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SHOGHAGAT 2017

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PERIODICAL PUBLICATION OF SAINT SARKIS ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



## SHOGHAGAT

Published by  
Saint Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church  
38-65 234 Street, Douglaston, NY 11363  
718-224-2275  
stsarkischurch@gmail.com  
www.stsarkischurch.net

Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, Pastor

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Salpie Megerian

### PROOF READING BY

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### PRINTING

Arc-O-Type Graphics  
631-522-1658

# EDITOR'S LETTER

It was a pleasure assembling and editing the 2017 Shoghagat, as it allowed me to reflect on the memories we all share as part of the extended St. Sarkis family.

2017 brought our Church many significant developments, including the initiation of various new initiatives, as well as the further enhancement of many existing programs and events.

A few of the many new programs include the reintroduction of the St. Sarkis Sunday School Program, the formation of the Datevig Children's Choir, the start of the Salt & Light Youth Group, the 12th year of our renowned Summer Camp Program, as well as many other memorable events and gatherings.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all volunteers, Board Members, clergy, choir members, deacons, acolytes and community members who endlessly devote their time and efforts in enhancing the experiences offered by the St. Sarkis Church.

I pray that our community will continue to grow stronger and further allow us to raise our children and grandchildren as proud Armenians and Christians, while creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Salpie Megerian  
Editor

# PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

2017 was a very good year in the history of St. Sarkis Church because we were able to launch new programs and sustain other programs that were previously initiated.

Our new initiatives included the re-launch of the Sunday School Program. After a long hiatus, a dynamic group of teachers under the leadership of Yeretsgin Annie Terterian opened the doors of Sunday School and welcomed 53 new students to this program.

Our second successful initiative was the formation of Datevig Children's Choir. Our longtime church organ player and talented musician Mrs. Haigouhie Megerian recruited young talents for the goal of teaching to them the rich Armenian Hymns (Sharagans). The choir debut performance was on Oshagan Serpazan's 50th-anniversary celebration in our parish in June. Datevig Choir was the main performing act during Simply Christmas Concert in December 2017.

Our third and most successful initiative was the Salt & Light Youth Group of St. Sarkis Church. The organizing committee headed by co-chairs Mrs. Nyrie Bedrossian and Mr. Raffi Nenejian planned meticulously the details of starting a new youth group that is part of the Armenian Prelacy's Youth Ministry program. Training was provided

for facilitators and about 50 young boys and girls were recruited to join Salt & Light Youth Group, to learn more about their faith & identity, to grow solid friendships and to find opportunities to serve the community.

Besides our new initiatives, the following programs and events were the highlights of 2017: "Pathways to Wellness" panel on mental health, ordination of acolytes and sub-deacons on St. Sarkis Feast Day, a successful academic year of Suzanne & Hovsep Hagopian Saturday School, the 12th year of Summer Camp Program, the annual picnic, our participation in celebrating His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan's 50th Anniversary to the Holy Priesthood, Simply Christmas, a surprise birthday celebration for Dr. Aram Cazazian, Chairman of BOT and the New Year's Eve party.

As you go through the pages of Shoghagat, I hope you will feel the warmth that comes from being part of a community where our faith in God grows as we come together to celebrate our rich heritage. St. Sarkis Church is your home. You are always welcome here.

I hope you enjoy reading Shoghagat 2017!

Prayerfully yours,

Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, Pastor,  
St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church

## Message from Chairman of Board of Trustees

We have much to be proud of, and if we reflect upon previous years, from the constriction time to this day, our Board of Trustees together with our Priests and parishioners work hard to maintain and improve the church, as if it is their home. In the last several years our church has become a beacon of inspiration to young people wanting them to become a member and getting seriously involved in church's life.

Each day, our parish is inspired by the great dedication and work of our Priest Der Nareg Terterian, our prelate Oshagan Choloyan and Vicar General Anoushavan Tanielian presently our new Prelate, the Board of Trustees and entire parish achieve a great deal of growth and progress.

And even today, while we continue to grow, we are

confronted with new challenges, new evolving needs for today's ever-changing world.

For nearly 30 years, Saint Sarkis Church has reached out to Armenians and adapted to daily needs. During the early years, the new Saint Sarkis Church focused on finalizing the construction and educational programs of our parishioners.

We are proud to say that today our church is a beacon of inspiration to our old and young parishioners.

Congratulation and I am looking forward to more progress.

God bless all

Dr. Aram Cazazian  
Chairman of Board of Trustees

# Հնորիսւոր Սուրբ Ծնունդ Armenian Christmas Badarak 2017



On January 6th, Christmas Day Badarak was celebrated by His Grace, Bishop Anoushavan, Vicar General. Following the Badarak was the Blessing of Water Service, symbolizing the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan. The Godfather of the Cross was Gary Nercessian, son of Krikor and Elizabeth Nercessian and grandson of Sarkis and Adrine Nercessian and an altar server almost every Sunday at St. Sarkis Church.

As the service concluded parishioners received their blessed water and were graciously greeted by our Ladies Guild who prepared a lovely Fellowship Hour.



A small group of our Saturday School students performed a few songs that warmed our hearts. We thank our Ladies Guild for their ongoing support and dedication.

Following Church services, Anoushavan Serpazan and Der Nareg visited the Armenian Old Age Home in Flushing and gave blessed water to the residents, sang Christmas sharagans, prayed with the residents and shared a meal with them.

# Sunday School

On January 15, St. Sarkis Church reopened its Sunday School. An overwhelming number of 53 students registered for Sunday School and an enthusiastic group of 30 children attended this Sunday.

The students are divided into 5 groups; Nursery up to 6th Grade. The curriculum is provided by the Prelacy and a light breakfast is served after the children receive the Holy Communion.

His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Serpazan, Vicar General, offered a blessing to all the staff, students and parents of Sunday School.



## Blessing of Water

Sunday January 15, 2017, on the feast of St. John the Baptist, His Grace Bishop Anoushavan officiated the ceremony of the Blessing the Water with the relic of the saint.





## Pathways To Wellness: A Panel Discussion On Mental Health

*Reported by: Anahid Ugurlayan, Esq*

On Sunday, January 22, over 50 parishioners and guests gathered at St. Sarkis for a panel discussion on mental health. Ms. Anahid Ugurlayan, Esq. welcomed all in attendance and explained the importance of this lecture in light of the long-standing resistance in the Armenian community to discussing, or even acknowledging the existence of mental health and mental illness. She also stressed that St. Sarkis is fortunate to have a pastor who is a licensed mental health counselor and a valuable resource to those who are ashamed or fearful of discussing their mental health concerns with family or friends. She then introduced the speakers: Dr. Hagop Gorgissian, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Adjunct Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, St. George University who also has a private practice in Queens; Dr. Yeraz Meschian, a licensed clinical psychologist, Assistant Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai as well as a research scientist at Mount Sinai, and founder and executive director of Healthy Mind NY, where she provides individual

and group therapy, family counseling and parenting skills; and Dr. Carlo Bayrakdarian, a geriatric psychiatrist who has a private practice throughout Westchester and in New York City and was a Clinical Instructor in Psychiatry at the Cornell University Medical Center.

Dr. Gorgissian discussed the myths and stigmas relating to mental health and mental illness, specifically that those who suffer from mental illness cannot function in a professional or non-professional capacity, the fear of seeking professional help, as well as the importance of mental health in one's overall well-being. Dr. Meschian explained that mental illness is often associated with psychopaths and criminals in movies but that in reality very few people who suffer from mental illness pose a threat to themselves or others, noting that many celebrities and people we encounter in our daily lives suffer from mental illness. She gave a primer on what is entailed in talk therapy, expounding on her practice, which focuses on talk therapy, and how she assesses her patients. Dr. Bayrakdarian's

presentation focused on Alzheimer's disease and dementia, its prevalence in the general population and ways to minimize its effects, from a focus on cardiovascular health and mental stimulation.

A lengthy Q&A followed the panel presentations and the audience remained long after the discussion was over to ask more questions. There are a few key takeaways from the panel discussion: 1) mental health is inextricably linked to one's overall well-being; and 2) mental illness is real and that those suffering from it should not continue suffering in silence - rather, they must reach out to anyone they trust as a first step to ultimately being treated by a psychologist and/or a psychiatrist. Those in attendance appreciated the open and frank discussion of a long-neglected but important topic. Many thanks to Der Nareg for his open mindedness and efforts and to our expert panel of speakers for taking time from their busy schedules to participate in this program.

## St. Sarkis Name Day & Ordination of Acolytes and Sub-deacons



On Sunday, February 5, St. Sarkis held its annual St. Sarkis Name Day Celebration. The Divine Liturgy was celebrated by His Eminence, Archbishop Oshagan. As part of the celebration, the badarak included the ordination of altar servers Hovsep Terterian, Vahan Gostanian, Gary Nercessian, Aram Nenejian, Levon Nenejian, and Alex Demirdjan as acolytes. His Eminence also ordained acolytes Razmik Nenejian, Raffi Nenejian, Haig Baghdassarian, Areg Pogosyan and Shont Voskerijian as sub-deacons.

Following the badarak, 140 parishioners gathered for a reception in the church's Chadrjian Hall. Archbishop Oshagan joined the parishioners, along with His Grace, Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian. Master of Ceremonies, Deacon Michael Gostanian opened the afternoon's program, commenting that while the church has faced many struggles, we have also had many triumphs that we can look back on. Those triumphs, he stated, were only possible with the help of those who served the church. Deacon Michael then introduced students from St. Sarkis Suzanne and Hovsep Hagopian Armenian School, to perform a musical program. Each of the newly ordained sub-deacons then addressed the attendees, with a few remarks on what their new ordination meant to them.

Deacon Dikran Kabarajian then came to the podium to say a few words about his father. While the newly ordained altar servers were taking the first steps in their journey of service, Archdeacon Frank was celebrating 50 years of service to the Armenian church, as well as his 80th birthday!



Archdeacon Frank recalled his time at St. Sarkis, dating back to original St. Sarkis which was destroyed so many years ago in a tragic fire.

He thanked the many people he worked with over the years in support of the church. Archdeacon Frank, like others who spoke, also noted how nice it was to see so many young people serving as their parents did before them.

The afternoon was capped off with words from Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Aram Cazazian, Der Nareg, and Oshagan Serpazan.

Serpazan Hayr presented certificates to all the newly ordained altar servers, as well as a special certificate to Archdeacon Frank, recognizing his many years of dedicated service to St. Sarkis Church.



## Paint Nite



On Friday, January 21, 44 budding artists gathered for the third "Paint Nite" event. The Main Hall was transformed into a gallery of artistic adventure. Hosted by the St. Sarkis Young Adults, the Paint Nite fundraiser offered participants an opportunity to exhibit their artistic abilities and just have fun. It was nice to see new faces, as well those who returned for a second and third time. For some, it was their first time painting on a canvas, but lack of experience didn't intimidate this group. Under the encouraging instruction of illustrator and muralist Robert Tuska and his assistant Cheryl Fructor, artists bravely put their paint brushes to work, recreating unique renditions of a beautiful peacock

and a picturesque landscape. This year's theme was different from our past events but well-chosen and awe-inspiring.

When they weren't painting, participants enjoyed an array of wines and tasty appetizers and desserts. Many were pleasantly surprised by their hidden talent, and everyone was encouraging to their fellow painter friends. Most importantly, it was a fun evening for all. At the end of the night, "artists" proudly displayed their canvases for a group photo. Everyone walked away that night with a wonderful piece of art!



## Connect Youth Club at St. Sarkis



On the evening of February 3rd, Connect Re-Connected! Fifteen young members gathered in the church's Main Hall, eager to see all their friends. Pizza was served and there were fun games and activities that everyone seemed to enjoy.

## Comedy Night to Benefit Saturday School



"Laugh and Dance" and that is exactly what they did! On February 11th the PTA of St. Sarkis Church Saturday School had their first event where they combined a comedy night with a night of dancing.

The tables were beautifully decorated with fresh cut red roses and there was a spread of delicious appetizers & desserts for everyone to enjoy throughout the evening.

They had two comedians who kept the crowd of 100 plus laughing for over an hour. Following the skits, DJ Harry took over and kept everyone dancing all night long.

Not only did the event provide a great time for those who attended, but it was also a very successful fundraiser to help with the expansion of the Suzanne & Hovsep Hagopian Saturday School.

We thank all those who helped put this event together and a big thank you to everyone who attended and continue to support our school!

## ARS Remembrance Day



On Sunday, February 2nd, St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church offered Requiem Service for deceased members and benefactors of the Armenian Relief Society.

During the fellowship hour following the services, the Armenian Relief Society, NY Erebouni Chapter hosted a memorial luncheon in honor of deceased members and benefactors of the ARS.



## Conversations With The Pastor



On February 26, 2017, St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church held its first session of "A Conversation with the Pastor" series on Sunday afternoon following church services. An inquisitive group of parishioners gathered to hear what the discussion was all about. Food and refreshments were served and child care was provided.

Fr. Nareg Terterian started the program by asking thought provoking questions: What is our purpose in life? What is faith? What is Christian spirituality?

These were some of the questions asked by Fr. Nareg. We understand that Christian spirituality is the way one lives their Christian life. Spirituality, means practicing our faith, being able to love, forgive and be more like Jesus.

It's more tangible.

Fr. Nareg explained that faith is like a garden and our soul is its center and needs to be cultivated. It can wither or blossom. We talked about grace - the free gift given to us from God. "God gives you the grace". How grace doesn't

just overshadow us but penetrates us. This is the process of growth which takes place in a community.

We read from the Gospel of Mark and Luke and pondered on the question that Jesus asked the blind man. What would you answer if Jesus asked you "What would you like me to do for you?"

The session concluded with audience questions and inspiring advice from Fr. Nareg on how to successfully observe Great Lent.

## Liturgy, Education & Tradition Every Friday Evening During Lent



Every Friday during lent, Saint Sarkis Church hosted the Liturgy, Education and Tradition Lecture series.

On Friday evening March 3, 2017, The Community of St. Sarkis Church observed the first Lenten Vesper Service of the season. Church services were presided over by His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian.

Following Church Services "Why did Jesus Die?" from Alpha series was presented as members of our community enjoyed a lovely spread of Lenten foods prepared by the Ladies Guild of our church.

On Friday evening March 10, 2017, The Community of St. Sarkis Church observed the second Lenten Vesper Service of the season. Church services were presided over by His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian.

Following Church Services "How can I have Faith?" from Alpha series was presented as members of our community enjoyed a lovely spread of Lenten foods prepared by the ladies of our Choir Members.

On Friday evening March 17, 2017, The Community of St. Sarkis Church observed the third Lenten Vesper Service of the season.

Following Church Services "How and Why Should I Pray?" from Alpha series was presented as members of our community enjoyed a lovely spread of Lenten foods prepared by the Young Adult's Bible Study Group members.

On Friday evening March 24, 2017, The Community of St. Sarkis Church observed the fourth Lenten Vesper Service of the season. Church services were presided over by His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian.

Following Church Services "How and why should I read the Bible?" from Alpha series was presented as members of our community enjoyed a lovely spread of Lenten foods prepared by the ARS Erebouni Chapter.

On Friday evening March 31, 2017, The Community of St.

Sarkis Church observed the fifth Lenten Vesper Service of the season.

Following Church Services "How does God guide us?" from Alpha series was presented as members of our community enjoyed a lovely spread of Lenten foods prepared by the Youth Club Parents.

On Friday evening April 7, 2017, The The Community of St. Sarkis Church observed sixth Lenten Vesper Service of the season.

Following Church Services (Peace and Compline - *Խաղաղական եւ Հանգստեան Ժամերգութիւններ*) was presented as members of our community enjoyed a lovely spread of Lenten foods prepared by the PTA of Saturday School.



## Preparation for Palm Sunday and Easter

It's that time of year! The Ladies Guild of St. Sarkis Church are preparing for their annual Palm Sunday and Easter Bake Sales.

They will have their beautifully decorated eggs and delicious choregs for everyone to enjoy.



## The Girls Win... Again



In what has become a mini-tradition, the annual "PARENTS vs GIRLS" basketball game took place on Friday, March 10 at the St. Sarkis practice gym on Springfield Blvd. With much anticipation and bravado talk on the PARENTS side, the GIRLS once again won handily, but it was the parents who had the most fun. Feeling young again in St. Sarkis uniforms, mothers and fathers enjoyed competing and running around, although scoring proved to be a challenge.

Much demand to do this more often, but until that is decided, the basketball year end ceremony on March 26 will get everyone together to recognize individual team achievements as well as the dedication of the coaches and parents.

LET'S GO ST. SARKIS!!!

## General Membership Meeting 2017

The 2017 General Membership Meeting was held on Sunday, March 19 after church services. The meeting was opened with a prayer led by His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar General of our Prelacy. Serpazan reiterated the importance of St. Sarkis Church to the Armenian community and stated that the Church is one of the best of the Prelacy with its many programs and missions especially focused on the children and the youth in our Armenian community.

Mr. Arthur Hairabedian was voted as the Chairman of the day and Mr. Manoug Gostanian as the Vice Chairman. Mrs. Alina Kochoumian was voted as the recording Secretary. Mr. Veh Bezdikian addressed the meeting as a member of the Executive Council of the Prelacy followed by Fr. Nareg Terterian's Pastor's report. The Chairman's report was prepared by Dr. Cazazian. He took this opportunity to give thanks to everyone, including Der Nareg for their continuous support for our Church and community. A detailed Treasurer's Report was given by Mrs. Sonya Nenejian. The Auditing Committee report was presented by Mr. Karl Alajajian.

The Nominating Committee report was presented by Mr. Harry Seoylemezian. The membership elected the following candidates to serve on the board: Mrs. Nayda Voskerjian,

Dr. Louiza Kubikian, Dr. Aram Cazazian, Mrs. Sonya Nenejian, Mrs. Alina Kochoumian, Mr. Krikor Nercessian and Mrs. Arpine Bezdikian. Mr. Antranig Boudakian was elected as delegate for the National Representative Assembly.

The Auxiliary Bodies Report was presented by Mrs. Arpine Bezdikian. Mrs. Lena Felice gave a brief explanation of St. Sarkis Church's new software program.

The Membership Meeting was concluded with a closing prayer by Anoushavan Serpazan.



# Sunday School



## Sunday School Teacher's Seminar



A Sunday School teacher's seminar was held at Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church of Ridgfield, New Jersey, on Saturday, March 18, 2017, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, sponsored by the Prelacy's Armenian Religious Education Council (AREC). Twenty teachers participated from St. Sarkis Church (New York), St. Illuminator's Cathedral (New York City) and Sts. Vartanantz Church.

The seminar was conducted by Dn. Shant Kazanjian, Director of AREC, and Ms. Sossi Essajanian, Early Childhood Educator and co-director of St. Illuminator's Sunday School. Dn. Shant presented a brief overview on Baptism-Chrismation. Sossi spoke about "The Art of Teaching." In the afternoon, the workshop focused on enhancing the curriculum on Baptism and Chrismation, conducted by Dn. Shant and Sossi.

## Basketball Award Ceremony



Spring is finally here and the St. Sarkis Basketball Award Ceremony has become a cherished spring tradition.

Players, coaches, parents, grandparents and guests gathered Sunday, March 26th to celebrate and recognize individual and team achievements on the court.

Once again the girls team was responsible for the main course, in this case lots of hot pizza and various salads, while the senior boys provided beverages and desserts.

Following the meal, appreciation was expressed to the Pastor and the St. Sarkis Board of Trustees for their continuing support and encouragement. Special thanks were directed to the parents who have shown so much

support for the basketball program and individual players were recognized for their performance and future potential.

Each player and coaches were presented with a sweatshirt with a prominent St. Sarkis Basketball logo in the St. Sarkis navy and orange colors, and team pictures were taken.

Everyone enjoyed the presentations and ceremony, and selected audience members made donations to the basketball program. The donors chose to remain anonymous.

Practices for all teams will start outdoors late May, as daylight permits and continue through the summer as possible.

## Successful Screening of "The Promise"



During its opening weekend, St. Sarkis Church was one of many parishes across the United States that organized an event where tickets were purchased in bulk and sold to parishners to attend the premiere of the movie "The Promise".

On Friday, April 21st, the 7:30 pm showing at AMC Raceway Theater in Westbury was attended by nearly 400 parishioners and friends. They all came to show their unified support for this historic Hollywood movie about the atrocities of the Armenian Genocide.

## Palm Sunday and Holy Week At St. Sarkis Church



A great number of parishioners attended Palm Sunday services at St. Sarkis Church. Fr. Nareg Terterian celebrated the Divine Liturgy and gave a sermon emphasizing on the celebration of joy echoing the words of St. Paul from the Epistle to The Philippians (4:4-7) "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"

Palm Sunday procession of young children with beautifully handcrafted candles was the highlight of the day and it was followed by the service of "Trunpatzek" (Opening of the portal ceremony).

The Ladies Guild of St. Sarkis Church organized a bake sale and a fellowship hour following church services.

We thank Mr. & Mrs. Raffi & Jeanette Nenejian & children Aram, Levon and Paul, for graciously donating Palm Sunday Candles in memory of their fathers and grandfathers Boghos Nenejian and Joseph Balian.

## The Ten Bridesmaids



Church services for the Holy Week started on Tuesday April 11, 2017 with the traditional evening service of the Ten Bridesmaids, a reenactment of the parable told by Jesus in Matthew 25:14-30.

Students from St. Sarkis Church Saturday School participated in the service which was followed by a short homily by Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar General.

## Washing of the Feet and Tenebrae

On Thursday, April 13, the events initiated by Jesus at the Mystical Last Supper were commemorated at St. Sarkis Church; namely, the Divine Liturgy of the Institution of the Holy Eucharist was celebrated and was

followed by the service of "Washing of the Feet".

Fr. Nareg washed the feet of the church servers and anointed them with blessed oil.



The service of Washing of Feet was followed by Tenebrae, a distinctive ceremony of gradually extinguishing candles while a series of readings and psalms and hymns are chanted.

Fr. Nareg gave a sermon concentrating on John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."



# Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday at St. Sarkis Church

The events of the Holy Week were marked solemnly at St. Sarkis Church, according to the rites of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

Good Friday services were observed in front of the symbolic tomb of Jesus, which was decorated with flowers donated by our parishioners.



Քրիստոս Յարեալ Ի Մեռելոց  
Krisdos Haryav ee Merelotz  
Christ has Risen from the Dead

Օրհնեալ է Յարութիւնն Քրիստոսի  
Orhnyal eh Harootyoonen Krisdosi  
Blessed is the Resurrection of Christ



# Saint Sarkis Church Saturday School Easter Brunch

On Easter Eve, April 15th, the church was full of grandparents, parents, teachers and children for the Holy Communion.

After the beautiful and brief service, everyone headed to the Main Hall for the Easter Brunch festivities.

The hall was decorated with bouquets of flowers and Easter tulips and tables were set for over 200 attendees. Two buffet tables were filled with an abundance of goodies for everyone to enjoy including homemade cheese beuregs prepared by our talented PTA ladies the night before.

There was an assortment of finger foods, heroes, bagels, dessert items and much more. Nature Nick gave an animal

presentation to an amazed and mesmerized audience. The animals he brought with him were not your usual type, in fact they were rare and exotic.

Afterwards, the children took turns taking pictures with the adorable Easter Bunny.

The egg hunt was a lot of excitement with children running around trying to find the most eggs.

The Easter brunch store did very well with the sale of choregs, Easter cake pops and flower bouquets and tulips. The event was very successful and a lot of fun was had on this special day.



# National Representative Assembly Convenes In Illinois



The 2017 National Representative Assembly (NRA) convened yesterday and will conclude Saturday afternoon. The Assembly is hosted by All Saints Church of Glenview, Illinois. The clergy conference began Wednesday afternoon and the full Assembly officially opened with a prayer by the Prelate, His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan. Very Rev. Fr. Ghevont Pentezian, pastor of the host parish, welcomed the delegates as did Hagop Soulakian, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

After a series of preliminary duties in the morning session, the afternoon session was devoted to messages and reports that began with a message from His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia. In the keynote address Archbishop Oshagan focused his remarks on the theme of the year, Renewal, and the formation of a Youth Ministry Department. "We must strive," the Prelate said, "to present the entire culture of the Armenian

Church to old and young. Our culture, faith, language, became the color of our skin; became our character like the unique physical attributes of a race. With the message of the Bible as our directive, wherever we went, even before our homes we built the fortress of our survival-the Armenian Church."

Jack Mardoian, chairman of the Executive Council presented the Council's report to the NRA. Enumerating a host of accomplishments during the year, Mr. Mardoian said, "Despite our accomplishments, we have only begun to scratch the surface of what is required of us as a Council, of what we require of our parishes, and what we believe will enhance our spiritual life and ability to serve as a church." Mr. Mardoian then went on to speak about the specifics of renewal with the emphasis that renewal of our church will not be accomplished in one year "just because this year has been proclaimed as the Year of Renewal... Renewal is an ongoing process which

will require undertaking meaningful and important challenges and in recognizing that a 'one size fits all' plan does not work when you have a Prelacy as varied and diverse as ours. It is our hope that the first steps in clearly establishing this agenda will come from your ideas and the programs we adopt at this Assembly."

Presentations on Parish Renewal were offered by Joseph Kormos from the Orthodox Church of America and Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, pastor of St. Sarkis Church in Douglaston, New York. Panels also convened on proposed bylaws changes and proposed budget.

The Assembly concluded on Saturday following elections for two vacancies on the Religious Council and three on the Executive Council. This year the topic of Renewal held a strong focus in all conversations because His Holiness Catholicos Aram I designated 2017 as the Year of Renewal.

## Memorial Service for Very Rev. Fr. Dr. Zareh Baronian



On May 7, 2017, the Romanian Armenian Community of Greater New York held a Hokehankisd and Hokejash at St. Sarkis Armenian Church in Douglaston in memory of Very Rev. Fr. Dr. Zareh Baronian former pastor and Vicar of the Armenian Apostolic Church (Archangels Michael & Gabriel) in Bucharest, Romania.

His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan presided over the Requiem service and blessed the Memorial meal which followed. Dr. Louiza Kubikian and Mr. Edward Barsamian mobilized the community and organized the memorial in a very short time. A color booklet prepared by Dr. Louiza Kubikian highlighting Der Zareh Dzayrakuy Vartabed

Baronian's biography and including special memories and photos from some of his friends and classmates who had known him personally was distributed to those gathered to pay their respects. A video of slides produced by Mr. Barsamian was also projected throughout the entire afternoon. Over 130 people were in attendance and many members of the community generously donated the memorial meal which was served. Several members of the Romanahai community shared personal memories of Der Zareh and expressed their deep respect and sadness at his passing. The afternoon concluded with a benediction by Serpazan Oshagan.

## ARS Walkathon



Saturday afternoon, May 6th, the community had participated in the annual Walk Armenia, a walkathon hosted by the Armenian Relief Society Erebouni NY Chapter. Registration began late morning and by 1:30pm, over 30 participants gathered outside St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church.

Junior members from Armenian Youth Federation Hyortik Chapter, as well as parents and senior AYF members were among the participants. With a blessed send-off from His Grace, Anoushavan Tanielian and Der Nareg Terterian, enthusiastic walkers with flags in hand, commenced the walk to Armenian Society in Little Neck.

## 50 Years of Priesthood and 53 Years of Sacred Music



On Sunday, June 4th, St. Sarkis Church Community was honored with the presence of His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, who attended Church Services as he occasionally does. However, this Sunday was different because June 4th marked the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the holy priesthood (June 4, 1967). The Pastor, the Board of Trustees and Auxiliary bodies of the Church worked together to host a surprise event to celebrate this important milestone. Although the Armenian Prelacy is planning to commemorate this paramount achievement formally in the month of November, this Sunday's event was a prelude to the upcoming one in November.

Veh Bezdikian, the Master of Ceremonies, began the program and spoke about his experience with Serpazan. He then invited Harry Seoylemezian who spoke on behalf of the Executive Council of the Armenian Prelacy by highlighting the leadership qualities of Serpazan in various parishes of the Armenian Prelacy. Mr. Krikor Nercessian, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, also spoke kind words and emphasized how Serpazan has a positive impact on St. Sarkis Church.

Fr. Nareg Terterian thanked everyone for organizing this wonderful event. He especially thanked Serpazan for the inspiration he provides through his exemplary leadership and presented Serpazan with a cross pin engraved with the date on the back.

His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian reminisced his

days as a seminarian and how he was a candle bearer 50 years ago when Oshagan was becoming a priest. He also enthusiastically spoke about the 50th ordination anniversary celebration honoring His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan this Fall. Following his encouraging speech, Mrs. Naomi Megerian gracefully recited an anthology of Armenian poems.

Oshagan Serpazan thanked everyone and expressed how this verse from Matthew 22:37 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." kept him going for all these years.

The Main Hall was filled with parish members enjoying live music played by Mr. Ashot Soghomonyan while savoring an appetizing luncheon. The Organizing Committee tended to every detail of the event and made it look effortless in such a short time.

One of the highlight of the day was the performance of Datevig Choir conducted by Mrs. Haikouhie Megerian. A group of seventeen boys and girls sang Sharagans. It was like watching beautiful angels sing. Not only did these children's parents feel proud, but the performance was moving for all of the parishioners and clergy as well. Datevig was recently formed and in a short period of time, these children delivered a beautiful selection of Armenian Hymns. Serpazan was so moved that he expressed his wish to be the first one to celebrate the Divine Liturgy with Datevig choir singing Badarak.

Another reason to celebrate was to recognize Gail D'Onofrio. Gail served as the choir organist at St. Sarkis Church and recently retired after 53 years of service. The Pastor remarked that it is rare to find a parishioner who for the past 50 years served and inspired others. Archdeacon Frank Kabarajian praised Gail's incredible contributions to the St. Sarkis Community. Deborah Agopian, as a young voice, spoke about how Gail has been an inspiration in her life and presented her with a gift on behalf of the choir. The Ladies Guild also acknowledged her with a bouquet of flowers and cake. Mrs. D'Onofrio sincerely thanked

everyone including the choir directors throughout the 53 years along with Juliette Milian and Haikouhie Megerian as organists. She also thanked all the Pastors of St. Sarkis Church (Der Asoghik Kelejian, Hayr Anoushavan and Der Nareg Terterian). She also thanked Serpazan for the certificate and concluded her speech by thanking her beautiful family.

The day couldn't have ended any sweeter. A selection of tasty desserts was served at each table along with His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan's anniversary cake.



## Another Great School Year for Suzanne & Hovsep Hagopian Saturday School



On Sunday, June 11th, 2017 following the Divine Liturgy, St. Sarkis Suzanne & Hovsep Hagopian Saturday School held its year end Hantes. These talented students performed wonderfully for their parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles including Anoushavan Serpazan and Hayr Zareh Sarkissian, in the church sanctuary. The program included Armenian poetry and musical performances.

During the second part of the program, Mrs. Nairy Zohrabian, Principal of the school, presented the Kindergarten students their moving-up diplomas and plush graduation Teddy Bears. Mrs. Nairy Zohrabian recognized all the teachers and thanked them for their dedication in making this year a great success.

Fr. Nareg Terterian was pleased to share the growing number of students every year, by virtue of everyone's effort, enthusiasm and hard work. He thanked Mrs. Nairy and all the teachers for orchestrating such a beautiful

recital. Reflecting on the setting of the Hantes that was held in the sanctuary, Fr. Nareg said that the church has been a promoter of the Armenian culture since day one and therefore, we cannot separate the Armenian Church from the Armenian Culture. We are one unit and the help of the parents is crucial to maintain our spiritual and cultural life.

Anoushavan Serpazan compared the number of 36 students, from the younger grades, to the Armenian alphabet and validated that without our alphabet we wouldn't have retained our Armenian language and heritage. He reminded us to always recognize and give thanks to Suzanne and Hovsep Hagopian. Their generosity touched many lives and organizations including St. Sarkis Church and school. He praised the parents for the sacrifice they make for their children's bright future.

Following the program, the PTA prepared a lovely fellowship. We thank our devoted parents as well.

## 99th Anniversary of the First Republic of Armenia



On Sunday, May 28, 2017, the community of St. Sarkis Church offered prayers as the pastor presided over the service of Blessing the Tricolor Flag on the occasion of the 99th anniversary of the First Armenian Republic and the 26th anniversary of the current Republic of Armenia.

A Requiem service was also offered for the souls of the fallen heroes of Sardarabad, Bashabaran, Gharakilise, and the new martyrs of the struggle for Artsakh. The pastor also spoke on the historic importance of the First Republic and encouraged the faithful to pray for our homeland.

## Friends of St. Sarkis Church



On Thursday, June 15th, 2017, friends of St. Sarkis Church attended the 50th birthday celebration of City Councilman Paul Vallone which was held at Bourbon Street Restaurant located in Bayside, Queens.

This was a great opportunity for us to get to know Mr. Vallone personally and we had the opportunity to meet his family including his Armenian wife Annmarie and his mother-in-law Zizi.

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## North America Youth Gathering



On June 9th, 2017, three teens (Nevair Oranjian, Christapor and Shant Megherian) from St. Sarkis Community are taking a trip to Canada.

They will be representing the Armenian Prelacy and St. Sarkis Church. U Turn is organized by AREC (Armenian Religious Education Council) under the Auspices of His Eminence Archbishop Papken Tcharian Prelate of Canada.

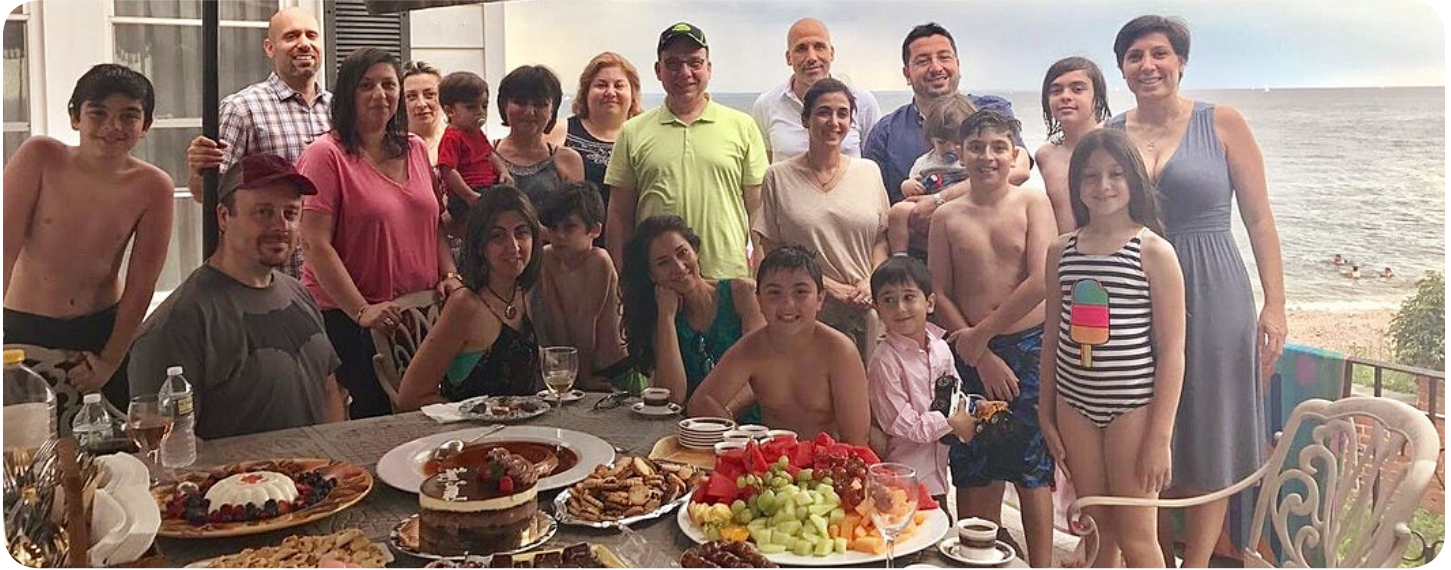
## Father's Day



On Sunday, June 18, fathers in attendance gathered around Fr. Nareg Terterian at Father's Day to take a group picture. The cake was donated by Mrs. Mary Arslanian and enjoyed by all who attended the Ladies Guild coffee hour.



## Starting Off the Summer with Datevig BBQ Party



BBQs are always such a fun event! On Sunday, June 25th, Mrs. Haikouhie Megerian, Datevig's conductor, graciously invited the choir members and families to her beautiful home.

What a great way to kick off the summer after a dynamic first session. The food, drink, dessert, and private beach were simply fabulous.

It was so enjoyable spending the afternoon with friends. Everyone had a marvelous time, and looking forward to getting together with Datevig again in the Fall.

## St. Gregory of Datev Institute



The Prelacy's 31st annual Saint Gregory of Datev Summer Institute took place at the St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, Pennsylvania. Datev offers a unique Christian educational program for youth ages

13 to 18, to enrich their knowledge of the Christian faith in a wholesome and nurturing environment, coupled with recreational activities and daily worship and prayer services.

Archbishop Oshagan traveled to Elverson to spend a day with the Datev participants. The week-long program ended on Sunday with the Divine Liturgy at St. Gregory Church in Philadelphia, followed by a luncheon.

## Summer Camp Session 12



The 12th session of St. Sarkis Summer Camp has reached a milestone. Now a decade into its existence, St. Sarkis Church Camp has grown to over 100+ campers and thriving. This week there were 90 enthusiastic campers, 12 dedicated CIT's, plus 16 seasoned staff members who occupied the main hall.

Each day started with a healthy morning meal that would energize the campers, followed by a hearty lunch at noon, and a tasty snack pre-dismissal.

There was no shortage of fun all week. The campers painted masterpieces, climbed a massive rock wall, improvised during drama class, observed a delightful magic show, discovered live animals, played a variety of outdoor sports, and enjoyed a game truck with laser tag and video games. The more mature campers took a day trip to the AMF Sheridan Lanes for some bowling.

A special Armenian cultural program was created especially for the campers this year and as much as they enjoyed being active, they couldn't wait for their regular daily quiet time with God. Campers and staff participated in church

time and learned more about their faith. Good questions were asked from inquisitive campers. This made learning fun and created a greater attachment to their Armenian community. Additional highlights included cooking lessons and songs from their heritage.

The campers can expect these fun filled activities to continue.

The 12th session of St. Sarkis Summer Camp has reached a bitter sweet end. It is hard to believe that these last two weeks have flown by so quickly. The campers had another fun filled packed week including a visit from their Saturday School Principal Mrs. Nairy Zohrabian. This week's activities included: Drama, Church Time, Arts & Crafts projects, Armenian Culture, Zumba, Music, Painting, Bubble Master and the Fun Bus. The grown-up groups took an exciting day trip The Cradle of Aviation. One of the high points of the week was the Dinosaur Rocks. The Main Hall was transformed into a museum with over 30 amazing specimens. The campers received an interactive presentation and they got to touch many genuine specimens and dug for bones and fossils.

A special visit from His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, Prelate and His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar General and Antranig Boudakian surprised the campers with joy. Mr. & Mrs. Boudakian have been loyal and generous sponsors throughout the years. Everyone gathered in the sanctuary to pray and take a group picture. Archbishop Oshagan spoke to the campers about Jesus' special love for children worthy of the Kingdom of God. "You are the leaders of the future," he told them. Serpazan Choloyan praised Fr. Nareg Terterian for his achievement and patience. He also thanked all the teachers and counselors for their efforts. He was very happy and proud to see 90 campers and affirmed that they are the future of our church. The campers were happy that Serpazan Anoushavan joined them for a home cooked luncheon.

Der Nareg noted that it is the generous sponsorships which contributed to the success of St. Sarkis Summer Camp, and thanked everyone who helped.

On the last day of the Summer Camp the program concluded with water slides activities and a movie.

Until next year!





## Summer Camp Donors & Staff Appreciation

On Friday, August 25th, 2017, St. Sarkis Church Summer Camp held a Sip, Savor and Celebration for Sponsors and Staff Members. We all had a wonderful time sipping wine and enjoyed an array of delicious appetizers. In the background there was a slideshow of various activities which took place during this year's camp session. The smiles on all the children's faces brought much joy to all attending! We greatly appreciate all the hard work of our staff members and the generosity of our sponsors. A letter of appreciation from a camper:

My name is Shahan Fiesel. I have been going to Saint Sarkis Summer Camp for 10 years now. I would like to thank the sponsors for their generous donations to the summer camp. Without you, the camp would not have all the activities we had. My favorite parts were when we went rock climbing, laser tag, and when the game truck came. I would also like to thank Der Nareg and his staff for all the time and effort they put into making camp a great place to come to every year.

# St. Sarkis Church Summer Camp Sponsors Summer School in Beirut



"...Remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Acts 20:35)

It is this teaching of the Lord that we tried to live by during our Summer Camp as our campers and their parents raised funds to support the Karagheusian Summer School in Beirut, Lebanon.

The ARS Erebouni Chapter and Mr. & Mrs. Arthur & Annette Givelekian sponsored our fundraising efforts by donating \$500 each.

A total amount of \$3000 was raised and it was delivered to the Summer School by Fr. Nareg, who visited the program, met with the children and the staff members on Friday July 28, 2017.

Mr. Serop Ohanian, the director of the Karagheusian Foundation in Lebanon and Yeretsgin Christine Sarkissian the director of the Summer School program expressed their gratitude for the initiative of St. Sarkis Church Summer Camp Program. They told Der Nareg that donated funds will be used to sponsor a day trip for the students.

The 280 students participating in the program consist of 60% Syrian-Armenian refugees who are settled in Lebanon as a result of the war in Syria.

We would like to thank all individuals and organizations who contributed in this meaningful and important fundraising.



## Pastoral Counseling Seminar in Bikfaya



Fr. Nareg Terterian, was currently visiting Lebanon where he is conducting a three-day seminar on pastoral care and counseling with the seminarians at the Cilician See's Theological Seminary in Bikfaya, Lebanon.

The seminar covers the basic principles of pastoral care and counseling, including introduction to bereavement counseling and pre-marital counseling. The seminar began on Wednesday and concluded Friday, August 4, 2017.

Fr. Nareg has graduate degrees in pastoral theology and clinical mental health counseling and he is a licensed mental health counselor in the State of New York.

## Feast Of The Assumption Of St. Mary The Holy Mother Of God



On Sunday, August 13, 2017, the community of St. Sarkis Church observed the Feast of the Assumption (Verapokoum) of the Holy Virgin Mary. Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian celebrated the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon. Following the Divine Liturgy, over 150 parishioners attended the ceremony of blessing of the grapes and enjoyed a traditional Harissa luncheon, hosted by the Ladies Guild of St. Sarkis Church. Der Hayr took a moment to remember our beloved Karnig Nercessian by keeping his memory and legacy alive and by always remembering him.

Under the Leadership of Mrs. Ani Nercessian, a traditional Harissa was prepared with the help of Mrs. Loucine Megherian, Yn. Annie Terterian and members of the Ladies Guild. The customary and refreshing tan was donated and prepared by Mrs. Dory Shishmanian.

This year, the Harissa was donated by Mrs. Azniv Ebrimian. Grapes were donated by Mr. & Mrs. Edward and Coharig Barsamian and Mr. & Mrs. George and Katia Tavitian and family.

The Blessing of the Grapes is based on the Biblical teaching "So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me...You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God." (Deuteronomy 26:10). In the Armenian Church, the offering of first fruit takes the form of a thanksgiving and blessing, and then the faithful consume the fruit.

Harissa, the traditional Armenian recipe dating back to St. Gregory the Illuminator, began at St. Sarkis Church 11 years ago and became a popular fellowship for parishioners.

## Annual Picnic



On September 10, beautiful blue skies and comfortable temperatures defined this year's St. Sarkis picnic as one of the best. The grounds were set up with 3 tents, tables and chairs, all stations were ready to welcome guests, and a large number of volunteers were busy with last minute details.

Once again, the KidZone, a great success and favorite for all children, kept them busy with more rides, inflatable, arts and crafts, balloons and popcorn than in previous years. Our fantastic chefs spent two days preparing the famous St. Sarkis kebabs and some of the ladies worked in the kitchen for three days getting ready for the picnic, cooking and preparing appetizers.

On picnic day, it was difficult to ignore the delightful odor emanating from the grills as the kebabs were being grilled to perfection. The ladies with smiles on their faces, were

busy tending to the long line of parishioners anxiously waiting to be served. The Café area displayed delicious homemade desserts which delighted everyone's palate and also included freshly brewed Armenian coffee. The beverage section was well stashed with Armenian and domestic beer, wine, soft drinks and water, and as in past years, it had a large crew of servers. Last but not least, the cashiers were busy cashing in the proceeds.

And what would make a picnic perfect if not for the entertainment. This year, once again Michael Gostanian with his band, and Hooshere as singer, delighted everyone with their Armenian music prompting many parishioners to start dancing. The traditional sale of raffle tickets and the numerous gifts which were generously donated by many merchants added a spark of excitement in anticipation of becoming a lucky winner (and 24 people were such winners).

## Sunday School Teachers Seminar

On Friday, September 8th, 2017, St. Sarkis Church Sunday School offered a seminar on "An overview of Sunday School" to their Sunday School teachers.



Mrs. Maggie Kouyoumdjian, who has an extensive experience in Christian Education and Sunday School teaching, educated our staff with her knowledge and experience in teaching.

Some key points she suggested were to teach the children through interactive songs and to teach A.S.K. (ask, seek, knock). Maggie also recommended that we start each Sunday School Session with a mock church service. This will teach children at a young age, to learn the importance of stewardship (by tithing and helping others, as well as their own church), proper church etiquette and the symbolism of the Badarak.

We would like to thank Maggie for taking the time to meet with our staff and for sharing her knowledge with us.

## Screening of Documentary Film

On Friday, September 15th, the Ladies Guild of St. Sarkis Church in Douglaston and the ARS Erebouni New York Chapter were very excited to host the screening of Bared Maronian's award winning Documentary Film, "Women Of 1915".

The movie depicts the life journey of brave women survivors of the Armenian Genocide, illustrating the unimaginable indignities the women endured and the horrors they witnessed. Among the Armenian heroines featured in the movie are: Aurora Mardigian, Hatoon Bazarian, and Aguilera Tatoulian. The documentary also brings to light the enormous efforts of the European and American Missionaries who arrived to various regions of Historic Armenia, and rescued countless women and orphans. The selfless missionaries were, Maria Jacobsen, Karen Jeppe ,



Mary Louise Graffam. The film is shown in many cities in the US, Canada, France, Great Britain, Australia and is scheduled to be shown in Latin America, the Middle East and other countries.

The evening began with welcoming remarks from the chairlady of Erebouni Chapter, Ungh. Lena Orangian. She then introduced the sound track artist Hooshere Bezdikian Kaligian, whose heartfelt performance moved the audience. The 90 minute film captivated and educated the attendees, evoking an array of emotions.

At the conclusion of the film, Mr. Baronian, who had just flown in from hurricane affected Florida, spoke about the challenges of making the movie and participated in a Q&A session with the crowd.

Following the discussion, the audience was invited to a lavish wine and cheese reception prepared by the Ladies Guild and ARS members.





# First Day Of Saturday School



On Saturday, September 16, 2017, St. Sarkis Church's Suzanne & Hovsep Hagopian Saturday School opened its doors for the 2017/2018 School year.

Another school year has started after a long summer vacation. Students and families were reconnected and were excited to see new faces both, within the students body and the faculty. The hallways became alive again, there were hugging and smiley faces all around.

Back to School is the start of a new and fresh beginning. At this time the students were pleasantly greeted by our Rev. Father Nareg Terterian, a team of dedicated teachers and the principal.

After warm greetings by principal Mrs. Nairy Zohrabian and morning prayers by Rev. Father Nareg Terterian the students were led by their teachers to their individual and beautifully decorated classrooms.

As the student body gathered in Main Hall, to be dismissed, the principal took the opportunity to thank them for attending Armenian school and tried to make them understand the importance of attending an Armenian school. She made a point by saying "It is our mission, to continue the legacy of our beautiful Armenian language, culture and the rich history".

By working closely and hand in hand with a group of dedicated, motivated and caring teachers, and building strong relationship with the PTA, our school can reach great achievements.

The PTA is the back bone of our school, they had so many fundraiser activities during the years, and they have more ideas for this upcoming year. Please encourage them, give your support by attending their functions. This year's student's text books and the work books were donated by the PTA.

## Megerian Family of St. Sarkis Church Community Donates A Special Rug to His Holiness Aram I



The Megerian family, members of St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church of Douglaston were honored to present His Holiness Aram I with Megerian's Signature Lori Design Armenian Rug, which was also presented to Pope Francis, Catholicos Karekin II, Charles Aznavour, George and Amal Clooney and other notable individuals for their contributions to the Armenian Culture.

Catholicos Aram I welcomed Raffi, Toros and John Megerian at his guest residence in Holy Echmiadzin on Tuesday September 19, 2017. Archbishop Sebouh Sarkissian, Prelate of Tehran, Iran, Archbishop Shahan Sarkissian, Prelate of Aleppo, Syria and Fr. Nareg Terterian, Pastor of St. Sarkis Church also attended the meeting.

John and Raffi Megerian explained to Catholicos Aram I a brief history of the Megerian Family's plight from the Armenian Genocide and the significance of the Lori design related to the age old tradition of Armenian Rug Weaving. Catholicos Aram I commended the Megerian family for their enormous efforts in spreading the Armenian Culture in the world through the art of Armenian rug weaving. He also congratulated the Megerian Family on their business's 100th Anniversary and the accomplishments of the last century of Armenian rug weaving culture and traditions. Finally, Catholicos Aram I invited the Megerian family to Antelias, Lebanon to introduce the culture and traditions of Armenian rugs to the large Armenian community of Lebanon.

## Fr. Nareg Terterian Presented a Lecture on Marriage Counseling

Fr. Nareg Terterian attended a biennial joint clergy conference for clergy from the three North American Prelacies (Eastern, Western, and Canadian) in Montreal, Canada. The conference began on Monday, the theme primarily focused upon the 2017 theme of Renewal. The three Prelates, Archbishop Oshagan (Eastern U.S.), Archbishop Moushegh (Western U.S.), and Archbishop Papken (Canada) presided over the conference that featured prayer services, spiritual reflections, lectures, and discussions on issues of mutual concern.



## St. Sarkis Church Sunday School



St. Sarkis Church Sunday School launched the 2017-2018 academic year on Sunday October 1, 2017.

53 students were greeted by the energetic staff members who were eager to teach the students about their faith. The day started with an assembly that was lead by Mrs. Maggy Kouyoumdjian. Then the students proceeded to their classrooms, according to their grade levels, where teachers facilitated a meet and greet. Der Nareg spoke about "Come, follow me" (Matthew 4:19) and he said Jesus is calling you to be his followers just as he invited his disciples to walk

with Him. The students then received the Holy Communion and went back to their classrooms for breakfast which was donated by Mr. & Mrs. George and Katia Tavitian. Sunday School was dismissed at 1:00pm.

The pastor and the board of trustees of St. Sarkis Church would like to thank the staff members of Sunday School. A special thanks to Mrs. Maggy Kouyoumdjian for donating the Bibles to our Sunday School. We would also like to thank Mrs. Arev Mouradian for donating the Sunday School decorations.

## Bishop Anoushavan Presents Four Volumes

Sunday, October 8, the parishioners of St. Sarkis Church in Douglaston, New York, gathered in Chadrdjian Hall after the Divine Liturgy to participate in the book presentation offered by His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar General. This was Serpazan's first stop on his book presentation tour.

These books, comprised of three volumes, "Counsel to All Christians" by John of Erzenga, "Exhortations" by Sarkis the Gracious, and "Exhortations" by Basil of Mashgevor have been compiled and translated by Serpazan Anoushavan into modern Armenian, and a fourth book, "St. Nerses of Lambron and His Ecclesial Reforms" compiled and translated as his dissertation by Bishop Zareh Aznavorian of Blessed Memory.

Parishioners of St. Sarkis Church, Mr. & Mrs. Edward and Mary Arslanian, Mr. & Mrs. Karnik and Alice Alajajian, and

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur and Annette Givelekian sponsored the printing of these volumes in memory of their father Bedros Givelekian. Dr. Alina Kochoumian Stanciu who was very inspired by this presentation offered to sponsor the English versions.



# Faith, Family & Fun

On Saturday, October 14, 2017 St. Sarkis Church Saturday School PTA, Sunday School and the Youth Ministry Committee held a Faith, Family & Fun event.

The program was created to educate parents, teenagers and children about our faith, spending time with family, while having fun! We started our program by dividing into three groups. The children were instructed by Mrs. Maggie Kouyoumdjian, the teenagers were taught by Mrs. Annie Ohanessian and the parents instructed by Fr. Nareg Terterian.

Mrs. Maggie Kouyoumdjian, who is the former Principal of Sunday School at Sts. Vartanantz Church in New Jersey and has been an instructor for many years at the Prelacy's Datev Institute, began the gathering with an assembly of nearly 30 children. She spoke about how the children need to live their everyday lives with a content and thankful heart. And thank God for all the blessings He has given us, especially during this beautiful Fall season. Children then learned an active song "Rise & Smile" this song teaches children to Praising God for all of their blessings. The assembly then was followed by an arts & crafts project. The children made a Thanksgiving wreath, which was made using a cutout of their own handprint and showcased on the wreath what each child was thankful for. The craft was suitable for the theme of the day, with faith and family on the top of the list, as they counted their blessings!

Mrs. Annie Ovanessian, who is the Youth Ministry Director at the Armenian Prelacy, met with a group of teenagers in the upper room of the church. The group of 15-20 vibrant teens contributed throughout the time together by asking and answering questions. The meeting began by asking each teen to write down an anonymous question, about their faith, the Armenian Church and her teachings or the general observations they have made about the church. After collecting the questions for a later discussion, Mrs. Ovanessian taught a modified version of a lesson entitled, "What I Want and How I'm Made", from the new YDisciple Study Sequence the Prelacy has recently embraced for the Eastern Youth Ministry Program. The discussion began with

a guided dialogue about what these teens want most out of life. Questions about college degrees, success, and family all led to concluding that teens, like most adults, want four major things in life; happiness, love, purpose and peace. The discussion led to the story of the rich young ruler described in Luke 18:18-23. The rich young ruler reveals a desire for a deeper longing that his riches and perhaps status did not satisfy. The group discovered that the rich young ruler wants the right thing, eternal life in heaven, but for the wrong motives. The teens realized that he actually loved his riches more than his relationship with God. Jesus wasn't condemning the ruler but rather inviting him to leave behind the things of this world that were preventing him from growing closer to God. The teens learned that when we seek God first in all that we do, then and only then, can our deep longings be satisfied.

The parents session was led by Fr. Nareg Terterian, who began by defining the meaning of Christian life based on the imperative of the Greatest Commandment "Love the Lord your God... Love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12:28-31) As human beings, we constantly fail to live these two commandments and for that reason God sends his only Son who offers us forgiveness and invites us to "participate in [His] divine nature" (2 Peter 1:3-4). Fr. Nareg reminded the participants that if we want to experience God we ought to come closer to Him "Come near to God and he will come near to you" (James 4:8) and in return we will receive Grace from God. That grace is given to us through prayer, the Scripture and the Holy Communion. Fr. Nareg explained the meaning of the Lord's prayer, and spoke about the importance of knowing the word of God and partaking in the Holy Communion.

After our group sessions ended all participants met in the main hall for a delicious homemade meal, played a fun game of Mingelo (Mingelin' Bingo) and enjoyed a make your own sundae ice cream bar. The events were concluded with a short closing message from Fr. Nareg in the Sanctuary.

Thank you to all that attended and made this event possible.



## Forced Into Genocide Book Presentation



On Sunday, October 15, 2017 after church services and the coffee hour reception, a rapt audience of over 70 people listened with great attention to the book presentation of **FORCED INTO GENOCIDE** the memoir of the late Yervant Edward Alexanian. Alexanian was an eye-witness to the massacre and dislocation of his family and countrymen in Ottoman Empire during World War I and incredibly survived as a conscript in the Turkish army. Translated from Alexanian's hand-written chronicle, the memoir includes never-seen before documents and photos preserved by the author.

Since no comparable account exists in the literature of the Armenian Genocide, this edition (second edition and third printing) was received with great interest and acclaim by many well known historians and experts in genocide studies.

Indeed, the Foreword was written by Professor Israel Charney, a past President of the International Association of Genocide Scholars and editor of the Encyclopedia of Genocide published in the year 2000. Historian Sergio La Porta, the Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian History wrote the Introduction. Endorsements were also given by Professor Taner Akcam, the first Turkish scholar to publicly acknowledge the Armenian Genocide and the Kaloosdian and Mugar Chair in Armenian Studies at Clark University, Worcester, Mass and the author of numerous publications on the Armenian Genocide, and also Historian Vartan Gregorian, presently President of the Carnegie Corporation and former President of Brown University. Other endorsements came from Eric Bogosian, actor,

playwright, novelist and the author of Operation Nemesis, the project to assassinate the authors of the Genocide, Congressman Frank Pallone Jr., the head of the Armenian Caucus in the US Congress and Andrew Goldberg, producer of many DVDs such as *The Armenian Genocide*, *The Armenians*, *The Armenian Church*.

The presenter was Ms. Adrienne Alexanian, Yervant Alexanian's daughter and the editor of the book, having spent years preparing her father's manuscript for publication. An educator, philanthropist, and a 2010 recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, Ms. Alexanian is a well personality in the Armenian Community of Greater New York having served faithfully for many years the Armenian Diocese and the AGBU. She also represented these organizations in the UN Non-Governmental Organizations/Department of Public Information forum from 1998 to 2006. During her tenure there she initiated, organized, moderated a number of workshops in conjunction with major conferences at the UN, always relating them to the Armenian Genocide and Armenia issues.

## A Thanksgiving Prayer



Three years ago the Harutunian family was hit with a devastating blow as their son Joseph was diagnosed with leukemia. After a tough battle, last week Joseph finished all his treatments and he is now in remission. To celebrate the occasion, Joseph rang the church bell at St. Sarkis Church as the community thanked God for the miraculous healing. God is good!

## Autumn Feast

Saint Sarkis Suzanne and Hagop Armenian Saturday School had its Autumn Harvest Festival on November 4th. We are thankful to God because the weather was beautiful for this event. The event began with pizza and Laghmajoon and then the fun started. For the children there were stations set up for Apple Dipping, Cupcake Decorating, taking photos and Pumpkin Decorating. There were also Sack races outside while we waited for the pony and other petting zoo animals to arrive. The kids had a great time riding the pony and also enjoyed petting the different animals that came to visit.

We had a beautifully set up general store for the Festival with homemade apple and pumpkin pies, along with orange peel, cranberry and raspberry jams. They looked and tasted so good that we were all sold out by the end of the event. We also had homemade organic pumpkin coffee latte scrubs that were flying off the shelf. For the parents we had a station for autumn flavored beer. Overall the event was successful and all who attended had a wonderful time. We want to thank the PTA for their continued support and hard work to make all the events magical.



## 50th Jubilee Celebration



On Sunday October 29, 2017, the Religious and Executive Councils of the Eastern Prelacy and the community at large participated in the Jubilee Celebration in honor of His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

His Eminence celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. Following the Liturgy, a sold out banquet organized for this occasion took place at the Lotte New York Palace. The event was under the auspices of His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, but unfortunately, His Holiness was not able to attend. Joining the celebration were not only the clergy from the immediate area, but many from further communities. Members of Archbishop Oshagan's family, 20 strong from various parts of the world were on hand to be a part of a celebration that was filled with love and gratitude.

After the singing of the National Anthems of United States and Armenia, Mr. Jack Mardoian, Esq., Chairman of the Prelacy Executive Council and MC of the day, welcomed everyone and introduced H.E. Archbishop Papken Charian,

Prelate of Canada who read the Encyclical of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia addressed to Serpazan Oshagan.

The celebratory program included several speakers: Miss Nevair Oranjian, on behalf of the Youth; Dr. Ara Chalian, on behalf of ARF and affiliated bodies; remarks by His Grace Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar General of the Prelacy and the keynote speaker was Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, Pastor of St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston. The artistic program included musical selections by Mr. Vagharshag Ohanian, Tenor, Ms. Anahid Zakarian, Soprano and Mr. Sami Merdinian, at the violin. Mrs. Seta Balmanoukian also recited an ode she had written dedicated to Archbishop Oshagan.

Throughout the evening, the MC recognized many outstanding individuals who were attending the banquet including the Armenian Ambassador to the UN, H.E. Zohrab Mnatsakanyan and his wife, Dr. Vartan Gregorian, President of Carnegie Corporation, major donors and pillars of the Prelacy and all the attending clergy.





At last, His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan delivered his message and benediction. He recalled his youth, and the love of God his family instilled in him from a very early age. He remembered his school and Seminary classmates and remembered with deep respect the clergy who shaped his religious calling, especially His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of the Great See of Cilicia of Blessed Memory, who ordained him Deacon in 1964, Celibate priest in 1967 and Episcopal ordination in 1994. This emotional journey culminated with his motto "With Each Other and For Each Other" and the singing of Giligia.



# Keynote Speech on Archbishop Oshagan's 50th Anniversary

**T**

here are certain events and people that shape our lives. These memories are rooted deep into our childhood. Our earliest experiences may stick with us for years and continue to influence us well into adulthood. One of those memories that I have from my early days in the seminary of the Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia is an episcopal ordination. It was the spring of 1994. I had joined the seminary in the fall of 1993. I had never seen an ordination before. I remember the preparation and the rehearsals that the priests and deacons were having. Even though I did not fully understand the importance of this event or what was going on, there was a sense of joy that everyone was experiencing. The day came and I finally saw Hayr Oshagan for the first time. It was a humbling experience to be part of that historic celebration; to witness the elevation of a servant in the church from the rank of priesthood to bishop. I witnessed Hayr Oshagan becoming Oshagan Serpazan.

In one of my favorite books: *The Road Less Traveled: A New Psychology of Love, Traditional Values and Spiritual Growth*, the author Scott Peck,

reflects on discipline and on delaying gratification as he writes: "Delaying gratification is a process of scheduling the pain and pleasure of life in such a way as to enhance the pleasure by meeting and experiencing the pain first and getting it over with. It is the only decent way to live." (pp. 19-20). I learned the lesson of delaying gratification from Oshagan Serpazan when I was a young seminarian in the summer of 1995. In that year, the Bible translating team was meeting in Bikfaya, Lebanon. Zareh Serpazan of blessed memory, Oshagan Serpazan, and Verabadveli Jinbashian were scheduled to meet daily in one of the rooms of the old building in the seminary to work on translating the Bible. Hayr Shahan assigned me to serve coffee and cookies to the translators during their mid-morning break. I was happy, not only because I was going to attend to three great scholars, but because I thought I could skip some time from our summer study sessions and also help myself with the cookies that I was going to serve. My plan was working fine. I was taking off a good 15 minutes from the study session and those cookies tasted really good. Until one day I pushed the limits. I left the study-hour 30 minutes early, went to the kitchen, prepped my tray and went to translators' room. I was 15 minutes early. I said coffee is ready but they could care less. Then Oshagan Serpazan told me: "We don't take breaks until we reach to the point that we agreed on when we first start". At that moment, I realized that I was in the presence of not only esteemed scholars, but also highly disciplined individuals who had mastered the art of delaying gratification. Committed individuals who knew that translating

the scriptures required enormous amount of time, energy and other sacrifices. The end result of that disciplined and meticulous work, was the publication of the New Testament, the Book of Psalms, and the various scripture passages in modern western Armenian. A monumental work for the benefit of everyone in the Armenian church.

My admiration of Oshagan Serpazan grew further when I arrived in New York in January of 2002 to work at the Prelacy as an Armenian secretary as well as to serve as a deacon. Two somber events helped me gain a deeper understanding of who Oshagan Serpazan is. The first event was the untimely passing of our former prelate Mesrob Serpazan of blessed memory. It was a chilly autumn night when I got a phone call from Vazken who asked me to come to the Prelacy office. It was a little after midnight when I got there. Oshagan Serpazan opened the door and he broke the news to me. I can never forget his tone when he said "ամենէն լաւ ընկերս մեռաւ: Հիմա ինչ ընենմ (my best friend died. What do I do now)". I felt so helpless at that moment but I was able to see a man of true emotions who was trying to process the grief of losing a lifelong friend.

The second event was when Zareh Serpazan of blessed memory came to NY for the last time. Oshagan Serpazan, Hayr Anoushavan and myself picked him up from JFK airport and drove to Manhattan. We had dinner at a fine Italian restaurant and no one knew that that would be the final decent meal that Zareh Serpazan would have. Shortly after his arrival,

his health deteriorated and he became bedridden at St. Luke's Roosevelt hospital. I would visit him after work almost everyday only to find Oshagan Serpazan and Hayr Anoushavan sitting next to him. On Armenian Christmas eve of 2004, Oshagan Serpazan sang *խորհուրդ մեծ* (Khorhourt Medz) and delivered the Holy Communion to his best friend - Zareh Serpazan. Oshagan Serpazan accompanied his friend on his final journey. Zareh Serpazan's bedside was a sacred ground for Oshagan Serpazan. For me, Oshagan Serpazan's fraternal love and loyalty was the greatest implicit lesson to me on the value of true friendship.

In December of 2003, my contemplations and prayers helped me crystalize my vocation to priesthood. I communicated my intentions to my mentor Hayr Anoushavan who respectively communicated them to Oshagan Serpazan. Few days later, Oshagan Serpazan called me to his office to have a brief conversation with me. He welcomed my decision and said the following: "Priests in our Prelacy are like prelates. They are assigned to their parishes and they can do whatever they want". I found those words to be very encouraging but also very challenging. I felt that my prelate was empowering me, but at the same time, reminding me of the great responsibilities that were upon me.

A year later I came back to NY as an ordained priest. My first observation from my early days of priesthood was that Oshagan Serpazan treated the priests of his prelacy with utmost respect. Every time I met him I would greet him saying "*Աստուած Օգնական* (Asdvadz Oknagan)" and he would say "*Օրհնեա Տէր* (Orhnya Der)". His respect was never lip service but a genuine sense of appreciation. I can speak on behalf of my clergy brothers and say; when comparing ourselves to priests from other jurisdictions, we have always felt that our prelate, Oshagan Serpazan is behind us, supporting us, encouraging us and facilitating opportunities for our personal and professional growth.

In the spring of 2006, a year after my installation as the pastor of St. Sarkis Church, I had the audacity to go to Oshagan Serpazan and ask his permission to apply for a graduate program at St. John's University. Serpazan welcomed the idea but cautioned that I should be focusing my time on my parish. However, Serpazan said, "maybe you should take one course and see how it goes". Needless to say, I felt frustrated about that deal but still grateful for the opportunity. I submitted my application and was admitted. Soon thereafter, I had an appointment with my soon-to-be academic advisor Dr. Frank Connolly-Weinert. Five minutes into our conversation he said "you should take one course and see how it goes". I said "have you been talking to my Archbishop"? And he said "I have no idea what are you talking about".

I finished my graduate studies in pastoral theology in the spring of 2010. I took my diploma and my transcripts and went to see Oshagan Serpazan. This time I was really nervous. Serpazan looked at my grades as I thanked him for the wonderful opportunity. Then Serpazan asked "are you thinking about a PhD"? I said no, but I am thinking about another graduate program. Then I told Serpazan about the clinical mental health counseling program and why I wanted to pursue a study in that field. I knew my chances of approval were slim, but I wanted to give it a shot. Serpazan thought for a minute and then he said: "Very well, I will approve your request under one condition; I want you to become a licensed mental health counselor." There are no words that can explain the joy that I felt at that moment.

Attending meetings with Oshagan Serpazan was another form of school for me. Navigating in delicate and tough situations, in which the inexperienced rookie is inclined to make abrupt decisions, you will hear the sound comments of the seasoned prelate who invites you to see the bigger picture. That advice is not only based on experience but it is galvanized by compassion and biblical wisdom.

Management experts Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges define leadership in their book *The Servant Leader* (p17) as a process of influence. Anytime you are trying to influence the thoughts and actions of others towards a new place or different outcomes, in either their personal or professional life, you are engaging in leadership. Oshagan Serpazan is a leader of that caliber. In an age where leadership is confused with narcissism and cheap social media exposure, Oshagan Serpazan remains faithful to the above mentioned definition of leadership: "influencing the thoughts and actions of others towards a new place or different outcomes".

You don't need to physically see Serpazan to know or recognize him. His presence in our church is immense and it's right in front of us that we don't even realize it. When you go to your respective parish churches next Sunday, pay close attention to the scripture readings. They are translated into modern day Western Armenian from the original Greek and Hebrew - not just word for word, but with added dynamic meaning. In that moment, take a second to remember that the beautiful translation is the result of the hard work of Zareh Serpazan and Oshagan Serpazan.

And while you're at it, extend your hand and reach out to one of the blue Badarak books. Open that book and you'll see four columns: classical Armenian, modern Armenian, English translation and english transliteration of the Divine liturgy. That professional publication is also the work of Oshagan Serpazan.



And what many of you might not know, Oshagan Serpazan is a trained musicologist and has dedicated much of his time preserving our ancient sharagans. Many of the sharagans of our church were not available on paper. They were oral traditions being passed on from generation to generation. Because of this, these hymns were not being sung consistently from country to country, or even from church to church. Oshagan Serpazan realized the imperative need to put down on paper the notes and the words of these sharagans so that they could be sung according to our Cilician tradition and not be corrupted or eventually lost.

As a result, you will find eight published volumes of our sharagans by Oshagan Serpazan. The significance and importance of this project cannot be over-emphasized. This is another epic task that required Oshagan Serpazan spending every summer (supposedly his vacation) working on this project. This was even before the widespread use of computers. For him, each page of the hymn book meant hours of tedious work: preparing each page by hand, ruling lines, drawing notes, and pasting the words, syllable by syllable in the proper position under the notes. Each page easily required a minimum of seven hours of intense handwork. The resulting volumes is testament to his accomplishments as a musician and artist and, most of all, his devotion to the Armenian Church and its traditions. He is continuing this project in memory of Zareh Serpazan, with the use of modern technology.

And if you are anything like me, if you have ever attended an Armenian school in Syria or the Middle East and have learned anything about your church and your faith from religion textbooks, know that those 12 volumes of textbooks were prepared by Oshagan Serpazan single handedly during a summer break, to insure that Armenian students

will have the opportunity to continue to learn about their faith, defying the ban that the ministry of education was imposing at that time. Those textbooks are still being used to this day, the result of many sleepless nights.

If you study all the above projects you will see that Oshagan Serpazan is a leader who thinks long-term. He makes his investment in what will eventually benefit the church for the infinite future. When I reflect on Oshagan Serpazan's work style, I remember the story of Mary and Martha of the Gospel (Luke 10:38-42). "Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks". Mary chose what was permanent while Martha was overwhelmed with the day to day tasks. The day to day tasks are important to keep our church and our organizations running but sometimes they make us focus on the here and now and hinder us from planning for the future. Oshagan Serpazan's monumental works and his investment in the life of our church will greatly benefit the future generations.

But Oshagan Serpazan is not only a man of books. You will always be student when you are around him. When he visits St. Sarkis Church on Sundays, I always ask him "Serpazan will you deliver a message?" and his answer is always consistent "I came to listen to you" and you get the butterflies in your stomach. At the end of Badarak you will meet him at the office and he will give you his honest feedback and constructive criticism.

Oshagan Serpazan has a dry sense of humor. I was sitting next to him during a social function when a church server with mediocre singing qualities approached him and said. "Serpazan, do you hear the improvement in my singing? I have been taking singing lessons". Oshagan Serpazan replied instantly and said: "It sounds like Der Nareg is your music teacher..."

Oshagan Serpazan also has his unique ways of communicating delicate messages. I started releasing my podcasts in 2014 and those who have listened to any episode they know that my music selection can be a little edgy for a church podcast. After releasing 2-3 episodes, Oshagan Serpazan stopped at St. Sarkis Church with a gigantic Duane Reede shopping bag and dropped it on my desk. I opened the bag and I saw over a hundred classical albums; CDs of Beethoven, Bach, Tchaikovsky, Chopin and the likes. I looked at Serpazan and he said: "this is my gift to you, use this music for your shows".

I feel blessed to call Oshagan Serpazan my boss. He is a talented and skilled clergyman whose journey began 50 years ago when he was ordained as a priest in the Armenian Church. His vocation to become a priest was the result of the seeds of faith that were sown in his heart because of

his parents and because of the environment where he grew up. Church, Armenian schools, national institutions, respect and devotion were values that were instilled in the heart of young Manoug. Oshagan Serpazan remembers that as a child he and his siblings would celebrate mock Badaraks, where one of the brothers would be the priest, another would be the deacon, a choir director, etc. etc. What is surprising in this story is that Oshagan Serpazan would be the one to pass the plate.

Oshagan Serpazan's vocation grew as he became a seminarian. He was ordained a priest on June 4, 1967. From 1968 to 1970 he attended the American University of Beirut, where he majored in history. From 1974 to 1978 he attended Princeton Theological Seminary where he majored in education and psychology, earning a Master's Degree. He continued his studies at Princeton, where he earned a second Masters in the history of the church. While at Princeton, he was appointed to serve in various capacities in our Eastern Prelacy. He spent summers at Camp Haiastan as a counselor and teacher. Some of you in this room might remember him and his dynamic presence on those campgrounds.

In April 1980, he was appointed pontifical legate to Kuwait and the Arab Emirates. One of the most significant moments from his tenure in that region was the Gulf war of 1990. Oshagan Serpazan was visiting the East Coast when the war started but he found the means to return back to his flock. He put his own life at a great risk to provide for the needs of his people and strengthening them in faith and hope.

He was elevated to the rank of bishop in 1994 and in 1998, he was elected to serve as the Prelate of the Eastern Prelacy. In these last 20 years, we have witnessed great development and enrichment in our prelacy and our parishes. This includes recruitment and training of new clergy, youth ministry, new publications, and learning opportunities in faith and culture.

**I**n my first podcast interview with Oshagan Serpazan, I asked him who is his favorite Saint and why. His response: "Mesrob Mashdots because he invented the alphabet, translated the bible, wrote and composed, and gathered a group of students who continued his work and created the Armenian Golden Age." And when we look at the life of Oshagan Serpazan, you can't help but see the parallel paths of his service to the Armenian Nation and that of Mesrob Mashdots.

On behalf of your flock, I would like to congratulate you on this momentous occasion. You are a role model for clergy like myself, one who embraces the modern day times but is steadfast in our Armenian Apostolic Church traditions and values.

I would like to close with the following words of Oshagan Serpazan: "Situations and conditions did not make me a priest; my faith, my church, and my people....they made me a priest".

Serpazan Hayr, may God bless you and grant you a long and healthy life as you continue to serve God, his mission, and inspiring those that are serving God and the Armenian Church.

*Thank you.*

Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, M.A., M.S.Ed., LMHC  
Pastor,  
St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church, Douglaston, NY

# Salt & Light The newly formed St. Sarkis Church Youth Group

Salt & Light's dinner and dessert was sponsored by the Youth Ministry Committee.

On Friday, November 10th, 2017, Salt & Light Youth Group had its first social gathering, which was a great way to get the community's youth back together.

The event started off with an icebreaker followed by Fr. Nareg's introductory remarks explaining the meaning of Salt & Light which derives from Matthew 5:13. The youth then played a fun game of Minute to Win it. After the games the youth sat together and shared a meal. During the meal some of the Youth Ministry Committee members introduced themselves and spoke about the objectives of the youth program.

There are three key components to the "Salt & Light" program: faith formation, outreach and social.

The faith formation component is facilitated by the youth Ministry Program of the Eastern Prelacy.

A Youth Ministry Committee has been formed to direct the youth program. The members are Mrs. Liza Andreopoulos, Mrs. Nyrie Bedrossian, Mr. Veh Bezdikian, Mrs. Lena Felice, Mrs. Vicky Hagobian, Mrs. Liza Kabarajian, Mrs. Aline Kassabian, Mrs. Natalie Meneshian, Mr. Raffi Nenejian, Mrs. Sonya Nenejian, Mr. Harry Seoylemezian, Mr. Patrick Yaghdjian, and Ms. Anahid Ugurlayan.

We thank the committee members for their continuous commitment.



## Benefactors' Day



On Sunday, November 12, 2017, St. Sarkis Church remembered Suzanne and Hovsep Hagopian, the main benefactors of our Church and Saturday School.

During the Requiem Service, all of the main benefactors who had served the church with dedication were recognized and remembered by Fr. Nareg Terterian.

After church service, parishioners gathered for a Memorial Luncheon, which was donated by Mr. & Mrs. Edward and Mary Arslanian. The dessert was donated by the PTA of Suzanne & Hovsep Hagopian Saturday School.

Fr. Nareg and Dr. Aram Cazazian, Chairman of the BOT acknowledged all the auxiliary bodies of St. Sarkis church, and thanked them for their dedication.

We pray to God, to keep us healthy and give strength, to continue serving our Lord, our church, and doing good deeds.

## Paint Nite



It is often said that "Third time's a charm". But for Paint Nite at St. Sarkis Church, the fourth time turned out to be even more fun! Just ask the 23 eager guests in Chadrijian Hall on Friday night who sipped wine and enjoyed some treats while creating beautiful canvas depictions of the meaning of the Christmas season.

While everyone took the task seriously, there was a lot of laughter and awe as their brush strokes evolved into renditions of the Virgin Mother with Child or an outdoor, wintery Christmas scene. With the encouragement and guidance of our art director, Robert and his assistant Cheryl, these budding artists persisted once again, and in the end, they each took home an original piece to be proud of. It was another impressive display of hidden talent. Looking forward to the next Paint Nite in 2018!

## St. Sarkis Church Participates in an Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service



On Monday, November 20, 2017, Congregation L'Dor V'Dor - Oakland Little Neck Jewish Center hosted an Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service. St. Sarkis Church was among the seven congregations represented. The service included recitations from the Old Testament and the singing of hymns.

This is the 3rd year that St. Sarkis Church participates in this Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. This is a great way to begin the holiday season praying with people of all faiths and learning about different religious traditions. Our differences -- spiritual or cultural -- should unite and not divide us. Happy Thanksgiving to one and all!

# Sunday School Thanksgiving Feast



On Sunday, November 19th, over 120 guests of all ages gathered at St. Sarkis for a Thanksgiving feast. Hosted by the St. Sarkis Sunday School, parents and parishioners prepared a delicious Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings!

His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian said that he had enjoyed seeing the Sunday School students singing earlier in the day (during their morning assembly) and invited them for an impromptu performance. Forty students excitedly scurried to the stage and entertained the guests, singing "God is Not Dead! No! He is Alive!" Fr. Nareg acknowledged

all the Sunday School staff, parents and students for helping realize the dream of creating a Sunday School.

A special thank you was given to Mrs. Maggie Kouyoumdjian, former Principal of Sunday School at St. Vartanantz Church in New Jersey, who helped train and mentor the St. Sarkis Sunday School teachers.

Fr. Nareg also mentioned how grateful he was to all those who helped with the event and made special note of how thankful he is for his relationship and continued encouragement from Bishop Anoushavan.





# St. Sarkis Basketball Team



Saint Sarkis Girls team is truly in a Thanksgiving mood. After the 3rd game of the season the girls are sporting a 2 win 1 loss record, with a good win last Sunday against a good Sts. Vartanantz team.

In its 3rd season, the team shows quickness and agility led by guards Tonya Orangian, Stephanie and Breanna Shulman, Margaret Sakar, Arev Ebrimian, Aline Asarian and Nicole Issagholian. The guards were the high scorers in the last game, led by Tonya 12 points, Breanna 11 and Stephanie 9.

All this was in part made possible by our girls in the center position, Nicole Mark, Juliette Hagobian and Alexandra Kasparian who are becoming confident and assertive at both ends of the court. It is always a "cheer moment" when one of them blocks an opposing player shot with authority. Their defense and re-bouncing allows fast breaks for our offense.

The team forwards are Isabel Hagobian, Mimi Bijimian, Alicia Morgikian and Cassandra Trivino.

Isabel is a leader of the team with good game skills and helps set up offensive plays. Mimi is a defensive force in the middle and deadly on offense as she manages to be in position for an open shot. Alicia and Cassandra are also scoring threats from under the basket.

It was a good win before the Thanksgiving break, 2 in a row, lifting the spirit and confidence of the team, as well as providing much joy to the parents and supporters who have patiently waiting for the team to reach this level of play. Looking forward to more good news soon...

Let's go Saint Sarkis!



Saint Sarkis Junior Boys team is improving with every game, but the lack of height in the team puts them at a disadvantage for the present. Their ball handling and shooting is improving under the effective coaching of Arry Nalbandian and Raffi Jamgotchian, and the players are having a great time, both at practices Tuesday nights and games on selected Sundays. It is also a joy to see parents and relatives in the stands cheering every score and even every possession, showing a wide range of emotion from upset at a perceived wrong ref call to joy and happiness when our players do well. Good things to come.

Let's go Saint Sarkis!

**St. Sarkis Basketball** 

***Players Needed***

*Practices for the 2017-18*

***Juniors – Tuesdays 7:00-8:30 pm***

***Seniors- Fridays - 8:30 – 10:00 pm***

***Junior Boys 9-14 yrs old***

***Senior Boys 15-18 yrs old***

***Girls 10-18 yrs old***

**For More Information:**

*Kindly contact St. Sarkis Church or*

***Edward Barsamian – 212-689-6273***

St. Sarkis Church: 38-65-234 Street, Douglaston, NY  
11363

**Phone: 718-224-2275**

**Email: [erugs@att.net](mailto:erugs@att.net)**



# Simply Christmas



On Sunday, December 10th, 2017, St. Sarkis Church Datevиг Children Choir, performed in the 9th Annual Simply Christmas Concert at St. Sarkis Church.

As we were waiting in anticipations for the children's choir performance to begin, we admired the Sanctuary, which was beautifully decorated with white poinsettias and golden lit candles, filling the air with the spirit of Christmas as the adorable children sang selections from the Armenian Badarak and Christmas hymns.

The children's angelic voices brought tears of joy and pride to many of those who attended the concert.

We would like to acknowledge Mrs. Haikouhie Megerian for her countless hours and dedication without whom there would not be a children's choir, Mrs. Janet Marcarian for playing the piano flawlessly, the parents for their commitment and the children for all their hard work and perseverance.

Our children are our greatest blessings!



# Surprise Birthday Party



Following the beautiful Simply Christmas presentation of the Datevig Choir, a reception took place in Chadrijan Hall. Planned in secret for several months by Dr. Louiza Kubikian, Mrs. Rima Cazazian, Mrs. Amy Gostanian, Mrs. Nayda Voskerijian, Mrs. Alina Kochoumian and Mrs. Tacouhi Menzildjian, it was a surprise party for our chairman, Dr. Aram Cazazian on the occasion of his milestone birthday. The hall overflowed with more than 160 attendees, some personal friends coming from New Jersey, many of them making same day last minute reservations. This proved to be a challenge on some level including seating and catering. But all in all it was a joyous event and most importantly it was a complete surprise.

Very Rev. Fr. Zareh Sarkissian opened the reception blessing the table followed by a speech by Mrs. Rima Cazazian who announced Dr. Aram's birthday. Dr. Arthur Kubikian was the MC. He introduced Mr. Anthony Cazazian and Mrs. Arsha Cazazian Clement, children of Dr. Cazazian, who expressed their sentiments of love and gratitude toward their father. Dr. Kubikian, in his speech, paid tribute to his longtime friend who, along with four other individuals had been recruited to serve St. Sarkis Church by the late Mr. Bedros Givelekian, chairman during the most difficult

years of the church's rebuilding. He outlined Dr. Cazazian's exceptional qualities in his personal and professional life and his business acumen, mentioning especially his service to St. Sarkis Church, his service to Vehapar Aram I during his visits to the New York metropolitan area as well as his service to the Eastern Prelacy for which he was awarded the medal of "Eagle of Cilicia." The other speakers were Mr. Edward Barsamian and Mr. Edward Bekian.

As the birthday cake was rolled in, Der Nareg congratulated Dr. Cazazian for his service recalling their initial encounter and the excellent working relationship they developed throughout the years. A glass inscribed gift was presented to Dr. Cazazian on behalf of St. Sarkis parish. Everyone sang Happy Birthday and the cake was served.

The last speaker was Dr. Aram Cazazian who, still shocked by this impromptu celebration, thanked his wife Rima, his children, Der Nareg and the organizers of the event for their thoughtfulness. Final benediction was given by Very Rev. Fr. Zareh Sarkissian who showed appreciation for all those who served the Armenian Church. The event ended on a happy note with many of his friends congratulating him.



## Christmas Cookie Decorating



On Sunday, December 17, 2017, the Ladies Guild & Sunday School of St. Sarkis Church hosted its fourth Annual Christmas Cookie Decorating Party. The Main Hall was amazingly decorated and the Christmas tree was beautifully lit. No detail was missed from the decorations to the delicious spread that was served for everyone to enjoy.

There were Christmas Carols playing in the background as over 40 children participated in decorating their own Christmas Cookies. Everyone had a wonderful time making memories with friends and family. What a great way to start off the Holiday Season!

## Youth Ministry Committee Facilitators Training

On Saturday, December 16th, 2017, St. Sarkis Youth Group Ministry Committee met in Pagumian Hall for a facilitator training session. A few of the members present were co-chairs Mrs. Nyrie Bedrossian & Mr. Raffi Nenejian, religious facilitators, Yn. Annie Terterian, Mrs. Lena Felice, Mrs. Liza Kabarajian and Mrs. Sonya Nenejian. The facilitator training was led by Mrs. Annie Ovanessian, Youth Ministry Director for the Prelacy. She gave an overview of the YDISCIPLINE program, showed the origins of the program, reviewed educational materials for the facilitators and also gave some insights as to how the program could be rolled out in our community.



St. Sarkis Church is excited to announce the first meeting of the Salt and Light Youth Group which will take place on Friday, January 19th, 2018. The objectives of this unique group are to provide our youth with a forum through which they can strengthen their understanding of themselves and of the Armenian Apostolic Church and its teachings. They will also participate in various planned social and outreach events throughout the year.

The group will meet an average of twice a month and hold small group sessions led by trained facilitators. During these sessions, the facilitators will lead group discussions based on the YDISCIPLINE initiative that has been introduced by the Prelacy and is currently being implemented in various communities throughout the United States. We are very excited to be able to bring this initiative to our community as well and are looking forward to a rewarding and educational year for our youth and community leaders.

## Saint Sarkis Basketball Christmas Party Tradition Lives On!

Two years ago the Bijimian family and last year the Hagobian family graciously opened their homes for Christmas parties for the Saint Sarkis Girls Basketball team to celebrate the joys of the season and keep the Girls' Team together over the winter break.

This year, with the addition of the Junior Boys and Senior Boys teams, the private home venue was no longer feasible and the Saint Sarkis Board of Trustees and Pastor came to the rescue making the Church hall available for the Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 16.

The parents quickly formed a committee with Carolyn Trivino, Vicky Hagobian, Seta Bijimian, Madlen Hazarian and Maria Ebrimian to handle the logistics of a party with more than 100 guests including 27 Saint Sarkis players, parents, grandparents and friends of the teams.

Parents and coaches alike contributed various food and drink items, and like most Armenian parties, food and desserts were abundant. Salads, spreads, all kind of pasta and bean dishes, all delicious, but.... VEGAN. The carnivores

in the room were relegated to a 3 foot hero sandwich with turkey and roast beef and chicken wings.

With a diverse group of youngsters, there is always the concern that boredom will set in, but with Secret Santa gifts from the parents, and the music of DJ Armen Bijimian kept the players excited and showing off their dance moves and having a great time. Before the cutting of the large Christmas cake, the coaches were introduced and presented with gift certificates as a token of appreciation for their efforts for the players. Junior Boys coach, Aray Nalbandian, and Girls' coach Emma Biramian expressed their satisfaction coaching our youth and looked to good times in the future. Regretfully Juniors coach Raffi Jamgotchian and Seniors Coach Raffi Nakashian were unable to attend for personal reasons.

No one was ready to leave but as all teams were scheduled to play on Sunday, by 11 pm everyone chipped in to clean the room, and although a little tired, everyone had a feel good smile as they bid each other good night.



## The Feast of St. Stephen



The Feast of St. Stephen, the first deacon and proto-martyr was celebrated on Sunday, December 24th, 2017 at St. Sarkis Church. The deacons serving on the altar wore crowns in honor of this special day and offered incense to the holy altar and received the blessings of His Grace Bishop

Anoushavan, Vicar General of the Armenian Prelacy. On this special occasion his Eminence Oshagan, Prelate awarded a Certificate of recognition to Deacon Thomas Thomasian, honoring his long years of service to the Armenian Church and the Armenian Community of New York.

## New Year's Eve Party!

On Sunday, December 31st, 2017, the Ladies Guild of St. Sarkis Church hosted a New Year's Eve Party.

The main hall was beautifully decorated in different shades of gold, silver and cream. Parishioners and friends gathered together to welcome the New Year.

This party was fun for all ages.

The adults danced the night away as DJ Harout played an up-beat mix of music, while the children were entertained by a magician. We enjoyed an array of appetizers and a delicious dinner prepared by our very own Mrs. Haikouhie Megerian.

Before the strike of midnight, we grabbed our party hats,

noisemakers and danced while watching the Times Square ball drop on the big screen and counting down the seconds till the start of the New Year.

The hall was filled with excitement! After ringing in the New Year we all gathered in the sanctuary for a short service presided by Anoushavan Serpazan. He prayed and reflected on our past, present, and future.

After the service, we resumed the party and enjoyed an elaborate selection of tasty desserts, continued to dance and participated in raffle drawings with great prizes.

A special thank you to those of you who helped plan this event, it was a great success!





# The podcast

With Fr. Nareg Terterian

Season III - Episode 1 (82): An Interview With His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan, Prelate

Season III - Episode 2 (83): Happy Independence Day Armenia!

Season III - Episode 3 (84): Deekron Krikorian founder of Motion Traxx

Season III - Episode 4 (85): The Voice of the Youth With Tamar Kanarian

Season III - Episode 5 (86): PTA Co Chair Mrs. Natalie Meneshian

Season III - Episode 6 (87): A Grief Observed

Season III - Episode 7 (88): A New Look at Weight Loss with Alec Jamgochian

Season III - Episode 8 (89): An Interview With Yeraz Markarian of Zulal

Season III - Episode 9 (90) - Let's Talk 2017 at St. Sarkis Church

Season III - Episode 10 (91): An Interview With Dr. Michael Abrankian

Season III - Episode 11 (92): Who is Comedian Michael Parenti, and what's he doing at St. Sarkis?

Season III - Episode 12 (93): Interview with Human Rights Defender of Artsakh Ruben Melikyan

Season III - Episode 13 (94): Commemorating the Armenian Genocide

Season III - Episode 14 (95): Coverage of the NRA and Remembering Chris Cornell

Season III - Episode 15 (96): Let's Talk Youth Ministry with Annie Ovanessian

Season III - Episode 16 (97): Starting the Season of Advent with Dr. Hagop Gorgissian, MD.

## SACRAMENTS BAPTISMS 2017



**NATALIE ZELINA MALEK** daughter of MICHAEL MALEK and KRISTINE KOPARANIAN MALEK was baptized on January 29, 2017. Godparents: EDWARD KOPARANIAN and SANDRA WEBER.

**NICOLAS GEORGE SEVAN SCHMIDT** son of ROBERT SCHMIDT and LIA PARISYAN SCHMIDT was baptized on April 23, 2017. Godparents: CHARLES SCHMIDT and KINAR OZUTUCYAN.

**WILLIAM ARKADY EVES** son of WILLIAM R. EVES and ISABELLA GAMBAROVA EVES was baptized on May 6, 2017. Godparents: ALEXANDR SARKISOV and LINDSAY EVES.

**ZOEY HOPE MINASSIAN** daughter of ARI MINASSIAN and MONICA SAKIRSKY MINASSIAN was baptized on May 7, 2017. Godparents: HARRY MORDJIKIAN and ARLENE MORDJIKIAN.

**SAREEN HAMAMDJIAN** daughter of ARMAN HAMAMDJIAN and MADLEN MASSARLIAN HAMAMDJIAN was baptized on June 3, 2017. Godfather: TOROS MASSARLIAN.

**NOLAN BURDUCEA** son of ALEXANDRU BURDUCEA and DANIELLE BREWER BURDUCEA was baptized on June 10, 2017. Godparents: THEO TRANDAFIRESCU and ADRIENNE DONAHUE.

**DANIEL TIOURINE** son of VADIM TIOURINE and EMMA NAZAROVA TIOURINE was baptized on June 17, 2017. Godparents: ARTUR SARKISIAN and ELENA RATEVOSSIAN.

**GABRIELLA TIOURINE** daughter of VADIM TIOURINE and EMMA NAZAROVA TIOURINE was baptized on June 17, 2017. Godparents: EDWIN SAFARIAN and LILYA SAFARIAN.

**LEO RAPHI ARABATLIAN** son of RAPHI ARABATLIAN and LORAIN MATTAR ARABATLIAN was baptized on June 17, 2017. Godparents: MARDIG TCHOLAKIAN and REBECCA MATTAR

**LORA RITA ARABATLIAN** son of RAPHI ARABATLIAN and LORAIN MATTAR ARABATLIAN was baptized on June 17, 2017. Godparents: MARDIG TCHOLAKIAN and REBECCA MATTAR

**STEVEN MISKARYAN** son of JOHN MISKARYAN and MELLADA PETROSYAN MISKARYAN was baptized on July 1, 2017. Godparents: LEVON GRIGORYAN and LILIT GRIGORYAN.

**ALEX MISKARYAN** son of JOHN MISKARYAN and MELLADA PETROSYAN MISKARYAN was baptized on July 1, 2017. Godparents: LEVON GRIGORYAN and LILIT GRIGORYAN.

**ALISSA BENITA JARJOKIAN** daughter of KEGHAM JARJOKIAN and JACQUELINE MOSESSIAN JARJOKIAN was baptized on July 9, 2017. Godparents: KEVORK JARJOKIAN and CAROLYN MOSESSIAN.

**MADLINE VERONICA ERAMIAN** daughter of GARABED ERAMIAN and CHAGANE DOGRAMADJIAN ERAMIAN was baptized on August 20, 2017. Godfather: EDMOND DOGRAMADJIAN.

**NICOLE BAGDASARYAN** daughter of SERGEY BAGDASARYAN and ANASTASIA KIM BAGDASARYAN was baptized on September 16, 2017. Godparents: ROBERT BAGDASARYAN and TATEVIK ASATRYAN.

**SERGE SARKISIAN** son of ASHOT SARKISIAN and ISKUI VIZOYAN SARKISIAN was baptized on September 23, 2017. Godparents: LEVON BAGHDASARYAN and DIANA GABRIELIAN.

**ARMAN GURGEN AVAKYANTS** son of GAMLET AVAKYANTS and GAYANE AKOPOVA AVAKYANTS was baptized on October 15, 2017. Godparents: ROMAN TATARENOV and ANNA TATARENOV.

**AREN AMAURY FERNANDEZ** son of LEOPOLDO FERNANDEZ and ANI ARDZIVIAN FERNANDEZ was baptized on December 2, 2017. Godparents: JUAN FERNANDEZ and TALAR ARDZIVIAN.

**SIENNA FORKAN** daughter of JOHN FORKAN and ARMINE JEAMGOCIAN FORKAN was baptized on December 3, 2017. Godparents: ALEK JAMGOCIAN and MARIA GIULIANO TURANO.

**THIAGO DARIO MENDOZA CRESPO** son of RONEL MENDOZA MONTERO and SILVIA KOUYOUMDJIAN CRESPO was baptized on December 9, 2017. Godparents: FERNANDO CRESPO and PRISCILLA CANALS.

## WEDDINGS 2017

**LUDVIK GARABEDYAN** and **ARAKSIA NAZARETYAN** were married on January 15, 2017. Best man: VREZH AVAKIAN.

**ERIC CLEMENT** and **ARSHA CAZAZIAN** were married on June 24, 2017. Best man and maid of honor: JULIO ALTAMIRANDA and RIMA CAZAZIAN.

**MARK CAMERON THOMPSON** and **ANNA KEVREKIAN** were married on June 26, 2017.

**GREGGORY HAGOPIAN** and **NAIRI ESAYAN** were married on July 1, 2017. Best man and maid of honor: HAGOP HAGOPIAN and VERONICA VENTURI.

**PAUL WYREMBAK** and **RENEE NALBANDYAN** were married on July 8, 2017. Best man and maid of honor: NICHOLAS POTTER and MONICA TOROSYAN.

**EDIK AYDINYAN** and **REBECCA MGDESYAN** were married on July 15, 2017. Best man and maid of honor: HAGOP HAGOPIAN and VERONICA VENTURI.

**ASADUR TUFEKCI** and **TATEVIK ANANYAN** were married on August 5, 2017. Best man and maid of honor: SILVESTER GODELJA and JULIETTA ANANYAN.

**DOMINIC SOLAZZO** and **SEVANNE HALAJIAN** were married on September 30, 2017.

**TIMOTHY HORCH** and **ANI AVAGYAN** were married on October 6, 2017.

**EDWARD SHAMLIAN** and **SILVIA SILVA** were married on October 21, 2017. Best man and maid of honor: GARY KESABIAN and CHRISTINA SILVA.

**PERRY GEORGIU** and **IRIS OVANESIAN** were married on December 31, 2017. Best man and maid of honor: EDWARD HAROUTIOUNIAN and ANAHIDA HAROUTIOUNIAN.



## FUNERALS 2017

**SIMA CHILINGUIRIAN**  
(December 19, 1931 – January 2, 2017)

**BERDJUHI ANTEKELYAN**  
(May 10, 1926 – January 8, 2017)

**MIHRAN PARNAKIAN**  
(August 7, 1921 – January 16, 2017)

**SARKIS GUEDOYAN**  
(January 24, 1942 – January 16, 2017)

**GUILIZAR ROGAS**  
(June 2, 1924 – February 9, 2017)

**SANDRA NOURIJANIAN COUTSAKIS**  
(December 10, 1942 – February 17, 2017)

**ALEXANDER NAKASHIAN**  
(March 26, 1988 – February 24, 2017)

**ARED KOCHOUMIAN**  
(March 19, 1921 – April 8, 2017)

**AVADIS TEELIMIAN**  
(March 23, 1926 – April 22, 2017)

**HARUTIN DULGERIAN**  
(March 4, 1938 – April 29, 2017)

**ANNIE VOSKERIJIAN**  
(February 22, 1932 – May 4, 2017)

**CRICOR DOLMAIAN**  
(November 12, 1937 – May 15, 2017)

**ZAROUHI MINASSIAN**  
(May 11, 1935 – June 13, 2017)

**BEDROS SARKISSIAN**  
(July 10, 1929 – July 1, 2017)

**ZABEL OHAN**  
(April 1, 1915 – July 13, 2017)

**MERIE ATAMIAN**  
(December 25, 1920 – August 2, 2017)

**VAHRAM VARDANIAN**  
(August 15, 1920 - August 13, 2017)

**JACK ZAVAR MEGERDICHIAN**  
(November 20, 1954 – August 15, 2017)

**ONIK AGOP BALIAN**  
(February 15, 1942 – September 7, 2017)

**EDMOND VOSKINARIAN**  
(May 9, 1970 – September 7, 2017)

**LORITA ELOUSH SARKISSIAN**  
(November 8, 1932 – November 16, 2017)

**VASKEN ASVAZADOURIAN**  
(December 27, 1925 – December 11, 2017)

**YVETTE BASMAJIAN**  
(August 21, 1925 – December 12, 2017)

# Donations 2017

## CHRISTMAS DONATION 2017

Bagdig & Ani Baghdassarian	\$660.00
Timothy & Arda	
Costello/Arslanian	\$500.00
Vartkes & Alice Savadjian	\$300.00
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## 2017 CALENDAR DONATION

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Nairy Sarkissian	\$10.00

## EASTER DONATION

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Costello / Arslanian	\$200.00
Leon & Aline Kassabian	\$200.00
Gregory & Sossi Kazandjian	\$200.00
Mary & Dorothy Papazian	\$200.00
Simpad & Sossi Salbashian	\$200.00
Mary Arslanian	\$150.00
Leonard & Valentina Dortch	\$150.00
Raffi & Silva Knadjian	\$150.00
Gary & Victoria Kalem	\$140.00
Berdj & Hilda Agopian	\$100.00
Eliz Agopian	\$100.00
Hazar & Mari Agopian	\$100.00
Lusin Arakelyan	\$100.00
Sarkis & Nazeli Asarian	\$100.00
Ghazar & Anny Baghdassarian	\$100.00
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Alex & Jacqueline Baron	\$100.00
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Randolph Tegnazian	\$25.00
Dro & Maral Turbendian	\$25.00
Antranig & Azadouhi Vartanian	\$25.00
Asghik Wassef	\$25.00
Gregory Andreaopoulos	\$20.00

Vartkes & Chake Vartanian \$20.00  
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**EASTER LILY DONATIONS**

Daniel Gulbenkian

**EASTER TAG DONATIONS**

Ghevont & Lydia Baghdassarian

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Raffi & Jeanette Nenejian

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Gregory & Madeleine Kazandjian \$100.00  
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Naomi Megerian \$100.00  
Edward & Elizabeth Ohannessian \$100.00  
Arek Pogosyan \$100.00  
Isabella Holmquist \$50.00  
Volodya & Dirouhie Mahtesyan \$50.00  
Nairy Sarkissian \$50.00  
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Kricor & Janette Marcarian \$25.00  
Karnik & Marian Minassian \$25.00  
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Antranig & Marie Yacoubian \$25.00  
Sonia Givlekian \$25.00  
Harriet Janesian \$20.00  
Frank & Ayda Kabarajian \$20.00

**BABY'S 40TH DAY BLESSING DONATIONS**

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Manoug & Dory Shishmanian \$200.00  
Ernesto & Anahid  
Daglyan-Gonzalez \$150.00  
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Alain & Mayda Artinian \$500.00  
John & Salpie Megerian \$450.00  
Sarven & Nayat Hacikian \$420.00  
Michael & Nouneh Gostanian \$395.00  
Alex & Natalie Meneshian \$375.00  
The Ladies Guild  
of St. Sarkis Church \$350.00  
Shishmanian Family \$350.00  
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Siranush Jamgotchian  
& Daughters \$260.00  
Mardig & Apri Tcholakian \$200.00  
Dickran & Liza Kabarajian \$200.00  
Siran Saroyan \$175.00  
Aram & Rima Cazazian \$100.00

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Isabella Holmquist \$750.00  
Albert Kazangian \$500.00  
Anng Agopian \$200.00  
Edward & Arpi Bekian \$200.00  
Hagop & Angela Garabedian \$200.00  
Zevart Krikorian \$200.00  
Zohrab & Seta Kalajjian \$150.00

Levon & Sandy Shamlan \$125.00  
Gail D'Onofrio \$120.00  
Berdj & Hilda Agopian \$100.00  
Sarkis & Nazeli Asarian \$100.00  
Arsen & Karine Garabedian \$100.00  
John & Mary Harutunian \$100.00  
Vartan & Marina Harutunian \$100.00  
Jennifer Khachadurian \$100.00  
Naomi Megerian \$100.00  
Arsen & Arev Mouradian \$100.00  
Seta Smith \$100.00  
Adrienne Alexanian \$50.00  
Manouk & Gohar Atamian \$50.00  
Arsen & Alice Manoukian \$30.00  
Garbis & Anneta Agasian \$25.00  
Sonia Garabedian \$25.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS FOR THE MIHRAN PARNAKIAN**

Hrair & Silva Baronian \$100.00  
Noel & Fimi Parnakian \$100.00  
Parantzem Fourgatian \$30.00  
Harry & Juliette Milian \$30.00  
Haig & Hripsime Hatchikian \$25.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS FOR THE LATE MOURAD ZOHRABIAN**

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Armen & Zepiur Ardzivian \$50.00  
Nubar & Annie Kupelian \$50.00  
Antranig & Valentine Minassian \$50.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS FOR THE LATE SOUREN KAHVEDJIAN**

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Vahe & Elsie Halajian \$100.00  
Kevork & Nora Kadehjian \$100.00  
Neshan & Varteny Kouljian \$100.00  
Zevart Krikorian \$100.00  
Elvin Nenejian \$100.00  
Arev Sarkissian \$100.00  
Hagop Hairabedian \$50.00  
Harout & Arpi Kahvedjian \$50.00  
Vartkes Mengouchian \$50.00  
Haroutoun & Lena Orangian \$50.00  
Takouhi Orangian \$50.00  
Zaven & Sitta Oranjian \$50.00  
Raffi & Nairy Zohrabian \$50.00  
Nairy Sarkissian \$30.00  
Thomas & Magi Thomasian \$30.00  
Levon & Sandy Shamlan \$30.00  
Gail D'Onofrio \$25.00  
Antranig & Marie Yacoubian \$25.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATION FOR THE LATE ALEX NAKASHIAN**

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Hagop & Eranica Kouyoumdjian \$250.00  
Khoren & Seta Nalbandian \$250.00  
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Christian Harghel \$200.00  
Lawrence & Magda Najarian \$200.00  
Manoug & Dory Shishmanian \$100.00  
Edward & Arpi Bekian \$150.00  
Ruben & Hasmik Daglyan \$150.00  
Armand & Laura Asadourian \$100.00  
Armand & Lydia Baklajian \$100.00  
Edward & Coharig Barsamian \$100.00  
Ohannes & Sonia Bezdikian \$100.00  
Gaidzag & Seta Boyadjian \$100.00  
Edmond & Nyeree Demirdjan \$100.00  
Elizabeth Givlekian \$100.00  
Manoug & Amy Gostanian \$100.00  
Grigor & Ripsik Grigorian \$100.00  
Arthur & Lilian Hairabedian \$100.00  
Sam & Lilith Indzhigulyan \$100.00  
Edward & Lynn Jamie \$100.00  
Varujan & Luiza Kalustian \$100.00  
Gregory & Sossy Kazandjian \$100.00  
Edward & Alina Kochoumian \$100.00  
Ani Minnetyan \$100.00  
Armond Mkhitarian \$100.00  
Krikor & Elizabeth Nercessian \$100.00  
Varoujan Oghali \$100.00

Manoug & Dory Shishmanian \$100.00  
Alina Kochoumian Stanciu \$100.00  
Charles Wyatt \$100.00  
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Randolph Tegnazian \$75.00  
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Lolita Babikian \$50.00  
Agavni Bodriguian \$50.00  
Antranik & Marion Boudakian \$50.00  
Hagop & Angela Garabedian \$50.00  
Edmund & Perouze Gergerian \$50.00  
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Anahid Markarian \$50.00  
Norair & Siroun Megerditchian \$50.00  
Asbed & Sona Melkonian \$50.00  
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Siran Saroyan \$50.00  
Ohannes & Guillermina Tercan \$50.00  
Christopher Yagliyan \$50.00  
Michael & Silva Zohrabian \$50.00  
Sarkis & Nazeli Asarian \$30.00  
Kristen & Elizabeth Reed \$30.00  
Gary & Marianne Tateosian \$25.00  
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**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE SANDRA NOURIJIAN COUTSAKIS**

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Soghanyemezian-Gonzalez \$100.00  
Hampy Hovsepian \$100.00  
Rafi & Tamar Hovsepian \$100.00  
Manoug & Dory Shishmanian \$100.00  
Raffi & Nairy Zohrabian & Nora \$100.00  
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Ohannes Keshishian \$50.00  
Antranig & Marie Yacoubian \$30.00  
Vartkes & Loucine Sinanian \$25.00  
Mourad & Marie Sarkissian \$20.00

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Silva Hatenesian \$200.00  
Varujan & Luiza Kalustian \$150.00  
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Norair & Alice Asadourian \$100.00  
Stefan & Mihaela Bagdasarian \$100.00  
Kevork & Diane Boyadjian \$100.00  
Jeff & Silva Eden \$100.00  
Sarkis & Adrine Nercessian \$100.00  
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Noubar & Sevan Basmadjian \$50.00  
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Lana Kazangian \$50.00  
Moses & Clara Kazanjian \$50.00

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**LATE HARUTIN DULGERIAN**

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 Kenneth Domniz \$100.00  
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 Vartkes Mengouchian \$100.00  
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 Arev Sarkissian \$100.00  
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 Ralph Barone \$50.00  
 Toros & Manoush Tervizian \$50.00  
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**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATION FOR THE LATE CRICOR DOLMAIAN**

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 Andy & Elizabeth Givelechian \$100.00  
 Leon Garabed \$100.00  
 Nadia Hazarian \$100.00  
 Samuel & Lilit Indzhigulyan \$100.00  
 Makrouhi Kalayjian \$100.00  
 Edward & Alina Kochoumian \$100.00  
 Krikor & Florina Krikorian \$100.00  
 Arthur & Louiza Kubikian \$100.00  
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 Mihail & Nancy Morgikian \$100.00  
 Sarkis & Adrine Nercessian \$100.00  
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 Alex & Jackie Baron \$50.00  
 Edward & Coharig Barsamian \$50.00  
 Siragan Ipekgian \$50.00  
 Sarkis & Sona Markarian \$50.00  
 Stepan & Shami Tavitian \$50.00  
 Anahid Ugurlayan \$50.00  
 Dickran Kirkorian \$35.00  
 Fernando & Loretta Acebedo \$30.00  
 Garbis & Annetta Agasian \$30.00  
 Magardici & Aida Jangocian \$30.00  
 Ara & Rebecca Krikorian \$25.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE ZAROUHI MINASSIAN**

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 Vartan & Therese Dumanian \$100.00  
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 Deborah Kapnistos \$50.00  
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 Dora Kourdian \$50.00  
 Hovannes & Elza Malikyan \$50.00  
 Raffi & Lisa Minassian \$50.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATION FOR THE LATE BEDROS YERVANT SARKISSIAN**

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 Kevork & Diane Boyadjian \$100.00  
 Hagop & Hilda Gorgissian \$100.00  
 Arthur & Lilian Hairabedian \$100.00  
 Sarkis & Lorig Kevorkian \$100.00  
 Sarkis & Mary Ohanessian \$100.00  
 Nairy Sarkissian \$100.00  
 Manoug & Amy Gostanian \$50.00  
 Maral & Tamar Harutunian \$50.00  
 Zarmair & Sonia Setrakian \$50.00  
 Sarkis & Nazeli Asarian \$30.00  
 Harriet Janesian \$30.00  
 Haroutoun & Lena Orangian \$30.00  
 Hilda Semerdjian \$30.00  
 Anonymous \$25.00  
 Lolita Babikian \$25.00  
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 Jebejian-Bouldoukian \$50.00  
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 Vrej & Annie Hagobian \$50.00  
 Krikor & Talin Nazar-Ipekoglu \$50.00  
 Anjel Tahmisyian \$50.00  
 Jaklin Yesiltepe \$50.00  
 Avedis & Lucia Gazal \$25.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE MARIE ATAMIAN**

Ohanes & Anne Cholakian \$50.00  
 Parantzem Fourgatian \$50.00  
 Haig & Hripsime Hatchikian \$25.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE VAHRAM VARDANIAN**

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 Egishe Iskanderian \$200.00  
 Hovannes & Elza Malikyan \$100.00  
 Harutiun & Nouna Sukiasian \$100.00  
 Valot & Yeran Atakhanian \$50.00  
 Antranig Tumaian \$50.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE ZAVAR MEGERDICHIAN**

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 Ye Win \$30.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE ONIK BALIAN**

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 Veh & Arpine Aroyan-Bezdikian \$100.00  
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 Sevan & Victoria Yekhpairian \$50.00  
 Haig & Hripsime Hatchikian \$30.00  
 Mesia & Zarouhi Hovsepian \$30.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE EDMOND VOSKINARIAN**

Narsis Kasparian \$200.00  
 Hagop & Hilda Gorgissian \$100.00  
 Sakis & Adrine Nercessian \$100.00  
 Alex Sakisian \$100.00  
 Hatchik & Verzhin Alahverdian \$50.00  
 Manoug & Amy Gostanian \$50.00  
 Arthur & Aline Papazian \$50.00

Onnik & Nelly Tokatlian \$50.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS FOR THE LATE ELOUSH LORITA SARKISSIAN**

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 Andre & Dawn Sarkissian \$200.00  
 Robert & Arelis Matevosian \$100.00  
 Alice Lombardo \$20.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS FOR THE LATE BERDOS KAPIKIAN**

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 Edward & Elizabeth Ohanessian \$200.00  
 Miyen Joa \$150.00  
 Berj & Lucy Kazanjian \$100.00  
 Setrak Ohanessian \$100.00  
 Gabriel & Karin Zakarian \$100.00  
 Andy & Elizabeth Givelechian \$50.00  
 Sonia Givelekian \$50.00  
 Silva Kavafian \$50.00  
 Harry & Alice Seoylemezian \$50.00  
 Patrick & Simona Yaghdjian \$50.00  
 Mesia & Zarouhi Hovsepian \$40.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS TO SATURDAY SCHOOL FOR THE LATE VASKEN ASVAZADOURIAN**

Hatchik & Verzhin Alahverdian \$100.00  
 Hripsime Asadourian \$100.00  
 Jack & Valentina Dortch \$100.00  
 Levon Djizmedjian \$50.00  
 Diran & Satenig Massarlian \$50.00  
 Edward Pantikian \$50.00  
 Ardemis Massarlian/Paravazian \$50.00  
 Magardichian Family \$40.00  
 Arthur & Alina Papazian \$40.00  
 Alexan & Shake Nishanian \$35.00

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS TO SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR THE LATE SARKIS GUEDOYAN**

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 Baghdasar Bas \$250.00  
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 Araxsi Arabaci \$100.00  
 Arshaluis Gerger \$100.00  
 Sirvart & Maral Kaloustian \$100.00  
 Anita Masoian \$100.00  
 Armen & Mary Boyajian \$50.00  
 John & Mary Harutunian \$50.00  
 Adrew & Barbara Kourajian \$50.00  
 Rita Abajian \$40.00  
 Maral & Tamar Harutunian \$30.00  
 Leon & Sandy Shamlian \$30.00  
 Margaret Sarkissian \$25.00  
 Zaven & Lalig Vartanian \$25.00  
 Joseph & Azadouhi Vartanian \$25.00  
 Varkes & Chake Vartanian \$20.00

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 Varsenne Sarkissian \$350.00  
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 Sonia Loutridis \$300.00  
 Valot & Yeran Atakhanian \$300.00  
 Vartouhi Guedoyan \$300.00  
 Zohrab & Seta Kalajian \$300.00  
 Nairy Sarkissian \$280.00  
 Agavni Bodriguian \$250.00  
 Gregory & Hasmig Sakar \$250.00  
 Maral & Tamar Harutunian \$250.00  
 Sarkis & Adrine Nercessian \$250.00  
 Abraham & Silva Manjikian \$200.00  
 Albert Kazangian \$200.00  
 Anita Masoian \$200.00  
 Anna Menzildjian \$200.00  
 Ara & Lencie Barsamian \$200.00  
 Elvira Demirdjan \$200.00  
 Gail D'Onofrio \$200.00

Gary & Aida Papazian	\$200.00
George & Nevert Mesropian	\$200.00
Hagop & Soci Simonian	\$200.00
Harout & Nayri Khatchadourian	\$200.00
Hratch & Shoushanick Massoyan	\$200.00
Isabella Holmquist	\$200.00
Jirair & Nora Mengouchian	\$200.00
Natalie Tokatlian	\$200.00
Ovaness & Eileen Ovanessian	\$200.00
Raffi & Nairy Zohrabian	\$200.00
Sarkis & Lorig Kevorkian	\$200.00
Setrag & Ani Kazandjian	\$200.00
Tatyana Ulubabova	\$200.00
Torkom & Alice Pilibossian	\$200.00
Vahram & Esperanz Minassian	\$200.00
Vartan & Marina Harutunian	\$200.00
Yeghsa Tavitian	\$200.00
Yervant & Maro Jamgotchian	\$200.00
Zvart Hovsepien	\$200.00
Anahid Ugurlayan	\$150.00
Aram & Rima Cazazian	\$150.00
Dora Kourdian	\$150.00
Gabriel & Evangeline Ovanessian	\$150.00
John & Mary Harutunian	\$150.00
Margaret Alahverdian	\$150.00
Sarkis & Alice Kazandjian	\$150.00
Thomas & Maggie Thomasian	\$110.00
Ani Bostanci	\$100.00
Anto & Nanor Vartanian	\$100.00
Araxie Mouradian	\$100.00
Arev Sarkissian	\$100.00
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Berge & Edda Mangikian	\$100.00
Carmen Schuster	\$100.00
Dickran & Liza Kabarajian	\$100.00
Dro & Nigol Turbendian	\$100.00
Edmond & Ashkhen Elmokian	\$100.00
Edmond & Nyeree Demirdjan	\$100.00
Edward & Alina Kochoumian	\$100.00
Edward & Mary Arslanian	\$100.00
Ervant & Zabel Nishanian	\$100.00
Frank & Barbara Barone	\$100.00
Gaidzag & Seta Boyadjian	\$100.00
George & Sylvia Tchilinguirian	\$100.00
Hagop & Silva Baghdadlian	\$100.00
Harout & Ani Chatmajian	\$100.00
Jirair DerSarkissian	\$100.00
Kevork & Annie Kaladjian	\$100.00
Kevork & Nora Kadehjian	\$100.00
Khatchig & Loucine Megherian	\$100.00
Krikor & Elizabeth Nercessian	\$100.00
Manoug & Dirouhi Shishmanian	\$100.00
Manushak Panoyan	\$100.00
Mardiros Abrimian	\$100.00
Naomi Megerian	\$100.00
Narek & Astghik Boudakian	\$100.00
Nayda Voskerijian	\$100.00
Nazaret & Elisa Kiregian	\$100.00
Nevert Mesropian	\$100.00
Noel & Fimi Minassian	\$100.00
Pierre Yepremian	\$100.00
Rudolf & Seta Von Bartsch	\$100.00
Sarkis & Azniv Abrimian	\$100.00
Shahe & Theodora Nercessian	\$100.00
Sonia Garabedian	\$100.00
Sonia Givlekian	\$100.00
Susan Markarian	\$100.00
Vartkes Mengouchian	\$100.00
Volodya & Dirouhie Mahtesyan	\$100.00
Yervant & Arev Sarkissian	\$100.00
Zaven & Rose Varjabedian	\$100.00
Ghevont & Lydia Baghdassarian	\$75.00
Michael Ohanesian	\$75.00
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Mardiros & Maria Ebrimian	\$70.00
Magdalena Handjian	\$60.00
Angelo & Zepur Vasiliou	\$50.00
Antranik & Rosette Toghlian	\$50.00
Arek Pogosyan	\$50.00
Armen & Zepiur Ardzivian	\$50.00
Armenuhi Bardizbanian	\$50.00
Dicran & Eugenia Toma	\$50.00
George & Katia Tavitian	\$50.00
Giragos & Sossie Turbendian	\$50.00

Haiek Antanesian	\$50.00
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Hratch Vardanian	\$50.00
Karine Hairapetyan	\$50.00
Kevork & Narsis Kasparian	\$50.00
Krikor & Florina Krikorian	\$50.00
Lucy Vartanian	\$50.00
Mary Boyajian	\$50.00
Nadia Hazarian	\$50.00
Ohanes & Karin Thomasian	\$50.00
Paris & Sonia Garabedian	\$50.00
Richard & Jean Papazian	\$50.00
Silva Barsoumian	\$50.00
Vahe & Setta Bijimian	\$50.00
Yeghia & Anelka Baboomian	\$50.00
Zarmair & Sonia Setrakian	\$50.00
Zvart Krikorian	\$50.00
Antranig & Marie Yacoubian	\$40.00
Haroutoun & Lena Orangian	\$40.00
Harriet Janesian	\$30.00
Kirkor & Berta Ogulluk	\$25.00
Vahe & Nartoochi Abrimian	\$25.00
Anonymous	\$20.00
Sonia Jarjokian	\$20.00
Vartkes & Chake Vartanian	\$20.00

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Stephen & Liza Andreopoulos	\$300.00
Sarven & Nayat Hacikian	\$300.00
Frank Tuminelli & Elphida Ayvazian-Tuminelli	\$200.00
Nayda Voskerijian	\$200.00
George & Lena Felice	\$150.00
Edmond & Nyeree Demirdjan	\$100.00
Berj & Lucy Kazanjian	\$100.00
Arsen & Arev Mouradian	\$100.00
Sevan & Victoria Yekhpairian	\$100.00
George & Soce Berberian	\$60.00
Tatev Ananyan	\$50.00
Adam & Jessica Bekian	\$50.00
Edward & Arpi Bekian	\$50.00
Henry & Elizabeth Roubian	\$50.00
Edward & Lucy Garabedian	\$35.00
Anonymous	\$5.00

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Armen & Janet Tutuyan	\$300.00
Aram & Michelle Kirkorian	\$250.00
Edward & Alina Kochoumian	\$250.00
Garo & Rubina Nazarian	\$250.00
Aram & Rima Cazazian	\$200.00
Varujan & Luiza Kalustian	\$200.00
Haroutune Djamdjian	\$200.00
Hagop & Hilda Gorgissian	\$200.00
Zohrab & Seta Kalajian	\$200.00
Levon & Aline Kassabian	\$200.00
Arthur & Louiza Kubikian	\$200.00
Alex & Natalie Meneshian	\$200.00
Vahe & Shake Nahapetian	\$200.00
Yeprem & Madeleine Nazarian	\$200.00
Varouj Oghali	\$200.00
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Haig & Laura Giragosian	\$100.00
Edward & Lynn Jamie	\$100.00
Setrag & Ani Kazandjian	\$100.00
Vicken & Pamela Keshishian	\$100.00
Anita Masoian	\$100.00
Arsen & Arev Mouradian	\$100.00
Mary & Dorothy Papazian	\$100.00
Vartkes & Alice Savadjian	\$100.00
Edward & Arpi Bekian	\$50.00
Agavni Bodriguan	\$50.00

Arsen & Karine Garabedian	\$50.00
Edward & Coharig Barsamian	\$50.00
Frank & Ayda Kabarajian	\$50.00
Sona Kludjian	\$50.00
Mary & Dorothy Papazian	\$50.00
Levon & Sandy Shamlian	\$50.00
Mary Sheshedian	\$50.00
Antranig & Marie Yacoubian	\$50.00
Lusin Arakelyan	\$50.00
Araxie Bakalian	\$25.00
Glascott Funeral Home	\$250.00
Baruir's Coffee Shop	
Carmel European & Middle East Grocery	

**2017 PODCAST DONATIONS**

Dickran & Liza Kabarajian	\$200.00
Sonia Givlekian	\$50.00

**SALT & LIGHT YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS**

Alexandre & Maria Nercessian Bechirian	\$150.00
Arsen & Arev Mouradian	\$150.00
Dikran & Liza Kabaragian	\$150.00
Harout & Nayri Khatchadourian	\$150.00
Raffi & Jeanette Nenejian	\$150.00
Sarkis Kadehjian & Shakeh Kadehjian	\$150.00
Simon & Lara Bardizbanian	\$150.00
Stephan & Liza Andreopoulos	\$150.00
Vicken & Pamela Keshishian	\$150.00

**SIMPLY CHRISTMAS CONCERT DONATIONS 2017**

David Avakian	\$500.00
Armand & Laura Asadourian	\$300.00
Veh & Arpine Aroyan-Bezdikian	\$300.00
Karl & Alice Alajajian	\$250.00
Aram & Michelle Kirkorian	\$250.00
Varujan & Luiza Kalustian	\$200.00
John & Salpi Megerian	\$200.00
Alina Kochoumian Stanciu	\$200.00
Ara & Lencie Barsamian	\$100.00
Edward & Coharig Barsamian	\$100.00
Suren & Sandy Farsakian	\$100.00
Nayda Voskerijian	\$300.00

**POINSETTIAS DONATION**

Berj & Lucy Kazanjian and Family in Memory of their beloved father Bedros Givlekian.  
Alfonso & Diana Cava and Family in Memory of their beloved father Zaven Demirdjian.

**ST. SARKIS NAME DAY DONATIONS**

Arthur & Louiza Kubikian	\$1,000.00
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**SUNDAY SCHOOL SPONSORS**

Alexandre & Maria Nercessian Bechirian	\$100.00
Armen & Zepiur Ardzivian	\$100.00
George & Katia Tavitian	\$100.00
Khikar & Betty Ghadimian	\$100.00
Siran Saroyan	\$100.00

**Donated by Araxie Bakalian**





# **Saint Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church of Long Island**

38-65 234 Street, Douglaston, NY 11363  
Telephone: 718-224-2275 Fax: 718-224-8793  
email: [stsarkischurch@gmail.com](mailto:stsarkischurch@gmail.com)  
[www.stsarkischurch.net](http://www.stsarkischurch.net)