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SHOGHAGAT

ՊԱՐԲԵՐԱԳԻՐ Ս. ՍԱՐԳԻՍ ՆԱՅՅ. ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՈՅ

PERIODICAL PUBLICATION OF ST. SARKIS ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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SHOGHAGAT

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ST. SARKIS CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 10, 2006

*General Membership meeting for election of
auditing and nominating committees*

DECEMBER 13, 2006

*Thanksgiving/Christmas Luncheon
with the Local NYPD and Fire Fighters*

DECEMBER 16, 2006

*Honoring past Chairmen and Board of Trustee Members. A special
Banquet under the Auspices of His Eminence Archbishop
Oshagan Choloyan, Prelate*

DECEMBER 31, 2006

New Year's Party

JANUARY 06, 2007

CHRISTMAS PARTY

*A special program by
Saturday and Sunday School Students*

FEBRUARY 04, 2007

ST. SARKIS NAME DAY

*Celebrating the feast of The Patron Saint of our Church and re-
quiem service for the soul of our former Pastor Archpriest Rev.
Fr. Asoghik Kelejian*

FEBRUARY 11, 2007

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

FEBRUARY 18, 2007

POON PEREGENTAN

*Eve of the Great Lent,
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE NIGHT*

MARCH 18, 2007

Mid-Lent Luncheon

APRIL 01, 2007

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 08, 2007

EASTER

Front cover:

A Group Picture of the Students and Staff of
SUMMER CAMP, July 10-14, 2006

Back cover:

Homepage of St Sarkis Church's Website
www.stsarkischurch.net

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS REVISITED*

The first four commandments that we reflected on them in the previous issue of Shoghagt have a vertical direction because they regulate our relationship with God. The remaining six commandments that are discussed here have a horizontal direction because they regulate our relationship with our fellow human beings.

The Fifth Commandment

“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you”.

The core message of this commandment is gratitude. God's will is that, after him, we should honor our parents to whom we owe life and who have handed on to us the knowledge of God.

When we study the Ten Commandments in their context we see that at the time when the Law was given to Moses, God was instructing His people then to lead them to the Promised Land. These instructions were to be practiced in every aspect of the daily life. Families are the core of societies and no instructions and especially spiritual instructions could be practiced unless they are the moral codes of the families. This same principal is true for today's Christian world; the message of the Bible and all the teachings of the church remain infeasible when they are not practiced in the family. How can we expect to live a life according to Christian values when there is no faith, love and respect in the life of the family? The well-being of the individual person and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life.

The term Honor does not mean to be nice and polite but it requires acting in a way that shows courtesy and respect. The best example of honoring our parents is given to us from the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel of Luke testifies that Jesus was obedient to His Parents (Luke 2.51). But we also know that Jesus' first miracle at the Wedding in Cana of Galilee was performed by the request of His mother, The Blessed Virgin Mary. By changing the water into wine He was not only being obedient to Her but He actually changed the whole timing of His ministry (John 2. 1-11).

Children owe their parents respect, gratitude, just obedience, and assistance. And Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children in the

faith, and prayer. They have the duty to provide the physical and especially the spiritual needs of their children. Remember and teach that the first calling of a Christian is to follow Jesus.

This commandment is not only about our physical parents. We Love our heavenly Father because He has given us life and all the things that we have. How can we love and honor our heavenly father who is invisible to our physical eyes when we do not honor our parents? ...For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen (1 John 4:20)?

The sixth Commandment

“You shall not murder”.

The Bible teaches us that *“In [God's] hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind”* (Job 12:10). Therefore not only we have no right to terminate any one's life, we have the duty of respecting life because it is God's gift to us.

People sometimes tend to think that murder is not a sin that any one commits frequently and therefore discussion of this commandment is irrelevant. This perspective changes when we learn about what our Lord Jesus Christ says about murder: *“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.”* (Matthew 5. 21-22).

Jesus points to the root of the commandment by telling us that anger, hatred, fights –physical or verbal- are the same as killing because they have the intention of killing someone's soul. Anger is the time that we are tested. And just like when you squeeze an orange you expect to get orange juice, anger squeezes our souls and the result that comes out of it tells us what type of person we are! Therefore we are not only asked to control our words but to instruct our thoughts.

Besides the physical and spiritual killing we may brake the sixth commandment when we kill the image and likeness of God within us by conducting a filthy lifestyle or when we destroy our body the temple of the Holy Spirit by abusing substances such as alcohol, drugs etc. Euthanasia, suicide and abortion are other types of kill-

* This message is a summary of the sermon series that was delivered during the Lent season. The first part of this writing was published in our previous issue of Shoghagt.

ings that are prohibited by this commandment.

The seventh Commandment

“You shall not commit adultery”.

The message of this commandment is the virtue of Temperance which moderates the desire for pleasure. People often have the misconception that this commandment concerns the married people and their vow to be faithful to one another. The comment that Our Lord Jesus Christ makes on this commandment however expands our minds to its deeper meaning: “You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (Matthew 5:27-28). The message of our Lord tells us that we have the obligation to practice self-mastery according to our marital state of life.

St. Paul gives us a magnificent guidance regarding sexual immorality: *“Everything is permissible for me”—but not everything is beneficial. “Everything is permissible for me”—but I will not be mastered by anything... The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body... Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.*

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. (1 Corinthians 6.12-20).

Sexual immorality is the destructive power of our society. We think that we are free and we can do all that we want but we don't realize that we become the slave of sin and sexual immorality. The only way to stay away from sexual immorality is to pray and practice spirituality for St. Paul Says: *“Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God” (Romans 8. 5-8).*

The eighth Commandment

“You shall not steal”.

The eighth commandment is the law of love as it respects the property of others. It forbids unjustly taking or keeping the goods of one's neighbor and wronging him in any way with respect to his goods. It commands justice and charity in the care of earthly goods and the fruits of men's labor. Every manner of taking and using another's property unjustly is contrary to the this commandment

Our Lord Jesus Christ encourages us to have a giv-

ing spirit: *“And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you” (Matthew 5:40-42).*

The ninth Commandment

“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor”.

This commandment forbids faking the truth in our relations with others and living in truth because Our Lord is the Truth. Lying, duplicity, dissimulation, and hypocrisy are offenses against this commandment. Jesus command us the following: *“Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one” (Matthew 5.37).*

The tenth Commandment

“You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

This commandment warns against lust, coveting the goods of another and envy. Life is more than material goods; far more important is our relationship with God. Good life has nothing to do with being wealthy, so be on guard against greed. This is the exact opposite of what society usually says. Advertisers spend millions of dollars to entice us to think that if we buy more and more of their products, we will be happier, more fulfilled and more comfortable. We have to learn to tune out expensive enticements and concentrate instead on the truly good life -living in a relationship with God and doing his work.

When we feel the materialistic world is pressuring us let us read the words of our Lord: *“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?”*

“Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well” (Luke 12:22-31).

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES DR. ARAM CAZAZIAN

As I reflect upon the last two years of our parish's life I think we have much for which to be thankful and proud. The Board of Trustees together with our committed Pastor, Der Nareg, and all the auxiliary bodies worked hard to make progress and bring forth change and improvements to our church. I can characterize this period as a time of: *a progressive growth*. Nearly every aspect of our parish life has undergone some change. Whether it is spiritual education, cultural, family-oriented activities or structural repairs it is evident that more and more of our next generation are participating and making this parish their home.

The contribution of each person is needed to make our parish the spiritual, educational and cultural center in the Armenian community.

As you may know, our parish life has been very active. I would like to review for you some of the activities of the past few months that are included in this edition of *Shoghagat* and take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all those who contributed, morally, spiritually, physically or financially.

Job well done to **Mr. & Mrs. Milian** as well as all involved in making Mother's Day a successful and very pleasant afternoon.

Vahe Berberian Comedy Evening – Organized by Dory Shishmanian and her team that included Manuk, Malvina, Vahram, Haigouhi Megerian, Gerard Barikian, Danny Gulbenkian. We all were happy to have a good turn out and a good laughter.

Summer Camp –Sponsored by Mrs. and Mr. Antranik Boudakian, was organized by Seta Megerian together with Der Nareg and Yerezgin Annie and included Arts & Crafts, Bible Study, Armenian Conversation and Sports for children ages 5-12 from July 10-14, 2006. Others without whom summer camp would not have been possible were: Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Megerian, Miss Malvina Shishmanian, Miss Tamar Haroutounian, Miss Nevair Oranjian, Mrs. Loucine Megerian, Mrs. Christine Bedrossian, Mr. Vahram Shishmanian and Mrs. Annette Givlekian. Thank you to all who helped to make Summer Camp 06 possible! The children had such a good time that, this will likely be an organized annual event.

Asdvadzadzin – Blessing of the grapes –We all enjoyed the food prepared by an experienced and enthusiastic committee which included Yerezkin Annie Terterian, Diramayr Arpie Tertarian, Karnig and Annie Nercesian, Lucine Megerian, Rita Manoughian, and Amy Gostanian.

Shad hamov er I hope this will also become an annual event.

Annual Picnic – September 10, 2006 A large crew of volunteers led by the event chairs, Edward Barsamian, and Dori Shishmanian worked tirelessly to make this event a success. Many thanks to the *kebab crew*, headed by Ara Artinian and Ruben Daghljan; kids crew Vahram and Malvina Shishmanian, Edward Bekian, Dory Shishmanian and Guy Boyadjian; the serving crew led by Lucine Megerian with help from Elisa Ohanessian and Coharig Barsamian; the sweet desert crew Anoush Direlian and Maral Harutiounian, Anush Haftani, Sandy Shamljan and Mr. Mardirous at the raffle table next to the DJ Johnny. Thanks also to the Shishmanian and Boudakian Families for their donations featuring electronic and jewelry gifts. Yerezgin Annie along with members of Bible Study 101 Group were selling books and gift items from the Prelacy Bookstore. Thanks Naida Voskeritchian and family for sponsoring, DJ Johnny. Danny Gulbenkian, Arthur and Annette Givlekian Manuk Gostanian did a great job selling tickets. There were so many people involved with the picnic ... I thank you all!

Sunday School - 2006 marks the start for some new and enthusiastic set of teachers, including Yn. Annie Terterian, Mrs. Seta Megerian, Mrs. Christine Bedrossian, Ms. Tamar Harutunian and Ms. Janet Milian. We wish you success .

Cultural Month – As a tribute to Armenian artist Hovhannes (Ivan) Aivazovsky. a lecture and reproduction and original paintings were presented by our parish member, and painter Mr. Karnig Alajajian. Congratulations for the informative lecture and his special talent .

Thank you all and I am looking forward for the next months that we all work together to continue our "*progressive growth*" for the benefit of our parish and all fellow Armenians.

A FAITHFULLY ARMENIAN EXPERIENCE

ST. SARKIS CHURCH SUMMER CAMP 06

By Seta Megherian

After months of preparation, St. Sarkis Church Armenian Apostolic Church opened its doors to a stream of excited children attending Summer Camp 2006.

On the morning of July 10th, children saw familiar faces as well as new ones. They greeted and spoke to one another each morning prior to our morning prayers. A wonderful breakfast display was ready and eagerly anticipated by all.

Groups were formed by ranging age. Upon the completion of breakfast, children had an entire schedule of planned religious activities, sports, drama, soccer, arts and crafts and so much more.

Der Nareg held religious classes in the church. This was a new and very exciting opportunity for our children to experience the many wonders and beauties of our church. Lessons about the altar were very well received by our children; they were very interested in learning and gaining more knowledge of our church. Here, they also learned some church sharagans (hymns) and prayers.

This wonderful church experience was enjoyed by all who participated. So much was learned and gained.

As the day continued it was time to get a little messy with some fun and exciting arts and crafts projects. Here the children learned about the beautiful stained glass windows in the church and created their own. They also painted beautiful ceramic Armenian crosses, generously donated by Mr. and Mrs. Ara and Tatiana Kerestegian. Prayers were written by each child and presented with their beautiful designs. Arts and crafts were a great deal of fun.

By noon and after a wonderful morning full of fun and learning we were all hungry for lunch. After our meal time prayers our children once again gathered in Chaderjian Hall to enjoy a lovely luncheon spread full of kids' favorites, donated by campers' parents and staff members. Each day had a different and very delicious menu! During lunch campers shared their morning experience, sang songs, laughed and continued to make new friends.

After lunch we were ready for some thrills and excite-

ment. Dodgeball was a favorite of most campers, it was so much fun. Many staff members also joined in the game.

We were very fortunate to have a professional soccer coach present from Metro Soccer. Mr. Xavier spent two full afternoons with campers, teaching them techniques and rules. Campers also were able to play actual games.

They all greatly enjoyed Mr. Xavier's soccer class.

To let loose and have a few laughs a drama coach was brought to the scene. Ms. Quincy had our campers laughing, singing, dancing all afternoon. Even Der Nareg joined in the singing.

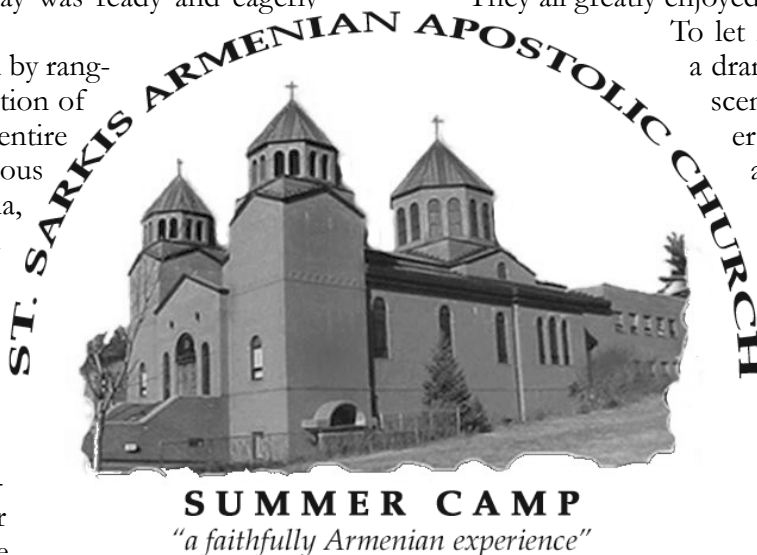
By 3 pm, and after a full day of excitement the day wound down, parents flowed through the doors to greet their children and prepare for the next great day at summer camp.

Our camp had so many wonderful things to offer our Armenian families. Thanks

to the very generous donation of Ms. Antranig Boudakian, families were welcomed to our camp for an amazing free introductory rate; Mr. Boudakian not only sponsored Summer Camp 2006, he was also present to meet with the children during lunch one day, the children were very eager to meet Mr. Boudakian and expressed their gratitude to him for making this week possible for them. Campers happily shared memories of their week and prayers they had written. Thank you Mr. Boudakian for your sincere generosity in making our camp possible.

It is also important to note the many wonderful and very dedicated staff members without whom camp would not have been possible: Der Nareg and Yeretsgin Annie, Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Megherian, Miss. Malvina Shishmanian, Miss Tamar Haroutounian, Miss Nevair Oranjian, Mrs. Loucine Megherian, Mrs. Christine Bedrossian, Mr. Vahram Shishmanian and Mrs. Annette Givlekian. Thank you to all who helped to make Summer Camp 06 possible! Your help and generosity is greatly appreciated.

All in all, Summer Camp 06 was a great success. Most importantly we brought our children together to make new friends and reacquaint with their buddies. We look forward to Summer Camp 07!





FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD AND BLESSING OF GRAPES

By Edward Barsamian



A capacity crowd attended services at Saint Sarkis Church on Sunday, August 13, to celebrate the feast of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary, and Blessing of the Grapes, as well as welcome the newly elevated Bishop, His Grace Anoushavan Tanielian, the former pastor of the Church who celebrated His first episcopal Badarak at our church and gave a very meaningful sermon. With passion he explained St. Mary, the Holy Mother of God, was committed to doing good things and always projected the positive in all. He then expressed his concern with

the present situation in America where colleges and universities are failing in their mission to educate the youth with the right values for a successful future. "Wake Up America" was the call, as we seem to be losing today's generation and will experience a major gap in leadership of this country. The wrong values are being absorbed by today's college students, negative values which will greatly undermine the future of this country. Since college years are critical in establishing the values and identity of our future leaders, the good and positive Values of God must be taught to our future leaders. May St. Mary be a guiding light to all in their love of God and help us learn, practice and propagate the teaching of God. He concluded by asking the congregation to pray for a lasting peace in Lebanon and the Middle East and the entire world, and quoted the words of Shnorhali's prayer That God's loving care be upon us at all times.

It was truly a beautiful day weather wise and the Blessing of the Grapes took place outdoors, in front of the Saint Sarkis Khatch Kar on the grounds. Accompanied by the Choir and the Altar servers, His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian and our Pastor Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian blessed the grapes and the memorial meal of madagh (herisa), which was prepared by the members of the Ladies' Guild.



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ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱԾՆԻ

Տիկ. Նոեմի Մկրեան



Կիրակի 13 Օգոստոս 2006-ին, Ս. Սարգիս Հայց. Առաքելական Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ Ս. Աստուածածնայ Վերափոխման տօնին առթիւ, Եպիսկոպոսական Անդրանիկ Պատարագ մատուցեց եւ իր պատգամը փոխանցեց Թեմիս Առաջնորդական Փոխանորդ՝ Գերշ. Տ. Անուշաւան Եպս. Դանիելեան:

Եկեղեցին լեցուն էր հոծ բազմութեամբ, որոնք եկած էին ներկայ ըլլալու համար Սրբազան Հօր անդրանիկ պատարագին, աւանդական խաղողօրհնէքին եւ առաջին անգամ ըլլալով կատարուելիք մատաղօրհնէքին:

Ս. Պատարագի աւարտին կազմուեցաւ Թափօր մը առաջնորդութեամբ Անուշաւան Սրբազանի, Եկեղեցւոյս հովիւ՝ Տ. Նարեկ Քհչյ. Թրթռեանին, եւ մասնակցութեամբ Եկեղեցւոյս Սարկաւազներուն եւ Դպրաց դասուն հաւատացեալ ժողովուրդին: Թափօրը ուղղուեցաւ եկեղեցւոյս ետեւի բակը՝ ուր Հայաստանէն բերուած խաչքարին կողքին սարգուած էր օրհնուելիք խաղողին եւ մատաղին՝ հերիսային սեղանը:

Եկեղեցական Հայրերը Հայց. Եկեղեցւոյ հարուստ շարականներով եւ հոգեթով աղօթքներով օրհնեցին խաղողը եւ հերիսան որոնք նուիրուած էին ուխտաւորներու կողմէ: Ապա ներկայ ժողովուրդը ճաշակեցին մատաղը եւ տիկնաց միութեան կողմէ պատրաստուած այլ հիւրասիրութիւնները:

Կը փափաքիմ իմ անկեղծ գնահատանքս եւ շնորհակալութիւնս յայտնել Եկեղեցւոյս Տիկնաց Միութեան բոլոր անդամներուն որոնք ջանք ջանայեցին Ս. Աստուածածնայ Տօնը այս տարի այսպէս իւրայատուկ կերպով մեզի ներկայացնել: Սիրով կ'ուզեմ յիշել այն խմբակը որ պատրաստեց աւանդական հերիսան գլխաւորութեամբ Տիրամայր Արփի Թրթռեանին - որ այստեղ էր այցելելու համար իր որդին եւ մեր քահանան՝ Տ. Նաերկը - եւ մասնակցութեամբ երեցկին Անի Թրթռեանին, Տէր եւ Տիկ. Գառնիկ եւ Անի Ներսէսեաններուն, Տիկ. Լուսին Մկրեանին, Տիկ. Սեղա Օրանճեանին, Տիկ. Ռիզա Մանուկեանին, Տիկ Էյմի Կոստանեանին, Տիկ. Սէնտի Շամլեանին եւ Պրն. Ժիրայր Պարիքեանին: Կը գնահատեմ մանաւանդ Տ. Նարեկը եւ Երեցկին Անին, որոնք նոր ձեռնարկներով եւ գաղափարներով կը ճոխացնեն մեր եկեղեցւոյ կեանքը: Բոլորին վարձքը կատար:

Եկէք ձեռք ձեռքի տանք եւ աշխատինք վառ պահել մեր Եկեղեցին իր յայակից մարմիններով: Օգտակար ըլլանք նիւթապէս թէ բարոյապէս Ս. Սարգիսին՝ Մեր Եկեղեցին:

Շնորհակալութիւն

An experienced and enthusiastic food committee which included Yeretzkin Annie Terterian, Diramayr Arpie Terterian, Karnig and Annie Nercesian, Lucine Megherian, Rita Manoughian, Amy Gostnian-Chairlady of the Ladies Guild, Sitta Oranjian and Mr. Gerard Basikian, greatly enjoyed preparing the traditional herisa for the first time at Saint Sarkis.

Following the blessing and distribution of the Grapes, over 150 parishioners joined Surpazan Tanielian in the traditional meal under the tents on the church grounds. The meal consisted of cheeses, salad, club sandwiches, pickles and as a featured dish.... the herisa with all the trimmings, which included ground beef and "chimion" to add just the right "oomph" to an already delicious dish. And lest we forget, there was Karnig Nersesian with a wood barrel of ice cold, delicious "tan" to complete a memorable meal. A wonderful day concluded with the singing of "Giligia".



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PICNIC TRADITION CONTINUES

By Edward Barsamian

The only thing brighter than the sunny day on September 17 was the smile on children's faces as they were competing in organized games at our annual picnic.

The day started with the Morning service followed by the Holy Mass and sermon celebrated and delivered by our pastor Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian and culminated with the traditional blessing of the basil.

A large crew of volunteers erected the large tents, the grills were started, tables set, signs put up, and tended to hundreds of pre picnic details to help everyone enjoy the day.

We keep claiming that the Saint Sarkis picnic kebabs are the best in the tristate area church picnics, and once again we held our head high with the kebab crews headed by Ara Artinian and Ruben Daghljan. The first kebab set was about ready by 12:30 pm, just in time for the early lunch rush, and as the grounds setup crew was getting ready, some lucky ones were awarded with the hot, delicious samples, "quality control" of sorts, but very memorable.

The day could be described in a series of snapshots, as Vahram and Malvina Shishmanian guided a group of bright-eyed youngsters through a series of skill games with lots of sounds of joy, laughter and occasional disappointment, and finally, prizes to all. And as one looked around, one could see Edward Bekian and Guy Boyadjian with one normal arm and one arm blue from dipping in the ice water to retrieve soda, beer and the delicious tan prepared by Mrs. Dory Shishmanian. The serving crew led by Lucine Megherian with help from Elisa Ohanesian and Coharig Barsamian kept the line moving, while Anoush Direlian and Maral Harutiounian, sweet ladies themselves, were dishing out the desserts and ice cold watermelon. Mr. Mardirous was at the raffle table next to the DJ Johnny, featuring electronic and jewelry gifts donated by the Shishmanian and Boudakian Families, the new staff of Sunday school were taking registrations of new students while Yeretsgin Annie along with members of Bible Study group 101 were selling books and gift items from the Prelacy Bookstore. DJ Johnny, gracefully sponsored by Naida Voskeritchian and family, played wonderful Armenian dance music to add sounds to the delicious smells in the air.

The menu had something for everyone, with lulu and chicken in addition to the lamb kebab, and the crew selling the tickets, Danny Gulbenkian, Arthur and Annette Givlekian did a great job. And by the fires....the repre-

sentative of the "gods of barbecue".. there was Allen with the strength to move mountains but the gentle touch for the perfect barbecue. Throughout the day and the days leading to the picnic, Dr. Aram Cazazian was everywhere, encouraging, following up on details and schedules, and inspiring everyone to do their best for a successful picnic. He even visited the terrace next to the Church where Mary Arslanian skillfully set up a tavloo tournament with 12 eager participants and since they were all Armenians, automatically they were experts of the game. The friendly tournament ended with joint winners and congratulations all around. All in all, it was a wonderful day for all, a true gathering of Saint Sarkis family with friends from Holy Martyrs church and hopefully all had a good memory to add to their life story.

Look out for next year's picnic, possibly a street fair and festival. More fun, more food, more games, wonderful memories. Thanks for your supporteveryone.





CELEBRATING THE CONSECRATION OF HIS GRACE BISHOP ANOUSHAVAN TANIELIAN

By Edward Barsamian

“We are privileged to be Christians and use this life to access eternal life” was the sermon part of the closing words of thanks by Srpazan Anoushavan at the banquet celebrating his Episcopal consecration on October 1, at Terrace on the Park in Flushing.

Although his Grace eminently served many churches and many positions within the Eastern Prelacy, he is best known for his years as pastor of Saint Sarkis, and the speeches of the evening amply reflected this fact.

The well-attended banquet started with the invocation offered by the Prelate, His Eminence, Archbishop Oshagan, and Ms. Anahid Zakarian singing the national anthems. Our own Mrs. Annette Givelekian introduced the Master of Ceremonies for the Day, Professor Hratch Zadoian, who smoothly introduced the various speakers and the select musical interludes.

Many speakers spoke from the heart, short and to the point. Archdeacon Shant Kazanjian, director of Armenian education council, and Ms. Tamar Harutunian were both greatly and positively influenced in their life and career choices by the Bishop.

Following a congratulatory statement from His Excellency, Ambassador Armen Martirosian, representing the Government of Armenia and himself, and a musical interlude by Mr. Rubig Vartanian, a duduk virtuoso, the podium was given to Rev. Fr. Nerses Manoogian, pastor of St. Gregory church in Philadelphia.

A childhood friend of the Bishop, he recalled the he had closed his speech on the 50th birthday of the Bishop with the words that he will become a “Prince of the Church”. “He has all the qualities required by this

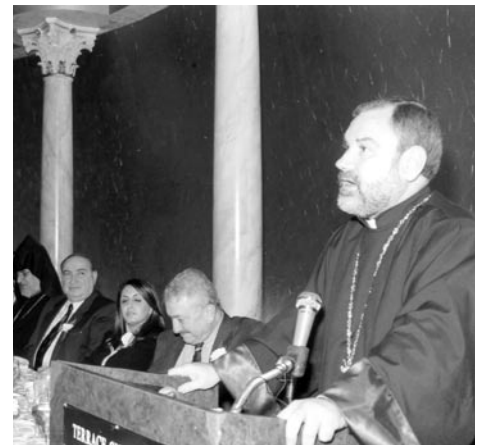


honor” he continued, among them: “he belongs to the people, the Armenian people and church, he was and is an able and inspired teacher, in Philadelphia, Sts. Vartanantz, Saint Sarkis and started St. Datev institute, one of the brilliant achievements of the Eastern Prelacy. He further described His Grace as “voskeperan karozych” who was not borne a Prince of the Church.... “He earned it”. “He doesn’t change with titles, will retain

the golden heart and soul of a true Armenian “Iegheghetzagan”.

During the luncheon Ms. Zakarian entertained with several Armenian classic melodies including “Groong” and was followed with a 15 minute video presentation of the Episcopal consecration ceremony at Antilias.

Mr. Bedros Givelekian, chairman of the event committee, spoke about the miracle at Saint Sarkis during the Tanielian period, in 1988 as teacher and “Karozych”, and since





1991 as Pastor. He oversaw the revitalization of the church auxiliaries, and saw Saint Sarkis through some very trying times. He continued by thanking Drs. Carlo and Aurora Bayrakdarian as sponsors of the commemorative booklet, and concluded by intro-

ducing and thanking the members of all committees.

Mr. Jack Mardoian, Chairman of the Prelacy Executive Council, following a congratulatory speech, presented His Grace with an Episcopal ring, specially commissioned in Antilias, and was followed by His Eminence, Archbishop Cholyan.



“We were blessed to be witness on June 4 in Antilias to the Episcopal consecration of His Grace, Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian.” started the Prelate. “Even as we are anointed “ishkhan” or leaders of church, it is always our duty, honor and privilege to serve our people. Throughout the history of our nation, our religious leaders have not only guided our people through difficult times but also strived to prepare the new generation of leaders which include myself and the Bishop Tanielian. His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian is known everywhere as a man of action, but also a man of God, truly inspired and inspiring.”

In closing, His Eminence congratulated Bishop Anoushavan for the honor bestowed upon him and urged him to strive to serve the people even more.

The day’s program ended with the words of His Grace. After thanking everyone who worked so hard to make the day a success, especially Mr. Bedros Giveli-



kian, Antranik Boudakian and Mrs. Isgouhi Bedrossian, he switched to a lighter mode and mentioned that some people still address him as “Der Hair” others as “Hair Soorp”, and still others as “Surpazan”. He jokingly mentioned that it might be a good revenue maker to the Prelacy if those who address him by the wrong title might pay \$10 in to a special fund... with a , say \$1000 lifetime exemption. Returning to his earnest mode, his Grace said,” I will always remember who I am, but first and foremost I am a servant of God. As much as I guide you, I follow you, listening to your comments and advice”. He closed by saying: Bishops are consecrated 3 times, Vartabeds twice but all of us are baptized once.

“We are privileged to be Christians and use this life to access eternal life”. And then Giligia.

It was an altogether joyful day as everyone enjoyed the company of friends who came together to honor a man who has earned their respect, Surpazan Tanielian. May he continue to serve God and the Armenian people for a very long time.



A TRIBUTE TO AIVAZOVSKY

By Arpiné Aroyan

October is cultural month for Armenians and one of the marked events at Saint Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church was held on Sunday October 15th as a tribute to Armenian artist Hovhannes (Ivan) Aivazovsky. The lecture and art reproductions were presented by local artist and community member Mr. Karnig Alajajian. As part of the event, the walls of the main hall were adorned by over two dozen artworks, mostly reproductions of Aivazovsky's paintings as well as some of Mr. Alajajian individual creations. The replicas were all painted by Mr. Alajajian himself over the last two years; some as recent as late September and all with remarkable resemblance to the original works by Aivazovsky.

During the art exhibit, Mr. Alajajian gave a brief lecture detailing the famed artists' biography as well as the inspiration behind Aivazovsky's many paintings of seascapes and ships. Along with his lecture, Mr. Alajajian presented a slideshow of Aivazovsky's most famous canvases. Having to choose from over 6000 creations, the paintings represented the artist's award winning creations, self portraits, and Mr. Alajajian's favorite pieces, many of which he had reproduced for the event.

Aivazovsky's ability to convey the effect of the motion of the sea as well as the reflected sun and moonlight, all from memory and his romantic imagination are what distinguished him from many other artists of his time. Mr. Alajajian was sure to draw attention to these notable elements during his lecture and many examples were given via the selected paintings in the slideshow.

The lecture was followed by a question and answer session with

many compliments and words of appreciation directed at Mr. Alajajian for his efforts, research, and talent. One individual remarked that they were so inspired by Mr. Alajajian's work that she could not detect a discernable difference between the reproductions and the original paintings. The audience of about one hundred was mostly from the parish; in attendance were also Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian and Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian, fellow art classmates of Mr. Alajajian and some family friends. Fifty percent of all sales were donated to Saint Sarkis.



ՏՕՆ ԳԻԻՏ ԽԱՉԻ

Գիւտ Խաչի տօնը այն տօնն է ուր կը պանծացուի Ս. Խաչին առաջին Հանդիսաւորապէս բարձրացման եւ Հրապարակային փառաւորումի ընծայման յիշատակը:

321 Թուականին Քրիստոնէութիւնը ազատ բայց ոչ պետական կրօնք կը հռչակուի Հռոմէական կայսրութեան մէջ: Կայսեր մայրը Հեղինէ (Helen) թագուհին, ըլլալով հաւատացեալ եւ բարեպաշտ կին մը, ուխտագնացութիւն մը կը կազմակերպէ 326-ին դէպի Ս. Քաղաք՝ Երուսաղէմ, Քրիստոսի սրբավայրերը այցելելով այնտեղ երկրպագելու եւ իր գերագոյն յարգանքը մատուցելու: Այնտեղ եղած միջոցին թագուհին մէջ բուռն փափաք մը կ'արթննայ հետաքրքրուելու Տիրոջ խաչափայտով: Խաչը որ Առաքեալներու օրերուն իսկ անյայտացած էր, որովհետեւ քրիստոնեաները ենթարկուած են հալածանքի եւ մինչեւ այդ օրերը որեւէ մէկը չէր համարձակած հետաքրքրուիլ անով: Բաւական փնտռուածներէ ետք, Յուդա անունով իրազեկ Երուսաղէմացի մը կ'առաջնորդէ թագուհին հոն ուր թաքնուած էր Տիրոջ Խաչափայտը: Թագուհին եւ իր շքախումբը կը գտնեն երեք խաչեր որոնցմէ երկուքը Յիսուսի հետ խաչուող աւագակներուն էին: Անհնար էր գատորոշել թէ որն էր Տիրոջ խաչափայտը երեք նոյնանման խաչերէն, եթէ չներգործէր Աստուածային Հրաշքը:

Մինչ շքախումբը շուարած ճառ մը կը փնտրէր, անդին սգաւորներու խումբ մը պատանիի մը դիակը իրենց ուսերուն շալկած թաղումի կ'երթային: Հաւատքի թելադրանքէ մղուած՝ թագուհին կը հրահանգէ պատանիին դիակը դպցնել երեք խաչերուն: Տիրոջ խաչափայտին հազիւ հպած, ահաւասիկ պատանին յարուցիւն կ'առնէ: Քրիստոսի Խաչելութենէն ու Յարութենէն երեք դարեր ետք կը յայտնաբերուի Խաչափայտը եւ օրուայ Հայրապետին՝ Երուսաղէմի Կիւրեղ Եպիսկոպոսին ձեռքով կը բարձրացուի եւ ի տես բոլոր հաւատացեալներուն եւ կը դառնայ պաշտամունքի եւ երկրպագութեան առարկայ: Այս տօնին յիշատակն է որ Հայց. Եկեղեցին կը պանծացնէ Հոկտեմբեր 26-ի մերձակայ Կիրակին:

Խաչը ամենէն անարգ մահապատիժն էր որ Հռոմէական կայսրութիւնը սահմանած էր ոչ հռոմէացի՝ գերի մահապարտներուն: Նախքան իր մահապատիժը, մահապարտը իր խաչը շալկած պէտք էր քայլել քաղաքի ամենէն երկար եւ կեղրոնական թաղամասերէն, որպէսզի այդ անարգ երեւոյթը դաս ըլլար բոլորին: Խաչին վրայ

գամուելով մահապարտը արիւնահոսութենէն չէր որ կը տառապէր, այլ շնջահեղձ կ'ըլլար որովհետեւ իր այդ կախուած վիճակը կ'արգիլէր թոքերուն գործունէութիւնը, որով խաչեայր խեղդամահ իր հոգին կ'աւանդէր:

Այսպիսի անարգ եւ դաժան մահուան դատապարտուեցաւ մեր Տէրը: Մեր մեղքերուն համար գառնուկի մը պէս մորթուեցաւ խաչափայտին վրայ իր կենդանարար արիւնով քաւելու համար գանոնք: Քրիստոսի Խաչելութեամբ եւ Յարութեամբ Խաչը մեզի համար դադրեցաւ անարգ պատժամիջոց մը ըլլալէ եւ դարձաւ պարծանքի առարկայ: Եւ ճիշդ այս մասին ակնարկելով Պօղոս Առաքեալ կ'ըսէ. «Գալով ինձի, քա՛ւ լիցի որ մեր Տիրոջ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի խաչէն զատ ուրիշ բանով պարծենամ» (Գղ 6.14):

Այս պարծանքի եւ մեծարանքի Խաչը ի՞նչ դեր ունի մեր կեանքին մէջ այսօր: Ակնարկը այստեղ նիւթեղէն խաչին մասին չէ՝ այն ոսկեղէն եւ ադամանդակու խաչերուն զորս կրնանք մեր պարանոցներուն վրայ ունենալ, եւ ոչ ալ այն փայտէ խաչին զոր կրնանք դրած ըլլալ մեր գրասեղանին վրայ կամ անկողինին մօտ...: Հարցը այստեղ կը

վերաբերի հոգեւոր Խաչին, ա՛յն Խաչին որուն մասին մեր Տէրը ակնարկեց եւ որպէս մարտահրաւէր դրաւ իր հետեւորդներուն, այսինքն մեզմէ իւրաքանչիւրին դիմաց ըսելով. «Ան որ իր խաչը չ'առնէր եւ չի հետեւիր ինձի արժանի չէ ինձի» (Մտ 10:38): Ասիկա այն խաչն է որ խառանուած պէտք է ըլլայ իւրաքանչիւր վաւերական քրիստոնեայի հոգեղէն ճակտին վրայ, որով տարբերի ան մարդկային ընկերութեան միւս անդամներէն: Այն խաչն է որով մենք կը հրաժարինք այս աշխարհի վաղանցուկ պատրանքներէն եւ մեր անձերը կ'ուրանանք ի սէր մեր Տիրոջ պատուիրաններուն: Եւ վերջապէս, այն խաչն է որ մեզի ընտրել կու տայ կեանքի «նեղ դուռը» որպէսզի անով ապահով հասնինք մեր ճշմարիտ օթեվանին՝ Երկնքի Արքայութեան: Ահաւասիկ այս է Քրիստոսի պատգամը իրեն հետեւողներուն:

Արդ եկէք Թագուհին օրինակին հետեւելով փնտռենք Քրիստոսի նկարագրած խաչը մեր կեանքին մէջ, բարձրացնենք զայն մեր հոգեւոր կեանքի ուղիին վրայ եւ անոր լոյսով առաջնորդուինք գործադրելով Քրիստոսի աւանդած պարտաւորութիւններն ու պատասխանատուութիւնները, մաս եւ բաժին ունենալու համար Երկնքի Արքայութենէն:

Ն.ՔԹ





MY FIRST TRIP TO ARMENIA

By: Maria Nercessian

mal steps. When we questioned the tour guide as to why the steps were built that way, he said it was because when you climbed up the steps, you were supposed to hunch over, in a sense look as if you are praying.

Then we went over to the bath houses, which were ingenious on their own. The way the kings took baths was by using a fire at the head of the room, and then moving farther and farther from the fire, in these little rooms built over stones, to get into cooler and cooler water.

Another day we traveled to Echmiadzin, which was a whole other experience in itself. The beauty of the Cathedral is unimaginable; it was so exquisite and colorful, breathtaking even. In the back of the *kehoran* was a mini museum, where they had many old artifacts. There were pieces of Noah's Ark, and relics of saints, but the most incredible artifact was the tip of the spear that was used to pierce Jesus' side, to see if he was still alive on the cross. One of the best parts from Echmiadzin was going into the museums, and looking at all the different vestments and bibles and artwork that have dates over hundreds of years old.

We went to every place we could think of while in Armenia; Lake Sevan, which was incredibly beautiful and huge, I didn't think it was going to be that big. *Yeghishe Charantz* referred to Sevan as being the "blue eyes of Armenia" and I can see why. Dzaghator was another place of stunning rolling landscapes and mountainous areas. I remember singing the song of Daghatzor in Armenian school, and now seeing the beauty gives the song more of an impact. We went to the Dzidzernagapert, which had special significance, not only because it is the Genocide

memorial, and because a few months earlier we, Yeraz Dance Group, had depicted that very image, during the Genocide Commemoration program on April 23.

One advantage we had going to Armenia this year, was that the 1600th Anniversary of the founding of the Armenian alphabet had taken place. And for the commemoration, huge 6 foot toofkars, which are the huge stones that khachkars are made from, were engraved with each letter of the alphabet. The entire field surrounding the church where Mesrob Mashdotz is buried is covered with the Armenian letters. There were columns in this field, that were engraved with sayings by Karekin I. One of them was "*Ashagerdir hye kerkeen vor besi ashagerdes zavagnerut hye kerkov*". I think that saying needs no explanation and speaks for itself. This was a brand new place, and we were privileged to have been one of the originals to have seen it.

My favorite site that we visited during Armenia was the Khor Virab. I actually went down the ladder into the pit that Krikor Loosavoreeh was kept in for over 13 years. It was such an overwhelming feeling I had, to be standing where I was, somewhere that was a part of what started Christianity in the state of Armenia. I felt such a huge connection with God, and was so proud to be Christian at that very moment. I don't know anybody, that isn't a Christian Armenian, who could say that they've stood in the spot where their religion was started in their country, over 1700 years ago. It was an unforgettable experience and I am so grateful to have gotten it.

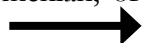
A little thing about the city of Yerevan, wherever you go, there is a statue of a famous Armenian, or

Since the month of March, my family had been planning our trip to Armenia, it was the first time for all of us, and we couldn't wait to travel our homeland, and see all that I've learned about in Armenian School.

On July 3rd, we embarked on our trip to Armenia and I couldn't be more excited. Our travels took a total of about 2 days, but it was all worth it, as I would soon find out.

My family and I went to so many places in those short 2 weeks that we were in Armenia, unbelievably beautiful and historic places. The landscapes and scenery were breathtaking and I have never seen a country that mountainous. The best part was that no matter where we went in Armenia, *Ararat Ler* was in plain view from every angle.

In one day we traveled to the beautiful Vank of Keghart and then to Garni, where we learned some new things. In Keghart, there was a stream of water passing through the *vank*, and it's believed to bring good luck and fulfill wishes. Garni was an incredible place, with an amazing view and even more astonishing architecture. Garni is an ancient Pagan temple, and the steps going up were very steep and different from nor-



MY SECOND YEAR AT DATEV

By: Nevair Oranjian

I have been attending Datev for two years and it's a wonderful experience. During the course of the week you continue learning about Christian life, you add on to your Christian knowledge, you grow spiritually, and much more. You meet many people from different states across the U.S. that are your age and older. You also meet the clergy who teach you many things. Other than biblical learning, you also have sports and recreational activities. They include swimming at the pool, volleyball, and even the Datev Games, which are hosted every year. Every year Datev has a Fourth of July celebration, to which even your parents come. We have a huge picnic which includes food and drinks.



During the week you have lessons from right after breakfast until lunch. After lunch you have four and a half hours of free time. After dinner there is general sessions and bible study. You have many lessons taught by the clergy. Some of the teachers were and are Very Rev. Fr. Shahe Panossian, Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian, director and much more.

Datev is like a summer camp, but it's not. It's a place where you can learn about God and His doings on earth as well as the many miracles that He performed. To me it's a learning experience. This program has helped me build my self esteem and it may be able to help you, too. I encourage all of my fellow peers who have not found out

about this program yet, to join the Datev Institute and see what it's like. During this time you can get baptized as a Datevatsi, which enables you to be a part of the Datev community. I encourage all of my fellow peers to join Datev and have the greatest experience ever.

This past year at Datev was the 20th Anniversary of the program. There was a banquet at the Holiday Inn hotel in Pennsylvania. During the banquet the 20 years of Datev movie was shown along with a few songs sung by the Datev Choir, and a special violin performance by one of my close friends and peer, Arpi Shetilian. Also we had the Archbishop Os-hagan Cholyan attend and he said a few words. The newly ordained

Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian also said a few words along with other guest speakers.

Then the main course was served. Following that all the Datevatsis and guests had a chance to dance to Armenian songs along with a few shoorch bars.

After the banquet was over all the Datevatsis went back to the campsite and were told to get some rest before the next day. The following day Archbishop Anoushavan Tanielian was the celebrant of the holy mass at the church along with Der Nerses, and Hayr Daniel. After church was over there was the annual picnic and after that everyone left. That was the main event of the year.

somebody that made a difference. Street names were named after *Nalbandian* and *Apoian*, and have statues of each at the ends of the streets, the Opera House had an enormous statue of *Khachadourian* playing the piano, *Sasountsi Davit*, *Toumanyman*, you name it, there was a statue. Out of all these, my favorite statue was of nobody famous or of someone whose name was not even known. There was a

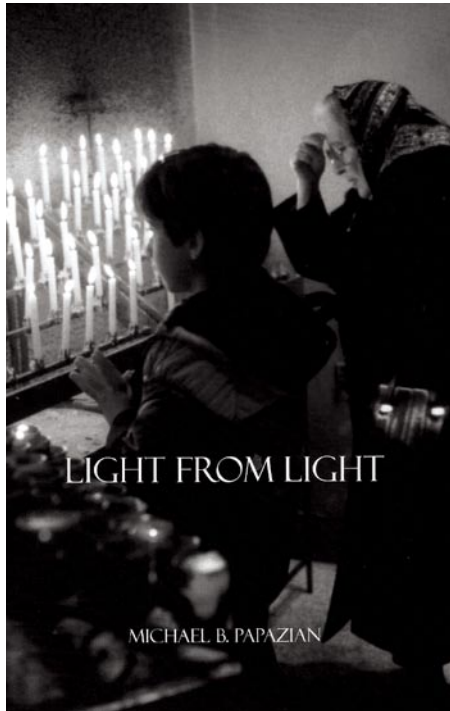
homeless man, who had nowhere to stay, nothing to eat, and nobody even knew his name. Yet, every single day, he would get flowers, and give one to every Armenian girl he would see. I guess to him, the love and beauty of the Armenian girls was far more important than food and shelter. When he passed away, the people of Yerevan were so saddened by this loss, that they had a statue of him made,

passing out flowers, in the spot where he would stand on the street.

I had a fantastic time in Armenia, I could not have asked for better. I met so many new people, went to so many places, new to me, but old in age. Now I have something in my heart that I will never forget or take for granted, because I was lucky to be able to get the chance to go to Armenia.

THOUGHTS ON MICHAEL B. PAPAZIAN'S LIGHT FROM LIGHT

By Arthur Givlekian



Dear friends and fellow parishioners I am writing this article to introduce you to a book that relates the development of our Armenian Church and religion. *Light from Light* gives you an in-depth look at important events that shaped our history.

This book relates to us that early Christianity was a long process, which was not accomplished all at once. Early Christianity was not a clean break from pagan customs. Tradition is important, because the church in Armenia took root in Armenia by adopting and Christianizing certain pre-Christian practices of the Armenians while rejecting others. Many of the festivals were transformed from pagan to Christian celebrations.

The early churches placed importance in having a connection with one of the apostles or with a disciple of an apostle. Our Armenian apostolic church traces its roots to two of the twelve apostles. Tradition holds

that St Thaddeus and St Bartholomew were the first evangelizers of Armenia and were martyred there.

We all know the story of St Gregory the Illuminator, but did you know that he was the first Catholicos of Armenia? Through him began the hereditary succession of the catholicate. St Nerses the Great ordered the building of hospitals, orphanages, poorhouses, and homes for the elderly and monasteries. His work created the Christian virtues of hope and charity among the people. After St Nerses was poisoned and died, the tradition of the Armenian catholicos being consecrated by the archbishop of Caesarea was broken; the Armenian church became independent of the See of Caesarea. Many of the Catholicos and apostles met with an untimely death and were martyred.

During the fifth century St Mesrob Mashdots created the Armenian alphabet with the help of Catholicos Sahak I. This was an important event in Armenian Christianity because, although Armenians spoke Armenian, many were illiterate. Before the creation of the Armenian alphabet, the Bible and church liturgy were in Greek and Syriac. When St Mesrob Mashdots brought the alphabet to Armenia, he established Armenian schools in every province of Persian Armenia. St Mesrob Mashdots and his students began the translation of the New Testament. In addition to the translation of the Bible, it was now possible to compose the liturgy of the church in Armenian.

This book has so much information in it; I have relayed only a small portion of it. If you have the time to carefully read it, all the things you will learn may surprise you.

SHOGHAGAT

What does it mean?

Shoghagat has been the name of the periodical publication of St. Sarkis church for decades. For so many people the name Shoghagat is identical to our periodical publication or sometimes even to any church publication.

This name however is derived from the Vision of St. Gregory the Illuminator and it means “rays of light coming down as droplets” from heaven or simply “stream of light”.

After his deliverance from the pit of Khor Virab and after healing King Dertad, St. Gregory the Illuminator had a vision: The heavens opened up and a man, descending in the form of light, called Gregory’s name. The man held a golden hammer with which he struck the ground. Gregory saw “a circular base of gold... and on it an exceedingly tall column of fire, and on top of that a capital of cloud, and on top of that again a cross of light. Looking again, he saw three other bases: one where St. Kayane was martyred, another where St. Hripsime was martyred, and the third at the wine-press where the unnamed nun was martyred. Above the bases Gregory saw a cloud in the shape of a dome underneath which the martyrs appeared dressed in white and in shining light.

The man with the golden hammer is identified as Christ. Gregory ordered the King Dertad and his ministers to build chapels for the martyrs according to his vision, that they may find rest and in turn may bring renewal to the people of Armenia. Restorations of these chapels still stand in Holy Echmiadzin, which means “the Only-Begotten One descended”, a reference to Gregory’s vision.

Shoghagat, the vision of St. Gregory is celebrated as a church feast. The Mother Cathedral of Echmiadzin having been dedicated to St. Mary, the feast of Shoghagat is observed on the Saturday which precedes the feast of Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary.

To learn more about your church purchase your copy of

**MICHAEL B. PAPAZIAN'S
LIGHT FROM LIGHT**

OH THE SHAME...

Opinions by: Karine Macri_Thinker Extraordinaire

We are often confronted with the realities of living in this modern world as sentient beings with the responsibility of being held accountable. Exactly to whom we are accountable is matter of choice. Often we are guided by the social norms that permeate throughout our societies, in this case, the highly-social, equally guilt-ridden, Armenian Christian society where the concept of “shame,” is one that overrides most categories in the gossip circles and tends to be in the forefront of our decision making.

Enough theory, you say. I agree. Let’s get down to the nitty-gritty. This idea of “shame” or “shameful,” or as we would say, “amot eh,” is an idea that was discussed during one of our Bible Study meetings. What is it, in fact, that there is shame in? Are we ashamed to show up to church with too much or too little make-up on? Are we ashamed of our neighbours whose only goal in life is to grow the best possible weeds for this year’s “Awful Gardens of the Year” awards? What about the shame that takes over when we lose our jobs, or are caught stealing? Are they different? How so? And when exactly is it the best time to tell your family that “they should be ashamed of themselves?”

The pressures of society are only pressures if we allow them to be. I begin with this premise because

I don’t want you, dear reader, to begin a barrage of explanations that would imply that I live outside the societal pressures you face. In fact, I will go one step further and tell you that the pressures that you deal with on a day to day basis are truly remarkable and that you are absolutely responsible for all of them. Also, I will also grant that your pressures are 5 times greater than mine (for the sake of this discussion).

The-What-will-everyone-think-syndrome. Often, we spend more time worrying about what others will think of the choices we make, than thinking about making the right choice for ourselves

Now, before you catapult your judgment in my direction, for being so obstinate and obtuse, I urge you to also consider that all of my directed thoughts stem from compassion. As I’ve often declared to my cousin, Dikran, I am ruthlessly compassionate at the DNA level. And what does this mean to you? This means that at no point am I judging or mocking or even finding fault. I am simply

making a social commentary and I am compelled to make one with the premise of being an Armenian Orthodox Christian who was raised with old world values in an ultra-modern world and is often shocked at the level of desensitization to which we have graduated.

Ara Baliozian has captured the essence of Armenian social commentary in his “The Horrible Silence.” What is it about being Armenian that drives us to get involved in each others’ business to the point of owning the problems that have nothing to do with us? This is the very nature of being Armenian, and alternatively, to be otherwise is to be (thank you, Vahe Berberian) “not caring.” Ah, now that would be something to be ashamed of...The-What-will-everyone-think-syndrome. Often, we spend more time worrying about what others will think of the choices we make, than thinking about making the right choice for ourselves based on our wants and needs. Consider that what everyone thinks is often a far cry from God’s simple directional for your life. Our deafness in not hearing His often straightforward guidelines, leads us to complicated escape routes later on, when we realize we are paying attention to all the “amot ehs” and forgetting that we are in fact held accountable only to God.

After discovering The Gospel Of St. Matthew

BIBLE 101

Starts New Classes With the Epistle Of St. Paul to the Romans

A conversation with our young generation

(Age 25-40)

Every Monday at

PAGOUMIAN HALL, ST. SARKIS CHURCH,

For more information contact the Pastor

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SHOGHAGAT

To celebrate a happy event, in memory of a loved one, or for any reason, please consider sponsoring an issue of the Shoghagat!

MY SUNDAY MORNINGS

By: James Mengonchian

My first experience on the Altar was the week of Easter, on the evening of *Voten Leva*. It was the year of 2000 and my family told me about Jesus, His twelve disciples and the washing of the feet.

Along with my family, we went to St. Sarkis Armenian church. There were many young boys for the evening service. Hayr Sourp Anoushavan was our pastor, and he was very happy to see us all on the Altar for the *Voten Leva* service. From that evening on, I developed an interest in our church. I have attended Easter week services for every year since then. There was even a year that His Grace, Srpazan Hayr Oshagan led the service of the *Voten Leva*.

Last year, our new pastor, Der Nareg noticed my presence and interest in church, and graciously asked me to serve God as an Altar boy.

I believe this was a blessing because I am learning about our Christianity and the Armenian Church. Every Sunday morning, my *Hopar* willingly drives me to church. Depending on the number of Deacons and Acolytes, I serve on the Alter holding a candle, or the Kushouts. On rare occasions, I have had the opportunity to lead the procession around the perimeter of the church.

I find my position spiritually rewarding. It has become my way of serving God and my community. I must admit, I have my preferences to the Sunday morning services; I especially look forward to singing the prayers “Havadamk” and “Kohootyoon”.

I highly appreciate Der Nareg’s invitation to serve on the Altar. He continues to instruct me on Armenian Christianity.

Sunday mornings have become a religious as well as educational experience for me.



BIBLE 101

By: Christine Marcarian

Bible 101- “Discovering the Gospel of Matthew” is held weekly on Tuesday nights at 8:30pm at Pagoumian Hall, St. Sarkis Church. Our pastor Der Nareg leads a group of young adults ages 20-40 to come together in discussion over the gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Der Nareg leads discussion by reading a chapter in Matthew every week and refers to passages from the Old and New Testament addressing fundamental questions such as: How does the Bible describe itself? What is worship? Is it an experience lasting a few hours in church or is it an offering that lasts your whole life in everything you do? What is prayer? Why is it important to receive communion? When and how do we open to grace? How do we have a closer relationship to God? Lastly, how does the gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew mirror our lives today and what can we learn from these teachings?

In Matthew 13:10, the disciples asked Christ, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”

“Jesus spoke all these things in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

‘I will open my mouth in parables. I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.’ (Matthew 10: 34-35)

Jesus spoke in parables to ‘bind’ people, to capture their attention, open their ears and take notice of their lives irrespective of time. Parables are meant to lead us back to something we had not seen before or lead us to see life experiences in a new light.

Experiencing Bible study with Der Nareg on a weekly basis is a gift that is there to remind us to not neglect and have a deeper understanding of our religion.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

By Christine Bedrossian

We are off to a great start.....Our Sunday School opened its doors on Sunday, September 24th, 2006, with a brand new staff. Our new teachers are Yn. Annie Tertarian, Mrs. Seta Megherian, Mrs. Christine Bedrossian, Ms. Tamar Harutunian and Ms. Janet Milian. The children attending range from the ages of 5 to 15 and are very eager to learn prayers in Armenian like "Imasdoutioun", "Jashagetsook", "hayr Mer" and many others. Also, they are very excited to learn about the life of Jesus Christ and attend church every Sunday and partake in "Communion". We encourage you all to bring your children to the Sunday School so that they may the living faith of the Ling God and the sacraments of our Church.

To know wisdom and instruction,
To perceive the words of understanding,
To receive the instruction of wisdom,
Justice, judgement, and equity;
To give prudence to the simple,
To the young man knowledge and discretion
A wise man will hear and increase learning,
And a man of understanding will attain counsel,
To understand a proverb and an enigma,
The words of the wise and their riddles.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge,
But fool despise wisdom and instruction
(Proverbs 1:1-7)

ST. SARKIS ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC
CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL!!!

"A Faithfully Armenian Experience"

Join Today

Ages: 5-16

Time: 10:30 am - 1.00 pm

Please contact the Church office
for further details.

We look forward to seeing you

ՇԱՔԱԹ-ՕՐԵԱՅ ՎԱՐԺԱՐԱՆ

Ս. Սարգիս Եկեղեցոյ Սիւզան եւ Յովսէփ Յակոբեան Շաբաթօրեայ Վարժարանի 2006-2007 տարեշրջանի դասաւանդութիւնները վերսկսան Սեպտեմբեր 16, 2006-ին առաւօտեան ժամը 9:45-ին, ուր նաեւ փեղի ունեցան արձանագրութիւնները:

Ծնողներ, հին եւ նոր, իրենց զաւակներու ձեռն բռնած բերին փայ դպրոց անոնց ջամբելու հայեցի դասփարակութիւն, զանոնք ծանօթացնելու Նայ լեզուին, մշակոյթին, եւ ներշնչելու Նայոց պարմութեամբ եւ կրօնքով:

Վարժարանիս Տնօրէնուհին, ուսուցչական կազմը եւ ծնողաց յանձնախումբը, ջերմօրէն դիմատրեցին նոր արձանագրուող աշակերտները, որոնց թիւը զգալի աճ կ'արձանագրէ վերջին երկու փարիներու ընթացքին:

Տարիներու ասանդութեան համաձայն, այս փարի եւս, Նոկտեմբեր 22-ին հոգեհանգստեան պաշտօն կատարուեցաւ ի յիշարակ Վարժարանիս բարերարներուն՝ Սիւզան եւ Յովսէփ Յակոբեաններու հոգիներուն: Այս առթիւ Շաբաթօրեայ եւ Կիրակնօրեայ վարժարաններու աշակերտները մոնավառութեամբ մասնակցեցան արարողութեան: Վարժարանիս ծնողաց յանձնախումբը, առաջնորդութեամբ նորընտրուած արարողութեան հիմնադրուող Տիկ. Թաթիանա Քերեսթեանին, պատրաստած էին ճոխ հիւրասիրութիւն մը: Սեղանօրհնէքի աղօթքէն ետք, Տիկ. Մէլրի Արսլանեան հակիրճ կերպով խօսեցաւ մեր հանգուցեալ բարերարներուն մասին:

Շաբաթ 14 Նոկտեմբերին, Ս. Թարգմանչաց Վարդապետներուն փօսին առիթով, Եկեղեցոյս հովիւը՝ Արժն. Տ. Նարեկ Քինյ. Թրթեանը, պարզ ու հասկնալի կերպով աշակերտներուն խօսեցաւ ու ծանօթացուց հիմնադիրները մեր Այբուբենին եւ սփեղծիչները Նայ թականութեան՝ Ս. Մեսրոպ Մաշտոցին եւ Ս. Սահակ Պարթեւին:

Յարգելի ընթերցողներ, Շողակաթի յաջորդող թիւերուն մէջ կը շարունակենք յաւելեալ փեղեկութիւններ փոխանցել մեր Շաբաթօրեայ Վարժարանին մասին:

Յարգանքով,

Շաբաթօրեայ Վարժարանի Տնօրէնուհի
Տիկ. Նայիրի Զօհրապեան

“CHEAP THRILLS” ABOUND WITH SAINT SARKIS BASKETBALL

By Edward Barsamian

People have been known to pay money for a little excitement in their life, sometimes a lot of money?

But with the Saint Sarkis basketball teams, it seems one can get his share ... get this... for free.

There is a schedule of Saint Sarkis games posted in the Pagoumian Hall bulletin Board. All games are scheduled after church hours, the games are played in gyms within 10-minute drive from our church and can make for a very entertaining afternoon.

As for punditry, our Junior Boys team is in a rebuilding season with Chris Biramian leading a younger team.

Much to our pleasant surprise, they have won their first two games handily, but there is strong competition ahead from St. Leon and Holy Martyrs more experienced squads. Once again coached by Vahram Shishmanian,

They should improve and grow greatly.

Our girls team has lost more than half of its veteran players and has added some very talented youngsters, including Kimberly Givelekian, who in her first game managed to win the game with a score right at the final buzzer. The team benefits from the strong play of veteran Emma Biramian, assisted by Mary Hagopian, Malvina Shishmanian and Aneta Arutyunyan.

The Senior Boys, ages 15-18, is an experienced, talented team, which should do well. They are very confident in their abilities but their conditioning is not where it should be and they let big leads disappear in the second half of the game. In their last game a 14 point lead ended in a 70-70 tie, broken at the buzzer by Armen Shamamian for a Saint Sarkis win. We are happy that Michael Markarian, one of our best players in the past, has agreed to be the Coach of the team and we look for great rapport and improvement.

The Saint Sarkis Men's team is a veteran team with Dr. Arthur Hazarian as the latest addition.

They have won their first game against a strong Sts. Vartanantz team, and should do well in the league.

The Saint Sarkis Basketball program is in its 15th year from its rebirth in 1991 and has been self sustaining for this period. The coaches, some of whom are players or former players for Saint Sarkis, are not only teaching the youngsters basketball, but also the significance of participating and enjoying an Armenian social environment.

Those interested in the Armenian Churches Sports Association schedule, scores and standings, may check the Web site at www.acsasports.org

If you would like to get information on joining the

program at Saint Sarkis, please call Mr. Barsamian at 212-689-6273 or the Church office at 718-224-2275.

We are always looking for junior boys: ages 10-14, senior boys: ages 15-18, men: ages 19 and over, and for our girls team: ages 11 to 18.

We look forward to a great season with good sportsmanship, in a healthy Armenian environment. Hopefully, we can bring a few new trophies to add to our collection, in addition to smiles and fond memories.



SAINT SARKIS MEMBERSHIP

It costs only \$200.00 a year per family to become members of the Saint Sarkis Parish.

Not only will you enjoy a spiritual tie to the church but there are other tangible benefits of membership. Special rates for Saint Sarkis facilities rental, discounts for the basketball program registration are only some of the benefits. Those wishing to join or get additional information on church activities, please call the Church office at 718-224-2275.



On Sunday September 09, 2006 the community of St. Sarkis Church had the unique privilege to pray along with our prelate, His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Coloyan, as he celebrated the Divine Liturgy vested in priestly garments.

“It was a joyous day” commented His Eminence later on that day. It was a joyous day for all those who were at church that day and we are thankful for His Eminence.



Our website www.stsarkischurch.net has been an important area of our concentration for the past couple of months. New pages were added and the some old pages were re-designed.

We thank our loyal visitors and promise them that we will continue on improving and finalizing the whole website in the near future. In the mean time however, you can always learn about what's going on in the church, view the

most recent photos of any event that takes place at the church and most importantly you can enrich your spiritual life by reading the daily Biblical passage posted on our homepage.

OTHER NEWS



It is never too late...

It is never too late to try to learn a new language and especially the language of your ancestors.

For this reason St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church is offering Courses in Modern Armenian for young adults who never had a chance to learn Armenian and also for non-Armenian spouses or family members who wish to learn Armenian.

Classes are held on every Saturday by Fr. Nareg.



During the months of summer the library of St. Sarkis Church which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Baruir Nercessian and located in Pagoumian Hall was reorganized and rearranged by the efforts of our active church member Mr. Hratch Habeshian who was here at the Church on every Wednesday to systematically arranged the books in the shelves and prepared a computerized list for them.

We invite our parishioners to borrow books from our library by Asking Mr. Habeshian on every Sunday.

DONATIONS

*We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following donations and thank them wholeheartedly for their generosity.
May God Bless You!*

GRAPE DONATIONS

Anonymous	100
Arslanian, Edward M/M	100
Kerestedjian, Seda Mrs. & Alice Ms.	100
Megerian, Hovanness M/M	100
Minassian, Karnig M/M	100
Alahverdian, Hatchik M/M	50
Giragosian, Rose Ms.	50
Givelekian, Bedros M/M	50
Hamamdjian, Panos M/M	50
Kalfayan, Sonia Mrs.	50
Kallem, Gary M/M	50
Kalustian, Varoujan M/M	50
Kazandjian, Aida Mrs. & Family	50
Mangikian, Berge M/M	50
Manookian, Anna & Jessica Misses	50
Markarian, Hratch M/M	50
Mengouchian, Takouhi Mrs.	50
Mengouchian, Jirair M/M	50
Sarkissian, Yervant Mr. & Family	50
Voskerijian, Nayda Mrs.	50
Bodoutchian, Garo M/M	30
Demirdjian, Hampo Mr.	30
Sheshedian, Mary Mrs.	30
Arakelyan, Lusin Mrs.	25
Bogosyan, Nadia Mrs.	25
Masoian, Michael M/M	25
Boudakian / Hatem, Zabel Mrs.	20
Desteoglu, Horopsime Mrs.	20
Janessian, Harriette Mrs.	20
Saroukhanian, Kayzer M/M	20
Shamlian, Levon M/M	20
Yacoubian, Antranig M/M	20

BASIL (RAYHAN) DONATIONS

Arslanian, Edward M/M	100
Gorgissian, Hagop Dr. & Mrs.	100
Shamlian, Levon M/M	20

GENERAL DONATIONS

Markarian, Kricor M/M	950
Shishmanian Dori & Family	500
Baron, Alex M/M	200
Alahverdian, Hatchik M/M	100
Baghdassarian, Ghevond M/M (ARCOTYPE)	100
Bezdkian, Veh Mr.	100
Garjarian, Maggie Dr.	100
Markarian, Hratch M/M	100
Kabarajian, Dickran M/M	50
Ohannessian, Elizabeth Mrs.	50

Jamgotchian, Varouj M/M	40
Hajinian, Helen Miss	10

REQUIEMS DONATIONS

Gregorian, Gourgen M/M	350
Holmquist, Isabella Mrs.	300
Kalaigian, Hovanes M/M	300
Kazadjian, Sarkis M/M	250
Mossessian, Agop M/M	250
Kasparian Dirouhie Mrs. /	
Mahtesyan Volodya Mr.	200
Maslakian, Ramela Ms.	200
Kazandjian, Aida Mrs. & Family	160
Saroyan, Siranoush Ms.	150
Sungarian, Ovanes M/M	150
Yeterian, Vahe M/M	150
Kiregian, Nazaret M/M	140
Alahverdian, Hatchik M/M	100
Arakelyan, Lusin Mrs.	100
Arslanian, Edward M/M	100
Atakhanian, Valot M/M	100
Babaiian, Hovsep M/M	100
Boyadjian, Gaydzag M/M	100
Chaderjian, Carmen Ms.	100
Dersarkissian, Jirair Mr.	100
Garabedian, Nazareth M/M	100
Ghadimian, Hermine Mrs. & Edgar Mr.	100
Gostanian, Manoug M/M	100
Harutunian, Anthony M/M	100
Kaladjian, Kevork M/M	100
Kelekian, Kegham M/M	100
Kochoumian, Edward M/M	100
Kricorian, Ana Mrs.	100
Kricorian, Melkon M/M	100
Mangikian, Berge M/M	100
Megerian, Hovanness M/M	100
Milian, Harry M/M	100
Minassian, Antranig M/M	100
Ohannessian, Elizabeth Mrs.	100
Sheshedian, Mary Mrs.	100
Soylemezian, Garo M/M	100
Sogomonian, Karine Mrs. & Family	100
Tervizian, Toros M/M	100
Voskerijian, Nayda Mrs.	100
Jamgotchian, Varoujan M/M	70
Apkarian, Knar Mrs.	50
Azarian, Hampik M/M	50
Bodyikoglu, Bagdasar M/M	50
Kalfayan, Sonia Mrs.	50
Kalustian, Varoujan M/M	50

Krikorian, Krikor M/M	50
Manoukian, Arsen M/M	50
Megerian, Raffi M/M	50
Moschovitis, Peter M/M	50
Ohanian, Anjel Mrs.	50
Pantikian, Serpouhie Mrs.	50
Shamlian, Levon M/M	50
Thomassian, Hovig M/M	50
Thomassian, Thomas M/M	50
Toma, Edgar Dikran M/M	50
Yilanjian, John M/M	50
Krikorian, Dikran Mr.	40
Azarian, Susan Mrs.	35
Dirielian, Kegham M/M	30
Janessian, Harriette Mrs.	30
Simonian, Arakel M/M	30
Tchilingarian, Martiros M/M	30
Zahregian, Gohar Mrs.	30
Beyler, Adrine Mrs.	25
Galoyan, Hasmik Mrs.	20
Janessian, Vahe M/M	20
Oranjian, Takouhie Mrs. & Family	20
Thomassian, Michael M/M	20
Yepremian, Haigouhie Mrs.	20

SPECIAL DONATIONS

On The Happy Occasion Of The Birth Of Their Grandchild - Carter Max Tenbekjian

Toma, Edgar Dikran M/M	200
Papasian, Mary O. Ms.	50

IN LIEU OF FLOWER**DONATIONS FOR THE LATE, LUCIN BEZDJIAN**

Anonymous Donors	380
Apelian, Sarkis Mr.	100
Balmamoukian, Setrak M/M	100
Oranjian, Takouhi Mrs. & Family	100
Afarian, Rina Ms.	75
Abajian, Silvert Mrs.	50
Barghamian, Sarkis M/M	50
Kevorkian, Dikran M/M	50
Khorozian, Family	50
Neshanian, Hagop M/M	50
Sarkissian, Azadouhi Mrs. & Family	50
Simonian, Hagop M/M	50
Thomassian, Hovig M/M	50
Thomassian, Thomas M/M	50
Torossian, Karnig Mr.	50
Manukian, Rita Mrs.	25
Margesian, Arshalous Mrs.	25

IN LIEU OF FLOWER

DONATIONS FOR THE LATE, ELIZABETH MICHITARIAN

Masoian, Michael M/M 400
 Kazarian, Lynn Ms. 100
 Boyajian, Armen M/M 50
 Shelengian, Constance Ms. 50
 Shelengian, Rose Ms. 50
 Kalousdian, Perouz Ms. 25
 Topouzian, Daron & Simoné 25

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE SIRANUSH OZGENER

Minassian, Vahram M/M 250
 Hamamgian, Haig M/M 50
 Mintancian, Anna Ms. 50
 Boyacian, Melidos Ms. 20

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE DR. ZARUHI OZUTUCUYAN

Ozutucuyan, Kinar Miss 200
 Kudyan, Hirayr Mr. 100
 Sagiroglu, Hera Ms. 50

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE SOUREN SAFARIAN

Sarkissian, Antranig M/M 200

Ohanessian, Sarkis M/M 100
 Sarkissian, Azadouhi Mrs. & Family 100

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE HAGOP VARTANIAN

Babikian, Levon M/M 50

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MARDO ZADIKIAN

Kafedjian, Takvor M/M 100
 Savadjian, Avedis Mr. 50

ՅԱՅՏԱՐԱՐՈՒԹԻՒՆ

Միտելի փարեց հայրեր ու մայրեր, փոխադրական դժուարութեանց պատճառաւ եթէ կը գրկուիք Կիրակնօրեայ Պատարագէն կամ եկեղեցոյ որեւէ ձեռնարկէ, հաճեցէք հեռաձայնել գրասենեակ (718) 224-2275, որպէսզի ապահովուի ձեր օրինեալ ներկայութիւնը Աստուծոյ Տան մէջ:

Նոգեհանգիստի համար հաճեցէք հեռաձայնել եկեղեցոյ գրասենեակ մինչև ՈՒՐՔԱԹ կէսօր, որպէսզի կարենանք անունները փպել Կիրակնօրեայ թերթիկին մէջ:

Եթէ հիւանդ պարագայ մը ունիք փան մէջ կամ հիւանդանոցը եւ կը փափաքիք Նովիին այցելութիւնը, հաճեցէք հեռաձայնել եկեղեցոյ գրասենեակ կամ Տէր Նօր փունը:

Հաճեցէք եկեղեցոյս գրասենեակը փողեակ պահել հասցէի կամ հեռաձայնի որեւէ փոփոխութիւն, որպէսզի կարենանք կանոնաւոր կերպով թղթատարական ամէն փետակի առաքումներ կատարել եւ ձեզ հաղորդ պահել համայնքիս անցողարձերուն:

Հաճեցէք մեզ փողեակ պահել որեւէ մոռացում կամ սխալ արձանագրութիւն, որպէսզի «ՇՈՂԱԿԱԹ»-ի յաջորդ թիւին մէջ սրբագրենք:

ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Senior Citizens,

If you are unable to attend the Sunday Badarak or any church activity due to transportation, please call the church office at (718) 224-2275.

For Requiem Service, please call the church office the latest by FRIDAY noon, so we can include the name in the Sunday Bulletin.

Do you have someone who is sick, at home, or in the hospital? Please call the church office or the Pastor's home for a visit from our Der Hayr Nareg Terterian.

Please notify the church office of any change of address and phone number to ensure uninterrupted delivery of your church mailings. Please help us keep our database up to date.

Please inform the church office of any errors or omissions to be considered in the next issue of SHOGHAGAT.

I Support SHOGHAGAT!

Enclosed is my donation to keep St. Sarkis Church
 a spiritual and cultural center

NAME:

ADDRESS:

\$ 10 enclosed

\$ 20 enclosed

\$ 50 enclosed

\$ 75 enclosed

\$ 100 enclosed

Other - - -

Kindly send your donations to the church office
 38-65 234TH STREET DOUGLASTON, NY 11363

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

SEROP TIRAKIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. KHAJAK & HASMIK was baptized on July 2, 2006. His Godparents were ARMEN & NARINE DALYAN.

ALEC PIRAMZADIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. ARA & LILIT was baptized on July 15, 2006. His Godparents were ARIN PIRAMZADIAN & RIPSIME MKRTCHYAN.

ANNA SATENIG BAGHDASSARIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. MARK & MARY was baptized on July 16, 2006. Her Godparents were MICHAEL & HOLLY BAGHDASSARIAN.

ALICE TIRAKIAN, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. KHAJAK & HASMIK was baptized on July 2, 2006. Her Godparents were ARMEN & NARINE DALYAN.

ANDREW HAIG ARAKELIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. DEKRAN & SCARLET was baptized on July 21, 2006. His Godparents were KHAJAK & HASMIK TIRAKIAN.

EDMOND ROBERT SARKISSIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. EDMOND & ANDREA was baptized on July 22, 2006. His Godparents were HARRY & JULIETTE MILIAN.

SUSANNA ANDREA SARKISSIAN daughter of Mr. & Mrs. EDMOND & ANDREA was baptized on July 22, 2006. Her Godparents were EDWIN SARKISSIAN & ROSEMARIE NORMAN.

ANGELINA MARIE DEGOIAN daughter of Mr. & Mrs. TIGRAN & ARMINE was baptized on August 5, 2006. Her Godparents were GAREN & ANNA SEMERJIAN.

LUCAS GREGORY BOUDAKIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. GREGORY AVEDIS & ARPI CAROLINE was baptized on July 30, 2006. His Godparents were STEPHEN & LIZA ANDREOPOULOS.

ANI MKHITARYAN daughter of Mr. & Mrs. SMBAT & LAURA was baptized on August 19, 2006. Her Godparents were AVEDIS DUVENJIAN & MARINA AVAGYAN.

ARMEN MKHITARYAN son of Mr. & Mrs. SMBAT & LAURA was baptized on August 19, 2006. His Godparents were AVEDIS DUVENJIAN & MARINA AVAGYAN.

GREG AZATIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. GAREN & ANAHIT was baptized on August 20, 2006. His Godparents were ARMEN & OSANA OVSEPIAN.

JOSEPH GRIGORIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. GRIGORI & YEKATERINA was baptized on August 26, 2006. His Godfather was IGOR KHARITONOV.

TIGRAN GRIGORIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. GRIGORI & YEKATERINA was baptized on August 26, 2006. His Godfather was IGOR KHARITONOV.

NECTAR MOURADIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. ARSEN & AREV was baptized on August 27, 2006. His Godparents were SARO VARJABEDIAN & ANGELA MOURADIAN.

VAN SAROUKHANIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. SHANT & ERICA was baptized on September 17, 2006. His Godparents were GARIN & HOOSHERE KALIGIAN.

EDOUARD ARTIN KOUZOUGIAN son of Mr. & Mrs. EDOUARD & OTILIA was baptized on September 30, 2006. His Godparents were VARTAN & ARAXI ANDONIAN.

*We congratulate the newly baptized and their parents.
May the Grace of the Holy Spirit be always with them.*

WEDDINGS

HAGOP WANESIAN & ARGINE OGANESYAN were married on July 8, 2006. Best Man and Maid of Honor were HAGOP MKSYARTINIAN & ANI BERBERYAN.

EDWARD CONSTANTINE TERZIAN & REBECCA JEANNE ALLEN were married on September 2, 2006. Best Man and Maid of Honor were IGNATEY TERZIAN & JESSICA ALLEN.

DONALD MONMOUTH PURDY & MELINE TALAR DIRELYAN were married on September 3, 2006. Best Man and Maid of Honor were SCOTT & ANNE MORELL.

RAFFI JAMGOTCHIAN & MADELEINE STANCESCU were married on October 29, 2006. Best Man and Maid of Honor were ARRY & KRISTINA NALBANTOGLU.

*We congratulate the newly married couples
& wish them a happy life together.*

FUNERALS

SOUREN SAFARIAN
(June 22, 1905 – July 4, 2006)

LOUSIN BEZDJIAN
(April 10, 1926 – July 28, 2006)

ALBERT DAVTYAN
(– August 11, 2006)

ELIZABETH MICHITARIAN
(May 2, 1912 - September 18, 2006)

ZARUHI OZUTUCUYAN
(December 3, 1921 – October 2, 2006)

*We extend our condolences to the families & pray that the
Almighty Lord bestows repose upon the souls of the deceased.*

Board of Trustees Of Saint Sarkis Church
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP OSHAGAN CHOLOYAN

Has the great pleasure to invite you to a special

BANQUET

AND DINNER DANCE

**HONORING PAST AND PRESENT
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, AT 8:00 PM

Saint Sarkis Armenian Church

Chadrjian Hall

38-65 234 Street, Douglaston, NY

SPECIAL PROGRAM AND ENTERTAINMENT

DINNER AND DANCING TO THE SOUNDS OF

DJ ALLAN

DONATION \$65

FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL

MARDIROUS AT 718-224-2275

SAINT SARKIS

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



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Dear Friend,
St. SARKIS Armenian Apostolic Church stands strong upon the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ and the tradition of the Armenian church fathers. St. SARKIS CHURCH helps you to know and serve our Heavenly Lord better and live your life according to the principles of Christian life.

WHAT'S NEW

- [BANQUET AND DINNER DANCE](#)
- [SPIRITUALITY AND CHURCH](#) Photos
- [SATURDAY SCHOOL HARVEST FEST](#)
- [A TRIBUTE TO AIVAZOVSKY PHOTOS](#)
- [FAMILY RECIPES BY ST. SARKIS CHURCH](#)
- [GATHERING WITH HIS HOLINESS ARAM I](#)

Today's Biblical Passage

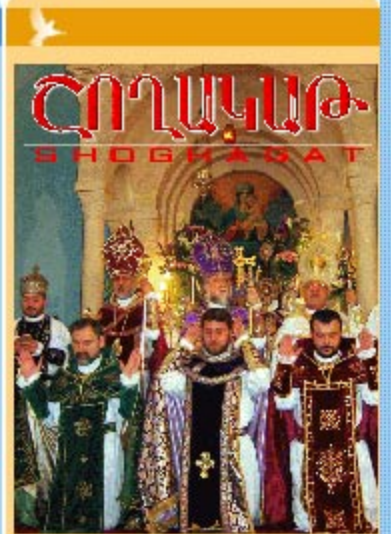
Thursday 11/30/06

Proverbs 8:33-36; Isaiah 66:18-21; Philippians 4:1-7; Luke 9:1-6

Luke 9:1-12 (New International Version)

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

1When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, 2and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. 3He told them: "Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra tunic. 4Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town. 5If people do not welcome you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave their town, as a testimony against them." 6So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.



[Read "SHOGHAGAT" online](#)

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ST. SARKIS

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