



St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church

Sunday, January 1, 2012

Sixth Sunday of Advent

Third Day of the Fast of the Nativity

Morning Service 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

Today's Readings from the Holy Scripture

Պողոս Առաքելի Կողմէ Եբրայեցիներուն Գրուած Նամակէն (7:11-25)

Յիսուս Քրիստոսի Աւետարանէն Ըստ Ղուկասի (19:11-28)

Hebrews 13:18-25;

The Gospel According to: Luke 22:24-30



“Set your affection on things above, not on things on earth...”

COLOSSIANS 3:2 KJV

S. Տարգիս Քիւր. Կրտսեան, Միջն.

Rev. Fr. Daron Stepanian, Pastor

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St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church

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St. Sarkis's Website: <http://www.saintsarkis.org>

Pastor Emeritus
Archpriest Dr. Gorun Shrikian

Altar Servers
Deacons: Manouk Derovakimian & Antranig Karadolian

Sub Deacon: Dr. Jeff Noroyan

Stole Bearer: Aaron Broglin, Tommy Gerjekian & Khatchig Kafafian

Acolytes: Kegham Tazian

Bible Reader:
Yervant Bedikian

Choir Master
Navasart Mardoyan

Organists
Helen Membreian Movsesian
Nancy Der Stepanian

“I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”

I CORINTHIANS 14:15



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Ողջոյն Ս. Պատարագի – Voghchooyn Soorp Badaraki – The Kiss of Peace

Քրիստոսս Ի մէջ մեր յայտնեցաւ - Օրհնեալ է յայտնութիւնն Քրիստոսի
“*Krisdos ee méch mér haydnetsav. - Orhnyal é haydnootyoonun Krisdosi.*”
“Christ is revealed among us. - Blessed is the revelation of Christ.”

Ծննդեան Պաշքի Կիրակի
Պօղոս Առաքելի Կողմէ Եբրայեցիներուն Գրուած Նամակէն (13:18-25)

Աղօթեցէք մեզի համար, որովհետեւ համոզուած ենք թէ մեր խիղճը մաքուր է, եւ կ'ուզենք ամէն բանի մէջ ուղիղ գործել: Մանաւանդ կ'աղաչեմ որ աղօթէք ինծի համար, որպէսզի կարենամ աւելի շուտ վերադառնալ:
Թող խաղաղութեան Աստուածը ձեզի կարողութիւն տայ՝ ամէն տեսակ բարեգործութեամբ իր կամքը կատարելու, որովհետեւ ինքն էր որ մեռելներէն յարուցանեց Տէր Յիսուսը, ան՝ որ իր արինով կնքուած յաւիտենական ուխտով Հովուապետ եղաւ ամբողջ Հօտին: Աստուած ինչ որ կը կամենայ՝ թող ներգործէ մեր մէջ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի միջոցաւ, որուն փառք յաւիտեանս: Ամէն:
Եղբայրներ, կ'աղաչեմ որ ըսէք այս կարճ նամակով տուած յորդորներս: Կ'ուզեմ որ գիտնաք, թէ մեր եղբայրը՝ Տիմոթէոս բանաւն արձակուած է հիմա: Եթէ շուտով մօտս գայ, միասին կու գանք ձեզ տեսնելու:
Ողջոյններս հաղորդեցէք ձեր բոլոր առաջնորդներուն եւ բոլոր հաւատացեալներուն: Իտալիայի եղբայրները կ'ողջունեն ձեզ: Աստուծոյ շնորհքը բոլորիւ հետ ըլլայ: Ամէն:

Յիսուս Քրիստոսի Աւետարանէն Ըստ Ղուկասի (22:24-30)

Աշակերտներուն մէջ վեճ ծագեցաւ թէ իրենցմէ ով պիտի նկատուի մեծը: Յիսուս անոնց ըսաւ.
-Ազգերու թագաւորները կը տիրեն իրենց ժողովուրդներուն վրայ եւ իշխողները բարերար կը կոչուին իրենց հպատակներուն կողմէ: Բայց ձեր պարագային այդպէս պէտք չէ ըլլայ: Ընդհակառակը, ձեր մէջէն ամենէն մեծը թող ամենէն պզտիկին պէս ըլլայ, եւ առաջնորդը՝ սպասաւորին պէս: Ո՛վ է մեծը. սեղան բազմողը թէ սպասաւորը: Անշուշտ որ սեղան բազմողը: Բայց ես ձեր մէջ սպասաւորի պէս եմ: Դուք միշտ քովս մնացիք փորձարութիւններու ընթացքին, եւ ես ահա կը խոստանամ թագաւորութիւն տալ ձեզի, ինչպէս Հայրս ինծի տալ խոստացաւ: Իմ թագաւորութեանս մէջ իմ սեղանէս պիտի ուտէք ու խմէք եւ պիտի բազմիք գահերու վրայ՝ դատելու համար Իսրայէլի տասներկու ցեղերը:



Hebrews 13:18-25

Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way. I particularly urge you to pray so that I may be restored to you soon.

Benediction and Final Greetings

Now may the God of peace, Who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.
Brothers and sisters, I urge you to bear with my word of exhortation, for in fact I have written to you quite briefly. I want you to know that our brother Timothy has been released. If he arrives soon, I will come with him to see you. Greet all your leaders and all the Lord's people. Those from Italy send you their greetings. Grace be with you all.

Luke 22:24-30

A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as One Who serves. You are those who have stood by Me in My trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as My Father conferred one on Me, so that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.



Հոդեհանգիստ – HOKEHANKISD

LILLIAN DERMOVSES CLARK

ALIZA & ARAM TERZIAN

Elen DerMovses



Saints and Feasts of the Week

Fourth Day of the Fast of the Nativity	January 2, 2012
Fifth Day of the Fast of the Nativity	January 3, 2012
Sixth Day of the Fast of the Nativity	January 4, 2012
Christmas Eve	January 5, 2012
Christmas and Epiphany	January 6, 2012

“Let us hold the holy Mother of God and all the Saints as intercessors with the Father in Heaven, that He may be pleased to have mercy and compassion on us, His creatures, and save us, Almighty Lord, our God, save us and have mercy on us.”

The Divine Liturgy



Our Church Tree

The Let’s Make a Difference Team would like to thank parishioners and friends of St. Sarkis who made a difference by donating to Our Church Tree. We would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Yervant Bedikian, who donated the Christmas tree which was decorated by Tamar Toukhanian, with ornaments donated by:



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fr. Daron Stepanian & Family | Rose Lahiff |
| Dr. Vahagn & Mary Jo Agbabian | Margaret & Richard Lord |
| Ophelia Alabakoff | Dick & Rose Maloian |
| George & Zabel Arakelian | John & Rose Manoogian |
| Michael & Valeria Bagdasarian | Elsie Martin |
| Yervant & Mary Bedikian | Sandra Mooradian |
| Chuck & Gina Bedirian | Charles & Alice Noorian |
| The Crane Family | Greg Ornazian |
| Peter & Freda Der Stepanian | John & Ann Pilibosian |
| Der Stepanian Family | Silva Sagherian |
| Sara Fustikian | Liz Serafin |
| Khatchig, May, Levon & Arda Kafafian | Albert & Mary Seychel |
| Rose & Mitch Kehetian | Araz & Florence Shahrighian |
| Terri & Dale Koller | Daron & Simone Topouzian |
| Edward, Yvonne, Laura & Christopher | Mike & Jeanette Vartanian |
| Korkoian | Joseph & Doris Zakem |
| Louise Krikorian | George & Ann Zamanian |



POINSETTIAS

- | | |
|---|---|
| \$200 - Harold & Laura Sirabian (<i>in memory of Neshan, Satenig & Harry Sirabian</i>) | \$20 - Mrs. Mary Antonian (<i>in memory of mother Vartanoush Boghosian</i>), M/M Serop Ghazourian, Michael & Karen Hagopian, Dick & Rose Maloian, Alice Mouradian, M/M Movses Movsesian, Sally Tarpinian, Dale & Terri Koller, Rose Gerjekian |
| \$100 - Anonymous, Don & Carolyn Arslanian, M/M Yervant Bedikian and Family, Lynn Mesrobian, Danny & Allie Levitin (<i>in memory of Andy Mesrobian</i>) | \$15 - Hampo & Annie Almasian, M/M George Gurganian, Margaret Karapetian, Liz Serafin |
| \$75 – John & Rose Manoogian | \$10 - Zovart Dakesian, M/M Garabed Darakdjian, Mrs. Arpine Garbooshian, M/M Narses Gedigian, Mitch & Rose Kehetian, George & Rose Mouradian, Charles Nalbandian, Sandra Vartanian |
| \$50 - Tom & Silva Gerjekian, Ara & Shake Ourlian Raffi & Shogere Ourlian, John Wright | |
| \$40 - M/M George Arakelian | |
| \$25 - M/M Phillip Kashigian, Oghig & Sandra Mooradian, Pearl Mooradian, M/M Charles Noorian, Albert & Geno Sarkisian, Mary Vartanian Stevens | |

The Pastor and the Board of Trustees extend their gratitude to Mrs. Pearl Mooradian and Mrs. Rose Gerjekian, for spearheading the “Poinsettias for Christmas” campaign and to all who helped or donated.

The Feast of The Nativity & The Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Pastor & the Board of Trustees of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church, along with our Church Organizations, would like to extend their good wishes to all parishioners and friends during this Christmas Season:

Merry Christmas & Great Tidings to all!

In accordance with the Armenian ecclesiastical tradition, Christmas Services will be celebrated in our Church on the exact dates, January 5th & 6th. Let us make these days special by attending church services, along with our families & friends.

Schedule of Services

Christmas Eve, Thursday, January 5, 2012

Evening Service and Scroll Reading 6:30pm
Divine Liturgy 7:00pm

Christmas Day, Friday, January 6, 2012

Morning Service 10:00am
Divine Liturgy 10:30am
Water Blessing 12:15pm



Happy New Year & Merry Christmas

The Pastor and Board of Trustees wish the members, parishioners and friends of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year and Christmas Season.

In celebration of the New Year holiday, the church office will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2012.



The Ladies' Guild of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church
Cordially Invite You to Their

Annual Christmas Luncheon

Friday, January 6, 2012
Following the Holy Badarak
St. Sarkis Church Fellowship Hall
Please Call Church Office for Reservations: 313/ 336-6200
Donations Accepted



Available in our kitchen: Kufta (\$18/6 large), Manti (\$15/lb), Lahmajoon (\$10/6) and Katah (\$10/ea). Also taking pre-orders for sliced basterma (\$13/lb). Please see a Ladies' Guild member to purchase.



OAKLAND COMMUNITY CHORUS PRESENTS

Messiah

George Frederic Handel
Frederic DeHaven, Conductor
Orchestra and Guest Soloists
Saturday, January 14, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.
Armenian Congregational Church
26210 W. Twelve Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48034
For R.S.V.P call church office 248.352.0680

Armenian New Year

The ancient Armenian calendar consisted of 12 months, 30 days each, and an additional 13th month which had 5 days: *Navasard, Hori, Sahmi, Tre, Kaghots, Arats, Mehekan, Areg, Ahekan, Mareri, Margats, Hrotits, Aveliats*.

The names of the months have a legendary origin. Some chroniclers think that the months bear Haik Nahapet's 12 sons and daughters' names.

However the ancient Armenians named not only the months, but also the days:

Areg, Hrand, Aram, Margar, Ahrank, Mazdegh, Astghik, Mihr, Dzopaber, Murts, Erezkan, Ani, Parkhar, Vanatur, Aramazd, Mani, Asak, Masis, Anahit, Aragats, Grgur, Korduik, Tzmak, Lusnak, Tsrn, Npat, Vahagn, Sim, Varag, Gisheravor.

And the 5 days of the 13th month: Pailatzu, Arusiak, Hrat, Lusntag, Erevag.

The hours also had their names. The day hours: *Aig, Tzaig, Zairatsial, Tzharagaitial, Sharavighial, Erkrates, Shantakogh, Hrakat, Hurpailial, Taghantial, Aragot, Arpogh.*

And the night hours: *Khavarak, Aghdzhamughdzh, Mtatsial, Shaghavot, Kamavot, Bavakan, Havatapial, Geghak, Lusatzhem, Aravot, Lusapail, Pailatzu.*

The creative taste of the ancient Armenians is shown in these names: the hours' names reflect the change of the firmament's colour scale. Some of these names have been preserved till now showing the certain interval of time (for example, aig is dawn, aghdzhamughdzh is twilight, aravot is morning).

New Year's festivals, according to some facts, the Armenians had three New Year holidays: Amanor, Navasard (or Kaghand), and January 1st.

Up to the 25th century B.C. our ancestors had the New Year holiday on March 21st, when the duration of day is equal to that of night. This choice was not casual. In those ancient times Armenian priests, basing themselves on their observations, were convinced that nature wakes up in the beginning of spring. That day the Armenians celebrated glorifying nature's awakening, the work of the farmer, addressing their gods and asking that the year be fruitful.

Navasard was the second New Year day. It was celebrated on August 11th. According to a legend, killing the tyrant Bel in Hayots Dzor, Haik Agheghnavor (Haik the Archer) granted freedom to his family and future generations. It took place on August 11th, 2492 B.C. (according to other sources - in the 22d century B.C.). And that day became the beginning of a new year for the Armenians.

As already stated above, the August's New Year the Armenians called Navasard (Nav for "new" and sard for "year"). The main New Year performances took place on both sides of the Aratzani river, on a slope of Mt. Npat. The king and the queen with their retinue, the commanders together with the Armenian army took part in the celebrations. People from all parts of Armenia came here. The meaning of the holiday was not only about fun, but also the unification of the people.

The celebrations lasted for several days. On one of those days people had sweet drinks and wines. There were hardly any drunken people on the day of Navasard because of an ancient Armenian saying: "Gods leave the greatest part of darnel on the field of a drunkard." Even the meal was moderate on those holidays.

During the 18th Century, January 1st was accepted as a beginning of the New Year. In spite of this change, Armenians in many regions of the country, like Sunik, Artzakh and Udik, continued to celebrate New Year on **Navasart**.

In Armenia it was a custom that on New Year's Eve, children gathered in-groups and went around their village, singing songs and greeting the New Year by singing to their neighbors. They usually received lots of fruit as present. Decorating a New Year's tree was not one of the customs in the past.

Within the family, it was a custom for the family members to exchange presents, but, a wife never received a present from her husband, as this was considered a disgrace. Children in the family, the youngest ones following the elderly, would go to their father, who had the presents hidden in his coat, and after kissing their father's hand everyone would receive their present.

Parts of the traditional New Year's meal like various dried fruits, raisins, different kinds of nuts, **gahin** and others would have been previously prepared, but the pastries, cakes and **harisan** would have been prepared on the 30th of December.

The most important among the pastries was the **Darin**, which was presenting the New Year. Darin is big flat bread, which has a coin hidden in it. The person who found the piece with the coin in it was considered the 'lucky' member of the family for the New Year. But the most remarkable meal is the **dolma**, which is prepared with rice and grape leaves.

Armenian women cook Darin for their family. The bread is kneaded with luck and good wishes pressed into the dough before it is cooked.

And there was no New Year celebrated without **Kata**, which is made of wheat flour, butter, milk and sugar. As well as the **Anush Abur** which is a sweet soup which is made of wheat, kernels and dried fruits.

Advice for New Year's Day

Let this coming year be better than all the others. Vow to do some of the things you've always wanted to do but couldn't find the time:

- **Call a forgotten friend.** Drop an old grudge, and replace it with some pleasant memories.
- **Share a funny story** with someone whose spirits are dragging. A good laugh can be very good medicine.
- **Vow not to make a promise** you don't think you can keep.
- **Pay a debt.**
- **Give a soft answer.**
- **Free yourself of envy and malice.**
- **Encourage some youth** to do his or her best. Share your experience, and offer support. Young people need role models.
- **Make a genuine effort** to stay in closer touch with family and good friends.
- **Resolve to stop magnifying small problems** and shooting from the lip. Words that you have to eat can be hard to digest.
- **Find the time to be kind and thoughtful.** All of us have the same allotment: 24 hours a day. Give a compliment. It might give someone a badly needed lift.
- **Think things through.** Forgive an injustice. Listen more. Be kind.
- **Apologize when you realize you are wrong.** An apology never diminishes a person. It elevates him.
- **Don't blow your own horn.** If you've done something praiseworthy, someone will notice eventually.
- **Try to understand a point of view** that is different from your own. Few things are 100 percent one way or another.
- **Examine the demands you make on others.**
- **Lighten up.** When you feel like blowing your top, ask yourself, "Will it matter a week from today?"
- **Laugh the loudest** when the joke is on you.
- **The sure way to have a friend is to be one.** We are all connected by our humanity, and we need each other.
- **Avoid malcontents and pessimists.** They drag you down and contribute nothing.
- **Don't discourage a beginner** from trying something risky. Nothing ventured means nothing gained. Be optimistic. The can-do spirit is the fuel that makes things go.
- **Go to war against animosity and complacency.**
- **Express your gratitude.** Give credit when it's due—and even when it isn't. It will make you look good.
- **Read something uplifting.** Deep-six the trash. You wouldn't eat garbage—why put it in your head?
- **Don't abandon your old-fashioned principles.** They never go out of style.
- **When courage is needed,** ask yourself, "If not me, who? If not now, when?"
- **Take better care of yourself.** Remember, you're all you've got. Pass up that second helping. You really don't need it. Vow to eat more sensibly. You'll feel better and look better, too.
- **Don't put up with secondhand smoke.** Nobody has the right to pollute your air or give you cancer. If someone says, "This is a free country," remind him or her that the country may be free, but no person is free if he has a habit he can't control.
- **Return those books you borrowed.** Reschedule that missed dental appointment. Clean out your closet. Take those photos out of the drawer and put them in an album. If you see litter on the sidewalk, pick it up instead of walking over it.
- **Give yourself a reality check.** Phoniness is transparent, and it is tiresome. Take pleasure in the beauty and the wonders of nature. A flower is God's miracle.
- **Walk tall, and smile more.** You'll look 10 years younger.
- **Don't be afraid to say, "I love you."** Say it again. They are the sweetest words in the world.
- **If you have love in your life,** consider yourself blessed, and vow to make this the best year ever.

ORGANIST

The Board of Trustees is seeking an organist who will play on Sundays during the Divine Liturgy. We do pay a stipend and are looking for someone who can play either full time or part time. If you are interested, or know of someone who is, please contact any Board of Trustee member, Der Hayr or the church secretary at 313-336-6200.

Pastor and Board of Trustees

REMINDER

Please be advised that donations (checks or cash) in the Sunday collection baskets are considered as Plate Gifts. Parishioners who want their donations tracked are kindly asked to use an envelope and specify their gift.

Pastor & Board of Trustees

CANDLES

Dear Parishioners,
When lighting candles for your loved ones, please be mindful of the cost and make your donations accordingly.

Pastor & Board of Trustees

VISITS TO THE SICK

If someone in your family is ill, at home, in a hospital or a nursing home, please call the church office or the pastor, Rev. Fr. Daron Stepanian to schedule a spiritual visit.

A SPIRITUAL VISIT

If you want a visit by your spiritual father, please call the church office or the pastor, Rev. Fr. Daron Stepanian to schedule a visit.

HOME BLESSING

If you would like to have your home blessed, please call the church office or the pastor, Rev. Fr. Daron Stepanian to schedule the visit.

GRAVE BLESSING

If you would like to have a grave blessing for your deceased, please call the church office or the pastor, Rev. Fr. Daron Stepanian to schedule.

Office: 313-336-6200 / Cell: 313-673-7997

† DAILY READINGS †

J A N U A R Y	2	Hebrews 7:26-8:13; Luke 20:1-8
	3	Hebrews 10:1-18; Luke 20:9-18
	4	Hebrews 12:5-17; Luke 20:41-21:4
	5	Genesis 1:1-3:24; Isaiah 7:10-17; Exodus 14:24-15:21; Micah 5:2-7; Proverbs 1:1-9 Isaiah 9:5-7; Isaiah 11:1-9; Isaiah 35:3-8; Isaiah 40:10-17; Isaiah 42:1-8; Daniel 3:1-90. <i>Divine Liturgy:</i> Titus 2:11-15; Matthew 2:1-12; <i>Dismissal:</i> Luke 2:8-14
	6	Titus 2:1-15; Matthew 1:18-25; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4; Matthew 3:1-17
	7	Acts 6:8-8:2; John 12:24-26