## ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1993, BLESSING OF MADAGH WILL TAKE PLACE AT OUR TRINITY FESTIVAL.

Questions always arise regarding the meaning of Madagh. I want to take this opportunity, therefore, to explain its meaning and significance.

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Madagh, as an act of Christian charity, is an offering to God. It is also an offering for the fulfillment of a vow and it is an offering for the repose of the souls of the deceased. Our ancestors had the custom of sacrificing animals or preparing different meals and inviting the faithful to partake.

These meals were prepared with young (meaning-madagh) lambs or other young animals.

Madagh, as an offering to God, was also called acabe (aghabi - which is the Greek work for love). Therefore, it was a meal of love and charity. The acabe was an invitation of feasting for the poor. It wasn't an occasion to honor the wealthy or the powerful. Madagh was an offering to God by distributing it to the needy. Madagh was also offered when someone had made a vow for the successful culmination of a wish; therefore, madaghs were offered as a gesture of gratitude, charity, and when a vow was fulfilled.

Therefore, all those amongst our parishioners who wish to make an offering for the Madagh for the fulfillment of a vow or for the repose of the souls of their loved ones, may fill the stub below and, with their offering, send it to the Church or bring it to the Festival on September 12, and give it to the Committee Members who will be handling the Madagh.

YOUR NAME	
NAME OF DECEASED	
AMOUNT OF OFFERING	