

Ս. Սարգիս Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի  
St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church  
19300 Ford Road, Dearborn, MI 48128

# The Illuminator Լուսավորիչ



**Winter 2012-2013**

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[www.saintsarkis.org](http://www.saintsarkis.org)

*1952 Over Half A Century Of Service 2013*

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# SIMON JAVIZIAN

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# Information

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## Pastor

Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian  
20901 W Glen Haven Circle  
Northville, MI 48167  
Cell: 857-318-9799  
Office: 313-336-6828  
Email: [fr.hrant@gmail.com](mailto:fr.hrant@gmail.com)  
[Pastor@saintsarkis.org](mailto:Pastor@saintsarkis.org)

## Sunday Services

Morning Service - 10:00am  
Divine Liturgy - 10:45am

## Lenten Services

Sunday

- Morning Service - 10:00am
- Divine Liturgy - 11:00am

Wednesday

- *Arevakal* Service - 10:00am

Friday

- *Heskoum* Service - 7:00pm

## Board of Trustees Members

Karyn Chopjian	<a href="mailto:kchopjian@gmail.com">kchopjian@gmail.com</a>
Nancy Gavoor	<a href="mailto:hyenergy4@hotmail.com">hyenergy4@hotmail.com</a>
Michael Hagopian	<a href="mailto:mchlhagopian@aol.com">mchlhagopian@aol.com</a>
Laurie Haroutunian	<a href="mailto:llhard57@aol.com">llhard57@aol.com</a>
Terri Koller	<a href="mailto:tkbikes@wowway.com">tkbikes@wowway.com</a>
Arnold Kourtjian	<a href="mailto:akourtjian@gmail.com">akourtjian@gmail.com</a>
Charles Nalbandian	<a href="mailto:cnaib@usa.net">cnaib@usa.net</a>
Sebouh Sarkissian	<a href="mailto:sarkseb@yahoo.com">sarkseb@yahoo.com</a>
Greg Vartanian	<a href="mailto:gregoryvartanian@comcast.net">gregoryvartanian@comcast.net</a>

## Illuminator Committee

Rita Dilanian  
May Kafafian  
Maureen Toukhanian

## NRA Delegates

Harry Derderian	<a href="mailto:hderderian1@aol.com">hderderian1@aol.com</a>
Michael Hagopian	<a href="mailto:mchlhagopian@aol.com">mchlhagopian@aol.com</a>
Antranig Karadolian	<a href="mailto:antokaradolian@aol.com">antokaradolian@aol.com</a>
Ralph Kourtjian	<a href="mailto:rkourtjian@aol.com">rkourtjian@aol.com</a>
Jerir Ourlian	<a href="mailto:jerair71@yahoo.com">jerair71@yahoo.com</a>
Raffi Ourlian	<a href="mailto:rourlian@aol.com">rourlian@aol.com</a>

## Save the date!

Sunday, April 7, 2013

*Annual Membership Meeting*

*watch the mail for more details!*

Cover Art:

**Saint Gregory the Illuminator**

## **Church Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday 10:00am – 3:00pm

Friday by appointment

## **Sacraments**

Please visit our website [www.saintsarkis.org](http://www.saintsarkis.org) and call the church office to secure a date.

## **Home Blessings**

Traditionally, home blessings are done twice a year after Christmas and after Easter. If you would like to schedule a home blessing at any time of the year, please contact the church office or Rev. Fr. Hrant directly.

## **Requiem Services**

Please contact the church office before Noon on the Thursday prior to the service date.

## **Hospital or Home Visits**

Please contact Rev. Fr. Hrant on his cell: 857-318-9799

### **What is Church membership? Why do we have to be members?**

“For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body” (1 Corinthians 12:13) and “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.” (1 Corinthians 12:27). These two verses answer the questions above. The Church is the Body of Christ, and anyone who gets baptized at the Church becomes a member of that Body of Christ. The Church becomes their place for spiritual growth and fulfillment.

The Armenian Church is a National Church, which means the members have the right to voice their opinion and vote in any great decision of the church, as long as it doesn't interfere with the teachings of the Church.

### **Why do we have to pay dues?**

“If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits?” (1 Corinthians 9:11). The Church with the Prelacy and the Catholicosate are institutions to serve the Armenian community. The dues we pay supports and insures their existence. On average, the annual dues of the church is one day's pay of an individual.

All the Church asks today is the active participation of the parishioners in church life. At the end, every member of the body (the church) is important.

## **Church Fees**

<b>Members*</b>		<b>Non-Members</b>	
<b>Presenting a baby to the Church on the 40<sup>th</sup> day</b>			
Church	<i>Donation</i>	Church	<i>Donation</i>
Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>	Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>
<b>Baptism</b>			
Prelacy Certificate	\$25	Prelacy Certificate	\$25
Church	<i>Donation</i>	Church	\$300
Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>	Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>
Deacon	\$50	Deacon	\$50
<b>Wedding</b>			
Prelacy Certificate	\$50	Prelacy Certificate	\$50
Church	<i>Donation</i>	Church	\$600
Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>	Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>
Deacon	\$125	Deacon	\$125
Organist	\$125	Organist	\$125
Soloist	\$125	Soloist	\$125
Choir	\$200	Choir	\$200
<b>Funerals</b>			
Church	<i>Donation</i>	Church	\$300
Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>	Clergy	<i>Honorarium</i>
Deacon	\$100	Deacon	\$100
Organist	\$100	Organist	\$100
<b>Hall Rental</b>			
Cleaning Fee	\$250	Fee	\$1000

« Զ Ա Յ Մ Օ Ր Տ Ա Ր Ի »

Մեծի Տանն Կիլիկիոյ Կաթողիկոսութեան  
Թեմակալ Առաջնորդներուն,  
հոգեւոր դասուն,  
Ազգային Իշխանութեանց, եւ  
մեր ժողովուրդի զաւակներուն

Մեծի Տանն Կիլիկիոյ Կաթողիկոսութեան  
Անթիլիասի Մայրավանքէն հայրապետական  
օրհնութեամբ, քրիստոնէական ջերմ սիրով ու  
ազգային վառ ապրումներով կ'ողջունենք մեր  
ժողովուրդի սիրելի զաւակները, իրենց մաղթելով  
աստուածային բարիքներով ու շնորհներով լեցուն  
տարի մը:

Նկատի ունենալով մեր ժողովուրդի  
հաւաքական կեանքէն ներս հայ մօր կեդրոնական  
ներկայութիւնը ու մանաւանդ անոր որոշադրիչ ու  
եզակի դերը, ներկայ Հայրապետական Գիրով 2013  
տարին կը հռչակենք՝

« Զ Ա Յ Մ Օ Ր Տ Ա Ր Ի »

Մեր ողջ պատմութեան ընթացքին, հայ մայրը  
հայ ժողովուրդին համար ո՛չ միայն դարձած է տիպար  
մայր՝ իր կեանքին մէջ ցոլացնելով հոգեւոր,  
բարոյական ու ազգային սրբազան արժէքներն ու  
առաքինութիւնները, ո՛չ միայն ան ընտանիքին  
ամրակուռ սիւնն է եղած ու իր զաւակներուն նուիրեալ  
դաստիարակը, այլ մեր պատմութեան ամենէն  
ճակատագրական պահերուն իր օրինակելի  
վարքագծով, ամուր կեցուածքով, անհուն  
զոհողութեամբ, քրիստոնէական հաւատքի պահպա-  
նութեան ու պաշտպանութեան, ինչպէս նաեւ  
ազգաշինութեան ու հայրենաշինութեան սրբազան  
առաքելութեան բերած իր ամբողջանուէր ու յանձնառու  
մասնակցութեամբ եղած է բարձրագոյն աստիճանի  
յարգանքի արժանի անձ մը:

Արդ, ներկայ տարուան ընթացքին անհրաժեշտ  
է համապարփակ մօտեցումով վերարժեւորել հայ մօր  
տիպարը, յատկապէս պարզելով ներկայ  
ժամանակներուն անոր դիմագրաւած  
մտահոգութիւններն ու մարտահրաւերները եւ  
շեշտելով մեր կեանքը յուզող տագնապներուն դիմաց  
իրեն վիճակուած ճակատագրական դերը:

Անհրաժեշտ է սակայն, նախ դառնալ  
Աստուածաշունչին, որպէս հիմքը մեր քրիստոնէական  
հաւատքին, կեանքին ու մտածողութեան:

**Ա.**

**Մայրը Աստուածաշունչին մէջ**

Արդարեւ, Հին թէ Նոր Կտակարաններուն մէջ  
բազմաթիւ են ակնարկութիւնները՝ մօր նկատմամբ:

Այս ուղղութեամբ, եւ որպէս Աստուածաշունչի  
ուսուցումներուն մեկնակէտ, հարկ է յիշել Աստուծոյ  
պատուէրը՝ «Պատուէ՛ հայրդ ու մայրդ» (Ելից 20.12):  
Առակաց գիրքը դարձեալ կ'ըսէ՝ «Որդեակ իմ, քու հօրդ  
խրատը մտիկ ըրէ, ու քու մօրդ օրէնքը մի՛ մերժեր,  
որովհետեւ անոնք քու զխտուդ շնորհաց պսակ եւ քու  
պարանոցիդ մանեակները պիտի ըլլան» (1.8-9):

Նոր Կտակարանին մէջ մօր գերագոյն  
տիպարը Սուրբ Մարիամ Աստուածածինն է:

Աստուածաշունչին մէջ մօր ներկայութիւնը  
կարելի է ամփոփել հետեւեալ կէտերուն մէջ.-

ա) Մայրը կը ներկայանայ որպէս հիմքը  
ընտանի-քին. անոր դերը միայն ընտանիքին  
գոյատեւումը երաշխաւորել չէ՝ զաւակներու  
ծննդաբերութեամբ. ան նաեւ դաստիարակիչ դեր ունի:  
Բարոյական ու հոգեւոր իմաստով ընտանիքի առողջ  
պահպանումը մօր առաջնահերթ պարտաւորութիւնն է:

բ) Նկատի ունենալով աստուածային  
տնօրինումով մօր յանձնուած եզակի առաքելութիւնը,  
ան կոչուած է իր կեանքին ու գործին մէջ գործնապէս  
արտայայտելու բարոյական ու հոգեւոր արժէքներն ու  
սկզբունքները:

գ) Անհրաժեշտ է որ զաւակները հնազանդին  
իրենց մօր՝ հետեւելով անոր ցուցումներուն ու  
կեանքի օրինակին:

դ) Սուրբ Մարիամ Աստուածածին կը նկատուի  
որպէս տիպար ճշմարիտ մայրութեան:

**Բ.**

**Մայրը՝ եկեղեցւոյ հայրերու  
ուսուցումներուն մէջ**

Թէ՛ ընդհանրական եկեղեցւոյ եւ թէ՛ հայ  
եկեղեցւոյ հայրերը մօր դերին անդրադարձած են  
առաւելաբար Աստուածաշնչական գրքերու իրենց  
մեկնաբանութեան ծիրէն ներս, ինչպէս նաեւ եկեղեցւոյ  
հաստատած բարոյական, հոգեւոր ու ընկերային բնոյթ  
ունեցող կանոններուն մէջ:

Յովհան Ոսկեբերան կ'ըսէ, թէ Աստուած գուրգուրալից մօր նման սէր, հոգածութիւն ու խաղաղութիւն կը շնորհէ իր զաւակներուն:

Կիրեղ Աղեքսանդրացին մէջբերելով Ղուկաս 2.44 համարը, ուր կը յիշուի թէ Յովսէփ եւ Մարիամ «սկսան փնտռել Յիսուսը ազգականներու եւ ծանօթներու մօտ», կ'ըսէ, թէ ծնողները միշտ պէտք է փնտռեն իրենց զաւակները, որպէսզի անոնք չկորսուին մեղքի ու անօրէնութեան փոշիներուն մէջ:

Որոգիմես մէջբերելով Ղուկաս 2.27 համարը, թէ՛ «ծնողքը մանուկ Յիսուսը տաճար բերին» կ'ըսէ, թէ Յովսէփն ու Մարիամը այս ընելով ծնողներուն կը սորվեցնեն իրենց զաւակները եկեղեցի բերել:

Ներսէս Լամբրոնացին կը շեշտէ, թէ մօրը կողմէ իր զաւակներուն հանդէպ ցուցաբերուած խստապահանջութիւնը գա-նոնք կ'առաջնորդէ պատասխանատուութեամբ ապրելու իրենց կեանքը:

Բարսեղ Մաշկեւորցին վեր առնելով աղօթքի կարեւորութիւնը կը թելադրէ մայրերուն, որ աղօթել սորվեցնեն իրենց զաւակներուն:

Գրիգոր Տաթեւացին կը շեշտէ թէ հայ մայրը ար-ժանի է բարձրագոյն աստիճանի յարգանքի ու պատիւի, որովհետեւ ան Աստուծոյ պատկերը հայ մանուկին մէջ կազմաւորելու գծով յոյժ կարեւոր պարտաւորութիւն ունի:

Խրիմեան Հայրիկ կը թելադրէ մայրերուն իրենց զաւակներուն սորվեցնել Աւետարանը, որպէսզի անոնք սորվին սիրել իրենց եղբայրը, իրենց ընկերը եւ իրենց նմանը:

Ընդհանրական եկեղեցւոյ ու մեր եկեղեցւոյ հայրերէն քաղուած այս փունջ մը վկայութիւններու լոյսին տակ անհրաժեշտ կը նկատենք հետեւեալ ընդգծումները կատարել.-

ա) Թէ՛ ընդհանրական եկեղեցւոյ եւ թէ հայ եկեղեցւոյ հայրերը ընդհանրապէս անդրադարձած են ընտանիքին ու զաւակներուն նկատմամբ ծնողքի ունեցած պարտաւորութեան, հայր ու մայր նկատելով որպէս մէկ ամբողջութիւն, սակայն յատուկ շեշտ դնելով մօր դերին վրայ:

բ) Հետեւելով Աստուածաշունչին, անոնք կարեւորութեամբ ընդգծած են մօր դաստիարակիչ դերը ու զինք նկատած քրիստոնէական առաքինութիւններու հարազատ արտայայտիչը ընտանեկան թէ ընկերային կեանքէն ներս՝ Աստուածածինը նկատելով բացառիկ տիպար մայրութեան:

գ) Մեր եկեղեցւոյ հայրերը հայ մայրը նկարագրած են ո՛չ միայն որպէս քրիստոնէական արժէքներու ու առաքի-նութիւններու ճառագայթող ներկայութիւն ընտանեկան յարկին տակ, այլ նաեւ անոր մէջ տեսած՝ ազգային կեանքէն ներս կարեւոր դերակատարութեան կոչուած անձը:

## Գ.

### *Հայ մայրը՝ հայ կեանքէն ներս*

Հայ մայրը հայ ժողովուրդի պատմութեան մայր էջին վրայ միշտ եղած է առանցքային ներկայութիւն: Անոր տիրական ներկայութիւնն ու իւրայատուկ դերակատարութիւնը ակներեւ են մեր կեանքի կրօնական, մշակութային, քաղաքական, ընկերային, մարդասիրական մարզերէն ներս ու նոյնիսկ ազատագրական պայքարին մէջ: Կարելի չէ ամբողջական կերպով հասկնալ հայոց պատմութիւնը առանց անդրադառնալու հայ մօր առաքելութեան, եւ փոխադարձաբար՝ կարելի չէ ճիշդ ու ամբողջական կերպով ըմբռնել հայ մօր եզակի դերը, առանց խորաթափանց ակնարկով քննելու հայոց պատմութիւնը:

Հայ եկեղեցւոյ առաքելութեան ու ընդհանրապէս մեր ազգի կեանքին, հայ մայրը բերած է գործօն մասնակցութիւն ու կարեւոր նպաստ եւ իր սրբակենցաղ կեանքով, ծառայական դերով, անմնացորդ նուիրումով եւ նոյնիսկ արեան վկայութեամբ հարստացուցած է մեր հաւաքական կեանքը՝ մեր պատմութեան ճակատագրական պահերուն գրաւելով առաջնորդողի ու առաջնորդի դիրքը:

Հայ մայրը ի՛նք քալած է ժամանակին հետ եւ նոյնիսկ ժամանակներէն վեր՝ որպէս լուսաճաճանչ ուղեցոյցը հայ ժողովուրդի փոթորկայոյզ կեանքին:

Կարելի՞ է չիշել եւ պահ մը կանգ չառնել այն պաշտելի մայրերուն առջեւ, որոնք «վասն հաւատոյ ու վասն հայրենեաց» նշանաբանի հաւատքով ու յանձնառութեամբ ապրեցան եւ «իմացեալ մահով» իրենց կեանքը ընծայաբերեցին: Կարելի՞ է չիշել այն պաշտելի մայրերը, որոնք Տէր Զօրի անապատներուն մէջ եկեղեցի եւ դպրատուն դարձան, Սարտա-րապատեան հրաշամարտը հաւատքի պարիսպներով պողպատեցին եւ Արցախեան երկնամերձ կատարները իրենց ուխտին կրակով ու արիւնով հոգեզինեցին եւ իրենց հաւատքի կեանքով սրբացան ու արժանացան եկեղեցւոյ ու ազգին պաշտամունքի հասնող սիրոյն:

**7.**

**Հայ մայրը այսօր  
ճոր մարտահրաւերներու դիմաց**

Արդարեւ, զուր չէ, որ մեր իմաստուն ժողովուրդը իր ամենէն նուիրական սրբութիւններուն տուած է մայր մակդիրը՝ զանոնք կոչելով Մայր եկեղեցի, Մայր Հայաստան, Մայր լեզու...:

Հայ մայրը հոմանիշ է յաւիտենական արժէքներու ու երկնատուր արժանիքներու, գերագոյն իտէալներու ու նուիրական ձգտումներու, վեհ առաքինութիւններու ու ամուր սկզբունք-ներու: Հայ մայրը պատուանդանն է մեր գոյութեան, աղբիւրը մեր զօրութեան, միջնաբերդը մեր ինքնութեան, ներշնչարանը մեր պայքարին:

Արդ, առանց հայ մօր ճառագայթող ներկայութեան երա՛շտ է մեր կեանքը: Առանց հայ մօր մարդակերտումի ու հայա-կերտումի առաքելութեան անգոյն է մեր կեանք-ը: Առանց հայ մօր յանձնառու մասնակցութեան աղքա՛տ է մեր կեանքը:

Հայ մայրո՛վ հայը հայ մնաց՝ պատմութեան ամեհի ալիքներուն դիմաց:

Հայ մայրո՛վ հայը հայ է՝ ներկայ ժամանակներու ինքնութիւն ապականող հոսանքներուն դիմաց:

Հայ մայրո՛վ հայը հայ պիտի մնայ՝ զալիք բոլոր ժամանակներու մարտահրաւերներուն դիմաց:

Այսօր երբ դիտենք մեր ժողովուրդին կեանքը, հարց կու տանք. արդեօք հայ մայրը այսօր իր հայ մօր առաքելութեան մէ՞ջ է. որքանո՞վ հաւատարիմ է հայ մայրը իր նուիրական կոչումին...:

Երբեմն հաճոյապաշտ կեանքին գերին է ան:

Երբեմն ընտանեկան սրբութեանց խաթարիչը:

Երբեմն օտարամուտ բարքերու տարածիչը:

Երբեմն հեռո՛ւ է ան հայ կեանքի ոգեշնչող ու հայացնող ներկայութենէն...:

Բայց ո՛չ: Հայադրոշմ արժանապատուութեան զօրեղ պաշտպան, հայկական սրբութեանց եւ աւանդութեանց արթուն պահապան, ազգային հաւաքական խոյանքներու ռահվիրայ հայ մայրը այդպէս չի՛ կրնար ըլլալ, պէտք չէ՛ ըլլայ:

Մենք հաւատք ներշնչող, կամք կռանող, յոյս ներարկող, սէր փոխանցող, այլ խօսքով՝ հայուն մէջ քրիստոնեայ ու հայ մարդը կերտող ու այդ ճամբուն վրայ իր անձը ընծայաբերող հայ մօր յոյժ կարիքը ունինք:

Գիտե՛նք, դիւրին չէ մայր ըլլալը. դիւրին չէ մա՛նաւանդ հայ մայր ըլլալը:

Զմոռնանք երբեք, որ հայ մայրը եկեղեցի՛ դարձաւ, հոն ուր եկեղեցի չունեցանք. դպրոց՝ դարձաւ, հոն ուր դպրոց չունեցանք. հայրենիք՝ դարձաւ, երբ հայրենիք չունեցանք:

Նոյնը կոչուած է ըլլալ հայ մայրը այսօր ու միշտ: Այս է հայ մօր հարազատ կոչումը:

Բի՛ւր յարգանք հայ մայրերուն:

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Ներկայ տարին **«Հայ Սօր Տարի»** հռչակելով, Մեր սպասումն է, որ՝

ա) Անդրադառնանք մեր կեանքէն ներս հայ մօր վիճակուած նուիրական առաքելութեան:

բ) Վերահաստատենք հայ մօր նկատմամբ մեր ունեցած խորունկ սէրն ու յարգանքը:

գ) Յիշեցնենք միաժամանակ հայ մօր իր եզակի դերն ու ճշմարիտ դիմագիծը միշտ պայծառ պահելու հրամայականը:

Հետեւաբար, Մեր այս սպասումներու լոյսին տակ, Մեր հայրական թելադրութիւնն է ուղղուած մեր թեմակալ Առաջնորդներուն, հոգեւոր դասուն, ազգային իշխանութեանց ու մեր կեանքէն ներս գործող բոլոր կառոյցներուն, որ ներկայ տարուան ընթացքին յատուկ նախաձեռնութիւններով վերաշեշտեն, վերյիշեցնեն ու վերարժեւորեն հայ մօր տիպարը՝ իր հարազատ պատկերով ու առանցքային դերով մեր եկեղեցւոյ, ազգին ու հայրենիքի կեանքին մէջ:

Կ'աղօթենք առ Բարձրեալն Աստուած, որ իր երկնային շնորհներով շնորհազարդէ մեր մայրերը, որպէսզի վերանորոգ նուիրումով անոնք կարենան քրիստոնէական հաւատքով թրծել եւ ազգային արժէքներով ու իտէալներով կազմաւորել իրենց զաւակները:

Հայրական ջերմ սիրով,

Աղօթարար՝

**ԱՐԱՍ Ա.ՎԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍ**

**ՄԵԾԻ ՏԱՆՆ ԿԻԼԻԿԻՈՅ**

1 Յունուար, 2013

Անթիլիաս, Լիբանան

## THE YEAR OF THE MOTHER OF THE ARMENIAN FAMILY [Condensed]

To the Prelates,  
The Clergy,  
National Representative Assemblies and  
Executive Councils, and  
The Faithful People of  
The Holy See of Cilicia

We greet you from the Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia in Antelias, with pontifical blessings, fatherly care, and Christian love, wishing you a year filled with divine goodness and grace.

Taking into account the active presence and unique role of the Armenian mother in our church and community life, with this Pontifical Letter we declare the year 2013 to be,

### YEAR OF THE MOTHER OF THE ARMENIAN FAMILY

Throughout our history, mothers have become not only a role model for the Armenian people, reflecting the sacred spiritual, moral, and national values and virtues in her life; not only the steady pillar of the family and the dedicated educator of her children, but also a person deserving the utmost respect for her committed participation in the sacred mission of protecting and defending the Christian faith, and strengthening the nation and homeland, by her exemplary behavior, solid attitude, and infinite sacrifice in the most crucial moments of our history.

Therefore, it is necessary to reevaluate the model of the mother in the Armenian family with a comprehensive approach, particularly in face of the concerns and challenges she confronts in current times, and the unique role attributed to her.

It is necessary first to turn to the Bible as the foundation of our Christian faith, life, and thought.

#### I

#### The Mother in the Bible

There are many references to the mother in the Old and New Testaments.

God's commandment: "Honor your father and your mother" (Exodus 20:12) is the basis of the biblical teachings. A passage in Proverbs says: "Hear, my child, your father's instruction, and do not reject your mother's teaching; for they are a fair garland for your head, and pendants for your neck" (1: 8-9).

In the New Testament, the supreme model of the mother is St. Mary, the Holy Virgin.

The presence of the mother in the Bible may be summarized with the following points:

The mother is the basis of the family; her role is

not only to guarantee the survival of the family by giving birth to children, but also to educate. The maintenance of a healthy family in the moral and spiritual sense is the first and foremost duty of the mother.

Taking into account the singular mission given to the mother by divine directive, she is called to express moral and spiritual values and principles in her life and deeds.

It is necessary that children obey their mother, following her directions and example.

St. Mary, Mother of God, is regarded as the example of true motherhood.

#### II

#### The Mother in the Teachings of the Church Fathers

The fathers of both the universal church and the Armenian Church have given particular importance to the mother, with the Bible as the natural axle of their teachings, and the Virgin as the exemplary mother.

John Chrysostom says that God graces His children with love, care, and peace, like a nurturing mother. Cyril of Alexandria quotes Luke 2:44, where Joseph and Mary "started to look for him [Jesus] among their relatives and friends," and says that parents have always to look for their children to prevent them from getting lost in the dust of sin and lawlessness.

Origen cites Luke 2:27, "The parents brought in the child Jesus" to the temple, and says that by doing this Joseph and Mary teach parents to bring children to church.

Nerses of Lambron underscores that the demands of the mother towards her children teaches them to lead responsible lives.

Parsegh of Mashkevor emphasizes the importance of prayer and suggests mothers teach their children how to pray.

Grigor of Tatev says that the mother deserves high respect and honor, because she has a very important duty to form the image of God in the child.

Khrimian Hayrig suggests mothers teach the Gospel to their children so they learn to love their brother, their friend, and their fellow humans.

In view of this cluster of testimonies taken from the fathers of the universal church and the Armenian Church, we consider necessary to make the following observations:

The fathers of the universal church and the Armenian Church have generally referred to the duty of parents towards their family and children, considering father and mother as one entity, but particularly emphasizing the role of the mother.



They have underlined the educational role of the mother and have regarded her as the authentic expression of Christian virtues within family and social life, and consider the Virgin Mary to be the unique model of motherhood.

The fathers of our Church have depicted the Arminian mother not only as a shining presence of Christian values and virtues in the family, but also as a person called to have a pivotal role in national life.

### III

#### The Armenian Mother in Armenian Life

The mother has always had a central presence in Armenian history. Her dominant role is evident in religious, cultural, political, social, and humanitarian spheres of our life, and even in the liberation movement. Armenian history cannot be fully understood without referring to her mission, and equally the unique role of the mother in the Armenian family cannot be understood without examining Armenian history.

Mothers have brought an active participation to the mission of the Armenian Church and to the life of our nation, and with their modest lifestyle, devoted service, and exemplary dedication, have enriched our collective life, occupying positions of leadership in the decisive moments of our history.

Is it possible not to remember and not to pause before those revered mothers who lived “for faith and for homeland” and gave their life “with purpose-driven death” (Yeghishe)? How can we not remember those mothers who became church and school in the deserts of Deir-ez-Zor, who paved walls of faith with the epic of Sardarabad, who armed the mountains of Artsakh with the fire and blood of their vows, and who deserved love, even veneration, from church and nation?

Avedik Isahakian captures the heart of mankind when he says: “The best woman is the mother. The heart of the mother is the heart of humankind, the heart of the universe. It is worth to come to the world just to have a mother.”

### IV

#### The Mother of the Armenian Family Today Facing New Challenges

Truly, it is not by accident that our wise ancestors gave the distinction of “mother” to our most sacred realities and values: *Mother Church*, *Mother Armenia*, *Mother Tongue*...

The Armenian mother is the synonym of eternal values, supreme ideals, sublime virtues, and strong principles. The Armenian mother is the pedestal of our existence, the source of our power, the citadel of our identity, and the inspiration of our struggle.

Thus, without the radiant presence of the Armenian mother, our life is parched. Without her educational mission, our life is colorless. Without her committed

presence, our life is impoverished.

In the face of the terrible waves of history, we remained Armenian thanks to our mothers.

In the face of current assimilating trends, we remain Armenian thanks to the mothers of Armenian families. We will remain Armenian even in the face of future challenges thanks mainly to them.

Today, as we observe the life of our people, we ask ourselves: Is the Armenian mother up to her mission? How faithful is she to her sacred calling? Questions need to be addressed seriously and realistically by our mothers and families.

We know it is not easy to be a mother and, particularly, to be a mother to an Armenian family. We know it is not easy to be a mother in today’s world.

We need the mother that inspires faith, strengthens will, instills hope, and transmits love. In other words, who forms the Christian and the Armenian person, and sacrifices herself on that path.

Let us never forget that the Armenian mother became a church where there was no church; a school where there was no school; a homeland when there was no homeland.

This is the task and authentic calling for the mothers of Armenian families today and forever.

We highly respect Armenian mothers.

\* \* \*

By declaring this year the “Year of the Mother of the Armenian Family,” we expect:

- To reflect on the sacred mission of the Armenian mother in our life;
- To reaffirm our deep love and respect for the Armenian mother;
- To remind the Armenian mother the importance of maintaining her unique role and true image.

Therefore, in view of these expectations, we suggest that our prelates, clergy, executive councils, and all community organizations reaffirm, recall, and reevaluate the unique place and role of the mother within the life of our church and community through special initiatives.

We pray to Almighty God to grace our mothers with His heavenly graces in order that they may continue their vocation with renewed dedication and faith.

With warm paternal love,

Prayerfully,

ARAM I  
Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia

January 1, 2013  
Antelias, Lebanon

### ԹԱՓՈՒՐ ՄՍՈՒՐԸ

«Որովհետև անօթի էի եւ գիս կերակրեցիք, ծարաւ էի եւ ջուր տուիք, օտարական էի եւ ընդունեցիք գիս, մերկ էի եւ հագցուցիք ինձի, հիւանդ էի եւ հոգ տարիք ինձի, բանտի մէջ էի եւ այցելեցիք ինձի» (Մտ 25.35-36):

Մեր Տիրոջ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի Սուրբ Ծննդեան տօնին առիթով քրիստոնեայ անհատին ունեցած հոգեւոր ուրախութիւնն է որ կը ծագի մեր սրտերուն մէջ: Մարդկութեան տրուած Աստուծոյ իր այցելութեամբ, երկրաւոր թէ երկնաւոր կեանքին համար եւ իրարու հանդէպ ունեցած մեր յարաբերութիւններուն համար նոր հորիզոն մը կը բացուի, ուր սրտի բարութեան, աստուածահաճութեան եւ խաղաղութեան աւետիսը կը սփռուի:

Բեթղեհէմի մէջ Յիսուս կրկին կը ծնի, մարդկութեան աւետելով «խաղաղութիւն երկրի վրայ եւ մարդոց միջեւ հաճութիւն»: Եւ մենք, գաւակները Հայ Եկեղեցոյ, այս տարի եւս հոգեպէս կ'երթանք Բեթղեհէմ՝ մեր ընծաները մատուցանելու մանկացեալ Աստուծոյ: Որքան՝ երջանկութիւն կայ մեր հոգիներուն մէջ, քանի Յիսուսին տեսութեան կ'երթանք եւ, իբրեւ բարեպաշտ գաւակները Հայ Եկեղեցոյ, պիտի ուզենք իրեն մատուցանել մեր սրտի կնդրուկը, ոսկին եւ գմուռսը, հաւատարիմ մնալով Աստուծոյ որպէս իր անդրանիկ որդիները: Իր ծնունդով, Յիսուս ամբողջ մարդկութեան հրաւէր մը կ'ուղղէ, պատկանելու իրեն, լսելու իր խօսքերը, պատմելու իր գործերուն մասին, միեւնոյն ատեն տառապելու եւ տագնապելու՝ ի տես զրկեալին, կարօտեալին, վիրաւորին ու սգաւորին: Գոհունակ ու վարձատրուած կը զգանք մենք գմեզ, քանի կը տեսնենք մեր Փրկիչը, Բեթղեհէմի մսուրին մէջ, փրկութեան իր նոր աւետիսով:

Որպէս այցելուներ առանձին չենք մենք, բազմամիլիոն քրիստոնեայ հաւատացեալներու հետ մենք ալ հոգեպէս ուխտի կ'երթանք Բեթղեհէմ: Սիրոյ թանձրացումը եւ մարմնացումը եղող մանկացեալ Աստուածը հոն մսուրին մէջ պէտք է ըլլայ: Բոլորին համար ծննդեան ուրախութեան աւետիս կայ հոն: Հրեշտակներու փառաբանական երգերը եւ աւետիսը կը լսեն անոնք, մինչ մենք՝ հայերս, ուրախական ձայներու փոխարէն այս օրերուն ողբի ու ցաւի մրմունջներ կը լսենք: Յիսուս Բեթղեհէմի իր մսուրին մէջ չէ, այլ ուրիշ տեղ մը, Սուրբ Գրային ուրիշ երկիր մը: Սուրբոյ մէջ է ան, Հայէպի, Տէր Զօրի, Դամասկոսի, Քեսապի, Գամիշլիի եւ հայաբնակ այլ աւաններու մէջ: Մսուրը թափուր ձգած, Յիսուս

ներկայ է հոն ուր աւերում ու մահ կայ, հոն ուր օգնութեան աղաղակ կայ իրեն ուղղուած: Եւ մանկացեալ Յիսուսը մեր հոգիներուն մէջ սեղմած, ականատես կ'ըլլանք մեր հարազատ արենակիցներուն վիճակին, անոնց սարսափին ու հեծեծանքին: Ներկայի անկարողութեան եւ անօգնականութեան կացութեան մէջ եւ ապագայի վախի ու անորոշութեան սպառնալիքին դիմաց աղօթքով ու պաղատանքով Յիսուսին կը դիմենք, որ մեզի հետ քայլ հրկիզեալ եկեղեցիներուն մէջ, Տէր Զօրի աւերակ սրբութեան մէջ, կրթութեան մեր ամբողջներուն մէջ:

#### Սիրելի հայորդի,

Ամերիկայի մեր ամենօրեայ կեանքին մտահոգութիւններուն մէջ, մեր անմիջական շրջապատի ծննդեան ուրախական միջնորդութիւն մէջ թերեւս նուազ ժամանակ ունենաս ցաւակից ըլլալու մեր եղբայրներուն ու քոյրերուն: Թերեւս չչափես վտանգին ահաւորութիւնը, որ կը սպառնայ սուրիահայ մեր ժողովուրդին, այն գաղութիւն՝ որ ցեղասպանութենէն ետք մեր վերածննդեան օրրանը եղաւ, ան որ հաւատարմօրէն իր հարազատութեան մէջ պահեց հայու ցեղային մաքուր նկարագիրը, մշակութային արժէքները, հաւատքն ու լեզուն:

Անհատական վտանգէն անդին ազգային աւեր կայ հոն: Պատրա՞ստ ես Յիսուսին նման թողուլ հանգիստ մսուրդ եւ այցելել իրենց, անօթիին հաց տալով, ծարաւին՝ ջուր, վիրաւորին՝ դեղօրայք, սգաւորին՝ մխիթարանք: Այո, պարտաւոր ես, որովհետեւ ինչ որ կ'ընես անոնցմէ ոեւէ մէկուն, Յիսուսին ըրած կ'ըլլաս, ինչ որ կ'ընես սուրիահայ գաղութիւն, հայ ժողովուրդին ամբողջականութեան ըրած կ'ըլլաս:

Շնորհաւոր թող ըլլայ Նոր Տարիդ եւ Սուրբ Ծնունդը: Թող մեր Տէրը, Փրկիչը եւ Հրաշագործը օրհնութիւն բաշխէ քեզի ու ընտանիքիդ: Աղօթէ իրեն, որպէսզի դադրին աւերումները, որ իր անսահման սէրը ներարկէ ամբողջ մարդկութեան երակներուն եւ չարէն փրկէ բոլորս: Պահն է որ նիւթական բարիքներէդ բաժին հանես նաեւ անօթիին, ծարաւին, վիրաւորեալին ու սգաւորին, այնպէս ինչպէս պիտի ուզէիր ընել սուրիահայերուն այցի գացող եւ անոնց հետ տառապող Յիսուսին:

Օշական Արքեպիսկոպոս, Առաջնորդ  
Ս. Ծնունդ, 2013

## THE EMPTY MANGER

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.”*

(Matthew 25:25-36)

On the occasion of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, spiritual joy blossoms in the hearts of individual Christians. God’s visitation to Mankind with His message of good will, goodness, and peace, opens new horizons for our heavenly and earthly life and our relationship with each other.

Jesus is born again in Bethlehem, proclaiming “Peace on Earth and Goodwill to all.” Once again we, the children of the Armenian Church, travel spiritually to Bethlehem to present our gifts to the infant Lord. How much joy is in our souls because we go to visit Jesus and as pious children of the Armenian Church, faithful to God as His first children, we offer our heartfelt gifts of frankincense, gold, and myrrh. With His birth, Jesus invites all Mankind to belong to Him, to hear His words, to convey His deeds, while also experiencing the suffering and turmoil of those who are deprived, in need, wounded, and grieving. We feel thankful and rewarded because we see our Savior in the manger in Bethlehem with the new announcement of salvation.

We are not alone in our visit. Like many millions of other faithful Christians we take a spiritual pilgrimage to Bethlehem. The tangible love of the infant God must be there in the manger. The joy of the good news of the birth is there for everyone. The angels sing songs of glory and good news, but these days we Armenians hear murmurs of lament and pain, instead of joy. Jesus is not in His manger in Bethlehem. He is in another place, another biblical country. He is in Syria—in Aleppo, Deir Zor, Damascus, Kessab, Kamishli, and other Armenian towns. Leaving the manger empty, Jesus has gone where destruction and death are prevalent, where cries for His help are heard. With the Infant Jesus fixed in our souls, we become witness to the condition of our true kinsmen. We see their terror and hear their sobs. In spite of current helplessness and precarious situations, and in the face of future fear and uncertainty, we beseech Jesus through prayers and supplications, to walk with us

in our burned churches, in our damaged sacred memorial in Deir Zor, and in our destroyed schools—our educational fortresses.

Dear Armenian Faithful,

In the midst of every day concerns in America, and joyful surroundings especially during this season of Christmas, perhaps you do not have time to share the pain of our brothers and sisters. Perhaps you are



not be able to assess the extent of the danger that threatens our Armenian community in Syria—the community that after the Genocide became the cradle of our rebirth, and the community that remained faithful to its authenticity and preserved the pure Armenian character, cultural values, faith, and language.

Aside from the danger for individuals, there is danger for our nation. Are you prepared to leave your comfortable manger, as Jesus did, and visit them to give bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, care for the wounded, and comfort for the mourner? Yes, you are obligated, because whatever you do for any of them, you have done also for Jesus. Whatever you do for the Armenian community in Syria, you have done for the Armenian people in its entirety.

I wish you joy and happiness for the New Year and the Holy Nativity. May our Lord, Savior, and Miracle Worker bless you and your family. Pray to Him so that the destruction will end, so His boundless love will be injected in the veins of all Mankind, and save us from all evil. It is the time for you to make provision from your charitable gifts for the hungry, the thirsty, the wounded, and the grieving, just as you would want to do for Jesus who has gone to visit and suffer with them.

ARCHBISHOP OSHAGAN

Prelate

Armenian Apostolic Church of America

Eastern United States of America

Holy Nativity, 2013

## PASTORAL MESSAGE “LENTEN SUNDAYS”

There are certain characteristic aspects in the rites, liturgies and other ecclesiastical ordinances of the Armenian Church which seem to be the result of things rather than the premeditated arrangements of men; but this statement never tends to underestimate or overshadow the wisdom, the sound sense of taste, and the reasoning instincts of our forefathers. On the contrary, it proves the fact that our forefathers were inspired and led by God. One of these characteristic aspects of the ecclesiastical arrangement of Lenten services is giving a name to each Sunday—ascribing to each a special significance.

All the other Christian Churches call the Sundays of lent by numbers: First, second, etc. In the Armenian Church, in addition to these numbers, each Sunday is also called by a proper name, such as the Sunday of Expulsion, the Sunday of the Prodigal Son, etc. Moreover, the name of each Sunday carries in itself a certain basic Christian truth. Together these truths form a successive wholeness which is particularly part of the Armenian religious calendar.

I want to focus on three Sundays which I find the most effective during Great Lent.

The Sunday of Expulsion is known as the Sunday of the fall of the first parents of mankind from God’s grace, and of their expulsion from the Garden of Eden. Lent in general, and the Sunday of the Expulsion in particular, offers us the awareness of our separation from God, and in order to regain the lost paradise, a precious opportunity for self-examination and correction. It is a time to devote more time to church-going and prayer, but mainly to practice self-discipline and exercise self-control over our appetites, to eat less and save a share for the needy, to be humble so that others may rise; to be better human beings so that our world becomes humanized; and by tearing down the black curtains to our blind souls, to become more aware of our limitedness and as defenseless children, to remain solely dependent on our Father’s divine will, of His love, of His mercy and compassion, so that at the end of this

period of forty days, we may become worthy of His Son’s glorious resurrection.

The Sunday of the Prodigal Son is the Sunday which is based on the parable of the prodigal son. According to this parable the young son of the happy family desires to leave his father’s home for a far country. This young man was satisfied with what he had and enjoyed. One of the tragedies of human life is the fact that a man does not appreciate the valuable heritage he possesses and enjoys unless he loses it. The prodigal son lost almost everything he had - riches, beauty and honor. He had willingly lost the presence of a father and home. He had started his expectations to obtain a better life, but found himself in dire poverty, and besides being starved, the prodigal son became in need of his father’s love and longing for his home. The center of the parable lies in these words: “I will rise and go to my father.” These words contain the whole meaning of the Sunday.

The next Sunday is the Sunday of the Steward who is the highest class functionary of the great and noble families of ancient times; he controls the entire finances of the family and administers almost all the affairs of the house. The characteristic of the steward is the same as that of the prodigal son: spend-thriftiness; using for other purposes properties entrusted to him. Both the prodigal son and the steward spend the belonging of others for their personal use. The steward of the gospel is a fraudulent person who is qualified as unrighteous. He is a man who knows how to make profit from all the opportunities provided to him for personal benefit. The Gospel says: “The lord commended the unrighteous steward for his prudence.” What Jesus means is that if the sons of the world use all the means under their disposition to gain and keep their materialistic lives in security, why should not the Son of Light be equally wise to utilize the opportunities granted to him by God to obtain and guard the life of heaven?

The steward made use of the most troublesome time of his life to secure his personal well-being, which concludes that anyone in his last days can secure his everlasting happiness through a heart-stirring benefaction, provided he repents for the injustice he may have wrought.

In conclusion, I would like all of you during these Lenten days, and before the resurrection of our Lord, to think once again on the quality of life that he or she is living. Learning from the Lenten Sunday messages and make use of the great opportunity that our Lord has given us to repent and become sons and daughters of light.

-Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian

### Let's learn!!!

What are the Sundays of the Great Lent called?

- 1) Eve of the Great Lent "Poon Paregentan"
- 2) Expulsion "Ardaksman"
- 3) The prodigal son "Anaragi"
- 4) The steward "Dendesii"
- 5) The judge "Tadavori"
- 6) Advent "Kalestian"
- 7) Palm Sunday "Dsaghgazart"
- 8) Easter "Haroutian Zadig"



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES & LADIES' GUILD NEWS

### Board of Trustees Corner

The Board of Trustees wishes to take this opportunity to wish all members of the St. Sarkis community a Happy New Year and a Blessed Christmas. The Board started the season with many special events. 2013 was an especially festive time as the Board hosted a family night on Saturday, January 5, Armenian Christmas Eve. The turnout was great and the crowd enjoyed themselves. The most encouraging comments of the night were that we had fun. The food was a potluck and we wish to thank everyone for their delicious contributions to the table that was well stocked with everything from salads to desserts and everything in between. After the dinner there were games organized by Ms. Melanie Markarian. They were fun and enjoyed by all, from the very young to our elders. Der Hrant was very instrumental in cajoling all to participate in the festivities.

The turnout for Sunday, January 6, Armenian Christmas Day was overflowing. The services were very spiritual and the congregation left feeling spiritually fulfilled. The Board would like to encourage our congregation to increase their attendance to church and not just make the Christmas and Easter services. It is a wish that all past Boards and Pastors have hoped to fulfill.

On Saturday, January 19, the Board hosted an appreciation dinner for the committee heads who helped raise funds for the church this past year. The Board cooked the meal and had help from the AYF in serving and cleaning. We would like to thank the AYF members who volunteered to help, and want them to know they are appreciated. We are also going to host another appreciation dinner for the volunteers of the Sunday School, deacons, choir, ushers, Ladies' Guild and Illuminator committee. It is our way of saying thank you. We realize that sometimes people are overlooked and we apologize for any oversights. We are also looking forward to our Lenten services. Der Hrant is having the services on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am and Friday nights at 6:30 pm. There will be lectures following the services. We are also preparing for Holy Week and Easter with anticipation.

-Michael Hagopian

### Ladies Guild

After a busy five months of baking, the Saint Sarkis Ladies Guild started out 2013 with the Armenian Christmas Luncheon. The event was held after church services on Sunday, January 6. A delicious meal was planned by the committee of four Guild members. Many compliments were received from the members of the congregation that attended the luncheon.

Soon enough after that event, the plans were put in place for the Lenten Luncheon, the Palm Sunday Dinner and the April 24th observance. Please take time from your schedule to support these events. Be a part of the Armenian traditions that keep our religion and ethnic strong.

The cookbook is the next project that is being worked out. To make a cookbook worthy to our organization, time is the key word. Recipes must be checked for correct measurements, procedures of preparation and many other important steps. They must be retyped and put in proper categories. This book will be a treasure for you and your family with history, hopefully pictures and you will be amazed at the sacred family recipes that have been sent to me. Please, if you have not turned in a recipe, get the form in the Narthex and do so. I am still waiting for those pictures that some of you have promised. If you have any questions, please call Sharon at [313-383-2453](tel:313-383-2453) or email me at [monkeyward@aol.com](mailto:monkeyward@aol.com). Please no e in monkey. Recipes, pictures, and history, that is what we need!!! ASAP.

The Saint Sarkis Ladies Guild usually meets the second Sunday of the month after church services. Special days could change that. As you know, new members are always an important addition to any group. Please contact me or any member to join us.

Thank you,

Sharon Kehetian Broglin, Chairlady

### NEW MEMBERS

Alann Broglin, Elizabeth Vartanian-Gibbs, Sona Manzo, Silva Sagherian, Daniel Serafin, Dickron Trakjian, Sarkis Telbelian, Daniel Tiernan, Donna Tiernan, Krista Tossounian & Mark Movsesian.

*We welcome all of our new dues paying members to our church and we thank them for their willingness to be a part of our St. Sarkis family.*

## CHOIR CORNER “Q & A with Helen Membreian Movsesian”



**Q.** *Helen, I know you have been involved with our choir for years, when did you first begin to play the organ?*

**A.** I first started playing the organ at fifteen, but I was singing in the choir before that.

**Q.** *You have a vast amount of knowledge in the Armenian Church liturgy, can you give us an idea of how you learned the various sections of the Divine Liturgy and other special feast observances?*

**A.** From going to church religiously, as well as asking questions of my parents and grandparents.

**Q.** *Do you have any remembrances of the different choir masters who played a role in your development, not only in our choir; but in the different choral groups you have been a member of?*

**A.** Yes, Vartges Dulgarian, Baron Sako, also the years I was in the Cass Technical High Schools, music department.

**Q.** *I know you have lived in other areas of the United States, like Ohio and California; when you lived in these states, did you join any of the Armenian churches there? If so did you join in the choir or play the organ in those communities?*

**A.** In Cleveland the church did not have a full time priest, they had visiting priests; therefore, I only played when there was a service. Most of the time the visiting priest was Ver. Rev. Oshagan Choloyan then, who is now our prelate. It was a very small community, without a church, but an all purpose hall.

**Q.** *You have been an active member of our community for many years; with the gifts God gave you, and which you share every Sunday in His house. Can you give a description of the way you are affected spiritually by our church service?*

**A.** I know God put me here to play those beautiful hymns. When I hear the beauty of our service it brings out all of my love of our church and faith.

**Q.** *One of the most meaningful parts of our service are the hymns. I'm sure you have your favorites, which*

*ones and why do you feel they are your favorites?*

**A.** *Soorp, Soorp*, which is a fabulous hymn called Holy, Holy. I also love the meaningful *Der Voghormia*, which prays for mercy, forgiveness as well as blessing all those with human frailties.

**Q.** *The choir has gone through some ups and downs throughout the years. I myself was a member in my high school years. To this day I love to sing along with the choir from the back of the church. If you were to speak to some of our young people today, would you encourage them to join the choir and why?*

**A.** Absolutely, the church is who we are as a people; it is our beginning, our identity. Plus, if you enjoy singing it's a wonderful way to express your joy.

**Q.** *It seems that for many people it is hard to understand these hymns, if they do not understand the Armenian language? Are there hymn books from which the singer can learn from?*

**A.** We have books written in English and Armenian They can take those books home and learn from them. Also, *Der Hayr* is an excellent source to learn from.

**Q.** *I know that there are many variations of some of the hymns, have our choir members learned any new variations and which hymns are they?*

**A.** The Lord's Prayer, as well as *Der Voghormia*.

**Q.** *My final question has to do with the future of the choir. What do you think should happen to make our choir more professional? You have been a member of various choral groups; do you feel that our choir could improve to the point that they could give concerts throughout the year?*

**A.** We need to increase our membership with people who have some musical interest. Also, more rehearsals can always make for a better sounding and a more professional group.

Helen, I wish to thank you for taking the time to answer these questions. I know that there are many young people who might be encouraged to put on a choir robe and take one step towards learning and becoming a part of a very special choir.

Also, thank you for your years of service to our church; without your supportive contribution, the spirit and the meaning of the service is somehow diminished.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

“From the lips of children and infants You have ordained praise.” *Psalm 8:2.*

Once again, our Sunday School students used their abundant talents to share the spirit and true meaning of Christmas with us all. On December 19, students performed the musical, “Two Nights Before Christmas,” for the residents of Manoogian Manor. Arranged and coordinated by teacher Tracey Katcherian, this field trip not only brought joy to the residents, but also reinforced for our students the importance of giving and sharing with others.

The following Sunday, students gave an encore performance for a standing room only crowd in the Lillian Arakelian hall. Cast members Nairi Carman, Teny Topouzian, David Coburn, Sara Kurkechian, Jonathan Krikorian, and Andre Katcherian, along with soloists, Shant Kechechian, Grace Mercuri, Tamar Changelian, and Michael Kurkechian, and a chorus of angels, shepherds, toys, crayons, dolls, and more, brought a toy store to life, to remind us all that Christmas isn’t about the lights, decorations, shopping and parties – but rather to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. As always, the voices of our children, raised in praise of Jesus, left us all well prepared to enjoy Christmas in peace, and with love.

In January, our students participated in Armenian Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. The students of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades read the Scriptures on Saturday evening. Students also served at the Altar and as Readers on Sunday, Christmas Day.

Faculty and students would like to acknowledge and thank several generous benefactors for their thoughtful gifts this school year:

First, we wish to thank the Armenian Relief Society, Maro Chapter for underwriting the cost of curriculum for the third straight year. The charitable works of the ARS as an organization are well known and respected; we are grateful that Maro chapter members continue to make the Christian education of our children a priority.

Next, we want to express our gratitude to Tommy and Silva Gerjekian for their generous donation of Bibles for our students. All students in



grades 2-6 received Children’s Bibles, and students in grades 7-10 received the adult version, personalized, for their use now and for their lifetime. In addition, Tommy and Silva have committed to purchasing Bibles each year to present to students as they reach Grade 2 and Grade 7. We thank them for their love of our children, and their commitment to Sunday School.

And finally, we wish to thank Mr. & Mrs. John Manoogian, and Dr. Arthur Hamparian for their very generous donations to update our classrooms with white boards. When they learned of the poor condition of our chalkboards, and our request for new ones, these wonderful friends of Sunday School immediately stepped forward to accommodate our request.

We are truly blessed to have such generous and loving benefactors, who look into the eyes of our children and see the future of St. Sarkis Church.

In coming months, students will be very busy learning about Lent, Holy Week and Easter, learning hymns to sing during the Divine Liturgy, planning various field trips, preparing for another program in the Spring, and finding ways to honor our mothers during 2013, The Year of the Armenian Mother. Stay tuned.

-Diane Changelian

## FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST NOVEMBER

The St. Sarkis Fellowship Club continues to be one of the major benefactors of our church. Nearly all of its activities support the church in one way or another. The St. Sarkis Fellowship Club had a few activities since November keeping its members especially active. The Club currently has 56 members, two of which are new. Violet Der Manuelian and Habib Sabbagh joined during this period. Meetings are held approximately once a month where members have a luncheon and discuss church, community, politics, world problems, and listen to interesting lectures. After dinner the members usually end up playing cards or other games.

The major activity during this period was David Terzibashian's presentation on Jerusalem. David who is an extremely knowledgeable native of Jerusalem presented the club with an array of beautiful slides on the buildings, churches, and other edifices in the Holy City. He gave the club a rundown of the changing culture of the city and how the population of the Armenian community has diminished over the last few decades and unfortunately is still continuing its downgrade cycle. The Armenian Quarter of Jerusalem makes up more than one quarter of the old walled city where our priests and other Armenians have had difficult times in maintaining their property rights and accesses to our religious sites. Club members thought the presentation was extremely interesting, informative, and entertaining. Most of the members were happy with the lecture and thanked David asking him if he could return at another time.

At our February meeting Der Hrant gave the club an exceptional presentation on the meaning of Lent. He explained what is expected of the faithful and told us what foods we could eat and not eat. It was very surprising to some of our members that we should not

eat any food that has any association with animals. This includes all the dairy products plus chickens (and their eggs) and fish. The other aspect of the Lenten forty day period before Easter is that the faithful should renew their vows to God and be extending their religious commitment.

Other activities that Fellowship members got involved in is our Vice President Movses Movsesian presenting a historical summary of the St. Vartan American Legion Post 307 dissolution. Movses explained that the historical paraphernalia and equipment of the post were sent to the Armenian National Museum in Yerevan, Armenia.

One other activity, one of our members was involved in was a book presentation by George Mouradian on *Evils of the World*. George discussed the four major evils: power, religion, war, and money and their accompanying malevolencies to a Hamazkayin, Armenian Engineers and Scientists of America audience and their guests. The lecture was very well received. George also gave a short introductory talk on the book to the club in November.

Many of the Fellowship Club members are active in other church and community activities. While some members manage to get involved in other community relationships they also enjoy the benefits and comradeship of the club. Meetings are usually held once a month followed by a social hour and fun time activities. The Fellowship Club occasionally invites speakers to talk on specific topics that would be of interest to the members. Membership is open to all parishioners. Parishioners who are interested can contact President Randy Broglin at 313-383-2453.

-George Mouradian



### Congratulations to Taleen Shahrigan Who Broke Northville High Track Record and AYF Olympic Records



Taleen Shahrigan, a junior at Northville High School and daughter of David and Kristen Shahrigan, recently broke the Northville High School cross country record in the 5k run and also broke two AYF Olympic track records.

Her high school achievement was in a high school track invitational which included some 200 runners in her age group representing 22 area high schools. She finished second among the 200 runners, losing to the national high school 5k record holder who happens to be from West Bloomfield High School.

“Taleen’s time was an amazing early season time of 19:02,

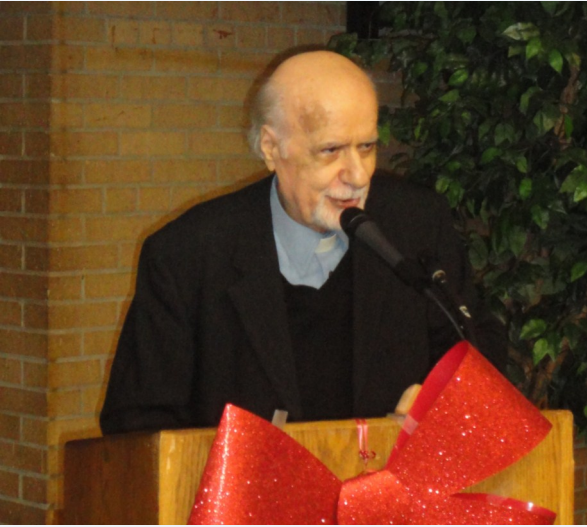
breaking the record of Gina McNamara who now runs for University of Michigan,” said Taleen’s coach, Nancy Smith. Taleen, an honors student and a member of the Detroit KT AYF chapter, has received awards at Northville High for outstanding first year athlete, sportsmanship and team spirit.

In her first year of AYF Olympic competition held in Boston over Labor Day, Taleen broke a more than 33 year old 800 meter record and also broke the 1600 meter record.

She is the granddaughter of Harry and Margo Derderian and Araz and Florence Shahrigan.



## BOOK PRESENTATION



On December 2, 2012 the Board of Trustees organized a book presentation “Armenians under the Ottoman Empire and the American Mission’s Influence on their Intellectual and Social Renaissance” by Rev. Dr. Gorun Shrikian. After the welcoming remarks by Terri Koller, Emma Bagdasarian played two beautiful piecok’s Prefaces on the piano. The book was presented by Dr. Vazken Ghougassian, Executive Director of the Eastern Prelacy, who is the book’s editor. Present also was Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian who wrote the book’s preface. Following the presentation, Fr. Gorun expressed his words of thanks and autographed copies of his book.



## THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AT ST. SARKIS

The season of Christmas is one of our most cherished holidays. Following the festivities of Western Christmas and New Year, the Armenian Church marked the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ with memorable and beautiful services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, January 5 and 6 all over the world and here at St. Sarkis.

On Saturday, January 5, students and altar servers read in Armenian and English from the Old Testament Books. At the conclusion of the readings, the Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Father Hrant with the assistance of deacons, altar servers, choir and organist, Nancy Der Stepanian. Following the service, all were invited to a Family Night hosted by the Board of Trustees in the Lillian Arakelian Hall featuring a potluck dinner of hot and cold main dishes, salads and desserts.

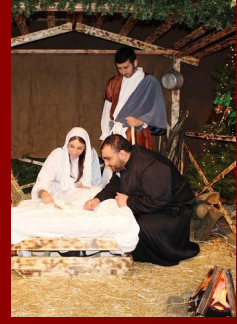
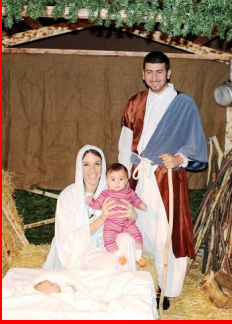
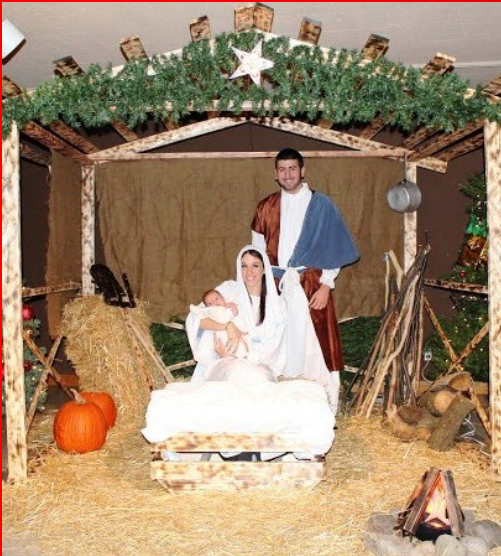
The Nativity Scene on the stage came alive when Araxi Tosoonian & Vahan Cholakian dressed as Mary and Joseph took their places under the canopy. Shant Poladian, son of Kenneth & Ledonna Poladian, representing the baby Jesus was placed in the manger,

and family photos were taken in front of the Nativity. Games were set up in the center of the hall and enjoyed by young and old. Thanks go to Karen Hagopian and Melanie Markarian for organizing the potluck dinner and the games. A gentle snowfall began as families said goodnight and left the hall to return home.

On the morning of January 6 the church was full to capacity for the Blessed Nativity and Theophany of our Lord, which this year fell on Sunday. Father Hrant celebrated the *Badarak* with the faithful assistance of deacons, altar servers, choir and organist Helen Membreian Movsesian. The Blessing of Water service took place after the Divine Liturgy. The Godfather of this service was Kevork Mardoyan, son of Navasart and Suzie Mardoyan. Blessed water was distributed to the faithful. Following worship a Christmas Luncheon was hosted by the Ladies Guild. Many thanks go to their members for organizing the wonderful luncheon.

-Illuminator Staff





## POON PAREGENTAN COSTUME PARTY

On Saturday February 9, 2013, the St. Sarkis Sunday School had its first annual *Poon Paregentan* Costume Party. A group of the Sunday School parents, Mike Rasizzi, Liz Vartanian-Gibbs, Nichole Der Stepanian, Simone' Topouzian & Della Topouzian, organized the event. More then 120 young and adult parishioners were in attendance. Besides the delicious food there was a DJ who played Armenian and English music. The dances and the games created a great atmosphere of joy. At the end of the night all the children received trophies for their beautiful costumes. Everyone is looking forward to next year's *Poon Paregentan*. Make sure you are present!!!

-Illuminator Staff



## FIRST ANNUAL ST. SARKIS MEN'S CLUB SUPER BOWL PARTY



Surrounded by several high definition, large screen televisions and an abundance of food and beverages, over 75 attendees enjoyed the first annual St. Sarkis Men's Club Super Bowl Party held on Sunday, February 3rd in the Lillian Arakelian Hall.

The game, which pitted the San Francisco 49ers against the Baltimore Ravens, went down to the wire. Most of the attendees waited-out the power outage at the Superdome, which delayed the game over thirty minutes. They were rewarded with an exciting finish, which saw Baltimore hang on to what was once a 22 point lead, to ultimately win by three points after a dramatic San Francisco comeback.

This was not, in fact, the first Super Bowl Party at St. Sarkis. It followed a string of very successful Super Bowl parties in the 80s and 90s, organized by Mitchell Shoushanian. Reviving the party was the idea of Der Hrant Kevorkian, pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church. Fueled by an opportunity to increase community involvement at Church activities, Der Hrant turned to Armen Derderian, Nicolas Katcherian, and Alec Sarafian to pull it all together.

Because it was the Super Bowl, the NFL's premier event, the committee insisted that the party be top notch, with plentiful food and beverage, and, of course numerous large, high definition television

screens. Planning came down to the wire, with the cable company finalizing the installation of high definition lines into the Lillian Arakelian Fellowship Hall the day before the Super Bowl. In the end, the room featured a 100 inch center screen flanked by three 50-inch televisions to ensure optimal viewing from all parts of the hall.

All Events Catering, the Church's caterers, put together a terrific Super Bowl-type spread, with a wide variety of delicious foods and salads. In a nod to the tradition established at the original Super Bowl parties, Coney Island hot dogs were served at halftime. Dessert capped off the foodservice for the evening, with a centerpiece of birthday cake in honor of Albert Sarkisian, who celebrated his 85th birthday at the party.

Of the event, planning committee member, Armen Derderian, said, "For being put together in such a short amount of time, it was a fantastic event with great turnout. It gives us a solid foundation to build upon for an ongoing annual event."

The 2014 Super Bowl will be played on February 2nd. Mark your calendars for what is sure to be another great event!

-Alex Sarafian

**SACRAMENTS**

**Baptisms**

**Eduard Arto Bedrossian**, son of Samuel & Natella (Ayrapetyan) was baptized on November 4, 2012. Godparents are Sebouh Hatsakordzian and Ninel Zurab.

**Iris Louise Darin**, daughter of Matthew & Julie (Bagdoian) was baptized on November 24, 2012. Godparents are Matthew Bagdoian and Monica Schaffer.

**Sophia SofyaCarolynne Sill**, daughter of Jason & Monieg (Bagdasarian) was baptized on December 22, 2012. Godparents are Vahan Bagdasarian and Natasha Bagdasarian.

**Aria Elle Istamboulian**, daughter of Haig & Paula (Jerrell) was baptized on November 11, 2012. Godparents are Lawrence LaBrana and Tammie LaBrana.

**Gavin Kapriel Scott Sill**, son of Jason & Monieg (Bagdasarian) was baptized on December 22, 2012. Godparents are Vahan Bagdasarian and Natasha Bagdasarian.

**Nicholas Aris Nadjaian**, son of Richard & Hedy (Ordoutchanian) was baptized on February 17, 2013. Godparents are Paul Nadjarian and Tina Khayat.

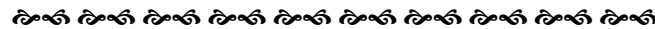
We extend our congratulations to the parents and the grandparents on the very happy occasion of the baptism of their children and grandchildren and welcome them into our Armenian Apostolic Faith.



**Wedding**

**Alan Ara Najdi & Diane Elias** were married on February 9, 2013 by Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian. The best man was Darry Elias and the maid of honor was Mariam Elias.

Our congratulations to the happy couple, and their families. We wish them a long, and fruitful life together.  
 «Մէկ բարձի վրայ ծերանաք» *“Meg partsi verah dzeranak.”* “May you grow old on one pillow.”



**Funerals**

<b>Jim George Koukoudian</b> November 7, 2012	<b>Andrew Poladian</b> December 31, 2012	<b>Harry Manoogian</b> January 22, 2013
<b>Margaret Karapetian</b> November 20, 2012	<b>Kazar Kazarian</b> January 9, 2013	<b>Charles Shoushanian</b> February 1, 2013
<b>Andrew Bazian</b> December 21, 2012	<b>Sadie (Vartanian) Johns</b> January 19, 2013	<b>Cletus Elwood Gresham Jr.</b> February 11, 2013
<b>Dikran Kassabian</b> December 29, 2012	<b>Louise Adray</b> January 21, 2013	<b>John Sarkisian</b> February 15, 2013

We extend our deepest condolences to those in our community who have lost loved ones.  
 May God Bless their memories.



## DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH

### CHRISTMAS YOUGHAKIN

Total: \$6,780

<p>Armenian Renaissance Assoc. Dr/Mrs Vahagn Agbabian M/M George Arakelian M/M Frank Asadoorian M/M Sarkis Atanosian Virginia B. Azizian Mrs. Rosalie Baghdoian M/M Matko Brajkovich M/M Winfred Burchfield Coburn Family The Dakessians M/M Pete Dellalian M/M Harry &amp; Helen Derderian The Dermanuelian Family Mrs. Samuel Dermanulian Mrs. Ann Donoian Mrs. Elsie Doumanian Martin Armen Ektibaryan &amp; Silva Shiklanian Mark, Eleanor Evarian &amp; Family Ms. Arpine Garbooshian Armen &amp; Elizabeth Garbooshian Narses &amp; Alice Gedigian Annie Gharibian Ann Grigorian Colette Gulian</p>	<p>Popkin &amp; Alice Harabedian Haygas &amp; Norma Haroian Susan &amp; Edward Haroutunian Edward Jevizian Michael &amp; Tamar Kadian Josephine Kalustian Richard &amp; Elizabeth Kamar Arlene Khelokian Sarkis &amp; Virginia Kojian Armen &amp; Mary Korkigian Manya Korkigian Elizabeth Kosaian M/M Kaiser Krekorian Louise Krikorian M/M Stephen Krikorian Sue Kurtjian Mrs. Eleanor Lafian, <i>in memory of Oscar Lafian</i> Rose Lahiff Dick &amp; Rose Maloian John &amp; Rose Manoogian Sona Manoukian Anne Merian Jacques &amp; Georgette Miloian Avedis &amp; Sona Mishigian Pearl Mooradian</p>	<p>Helen Membreian Movsesian Gregory &amp; Karen Movsesian M/M Movses Movsesian Aram &amp; Seta Najarian Richard &amp; Stephanie Najarian Charlie &amp; Alice Noorian Ann Okolovitch Pauline T. Sanderson Ms. Emiline Santikian Alex &amp; Kara Sarafian Ms. Pamela Sayre Elizabeth Serafin, <i>in memory of sister, Margaret Karapetian</i> Mary Shiklanian Rev. Dr. Gorun Shrikian Nadia Simon Peter &amp; Anne Sirian Sally Tarpinian Sarkis &amp; Sirvart Telbelian M/M Arsen Terjimanian Mike &amp; Jeannette Vartanian Ms. Esther Vosgerchian Michael &amp; Tracy Yangouyian M/M Sarkis Yeghiazarian Margaret Zadikian M/M George Zamanian</p>
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### POINSETTIA DONATIONS

Total: \$1,580

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 donated. Special thanks to Arnold Kourtjian.

<p>Ned &amp; Aroxie Apigian George &amp; Zabel Arakelian Don &amp; Carolyn Arslanian Alice Atikian Larry Avedesian, <i>in memory of Alice Avedesian</i> Ross &amp; Suzy Bagdasarian, <i>in memory of Hasmig Kevorkian</i> Rosalie Baghdoian Yervant &amp; Mary Bedikian Zoe Dakesian Raffi &amp; Julie Der Manuelian, Chris &amp; Emily Arpine Garbooshian Aram &amp; Violet Gavoor Narses &amp; Alice Gedigian Jerry &amp; Sandy Gerjekian Rose Gerjekian</p>	<p>Tommy &amp; Silva Gerjekian George &amp; Lucy Gurganian Ovannes &amp; Arma Hadjinian Sousanna Hadjinian &amp; Chrissy Herman &amp; Arek Hintiryan &amp; Family Mitch &amp; Rose Kehetian Dale &amp; Terri Koller Anna Koloian Krikor &amp; Anna Krikorian Dick &amp; Rose Maloian, <i>in memory of Oskiaz Malvian and Arshalous Nercesian</i> Seta Mesrobian Avedis &amp; Sona Mishigian Oghig &amp; Sandy Mooradian Pearl Mooradian Helen Membreian Movsesian</p>	<p>Movses &amp; Anna Movsesian Charles &amp; Alice Noorian Raffi, Shoghere, Arek &amp; Berj Ourlian Serop &amp; Alice Ghazourian Sabb Albert &amp; Geno Sarkisian Liz Serafin, <i>in loving memory of Margaret Karapetian</i> Araz &amp; Florence Shahrighian Harold &amp; Laura Sirabian, <i>in memory of Neshan, Satenig &amp; Harry Sirabian</i> Peter &amp; Ann Sirian Sally Tarpinian, <i>in memory of Shmavon &amp; Azniv Tarpinian</i> Kegham Tazian George &amp; Ann Zamanian</p>
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## IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

### In memory of JACK KOSAIAN

Total: \$3,246.86

Elizabeth Kosaian,  
 Brian, Becky Kosaian & Family,  
 Paul, Joan Kosaian & Family,  
 Frank, Lisa Casali & Family  
 Caterina Casali and Family  
 Ecowater Canada Ltd.  
 George & Elizabeth Grattan  
 Perry Jarian and daughters  
 Alice Kalustian  
 Evan & Laurie Lyall  
 Ray & Merry Malos Family,  
 Dean & Sandy Malos  
 Ray & Yvette Malos  
 The Meidl Family  
 Tim, Kelly, Kara, Ryan, Nicole  
 & Kyle Omell  
 Marty & Diana Shoushanian  
 Jack Tocarchick  
 Gary & Marceline Weshalek  
 Chris & Marcelline Kochan

Bryant & Joanna Satterlee  
 Patricia Kalustian & Scott Ode  
 David & Lisa Bedrosian  
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 Ford Motor Company Walton  
 Stamping Plant  
 Louisa Goulasarian and Family  
 Joe & Colleen Gyaraw  
 Tammy Kalustian  
 Ted & Rita Kochan  
 Larry & Ann Mackey  
 John Mekjian & Nancy Beth Rupp  
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 Gina & Greg Pollock  
 The Reitz Family  
 Milio & Viola Rinna and Family  
 Buddy & Kim Shearouse  
 Stephen Tlalka  
 Mary & Tom White  
 Kenneth Williams

Elizabeth Bedrosian  
 Joseph & Grace Mistretta  
 Denise Rankin  
 Art & Sharla Vartanian  
 Gary Yesve  
 Alice Avedesian & Family  
 (Canada)  
 Jim & Mary Curtis and Family  
 Michael & Cassandra Keossian  
 William & Susan McLellan  
 Pauline Torigian Sanderson  
 Shyamal & Mitha Sarkar  
 M/M Albert Sarkisian  
 Matthew & Alicia Schweizer  
 The Warmuth Family  
 Bill Liphardt  
 Alice Mouradian  
 Mike & Jeanette Vartanian  
 Master Andon Schweizer

### In memory of KAZAR KAZARIAN

Total: \$3,610

Mrs. Bernice Kazarian  
 Karen Kazarian  
 Mark & Cheryl Kazarian  
 Dr. Vahagn & Mary Jo Agbabian  
 Hampo & Annie Almasian  
 M/M Ardash Apigian  
 Ned & Aroxie Apigian  
 M/M Edward Apkarian  
 George & Zabel Arakelian  
 Don & Carolyn Arslanian  
 Renee Ascolese  
 Jeff & Mary Avedesian  
 Lawrence Avedesian  
 Ron & Mimi Avedesian  
 Mike & Val Bagdasarian  
 Ross & Suzi Bagdasarian  
 Richard & Nora Benian  
 Karyn Chopjian  
 Zovart Dakesian  
 Edward & Suzanne Derbabian  
 Harry & Margo Derderian  
 Arpine Garbooshian  
 Jack Garbooshian  
 Aram & Violet Gavoor  
 Alice & Narses Gedigian  
 Jerry & Sandy Gerjekian

M/M Jim Golden  
 Colette Gulian  
 Jim & Carolyn Haboian  
 Onnig Hachigian  
 Richard & Geraldine Hagopian  
 M/M John Halagian  
 Alice Hamparian  
 Dr. Arthur Hamparian  
 Amalia Harazian  
 Janet & Michael Haroian  
 Lorraine Jansky  
 Charles & Patricia Javizian  
 Simon Javizian  
 Dickran & Elizabeth Kamar  
 Ara Katcherian  
 Rick & Donna Katcherian and Family  
 Dave & Doris Katcherian and Family  
 Karen Kehetian  
 Mitch & Rose Kehetian  
 George & Margaret Kizerian  
 Kevin & Elizabeth Kojian  
 Virginia & Sarkis Kojian  
 Alice A. Kourtjian  
 Ralph & Roxanne Kourtjian  
 Krikor & Anna Krikorian  
 Kelly & Sima Kuchukian

Grace & John Kulegian  
 Daniel & Mary Ann Mahlebashian  
 Dick & Rose Maloian  
 Chris & Sona Manzo  
 Pearl Mooradian  
 Alice Mouradian  
 Dennis Moushmoulian  
 Helen Membreian Movsesian  
 Movses & Anna Movsesian  
 M/M Grover Hillard Rodgers  
 Alex, Kara, Amo, & Drienne Sarafian  
 Al & Geno Sarkisian  
 George Sarkisian  
 Gregory Sarkisian & Nicole  
 Rob & Robin Scollard  
 Araz & Florence Shahrighian  
 Marty & Diana Shoushanian  
 Sally Tarpinian  
 Gini Topalian  
 Topouzian Family  
 M/M John Tosoian  
 Midge Walsh  
 Christopher Yangouyian  
 M/M Joseph Zakem & Zachary



## In memory of ANDREW POLADIAN

Total: \$2,120

St. Sarkis Church Fellowship Club  
Hampo & Annie Almasian  
M/M Harry Arkelian  
Don & Carolyn Arslanian  
M/M Frank Asadoorian  
Ross & Suzie Bagdasarian  
Virginia Bagdasarian  
Armen Bagian  
M/M Paul Bagian  
Suzanne Bedrosian  
Taleen Nigosian Baldwin  
George & Patricia Charchian  
Zovart Dakesian  
Sara Fustikian  
Mrs. Margaret Garibian  
Alice & Narses Gedigian  
Mrs. Rose A. Gerjekian  
George & Lucy Gurganian  
Onnig Hachigian  
Popkin & Alice Harabedian  
Brenda Heisler

Norman & Esther Javezian  
Mike & Cina Kajoian & Sandra  
Ovian  
Phillip & Cynthia Kashigian  
Mitch & Rose Kehetian  
M/M Kaiser Krekorian  
M/M George Krikorian  
Krikor & Anna Krikorian  
M/M Stephen Krikorian  
Mrs. Eleanor Lafian  
Linda Leporowski  
Bob & Kathy Lewandoski  
George & Sandy Manoogian,  
Amara & Alis  
Christy Mazzara  
Peter & Hermine Mazzara  
Arthur & Gloria Melkonian  
Anahid Michaelian  
Dick & Rose Maloian  
Olive & Sandy Mooradian  
Pearl Mooradian

Barkey Mossoian  
Alice Mouradian  
George & Rose Mouradian  
Helen Membreian Movsesian  
Movses & Anne Movsesian  
Andrew & Kathleen Nersesian  
Susan Noland  
Ted Raynush  
Sylvia Roche  
John & Alice Schlegel  
Araz & Florence Shahrigian  
M/M Peter Sheehan  
Peter & Anne Sirian  
Jeanne Spence  
Sally Tarpinian  
Tatta Family  
Mike & Jeanette Vartanian  
Esther Vosgerchian  
Harry, Chris & Licia Yangouyian  
Ted & Kathy Yanchula

## In memory of CHARLES SHOUSHANIAN

Total: \$2,615

ARS Maro Chapter  
Hampo & Annie Almasian  
M/M Art Amroian  
M/M Ned & Aroxie Apigian  
M/M Edward H. Apkarian  
George & Zabel Arakelian  
Rose & Harry Arkelian  
Don & Carolyn Arslanian  
Dawn, Adi & Soseh Asadoorian  
Ron & Mimi Avedesian  
Aram & Linda Bagdasarian  
Annette & Vasken Cholakian  
Richard & Karen Demeyere  
M/M Edward Derbabian  
Aram & Violet Gavoor  
Nancy Gavoor  
Alice & Narses Gedigian  
Terry & Anita Granger  
Laura Grigorian  
Onnig Hachigian  
Dr. Arthur Hamparian  
Janet & Michael Haroian  
Norman & Esther Javezian  
Cynthia Kachadoorian  
M/M Khatchig Kafafian

M/M Dickran Kamar  
David Karapetian  
Phillip & Cynthia Kashigian  
Rick & Donna Katcherian  
Karen Kehetian  
Mitch & Rose Kehetian  
Dale & Terri Koller  
Alice Kourtjian  
M/M Ralph Kourtjian  
Grace & John Kulegian  
Carol & Alice Malakhanian  
Dick & Rose Maloian  
Bedros & Sandi Magar  
John & Rose Manoogian  
Alice Mekjian  
M/M J. Mekjian  
John Metzgian and Family  
Alice Mouradian  
George & Rose Mouradian  
Helen Membreian Movsesian  
Movses & Anna Movsesian  
Jeffrey Noroyan  
Asbed Papakhian  
Amo Sarafian  
John Sarkesian

Albert & Geno Sarkisian  
George Sarkisian  
John & Alice Schlegel  
Eugene & Joan Schneider  
Harry & Jenny Shooshanian  
and Family  
Minnie Shoushanian, Dr. John,  
Suzan, Danielle and Alexander,  
Michael, Denise & Chase  
Peter & Anne Sirian  
Charles Siroonian  
Vasken & Rose Solakian  
Nick & Louise Stepanian  
Amma Lee Tarazoff  
Craig & Lisa Tarpinian  
Manoog Tarpinian  
Gary & Virginia Vartanian  
Mike & Jeanette Vartanian  
Esther Vosgerchian  
Harry & Licia Yangouyian  
M/M George Zamanian  
Andrew & Mary Rose Zazaian  
Sadie Zazaian  
M/M Sherman Zazaian

## In memory of HARRY MANOOGIAN

Total: \$980

M/M Ned & Aroxie Apigian  
George & Zabel Arakelian  
Thomas & Nancy Banks  
David & Marianne Dardarian  
and Family  
Michael Dardarian  
Vigen B. Darian  
Kathy Herrick  
Norm & Esther Javizian

Bob & Denise Karakashian  
Mitch & Rose Kehetian  
Bob Lewandoski  
Ozzie & Margo Mouradian  
Papakhian Family  
Susan & Gary Reizian  
Stanley & Lillian Roland, Zachary  
Roland, Leigh & Adam Berkhoel  
Peter & Marilyn Sarkesian

Marty & Diana Shoushanian  
Teets Family  
Unknown  
Dave Walker  
Harry, Chris & Licia Yangouyian  
Margaret Zadikian  
Caroline Zarend

## In memory of LOUISE ADRAY

Total: \$4,127

Shofique & Maria Ali  
M/M Ardash Apigian  
M/M Ned & Aroxie Apigian  
M/M Edward Apkarian  
George & Zabel Arakelian  
Rose & Harry Arkelian  
Armenian Community Center  
Anto Arslanian  
Don & Carolyn Arslanian  
Dawn, Adi & Soseh Asadoorian  
Lawrence & Eric Avedesian  
Dorian Avedesian & Richard  
Keshgegian and Family  
Ross & Suzi Bagdasarian  
Ernie & Peggy Bianchi  
John Bolinger & Gary Smith  
Mary Bugeia  
Jerry & Sharon Buscetta  
Manny, Natalie & Jeffrey Charach  
M/M Paul Chastney  
Jim & Mary Ann Clement  
Couzens, Lansky, Fealk, Ellis,  
Roeder & Lazar  
Lynn & Dale Cox  
Zovart Dakesian  
David Dardarian  
Mike Dardarian  
Cindy Denha  
Violet DerManulian  
Mary Dirasian

Marilyn Dragan  
Ellen & Pattie  
Janet & Ralph Emmons  
Jack Garbooshian  
Aram & Violet Gavoar  
Alice & Narses Gedigian  
The Gramer Family  
Dr. Arthur Hamparian  
Norman & Esther Javezian  
Linda Joannette  
Kajoian Family  
Mike, Cina & Kristen Kajoian  
Takouhi Kazarian  
Mitch & Rose Kehetian  
Edward & Yvonne Korkoian  
and Family  
M/M Ara & Heather Krafian  
Peter Kupelian  
Vartan, Betty & Lisa Kupelian  
Ann Laktzian  
M/M Harout Madoyan  
Carl & Alice Malakhanian  
Dick & Rose Maloian  
Grant & Cathy MacKenzie  
M/M Joseph M. McGlynn  
Lucy Merzian  
Barkey Mossoian  
Mrs. Mary Lee Myles & Tom  
M/M Mardig Palanjian  
M/M Palanjian

Papakhian Family  
Paul D. & Sue A. Rojek  
Alex & Kara Sarafian  
Raffi & Chrissy Sarafian  
M. Sarafian  
Tom & Zee Sarkesian  
George Sarkisian  
John & Alice Schlegel  
Rosalie Schweinfurth  
Marty & Diana Shoushanian  
Doris Shulman  
Peter, Melody & Paula Simon  
Manoog Tarpinian  
Sally Tarpinian  
Sal & Gloria Tatta  
M/M Andrew Torosian  
Mike Torosian  
Patrick & Rose Torossian  
Anonymous  
Miss Kay Vartanian  
Esther Vosgerchian  
Roger Waha  
Candy Yan  
Harry, Chris & Licia Yangouyian  
Michael Yangouyian  
M/M Joseph Zakem and Zachary  
George & Ann Zamanian  
Zonder Family

## In memory of CLETUS ELWOOD GRESHAM JR.

Total: \$240

Sandra Afetian  
Harry Derderian  
Manouk & Sona Derovakimian

May & Khatchig Kafafian  
Frances Khelokian, Jayme & John  
Mrs. Sandra Magar

Anonymous

## In memory of MARGARET KARAPETIAN

Total: \$600

Orphelia Alabakoff & Family  
Hampo & Annie Almasian  
Mrs. Mary Antonian  
Edward & Violet Apkarian  
George & Zabel Arakelian  
Zoe Dakesian  
Alice & Narses Gedigian

Rose Gerjekian  
Miss Ann Jevizian  
David Karapetian & Family  
Mitch & Rose Kehetian  
Seta Mesrobian  
Pearl Mooradian  
Sandra & Olive Mooradian

Alice Mouradian  
Helen Mempreian Movsesian  
Ellie & Nick Nicoloff  
M/M Charles & Alice Noorian  
Yn Shakeh Ohanesian & Family  
Sally Tarpinian  
Sebouh & Maureen Toukhanian

## In memory of ANDREW BAZIAN

Total: \$625

Dr. Annette Bazian  
Haig Aznavoorian

M/M Naz & Marguerite Hadjian  
George E. Mellos

M/M Charles Nahigian  
Isabel Nahigian

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### Additional Memorial Donations

In memory of :

**ALICE AVEDESIAN**

Florence & Lisa Kazanjian

In memory of:

**ZABEL DOSTOURIAN**

Phillip & Cynthia Kashigian

In memory of :

**LORI JANIGIAN**

Colette Gulian

In memory of:

**DICKRON KASSABIAN**

Sam & Anna Lovalenti

In memory of:

**ALICE JAVIZIAN**

Richard & Elvie Tietze

In memory of:

**GEORGE TAVTIGIAN**

Richard & Stephanie Najarian

In memory of:

**ROSE VARTANIAN**

George & Karen Nigoghosian

Family

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### **General Gifts to the Church**

Total: \$300

- Helen Knar & Michael Cirrito, in honor of the recognition of many years of service of our father and grandfather, George Arakelian.
- Movses & Anna Movsesian, in honor of Phillip & Cynthia Kashigian's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.
- Colette Gulian, in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Sarkis Church.
- Krikor & Nyrrie Bedrossian, for Sunday School.

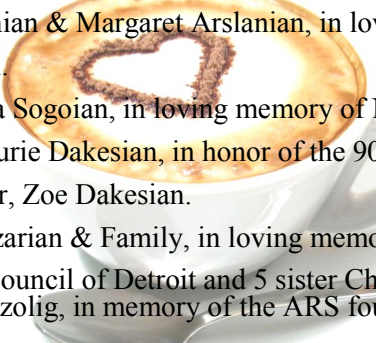
### **Other Donations**

A special thank you to Silva & Tommy Gerjekian who donated bibles to all of our Sunday school students.

Special thanks to Simon Javizian, who donated electronic equipment for playing background music on special occasions in the church, and to John Zadikian who made the installations.

### **Thank you to the following sponsors of our**

#### **Sunday Fellowship Hour**

- 
- 1/13: Mary Antonian & Margaret Arslanian, in loving memory of Michael Mardirosian.
  - 1/27: Mrs. Martha Sogoian, in loving memory of Nash Sogoian.
  - 2/10: Harry & Laurie Dakesian, in honor of the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of mother & grandmother, Zoe Dakesian.
  - 2/17: Bernice Kazarian & Family, in loving memory of Kazar Kazarian.
  - 2/24: ARS Mid-Council of Detroit and 5 sister Chapters: Zabel, Sybille, Maro, Shakeh & Tzolog, in memory of the ARS founder, benefactors and members.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OR A BOARD MEMBER IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR THE FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR.**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ARF News

On Saturday December 1, 2012, the ARF Azadamard Gomidehoutoun invited the Detroit Community to celebrate the 122<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the ARF. The event was attended by approximately 125 people. The guest speaker of the day was Unger Asbed Kotchikian who is a professor at Bentley University in Massachusetts. A complimentary dinner was provided.

Unger Asbed's speech focused on the role of the ARF in Armenia and the diaspora. He also said that with Armenia's independence, Armenia must adapt to a fast-changing technological world; we are challenged to think globally, to have a larger agenda. He repeated the fact that the ARF is an organization meant to serve both Armenia and its diaspora. The program also included Emily Movsesian singing the American and Armenian National Anthems, Shoghre Ourlian reciting "We Are Brothers," and Unger Sebouh Hatsakordzian as the

master of ceremonies for the event.

On Saturday, February 23, 2013, we presented the documentary "Orphans of the Genocide" by Bared Maronian at Novi Middle School. Unger Raffi Ourlian expressed the welcoming words of Azadamard Gomideh, U. Haigan Tcholakian presented the director, who spoke about the documentary.

The Azadamard Gomideh thanks all of the supporters and attendees of the events.

Our future events will be the following:

- Genocide Commemoration Program in April (date to be determined)
- May 28 – Armenian Independence Day Celebration (date to be determined)
- Khanasor Picnic (date to be determined)

-Raffi Ourlian

### ARS Zavarian One-Day School Celebrates Christmas And New Year

On Monday evening, December 17, 2012, teachers, students, parents and friends of the ARS Zavarian One-day School gathered at the Orchard Lake Middle School to celebrate the New Year and Christmas holiday season.

Mrs. Hourig Jacobs welcomed everyone and wished them a joyous holiday. She invited Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian, pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church to offer a prayer and bless the table of desserts prepared by school parents.

The program of seasonal songs and recitations in Armenian began with the youngest students who were shy and hesitant and was followed by performances by the more confident students of the upper grades. They sang about "Gaghant Baba" (Santa Claus), the Christmas Tree, the Holy Nativity and the New Year.

Amid the joyful sounds of the children's voices,



Santa made a surprise appearance. The students sang and danced, sharing their joy with Santa, as they received their Christmas gifts. Happy and excited, the students bid farewell to Santa.

The event was sponsored by the ARS Mid-Council of Detroit, which administers the Zavarian School.

-Silvart Telbelian

## **Greater Detroit Armenian Community Raises \$41,000 for Syrian Armenians**

On Friday, December 14, 2012, the Greater Detroit United Committee (comprised of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic, St. Vartan Armenian Catholic and Armenian Congregational Churches, Armenian Revolutionary Federation, Armenian Relief Society (five sister chapters), Armenian Youth Federation, Hamazkayin Cultural Association, HOMENETMEN, Tekeyan Cultural Association, Detroit Armenian Women's Club, Knights of Vartan, Daughters of Vartan and Armenian Engineers and Scientists Association) sponsored its second fundraiser event for the Syrian Armenians "Extend Your Hand to Your Syrian Brother." The event was held at the Hagopian World of Rugs, Birmingham, Michigan.

The Mistress of Ceremonies, Georgi-ann Oshagan welcomed the guests and invited Stephan Karougian to sing the Armenian and American anthems. She then invited Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian, pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church to offer the invocation, following which he made a passionate plea to the community to continue its help to Syrian Armenians.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Oshagan appealed for help to the Syrian Armenians. A musical interlude was offered by violinist Harry Hovakimian and soloist Rosaline Basmadjian, who performed three melodies from Sayat Nova. Following the performance, United Committee Co-Chair Mr. Shant Jamgotchian presented a video, "The Life of Syrian Armenians before the con-

flict began and after the height of the violence."

Guest Speaker for the evening was Dr. Ara Sanjian, director of the Armenian Research Center, University of Michigan, Dearborn. He presented a detailed history of the Syrian Armenians and outlined the reasons behind the conflict. Dr. Sanjian offered his perspective on how the community can be sustained, and in what ways Armenian Americans can help those still in Syria and those who fled to Armenia, Lebanon and elsewhere.

Ms. Oshagan invited the United Committee Co-Chair Shakeh Basmajian to the podium. She thanked the audience for supporting the United Committee and its events and explained why Syria was important to Diaspora Armenians. She urged those present to remember their Armenian brothers and sisters on these festive days of Christmas and New Year. Her message was: "GIVE TODAY, TOMORROW WILL BE TOO LATE."

Msgr. Andon Atamian, Pastor of St. Vartan Armenian Catholic Church closed the event with an encouraging plea urging Armenians to become active in the cause and offered the benediction.

The event raised \$10,000 for the Syrian Armenians and so far the Greater Detroit Armenian Community has raised over \$41,000 towards the relief efforts. Included in this total are funds collected by the three participating Armenian churches.

-Shakeh Basmadjian

## **Hamazkayin 8<sup>TH</sup> Annual Dance Performance**

For many years the Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society has been our community's cultural torch bearer and continues to be.

Recently, the Hamazkayin Arax Dance Ensemble along with its junior dance groups, *Hooys* (Hope) and *Hrashk* (Miracle), presented its 8<sup>th</sup> annual dance performance. Every dance performance is as unique as the Hamazkayin dancers, but what was significant about this performance was having the junior groups dance with the teenagers.

Hamazkayin Arax, Hrashk and Hooys dance ensembles are not regular dance groups. The Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society aims to teach Armenian culture and traditions in an atmosphere of fun and dancing while bringing Armenian kids together to forge solid friendships. Each Arme-

nian dance depicts an old Armenian country village or city, with its distinctive costumes, dances, traditions, foods and folklore. Some dances are about famous historic battles such as Avarayr.

Besides the dance group, Hamazkayin Detroit organizes lectures, plays, poetry recitations, book reviews and other cultural programs.

On February 22 we had a Book presentation "Evils of the World" for George Mouradian, in collaboration with the Armenian Scientists and Engineers Association at St. Sarkis, Lillian Arakelian Hall. Paul Kulhanjian presented the author, George Mouradian, which was followed by the presentation of the book by the author. The event came to an end with expressions of appreciation by Mrs. Hermine Manoogian and fellowship.



Our next up event:

**April, 2013:** Our annual Jewels of Armenian Art and Literature program, which brings together the young generation of Metro Detroit to recite poetry and thereby honor our past and present poets.

Finally, we would like to thank all the Hamazkayin supporters, donors, volunteers and friends. Without your continuous support and encouragement, we wouldn't be here.

As one of our great poets Baruyr Sevag said:

“We are, we will be, and we shall multiply...”

Hamazkayin Armenian Educational & Cultural Society

**Note: for more information please contact us at:**

E-mail: [Detroit@hamazkayin-usa.org](mailto:Detroit@hamazkayin-usa.org)

Mailing address:

Mrs. Hermine Manoogian

5137 Kingsfield Ct., West Bloomfield, MI 48322

Tel: 248-788-1511

### **Greater Detroit Community Remembers the Heroes and Heroines of Vartanants**

A large crowd gathered on Thursday evening, February 7, 2013 to mark the Feast of the Holy Vartanank, an annual event sponsored by the four Greater Detroit Armenian Churches and the Knights and Daughters of Vartan. Commemorated by Armenians worldwide, it served as a turning point for the Armenian people in their struggle for freedom of religion against their non-Christian overlords during the Fifth century. A Catholic Mass was celebrated by His Grace, the Most Rev. Bishop Mikael Mouradian, Eparch of the Armenian Catholic Church of the United States, and co-celebrant Monsignor Andon Atamian, Pastor of St. Vartan Armenian Catholic Church. At the conclusion of the Mass, messages were offered on the meaning of Vartanants and how present-day Armenians can best pay homage to the brave men and women of this era in Armenian history.

Speaking in Armenian, Deacon David Terzibashian representing the Armenian Congregation Church presented historical background on the Vartanantz Wars from Yeghishe, the Fifth century historian and eyewitness, with special attention to the plight of the Armenian women called *Dignaik Pappasoonk* (*delicately bred ladies*).

Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian, Pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church addressed the gathering in English, tracing the struggle of Vartan Mamigonian and his 66,000 soldiers against the powerful Persian army of over 220,000 in the Battle of Avarayr fought on May 26, 451 AD. He urged all to be active in their respective churches and groups to preserve the Armenian

Christian faith and traditions for which St. Vartan and his men fought so valiantly. He stressed that although Armenians lost the war militarily, they scored a decisive victory with the signing of the Treaty of Nuvarsag years later, which granted Armenia freedom of religion. He encouraged us to keep the Armenian faith strong in our churches and families, with a focus on education of our youth.

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor Emeritus of St. John Armenian Church offered a moving prayer in Armenian dedicated to St. Vartan and his soldiers. He gave thanks to God for giving us a brave man like Vartan who inspired others to follow him into battle.

The final speaker was The Most Rev. Bishop Mikael Mouradian. He addressed the gathering in Armenian and focused his message on the home as the starting point of Christian education. Parents are the first role models for young children. When parents pray, read the Bible and live according to Christian principles, their children will emulate them.

At the conclusion of the messages, guests were invited to a reception in the fellowship hall to enjoy a delicious assortment of hot and cold dishes and desserts prepared by the Women's Guild of St. Vartan's Church. At this time, Christopher Korkoian, Commander of the Knights of Vartan Nareg-Shavarshan Lodge addressed the gathering, explaining what the Knights and Daughters of Vartan stand for and outlined the numerous Armenian charities and projects they support.

-Illuminator Staff

## **Armenian Youth Federation Detroit “Kopernik Tandourjian” Junior & Senior Chapters (2012 - 2013)**

**AYF November Dance:** The Armenian Youth Federation finished up the 2012 year with their annual November Dance which was held Friday, November 23, 2012 at the Lillian Arakelian Hall. With the church’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and community’s 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary falling in 2012, the theme “The Golden Anniversary” was chosen for the dance. Through the Digital Ad-Book that showcased throughout the night, attendees were able to see photographs of AYF members in the Detroit community over the past 70 years. The event featured a special cocktail hour from 8:00-9:00pm and the dance began at 9:00 pm. Live entertainment was provided by The Nigosians and DJ M-Kay. The night was a success filled with many juniors, seniors, alumni and parents.

**Javakhk Jampar Presentation & Coffee Hour:** On Sunday, December 15 the Seniors hosted a coffee hour thanking the community for their support of the new AYF Initiative: the AYF Javakhk Jampar. Earlier in the year, the Detroit “KT” Seniors collected toiletry articles to send to Javakhk as well as raising money at their “Bingo Night.” The AYF sent counselors to Javakhk in late July/early August where they held local youth camps for two week-long sessions. At the event, they screened a presentation of the successful AYF-backed camp in Javakhk.

**AYF Convention:** The AYF Convention was held in Racine, WI, from December 26-30. The Detroit Seniors sent 5 delegates: U. Adi Asadoorian, U. Haigan Tcholakian, U. Ara Markarian, U. Nairi Bagdasarian and U. Armen Nercessian. At convention, the delegates reviewed the AYF’s fiscal year, presented their chapter reports, and established new initiatives, resolutions, committees, and the new Central Executive.



**Senior Chapter:** The seniors had two meetings this year including their general meeting. They presented information from the year-end convention, began planning out their upcoming events, and elected their 2013 Executive Board as follows: U. Haigan Tcholakian–Chairman, U. Adi Asadoorian–VP Internal, U. Anoush

Mardigian–VP External, U. Ara Markarian–Treasurer, and U. Armen Nercessian–Secretary. The executive is off to a fast-paced start. They have sworn in six new members including Chris Kourtjian, Mariana Ghazar, Alec Kurjian, Nicolas Aznavor, Julia Palaian, and Angela Palaian. The senior membership is currently at 72 members. The AYF is fortunate to have celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary on January 14.



**Junior Chapter:** The Juniors had two meetings this year and have sent members to the Midwest Junior Winter Olympics. They have three new Juniors advisors: U. Helen Attar, U. Sareen Bagdasarian, and U. Alidz Oshagan, and their board is as follows: U. Taline Bedirian - President, U. Talar Bagdasarian - Vice President, Sassoun Tcholakian - Treasurer, Talia Oknayan - Corresponding Secretary, and Shant Kevorkian - Recording Secretary.

**Detroit AYF Community Fundraiser for NATs – Saturday, March 2:** In order to fundraise for the regional event they will be hosting on March 9 (National Athletic Tournament), they are having a community fundraiser at Hercules Coney Island in Farmington, Michigan. Come support the local AYF chapter by purchasing NATs apparel or having 10% of your dinner proceeds donated to the AYF!

### **National Athletic Tournament**

**Saturday, March 9:** The Detroit Seniors will be hosting the Eastern Regional National Athletic Tournament this year on March 9. The games will take place at Livonia Churchill High School from 9am-5pm and will include tournaments of basketball from chapters from the Midwest, East and West Coasts. They would like to invite the entire community to attend and give a spirited welcome to the out of town athletes.




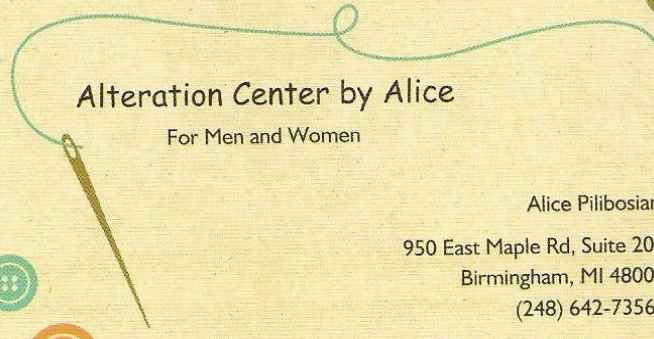
## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

HOLY WEEK SERVICES	
MARCH 24	<b>Palm Sunday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Divine Liturgy at 10:30 am</li> <li>• Great Possession at 12:00 noon</li> <li>• <i>Teraepatsek</i> at 12:30 pm</li> </ul>
MARCH 26	<b>Holy Tuesday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ten Virgins service at 7:00 pm</li> </ul>
MARCH 28	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Divine Liturgy at 5:30 pm</li> <li>• Washing of the Feet at 7:00 pm</li> <li>• Passion &amp; Crucifixion at 8:15 pm</li> </ul>
MARCH 29	<b>Good Friday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burial Service at 7:00 pm</li> </ul>
MARCH 30	<b>Easter Eve</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scripture reading at 7:00 pm</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy at 8:00 pm</li> </ul>
MARCH 31	<b>Easter Sunday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning Service at 10:00 am</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy at 10:45 am</li> </ul>

Lenten Services until Palm Sunday	
Morning Services	Every Wednesday at 10:00 am
Peace Services	Every Friday at 6:30 pm

MARCH 2013	
6	Ladies' Guild Lenten Lunch at 12:00 noon
24-31	Holy Week
24	Ladies' Guild Palm Sunday Dinner at 1:30 pm
APRIL 2013	
7	Sunday School Pancake Breakfast, 1:00 pm General Membership Meeting, 2:00 pm
21	Hamazkayin Poetry Reading, 1:00 pm
24	Genocide 98th Commemoration at 7:00 pm Location to be determined
28	ARS Tzolog Chapter Bake Sale, 1:00 pm
MAY 2013	
5	ARS Sybille Chapter "Hat Fashion Show & Auction" at Glen Oaks Country Club, 4:00 pm
19	St. Sarkis Sunday School Graduation at 1:00 pm

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Our community offers a variety of social and recreational activities and trips for residents which have included Valentine's Day party, "Fat Tuesday" Paczki Day, Opening Tiger Game and 4<sup>th</sup> of July Barbeques, Bingo, Mother's/Father's Day Celebrations, Casino trips, Apple Orchard trips, Halloween Buffet/Party, Wayne County Light-Fest, and our annual Holiday Christmas Dinner. This year's festive Christmas Party was held at the St. Sarkis Church Hall for over 100 of our residents and guests. The annual celebration featured a lavish buffet dinner and an evening of fun entertainment for all who attended.

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# Save the Date!

## Monday

## July 22, 2013



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