

ԼՈՒՍԱԲԵՐ LOOSAPER



Սուրբ Պետրոս Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցի

ST. PETER ARMENIAN CHURCH

100 TROY-SCHENECTADY ROAD, PO BOX 196, WATERVLIET, NY 12189

MAY/JUNE 2010

St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church

100 Troy-Schenectady Road

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Watervliet, NY 12189

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SUNDAY WORSHIP:

Morning Services (Matins)

9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

10:00 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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Anahid Altounian 463-2625

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Elsie Vozzy 373-0242

St. Peter Adult Fellowship

Philip Natcharian 785-8767

Sunday School

Charles Tutunjian (acting) . . 785-9423

Women's Guild

Virginia Mahserjian 783-8896

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Yervant Kutchukian

Yervant Kutchukian

Garo Derian

Yervant Kutchukian

Edward Belemjian

Arthur Mahserjian

John Ekmalian

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Choir Director

Dn. Rafi Topalian 272-2000

Fellowship Hour

Lori Payette 274-3673

Loosaper

Lori Payette 274-3673

All articles must be submitted on a timely basis by following the “Schedule for Publication” listed below:

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SCHEDULE FOR PUBLICATION

(Note: The May/June issue of *Loosaper* is the last until September/October.)

Articles Deadline	Tuesday, September 7
Typing and Proofreading	Tues., Sept. 7 - Fri., Sept. 17
To Printer	Friday, September 17
Mailing	Wednesday, September 22

The *Loosaper* constitutes a vital and an historical record of the life of the St. Peter Church Community. Therefore, it is important to make every effort to preserve and maintain the continuity of this publication. In order to do this, we need help. Any parishioner interested in being a reporter or assisting the editorial staff with this publication should call the church office.

Church Secretary, Lori Payette, is responsible for compiling and typing this issue. A volunteer group performs editorial tasks such as: proofreading, layout, writing and editing of articles. **All materials submitted are subject to editing by the Editorial Staff.** The mailing of the *Loosaper* is also handled by volunteers.

If you find errors in this edition of the *Loosaper*, please understand that, while perfection is always our goal, it is one that may remain forever beyond our reach!

CURRENT VOLUNTEER EDITORIAL STAFF:

Sona Hachigian Joyce Kenosian

Please forward all articles to the church office.

LOOSAPER DONATIONS

There is an outlay of approximately \$700 for publishing and mailing each issue of the *Loosaper*. Any contribution sent to defray part of this cost will be gratefully appreciated. Names of donors and contributions will be listed in the *Loosaper*, unless we are requested not to do so.

Many thanks to the most recent donors who answered our call to help offset the costs of our church publication: **\$154.86 - Mary DerArakelian Endowment Fund; \$100 - Steve & Pam Azarian; \$50 - Anonymous; \$30 - Rev. & Mrs. Arten Ashjian, Elizabeth E. Avakian (MN); \$25 - Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Sapino (FL); \$20 - Anonymous, Sarkis & Julia Garabedian.**

Please use the form below to send your donation to:
“St. Peter Armenian Church”
P.O. Box 196, Watervliet, NY 12189

PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION FOR *LOOSAPER* in the amount of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Check box to send *Loosaper* to the following e-mail address: _____

Discontinue sending *Loosaper* to my postal address: Yes or No

Additional Comments: _____

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Remember St. Peter Armenian Church in your will!

Diocesan News

In Memoriam



It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of Yn. Marie DerAssadourian on February 25, 2010, in New Britain, CT. Yn. Marie was the widow of Fr. Vartan DerAssadourian, former pastor of the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection until his retirement in 1986. Yn. Marie is survived by three sons, Edward Vatche, Ralph (Deborah) and Harry (Jane); a brother; six grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Fr. Vartan was also the pastor at St. Peter Armenian Church (Watervliet, NY) from 1956-1962.

We express our sorrow on the passing of Archbishop Dirair Mardikian who entered his eternal rest in Sofia, Bulgaria, on May 11, 2010. Archbishop Dirair was the longtime Primate of the Diocese of Romania and Bulgaria, having served in that capacity for half a century. He was born on May 24, 1930 in Beirut, Lebanon, and baptized under the name Dikran. He was ordained as a celibate priest in April 1955. He received the rank of *vartabed* in October 1956. In 1957, he was appointed as the Primate-Vicar of the Diocese of Azerbaijan. In 1958, was elected the Primate of the Diocese of Azerbaijan. In 1960 he was elected to serve as the Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Romania and Bulgaria. In 1964, he was consecrated as a bishop and in 1980 was elevated to rank of archbishop.



Congratulations



At the request of His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, Very Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Najarian has accepted the prestigious new role in the Armenian Church as Pontifical Legate for Central Europe and Sweden. We congratulate Fr. Haigazoun on this new position but also are saddened that he will be leaving the Diocesan family where he has been serving as Vicar General to Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).

ANNUAL ORIENTAL ORTHODOX CONCELEBRATION

The annual Oriental Orthodox Concelebration of the Divine Liturgy will take place on Saturday, June 12, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mark's Syriac Orthodox Cathedral, 260 Elm Avenue, in Teaneck, NJ. As is customary, the concelebration will proceed in the tradition of one of our sister Oriental Orthodox churches. This year's liturgy will be celebrated according to the traditions of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern), urges clergy and parishioners in the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut parishes to attend, if at all possible, and participate in this spiritually uplifting event.

Message from the Parish Council

The services and special program held at St. Peter Armenian Church on Sunday, April 18, in commemoration of the 95th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide were outstanding. The planning and preparation for this event was the combined effort of members of both the St. Peter Armenian Church and the Holy Cross Armenian Church communities. It was an historic occasion to have the clergy, deacons, choir members and parishioners of both churches serving and worshipping together. We appreciate His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian for graciously granting permission for this joint observance to be held at our church.

We look forward to next year as our communities will once again join together to commemorate the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The services and program in 2011 will be held at Holy Cross Armenian Church.



Our thanks to Dr. Ara Kayayan and Charles Tutunjian for organizing the special presentations by our Armenian School and Sunday School children as well as to Paul DerOhannesian for serving as the Master of Ceremonies for the program. We also appreciate the special work done by the Sunday School families in planting flowers to beautify the church grounds in preparation for this event (see photo).

The Holy Cross Ladies Aid and the St. Peter Women's Guild also worked together preparing the traditional madagh meal that was served in the Gdanian Auditorium to over 170 people. We thank all who participated in the services and in the preparation of the madagh meal including those who made contributions totaling \$1,461 (see separate listing of donations in this issue).

As you certainly must be aware by now, our Annual Church Festival on June 12 & 13 is fast approaching. **Many more volunteers are needed!!** Please contact me or the church office to offer your help to make this a successful event again this year.

Please take special note of the letter and pledge form for our second Building Fund Campaign that are inserted in this issue. Although the construction has been completed, there is still an outstanding balance on the bank loan to be paid. Our goal is to do this by the end of this three-year campaign on September 30, 2012.

During the time we have not had a full-time priest we have continued to have church services. On those Sundays when clergy are not available, the deacons have conducted the services with Yervant Kutchukian offering excellent spiritual messages. As Parish Council Chairman, I would encourage you to attend the Deacon's Services for I feel that our deacons do a wonderful job in conducting these services and deserve our support. When there are Deacon's Services, please try to arrive by 10:00 a.m. for the services usually end by 11:30 a.m. While we are awaiting the return of a full-time priest, we need to stay united as a church community and support the efforts of those who are serving the church with love and devotion.

John "Frenchie" Ekmalian
Chairman

Photo Gallery . . .

Washing of the Feet Service Conducted by Fr. Sahak Kaishian April 1, 2010



Fr. Garen Gdanian



John Ekmalian



Garro Derian



Ronald P. Kaiser



Leon Kaiser



Gilbert Chorbajian



Bill Foley



Chip Drusano



Hagop Derian



Jake Derian



Patrick Kayayan



Kevork Derian

The following is a list of participants to date in our 2010 Membership/Stewardship Pledge program. At the end of each year, a Membership Dues/Stewardship Pledge Form is mailed to all parishioners requesting their annual Dues/Pledge commitment for the following year. This list represents those who have made that commitment for 2010; please accept our thanks. If your name does not appear in the list, please consider making that commitment now by completing the form on the following page or by contacting the church office.

2010 Membership/Stewardship Participants

Joseph & Effie Akullian
 Harry & Rosemary Ammian
 Winifred Ammian
 Helga Apkarian
 Alexander & Marion Arghnian
 Beatrice Arzoumanian
 Gerald Arzoumanian
 Betty Avakian*
 Shirley Avakian*
 Steve & Pamela Azarian
 Nazar Bakerian
 Ara Baligian
 Linda Bedian
 Robert & Sandy Bedian
 George & Elsie Bedrosian
 Edward Belemjian*
 Alyson Buff
 Cecilia Burgess
 Charles & Alice Chorbajian
 Gilbert Chorbajian*
 Herbert & Linda Chorbajian*
 Robert & Holly Dadekian
 Richard & Barbara DeMartino*
 Isabel Derian
 Paul & Melissa DerOhannessian
 Suzanne Dickinson
 Marguerite Djehizian
 Sherry Edwards*
 John & Debbie Ekmalian
 Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian
 Arpy Ernest
 Katrina Ernest*
 Sarkis Garabedian
 Valery Gaston
 Fr. Garen & Yn. Zabelle Gdanian
 Sarkis Guleserian*
 Sonia Hachigian
 Joanne C. Hartunian
 Mary Hartunian
 Richard & Beth Hartunian
 Najib Himidian

Barbara Hrachian
 Seren Hrachian
 Suren & Sarah Hrachian
 Karnick Jabian
 Mary Jaffarian
 Hripsime Jevanian
 Phyllis Jevanian
 Natalie Kachougian
 Donald Kaiser
 Leon & Susan Kaiser
 Ronald P. Kaiser
 Edward & Lucille Kaprelian*
 Grace Karian
 Edward & Bertha Kazanjian
 Linda Kazanjian
 Robert Kazanjian*
 Dr. & Mrs. Gregory J. Kechejian*
 Martin & Joyce Kenosian
 Karen Khachadourian
 Russell & Sandra Kilidjian
 Harry & Marion Koshgarian
 Michael & Dyanne Koshgarian
 Peter Koshgarian
 Isabel Krempa
 Steven Krempa*
 Charles & Patrician Krikorian
 Lucy Krikorian
 Yervant Kutchukian
 Arthur Mahserjian*
 George & Virginia Mahserjian
 Nellie Marderosian
 Sean & Alice McMullan
 Robert & Sheila Meeson
 H. Khachik & Mary Minassian
 David & Tara Mooradian
 R. Mihran & Ovsanna Mooradian
 Sarah Moroukian
 Lucy Morton
 Philip J. Natcharian
 Gregory & Marjorie Nazarian
 Robert & Trudy Nazarian*

Lenore M. Nevins
 Joseph & Patricia O'Keefe
 George & Elizabeth Osganian
 Mary Panjarjian
 Helen Paparian
 David & Breann Parseghian
 Anna Pascazio
 Margaret Sakalian
 George & Joanne Scaringe
 Charlotte Sevazlian
 Farid F. Shafik (CT)
 Lucille Shamlian
 Toros Shamlan, Jr.
 Mrs. Mary Shanks
 Leo G. Sogolian
 Lucille Sogolian
 Susan Sogolian
 Josephine Speanburg
 Claudia Suppa*
 Fay Talarico
 Berj Topalian*
 Rafi & Marianne Topalian
 Kevork & Seta Torossian
 Charles & Carol Tutunjian
 Nazar & Joan Tutunjian
 Vartan Vartanian, Jr.*
 Daniel Vartigian
 Ralph Vartigian
 Elsie Vozzy
 Alice Wildman

*Have you made
 your 2010
 Pledge yet?*

**Indicates those making a commitment to the Pledge program since the list was first published in the last issue of Loosaper.*

DON'T FORGET YOUR PLEDGE

With the summer months, our church experiences a drop in income but not in expenses. We therefore ask our parishioners to maintain their pledges throughout the summer instead of allowing their offering envelopes to accumulate until September.

2010 Membership Dues/Stewardship Pledge Form

Name(s): _____

Please list name(s) of all committed givers.

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

“... for God loves a cheerful giver.”

(2 Cor 9:7)

St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church Membership Dues and Stewardship Pledge Form — Giving 2010

There are two categories listed below. Membership Dues are necessary for St. Peter Church to pay to the Diocese in New York City. Stewardship pledge is an individual commitment to the needs of our own St. Peter Church parish.

A) **Membership Dues for 2010***\$ _____

(\$150 times the number of each dues-paying member in household.)

Dues-paying members of St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church must be at least 18 years of age and pay the annual dues of \$150 in order to be in good standing. Only dues-paying members in good standing may vote at Parish Assembly Meetings or hold elective offices.

B) **Stewardship Pledge for 2010**.....\$ _____

(Total for all persons listed above.)

A pledge is a personal commitment, in addition to or besides Membership Dues, to support the mission and goal of St. Peter Armenian Church.

C) **Total Contribution for 2010**.....\$ _____

(Add Line A and Line B)

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Please return this completed form to the church office as soon as possible to activate your 2010 Dues/Pledge account. No payment is necessary to submit a Pledge Form. It is asked that Dues/Pledge monies be paid by the end of the 2010 calendar year.* If you have any questions on how to fill out this form, please call the church office at 274-3673. Once this form has been submitted, you will be assigned an account number and offering envelopes (if you choose to use them) can be picked up the following week at the church office.

*According to Diocesan by-laws, Dues must be paid in full prior to end of the calendar year.

Yes, please issue me a box of offering envelopes.

No, a box of offering envelopes will not be needed.

Building Fund Report

Inserted in this issue of the Loosaper is a request for your pledge for the Building Fund along with a pledge form. Please complete the pledge form and send it to the church. A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Also, including a payment with your pledge will help to reduce our debt and interest cost.

(Note: Individuals receiving the Loosaper by e-mail will be sent a separate e-mail that will include the pledge letter and form.)

Memorials & Naming Opportunities

Two items remain available for this purpose. They are the roadway around the rear of the church and the priest's office. If you are interested and would like more information, contact the church office at (518) 274-3673 or Toros Shamlian, Building Fund Treasurer, at (518) 326-1032.

Building Fund Financial Information

January 1 to April 30, 2010

Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Balances

Cash balance—January 1, 2010		\$	65.28
Receipts:			
Payments on pledges: 2006-2009	\$	4,755.05	
Payments on pledges: 2009-2012		24,720.00	
Payments for Memorials		<u>31,354.43</u>	
Total receipts			<u>60,829.48</u>
Total available			\$ 60,894.76
Disbursements:			
Payments of loan principal (net)	\$	55,900.00	
Interest expense		<u>4,929.84</u>	
Total disbursements			<u>\$ 60,829.84</u>
Cash balance—April 30, 2010			<u>\$ 64.92</u>

Pledges Receivable

	<u>2006-2009</u>	<u>2009-2012</u>	<u>Combined</u>
	<u>Campaign</u>	<u>Campaign</u>	
Balance of pledges—January 1, 2010	\$ 12,975.65	\$ 29,975.00	\$ 42,950.65
Pledge increases (decreases) net	<u>(3,196.17)</u>	<u>23,720.00</u>	<u>20,523.83</u>
Total	\$ 9,779.48	\$ 53,695.00	\$ 63,474.48
Payments on pledges	<u>4,755.05</u>	<u>24,720.00</u>	<u>29,475.05</u>
Balance of pledges—April 30, 2010	<u>\$ 5,024.43</u>	<u>\$ 28,975.00</u>	<u>\$ 33,999.43</u>

Loan Payable to Pioneer Bank

Balance of loan payable—January 1, 2010	\$268,800.00
Payments of loan principal (net)	<u>55,900.00</u>
Balance of loan payable—April 30, 2010	<u>\$212,900.00</u>

Toros Shamlian, Treasurer

St. Nersess Mission Trip

The St. Nersess Mission Trip team came to St. Peter Armenian Church Friday evening, April 16, with an agenda of pastoral and liturgical ministries to offer to the community. The group consisted of five young Armenians who have a love to serve the Armenian Church and her people. Through teaching, preaching and offering prayers, we achieved our goals of serving others.

The central point of the weekend was worshipping and celebrating Badarak on Sunday, April 18, as the two church communities of St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church of Watervliet and Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church of Troy came together in unity as one group of Armenians of the Capital District in commemoration of the 95th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. It was a great testimony and tribute to the martyrs of the genocide at the hands of the Turkish Ottoman empire. To listen to the youth of the community speak and share stories of their family histories as related to the Armenian Genocide was to hear the voice not only of survival, but more importantly, the voice of hope, life and advancement.

Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian

Overall, the experience of being a participant in the St. Nersess Mission Trip to St. Peter Armenian Church helped me gain a personal as well as communal perspective on ministry in the form of “service.” It was my first time serving in the Armenian Church so I not only gained new experience, but it also drew me closer to the core of Armenian and Christian spirituality. It stretched me beyond my typical medium of ministry (teaching/intellectual) by taking part in altar serving, cooking, community service, visitations, and home blessings. It was the right thing for me to do in order to extend and mature my faith as it is expressed in serving people. On a less individual note, it was truly a joint and communal effort; not only from the servers' perspective, but also from the recipients of the service we offered. I spoke at a home blessing about the importance of faith and how without the faith of others we cannot survive; faith is not independent. This idea was truly manifested on this trip as I witnessed both the willingness of the servers and the gratitude of the recipients. Jesus Christ was the center of all that the trip was meant to accomplish and I believe God was truly glorified.

On a personal note, it was also a special experience for me to be able to stand, pray, and serve with the priest who baptized me, Der Garen.

Eric Vozzy



Faith and the Armenian Genocide

By Eric Vozzy

Faith can be a very illusive concept due to its seeming intangibility. It can be very difficult to define, even when Scripture references it numerous times. Faith can even be doubted, taken for granted, and trivialized, even though it is the theme throughout Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. None of this means we should avoid the topic, so what follows is a reflection on faith and its importance in our lives as Christians.

Faith seems to entail, but is not limited to, the following elements: trust, belief, and response. These three elements, although expressed and manifested in various ecclesiological expressions and traditions, are ultimately directed toward and placed in a Person; the Person of Jesus Christ.

Our faith serves as the foundation or grounding where our trust in Christ as the Messiah takes root. Without faith, we know that we cannot grow, mature, be transformed into the image of Christ, or obtain union with Him. Both the *ethos* and the *telos* of Christianity require faith and require it to be placed in Jesus Christ. Our faith defines who we are as Christians; as His disciples. John 1:12 says, *"But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God."* Ephesians 1:13 reads, *"In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit."*

Our faith defines what we do in His name so that, when we are redeemed, our works are redeemed as well. Our works follow what we believe and thus are evidence of our faith. Ephesians 2:8-10 reads, *"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God --not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."* Also, James 2:14, 17 reads, *"What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him?...So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."* Without faith, our works become at the very least self-gratifying or self-glorifying. Only when our works are grounded in Christ do they have meaning and significance to the Church, the world, and the Kingdom.

Our faith is communal. Without the faith of others, we the faithful cannot survive. Although faith does apply to the individual before God, it is not merely something between one individual and 'his' God. Faith is not independent. The Church is the Body of Christ and His entire Body is His instrument, and it is the Church's communal faith that makes up the people of God. I Corinthians 12:12-14 reads, *"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body -- Jews or Greeks, slaves or free -- and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many."* Again, from Ephesians 2:8,10 (which was written to the Church as a whole), *"For by grace **you** have been saved through faith...For **we** are his workmanship..."*

April 24, 2010, marks the 95th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in 1915. This is written in memory of the faithful Armenians who suffered and died for their Christian faith and heritage no matter the cost. They are a true example of a living faith and an inspiration not only to Armenian Christians but to all Christians who believe, trust, and respond to the Person of Jesus Christ. They carried the cross of Christ, they suffered for His name, and they literally lost their lives for what they believed. May the fallen faithful Armenians never be forgotten and may the light of their faith continue to shine.

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?" - Matthew 16:24-26

Reflecting on the Armenian Genocide

by Dave Canfield, *The Record*, April 18, 2010

WATERVLIET — Forced marches through the desert, the taking of children, tales of rape and murder but also of hope and courage. One after another, children came to the podium at St. Peter Armenian Church on Sunday, April 18, to share what their relatives endured at the hands of the Ottoman Empire after World War I.

“We all, when we were growing up, heard the stories from our parents and our grandparents about what happened. It’s personal for each of us,” said Father Bedros Shetilian of Troy’s Holy Cross Armenian Church.

The two churches gathered Sunday to commemorate the Armenian Genocide, which saw upwards of 1.5 million Armenians killed beginning April 24, 1915 — a day “any Armenian knows,” Shetilian said. But beyond the prayers and memorials was another purpose.

Despite the expressed intent of President Barack Obama to do so, the United States has yet to join 20 nations and more than 40 of its own states in officially proclaiming the mass deaths an act of genocide. The legislation is languishing largely to avoid political tension with the Turkish government, which describes the actions of its predecessor as the consequences of war and not an attempted extermination.

“The Armenian in me is tired of waiting,” said Herand Markarian, a playwright and scientist who served as Sunday’s keynote speaker.

Markarian said the Armenian diaspora, which was created by those who fled during the massacres, is used as a political tool in the debate.

Despite governments being comprised of individuals, “individuals have consciences and governments don’t. They have interests,” he said. “It’s a poker game for them. It depends on who has the stronger cards. Unfortunately, the word ‘justice’ has no place.”

The acts of the Ottoman Empire were carried out with the intent of eliminating the Armenian minority to allow for an expanded Turkish state. The roughly 1.5 million Armenians killed represented roughly half of the population.

Flowers were planted outside St. Peter Church to remember the victims alongside a monument that exists for the same purpose.

On Saturday, April 24, local Armenians and supporters marched from Monument Square in Troy across the Hudson River to The Armenian American Community Center on Third Avenue in Watervliet to recognize the genocide.

New York is among the American states that recognize the killings as an act of genocide, and it does so in strong words. It recognizes April 24 as a day to commemorate, “in the interest of historical truth and accuracy,” a genocide which utilized “some of the most inhumane methods.”

“It is fitting that all New Yorkers recognize the hardships Armenians faced, for the purpose of preventing tragedies such as the Armenian Genocide of 1915-23 from recurring, and in appreciation of the United States’ role as a place of refuge for all oppressed people,” the proclamation signed by Gov. David Paterson reads.



Members of Holy Cross Church and St. Peter Armenian Church Commemorate Armenian Genocide Sunday April 18, 2010 at St. Peter Armenian Church in Watervliet. (Photo by J.S. Carras/*The Record*)

“There are three references in the Governor’s proclamation to the ‘genocide,’” said Paul DerOhannesian, a local attorney who introduced Sunday’s speakers. “That is the word we must use to describe what happened.”

Markarian said it may be time for Armenians to stop waiting. He noted that the Armenian diaspora across nations lacks both unity and a figurehead to sit down at the table with Turkey. He called for a more proactive approach.

“Why don’t we go to the White House and yell, ‘Mr. President, you promised. ... Don’t hide behind these political issues,’” Markarian said. “We didn’t do it. And we expect the world to come to us?”



The following family stories were told by the youth of St. Peter Armenian Church during the special program held on Sunday, April 18, commemorating the 95th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide:

“In 1915 the Turkish soldiers came to the house of my great grandmother, Araxy Hatzikjian, in the village of Aintab. They shot and killed both of her parents, Garabed and Lucy, and her brother, Nersess. Our great grandmother, Araxy, and her sister, Armenouhi, hid behind a barn and were able to avoid being killed. They were deported and fled to Aleppo, Syria. Our great grandmother’s sister became deaf and disabled because of the march to Syria and lived the rest of her life in an orphanage and home for the disabled.

“Our great grandfather, Haroutuin Tutunjian, and his three brothers lived in the village of Aintab. In 1915 the Turkish soldiers forced his parents, Garabed & Louso Tutunjian, out of their house and were forced to march through the desert. They suffered badly during the march, and his parents died out of starvation in the desert at Der Zor. Our great grandfather and his three brothers survived and lived in Aleppo, Syria.

“Today, we honor and remember their sacrifice and suffering.”

Tanya & Reyna Tutunjian

“This is a story about my Nene’s grandparents on my mom’s side. As we all know, in 1915 the Turks took everything from the Armenians and they deported them from their homes.

“My Nene’s grandparents fled to Hamo, Syria, in 1895 when the Young Turks started their first round of deportation. Two years after they fled, my Nene’s grandparents when back to Aintab, after the Young Turks said they would leave the Armenians alone. For a few years everyone thought they were safe and went back to their own lives. But in 1914, everything changed. The Young Turks changed their minds and turned on the Armenians. Once the Armenians, including my great-great grandfather, heard of the deportations, they were angered and gathered as many metals such as pots and pans in order to create canon balls for the canons. They set these canons on the Turks, and it scared them away.

“No one in my family was killed throughout the genocide, but my great grandfather did get severely injured. He was almost beaten to death with a stick.

“They arrived at Carasun Manuk Church, also called 40-orphanage church. There they went to a house called Khan, which was like a hotel. This hotel was in Halab and the family started getting jobs. While in Halab, they found their uncle, which they haven’t seen in years. This uncle helped them get a house and better jobs.

“My great grandmother was a very religious women, and she always got up in the middle of the night and prayed to God. But even though she died, her prayers saved the rest of the family.”

Raffi & Rebecca Moroukian

“The 1915 Genocide has left an enormous wound on my great grandmother’s heart. One day she was playing outside with her five-year-old brother, when suddenly an army of marching Turkish soldiers captured them. By the end of the day, there were thousands of Armenians marching from Urfa to the desert of Der Zor. Little did they know that they were on a death march, walking until they could no longer continue and left for dead.

“Although my great grandmother was seven years old, she protected her brother as much as possible by carrying him, singing to him and constantly talking to him trying to comfort him. But, unfortunately she was exhausted, dehydrated and mentally drained. With a shivering voice she explained to her five-year-old brother that she would have to let go of his hand. She tried to slow down, but the soldiers began to whip her and force her to continue marching. With tears rolling down her cheeks and body trembling, she continued to march without her brother. The march continued to Syria. That’s when she realized how many Armenians had been slaughtered and how few had survived the death march. Years passed by but the guilt and frustration did not subside. She began searching from church to church to try to find him. To her surprise, she finally reunited with her brother in Egypt. My great grandmother’s name was Marry Failbashian, and her brother’s name was Ghoren Failbashian, and they were survivors of the 1915 Genocide.

Moe Sukljian, Jr.

“My great grandmother, Luci Hartunian, was born in Aintab, Turkey, on September 15. She was the first born of four children. When she was five years old, the Turks invaded but she still stayed in Turkey. At this time, my great grandfather was in the Turkish army. A couple of years later when my great grandmother was 11 or 12, the Turks invaded and her and her family were forced to hide in their attic for safety. In 1922 she went to Aleppo, Syria, by covered wagon to board a train to Beirut. And my great grandmother lived through the Armenian Genocide.”

James Hartunian

“My great grandmother, Victoria-Nectar Vosgeritchian of Osmanieh, was deported with her two children, Elizabeth (8) and Nazareth (6) to Der Zor. On route, they arrived in Aleppo, where she was forced to surrender her two young children to German missionaries to spare them certain death in the desert. Her children were lost forever. She lost five of her brothers, her parents and other relatives, but she did not lose her faith.

“My great grandfather, Hampartzoom Kayayan of Hajin, was deported with his family in 1915. They returned to Hajin after the war but found the town surrounded by the Turks. The siege lasted for two years. After heroic battles, the town fell to the Turkish army in 1922. Fifteen thousand Armenians were killed that day except for a group of 400 who were able to escape fighting through the mountains to Adana, 60 kilometers away. While fleeing the enemy, he had to leave his daughter, Ossana, behind a wall pleading to be saved.

“My great grandparents, Bedros & Najibe Kechichian from Marash, were little children when they were promptly deported along with their parents from their ancestral land. They lost everything and had to live in a cemetery in Damascus in very poor conditions.

“I ask you to remember Elizabeth and Nazareth. I ask you to remember Osanna. I ask you to remember little Bedros and Boghos sitting on each side of a donkey leaving forcefully in fear from Marash.

“Please remember and pray for them. But also thank God for those who survived and gave life to my grandparents, parents and me.

Patrick Kayayan

REVIEW: “Silence in a Circular Rainbow”

By *Ovsanna Mooradian*

The World Premiere Staged Reading of the play “Silence in a Circular Rainbow,” written by Dr. Herand M. Markarian and directed by David Baecker, was presented by The New York State Theatre Institute April 30-May 2 at the Russell Sage College Theatre in Troy. Most of the people who attended the Saturday performance came from New York City, Connecticut and Springfield, MA.

The staged reading play was presented by the Institute’s seasoned actors and our own accomplished actress, Lorraine Serabian whose father fled the Armenian Genocide of 1915. It is the story of an Armenian family, like many others. Shooshan and her husband, Dr. Hagop, were very happy expecting their second child on the eve of World War I. Then, as we know, the Ottoman Turks began to systematically oppress, kill and deport the Armenians within the empire. It was very emotional and tear-shedding for everyone to witness Shooshan lose her husband and her agonizing search for her son and for eternal peace.

Following the Saturday performance, the cast was invited as guests of the Holy Cross Armenian Church in Troy for an Armenian dinner prepared by the parishioners of the church.

Over 20 countries have already recognized the Armenian Genocide. Although Armenians in the United States have been working very hard to get the government to recognize the genocide, as yet the United States has not done so. Turkey wants to become part of the European Union. Some of us believe that there will be Turkish people like Hagop’s friend who was cast in the play as a very kind Turk who defied and disobeyed his own father’s criminal orders, plus other internal forces like human rights activists, historians, and archivists as well as pressure from the European Union that hopefully will force the Turkish government to one day soon admit the genocide their forefathers perpetrated.

Happy Father’s Day Sunday, June 20

“What Makes a Dad”

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle’s flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it . . . Dad

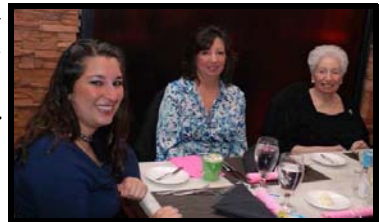
Author Unknown

Church Organization News

Women's Guild

The St. Peter Women's Guild has been very busy this spring!!

A Celebration of Mothers: Thank you to Holly Dadekian, Mary Panjarjian and Lenna Kandarjian Freedman for doing a great job on the Mother's Day Luncheon held at Filet 7 in Latham, NY, on May 8. Nearly 50 mothers and daughters, friends and family, and Guild members took part in the event. The program featured remarks by four young women who were given the task of exploring their "mother's closet" to learn something about them. Presenters included Caroline Boyajian, daughter of Rhonda Boyajian; Joyce Dadekian, daughter of Holly Dadekian; Katrina Ernest, daughter of Arpy Ernest and granddaughter of Yn. Zabelle Gdanian; and Bianca Karayan, daughter of Charlotte Sevazlian. All the young ladies spoke so eloquently and lovingly about their mothers and grandmothers.



The announcement of "Mother of the Year" is always a highlight of the program. This year the honoree was Seta Torosian. Seta and her husband Kevork raised two children, a daughter and a son, and currently have five grandchildren. Seta was chosen as "Mother of the Year" for her outstanding service to the St. Peter Church community. She is hardworking and gives of her time and talent and rarely refuses a request to help with the many Guild activities.



Members of the Executive Committee and general membership donated the raffle gifts. A special raffle drawing was held for a hand-made scarf made by Nectar Derian, who also matched the total proceeds from the sale of tickets as a donation to the Women's Guild.



To view a slide show of the event on the Internet created by Lori Payette, with photos by Charlotte Sevazlian, go to <http://animoto.com/play/YTByaW9LdjkvDvd9J5Me1Q>.

WGCC Diocesan Assembly: Thank you to Phyllis Jevanian and Lucy Morton for representing the St. Peter Women's Guild at the Diocesan Assembly held in Chicago, Ill from April 29th - May 2nd.

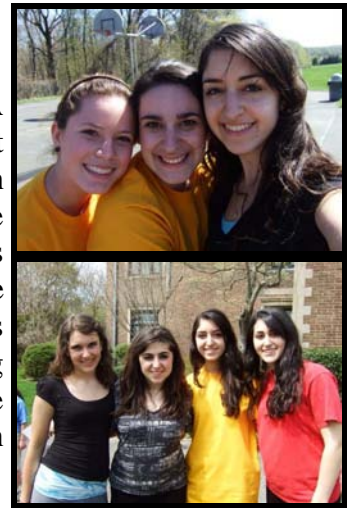
Garden Party Luncheon: We are excited to announce that the Women's Guild will be hosting a Garden Party Luncheon Membership Meeting on Saturday, June 26, at 12:30 p.m. on the church grounds. We hope to see all our members and prospective members attend this lovely event. (See flyer in this issue for more details.)

Annual Festival: In June, the Women's Guild will be busy with the planning and preparation of the bakery area for the upcoming Festival. If anyone is interested in donating baked goods or making a monetary donation, please feel free to contact the church office.

Rhonda Boyajian

ACYOA

Natalie Topalian (top photo, far right) represented the St. Peter ACYOA Juniors by attending the annual NY/NJ ACYOA Juniors Retreat sponsored by the Department of Youth and Education held at the Don Bosco Retreat Center in Stony Brook, NY, on April 9-11. Natalie (bottom photo, third from left) also participated in the St. Nersess Armenian Seminary 3K Walk-for-Faith event held on April 11. We are proud of Natalie's involvement in the events and programs offered by the Armenian Church in which she has made lifelong friends. We encourage more youth to take advantage of these opportunities provided by our parish, our Diocese, and the Armenian Church worldwide.



Following the devastating earthquake in Haiti earlier this year, the St. Peter ACYOA Juniors wanted to do something to help by participating in a relief project to provide health kits through International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). Thank you to all those who contributed items for the Health Kits as well as the monetary donations totaling \$100.

The annual Palm Sunday Luncheon hosted by the ACYOA Juniors was a great success again this year. We thank all those who supported this event by attending the luncheon as well as those who helped cook, set-up, serve and clean-up. The proceeds of the event totaled almost \$800 and will go to fund future activities of the St. Peter ACYOA Juniors.

On Saturday, April 24, the St. Peter ACYOA Juniors in conjunction with the American Red Cross, hosted a blood drive at St. Peter Armenian Church in commemoration of the victims of the Armenian Genocide and the earthquake in Armenia in 1988. The event was a great success. The Red Cross was able to collect 42 units from 48 registered donors, including 21 first-timers. This was approximately 168% of the goals for the drive. More importantly, this blood will now provide the gift of life to as many as 126 recipients. We thank all who assisted and all who donated.



Recovery table for a nourishing snack after donating.



Registration desk for checking in.



Adult Fellowship

For our luncheon meeting on May 5 we enjoyed a picnic-style meal of hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings in the Gdanian Auditorium. Our guest speaker was P. Thomas Carroll, the Executive Director of the Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway. He presented a very interesting and informative talk on how the Troy Industrial Area could be called the Silicon Valley of the Nineteenth Century. He illustrated his talk with slides showing the variety of products made in the Troy area that were distributed and used throughout the country. These included such things as cooking & heating stoves, detachable collars, horseshoes, railroad spikes, bells, and many others that can be seen at the Burden Iron Works Museum located at One East Industrial Parkway in Troy.

Again this year, members will be helping with our Annual Church Festival activities. Ara Baligian and Russ Kilidjian have been designated as the coordinators for our club's participation in this event.

Our annual trip to the Mac-Haydn Theatre in Chatham has been scheduled for August 19 to attend the matinee performance of the musical *Showboat* by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein featuring classic favorites such as "Ol' Man River," "Only Make Believe," and "Can't Help Lovin' that Man." Instead of our usual luncheon before the theater performance, there is a possibility of having dinner together at an area restaurant afterwards. Details will be available as soon as a final decision has been made. Meanwhile, anyone interested should contact Martin Kenosian at (518) 785-3140. **Reservations are absolutely necessary** to obtain one of the thirty tickets we have reserved for this very popular theatrical presentation.

Our club continues to experience some difficulty in getting the word out about the availability of our activities to our community. Club members are contacted personally by the Calling Committee and information is available to non-members by notices in the church bulletin and the Loosaper. However, since only paid members receive personal contact, anyone wishing to obtain information on a regular basis should become a member. The dues are only \$5 annually.

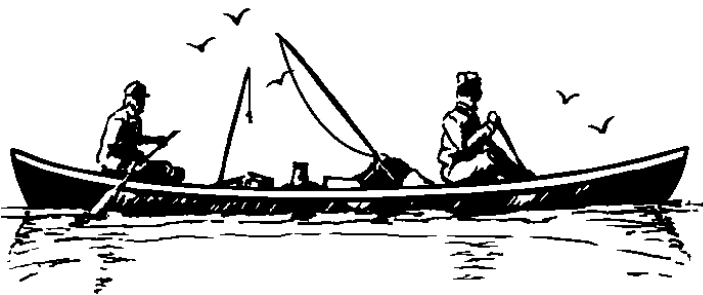
Our club's next major function will be our Anniversary Luncheon in September. Why not plan on joining us for this festive event? Information will be available as soon as plans have been finalized by the Executive Committee.

Now it's time to relax and enjoy those warm, hazy days of summer!

Martin Kenosian, Secretary

VACATION FROM GOD?

The advent of summer, among other things, brings about lower attendance at church services on Sunday mornings. We look forward to summer vacation in order to relax and get away from the daily routines of our lives. However, we should not plan on taking a vacation from God and



His Church during this summer. While away from home, try to attend Sunday services at a nearby Armenian Church or, if one is not available, an Orthodox or other Christian Church. If there are none in the area, at least take a few moments to offer a prayer and thanksgiving to God at the beginning of the day.

Parish Community News

Sacraments and Rites

Baptism **Lucy Joyce Buff**, daughter of John & Alyson (Chorbajian) Buff, on April 17, 2010. Godfather, Jason Buff; Godmother, Andrea Chorbjian; Celebrant, Rev. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

Karasoonek (40-Day Memorial)

April 11, 2010 **Marion T. Quiroga** - requested by Leslie & Kim Peppin & Family.

Hokehankist

April 11, 2010 **Albert Derian** (Sixth Anniversary) - requested by Mrs. Isabel Derian & Family; Richard & Barbara (Derian) DeMartino & Family.

May 9, 2010 **Berj & Paris Avakian; Nevins Family** - requested by Dr. Nancy Avakian & Family; William & Betty Jane Nevins & Family.

Edward Hartunian (Seventh Anniversary) - requested by Mary Hartunian; Mr. & Mrs. George Scaringe & Sons; Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. Hartunian & Sons.

Mary Khachikian (Tenth Anniversary) - requested by Victor Khachikian; Michael & Lori Brown & Family; Michael & Rebecca Dearstyne & Family.

May 16, 2010 **Archbishop Dirair Mardikian, Primate of the Diocese of Romania & Bulgaria** - requested by Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).

May 23, 2010 **Bedros Topalian** (Thirtieth Anniversary) - requested by Agavni Topalian; Berj & Lusine Topalian & Family; Mr. & Mrs. Rafi Topalian & Sarah; Frank & Carolyn Marchese & Family; Setrak & Armine Tchilingarian & Family; Gohar Tchilingarian; Mikael & Yeran Mikaelian & Family.

Altar Flowers

April 4, 2010 Lucille Shamlian & Family in memory of **Harry T. Shamlian**.

April 11, 2010 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Kenosian in memory of **Gary Uram & A. Gregory Kenosian**.

May 9, 2010 Khachikian, Brown & Dearstyne Families in memory of **Mary Khachikian**.

May 23, 2010 Dr. & Mrs. Robert Dadekian in honor of **Jonathan & Violet's** engagement and in celebration of **Joyce's** graduation from Skidmore College.

Altar Candles

April 4, 2010 Hagop & Mary Patoukian in **thanksgiving of good health**.

April 11, 2010 Mrs. Valery Gaston in memory of **loved ones**.

May 16, 2010 Mary Kalteux in memory of **Marianne Boyagian**.

Palm Sunday & Easter Flowers

The palm trees decorating the sanctuary and the palms distributed on Palm Sunday, March 28, were donated by Mrs. Mary Hartunian & Family in memory of **loved ones**.

Easter lilies for Holy Week and Easter were donated by: Winifred Ammian in memory of **Leo Ammian**; Betty Avakian and Shirley Avakian & Family in memory of **Avakian & Baronian Families**; Sona Hachigian in memory of **loved ones**.

Memorial Wreaths

A memorial wreath was donated on April 18 on the occasion of the commemoration of the 95th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

Mother's Day Flowers

Flowers distributed on the occasion of Mother's Day, May 9, were donated by Edward Belemjian in memory of **Virginia Belemjian**.

Fellowship Hour

To maintain a regular schedule of coffee hours, the Parish Council is asking that church auxiliaries/schools and individuals/families select dates to host a coffee hour. Please contact the church office to make the necessary arrangements and to reserve the date of your choice.

Refreshments for the Fellowship Hour after Church Services were donated as follows:

- April 11 The Nalbandian Family
in celebration of Nazareth, Melanie & Hrant Nalbandian's 13th birthdays.
- May 16 St. Peter Church Adult Bible Study Group
- May 23 The Dadekian Family
to introduce and welcome Jonathan's fiance, Violet Mirzoyan, to the community as well as to celebrate the recent graduation of Joyce Dadekian from Skidmore College.



L-R: Violet, Holly, Joyce, Robert & Jonathan.

Visiting Guest Clergy

We are grateful to the following visiting clergy who came to conduct services on the following dates: Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday, Fr. Sahak Kaishian; April 11, Fr. Garen Gdanian; April 18, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian and Fr. Bedros Shetilian; May 9, Fr. Sahak Kaishian; May 16, Fr. Garen Gdanian; and May 23, Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian. We are also grateful to Yervant Kutchukian and our deacons who conducted services on the following Sunday dates: April 25, May 2, and May 30.

Words of Thanks

"I sincerely thank everyone for their cards, visits, calls and prayers during the process of my recent kidney transplant and recovery. I especially thank Der Stepanos, Der Garen and Yervant Kutchukian for their prayers and for visiting me while in the hospital and Der Sahak Kaishian for his prayers and phone call on Easter Sunday."

Debbie Chorbazian Ekmalian

Thank you to Nectar Derian for making mahs for Easter Sunday.

Distribution of Mahs Badarak: "Mahs" or holy bread is distributed among the congregation at the end of the Divine Liturgy. Mahs means portion. It is symbolic of the portion of everything that was offered by and on behalf of the community — our time, our talent and our treasures. It is related closely, although symbolically, to the offering that each of the faithful make at the beginning of every week. When you take your Mahs, you kiss it and eat it. It is a good custom to take some home to those members of the family who were desirous to come to church, but were unable to do so, reflecting our social responsibility and the outreach of Christian love beyond our religious community. Taking Mahs does not replace the importance of receiving the Holy Communion. Mahs is a sign of Christian charity and spiritual kinship.

Mahs-makers are always needed to keep a supply available to the church. Please contact the church office or a member of Parish Council to offer your help.

Class of 2010

Congratulations are extended to the following students who graduated from their schools in 2010: God Bless and much success!!

Michael Kevork Bedian, son of Bob & Sandy Bedian, graduated from Hudson Valley Community College with a degree in Criminal Justice. He will continue his studies in this field at SUNY Plattsburgh in the fall.

Sarah Danielle Booruji, daughter of Peter & Patricia Booruji (NJ), graduated from Whippany Park High School. Sarah will attend Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA, in the fall to pursue a major in Computer Science. She is the granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Booruji (NJ) and the niece of Linda Kazanjian and Arleen & Robert Drooby.

Joyce Dadekian, daughter of Robert & Holly Dadekian, graduated from Skidmore College with a degree in Psychology and a minor in English & Economics. Joyce will be attending Washington University in St. Louis, MO, to continue her studies to receive a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy.

Alison Derian DeMartino, daughter of Richard & Barbara (Derian) DeMartino, graduated from Saratoga Springs High School. Alison has been accepted into the Green Mountain College honors program in Poultney, VT, where she will continue her studies in the fall. She was awarded an Academic Honors Scholarship, a Community Service Scholarship, and a Leadership Scholarship. She is the granddaughter of Isabel Derian.

Emily Derian DeMartino, daughter of Richard & Barbara (Derian) DeMartino, graduated from Bard College in Annandale, NY, with a BA degree in Studio Arts following the showing of her senior thesis art exhibition. She is the granddaughter of Isabel Derian.

Steven Hrachian, son of Charleen Hrachian and Seren & Pam Hrachian, graduated from SUNY Albany with a BS degree in Economics. Steven has been working at the NYS Department of Taxation & Finance as an intern and will continue working in that Department in a permanent position. He is the grandson of Dorothy Sogioian (FL) and Suren & Sarah Hrachian.

Christine Allison Kilidjian, daughter of Russ & Angie Kilidjian, graduated from the University of Memphis. Christine will be pursuing a Master's degree in Forensic Science at Boston College in the fall. She is the granddaughter of Russ & Sandy Kilidjian.

Peter Seth Kutchukian, son of Armenak & Winifred Kutchukian, graduated from Harvard University with a Ph.D. in Chemistry & Chemical Biology.

Courtney LaMarche, daughter of church secretary Lori Payette, graduated from Shaker High School. Courtney will be attending Hudson Valley Community College in the fall.

Sean McMullan, husband of Alice (Jevanian) McMullan, recently received his MBA degree from the College of St. Rose. Sean currently works at the NYS Energy Research & Development Authority.

Daniel O'Keefe, son of Joseph & Patty O'Keefe, graduated from the University of Rhode Island School of Business with a major in Finance. Dan will be returning to the Capital District to work for a finance consulting firm in Clifton Park. He also plans to continue his education in a Master's program. He is the grandson of Joanne Hartunian.

Lindsay Samela, daughter of Leta Hunter & Brian Samela, graduated Cum Laude from SUNY Albany with a BS degree in Marketing/Communications. Lindsay plans on moving to California. She is the granddaughter of Russ & Sandy Kilidjian.

Class of 2010

Stephen Samela, son of Leta Hunter & Brian Samela, graduated from Scotia-Glenville High School. He was chosen from 150 applicants to fill one of the 15 open positions in the freshman class at the School of Nanoscale Science and Engineering at SUNY this fall. Stephen is the grandson of Russ & Sandy Kilidjian.

Stephen Scaringe, son of George & Joanne Scaringe, graduated from Bentley University in Waltham, MA, with a BS degree in Corporate Finance & Accounting and a minor in Law. Stephen has accepted a position with J.P. Morgan in Boston, MA. He is the grandson of Mary Hartunian.

Bedros Topalian, son of Berj & Lucy Topalian, graduated from Loudonville Elementary School and will attend Shaker Junior High School in the fall. He is the grandson of Agavni Topalian.

Natalie Topalian, daughter of Berj & Lucy Topalian, graduated from Shaker High School with honors. Natalie will be attending Siena College with a major in Business in the fall. She is the granddaughter of Agavni Topalian.

Brady Walsh, son of Daniel & Joy Walsh, graduated third in his class from Burnt Hills High School. He will be attending Crane School of Music in the fall to major in Music & Voice. Brady is the grandson of Armenak & Winifred Kutchukian.

Announcements



Congratulations to **Richard Hartunian** who took his oath of office for the position of U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York in an investiture ceremony at the James T. Foley U.S. Courthouse in Albany on April 30, 2010. Dozens of judges, politicians and other dignitaries were present. U.S. Senator Charles Schumer spoke during the program as well as City of Albany Mayor Gerald Jennings. Mr. Hartunian took the oath before U.S. District Judge Norman Mordue with his hand on a Bible, held by his wife Beth, that was given to his family after the 1988 Lockerbie bombing in which his sister Lynne was killed. His three sons Joseph, John & James were also present and participated in the program by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Congratulations to **John & Robin Jerian** on the birth of a daughter, Bailey Karalyn Jerian, on May 15, 2010. Congratulations also to the grandparents, Vartan & Lynne Jerian and Frank & Karen Wania.

Special Donations

A general donation of \$100 was received from Hariton Sprinceanu in memory of **loved ones**.

A pew plate was recently purchased by Sherry Edwards in memory of **Alice Terzian Minerley**. Pew plates are a nice way to pay tribute to someone special and can be donated in honor of or in memory of friends or family members. Consider also donating a pew plate in honor of someone for a special occasion such as a wedding date/anniversary, birth announcement, baptism, graduation, etc. The required donation for each plate is \$150. Please contact the church office for more information or to make arrangements for a plate engraving.

We thank all those who made monetary contributions toward the **Madagh Meal** that was served following the services and special program on April 18: \$500 - Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mahserjian; \$100 - Mr. & Mrs. Harry Tutunjian; \$75 - Arthur & Sylva Mahserjian; \$50 - George & Ginny Karian, Violet & Bedros Karian, Mr. & Mrs. Mihran Mooradian, Joan Tutunjian, Mr. & Mrs. Augustus Vozzy; \$35 - Isabel Krempa; \$25 - Hagop & Nectar Derian, Sona Hachigian, Raffe & Sonya Moroukian; \$20 - Dr. Ara Kayayan, Susan Sogoian; \$15 - Lucy Morton. An additional \$371 was contributed through a basket collection for a total of \$1,461 in monetary donations. We also thank Nora's Grocery for donating the bulghar for the meal.

Easter Yughakin Donations

\$200 George & Virginia Mahserjian

100 Anonymous

Mr/Mrs J. Albert Barsamian
Nishan Dadian
Dr. Ara Kayayan
Philip Natcharian
Arsulus Tabakian

Steve & Pam Azarian

Mr/Mrs Charles Chorbajian
Joanne Hartunian
Martin & Joyce Kenosian
Hagop Poladian
Mr/Mrs Kevork Torossian

Harry & Rose Badrigian (CT)

in memory of Arshag & Hovig Hovnanian
Paul & Marion Jaffarian
Mr/Mrs R. Mihran Mooradian
Alice Sanjian Rotondi

75 Mr/Mrs H. Khachik Minassian

50 Brian & Garyn (Gdanian) A'Hearn

Rev/Mrs Garen Gdanian
Mr/Mrs Arthur Kahkejian
Mr/Mrs Arthur Mahserjian
David F. Quinones
Lucille Shamlian

Harry & Rosemary Ammian

Barouyr Hairabedian
James & Mary Kalteux
Mr/Mrs Robert Nazarian
Margaret Sakalian
Haigoohi M. Smith

Ralph & Elizabeth Enokian

Mr/Mrs Richard Hartunian
Mr/Mrs Russell Kilidjian
George & Betty Osganian
Mr/Mrs George Scaringe
Mr/Mrs Charles Tutunjian

30 Mr/Mrs Hrant Bardakjian

Morris (Moe) Eghigian

25.40 Mr/Mrs John Ekmalian

25 Harry & Mary Ammian

George & Elsie Bedrosian
Richard DeMartino
& Barbara Derian
Sona Hachigian
Mary Jaffarian
Mr/Mrs Edward Kazanjian
Helen Paparian
Mr/Mrs Gary Vartanian & Family

Anonymous

Cecilia Burgess
Isabel Derian
Irina Ermolenko
Mary Hartunian
Leon & Susan Kaiser
Isabel Krempa
Anna Pascasio
Ralph Vartigian

Beatrice Arzoumanian

Mr/Mrs Michael Coogan & Family
Paul Dichian
Rose Foley
Sarah & Suren Hrachian
Grace Karian
Lucy Krikorian
Mrs. Mary Shanks
S. Young

20 Mr/Mrs Kirkor Agopyan

Nellie Marderosian
Lucille Sogoian

Peter & Carol Duro

Ida & Sarkis Mihranian
Claudia Suppa

Najib Himidian

Gregory & Marjorie Nazarian
Augustus & Elsie Vozzy

15 Eleanor & Melanae Meeson

John Messikian

Lucy Morton

10 Alis Acemoglu

Gregory Gosian
Fay Talarico

Arpy Ernest

Linda Kazanjian
Sarah J. Zadigan

Mr/Mrs Sarkis Garabedian

Susan Sogoian

5 Betty Sedefian

Total: \$3,820.40

In Lieu of Flowers Donations

IN MEMORY OF SARKIS KHANJIAN

\$ 300 DesCar Jewelry Design LTD (MA)

New Total: \$2,135

IN MEMORY OF MARION T. QUIROGA

\$ 120 The Ilium Literary Club

New Total: \$1,950

Sincere appreciation and acknowledgment is extended to the above-named individuals for their generous memorial donations.

ՍՈՒՐԲ ԻՄԱՍՏՈՒԹԻՒՆ

Առիթով մը ներկայ գտնուեցայ քաղաքիս Ռուսական Եկեղեցոյ պաշտամունքին: Հաւատացեալներու բազմութիւնը, երկիւղալից խաչակնքումներն ու երկրպագութիւնները, սրբանկարներու թափօրը եւ մեծով ու պզտիկով կատարուող խաչահամբոյրը վրաս խորունկ տպաւորութիւն թողուցին: Պահ մը կարծեցի որ Էջմիածին կամ Երուսաղէմ կը գտնուիմ եւ Ուխտի Օր մըն է: Արդարեւ այդ օր Ռուսական Եկեղեցոյ մէջ «Սուրբ Իմաստութիւնը» կը տօնուէր:

«Սուրբ Իմաստութեան» պաշտամունքը ռուսերու եւ համայն Օրթոտոքս Եկեղեցիներու յատուկ տօն մըն է: Հայերուս մօտ չի նշուիր այս տօնը: Թէեւ թէ՛ Պատարագի եւ թէ՛ Ժամերգութեանց աղօթքներուն մէջ «երկնային իմաստութեան» խնդրանք կը մատուցանենք: Հոգեգալուստի Կիրակին կ'երգենք. «Սուրբ Հոգին առաքեալներուն երկնային իմաստութիւն շնորհեց»: Յիսուս Քրիստոսը «Իմաստութիւն Հօր» կ'անուանենք եւ Աւագ Ծաբաթի Երեքշաբթին «Իմաստուն Կոյսերու» տօնը կը նշենք: Բայց եւ այնպէս մենք ռուսերուն նման «Սուրբ Իմաստութեան» յատուկ պաշտամունք չունինք:

Աստուածաշունչի գիրքերէն մի քանին ծանօթ են որպէս «Մատեան Իմաստութեան»: Առակաց Գիրքը, Ժողովորդը եւ Առնիսկ Սաղմոսները այս խումբին կը պատկանին: Գրուած է որ Սողոմոն Թագաւոր Աստուծմէ «իմաստութիւն» խնդրեց եւ Աստուած իրեն առատ իմաստութիւն պարգեւեց: Սողոմոն իր ժողովուրդը «իմաստութեամբ» կառավարեց եւ իր «իմաստութեան» համբաւը շրջակայ երկիրներուն մէջ տարածուեցաւ: Սողոմոն շարադրեց Առակաց Գիրքը եւ անով գովարանեց «իմաստութիւնը»: Ես կը խորհիմ որ ռուսերը «իմաստութեան» պաշտամունքը որդեգրեցին Առակաց Գիրքին վրայ հիմնուելով: Կ'արժէ այս գիրքը կարդալ մէկէ աւելի անգամներ եւ ուսանիլ «իմաստութեան» գաղտնիքները:

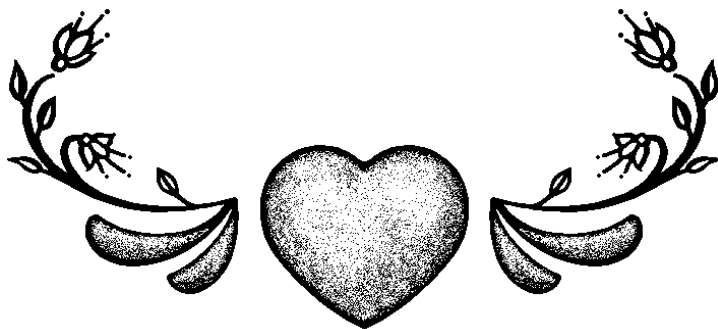
«Իմաստութիւնը» մեր Տիրոջ անունին կապուած ստորոգելիներէն մէկն է, եւ ուրեմն է նաեւ «սուրբ»: Նոյնիսկ անհաստ անձեր կը խոստովանին որ երկնքի եւ երկիրի Արարիչը «իմաստուններուն իմաստունն է»: Չէ՞ որ արեգակն ու աստղերը, դաշտերն ու աղբիւրները Անոր փառքը կ'երգեն: Հողէղէն արարածները կ'ապրին եւ կը շնչեն Երկնային Հօր «իմաստութեանը» շնորհիւ: Աստուծոյ «նախախնամող իմաստութիւնը» անչափ է, անհատնում է, սքանչելագործ է եւ ուրեմն է՝ պաշտելի, եւ երկրպագելի:

Աստուած հաճեցաւ «Իր իմաստութեան» բաժնեկից ընել մեզ՝ մարդ արարածներս: Մարդոց «իմաստութիւնը» անձ է եւ նոյնիսկ մինչեւ երկինքները հասած է: Մարդը այսօր կարողութիւն եւ «իմաստութիւն» ունի ադամական դրախտը եւ երկնքի արքայութիւնը երկրի վրայ հաստատել: Դժբախտաբար սակայն մարդիկ կան՝ որոնք հակառակն է որ կը գործեն: «Իմաստութեան» տեղ «անմտութիւնը» կը նախընտրեն, չարին եւ սատանային կը հետեւին եւ համայն աշխարհի կործանումին կը ձգտին:

Աստուծոյ «իմաստութիւնը» խրթին չէ, բարդ չէ, դժուարին չէ: Ընդհակառակն, պարզ է, ուրախ է, դիրին է, մատչելի է: Առաքեալները թէ՛ ձկնորս էին եւ թէ՛ անուս, բայց Աստուած զանոնք ընտրեց որպէս երկնային «իմաստութեան ընդունարան»:

Մարդիկ Աստուած չեն: Մարդոց «իմաստութիւնը» ամէն ինչ չէ: Սողոմոն իմաստուն կ'ըսէ. «Սկիզբն իմաստութեան երկիրը Տեառն»: Որքան լաւ պիտի ըլլար եթէ որպէս ճշմարիտ քրիստոնէականեր՝ ամէն օր կարդայինք Շնորհալի Հայրապետի հետեւեալ խօսքերը. «Իմաստութիւն Հօր, Յիսուս, տո՛ւր ինձ իմաստութիւն, գրարիս խորհել եւ գործել առաջի քո ամենայն ժամ»:

1985



Community News

Congratulations to **Haig Goudsouzian and Jorka Dearstyne** who were married in Saratoga Springs on May 8, 2010. Haig is the son of Dr. & Mrs. Nishan Goudsouzian (MA). Fr. Garen Gdanian & Rafi Topalian participated in the wedding service.

Congratulations to **Troy Kasbarian & Tamar Karian** who were married on May 30, 2010, at St. Peter Armenian Church. Troy is the son of Sarkis & Sona Kasbarian and Tamar is the daughter of Greg & Ayda Karian. The Best Man was Tavit Kasbarian and the Maid of Honor was Rita Guleserian. The Celebrant for the ceremony was Fr. Bedros Shetilian of Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church with the participation of Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian.

A local family is looking for an **Armenian-speaking caregiver** the an elderly but active woman with middle-stage Alzheimers living in Niskayuna. No hands-on personal care is needed, just someone to keep her company and supervise her cooking and outside activities. This position is flexible and can be part-time or full-time. If interested, contact the St. Peter Church office at (518) 274-3673 for more information.

The **2nd Annual Father's Day Picnic** will be held at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary in New Rochelle, New York, on Sunday, June 20. Plan to attend this traditional Armenian picnic complete with live music, delicious kebob meals, homemade desserts, vendors and more. Consider showing your support with a sponsorship donation. Visit www.stnersess.edu for more information or call (914) 636-2003.

On Wednesday evening, August 18, at the **Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC)** the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra will be conducted by the Armenian conductor, Peter Oundjian. The program will include the Shostakovich Violin Concerto No. 1 with the outstanding violinist, Sarah Chang, as the featured soloist. The program, which begins at 8:00 p.m., will also include Mozart's Overture to *The Magic Flute* and Brahms Symphony No. 2.

Mark your calendar now for **Armenian Family Fun Day** to be held on Saturday, October 2, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. at the New York State Museum. Bring the whole family and come celebrate Armenian culture by learning more about the harvest in Armenia. There will be hands-on educational activities for children of all ages to enjoy. The Armenian community has had a 20-year relationship with the NYS Museum through the Armenian Cultural Series. Your support and feedback of these programs is always welcome and greatly appreciated to ensure its future success. For more information or to offer your support or feedback, contact the event co-chairs, Rafi and Marianne Topalian at rafitop@aol.com or (518) 272-2000.

Upcoming Feast Days in the Armenian Church

Sunday, July 11, Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

On that day, it is customary to decorate the altar with roses. Individuals who wish to donate flowers for that day are asked to contact the St. Peter Armenian Church office.

Sunday, August 15, Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God

This feast day is observed with the traditional Blessing of the Grapes Service. Those wishing to donate toward the grapes for this occasion are asked to contact the church office.

Sunday, September 12, Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

On that day, basil (rahan) is needed to adorn the Cross of Christ. Please contact the church office if you are able to donate basil.

Armenian Festival

St. Peter Armenian Church

100 Troy Schenectady Road, Waterloot, NY

Saturday, June 12

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 13

12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m.

- ◆ Armenian & Middle-Eastern Music
- ◆ Fun & Games
- ◆ Entertainment
- ◆ St. Peter Church Bookstore & Giftshop
- ◆ Delicious Armenian Foods
- ◆ Shish Kebab
- ◆ Losh (Khema) Kebab
- ◆ Chicken Kebab
- ◆ Pilaf
- ◆ Lahmejune
- ◆ Pastries and more . . .

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Saturday Night Tavloo Tournament

**For more information, call (518) 274-3673
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St. Peter Armenian Church
Women's Guild

Garden Party Luncheon

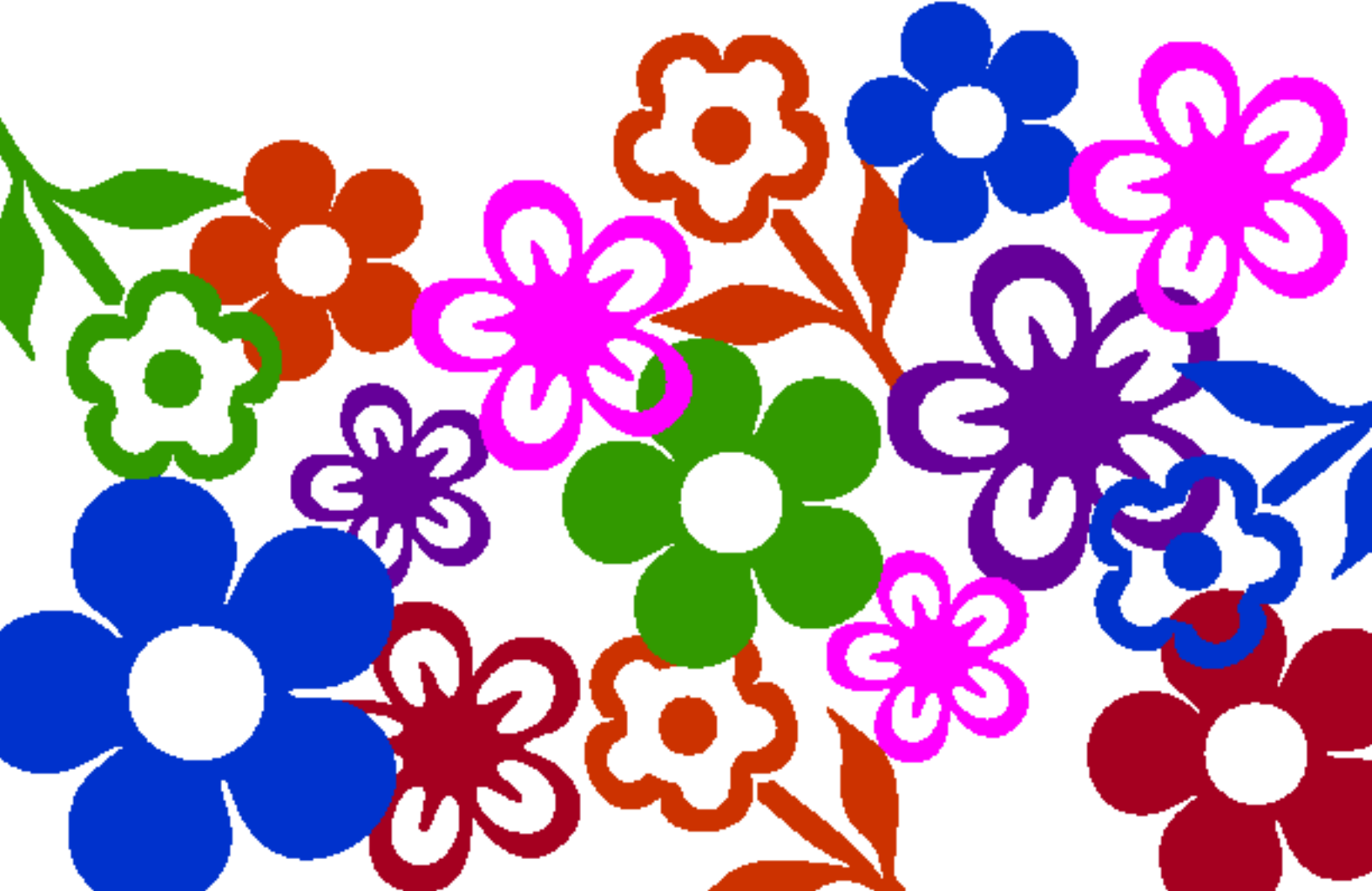
For Guild Members
and prospective members

Saturday, June 26, 2010
12:30 p.m.
church grounds

\$10 per person

Reservations required by June 20
Virginia Mahserjian at 783-8896
or Alice Chorbajian at 458-1539

Don't forget your sun bonnet!



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ARTICLES FOR THE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE OF *LOOSAPER*
MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2010

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, June 3	Festival Prep Day: Skewering Lamb Kebabs ~ 6:30 p.m.*
Friday, June 4	Festival Prep Day: Forming Losh Kebabs ~ 6:30 p.m.*
Thursday, June 10	Festival Prep Day: Skewering Chicken Kebabs ~ 6:30 p.m.* <i>*Volunteers needed</i>
Friday, June 11	Adult Bible Study Class: Gdanian Auditorium ~ 10:15 a.m.
Saturday, June 12	ARMENIAN FESTIVAL ~ DAY 1: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 13	ARMENIAN FESTIVAL ~ DAY 2: 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.
Friday, June 25	Adult Bible Study Class: Gdanian Auditorium ~ 10:15 a.m. <i>Last class until fall</i>
Saturday, June 26	Women's Guild Garden Party Luncheon: Church Grounds ~ 12:30 p.m.
July 2 - July 9	Church Office Closed: Secretary on vacation

Have a great

