

Mer Dorn



V. Rev. Fr. Oshagan Gulgulian, Pastor

ST. SAHAG & ST. MESROB ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH PARISH COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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Pastor

The Very Rev. Fr. Oshagan Gulgulian, *M. Div.*

Office Secretary

Looking for Volunteers

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Church Office Hours

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Pastor's Hours

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday Divine Liturgy Services

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.
Choirmaster – Yn. Angel Metjian

Organists:

Laraine Ballard

PARISH COUNCIL

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Grounds & Maintenance Liaisons
Aris Topakbashian, *Coordinator*

Front cover:

Group photograph following the Divine Liturgy on October 20th, 2019 on the occasion of the first visit of His Grace, Bishop Daniel Findikyan as Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).





THE PASTOR'S CORNER

“Let there be light” Genesis 1:3

As I was driving home from church the other evening, it appeared to me that the sun was lingering just a little bit longer on the horizon before it set. The extra few minutes of light were quite noticeable. It brought to my attention that it is the time of year when the earth’s rotation is bringing us closer to the sun, allowing daylight to linger just a little bit longer each day, driving back the darker days of winter.



This made me think not only about the lengthy winter darkness, but also about how there are times of darkness in our lives, too. We face challenges at work, our relationships hit a rough patch, or our aspirations meet disappointment. Naturally we make plans for our future and we get tripped up when life doesn’t follow accordingly.

At these times it is very easy to succumb to the mindset of the glass being half empty. Why did I get passed over for that promotion? Why am I faced with these difficult challenges with my child? We Armenians know very well the walk of darkness. Our mothers drew the Armenian alphabet in the sand of the Der Zor (Deir ez-Zor) desert for the children in hope of a brighter tomorrow. In these times let us recall the wise Proverb of 16:9, *“The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.”* If we have true faith in our hearts, the way and the light of God will grow stronger with the passing of each dark day. And the brighter days will be more joyous because of the darkness that preceded them.

And so, might we find some virtue in adversity in that it brings us a heightened appreciation of the joyful blessings of life? If we have never travelled the dark road of troubles, we would never fully experience the light of God overcoming the darkness, just as the light of spring pushes back the darkness of winter. Certainly, we find spring sweetest because it follows winter. Difficulties and successes, dark times and light times, they are two sides to the same coin and we can’t fully experience the one without the other. We can arrive at a peaceful understanding when we accept this and come to understand that God has His plan. And so, slow though it may be as you climb out from under the weight of the struggles you face, with faith the miracle of God’s light will allow you the way forward.

Darkness will always be a part of life. But the daylight will grow longer and it will be all the more glorious in the wake of the darkness. Remain steadfast in your faith and trust in God’s purpose for your life.

“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” - John 8:12

✠ Fr. Oshagan



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Dear Parish Family,

With the start of any new year, it has become natural to reflect on where we have come and where we intend to go. In many ways, 2019 was a great year for our parish. Thanks to the many dedicated members of our community, we faced our challenges head on with the ambition of engaging our parishioners, strengthening our organizations and being a positive force for the Philadelphia Armenian Community at large. While we cannot say that we have solved all of our challenges just yet, we are confident as a Parish Council and extended leadership, that we have taken the right steps in every area that has needed attention, and have faith that when we pray and work together, we can achieve anything for the benefit of our Parish Community.



The last few months of 2019 ended with a flurry of activity that we have not seen in some time in our parish. In October, our ACYOA Juniors hosted a fantastic and innovative Sports Weekend that welcomed over 200 ACYOA Juniors from parishes throughout our Diocese. The following week, we hosted the Bishop Daniel Findikyan, who visited our parish for the first time as Primate, on the occasion of the 95th Anniversary of the Parish Charter. That weekend, we launched a Five-Year Stewardship Campaign to secure the future of our church, and we are extremely grateful to those who took part in contributing to the success of the weekend and the launch of this campaign.

In November, under Hayr Sourp’s leadership, our parish hosted the Concelebration of Philadelphia Area Oriental Orthodox Churches. The concelebration was an incredible display of the shared beliefs among our churches and a demonstration of the possibility of unity across cultural differences. Later in November, we continued to gear up for our Annual Christmas Festival. Once again, this event, a true example of our parish coming together as one, proved to be a resounding success as it kicked off our month-long Christmas Season.

Throughout this time, our Sunday School has enjoyed a rejuvenated spirit, meeting regularly on Sunday, continuing to be the heartbeat of our parish. The first half of the Sunday School year was highlighted by the beautiful Christmas Pageant we witnessed as it reconnected us to the meaning of Christmas and the joy that this there for us to experience when we are connected to Christ.

As we look to 2020, a new year and the start of a new decade, we look forward to continuing our ambitions for the parish, knowing they can only be fulfilled through our collective effort. We know that when we come together as a community, in thought and in prayer, we can accomplish anything. With our upcoming Parish Assembly, I invite you to come and share your thoughts, ideas and any ambitions of your own. Let’s come together and challenge the limits of what we can accomplish. We thank you for your continued support and I would like to reiterate our commitment to serve Our Lord through serving you.

✍ Alex Topakbashian



Thank you

In this issue we would like to recognize and thank five of our parishioners who stepped forward to take on the responsibility of handling a few of our recent events. We would like to recognize and thank *Tanya Bardakjian* for her unswerving commitment and tremendous dedication to our youth, as always, but specifically for hosting our ACYOA Sports Weekend this fall. Our sincere thank you to *Laraine Ballard* for chairing a distinguished banquet for the visit of our *Primate, Bishop Daniel Findikyan*, on the 95th Anniversary of the signing of our charter. To *Avedis Boornazian* and *Lisa Kazanjian*, we extend our thank you for co-chairing a successful and joyful Christmas Food Festival. And to *Sossi Avrigian* and her team of volunteers, who so capably orchestrated the beautiful Sunday School Christmas Pageant, we offer our gratitude. The gift of your time and attention has been an invaluable contribution to our St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Apostolic Church community. You have our sincere thank you.

FACEBOOK, WEBSITE & Email

Please visit our beautiful new website at www.sahagmesrob.church where you will find information about our church, news & events, our organizations, how to get involved and much more. Follow us on Facebook at “*St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*” to read our weekly sermon summary, stay apprised of our news & activities, and view our event photographs.

PLEASE NOTE: Hayr Sourp’s email address has changed to hs@sahagmesrob.church

St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Wish List

We are reaching out to our Parish Family to let you know that we have a project that need our attention.

We are looking for sponsors- individuals, businesses or organizations- to support our Mer Doon publication. The printing and mailing costs of each issue is more than one might expect. Your name will be recognized in the Mer Doon.

It is our goal to keep our beloved St. Sahag & St. Mesrob home in good condition, and as such, we are in search of angel patrons to sponsor our Church’s needs. Contributions of any size are welcome. Please speak with Hayr Sourp if you feel called as a benefactor to support any of our projects.

As always, thank you for your consideration and continued backing. We are exceedingly blessed to have such a supportive Church Family.

ARTICLES FOR MER DOON FROM YOU

The *Mer Doon* is accepting articles written by our parishioners. Have you celebrated a milestone – a wedding, anniversary, christening or birthday in your family? Have you been somewhere fascinating or participated in a special project? The *Mer Doon* wants to hear about it. Church organizations are strongly encouraged to contribute articles. Submit your articles and photos to hs@sahagmesrob.church. Photos should include the following information: event name, date, and the identity of each individual in the photo.



PARISH NEWS

Women's Guild Update



The Women's Guild has been active these past few months with a memorable fundraiser, a beautiful visit to a local museum, and the wonderful annual Christmas Food Festival. These activities were not only cultural, social and in support of our church, but also allowed the Women's Guild to continue fostering old friendships and build new ones.

On October 30, the Women's Guild held a regional dinner & dance. We wanted to feature the region of Hayasdan, and one of our parishioners, Karlen Ghaxaryan, who was born in Armenia, graciously accepted taking on a large share of the food planning and prep. He and his team of workers, including several members of the Women's Guild, prepared food for 115 attendees. Karlen's wife, Lida, decorated Memorial Hall beautifully with tablecloths and runners that were made in Hayasdan, and had cakes prepared with pictures of places and monuments in Hayasdan. The centerpieces, all handmade by our talented Rita Katchadourian, were festive and creative. One easily could imagine being in Armenia that night!

The evening had a masquerade theme and many came dressed in delightful costumes. Ruth Melian, dressed as a Ruth Bader Ginsburg lookalike, won a meal for two at Turning Point for best costume. The night went on for hours, and everyone, young and older, was up dancing to the Armenian and American music spun by DJ Robbie Barone. It was truly a memorable night. On behalf of the Women's Guild, I send a HUGE *thank you* to Lida & Karlen for all the work they poured into our successful evening. And to all volunteers who assisted with the event, in ways both big and small, I am honored to have worked alongside you to realize the level of success we achieved.

Moving into the Christmas Food Festival, I would like to thank all who baked and delivered treats for the baked goods table. Word got out, and I know personally, how delicious everything was. Margrit Stepanian and her husband Zaro, worked tirelessly behind the tables selling, packaging and displaying, and I thank them



for that. Attic Treasures was back this year, and the Attic Treasures Committee is pleased to report they had a stellar year in sales. They were excited to participate and were grateful to all of the parishioners who generously donated their items for the sale. The committee raised a record total of \$1,570! Many thanks to all of you who donated and/or bought items that helped make this year's sale a hit.

On January 4th, 22 women and two children visited the Winterthur Museum for a lovely tour of the Yuletide exhibit along with other fabulous exhibits. We saw dozens of elegant rooms decorated with Christmas trees, candles and lights, traditional ornaments, food ornaments and gifts from years past. We got a firsthand look at Christmas decorations from past eras and how these decorations have evolved over time. The rooms were magnificent with color and attention to detail, and the docent's tour was both interesting and educational. Many of us left with new ideas for our Christmas displays, so Martha Stewart better watch out! It was truly a wonderful way to spend a day during the 12 days of Christmas.

We have some exciting events to look forward to, so please mark your calendars! Our next general meeting, including elections, is planned for February 16, starting at 12:30 in Memorial Hall. An email will be sent confirming this meeting as the date may change. The Women's Guild will have a Manti luncheon (I can taste them already, and they're delicious, by the way!) on February 23 after church. All are welcome and we hope you will join us and support the Guild while eating a sumptuous Armenian meal. If you'd like to learn how to make manti, or if you are a veteran manti maker and can assist with making it, please come to Hayatian Hall at 10am on Monday, February 10. We would appreciate any assistance you can provide. And finally, our Women's Guild will be hosting a Saintly Women's Day program in March. Stay tuned for more details.

The Women's Guild is open to women of all ages. We have a diverse group of women with many talents and much spirit. Our distribution list continues to grow, as does membership, but we'd love to grow even more. Dues are \$15 annually. Please consider joining us. The more the merrier. If you have an idea for the group, please reach out to me at ndersimonian@gmail.com, or at 610-688-3656.

✍ Nancy DerSimonian

Sunday School 2018-2019





Our Sunday School continues to grow in new and exciting ways!

In October 2019, we introduced our *NEW* Sunday School program for 7th through 12th grades under the direction of Teresa Yenovkian. This is a program for those who live at a distance, or find themselves overly committed with studies/commitments and therefore cannot physically be present at church for Morning Services. This supplemental teaching is done on Sunday nights, via Google hangout, and is an exact replication of the teaching taught during Sunday morning classes for our upper level grades at St. Sahag & St. Mesrob's Sunday School. In addition, upper level students began their required services for graduation, by serving the Church in different capacities, alongside Parish Council members. This service requirement, once/twice a



month, helps the students learn responsibilities to the Church outside of the classroom setting. Coordinators of this program, whether on-site at Church or off-site via Skype, etc. include Lucille Mikaelian, Peter Yilanjian and Arpi Kilroy. Please contact Teresa at (tyenovkian@gmail.com) or her cell (610) 209-1932 for more information regarding this new Sunday School program.





On Sunday, October 20th, 2019 our Sunday School students participated in welcoming Our Primate, His Grace, Bishop Daniel Findikyan Divine Liturgy at the banquet celebrating his visit on the occasion of the 95th Anniversary of our Parish Charter. Our Sunday School children, led by our church choir director, Yerezkin Angel Metjian, opened the program for the banquet by first reciting our Hayr Mer, (Lord's Prayer), then shortly afterwards, two of our students, Roseline Meguerian (Armenian) and Angel Lusk (English), welcomed Bishop Daniel Findikyan to St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church. All our Sunday School children then followed with two Hymns: Soorp Asdvadz and Orhnetziz uzDer and closed the Sunday School portion of the program by graciously saying "Paree Yegar, Serpazan Hayr!" (with both hands up in the air) to His Grace, Bishop Daniel Findikyan. It was a truly blessed and memorable day for all who attended our Bishop's Divine Liturgy and banquet.



On Saturday, October 26th, 2019, Sunday School held our annual Halloween Party. A big thank you to Ida Ramoundos for a wonderful Halloween Party as it was enjoyed by all. Thirty children attended, dressed in their Halloween best! The children enjoyed food, crafts, temporary holiday tattoos and of course plenty of Halloween treats. Everyone was entertained by the magic of Captain Swirly, who put on a funny magic show and made creative balloons for everyone. Thank you to all the parents for supporting this event and helping make this a fun party for our children.

November and December 2019 proved to be busy months for Sunday School as we prepared for our Christmas Festival and Christmas Pageant. Additionally, on November 3rd, Jodi Petrosian opened our Sunday School Store. The Sunday School Store is an incentive program for those who attend Sunday School/read/sing/candle hold/other - such as volunteer in the pageant, etc. - allowing each child to earn points in order to “purchase” a prize from the store, approximately once a month. Our sincere thanks to Jodi Petrosian for opening and managing the Sunday School Store throughout the school year. Please feel free to contact Jodi, jodipetrosian@yahoo.com or call/text her at (484) 639-4462 with any specific suggestions for prizes your child might enjoy.

On Sunday, November 17th, the Sunday School Children met to complete their Christmas Festival projects, to be sold at our annual Christmas Bazaar Sunday School table, set for December 7 & 8th, 2019. Many thanks to Tina Bejian-Binnion and Arpi Kilroy who helped coordinate and sell our Christmas ornaments, koozies, chocolate pretzel sticks, and hot chocolate cones at the Christmas Bazaar. Also thank you to all the Sunday School children and parents, who worked to help manage the Sunday School Bazaar table. It truly was a successful event for all.

On Sunday, December 22nd, 2019, our annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant took place at St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church. With the dynamic and creative group of trusted Sunday School parents, consisting of Talene Metjian, Sossy Amirian, Maral Yacobe and Vivi Meguerian, the Christmas Pageant committee orchestrated one of the most successful and enjoyable Christmas Pageants the Sunday School has put on. Pageant Participants consisted of up to fifty Sunday School Students, dressed as Mary, Joseph, Blue/Gabriel/Gloria Angels, additional Angels, Lambs, Shepherds, Kings, and Choir/Reader(s). Thank you to all the children and parents, who worked with the script, modeled the patience, skills, and organization necessary to bring the Christmas Pageant to its` fruition. Special thanks to our Church Choir director, Yerezkin Angel Metjian, our organist, Laraine Ballard, and our photographer, Pam Mamourian. Additional thanks and gratitude to our V. Rev. Father Oshagan Gulgolian, Pastor, our Sunday School teachers, parents, Sunday School students and the congregation for their continued support of the Sunday School. Thank you!

Following our Christmas Pageant, we celebrated the New Year and our Armenian Christmas Eve on Sunday, January 5th, 2020. Under the direction of Talene Metjian-Lusk, two to three generations of children, parents, and grandparents participated in reading the Scripture in celebration of the Feast of the Holy Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This multi-generational participation was a beautiful reflection of our parish. Please consider joining us as a Reader/Acolyte. Contact Talene Metjian tmetjain@hкотmail.com if you, your child/godchild/ grandchild would like to participate.

On Sunday, January 12th, 2020 we welcomed our Sunday School students to a ‘New Year and Back to Class.’ Thus, we continue with our Sunday School and our twice-a-month Sunday Assembly, lead by yours truly, Sossi Avrigian. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead where we plan on a pilgrimage to St. Nercess



Seminary (date TBD - details to follow), our Poon Paregentan Sandwich Sunday, Lenten Supper Sponsorship, Palm Sunday Church Procession, Easter Egg Hunt, Eastertide Communion Breakfast, and preparation for our Sunday School Closing Ceremony, scheduled for Sunday, May 17, 2020.

Once again, Sunday School would not be possible without the amazing dedication of our loving teaching staff and volunteers. Thank you teachers and parents, for devoting your time and knowledge on a weekly basis to our youth. Thank you also to our loving parents for bringing you precious children to Sunday School. We invite you to come, hear, learn and grow in Christ, with us here at St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church Sunday School. Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity for all children, ages 3 to 18, to become familiar with our Church, our Armenian heritage and to form lasting friendships. Please contact Sossi Avrigian, s.avrigian@yahoo.com, regarding participation for your child/grandchild/godchild.

✍ Sossi Avrigian

Men's Club



The fall-winter Men's Club season was memorable for two events. On a wonderful, cool fall evening, Hayr Sourp hosted the Men's Club for dinner on the patio of his home. Hayr Sourp prepared the dinner himself, with the men assisting with the grilling. The perfect evening weather and relaxed backyard setting made for easy conversation, our usual story-telling, and ample, spontaneous laughter.

Men's Club went on to provide bartending services at the Christmas Food Festival. While the crew changed several times over the two evenings, the beverages were served with the consistent good spirit of the holiday.

Looking ahead, this spring we are planning another outing at M & M Sporting Clays and will be serving breakfast for the Sunday School children on a day to be announced.

We welcome and encourage new members. Men's Club builds relationships and support between our members, and we have a dedicated mission to serve our church community. If you are interested in joining us, please contact alexmamourian@me.com for specifics of upcoming events.

✍ Alex Mamourian



Senior Men’s Club



On a recent Wednesday I sat down in Hayatian Hall with 10 members of the Senior Men’s Club to find out a little bit about their history and what they are currently up to. As their title suggests, the Seniors have been around for a quite some time. They recalled that the St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Men’s Club originated well before their time, back at the 6006 Walnut Street location at some point in the 1930s. The St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Men’s Club continued through the church’s move to 58th and Locust and then came to our current Wynnewood location of St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Apostolic Church in the 1960s.



In their heyday the Men’s Club had 40 plus members. They fondly look back at the time in the ‘60s and ‘70s when they used to host an elegant “Men’s Club Steak Dinner” as an annual social event to raise money for the church.

They also warmly recalled the days when they had their own room in the church with a kitchen and a pool table. “Those were the days,” said Haig Geovjian, one of the original members of the Seniors from the current group.



The Seniors have a wonderful sense of humor and a very special camaraderie. When they gather on Wednesdays, they divide into two groups, with one group playing backgammon and the other group playing cards. They tell stories, swap jokes and simply enjoy each other’s company. They recalled that back in 1968 they wanted to begin some activity, so they came up with the idea of a sports program. “We played volleyball, basketball and football,” recalled Jimmy Barikian, one of the three members from that era, along with Haig Geovjian and James Kesdekian. They had a tradition at the time of competing against St. Gregory’s in a football match on Thanksgiving. Their collective memory is unwavering in recalling that St. Sahag & St. Mesrob always won the game. Always. Long gone are the basketball and football games, but the cards and backgammon are a fine replacement at this age.

The toughest thing they face is losing members. It’s very difficult for them. Hayr Sourp remembers when they used to have 3 full tables of men on Wednesdays playing cards and tavloo. When he stops by on Wednesdays to check on the Seniors and chat, it is very difficult for him as well to see declining numbers. But the Seniors maintain their sense of humor as best as they can. “All the good guys are gone and we’re just what’s left over,” says Haig with a grin.

The Seniors believe in supporting the church and they contribute every year to the annual budget. It is more modest at this chapter of their lives than when they were a younger, more active community, but they still believe it’s important. They have a lively brotherhood based on many years of friendship and they care deeply for their St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church.

Senior Men’s Club meets in Hayatian Hall on Wednesdays, from 10:30 – 3:00 pm. They play cards, backgammon and have lunch. Anyone interested in joining them, please stop by. They welcome new members.

✍ Pam Mamourian

Glimpse of History





ACYOA Trs.



The past few months have been quite busy for the ACYOA! This October, our very own Parish hosted the annual Columbus Day Sports Weekend. This year we held the event at Camp Kwebec, an all inclusive campground outside of Philadelphia in Schwenksville. Despite not using the traditional method of host homes to provide housing for the participants, the event would not have been possible without the support of our St. Sahag & St. Mesrob parish. Thanks to generous donations from our parish members, the weekend came together beautifully. We hosted teens from all over the East Coast, from Boston to Florida, and included over 200 participants. We had sports competitions all day, in basketball, volleyball, soccer, and individual sports & games like tavloo and ping pong. Since we were at a campground, there were also opportunities for outdoor activities like rock climbing and ziplining over the lake. At night, there were dances where we got a chance to show off our Armenian dance moves. Sunday morning we helped hold a morning prayer service, and then moved right into our championship games, where the Philadelphia Girls Volleyball secured first place. The weekend was not only a chance to see friends, but to come together as Armenian youth and celebrate our common heritage. Looking forward, as we approach the Lenten Season, the ACYOA will engage in community service to benefit our community and grow closer to God through serving others. If you or your child is interested in joining the ACYOA, please do not hesitate to contact Sona Bardakjian Bards21@episcopalacademy.org or Tanya Bardakjian tanyabardakjian@gmail.com! Ages range from 13-18.

✍ Sona Bardakjian



Church Archives

The Archives Committee is presenting here the incredible story of the risks faced and the remarkable determination and dedication that St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Apostolic Church parishioners displayed throughout the decades to help maintain our parish for future generations. (Note: all sums in parentheses are converted to 2020 dollars.)

At the turn of the 20th century, it is estimated there were about 100 Armenians in Philadelphia. In 1913, they bought a church at Broad and Pike Streets for \$18,000 (\$466,830.91). Parishioner Krikor Jerrehian alone gave \$500 (\$12,911.97) for that cause.

The parish council sold the Pike & Broad location in 1923 for \$30,000 (\$448,521.05). However, at that time the church had an outstanding debt of \$4,400 (\$65,783.09). To cover the debt Mardiros Guoloyan gave \$1400 (\$20,930.98). Mother Hormig Temoyan gave \$3000 (\$44,852.11) in memory of her son Hovhannes Temoyan. She also established a permanent fund of \$1,000 and the interest was to be turned over annually to the church treasurer.

A couple of years later (1925), the church bought a house at 6006 Walnut Street in West Philadelphia for \$42,000 (\$613,576.80). Then came the Great Depression of the 1930s and the bank wanted to call the \$15,000 (\$294,988.85) mortgage. Stepping up to the challenge, parishioners Aram Jerrehian and Haig Pakradooni guaranteed the mortgage, saving our church property.



The early 1960s saw a large number of St. Sahag parishioners moving out of Philadelphia and into the western suburbs. It was then that the church decided to move. Joining together to raise capital for a mortgage, in 1961 four parishioners put up their businesses, business equipment and their homes and other properties to help purchase our current Wynnewood home. They were (photos below, left to right) John Avedis Alabilikian, Sarkis Eouksouzian, Leon Kazanjian, and Aram Zakian. These parishioners put up their entire assets to secure a mortgage to purchase the property. The Archives have a statement of Assets & Liabilities from the PSFS Bank which totaled \$454,162. In today's money, that comes to an astounding **\$3,883,267.37!**

The parishioners of St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Apostolic Church can take pride that we have had and continue to have leaders among us who are dedicated to our church. These people are the visionaries who take the initiative to see that our parish continues to thrive.



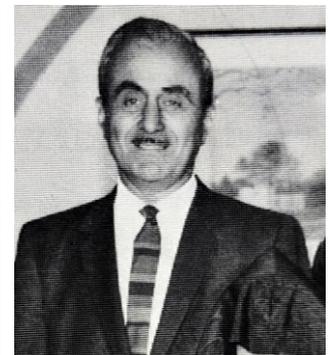
John Avedis Alabilikian



Sarkis Eouksouzian



Leon Kazanjian



Aram Zakian

✍ The Archives Committee



YEREVANIAN NIGHT

On Wednesday, October 30th, the Women's Guild of St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church in Wynnwood, PA, partnered with Mr. and Mrs. Karlen Ghazaryan to host an authentic Yerevan Regional Dinner and Dance. This was the first of several Regional Dinners the Guild, under the leadership of Chair, Nancy DerSimonian, has planned for this year. The dinner was spectacular and the music, by DJ Robbie Barone, got everyone out of their seats and onto the dance floor. The celebratory mood was amplified coming on the heels of the dramatic morning news that the U.S. House of Representatives passed Resolution 296 recognizing the Armenian Genocide "We are so happy tonight because Congress passed the Resolution 296," said the Very Reverend Oshagan Gulgulian, addressing the crowd. "Every call to our Representatives mattered. We need to carry our enthusiasm forward to when the vote reaches the Senate floor. Every one of our calls makes a difference!" It was an enjoyable and memorable evening.





CONCELEBRATION

On November 2, St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Church in Wynnewood hosted the Seventh Annual Concelebration of the Divine Liturgy. Under auspices of the Standing Conference of Oriental Orthodox Churches, the Liturgy was led by the Very Reverend Father Oshagan Gulgulian of the hosting parish, Fr. Simeon Odabashian, Vicar of the Armenian Diocese, and Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan of Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Cheltenham, PA. His Grace Anba Karas – Coptic Orthodox Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia – gave the blessing for the hosting Armenian clergy to lead the Liturgy, and then presided from his throne.



The Armenian clergy were joined at the altar by Fr. Jose Daniel Patel of St. Peter’s Malankara-Syriac Cathedral, Philadelphia, Fr. Jacob Samuel of Holy Trinity Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, Philadelphia, Fr. Tesfom Abrahale of Medhane Alem Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo Church, Colmar Manor, MD, and Fr. Youssef Chehata of St. Anthony Coptic Orthodox Church in Annville, PA, as well as many deacons and altar servers.



The assembled faithful were called to receive the Body and Blood of Christ as a single congregation, and to experience the hymnody of their Sister Churches. Armenian, Coptic, Ge’ez, and Syriac hymns were all chanted during the course of the Liturgy. His Grace Anba Karas preached a moving homily on the unity of the Oriental Orthodox Churches in Christ as the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church spoken of in the Creed. He reminded the faithful in his sermon, the Concelebrated Liturgy is the ultimate icon of our unity in Christ, which transcends all earthly categories and divisions.



After the Liturgy, the faithful were treated to an agape meal and brief talks by Fr. Simeon Odabashian and Dn. Gebre Kristos Nicholas Siniari, the Secretary of the Standing Conference of Oriental Orthodox Churches, who encouraged the faithful to reach out to one another across their cultural boundaries to realize their unity in Christ on a regular basis.

✠ Dn. Gebre Kristos Nicholas Siniari



SENATOR DAYLIN LEACH PRESENTATION



On Friday, November 22, Senator Daylin Leach presented a slide show on his trip to Armenia. He was accompanied by his wife, Jennifer Anne Mirak, and a longtime staff member. Senator Leach spoke about his wonderful experience travelling the country and that he was very impressed by the beauty of Armenia and the hospitality of the people.



PRIMATES VISIT & 95TH ANNIVERSARY

On October 19th and 20th, St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church of Wynnewood, PA, hosted His Grace, Bishop Daniel Findikyan, the new Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern) on the occasion of the 95th Anniversary of the signing of our charter. A dinner was held in honor of His Grace on Saturday evening, and on Sunday the Primate celebrated the Diving Liturgy, which was followed by a banquet in Memorial Hall.

The Primate celebrated a truly transcendent Badarak and delivered a powerful homily to the parishioners. He opened his sermon by pointing out that he has been at St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church many times before, but to return as Primate was an enormous honor for him, beyond description.

In his sermon Bishop Findikyan theorized that Jesus’s most important message in the Bible was arguably the Gospel reading for the day, The Holy Gospel of Our Lord according to St. Luke 4:13-23. He pointed out that it is no coincidence that this was the first public sermon Jesus delivered, his first message to humanity.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering sight of the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” – St. Luke 4; 18-19. Jesus was telling the people, that *he* was the one sent by God to reorient the world and bring it into alignment with God’s design, and that these words hold the key to the very reason He came into the world. To do God’s will.

Bishop Findikyan focused in on the very heart of his message: *We* must step up to that mission. Each one of us must make caring for those in need our priority. Jesus was not preaching to his fellow rabbis when he delivered this message, he was speaking to *the people*. Each one of us is called to support our clergy and to reach out, step up and to tend to those in need.



*Please notify the Pastor whenever you know of anyone who is sick,
Whether at home or in the hospital*



Bishop Daniel concluded with an emotional call for us to open our hearts, to break out of our comfort zones and do the radical work that Jesus commands us to do. It begins one by one, face to face. It begins with saying, *how can I be of help*. It begins with the courage to break out of our traditional customs, to make caring for those in need our priority in the short time God has given us here on earth.



The day continued with a beautiful banquet, with various performances by Sunday School students, ACYOA youth, and a poetry recitation by Zarmine Boghosian. Dr. Alex Mamourian eloquently handled the role of Mater of Ceremonies. Laraine Ballard, Chair of the banquet, welcomed the Primate and touched upon upholding the example set by our ancestors by taking the responsibility to be good stewards of the church. Alex Topakbashian, Parish Council Chair, welcomed Bishop Daniel and spoke personally about Father Daniel's humility, his wisdom and his grace that leaves a lasting impression upon the people with whom he comes in contact, particularly our young people. Alex went on to pledge support to Bishop Daniel in making



his big ambitions a reality. Rev. Fr. Hakob Gevorgyan, Pastor of Holy Trinity Armenian Church, offered an eloquent toast in honor of the occasion. Parishioner Miss Lilia Zebari was the photographer for the day's event.

In light of the occasion of the 95th Anniversary of the signing of the charter, the Very Reverend Father Oshagan Gulgulian gave a passionate speech about St. Sahag & St. Mesrob's *Past, Present and Future*, pointing out the remarkable tenacity that has defined Armenians over the course of history and how we have a sacred responsibility to preserve our inheritance as the guardians of our religion, our culture, our language, music and art.

And finally, Bishop Daniel offered his remarks, saying that he

is enormously honored in his new position and that he has a big responsibility on his shoulders. The way ahead involves plans and ideas he is putting into place and he called upon all of those present to assist him in this effort. He shared that he is rethinking everything we do, re-examining and looking for new ways to bring in life and creativity that will take us to a new level that excites and inspires. He pointed out that we face new and very different challenges than our ancestors faced, and how from both his heart and his mind he is carefully dissecting how we do everything. Bishop Daniel concluded by blessing the attendees and challenging them as well to look for new and creative ways to move forward into our future.

✍ Pam Mamourian





We would like to thank our very generous banquet sponsors:

PLATINUM

Levon & Claudia Nazarian

GOLD

Jerry & Robin Williams

SILVER

Toros & Amy Lee Asadourian

Bruce & Laraine Ballard

Vicken Bazarbashian

Nishan & Nancy DerSimonian

Alexander & Pamela Mamourian

Mesrob & Grace Odabashian

Aris & Seta Topakbashian

BRONZE

Alice Aznavourian

Yeretzgin Angel Metjian

STEWARDS

Albert & Linda Baltaeff

Lucy Boornazian

Edward & Margaret Boyajian

Nahabed & Maureen Kasabian

Florence Kazanjian

Lisa Kazanjian

Michael Kazanjian

Vram Jr. & Sylva Nedurian

Marie Simonian

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

One of the most anticipated Parish events, the Annual Christmas Festival, was held December 6th-7th. This time-honored tradition entered its 56th year, co-chaired by first time leads, Lisa Kazanjian and Avedis Boornazian. The theme promised a “Ye Old Christmas Time” for the whole family and it surely delivered.

Guests were greeted by the Attic Treasures display and Sunday School corner as they entered the lobby. Attic Treasures return was much anticipated and featured unique items for all festival goers. Sunday School worked hard for weeks leading up to the weekend making ornaments, drink holders and special treats including reindeer food and hot chocolate cones. Upon entering Memorial Hall, adults and children alike were delighted to find a wide array of raffle prizes including Armenian items, jewelry, sporting event tickets, restaurant gift cards and electronics. The Women’s Guild once again lovingly supplied and manned the sweets table, which was flanked by the Armenian Heritage Store. There were special touches this year as guests were treated to hot chocolate and mulled cider. Chestnuts were roasted over an open fire, Armenian style of course...on the kebab grills. Friday evening featured beautiful Christmas music by the Harriton High School Brass Quartet. Saturday night provided children with the opportunity to meet Santa, Frosty the snowman, get their faces painted and visit with Mrs. Claus for balloon animals.

One of the most important aspects of the Christmas Festival is the food! Classic Armenian favorites and delicacies were featured and new menu items enhanced the experience. The food was top notch and served with a friendly smile. Delighted visitors commented on the delicious offerings and relayed their compliments to the chefs. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly for weeks leading up to the event preparing food for this largescale celebration. Special thanks to Julyet Degirmenci and her kitchen crew and to John Baboujian and Bruce Baltaian along with their kebab crew for their dedication and commitment.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our generous donors whose contributions are truly appreciated. These include our Festival Hosts, Benefactors, Patrons, Sponsors and Leg of Lamb Donors. In addition, we would like to thank the parishioners and businesses who donated items for our raffle table and sponsored placemats for the weekend. And last, we give our sincere thanks to the co-chairs and numerous volunteers who gave countless hours during the busy holiday season to make the Festival an enjoyable experience for all.



While all the items mentioned above are integral parts of a successful event, the cornerstone and most integral part of it is the unseen...the community and fellowship it fostered. The Christmas season is a time to reflect on all that is meaningful and important. Our church family and faith are strengthened by events that provide the opportunity for us to come together, share together and work together. The Christmas spirit was alive and evident leading up to the Festival and in Memorial Hall throughout the entire weekend... reflected in the laughter and friendship of those in attendance, the willingness of parishioners to volunteer time in any capacity, the excitement of our children and the commitment toward our Armenian Church.

The Christmas Festival is a beautiful way to close out the year. We hope you enjoyed attending and look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

✍ Alene Schreiner

Thank you to our generous Christmas Festival Donors!

HOSTS

Dr. & Mrs. Shahab Minassian

BENEFACTORS

Alex & Alexis Topakbashian

Jerry & Robin Williams

PATRONS

Drs. Edwig Basil and Garabet Teberian

Vaughn & Adrineh Hoplamazian

LEG OF LAMB DONORS

Alma Alabilikian & Peter Paone

Angele Arutunian

Elizabeth Barsamian

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Karen & Robert Cannuscio and Family

Alice Dertadian

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Charles Kazanjian

Carol Keosayian

Charles & Jovia Keytanjian

Berjouhi Kitabjian

Debra M. Lussinian

Sonia & Patrick McNelis & Family

Mesrob & Grace Odabashian

RamoundosFamily

Paul Sevag

Charles, Dina Kazanjian, Nicholas, Chloe & Perri

Simonian

Marie Simonian

Nauver & ArpieZerounian





St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church ✦ Fall - Winter 2020
Ս. ՍԱՀԱԿ ԵՒ Ս. ՄԵՏՐՈՊ ՅԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅ ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ





St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church ✦ Fall - Winter 2020
Ս. ՍԱՀԱԿ ԵՒ Ս. ՄԵՏՐՈՊ ՅԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅ ԱՌԱՋԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ





CHRISTMAS EVE

On Sunday, January 5, 2020, St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church celebrated the Eve of the Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Very Reverend Father Oshagan Gulgolian officiated this special evening with a candlelight Divine Liturgy. The evening began with select scripture readings taken





from various parts of the Bible about the birth or the coming of the Messiah. As a new tradition, intergenerations from our church’s congregation read the scriptures.

The Christmas Eve candlelight service symbolizes the radiating of Christ’s light in the world. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Hayr Sourp lit a candle from the altar from which the congregation lit their candles. Everyone then processed to Hayatian Hall for a “home blessing.” The evening concluded with a blessing, toast and lavish coffee hour.

We invite you and your friends and family to participate in the scripture readings each Sunday. We especially encourage multigenerational involvement, such as grandparents and grandchildren, godparents and godchildren, uncles and nephews, etc. If you and your family are interested in reading the Bible in Armenian and/or English, please contact Talene A. Metjian at 610-283-0458 or tmetjian@hotmail.com.



✍ Talene Metjian

CHRISTMAS 2020 *The Birth and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

Krisdos dzunav yev haidnetsav!



On January 6th we celebrated the birth and the baptism of Christ, as is Armenian tradition. The Blessing of the Water Service, representing Christ’s baptism by John the Baptist, followed the Divine Liturgy. In this service, the cross is dipped into the water

symbolizing Christ's baptism, and Holy Muron is poured into the water from a dove shaped vessel symbolizing the presence of the Holy Spirit. Following the service, the faithful in attendance were given a small container of the blessed water to take home.

During the Blessing of the Water Service it is our tradition to honor a member of St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Apostolic Church as Godfather of the Cross, continuing on to serve as Godfather of the Church for our New Year, 2020. This year Mr. Karlen Ghaxaryan received this honor.





Following the Divine Liturgy and Blessing of the Water Hayr Sourp congratulated Mr. Karlen Ghaxaryan as Godfather of the Cross and went on to say, "Dear Faithful, today we celebrated together the birth and revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. This water has been blessed and Holy Muron has been poured into the water. It is our belief that this will keep us healthy and keep harm from our homes and our hearts. May the light of Christ descend upon each of you to fill your hearts and homes and may the Holy Spirit be always with you."

LETTER FROM OUR CASP BENEFICIARY

(Children of Armenia Sponsorship Program)

Hello Dear Benefactor,

Nare Gharagyulyan from the town of Goris is writing to you. I am finishing school, I am doing well there and I get prepared for summer vacations. This year I have taken music and dance classes. With our dance ensemble I participated in many events that were organized in Goris and we also took part in International Dance Day Festival in Yerevan. We got certificates. In my leisure time I lend a helping hand to my mother in the household chores.

It's beautiful spring weather in Goris now: trees have bloomed and flowers have bloomed.

Summing up, I wish you health and luck.

✍ Nare Gharagyulyan

NEW DONOR BOARD

The plaques recognizing those who sponsored the restoration and preservation of our stained-glass front doors, upstairs stained-glass windows, and clear glass doors leading into the sanctuary have been installed on the donor board in the narthex. The exquisite board



was designed, hand crafted and donated by artisans at Sarkissian Interiors, Inc. in Gaithersburg, MD. "It has been an honor to work with Hayr Oshagan creating a design that reflects our ancient Armenian artistry and heritage," Arshag Sarkissian said. "It is my humble duty to present this board to our sacred Armenian church." Thank you to our generous sponsors: the Durgerian family, the Kajanzian family, the Jerrehian/Bush/Wood & Petrucione families, the Megeurian family, and Richard Melikian.

The left flanking door in the narthex with the stained-glass Armenian cross (seen behind Hayr Sourp in the photo above) is available for sponsorship. Please speak with Hayr Sourp if you are interested.



SACRAMENTS & GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

Baptism & Chrismation



Aleena Armena Tchoulhakian

Daughter of Harout Tchoulhakian & Tamar Shammassian
Baptized on December 21, 2019

Weddings



Jarrett Shane Whalen and Melanie Clare Asdourian

Best Man: *Brian Whalen*
Maid of Honor: *Kaela Asadourian*
January 3, 2020



Funerals

- Avetis Marashlian*
- Deacon Minas Mihranian*
- Esahag "Cy" Gurenlian*
- Melkon Arabatli*
- Virginia Boyajian*

*Remember Saint Sahag and Saint Mesrob Armenian Church
In Your Will*



Gifts to the Church

General and Memorial Donations

- ❖ Mr. & Mrs. Vahan and Danielle Gureghian in Memory of Harry and Ann Gureghian
- ❖ Mr. & Mr. Karlen Ghazaryan
- ❖ Blake Florist for 95th Anniversary Banquet Flowers
- ❖ Mrs. Sona Hoplamazian for Christmas poinsettias

Permenent Endowment Found

- ❖ Ara Basil
- ❖ Edwig Basil
- ❖ Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Mikaelian
- ❖ Mrs. Pontish Yeramyian

Mes Doon Donation

- ❖ Mrs. Rose Hagopian
- ❖ Mr. & Mrs. Mesrob Odabashian

Thank You

St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church would like to thank *Mary Arabatali* for her donation of this Indian Keshan carpet in memory of *Melkon Arabatli, Najebah Arteen and Percy Arteen*. May the Lord number their souls in His eternal Kingdom, and grant peace to the surviving members of their families.



Christmas Youghakin Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Alyanakian
 Mrs. Angele Arutunian
 Mr. Samuel Arthin
 Mrs. Alice Aznavourian
 Ms Elizabeth Barsamian
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Boyajian
 Mr. Edward Burg
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cannuscio
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Chamoun
 Mrs. Alice Dertadian
 Mr. & Mrs. John Eskandarian
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert Fumento
 Mr. Harry Havnoonian
 Mr. Michael Kazanjian
 Mrs. Helen Kazigian
 Ms. Carol Keosayian

Mrs. Berjouhi Kitabjian
 Mr. Hagop Kitabjian
 Mr. Antranik Kordzian
 Mr. & Mrs. Marcus Mamourian
 Yn. Angel Metjian
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Michaelian
 Ms. Mary Odabashian
 Mr. & Mrs. Zohrab Odabashian
 Mr. & Mrs. Rafael Petrosian
 Mrs. Sallee Rush
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Seraydarian
 Mr. & Mrs. Hirant Torunyan
 Mrs. Jean Mesigian Zacker
 Mrs. Nauver Zerounian

TOTAL \$1,800.00



In Memoriam In Lieu Of Flowers

Sincere sympathy is extended by the Pastor and Parish Council to the families of those parishioners who have departed from this life. May God receive the souls of all the departed into His everlasting kingdom and send the heavenly consolation of His Holy Spirit to those who mourn.

In Lieu of Flowers Donations In Memory of Avetis Marashlian

Mr. Chuck Ajamian
M/M Loutfi Arabatlian
M/M Armen Arutunian
M/M Karekin Ayanian
Mrs. Paulette Aydinian
M/M Gevork Balabanyan
M/M Soghomon Balabanyan
M/M Boghos Derderian
Mr. Samuel Gevorgyan
Harper Family
Mrs. Araksi Ishkhanian
M/M Vahe Kzlyan
M/M Gevorg Marashlian
Mrs. Syranoush Melkonian
Mrs. Gohar Merdjanian
M/M Armen Movsisyan
M/M Steve Odabashian
Beatrice & Suzanne Rechelian
M/M Onik Solakian
M/M Hrant Torunyan
Georgine Trumpbour

Total: \$ 935.00

In Lieu of Flowers Donations In Memory of Deacon Minas Mihranian

M/M Nurhan Antilian
M/M Loutfi Arabatlian
M/M. Ohan Arabaltian
M/M Aret Aras
M/M Bruce Ballard
Mr. Vicken Bazarbashian
M/M William Buchannan
Hovagim Cakiryan
Davidian & Margolies
M/M Samuel Degirmenci
M/M Antranig Derderian
M/M Boghos Derderian
M/M Jake DerHagopian
M/M Nishan DerSimonian
M/M Harry Diakatos

M/M Vahan Gureghian
M/M Edgard Hermes & Family
M/M Peter Hovnanian
M/M Vartan Kalanyan
M/M Vartan Karakelian
M/M Charles Keytanjian
Dr. & Mrs. Alexander Mamourian
Mrs. Anahid Megerian
M/M Hrair Megerian
Yn. Angel Metjian
M/M Paul Mihranian
M/M Asadur Minasian
M/M Aret Minasian
Moser Contruction Mnagement, LLC
M/M Mesrob Odabashian
Khajag Panossian & Family
Sevag Panossian & Family
M/M Mardiros Sarkahian
M/M Adam Selverian
St. Sahag St. Mesrob Church Choir
M/M Aris Topakbashian
M/M Karnig Torossian
Ms. Mary Beth Torunian
M/M Hirant Torunyan
M/M Andre Zeibari
M/M Toros Zeibari
Mr. Noel Zeibari
M/M Zohrab Zeibari

Total: \$3,110.00

In Lieu of Flowers Donations In Memory of Esahag Gurenlian

M/M Richard Aginian
Dawn Aginian
Eric & Marla Aginian
Whaley Family
M/M Guido Battaglini
M/M Dave Videon

Total: \$ 305.00



***In Lieu of Flowers Donations
In Memory of Melkon Arabatli***

- M/M Harout Aghajanian
- Mr. Chuck Ajamian
- M/M Maar Alsaigh
- M/M Nurhan Antilian
- M/M Loutfi Arabatlian
- Mr. Gregory Arteen
- Mr. Kegham Avedissian
- M/M Nercees Badakjian
- Mr. Steven Barsamian
- Mrs. Ardo Besnilian
- Mrs. Beti Torunian Buchanan
- M/M Sami Dakko
- M/M Antranig Derderian
- M/M Armen Derderian
- M/M Boghos Derderian
- M/M Dikran Derderian
- M/M Aram Ghazarian
- Mrs. Rose Jehanian
- M/M Vartan Kalanyan
- Mrs. Silva Kailian
- Ms. Lisa Kailian
- Mrs. Asdghig Kazanjian
- Mrs. Georgette Kazanjian
- M/M Diran Keytanjian
- M/M Haig Khararjian
- M/M Samer Killihchi & Family

- M/M Ara Kradjian
- M/M Narzaret Kradjian
- Mrs. Kayane Mardikian
- Mrs. Anahid Megerian
- M/M Hrair Megerian
- M/M Noubar Megerian
- M/M Raffi Megerian
- Yn. Angel Metjian
- Ms. Lena Ohannesian
- M/M Adam Schreiner
- M/M Parsegh Seropian
- Mrs. Janet Soghomonian
- M/M Krikor Soghomonian
- Ms. Lona Torosian
- M/M Hirant Torunyan
- M/M Levon Zarasian
- Mrs. Nauver & Ms. Arpie Zerounian

Total: \$ 1,785.00

***In Lieu of Flowers Donations
In Memory of Virginia Boyajian***

- M/M Megerdich Azadian
- The Boyajian Family
- Barbara, James, John, Jane & Adam

Total: \$ 1,025.00

***St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Church Women’s Guild
Cordially invites you to a***

Manti Luncheon

Sunday, February 23, 2020

Following Badarak (Divine Liturgy)

\$15 paid reservation by 2/18/2020

Children under 8 \$5.00

For reservations please call Rosine Gouveia @610-724-8314

Checks payable to St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Women’s Guild

Mail to: Rosine Gouveia 414 Eldon Drive, Broomall PA 19008



ԿԻՐԱԿՄՈՒՏՔ

“Եկեալքս ի մտանել արեգականն Տեսաք զլոյս երեկոյիս”

Յուշիկ փախչող իրիկուան ծիրանի լոյսն է զըւարթ...
Ոսկի թելեր՝ պլլուած խունկի թաւիշ մըշուշին.
Կապոյտ ծոպեր, ծիածան, ծըփուն ձայներ, միստի՛ք վարդ
Լոյսէ արցունք մոմերու՝ որոնք հանդարտ կը մաշին:

Խունկի ծարաւ իմ հոգիս կը ծըծէ պահն այս հանդարտ,
Ոսկեկըրակ աչքերով բուրվառներ երբ կը ճօճին.
Պակուցում մը հոգեգրաւ հոն կը թողու զիս անթարթ,
Կը զգամ համբոյրն իմ հոգիս պարուրող բիլ մարմաշին:

Մեղեսիկի երանգներ կ'օծեն պարոյրը խունկին.
Խորհուրդին եմ ծնրադիր բագուկներըս խաչանիշ՝
Ու կը սպասեմ որ ծագի հոգւոյս պայծառ կիրակին...:
Չահերն հիմակ կ'երագե՛ն համակ զիւմբիւթ ու թարշիշ...

Կամարներէն, խորանէն կը ծագին լոյս ու ծիծաղ.
Հոգիս քիչ քիչ կը թաղուի անուրջին մէջ այս չքնաղ:
Յուշիկ փախչող իրիկուան ծիրանի լոյսն է զըրւարթ...:

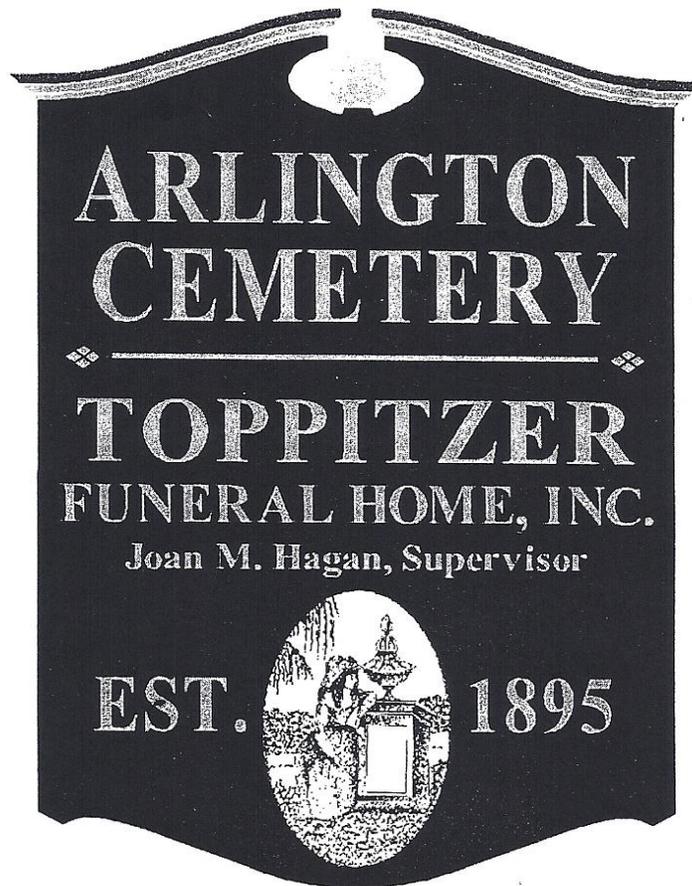
Միսաք Մեծարենց



ՀԻԻՂԸ

Դաշտի ճամբու մը վըրան,
կամ ըստորոտը լերան,
ուղեւորին ժամանման
ըսպասող հիւղն ըլլայի:
Ու գգուանքիս կանչէի
ես ճամբորդներն անժաման.
ու ճամբուն վրայ մենաւոր,
ու ճամբուն վրայ ոսկեման,
եկւորներուն դիմաւոր՝
ծըխանիս ծուխն ամպէի:
Ու գրգանքիս կանչէի
ուղեւորներ պարտասուն,
ու բարեւի մը փոխան
հազար բարիք ես տայի:
Հազար բարիք ես տայի,
գոյը կրակին ճարճատուն
կուրթը բերրի դաշտերուն,
բոլոր միրգերն աշունի,
ու մեղր ու կաթ ու գինի...
Ու լսէի ես ցայգուն,
քովը կրակին ճարճատուն,
երգն իրիկուան եկւորին.

ու ջամբէի ես ցայգուն
երագներով պատարուն
նինջ՝ իրիկուան եկւորին:
Ու լսէի ես այգուն,
սրտապատար ու տրոփուն
գովքն իրիկուան եկւորին.
ու դիտէի ես այգուն,
ու խոկայի օրն ի բուն
երթն իրիկուան եկւորին...:
Ու ձմեռներն ալ համբուն,
հըրաւիրակ զըւարթուն,
կանքնէի քովը ճամբուն.
ու ձիւնապատ հէք մարդուն
ես հայրօրէն, լայնաբաց
երկու թելերս պարզէի.
մի՛շտ քաղցրագին, նիւթացած
հըրաւէ՛րն ես ըլլայի:
Ա՛հ, ըլլայի՛, ըլլայի՛,
դաշտի ճամբու մը վըրան,
կամ ըստորոտը լերան,
ուղեւորին ժամանման
ըսպասող հիւղն ըլլայի:



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St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church ✦ Fall -Winter 2020

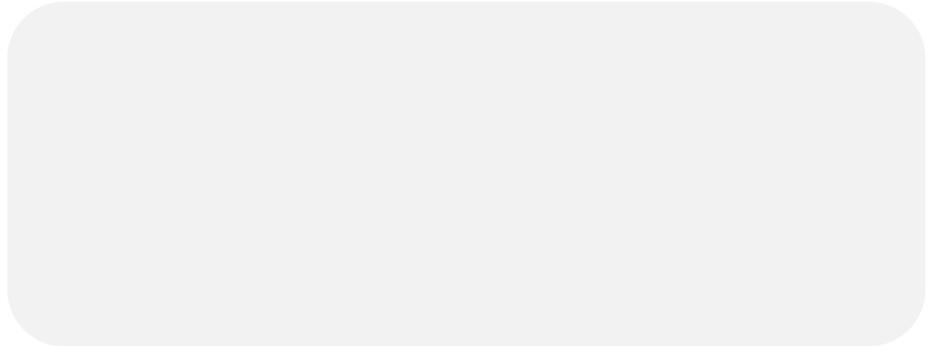
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**St. Sahag & St. Mesrob
Armenian Apostolic Church**
630 Clothier Road
Wynnewood, PA 19096

FALL-WINTER 2020

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TIME VALUE – DATED MATERIAL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|--|
| ❖ | February 14, 2020 | <i>Presentation of the Lord to the Temple</i> |
| ❖ | February 20, 2020 | <i>Feast of Sts. Vartanantz</i> |
| ❖ | February 23, 2020 | <i>Feast of Great Barekendan (Poon Paregentan)</i> |
| ❖ | March 1, 2020 | <i>Parish Assembly</i> |
| ❖ | April 5, 2020 | <i>Palm Sunday</i> |
| ❖ | April 7, 2020 | <i>Annunciation to the Virgin Mary</i> |
| ❖ | April 12, 2020 | <i>Holy Easter</i> |