

## CHOIR NEWS

The Annual Choir Meeting was held on November 8, 1979 and a new Executive Committee was elected. The new Executive Committee members are: Dr. Hrach Semerjian, Chairman; Mrs. Takouhi Avedikian, Secretary; and Mr. Ashod Krikorian, Treasurer. I take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to Mr. Jack Andonian, who for several years carried on the responsibilities as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Choir, Mrs. Kohar Andonian, who served as the Treasurer, and Mrs. Dorothy Small, who served as the Secretary.

On November 17th, we had the great pleasure of having Mr. Berj Zamkochian, organist for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, with us for an organ recital with our new organ. Both the recital and the Services, held on the following Sunday to dedicate our new organ, were truly inspirational. During the rehearsal we had with Mr. Zamkochian as well as the Services, the Choir members had the opportunity to appreciate his musical talents, as well as his "Haygagan" feelings. Indeed it was a time to feel proud to be an Armenian! We thank Miss Maggie Prodromidis and Mrs. Shakesh Bababshanian, and all others who helped make the post-Recital reception such a success.

Unfortunately, this fall brought us its share of sad days as well. We have lost our beloved Choir Director, Mr. Edward Scourian. We miss him dearly, both as our Director and as our friend. His death has left a big void in our hearts.

But we have to go on, and we have to continue his work! The Parish Council and Father Kalayjian are in the midst of a search for a new Choir Director. In the mean time Mrs. Kohar Andonian and Dr. Hrach Semerjian will be conducting the Choir on alternate Sundays.

The search for a new Choir Director and strengthening of our Choir at this particular time are especially critical. Our community will be hosting the Annual Diocesan Assembly during May 27-31, 1980. The week's activities will include a Sunday Service on June 1st, when His Holiness Vasken I, Catholicos of All Armenians, will be celebrating Mass. It is imperative that our Choir prepare for this special day properly and promptly. We are calling on all parishioners, young and old, who would like to sing to come and join the Choir. We are holding rehearsals on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. before Church Services. Sectionals are held once a month (for each section) with complete choir rehearsals again once a month. If you are interested, please contact John Krikorian, Hrach Semerjian or Father Kalayjian. It is important to realize that, if you prefer, you can participate in the rehearsals without singing during the Services, until you decide to do so. We need all the voices; sopranos, altos, tenors and basses. So PLEASE COME AND JOIN US! You will find it to be a very fulfilling experience.

One of the highlights of the evening was cutting of the 25th anniversary cake by Neshan Hintlian, godfather of the Church, a long-time supporter and active member of St. Mary's.

His Eminence addressed the audience, reminiscing about the early days of the parish. He commended the efforts of the first generation Aramians in the U.S. for building the Church with devotion and sacrifice and offered a challenge to the present generation to continue and expand the mission of the Church. His Eminence further urged the community to show more organized concern towards our newly arrived brothers and sisters from the Middle Eastern countries.

The evening continued with a gala dance. Middle Eastern entertainment was provided by the Middle East Ensemble and Armenian-American disco music by Edick and Zareh from the Hye Club of St. Mary's Church.

Sunday morning, His Eminence celebrated Divine Liturgy and delivered an inspiring sermon. At the end of the service, he conferred the ecclesiastical degree of Tbroutune (scribe) to the following: Dr. Hratch Semerjian, John Krikorian, Thomas Magarian, Jr., Simon Kumkumian, Kegham Kumkumian, Levon Andonian and Vache Tahmazian. Of these, the last four received the special privilege of wearing the stole (ouraragir). The following members of the choir received special blessings to wear the veil as Choristers: Yeretzgin Anahid, Anna Derderian and Maggie Prodromidis.

The Women's Guild had prepared an elaborate table of Armenian delicacies and the congregation enjoyed the fellowship hour where many met His Eminence personally.

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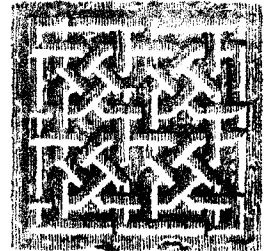
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Լաշուկարար. Ի՞նչ մընաց, կանգնէն ինձի ի՞նչ մընաց.  
Ի՞նչ որ տղի ուրիշն, տարօրինակ, այն միայն.  
Խանդավառանց մը ծածուկ, օրհնութիւններ անհմաց,  
Երբեմն հաւանանց սրտիս ու մերթ արցունց մը անձայն....

Ի՞նչ որ զգաց ուրիշն՝ վերադարձաւ անուշամ  
Ու զօրացած հոգիս մէջ մընայու յախտեան.  
Ի՞նչ որ տարաւ մէրն ինձէ՛ք՝ չըկրարեցուց զայն Լառուած  
Տրուա ինձ ետ ու ըսաւ անով իմ կեանքս միշտ բարեան....

Եւ այժմ, ո՛վ Տեր, հախառակ իմ տանջանքիս, հախառակ  
Ինձի հաւար սա չորցած երջանկութեան արքիւղին,  
Հին գինով յորդարուխ եւ կ'արքեան տակաւին....

Ու շնի բտր զի՞նչ մընաց. . . : Ի՞նչ կը մընայ հոգին տակ  
Շղթանէն զիրարեք, կարմիրնէն հառուարուն.  
Արեւն ընկած ըլլալու մշիկարար՝ Օրը անհուն:



PASTOR'S MESSAGE



The New Year Message

The New Year bestows upon us a new feeling of hope instilled with new inspirations, desires and aspirations. The renewed feeling of hope gives us the inspiration to succeed in life and the aspiration to make our dreams come true. Many do not succeed in the realization of their desires because they deprive themselves of this beautiful feeling of hope which gives them the strength and determination to succeed. Along with this feeling, there is prayer, the means to keep us in constant communication with our Creator, God Almighty. Those who lack inspiration and the renewed feeling of hope will ultimately fail in life's endeavors. Without the presence of God in their worldly lives and the inspiring goal of salvation, real happiness, life loses its true meaning and becomes hard to understand and appreciate.

Every minute is a day for those who utilize time knowingly and every day a year if we appreciate its value. True, we cannot bring back the past; but the present time can double in value if we use it wisely and sincerely. The value of life is not measured by the number of days or years one lives but by the fruitfulness and success of the life we live. It is not important how long we live; it is important to utilize the short amount of time given to us for God's purpose, the hope of salvation. Time is our most cherished treasure in life. Our real happiness depends on how well we plan our life and implement our desires towards the fulfillment of our calling as children of God. Everyone who lives on this earth has a mission, a goal to reach, which requires our sincere and untiring efforts. We have only one opportunity, one life to live, to reach this goal it should not be wasted, time goes by without ever returning. Our realization of our hopes depends upon how wisely and well we utilize this precious time granted to us. We all have a calling in life, each and everyone of us has an obligation to fulfill our life's calling. Only then will we have true meaning of life and real happiness.

The message for the year gone by is to learn from our experiences and not to repeat our mistakes. The new year brings a new message of hope, giving us the inspiration and determination to succeed in our religious and national endeavors. Let the years that go by bring us a step closer to our goal in life, everlasting peace and happiness. A Happy New Year to all of you and may the grace of our Lord and Saviour be with each and everyone of you throughout your days on earth.



His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate, V. Rev. Fr. Houssig Bagdasian and the Church Servers that were elevated in rank on Dec. 16, 1979.

seeing so many members of our parish blessed with this privilege. Indeed, we are very fortunate to have such dedicated and devoted servers in our community. Their participation in our worship service truly adds to the inspiration and religious experience enjoyed by all of those who partake. May God Bless each and everyone of them granting them many many years of service in our church and community.

We are informed that Mr. Louis Zotian who for many years was our most devoted and faithful organist has resigned. We are sorry to see Mr. Zotian leave his position. We are all going to miss him very much, and it's going to be difficult not seeing Mr. Zotian behind the organ at church services. On behalf of our parish, we extend our appreciation and gratitude for his dedicated service. We pray that God will grant him many more years blessed with good health.

Word was received from St. George Armenian Church of Hartford that Rev. Fr. Khosrof Asadourian, passed away on December 28, 1979. Funeral Services were held at Hartford and were presided over by His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. May God Rest His Soul.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Armenian Christmas, January 6th, we had our annual Sunday School Hantes. This year we had a very large turnout to the satisfaction of all of us. The program was most interesting and appreciated by all of those who attended. We want to thank all of those who worked so hard for making our hantes a success. Many thanks to Rose Karpilo. The Sunday School realizing the need for a turn-table and amplifier purchased one for the benefit of our church.

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YPA

On January 19, the YPA held its first meeting of the year presided over by our new Chairman, Bob Wyso. Hosts for the evening were Rose and John Dinkjian and Charlie and Jean Ourganian. A great many members were present and had the opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of one another. The tentative agenda for the year was presented to the body and was set up as follows:

FROM THE PASTOR & PARISH COUNCIL

On Sunday, December 16, 1979, all those who were fortunate enough to be present and participate in the festivities that were held will agree that the spirit of that day will be with us for many many years to come. His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate, celebrated the Divine Liturgy and delivered a most inspiring sermon concerning the events of the day. On this memorable day the Altar Servers of our church were elevated in rank. They are as follows: Ordained Deacon: Hagop B ozian and Roy Stepanian. Stole Bearers: Richard Badishkanian, Vahe Baboomian, Gary Takvorian and Roy Morchian. Given the full rank of Tbir: Michael Takvorian, Armen Baboomian, Gregory Badishkanian and Andrea Badishkanian. Our hearts are filled with great pride and joy

February 9th	Meeting And Bible Talk
March 8th	Progressive Dinner
April 5th	Communion Breakfast
April 12th	Meeting and Bowling or Guest Speaker
May 10th	Gourmet Dinner
June 14th	Outing
September 13th	Covered Dish Dinner
October 1st	Fashion Show
October 11th	Meeting and Cultural Month
November 8th	Wine Tasting
December 6th	Elections and Christmas Party



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We are looking forward to a beneficial and fruitful year. Hope to see all our members at the next meeting. Out-going Chairlady Jean Berberian was thanked for a job well done and presented with a token gift from YPA.

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ACYOA

On January 5th, with members of our organization and Hayr Soorp we visited the Emerson Home For The Armenian Aged on the occasion of Armenian Christmas. We sang Christmas Carols and donated fruit. All those present were most appreciative of our visit. It was most rewarding for each and everyone of us.

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WOMEN'S GUILD

On January 9, 1980, Women's Guild visited the Emerson Home For The Armenian Aged. A service was held presided over by His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate, with the participation of our Hay Soorp, Father Yeznag Balian and Deacon Onig Terzian. The Women's Guild presented the residents with a gift. It was a most inspiring and comforting day, and we feel sure it was appreciated by all those present.

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ARMENIAN SCHOOL

The Armenian School recently purchased a new piano which has taken its place on the stage of the church hall. Its harmonious tones proved to be a tremendous asset to this year's annual Christmas Program; it is hoped that the entire congregation will continue to enjoy the music from this piano for many years to come. On January 25, continuing its effort to make "Armenianism" come alive for our American-Armenian children, the school board was honored with a slide presentation of Armenia for the school children by Mr. Berc Araz. With the use of his slides, Mr. Araz discussed his personal trip through historic Armenia. As a result of the discussion, many students were inspired with the dream of one day visiting their ancestral homeland. To help the congregation observe Sts. Vartanants Day, our Armenian students will re-enact portions from our history and, also, sing some of our favorite songs, on February 10, immediately following church services. Please plan on attending to celebrate St. Varten and his inspiration to our children.

Նոր Տարին մեզի կուտայ նոր ներշնչումներ, նոր իդէ, նոր հեռանկար, նոր երազ եւ մանաւանդ նոր յոյս: Թոյս որ կեանքի յաջողութեան էական պայմաններն են մէկն է ամէն ասպարէզի մէջ եւ ամէն ձեռնարկի համար: Շատեր իրենց բարի բաղձանքները իրազործելու մէջ կը ձախողին որովհետեւ անոնց հետ միասին չեն ունենար ոչ միայն այս յոյսը, այլ նաեւ պէտք եղած կամքի ոյժը, կորովն ու յարտեւումներն որոնք: Այս տուեալները նոյնիսկ անբաւական են յաջողելու համար կեանքի պայքարին մէջ: Պէտք է ստանայ միանալ նաեւ ազօթքը, մտորակային հոգիին հաւամբ առ Աստուծո: Անոնք որոնք չունին իրենց կեանքին մէջ ներշնչումի մասնաւոր վարկեաններ չեն կրնար իրերուն վրայ վերէն նայիլ եւ հոգեւոր ոյժով լիցուիլ: Բարոյական յաղթանակներ բարոյական ոյժով ձեռք կը բերուին: Այս ոյժը մտորակային հոգին կ'ստանայ, տիեզերքի մեծ հոգիին հետ շարունակ շփման զալով:

Իւրաքանչիւր վարկեան օր մըն է զայն գործածել զիտողին համար եւ իւրաքանչիւր օր տարի մը անոր յարգը ճանչցողին քով: Իրաւ է որ կոտորած ժամանակը չի կրնար ետ դառնալ քայց ներկայ վարկեանին արժէքը կրնայ կրկնապատուիլ լաւ կերպով օգտագործուելով: Մարդ մը ուրիշին տասը ժամուան մէջ առաջընթաց մէկ ժամուան մէջ արտադրելով իր ժամանակը տասնապատուած կըլլայ: Կեանքի արժէքը տարիներու շատութեամբ չէ որ կը չափուի այլ անոր ուրիշին ընծայած օգտակարութեամբը: Ոչ թէ երկար ապրելու ալ կարճ կեանքը արդիւնաւորութեամբ երկարելու մէջ կը կայանայ, կեանքի իսկական արժէքը: Յաջողութիւնը ոչ թէ երկար ալ արդիւնաւոր կեանք մը ապրելու մէջ է, իսկ արդիւնաւոր կեանք մը բոլորովն համար ալ հարկ է մեզի տրուած ժամանակի իւրաքանչիւր երկվայրկեանին վրայ գուրգուրալ: Ժամանակը որպէս թանկագին գանձ մեռ կեանքին դրամազուրկութիւնն է: Մեր երջանկութիւնը մեծ մասամբ կը կայանայ ժամանակը լաւ ծրագրելու եւ զայն բարութեամբ գործածելու մէջ: Ամէն մարդ որ աշխատէ կուգայ կատարելիք գործեր ունի կեանքի տարբեր շրջաններուն մէջ, շրջաններն որոնց մէջ էն միայն մէկ անգամ պիտի անցնի: Ամէն տարիքի եւ հասակի մէջ մեր պարտականութիւնները լիովին կատարելու մէջ կը կայանայ կեանքի վերջնական յաջողութիւնը, ինչպէս նաեւ մեր երջանկութիւնը:

Անոնոր տարուան պատգամն է մեզի զգաստանալ եւ խրատուիլ անցեալի փորձառութիւններէն եւ հին տարուան մէջ պատահած սխալները չկրկնել: Իսկ նոր տարուան պատգամը մեզի կը թելադրէ որ տարին լաւ սկսինք, լաւ շարունակենք ու լաւ վերջանենք. տագորուած նոր յոյսով, նոր ներշնչումներով որպէսզի մեր կրօնական ազգային կեանքը արդիւնաւորութիւն: Ծնորդաւոր նոր Տարի: