Գիրքը ներկայացուցած եւ կարդացած էր Լիզա Կիւլեսերեանը։ Գիրքը մեր մեծագոյն կին գրողներեն Ձապել Եսայեանի մասին է։

Չորրորդեն ութերորդ դասարաններու կարգ մր աշակերտներ մասնակցեցան Յալ Օգնութեան Միութեան Արեւելեան ԱՄՆ-ի Շրջանային Վարչութեան կազմակերպած շարադրութեան վրցումին։ ԱՄՆի Արեւելեան Շրջանի անգլերեն น์honեเนเ վարժարաններու ներկայացուած շարադրութիւններու բաժնեն երրորդ եւ դասարաններու խմբակեն երկրորդ հանդիսացաւ Թային Ղազարեանց, իսկ հայերէն ներկայացուած շարադրութիւններու բաժնէն եօթներորդ եւ ութերորդ դասարաններու խմբակեն երկրորդ հանդիսացաւ Ալեքս Պոլրքեան, իսկ երրորդ Լիաննա Սէրայտարեան։



#### ԼՈՒՐԵՐ Ս. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ՇԱԲԱԹՕՐԵԱՅ ՀԱՅ ԴՊՐՈՅԷՆ Յունուար - Դեկտեմբեր, 2022 Մայտա Մեյքոնեան՝ Տնօրէնուհի՜



Սրտի մեծ գոհունակութեամբ կ՛ըսեմ որ «Շողեր» տարեգիրքի Ա. թիւը լոյս տեսած էր 19 տարիներ առաջ, 2002–2003 տարեշրջանին։

Այս տարուան Տասներկրորդ դասարանի մեր շրջանաւարտն է Յակոբ Քէչէճեան։ Յանդէսի բացումը կատարեցին աշակերտները հպարտօրէն հնչեցնելով Յայաստանի Օրհներգը` Մեր Յայրենիք եւ առաջին անգամ ըլլալով դպրոցի Յիմնը, խօսք` Մայտա Մելքոնեանի եւ երաժշտութիւն` Մարինէ Մարգարեան Քավլաքեանի։

Տնօրենուհի` Մայտա Մելքոնեան իր բացման խօսքին մեջ շեշտեց թե որպես հայ դպրոց մեր պարտականութիւնն է փոխանցել մեր սերունդին մեր լեզուին եւ մշակոյթին զուգահեռ հայրենասիրական ոգին, որպեսզի մեր ապագայ սերունդը երբեք չմոռնայ եւ տեր կանգնի մեր իրաւունքներուն։



Ապա բեմ բարձրացան 10րդ եւ 11րդ դասարաններու շրջանաւարտ աշակերտները եւ ստացան հաստատագիր մասնակցութեան` Ազգային Ուսումնական Խորհուրդի Սիամանթօ Լսարանի, Սբ. Ստեփանոս Շաբաթօրեայ Յայ Դպրոցի, համագործակցութեամբ «Յայ Յամացանցային Յամալսարան»ի Սեպտեմբեր 2021– Մայիս 2022 դասընթացքին, հետեւելով հայոց լեզուի, երաժշտութեան, արուեստի, ճարտարապետութեան եւ պատմութեան նիւթերուն։

Շրջանաւարտ` Յակոբ Քէչէճեան ուղերձը կարդալե ետք, Տէր Յօր ձեռամբ ատացաւ իր վկայականը եւ նուէր "Նոր Կտակարան" մը եկեղեցական արարողութիւններուն մասնակցութեան համար։ Ապա Յասմիկ Մարտիրոս Խնամակալ Մարմինի կողմէ յանձնեց յուշատախտակ մը։ Տնօրէնուհին գնահատելով շրջանաւարտին յարատեւութիւնն ու պարտաճանաչութիւնը Ազգային Առաջնորդարանի կողմէ շրջանաւարտին նուիրեց Լեւոն Թագաւորի դրամ։

Ան նաեւ ստացաւ երկու Կրթանպաստ` իւրաքանչիւրը \$500 Սբ. Ստեփանոս Շաբաթօրեայ Ռօզ Գրիգորեան Scholarship Fund եւ ՅՕՄ-ի ԼԷօլա Սասունի եւ Շուշի մասնաճիւղերու տրամադրած կրթանպաստը։

Այս տարուան հանդէսի երկրորդ բաժինը նուիրուած էր 44 – օրեայ պատերազմին զոհուած մեր հերոս տղոց, որոնք իրենց կեանքը տուին յանուն մեր հայրենիքին՝ (Յայաստան եւ Արցախ)։

Յանդէսի ընթացքին նախկին տարուան 5րդ դասարանի աշակերտները եւ ուսուցչուհի՝ Նարինէ Ապրիմեանը յատուկ մրցանակ ստացան ՓՈՔՐԻԿ հէքիաթահաւաքէն։

Գնահատականներ յանձնուեցան Տիկ. ԹԷնի ԱբԷլեանին եւ Օր. Թինա Կոտիկեանին։ Ապա Խնամակալ Մարմինի կողմե Տիկ. Յասմիկ Մարտիրոս ծաղկեփունջով մը գնահատեց տնօրէնուհին իր տարած աշխատանքին համար։ Յանդէսը փակուեցաւ տէր հօր աղօթքով։



Յանդեսեն ետք, Շրջանաւարտ ծնողքի եւ Ծնողական Յանձնախումբի նախաձեռնութեամբ, հիւրասիրութիւն պատրաստուած էր ի պատիւ շրջանաւարտներուն եւ Ուսուցչական Կազմին։ Ներկայ գտնուեցան Տէր Յայրը, խնամակալ մարմինի եւ ծնողական յանձնախումբի անդամները, ուսուցչական կազմը եւ շրջանաւարտներուն ծնողները։ Բարձր կը գնահատենք տարուած աշխատանքը։



#### ԼՈՒՐԵՐ Ս. USԵՓԱՆՈՍ ՇԱԲԱԹՕՐԵԱՅ ՀԱՅ ԴՊՐՈՅԷՆ Յունուար - Դեկտեմբեր, 2022 Մայտա Մելքոնեան՝ Տնօրէնուհի



Սբ. Ստեփանոս Շաբաթօրեայ Յայ Դպրոցի 86րդ տարեշրջանի (2022-2023) վերամուտի օրն էր Շաբաթ, Սեպտեմբեր 10, 2022։

Տասներորդ, տասնըմԷկերորդ եւ տասներկրորդ դասարաններու աշակերտները Ազգային Ուսումնական Խորհուրդի՝ Սիամանթօ լսարանի վարիչ տնօրԷնին միջոցաւ արձանագրուեցան Յայ Յամացանցային Յամալսարան, Երեւան, Յայաստան։ Յեռավար տեսակապի միջոցաւ ընթացող դասընթացքը մեկնարկեց Սեպտեմբեր 10, 2022 – ին։

Վերոնշեալ դասարաններու աշակերտները դպրոց կու գան առաւօտուն ժամը 9։30-ին եւ մինչեւ 10։30, Պրն. Սարգիս ԳարակԷօզեանի ցուցմունքներով կը հետեւին դպրոցի ծրագրին։

Դպրոցի ժամերն են ամէն Շաբաթ օր առաւօտեան 9:30-12:30 կ.ե.:

Դպրոցի Խնամակալ Մարմինը կը բաղկանայ եկեղեցւոյ եւ ՅՕՄի մասնաճիւղերու ներկայացուցիչներէ։ Կազմի անդամներն են. -

ՏԷր Ակդրակիկ Ալագ Քիկլ. Պայճեակ Նախագահ Տիկ. Յասմիկ Մարտիրոս Ատենապետ Shu. Lhaw Մեդրակեաև Ատենադպրուհի Տիկ. Մարի Արապեաև Գանձապահուհի Տիկ. Թամար ՊԷրէճիքյեան Խորհրդական Պրև. Մաևուէլ Բարսեղեաև Խորհրդական Պրև. ՅովսԷփ ՄԷլքԷշեան Խորհրդական Տիկ. Սոնիա Յակոբեան Խորհրդակաև (Եկեղեցւոյ Ներկայացուցիչ) Պր. Ռիչրրտ Փիլիկեան Խորհրդական (Եկեղեցւոյ Ներկայացուցիչ)

**2020 - 2021 Տարեշրջանի Ուսուցչական կազմ.** Տիկ. Մայտա Մելքոնեան Տեսչուհի Օր. Թինա Կոտիկեան Սիամանթօ Լսարան Տիկ. Նորմա Դեմիրճեան Պրն. Սարգիս ԳարակԷօզեան Տիկ. Անի Գըլըճեան Տիկ. ԷլիզապԷթ Աղբալարեան Օր. Վանա Գըլըճեան Տիկ. Երան Մանճիկեան Տիկ. Նայիրի Մանճիկեան Տիկ. Մաթիլտա Տաւուտեան Տիկ. Մաթիլտա Տաւուտեան Տիկ. Մարինէ Մարգարեան Օր. Նարինէ Ապրիմեան Պրն. Ալեքս ԱւանԷսզատէ Տիկ. Սիլվա Կոտիկեան Օր. Օժենի Քավլաքեան Գ. Կարգ Ժ.-ԺԲ. Կարգեր Բ. Կարգ Թ.Կարգ + Ժ - Ժ Ա. Կարգ Ը. Կարգ ՄանկապարտԷզ Է. Կարգ Մանկամսուր 2. Կարգ Երգ Ե. Կարգ Պար Դ. Կարգ

Դպրոցի փոխ-ուսուցչուհիներն են Տիկ. Վերա Իսկենտերեան, Տիկ. Նարդուհի Ապրիմեան եւ Տիկ. Թամար ՊԷրեճիքյեան։

Մեր սրտագին շնորհակալութիւնները կը յայտնենք Սբ. Ստեփանոս եկեղեցւոյ հոգեւոր հովիւ Տէր Անդրանիկ Աւագ Քինյ. Պալճեանին, Տէր Սամուէլ Քինյ. Աճէմեանին, Եկեղեցւոյ Յոգաբարձութեան, Ազգային Ուսումնական խորհուրդին, ՅՕՄի մասնաճիւղերուն, եւ Կեդրոնի վարչութեան, դպրոցի Ծնողական Յանձնախումբին եւ բոլոր անոնց, որոնք կը նպաստեն դպրոցի բարօրութեան եւ վերելքին։

Դպրոցի ուսուցչական կազմին, աշակերտութեան եւ իմ կողմես կ՛ուզեմ յատուկ շնորհակալական խօսք ուղղել Խնամակալ Մարմինի անդամներուն, որոնք ամբողջ տարուան ընթացքին մեծ նուիրումով կ՛աշխատին դպրոցի վերելքին եւ յառաջացման համար։ Ձեր վարձքը կատար։

Յատուկ շնորհակալութեան եւ գնահատանքի խօսք ունիմ նաեւ ուսուցչական կազմին։ Խորին շնորհակալութիւններ նաեւ բոլոր մեր նուիրատուներուն։



#### ST. STEPHEN'S SATURDAY SCHOOL

January - December, 2022 Mayda Melkonian, Principal

St. Stephen's Armenian Saturday School resumed its 85<sup>th</sup> academic year on Sept. 11, 2021, with the enrollment of 87 students. A year-end graduation ceremony on June 11, 2022 marked the conclusion of this academic year.

Classes range from Nursery to Twelfth grade. The school hours are 9:30 am. -12:30 pm.

10th, 11th, and 12th grade registration was held late August. We then registered them with AVC (Armenian Virtual College) based in Armenia through ANEC Siamanto Auditory. Classes started Sept. 18, 2021 virtually. It is held every Saturday from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Students come to school at 9:30 and till 10:30 they are instructed by Mr. Sarkis Karageozian implementing our curriculum.

Saturday School curriculum consisted of Armenian language, history, as well as Armenian songs and dances. The students learn their forefathers' language, history, culture and traditions through newly published textbooks and workbooks. Every year we replace the old used books with new ones.

This academic year we added a new program in the curriculum for the kindergarten and Nursery students, implemented by Mrs. Teni Apelian Hajjar. The core idea behind the child-centered creative play is that play leads to joy and joy leads to expression. Saturday morning curriculum for these classes began with this idea in mind. Folk songs and rituals, which connect us to our ancient and beautiful past, are at the center of our games. Explicit "teaching" is replaced by experiencing together, laughing, singing, running and sharing, which places words and their meaning much further into the self.

Five teachers participated in "Teachers' Training" Seminars held throughout the year (almost 50 hours) virtually. This program is conducted by ANEC with collaboration of Kalousd Gulbenkian Foundation. Three of our teachers: Nayiri Manjikian, Silva Kotikian, and Elizabeth Aghpalarian have been attending these seminars for two years, and Ani Keledjian and Norma Demirchian for one year.



Middle and High school students, during religious feasts, are always prepared to participate in various church ceremonies such as Christmas Eve, Easter Eve, and During Lent every Wednesday evening.

This year, Vartanants was on Thursday February 24. After church services, the students from Nursery - 9th grades presented a program comprised of Vartanants songs and recitations.

1st through 8th grade students visited National Association for Armenian Studies and Research "NAASR" building on Saturday April 2, 2022. Lisa Guleserian presented and read the book "ANBARDELI ZABEL" written by Nora Kayserian, which is the biography of the writer and social activist Zabel Yessayan.

During April, our students from grades 4 through 8 participated in the essay contest organized by ARS Eastern USA Regional Board.

From one day schools/Armenian essays, grades 7 and 8, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was awarded to Alex Belekian and 3<sup>rd</sup> place was awarded to Leanna Seraydarian. And from one day schools/English essays, grades 3 and 4, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was awarded to Taline Ghazariants.

"SHOGHER", year book was published and distributed to the students the day of the Hantes. We have published the yearbook since 2002-2003 academic year.



Our 12th grade graduate this academic year was Hagop Kechejian. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to the graduate and their parents.

The year-end graduation ceremony was held on June 11, 2022 at ACEC under the auspices of Rev. Archpriest Antranig Balijan.

After delivering the welcoming remarks, the principal invited the students to sing our national anthem "Mer Hairenik" followed by, for the first time the school anthem, words written by Mayda Melkonian and music by Marine Marcarian Kavlakian.

The principal then invited the graduate Hagop Kechejian and 10<sup>th</sup> and 11 grade students to receive their AVC Certificate of course completion with transcripts and 3 college credits.

Then the graduate delivered his speech, thanking the principal and the teachers for all their dedication and hard work.

The following awards were presented to the graduate: On behalf of The School Board an honorary plaque. Fr. Antranig Baljian presented him The New Testament. ARS Leola Sassouni and Shoushi chapters' a \$500 Scholarship. St. Stephen's Saturday School Rose Krikorian Scholarship Fund - \$500. On behalf of the school, the principal awarded him a "King Levon" coin.



### ST. STEPHEN'S SATURDAY SCHOOL

January - December, 2022 Mayda Melkonian, Principal

On behalf of the Board the principal thanked Mrs. Teni Apelian Hajjar for her help throughout the year and presented her a gift. She also presented a gift to Tina Kotikian for her continued help.

On behalf of The Board Mrs. Hasmig Mardiros presented a beautiful bouquet of flowers to the principal.

The second part of the program was dedicated to our fallen heroes of 44 day war in Artsakh.

Last year's 5<sup>th</sup> grade students under Ms. Narine Abrimian's guidance participated in a story writing contest named POKRIG. They received "Special Recognition Award".

After the program was over a reception was held by the graduate's parents and our Parents' Committee members.

#### St. Stephen's Armenian Saturday School resumed its 86th academic year (2022-2023) on Saturday Sept.10, 2022.

10th, 11th, and 12th grade registration was held late August. We then registered them with AVC (Armenian Virtual college) based in Armenia through ANEC Siamanto Auditory. Classes started Sept. 18, 2021 virtually. It is held every Saturday from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Students come to school at 9:30 and till 10:30 they are instructed by Mr. Sarkis Karageozian implementing our curriculum.

Classes range from Nursery to Twelfth grade. The school hours are 9:30 am. - 12:30 pm.

#### The School's Board

(Consists of Church and ARS Representatives),

Fr. Antranig Baljian President Mrs. Hasmig Mardiros Chairperson Mrs. Lisa Setrakian Secretary Ms. Mary Arabian Treasurer Mrs. Tamar Berejiklian Advisor Mr. Manuel Parseghian Advisor Mr. Hovsep Melkeshian Advisor

Mrs. Sonia Hagopian Church Representative Mr. Richard Piligian Church Representative

#### 2022 - 2023 Saturday School Staff

Mrs. Mayda Melkonian	Principal
Ms. Tina Kotikian	3rd grade

Siamanto Auditory Teachers 10th, 11th & 12th grades

Mrs Norma Damirjian 2nd grade

Mr. Sarkis Karageozian 9th grade + 10th -12th

Mrs. Ani Keledjian 1st grade Mrs. Elizabeth Aghpalarian 8th grade Miss Vana Keledjian Kindergarten Mrs. Yeran Manjikian 7th grade Mrs. Nayiri Manjikian Nursery Mrs. Matilda Davoudian 6th grade Mrs. Marine Kavlakian Music Ms. Narine Abrimian 5th grade Mr. Alex Avaneszadeh Dance Mrs. Silva Kotikian 4th grade Ms. Ojeny Kavlakian Special Class

Substitute teachers are Mrs. Vera Iskenderian, Mrs. Nartouhi

Abrimian, and Mrs. Tamar Berejiklian.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and heartfelt thanks to Rev. Fr. Antranig Baljian, Rev Fr. Samuel Ajemian, the Church Board of Trustees, School Board members, ANEC, the Armenian Relief Society, the A.C.E.C. Board, the Parents' Committee, our wonderful and dedicated Teachers, and every individual and organization that contributed to the success of the school.

#### **GENERAL DONATIONS:**

Estate of Rose Krikorian Grand Total	\$ 84,750.24
Roger and Teni Hajjar	\$ 3,500.00
Margret Atinizian	\$ 2,500.00
ARS Shushi Chapter	\$ 2,000.00
ARS Leola Sassouni Chapter	\$ 1,500.00
Paul Bedrosian	\$ 1,000.00
Raffle organized by Parents' Committee	\$ 1,489.00
John and Carolyn Yardemian	\$ 900.00
John Daghlian	\$ 100.00

#### IN LIEU OF FLOWERS LUCINE PARSEGHIAN TOTAL \$1.600.00

Anonymous Ara Nazarian

Mary Arabian

Mihran Artinian

Avedis & Hilda Baronian

The Camdos Group Stepan Chiloyan

Mayram Daoudian

Bedig & Arevik DerVartanian Souren & Susan Etyemezian Haroutioun Karageuzian

Harout Kilian

Victoria Kouyoumdjian

Krikor & Nora Mouradian

Roger & Lucie Agopian Plaisance

Araxi Postaljian

Chake & Salpie Takadjian

Jamie & Aylin Tamburrini

Salpie Tokadjian

Boghos & Marguerite Tovmassian

Ara & Sossy Yogurtian

#### IN LIEU OF FLOWERS AZADOUHI FROUNJIAN TOTAL \$555.00

Mari Arabian

Hratch & Ani Belekian Krikor and Suna Cinar Suzy and Istepan Gigiyan

Shake Hagopisn

Anthony and Annie Keledjian Yeprem and Mayda Melkonian

Lena N Nargozian

George and Marlene Nasr

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our donors and supporters.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS Nayiri Baljian Bell, Principal

#### **Building Back Stronger After COVID**

2022 has been a special year for our Sunday School, rebuilding in many ways after COVID.

#### January-May 2022 Activities

As always, we placed a special emphasis on community service and parish engagement. Our Sunday School resumed our Weekly plate collection to support 3 orphans in Armenia and Artsakh. We once again organized a drive to collect Christmas shoeboxes for needy children around the world. And, most impactfully, we continued our tradition of hosting a Lenten food drive for the church community, contributing 900 nonperishable items to the Watertown Food Pantry. This was the first time we invited our sister organizations (Ladies Guild, ARS, HMEM, SSAES) to participate, which contributed to the success of this year's collection.

In partnership with our Salt & Light Youth Group, our students had a great time making Valentine care packets of cookies and chocolates decorated with scripture verses about love to distribute to the congregation following church serves on February 13.



For the first time, our Sunday School students in Grade 3 and up, many accompanied by their parents, visited ALMA on Sunday, April 24 as a fitting way to honor the day. Our group received a special tour from the museum director. We thank Cheryl Ourfalian Smith and Angie Ourfalian for organizing this fantastic outing.

Our students also enjoyed a day of fun on Sunday, May 15 with a field day for our youngest students and a bowling trip for students in Grade 3 and up organized jointly with the Salt & Light Youth Group.

#### Special Graduation Weekend

We were fortunate to have His Eminence Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian participate in our Sunday School graduation ceremonies for the second year in a row, closing out our 2021-2022 school year on a joyful note. On Saturday evening, May 21, Surpazan Hayr presented each graduating student their diploma. On Sunday, May 22, at the conclusion of *Badarak*, Surpazan Hayr presented a special award and commendation to graduating senior Christian Manjikian for his record of perfect Sunday School attendance over



15 years (see article). Christian's accomplishment was truly unprecedented, and we commend Christian and his family for this incredible achievement. Congratulations to our eight 2022 graduates: Mary Ashbahian, Sarineh Cunningham, Narineh Gevorkian, Christian Manjikian, Alina Ouligian, Katie Najarian, Michael Najarian, Aram Stepanian. We pray that God will continue to bless them throughout their lives.

#### **Sunday School Award**

Following a generous bequest of \$84,750.24 from the estate of Rose Krikorian, the Sunday School developed and rolled out the Rose Krikorian Sunday School award. The one-time \$750 award is available to graduating Sunday School students who complete an application and meet the specified requirements, including a set amount of service hours to the church in Junior and Senior year of high school. The inaugural awards will be presented later in 2022 to applicants from our 2022 graduating class. All Sunday School graduating seniors are eligible to apply for the award.

#### 2022-2023 School Year Off to a Great Start

We opened the 2022-2023 Sunday School year on September 15, the Fest of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The church hall was filled with cheer as students, teachers and families reunited for our first "normal" year since COVID. As always, the children enjoyed attending *Badarak* for *Khatchverats*; this year we enjoyed watching a roving gang of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders follow the procession around the church waiting to get sprinkled with rose water again and again. We also enjoyed seeing our gaggle of first graders sneaking tastes of basil during the service. It's wonderful to see our children engaging all of their senses in worship!

Thank you to our dedicated staff who volunteer their time and talents who ensure that our program is a success from week to week and to our parents for making sure that your children grow up in their Armenian Christian faith.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS A Reflection by Naviri Baljian Bell, Principal



Raising Children in the Faith Takes Commitment But It's Worth It

My mind keeps flashing back to a moment from a Sunday earlier this fall: A mom of a young child sees the priest after church and reaches out to kiss his hand; the young child, who is only 3, observes her mother and does the same. It was a striking reminder of how our kids learn from what we do. When we teach our children our faith traditions, especially when we bring them into church and let them see us pausing our busy routines to worship God, we set them up for a lifetime of success. The scripture promises us: "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

For parents today, we are living in a time when secular humanism is the prevailing religion. The main thrust of secular humanism, contrary to Christianity, is that humanity is capable of morality and self-fulfillment apart from God. How this plays out practically is that as a society we get caught up worshipping the creation (ourselves) and not the Creator, placing a high value on pleasure and self-gratification – doing whatever seems and feels right. It also means that we tend to fixate on our own creation, our children. For example, society has elevated youth sports and activities beyond any reasonable level (I say this in a very non-judgmental ways as I myself, have two boys on four hockey teams...why!?!), placing the bulk of our family's focus on the kids. This takes time away from learning, from playing, from building relationships and from worship. It's a fine line because I have heard what it takes to get kids into college these days, but I have also heard, from Jesus, to "Seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness and everything else will be given unto you" (Matthew 6:33). My husband and I have set new and very challenging limits this year that unless our goalie son Zaven has to play in goal for his primary team, we don't miss church for hockey games. It's been a difficult line to toe, but I can also see the benefits and blessings that are coming from it.

Two of my greatest hopes in leading the Sunday School is that we would see better overall attendance (some weeks we have as few as 30% of children presence while other weeks we have 75% attendance, which creates a challenge for the teachers) and that the children of our community would come to Sunday School with better attendance at church more often outside of the Sunday School schedule. Church attendance during the summer and even on special days like Easter and Armenian Christmas has been troubling to me. Another thing that is troubling is that when children graduate from Sunday School, they have very little framework for coming to church. One thing that is true, going back to the example that I started with, is that children learn the routines of faith by watching their parents. If children see their parents taking time out of the week to worship God, they will be more likely to do the same. At the end of *Badarak* each Sunday, the priest prays for a blessing on those who have taken the time to worship the Lord, by saying: "O Lord, you bless those who bless you and sanctify those who put their trust in you" (Armenian Divine Liturgy prayer of dismissal). I have been very thankful for our re-emerging parents' group deciding to make an effort to sit together in church on Sundays (very cool!). I pray that this effort sweeps our parish and that our children will have the chance to see so many of their parents sanctifying and putting their trust in God each Sunday!

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS (Cont.) SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

# St. Stephen's Sunday School Graduate Receives Special Recognition for Fifteen Years of Perfect Attendance



A graduate of the St. Stephen's Church Armenian Apostolic Church of Greater Boston Sunday School was recently honored for 15 years of perfect Sunday School attendance. Christian Manjikian of Belmont received special recognition from His Eminence Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian for his perfect attendance record, having attended Sunday School faithfully without missing a week from Nursery 1 through Grade 12, including attending virtual classes during COVID.

"We believe this is a first, certainly in the Eastern Prelacy, and likely beyond." said Rev. Father Antranig Baljian, Pastor of St. Stephen's Church of Greater Boston, "We wanted to honor Christian's remarkable commitment and hold Christian up as a role model to the other children in our parish and so we invited Surpazan Hayr to recognize Christian during our church's celebratory weekend."

Indeed, the St. Stephen's parish enjoyed many celebratory moments during the weekend of May 21 and 22, which was the first of two weekends in 2022 that will be devoted to marking the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Stephen's Church of Greater Boston. The May weekend included a bike-a-thon with Surpazan Hayr with funds raised to help Armenians in Armenia, Artsakh and Lebanon. Other weekend highlights included: Sunday School graduation; the ordination of six dedicated servants; and a delicious Sunday

luncheon presided over by His Eminence. St. Stephen's will cap the year with another visit from Anoushavan Surpazan including a special family Christmas celebration on Sunday, December 18.

Christian was one of eight graduating Sunday School seniors to receive a Sunday School diploma from Surpazan Hayr. His fellow graduates included Mary Ashbahian, Sarineh Cunningham, Narineh Gevorkian, Katie Najarian, Michael Najarian, Alina Ouligian, and Aram Stepanian. Noted Sunday School Principal Nayiri Baljian Bell, "This was a special class of students who formed a tight bond with one another and with their church over their 15 years in Sunday School. As Sunday School teachers, it is our privilege to watch our students grow up and go out from here and to pray for them along the entire journey. We wish these remarkable students God's blessings and guidance as they continue into the next phase of life."

At the conclusion of Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 22, Der Antranig invited Christian to step forward to be recognized before a packed church; an audible gasp went through the crowd as they learned of Christian's seemingly unprecedented accomplishment. From Surpazan Hayr, Christian received an ancient silver coin from the Kingdom of Giligia minted by King Levon and a special commendation which read: "Excellency Award presented to Christian Manjikian in recognition of his exceptional love and dedication for Sunday School as an exemplary student, attending for 15 years without absence. 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be' (Matt 6:21)." Surpazan Hayr expressed his deep admiration and respect for Christian's unwavering commitment as well as his appreciation of Christian's parents for their support. Surpazan Hayr asked Christian to remain standing among the clergy and altar servers as he gave the final blessing and as the crowed joyfully sang "Giligia."

Christian is the son of Raffi and Laurie Manjikian and is the third of four Manjikian siblings to complete the St. Stephen's Sunday School program. Christian said of his accomplishment, "My biggest takeaway from Sunday School is the importance of commitment. Not missing a day of Sunday School has shown me that simply saying you enjoy something isn't enough, showing your dedication through putting in effort is what matters." Christian is a 2022 graduate of Belmont High School and plans to attend UMass Amherst in the fall.

St. Stephen's Church offers Sunday School classes each week from mid-September through mid-May for students Age 3 through Grade 12. Baljian Bell noted, "We strive for a program that engages the whole person – the head, hands, and hearts of our students through learning, community service and worship. We have a warm and nurturing staff who create a fun and comfortable atmosphere for our students. Our curriculum incorporates Christian basics, Bible stories, saints and church history, Armenian hymns and holy days, and other important topics that are foundational for developing Christian faith in the Armenian Apostolic Church. We always welcome new students and, no, we don't expect everyone to have Christian's track record of attendance!"



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Edward & Nancy Tutunjian

Allan G. Tutunjian

Valerie M. Wise - Tucker

Garbis & Sonia Zerdelian



#### **RECENT & ADDITIONAL MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

# In Memory of CHARLES HOOSIAN Grand Total \$8,945.00

Anna Demurjian Mara Derderian Dorothy Esperian Mary Ishkanian David & Joyce Khederian-Chiulli Andre & Jessica Manguikian

# In Memory of NANCY GUZELIAN Grand Total \$7,555.00

Mary Ishkanian

# In Memory of HELEN SOOKIKIAN Grand Total \$1,550.00

Steven Sookikian Michael & Brenda Ripley

#### In Memory of PAULINE SANASARIAN Grand Total \$677.00

Michael & Brenda Ripley

# In Memory of NAZARET SARKISSIAN Grand Total \$3,073.00

Mary Ishkanian

# In Memory of MELKON YESSAILLIAN Grand Total \$5,974.00

John & Krista Aftandilian

### In Memory of ARA S. AFTANDILIAN Grand Total \$4,874.00

Ojik Gregorian & Family Chris & Gina Mosca Barbara Tutelian Arra, Chloe & Nina Zeytoonian

# In Memory of ANJEL MINASIAN Grand Total \$4,320.00

Annette Derminassian Armen & Lucine Gevorgyan

# In Memory of SOSSI BAGDASARIAN Total \$315.00

Ara & Emma Deirmendjian Avik & Haygouhie Deirmenjian Herair & Gohar Hovsepian

# In Memory of ALICE HOVSEPIAN Total \$550.00

Dzovinar Hovsepian St. Stephen's Ladies Guild

# In Memory of PERCHUI DANIYELYAN Total \$500.00

Jahsia Cooper Sarkis Demirgian Aram & Roupina Nalbandyan

# In Memory of TAMAR A. BUCCI Total \$1,000.00

Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Maral Burditt & Family

# In Memory of WARTIVAR IKNAIAN Total \$170.00

Frances Peersen Ashod Der Aprahamian Harout & Mayda Karageuzian Floyd & Barbara Skjerping

# In Memory of JACK TANASHIAN Total \$2,000.00

Adrienne Tanashian

# In Memory of JOHN MEGHRIAN Total \$1,000.00

Helene Meghrian John Christopher Meghrian Robert Meghrian

# In Memory of JOSEPH MARKARIAN Total \$145.00

Armen & Anoush Knaian Stephen & Sosie Megerdichian Allan G. Tutunjian

# In Memory of KEVORK MOUCHLIAN Total \$150.00

Sarkis & Elizabeth Badrikian Chake Kebabjian Aram Mouchlian

#### IN MEMORY OF SEDA SONENTZ PAPAZIAN Total \$265.00

Zabelle Hajian Azablar Loretta A. Gelenian Robert A. & Marianne Kaloosdian Isabel Quintana Bruce & Janet Trumble

#### In Memory of DR. RAZMIK DER SIRAKIAN Total \$600.00

Violette Aftandilian & Family Columbia Co.

# In Memory of KEGVART ARAKELIAN Total \$1,000.00

Mark & Brenda Schelzi & Family

#### In Memory of VERONICA (HABOIAN) DER PARSEGHIAN & MINAS AYKANIAN Total \$100.00

Linda Der Parseghian

#### In Memory of REGINA NAJARIAN

Kim Healey

### In Memory of DR. JOHN CHAGLASSIAN Total \$100.00

The Chaglassian Family

# In Memory of GIRAGOS MERJIMEKLIAN Total \$100.00

Antranik & Ardemis Minassian

#### In Memory of NOURITSA DADOURIAN MINASSIAN Total \$550.00

Anonymous

#### In Memory of MR. & MRS. PAUL BOGOSIAN Total \$25.00

Laraine Bogosian

### In Memory of BERJOUHI AGHAMALIAN Total \$30.00

Zella Marootian

# In Memory of ZOHRAB METREBIAN Total \$250.00

Jean-Jacques & Nicole Hajjar

# In Memory of ANNE BERBERIAN Total \$100.00

Kohar Berberian

# In Memory of BERJ TASHJIAN Total \$100.00

Mrs. Vany Tashjian

### In Memory of HAROUT ARABIAN Total \$200.00

David & Sira Cormier

# In Memory of STEPAN STEPANIAN Total \$50.00

Nancy R. Kolligian

# In Memory of JEANNETTE JOHN Total \$200.00

John Daniell

### In Memory of HRAYR NAZARIAN Total \$200.00

Anna Nazarian & Family

### In Memory of MARDIROS PETROSSIAN Total \$200.00

Anna Nazarian & Family

#### In Memory of MARI KHACHIK Total \$100.00

Anna Nazarian & Family

### GENERAL DONATIONS

Anonymous	\$500	Leo & Mary Beth Sarkissian	\$100
Anonymous	\$500	Edward Siranosian	\$150
St. Stephen's Ladies Guild	\$12,000	State Street Foundation, Cybrgrants	\$350
Scott & Nayiri (Keshishian) Davis	\$100	(Company Matching)	
(On the happy occasion of their son,	ΨΙΟΟ	Barbara Tutelian	\$20
Maximilian Karekine Davis's Baptism)			
John & Krista Aftandilian & Family	\$150	CANDLES	
Rev. & Yn. Samuel Ajemian	\$200	Alice Setian	\$1,000
(On the happy occasion of their daughter,	\$200		
Pardi's Baptism)		ESTATE DONATIONS	
- ·	\$100	ROSE KRIKORIAN	
Anonymous	\$500	Grand Total for St. Stephen's Church	\$254,250.78
Armenian Relief Society-Leola Sassouni Chapter Leona Arsenian	\$900	Grand Total for Sunday School	\$84,750.24
		•	
Garabet & Hermine Artinian	\$500	HASMIG CHLOODIAN	\$25,000.00
(On the happy occasion of the Wedding of		MARIA GOUGIAN	\$12,632.77
Michael Ara Artinian & Bridgette Siobhan Trudeau)	<b>#100</b>		
Arpi Avakian (Wounded Soldiers of Armenia)	\$100	ARAXY M. TOOMAJANIAN	\$21,392.63
Rev. & Mrs. Stephan Baljian	\$150		
Rev. & Mrs. Antranig Baljian	\$150	DONATIONS TO JRAK	
Missak & Lili Barsoumian	\$200	Berj & Annie Chekijian	\$50
Shoghig Basmajian	\$100	Mr. Kevork Ourfalian	\$100
(On the occasion of April 24)	***	Alice Setian	\$1,000
Jose Marvin Beltran	\$40		
Benevita Community Company Matching	\$121.55	TITHE	
Benevita Community Company Matching	\$50	James & Nayiri Bell	\$2,500
Beverly Berberian	\$50		
David & Sira Cormier	\$100	ENDOWEMENT FUND	
(Salesforce.com, Inc Company Matching)		John & Alice Karnikyan	\$5,000
Houry Daghlian	\$150		
Ara & Peggy Ghazarians	\$100	BUY A SHINGLE	
Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Gennetian	\$150	Sosie Terlemezian Robinson	\$100
Richard & Alleen Ghazaryans & Family	\$50		<b>\$1</b> 00
(On the happy occasion of Vartanantz Service)		STUDENT CARE PACKAGE MAILING	
Harry & Katrina Glorikian	\$2,000	Zella Marootian	\$100
Andrew & Alice Guzelian	\$1,500	Zena warootan	\$100
David & Nora Hackett	\$50	CLDIDAY CCHOOL	
(On the happy occasion of their Granddaughter's		SUNDAY SCHOOL	Φ <i>E</i> ΩΩ
Mia Mac Fraser's Baptism)		Chris & Taline Kebadjian & Family	\$500
Christine Hagopian	\$40		
Lucy Hoosian	\$100	DATEV FUND	
Leslie Jelalian	\$500	Anonymous	\$5,000
Noubar & Nevart Kaderian	\$50		
Vrej &Anna Kandoyan	\$1,000	NRA EXPENSE DONATION	
Charles & Sirvart Keumurian	\$100	Michael & Susan Guzelian	\$600
Nicolas & Aline Knaian	\$100	Mr. & Mrs. Raffi Manjikian	\$300
(State Street Foundation, Cybrgrants -			
Company Matching)		BAZAAR DONATIONS:	
Lachinian Family Fund	\$1,500	Dr. Richard Babayan & Ms. Sonya Nersessian	\$500
Hrach & Nevart Mikaelian	\$45	(Donated back their Bazaar Raffle winnings)	
Hagop & Sossy Nercessian	\$20		
Janice Noble	\$25	Eric & Amy Guzelian	\$1,000
Bedros & Nairy Papazian	\$50	(Donated back their Bazaar Raffle winnings)	
(On the happy occasion of their son's Alex Papazian's		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
40 Day Blessing & Dedication to the Church)		Leslie Jelalian	\$500
Sebuh Petrosian	\$50	(Donated back her Bazaar Raffle winnings)	
(On the happy occasion of his granddaughter's Celine			
Linda's 40 Day Blessing & Dedication to the Church)		Alice Setian	\$5,000
Daniel & Nora Sargent	\$200	(Donated back her Bazaar Raffle winnings)	•
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

### **GENERAL DONATIONS**

FAITH -IN-ACTION		BIKE-A-THON (LEBANON RELIEF FUND)
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE (2021)		TOTAL \$2,000.00
Anonymous	\$1,000	John & Krista Aftandilian & Family
Allan G. Tutunjian	\$300	Isabel Avedikian
Plate Collection	\$737	Rev. & Mrs. Antranig Baljian
Bernard & Lucy Ashbahian	\$100	John Hovhanness Daghlian
		Andrew & Alice Guzelian
EASTER		Eric & Amy Guzelian
Fimi Kachadurian	\$500	Astor & Lucy Guzelian
(For Tulips decorating the Altars from		Mr. & Mrs. Arek Hamalian
The Khachadurian Children, in loving memory of the	eir	Vatche Isahagian
parents, Ghazaros & Lucine Khachadurian, on the oc	casion	Mary Ishkanian
of the Resurrection of Lazarus and Palm Sunday)		Stephen & Sosie Megerdichian & Family
		Dikran & Maro Meguerditchian
Rosemary Khachadourian	\$250	Walter & Deanne Nahabedian
(Palms donated by Rosemary Khachadourian	*	Drs. Ara & Rosalynn Nazarian
& Vahan Khachadourian, in loving memory		Sarkis & Seta Ourfalian
of their parents, Ohannes & Nazan Khachadourian)		Dr. & Mrs. Simon & Annie Ovanessian
or mon parents, originals of the man remained bridge		Haig Sarajian
• Thomas Gengozian & Sally Vanerian	\$100	Haig Toomajanian
Houry Keledjian	\$25	Allan G. Tutunjian
(Holy week, Washing of the Feet)	Ψ23	,
(HOLY WEEK, Washing of the Teet)		LADY COX REHABILITATION CENTER (ARTSAKH)
Nadia Ann Karnik	\$150	Total \$2,500.00
(Easter Eggs In Memory of her parents	\$130	Anonymous
(Easter Eggs in Memory of her parents Harry & Anahid Karnik)		Mary Arabian
Harry & Anama Karmk)		Zadour & Mayda Bedoyan
FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE		Yulia Belkina
		James & Nayiri Bell
HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD	Φ.5.0.0	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Noushig Hagopian & Tim Enright & Family	\$500	Avedis & Houry Boyamian Houry Daghlian
(In loving memory of Rev. Archpriest		Leo & Mary Derderian
Torkom Hagopian)		Shake Hagopian
	<b>#100</b>	Ruth E. Hagopian
Ankeen Merzikian	\$100	John & Alice Karnikyan
11 0N T : "		Mrs. Sirvart Keumurian
Adour & Nancy Tutunjian		Armen & Anoush Knaian
(Grapes for the Feast of the Assumption of the		Mrs. Nevart Kouyoumjian
Holy Mother of God and Church Picnic)		St. Stephen's Ladies Guild
DIVIDED DOLLARIOUS		Flora Matossian
IN KIND DONATIONS		Stephen & Sosie Megerdichian & Family
• Thank you to the Ourfalian Family/Massis Bakery for the Courfalian Family/Massis Bak	naking	Hovsep & Rene Melkeshian
Mas that is distributed after Divine Liturgy.		Yeprem & Mayda Melkonian
		Rafi & Hasmig Melkounian
• On the occasion of the Feast of the Exaltation of The H		Nazar & Anahid Nalbandian
Cross, the Sweet Basil was donated by WAGON WHE	EL	Drs. Ara & Rosalynn Nazarian
Nursery & Farmstand, Lexington, MA.		Thomas Gengozian & Sally Vanerian
		Richard & Nora Sarajian
ORDINATION SERVICE:		Rev. & Mrs. Aram Stepanian
Vatche & Marine Ketchedjian	\$100	Christine Stepanian
Houry Daghlian	\$500	Apraham & Asdghig Tashjian
(In honor of her brother's John Hovhanness		Jilda Balian & Timothy Mulvey
Daghlian's ordination to full rank of Deacon)		Allan G. Tutunjian
		Garbis & Sonia Zerdelian
		Garois & Bollia Zordellali

#### KHATCHKAR MONUMENT RENOVATION

•		
	Anonymous	\$5,000
	Anonymous	\$5,000
	Anonymous	\$78
	Albert & Sarin Barsoumian & Family	\$50
	John Hovhanness Daghlian	\$200
	Houry Daghlian	\$100
	Charles & Sirvart Keumurian	\$100
	Ara & Heather Krafian	\$500
	Mr. & Mrs. Raffi Manjikian	\$50
	Stephen & Sosie Megerdichian	\$100
	Walter & Deanne Nahabedian	\$1,000
	(In loving memory of parents, Dikranouhi & Garabed	
	Yavanian, Makrouhi & Boghos Paul Nahabedian)	
	Armen & Cynthia Pischdotchian	\$1,000
	(In loving memory of their parents,	
	Vahan & Yoland Pischdotchian)	





### **MADAGH** Total \$3,722.00

\$200

John & Karen Aharonian Mary Arabian Paul & Sema Arakelian Arpi Avakian Isabel Avedikian Mrs. Mary Azizian & Family Barbara L. Baljian Rev. & Mrs. Antranig Baljian Kenneth & Diane Biagiotti John & Zovig Boyajian Avedis & Houry Boyamian Mrs. Mayram Daoudian Anna Demurjian Mary Doursounian George & Dorothy Elanjian Dorothy Esperian

Michael & Susan Guzelian

Diana Hachikian

Allan G. Tutunjian

Yeretzgin Zevart Hagopian

Jack Hajian

Christopher Hajian Mrs. Ada Hamparian Dickran Haroian

(IMO Marilyn Haroian)

John & Debra Haroian John & Jean Harr Zabel Hoosian Hovhannes Iknaian

Mary Ishkanian

John & Ardemis Jerikian Noubar & Nevart Kaderian

Robert A. & Marianne Kaloosdian

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kanarian

Lenore Karaian

John & Alice Karnikyan

Steven & Linda Kechejian & Family

Charles & Sirvart Keumurian Armen & Anoush Knaian Mrs. Nevart Kouvoumiian

Dr. & Mrs. Shavarsh & Anahid

Maiarian Nairi Makarian

George & Seta Manjikian

Mrs. Sona Manjikian

Silva Markarian

Zella Marootian

(IMO Haigouhi Atamian) Stephen & Sosie Megerdichian Helene Meghrian

Dikran & Maro Meguerditchian Hovsep & Rene Melkeshian

Mari Moumjian

Walter & Deanne Nahabedian

Carl & Valerie Narsasian

Seta Nercessian

Richard & Kelli Piligian & Family

Sarah Sahagian

Sarkis & Elsie Sarkisian Archalouys Sarkissian

Yeghsa Sarkissian

Albert Savadian, Sr. & Family

Alice Setian

James & Carol Tateossian

Noushig Hagopian & Tim Enright

Jilda Balian & Timothy Mulvey

Allan G. Tutunjian

Kegham & Rubina Varjabedian

Valerie M. Wise – Tucker

Joanne E. Wortman

Rima Sen Yousefian-Zeroonian Nishan & Marguerette Zoboyan

& Family

### WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS



### 2021 CHRISTMAS YOUGHAKIN & POINSETTIA Total \$12,415.00





YOUGHAKIN:

Kevork & Endza Abdalian

John & Krista Aftandilian & Family

John & Karen Aharonian

John & Margaret Ahigian

Kaspar & Jayne Andonian & Family

Alan Vahan Apakian

Mrs. Leona Arsenian

Robert & Carine Avakian

Isabel Avedikian

Queenie Aykanian

Mrs. Mary Azizian & Family

Levon Balian

Rev. & Mrs. Antranig Baljian

Rev. & Mrs. Stephan Baljian

Kenneth & Diane Biagiotti

John & Zovig Boyajian

Avedis & Houry Boyamian

Mrs. Mayram Daoudian

Anna Demurjian

Satenik Der Manuelian

Leo & Mary Derderian

Dorothy Esperian

Mrs. Arpine Fereshetian

Ron Iverson & Gail Guzelian & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Gennetian

Ruben Ghazaryans

Diana Hachikian

Ruth E. Hagopian

Yeretzgin Zevart Hagopian

Sonya Hagopian

Jack Hajian

Zabelle Hajian Azablar

Mrs. Ada Hamparian

Dickran Haroian

(IMO Marilyn Haroian)

John & Debra Haroian

John & Jean Harr

Mrs. Mary Ishkanian

William & Cerise Jalelian-Keim

John & Ardemis Jerikian

Noubar & Nevart Kaderian

John & Seta Kaleshian

Robert A. & Marianne Kaloosdian

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kanarian

John & Alice Karnikyan

Mr. Stephen Karoghlanian Jr.

Chris & Taline Kebadjian

Steven & Linda Kechejian & Family

Takouhie Kefeyan

Aghop & Alice Kessissian

Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Takouhie Keumurian

Charles & Sirvart Keumurian

Charles Antranig & Katherine Keumurian

Naomi Khederian-Bahtiarian

David & Joyce Khederian-Chiulli

Roupen & Annie Kiredjian

Armen & Anoush Knaian

Jacques Sarkis Kouchakdjian

Mrs. Nevart Kouyoumjian

Arsen & Margo Kozelian

Robert & Seta Liacopoulos

Gerard & Janet Lorden

Varu John & Armine Mahdasian

Shahe & Zovic Majarian

Dr. & Mrs. Shavarsh & Anahid Majarian

Nairi Makarian

George & Seta Manjikian

Silva Markarian

Ara Berj Marootian

Zella Marootian

Anna & Gladys Medzorian

Stephen & Sosie Megerdichian & Family

Hovsep & Rene Melkeshian

Mr. Vrej & Dr. Vana Melkonian

Mr. & Mrs. Edward & Ossanna Merjikian

Walter & Deanne Nahabedian

Carl & Valerie Narsasian

Seta Nercessian

Mr. & Mrs. Nazareth Ohannessian

Mrs. Evelvn Petrossian

**Dorothy Piligian** 

Richard & Kelli Piligian & Family

Regina Pusantian

Thomas Gengozian & Sally Vanerian

Yeghsa Sarkissian

Archalouys Sarkissian

Leo & Mary Beth Sarkissian

Alice Setian

(IMO Dzovig Hajian)

Barkev Siroonian

Sarkis & Shoushan Stepanian

Rose Stewart

Lucy Talanian & Family

Mrs. Adrienne Tanashian

James & Carol Tateossian

Sosie Terlemezian Robinson

Marjorie Terzian

Joshua & Diana Tevekelian

Noushig Hagopian & Tim Enright

Barbara Tutelian

Allan G. Tutunjian

Ashkhen & Shoushig Vanerian

Kegham & Rubina Varjabedian

Joanne E. Wortman

Ani Yessaillian

Rima Sen Yousefian-Zeroonian

#### POINSETTIA:

Paul & Sema Arakelian

(IMO Shant & Rose Anne Chebookjian)

Isabel Avedikian

(IMO Teriz Enokian, Nevart Janigian

& Verjin Avedikian)

Mary Avedisian

(IMO Husband, Harold Avedisian)

Queenie Aykanian

(IMO Minas Aykanian)

Mrs. Mary Azizian & Family

(IMO Husband, Chris Azizian &

Grandson, Royce Whitaker)

Hratch & Ani Belekian & Family

(IMO Parents, Belekian & Nalbandian)

Kohar Berberian

(IMO Dirouhi & Kevork Berberian) Kenneth & Diane Biagiotti

(IMO Kalousdian & Miktarian

Deceased Family Members)

Paul Crimlisk & Cheryl Shushan

(IMO Pearl & Savior LaFlamme) Steven & Nyeri Azablar-Ceragno

(IMO Varoujan Azablar)

The Costner Family

(IMO Marie Khachadoorian)

Stephen & Angele Dulgarian

George & Dorothy Elanjian

(IMO Aunt Eva, Parents, Haranoush

Mary & John)

Dorothy Esperian

(IMO Leo & Mary Esperian)

Varoujan & Elizabeth Garabedian

Ruth E. Hagopian

(IMO Dr. Varant Hagopian)

Noubar & Nevart Kaderian

(IMO Dzaghig Krikorian)

Vasken & Anayis Kebabijan & Family

(IMO Sarkis Kebabijan)

Mr. & Mrs. Jack G. Keumurian

(In loving memory of Keumurian &

Afarian's Deceased ones) Charles & Sirvart Keumurian

Nicolas & Aline Knaian

Craig & Shawna Minassian

(IMO Aram & Alice Minassian) Walter & Deanne Nahabedian

(IMO Boghos & Makrouhi Nahabedian)

Hagop & Sossy Nercessian

Alice Setian

Shahan & Mary Soukiasian

(IMO Lara & Noel)

Dr. & Mrs. A. Donald & Betty Shushan

Valerie M. Wise - Tucker

(IMO Victoria Tucker) Roxie Young

(IMO Marina & Michael Tomasian)



# 2022 EASTER YOUGHAKIN & EASTER LILIES Total \$7,520.00



#### **EASTER YOUGHAKIN:**

Kevork & Endza Abdalian John & Karen Aharonian Alan Vahan Apakian Mary Arabian Paul & Sema Arakelian Robert & Carine Avakian Isabel Avedikian

Mrs. Mary Azizian & Family Rev. & Mrs. Stephan Baljian

Barbara L. Baljian

Vahan V. & Sandra Basmajian

Mrs. Shoghig Basmajian Samuel & Aida Bejakian

Hratch & Ani Belekian & Family

Sebouh & Tamar Berejiklian Kenneth & Diane Biagiotti John & Zovig Boyajian Avedis & Houry Boyamian John & Julie Compas Myriam d'Ergan Jones

Mrs. Mayram Daoudian

Anna Demurjian Satenik Der Manuelian Leo & Mary Derderian Stephen & Angele Dulgarian

Akop Eremyan Dorothy Esperian Mrs. Arpine Fereshetian Robert & Marlene Gebeyan Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Gennetian

Ruben Ghazaryans Diana Hachikian Ruth E. Hagopian

Mr. & Mrs. Antranig Hagopian Yeretzgin Zevart Hagopian

Jack Hajian Christopher Hajian Zabelle Hajian Azablar Mrs. Ada Hamparian Dickran Harojan

(IMO Marilyn Haroian)
John & Debra Haroian
John & Jean Harr
Margaret Hazerjian
Olga Hovagimian
Mary Ishkanian

Leslie Jelalian

John & Ardemis Jerikian
Noubar & Nevart Kaderian
John & Seta Kaleshian
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kanarian
Chris & Taline Kebadjian

Steven & Linda Kechejian & Family Takouhie Kefeyan

Takouhie Kefeyan Marlin Keshishian Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Takouhie Keumurian

Charles & Sirvart Keumurian Naomi Khederian-Bahtiarian Jacques Sarkis Kouchakdjian

Jacques Sarkis Kouchakdj Nevart Kouyoumjian Arsen & Margo Kozelian Gerard & Janet Lorden

Varu John & Armine Mahdasian

Shahe & Zovic Majarian

Dr. & Mrs. Shavarsh & Anahid Majarian

Nairi Makarian Zella Marootian

Anna & Gladys Medzorian

Stephen & Sosie Megerdichian & Family

Helene Meghrian

Hovsep & Rene Melkeshian Vrej & Vana Melkonian

Mr. & Mrs. Edward & Ossanna Merjikian

Varouj & Alice Minassian George & Norma Misakian Walter & Deanne Nahabedian Algis & Varso Nakutis

Carl & Valerie Narsasian

Mr. & Mrs. Nazareth Ohannessian

Mrs. Evelyn Petrossian

Richard & Kelli Piligian & Family

John & Nina Sahagian Sarah Sahagian

Thomas Gengozian & Sally Vanerian

Archalouys Sarkissian Yeghsa Sarkissian

Albert Savadian, Sr. & Family Sarkis & Shoushan Stepanian Lucy Talanian & Family James & Carol Tateossian Sosie Terlemezian Robinson

Marjorie Terzian

Noushig Hagopian & Tim Enright

Elizabeth Topjian Allan G. Tutunjian

Ashkhen & Shoushig Vanerian Kegham & Rubina Varjabedian Gregory J. & Sonia Vartanian Valerie M. Wise - Tucker Joanne E. Wortman Ani Yessaillian Rima Sen Yousefian-Zeroonian Nishan & Marguerette Zoboyan & Family

**EASTER LILIES:** 

Arax Badalian

Norair & Meline Arslanian & Family Craig & Linda Avedikian (IMO Gregory Avedikian & Michael Kojoian) Steven & Nyeri Azablar-Ceragno (IMO Varoujan Azablar) Mrs. Mary Azizian & Family (IMO Husband, Chris Azizian & Grandson, Royce Whitaker)

Ohan & Mary Balanian (IMO parents, Bedros & Mary Balanian,

Sarkis & Azadouhi Keshishian)

Levon Balian

(IMO Emma Balian)

Rev. & Mrs. Antranig Baljian

(IMO all Baljian & Depoian deceased loved ones)

Kohar Berberian

(IMO Dirouhi & Kevork Berberian)

John & Zovig Boyajian The Costner Family

(IMO Marie Khachadoorian)

David, Sharon, Anthony & Isabella DeMarco

(IMO Kirk & Lehart Aharonian)

George & Dorothy Elanjian

(IMO Parents, John & Mary Giderian, Haranoush Marsubian, Granddaughter, Sloane Elanjian)

Dorothy Esperian

(IMO Leo & Mary Esperian)

Ruth E. Hagopian

(IMO Dr. Varant Hagopian)

Dickran Haroian

(IMO Marilyn Haroian)

Olga Hovagimian Cerise Jalelian-Keim

(IMO Lincoln Jalelian & Albert Jelalian)

Sarkis & Zarmineh Karakozian

Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Takouhie Keumurian

(In loving memory of late Mr. Khatchik Afarian) Aurelian & Anahid Mardiros

(IMO Lusine Mardiros & Meline Kenjarslanian)

Flora Matossian

(IMO Husband, Haroutiune Matossian)

Dikran & Maro Meguerditchian

Tro & Nora Melkonian
(IMO Vahe Chamlian)

Sarah Sahagian Alice Setian

(IMO Setian & Hajian Deceased Family)

Dr. & Mrs. A. Donald & Betty Shushan (IMO Helen Shushan)

Barbara Tutelian

(IMO Harry Tutelian)

Joanne E. Wortman

(IMO The Janigian Family)

Roxie Young

(IMO Marina Barsamian & Michael Tomasian)



The "Buy a Shingle" campaign to retire the mortgage on the "Green House" has ended with the payment in full of the outstanding balance. The Board of Trustees has decided to continue this campaign to retire the mortgage on the church's newest acquisition at 56-58 Elton Ave., popularly known as "The Pink House."

Yes, I want to help St. Stephen's Church retire the debt on the Pink House. Tax deductible contributions to this ongoing campaign may be made to St. Stephen's:

- \* \$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"

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### "I JUST LOVE 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

Dear Friends



During the past ten years 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<sup>th</sup> 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.



10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Sermon (Armenian and English) 11:45 AM: Requiem Service

Apostolic Church Watertown, MA Սուրբ Ստեփանոս Հայ Առաքելական Եկեղեցի Weekly E-Newsletter

St. Stephen's Armenian

r. Archpriest Antranig Baljian, Pastor www.soorpstepanos.org Check us out on YouTube

### 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 Visit us on facebook 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.



### **SACRAMENTS**



### **BAPTISMS**

**ARAZ CIARAN GRAHAM,** Son of Michael & Dina (Apovian) Graham, was baptized on February 26, 2022. His Godparents were Zareh Mikaelian & Taline Kopoyan.

NIKO SHAHAN DIMITAR SOUKIASIAN, Son of Vartan & Maria (Stambolieva) Soukiasian, was baptized on March 26, 2022. His Godparents were Chavdar Chahev & Sofia Karaguesian.

**LAYLA SUSANNE ENGLISH,** Daughter of David & Elizabeth (Foss) English, was baptized on April 23, 2022. Her Godparents were Timothy Cunha & Kristen Bright.

**SELENE VOSKI NAU,** Daughter of Richard Jr. & Betty (Abajian) Nau, was baptized on April 30, 2022. Her Godparents were Hyke & Maria Grigorian.

**ELISE ARAXI SAVO,** Daughter of Salvatore & Rita (Kaderian) Savo, was baptized on May 1, 2022. Her Godparents were Christopher DiPerna & Maida Kaderian.

**RAPHAEL VAHAN GAZARIAN,** Son of Edward & Nairi (Demirchian) Gazarian, was baptized on May 7, 2022. His Godparents were Berj Chekijian & Lorig Demirchian.

**CHARLES EDWARD KHATCHATOURIAN,** Son of Patrick & Laura (Meadows) Khatchatourian, was baptized on June 4, 2022. His Godparents were Alex Khatchatourian & Maryanne Sherburne.

**JAMES KASPARIAN GALLEY,** Son of Jacob & Alyson (Murray) Galley, was baptized on June 12, 2022. His Godparents were Jordan Cote & Christina Hanss.

**ANDRANIK AGAMOV,** Son of Bejamin & Innaida Agamov, was baptized on June 22, 2022. His Godparent was Jason Graca.

**ALEX PAPAZIAN,** Son of Bedros & Nairy (Kasparian) Papazian, was baptized on June 26, 2022. His Godparents were Krikor & Mireille Papazian.

**PRICE DAVID GARDNER,** Son of Justin & Jenna (Drevins) Gardner, was baptized on July 2, 2022. His Godparents were Brandon Gardner & Jessica Drevins Donnarumma.

**WESLEY CARMINE DONNARUMMA,** Son of Daniel & Jessica (Drevins) Donnarumma, was baptized on July 2, 2022. His Godparents were Justin & Jenna Gardner.

**ADRIANNA ANAHID ISKENDERIAN,** Daughter of Hratch & Cynthia Iskenderian, was baptized on July 9, 2022. Her Godparents were Gerard & Tamar Iskenderian.

**AIKI HAMALIAN,** Daughter of Arek & Eileen Hamalian, was baptized on July 17, 2022. Her Godparents were Ari & Olya Hamalian.

**ELVIRA VARTOUHI OHANYAN,** Daughter of Markar & Tamar (Sahakyan) Ohanyan, was baptized on July 23, 2022. Her Godparent was Raffi Bagdassarian.

**FLORENCE JESSICA BOYAJIAN,** Daughter of Alex & Evelyn (Hall) Boyajian, was baptized on August 20, 2022. Her Godparents were Greg Dulgarian & Natalie Daghbandan.

**MIA MAE FRASER,** Daughter of Jonathan & Mari (Hackett) Fraser, was baptized on August 28, 2022. Her Godparents were David Hackett & Ani Hackett.

**PARDI AJEMIAN,** Daughter of Rev. Fr. Samuel & Yeretzgin Patil (Arabatlian) Ajemian, was baptized on August 28, 2022. Her Godparents were Raffi Manjikian & Tamar Kanarian.

**ELIZABETH ANNE BERBERIAN-FORT,** was baptized on September 10, 2022. Her Godparents were Robert Lawrence & Kimberly Donovan.

**JULIANA LARA JILIAN,** Daughter of Armen & Alexandra (Bastajian) Jilian, was baptized on September 17, 2022. Her Godparents were Greg & Christina Akaraz.

**TAVIT YEREM YABOUJIAN,** Son of Tavit & Alexandria (Salemis) Yaboujian, was baptized on September 18, 2022. His Godparents were Raffi Yaboujian & Monica Yapoudjian.

**SARO JAMES BAZARBACHIAN,** Son of Hagop Jack & Lilith (Kibarian) Bazarbachian, was baptized on October 19, 2022. His Godparents were Sarkis Bazarbachian & Nayree Kibarian & Tirouhi Bazarbachian.

**ARMEN JAMES GIBBS,** Son of Norman Gibbs & Lisa Zerdelian, was baptized on October 16, 2022. His Godparents were Michael Zerdelian & Michelle Zerdelian.

**MAXIMILIAN KAREKINE DAVIS,** Son of Scott & Nayiri (Keshishian) Davis, was baptized on October 22, 2022. His Godparents were Todd Alan Davis & Karoline Keshishian Kazancian.

**ELIZABETH ARINE NERKIZIAN,** Daughter of Garo & Meghrig (Jabaghjourian) Nerkizian, was baptized on November 20, 2022. Her Godparents were Hratch Nerkizian & Nanor Nerkizian.

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

Pastor & Board of Trustees



# **FUNERALS**

SILVA KHOKASIAN (Graveside Service)

January 7, 2022

SOSSI BAGDASARIAN

January 12, 2022

MARY KASARJIAN

January 21, 2022

SIRARPIE STELLA AFTANDILIAN

January 22, 2022

ARPY (OHANIAN) KOUYOUMJIAN

January 27, 2022

MELINA MARILYN HAROIAN

February 24, 2022

SHAKEH CAROLINE KARAMIAN

March 4, 2022

HARRY KESHISHIAN

March 15, 2022

**KEGHAM GHAZARIAN** 

March 30, 2022

LUCINE PARSEGHIAN

March 31, 2022

VARTAN SERADERIAN

April 2, 2022

PERCHUI DANIYELYAN

April 11, 2022

WARTIVAR IKNAIAN

April 16, 2022

HOSEP ALTOUNDJIAN

April 20, 2022

**HAGOP MARKARIAN** 

May 2, 2022

ANI KERESTEDJIAN

May 4, 2022

VARTAN BERBERIAN

May 5, 2022

**NISHAN NAJARIAN** 

May 6, 2022

JOSEPH MARKARIAN

(Funeral Home Service)

May 20, 2022

MAYRAM CHILOYAN

June 3, 2022

MARI DEMIRCHIAN

June 13, 2022

AZADOUHI (SALLY) KULEGIAN

June 14, 2022

AZADOUHIE FROUNJIAN

June 16, 2022

ARPI YESSAILLIAN

June 18, 2022

KEVORK MOUCHLIAN

July 1, 2022

LUCILE DELUCA

July 20, 2022

DR. RAZMIK DERSIRAKIAN

August 16, 2022

**ROSE GUARNIERI** 

(Funeral Home Service)

August 24, 2022

KAREN DERIAN

(Funeral Home Service)

September 6, 2022

DICKRAN GREGORY HAROIAN

September 8, 2022

JOHN OHANESS BEJAKIAN

September 20, 2022

SHOUSHIK FRANKIAN

September 22, 2022

THELMA DER AVEDISIAN

October 13, 2022

ABRAHAM BARDAKJIAN

October 14, 2022

CHARLES GARABED KEUMURIAN

October 28, 2022

SEDA SONENTZ PAPAZIAN

(Memorial Service)

November 3, 2022

ARMENE CHORBAJIAN

November 17, 2022

VARTAN GARABED NERKIZIAN

November 30, 2022

ANOUSH KHAZE

December 3, 2022

VAHAN ALAN APAKIAN

(Funeral Home Service)

December 7, 2022

SARKIS MARZBED MARGOSSIAN

(Graveside Service)

December 9, 2022

EGHISA HAGOPIAN

December 12, 2022

MARY KAZAZIAN

December 15, 2022

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

Pastor and Board of Trustees



### **WEDDINGS**

KENAR CHARCHAFLIAN, daughter of Mr. Michael Charchaflian & Mrs. Arpi Aprahamian was wed to NAREG MKRTSCHJAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. John & Taline (Zadourian) Mkrtschjan, on May 14, 2022. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Rosdom Mkrtschjan & Monica Bejakian.

COLLEEN FRANCES BIDGOOD, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William & Maureen (O'Leary) Bidgood was wed to SEBOUH HAGOP MAJARIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Shahe & Zovic (Tossounian) Majarian, on June 9, 2022. Best Man was Albert Baroumian.

ALIK ARZOUMANIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Abkar & Armineh (Jankouzian) Arzoumanian was wed to PAUL RAZMIG KASSABIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Sako & Ani (Bedrosian) Kassabian, on June 25, 2022. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Daniel Bedrosian & Lea Carina Jankouzian

MARIA-EMMA AIRAPETIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tigran & Gohar (Mkrtchyan) Airapetian was wed to TAYLOR MICHAEL LYONS, son of Mr. & Mrs. Loren & Alice (Roche) Lyons, on June 25, 2022. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Russell Hoogasian & Karine Mkrtchyan.

NARIS TALISH GHAZARIANS, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ara & Peggy (Hovanessian) Ghazarians was wed to CHRISTIAN TERRENCE MYERS, son of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Karen (Anastasia) Myers, on August 5, 2022. Best Man was Christopher Brennan.

BRIDGETTE SIOBHAN TRUDEAU, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Scott & Paulette (Anisczeski) Trudeau was wed to MICHAEL ARA ARTINIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Garabet & Hermine (Mouradian) Artinian, on October 10, 2022. Best Man and Maid of Honor were Gary Artinian & Emily & Maryssa Trudeau.

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

Pastor & 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.

<u>THROUGH A WILL OR A LIVING TRUST:</u> 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.

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Other Hours by Appointment

#### CHURCH SCHEDULE

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

11:00 A.M. Sermon

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

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.

#### **<CONTRACT OF CONTRACT OF CO**

Հոգնհանգիստի համար հաճնցէք հնոաձայննլ նկնոնցւոյ գրասնննակ մինչնւ Հինգշաբթի կ.ն. ժամը 3:00, որպէսզի կարննանք անունննրը հրատարակնլ կիրակնօրնայ թնրթիկին մէջ։ Նուիրատուութիւնննրը կարնլի է կատարն հնտննալ ձնւնրով, Գարթով, նամակով, անձամբ նկնղնցւոյ գրասնննակը կամ կիրակի օրը՝ նկնղնցւոյ մէջ, Հոգաբարձութնան գրասնննակը։

#### **REQUIEM**

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.

#### CHILDRENS' SERMON

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

#### LADIES' GUILD

Women of all ages who desire to serve their church are invited to join the Ladies Guild. Please contact the Chairlady, Becky Megerdichian for more info at 617-852-1315.

#### 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

#### **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 մը ունիք ձեր տան մէջ կամ հիւանդանոցը եւ կը փափաքիք հովիւին այցելութիւնը, հաճեցէք հեռաձայնել եկեղեցող գրասենեակ։

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.

ՃՐԱԳի այս թիւը լման տարնշրջանի մը գործունէութիւնն ու ստացած նուիրարուութնանց արձանագրութիւննները կը ննրկայացնէ։ Միշտ կը ջանանք մնր լաւագոյնը կատարնլ, սակայն մոռացում կամ սխալ արձանագրութիւնննը կրնան պատահիլ, մանաւանդ այսպիսի խճողուած թիւի մը պարագային։ Կանխաւ ձնր ննրողամտութիւնը կը խնդրննք որնւէ վրիպումի կամ թնրացումի համար։ Եթէ սխալ մը նկատէք, հաճնցէք նկնղնցւոյ գրասնննակը տնղնակ պահնլ, որպէսզի սրբագրննք յաջորդ թիւին մէջ։

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The current issue of JRAK covers an entire year's worth of activity and donations. Although we try our best in preparing this newsletter, inadvertent errors are bound to occur, especially in such a packed issue. Please accept our apologies in advance for any mistakes or errors and inform the church office so the information can be printed correctly in the next issue.

**EDITORIAL BOARD** 

ST. STEPHEN'S
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OF GREATER BOSTON
38 Elton Avenue
Watertown, MA 02472

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# HIS HOLINESS CATHOLICOS ARAM I MEETS WITH DELEGATIONS OF PRELACIES

December 12, during the three day plenary meetings of the World Assembly, convened on December 7-9, 2022, presided by His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, each Prelacy's delegation, headed by their prelates-, held special meetings with His Holiness Catholicos Aram I and discussed matters concerning their communities.