

## CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS

209-15 Horace Harding Blvd.  
Bayside, Long Island, N.Y.

September 1962-June 1963  
School Session: 10:30-11:50

## PRAYER BEFORE CLASS

Eemasdootiun Hor Hisoos, door eentz eemasdootuin,  
O Jesus, wisdom of the Father, grant me wisdom,

Uzparees khorhel, yev khosel, yev kordzel  
That I may always think, speak, and do

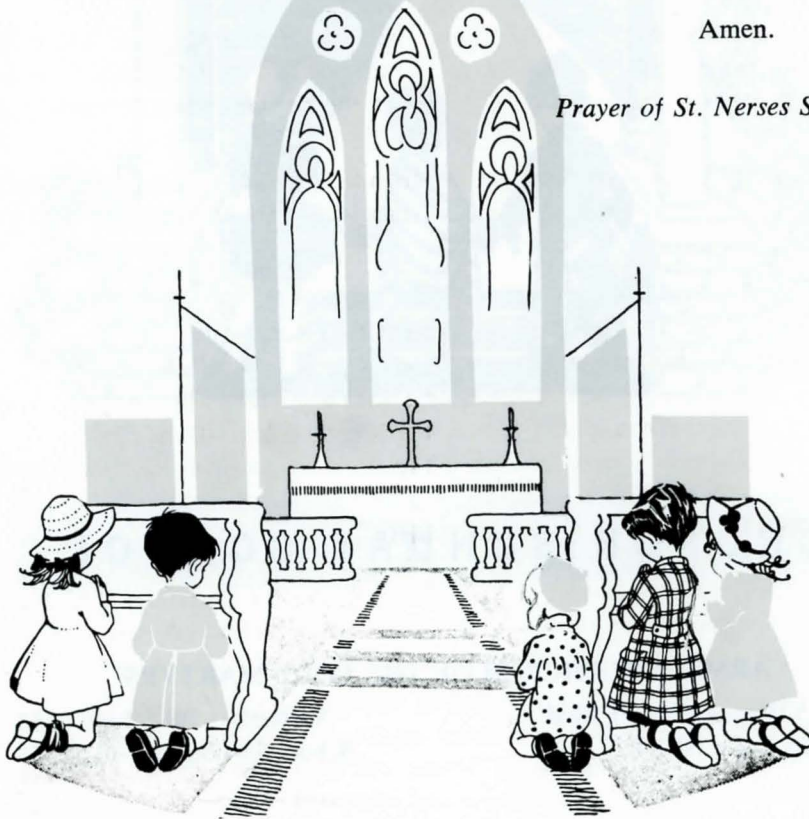
Arachee ko, hamenayn zham;  
That which is good in Thy sight;

Ee char khorhurtotz, ee paneetz yev ee kordzotz purgia zees,  
Save me from evil thoughts, words, and deeds.

Yev voghormia ko araradzotz yev eentz pazmameghees. Amen.  
Have mercy upon Thy creatures and upon me, a manifold sinner.

Amen.

*Prayer of St. Nerses Shnorhali*



## WELCOME TO YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN FROM THE SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS

The Church School, which first opened at the YMCA in Flushing, N. Y., in September, 1956, is now in its seventh year and has an enrollment of approximately 330 pupils.

REGISTRATION is held on the Sunday of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross which falls on September 16 this year. Children between the ages of 4 and 17 should enroll on that day at 10:30 A.M. as follows:

**Pre-school children through first grade — large upstairs classroom.**  
**Second grade through 11th grade (graduates) — church auditorium.**

Only children whose birthdays fall on or before December 31, 1958 can be accepted for the nursery class due to lack of classroom space. Kindergarten children will be accepted if born on or before December 31, 1957.

THE PURPOSE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION is to place God at the center and to bring the individual into the right relationship with God and his fellowship within the perspective of the fundamental Christian truths about all of life.

It is the responsibility of the entire parish to see to it that people know what the Gospel is, to preach and live the Gospel with the authority embodied in it as Christ's Body.

Our objectives are:

1. To build a Christian character in the child
2. To instill in him a love of God
3. To develop within the child a love and understanding and respect for the Armenian Church, her priests, and traditions.
4. Especially, to emphasize the spiritual life as a *real* life in this world and in heaven.

### PARENTS AND THE CHURCH SCHOOL

The cooperation of parents is very necessary. The teaching of the child in religious education cannot be turned over to the Church School Staff once a week for one or two hours and left there. Teaching and training must continue at home and a Christian way of life followed by the entire family.

The Church School PTA meets three times during the school year. It endeavors to promote the program of religious education in our church and to bring into closer relation the Home and the Church School. All parents and teachers of the Church School and interested church members are urged to join this organization to make it truly effective. Dues are only \$1.00 per year per family.



## PTA OFFICERS

1962-1963

<i>Chairman</i> .....	Anthony Jevarjian
<i>Vice-chairman</i> .....	Ara Yardum
<i>Recording Secretary</i> .....	Sara Anoushian
<i>Corrseponding Secretary</i> .....	Barbara Bedeian
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	Dikran Cherchian
<i>Advisors</i> .....	Harry Gurahian Joan Mozian

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The school year has been divided into two terms:

September 23-January 27

February 3-June 9

## OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

September 23 .....	Dedication Service
October 28 .....	No Sunday School (Bazaar)
December 23 .....	Distribution of Christmas Gifts
January 5 .....	Christmas Communion and Breakfast
January 6 .....	Christmas Program
April 13 .....	Easter Communion and Breakfast
May 12 .....	Family Day of Worship
June 8 .....	Picnic

## ASSEMBLY AND CLASS SCHEDULE

10:30-10:45	Informal Period (hanging coats, taking seats, finding Bible Reading, etc.)
10:45-11:05	Assembly Period
	1. Worship—Bible reading, singing, prayers, offering.
	2. Teaching—Feast Days and sharagans, prayers.
	3. Announcements.
	4. Audio-visual materials shown of general interest, usually pertaining to Bible reading.
11:10-11:50	Class Session.
11:55	Attend Church.

Punctual attendance is expected.

WORSHIP SERVICES are conducted separately during the assembly period for ages 4-6 on the second floor of the rectory building and for ages 7-17 in the auditorium. Parents are invited to attend from 10:45 to 11:05. Children in the lower age groups are taught the Lord's Prayer in Armenian in addition to other prayers and hymns.

This year in the upper assembly, pupils will be taught the Nicene Creed or "Havadamk" in Armenian—a project begun during the 1961-62 school year. BIBLES — All children ages 7 and up should have their own Bibles and bring them each Sunday; however, the Church School provides Bibles for those who do not have them.

PROGRESS CARDS — This year a progress card will be sent home for pupils from second grade up to keep the parents informed about the attendance, conduct, and classwork of the children. It is hoped these will serve as an incentive to both pupils and parents for better attendance and improved classwork.

MITE BOXES — Each year at Boon Barekendan, mite boxes are distributed to the children and returned by them at Easter. The proceeds go to some charitable cause. Last year's funds were donated to the Chadurjian Tuition Fund to be used for the education of children of blind Armenian parents in the Near East. Previous collections have been used to aid the Tarkmanchatz School in Jerusalem and the Feri Köy School in Turkey.

ABSENCES — Children should bring a note from their parents when absent for any reason. Perfect attendance can be attained only by attending every Sunday or by bringing a note from another church or school when out of town attendance has been necessary.

CORPORATE HOLY COMMUNION — The children and teachers of the Church School receive Holy Communion at Christmas and at Easter, after which they enjoy a breakfast prepared for them in the church auditorium by the PTA.

COMMUNION BY CLASSES — Throughout the year, except during Lent, children from first grade up receive Holy Communion by classes. Parents are notified when their children are to receive and are urged to join their children at these times. The schedule for Holy Communion will be as follows:

Oct. 7—Graduating Class	Nov. 4—8th grade	Dec. 2—4th grade
Oct. 14—10th grade	Nov. 11—7th grade	Dec. 9—3rd grade
Oct 21—9th grade	Nov. 18—6th grade	Dec. 16—2nd grade
	Nov. 25—5th grade	Jan. 27—1st grade



**TEACHER ACTIVITIES** — Activities for teachers are designed to improve our Church Sunday School leaders as teachers and as individuals. Each month they attend a teachers' meeting to conduct the business of the school.

This year a six week training course will be initiated in the fall to improve methods and procedures and to enrich the backgrounds of our staff members.

In March 1962, at the request of the Council for Religious Education our Church School was host to a Teachers' Conference of all the Armenian Churches of the mid-Atlantic area.

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES** — Social activities are planned for the children so that they may enjoy fellowship with their friends within the circle of the Armenian Church. Activities include the Hallowe'en Party, held annually in the auditorium, the Christmas program and party, and the Annual June School Picnic, enjoyed by the parents as much as by the children. Occasionally during the year, individual classes go on outings together. Their plans have included bowling, swimming and trips to museums.

**AWARDS** — At the end of the Church School year, closing exercises are held in the church after Badarak. At this time awards are given to those having outstanding scholarship and to those with perfect attendance.

**AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS** — The Church School has an excellent audio-visual library of about 55 filmstrips. Slides of the Badarak, vestments, and the sacrament of ordination are available for the teachers' use. The school is also equipped with a 16mm. motion picture projector, a filmstrip and slide projector, screen, flannelboards, large teaching pictures, a phonograph, records, and two pianos.

**CHURCH SCHOOL LIBRARY** — The library is an important part of the Church School, and one about which few people as yet know. In it are found Bibles, reference books, religious stories for children, and other resource materials for the use of pupils and teachers.

## **WHAT WE TEACH — CURRICULUM**

The Council for Religious Education, a group of clergy and lay members, appointed by the Primate and Diocesan Council, has prepared the curriculum which is now being used in all the church schools of the diocese. Two textbooks have been prepared to date, and material will continue to be written, as time and funds allow, expressly for use in the Armenian Church Sunday Schools.

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### **WHAT WE TEACH**

#### **PRE-SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN**

**NURSERY** — Age 3½ to 4

**COURSE** — "All Things Bright and Beautiful" — For the religious experience and spiritual growth of the child, the objects of God's creation are presented as outward and visible signs of His spiritual grace, and to the child they are interpreted as God's great gifts. Handwork sheets and take home cards are provided which tie in with the lessons.

**KINDERGARTEN** — Age 4 to 6

**COURSE** — "Our Heavenly Father" — The aim of this course is to teach the child an awareness of God as his heavenly Father and to lead the child to participate in the family of God (i.e. the Church). During class each child is provided with a very attractive reader containing stories from Old and New Testaments, handwork sheets, and take home cards.

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### **WHAT WE TEACH**

#### **PRIMARY DEPARTMENT**

**GRADE ONE** — Age 6 to 7

**COURSE** — "We Trust God" — To present ideas about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit which are taught within the experience of a six year old child, so that he may develop faith in God, love for Him, and obedience to Him. The course helps prepare the child to accept naturally the mystery of the Holy Trinity. The Lord's Prayer and the Child's Creed are learned.

**GRADE TWO** — Age 7 to 8

**COURSE** — "Jesus, Our Friend" — Jesus, the Son of God, as a Friend is the subject of this course. The purpose is to foster the child's love and trust in God.

**GRADE THREE** — Age 8 to 9

**COURSE** — "We Obey God" — This course is an introduction to the Ten Commandments and the precepts of the Church. The purpose is to help children to begin to understand that God has a plan for His world.

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Children in grades one, two, and three have a pupil's reader which is used in class and occasionally sent home for memory work. Interesting handwork or activity sheets and take home cards pertaining to the lesson are sent home with the children each Sunday.



## WHAT WE TEACH

### JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

#### GRADE FOUR — Age 9 to 10

**COURSE** — “The Faith of the Armenian Church” — The aim of this course is to give our pupils an idea of what the Creed is and contains. It introduces our pupils to the basic beliefs of the Armenian Church.

This course with worksheets was prepared especially for the Council for Religious Education by Deacon Hagop Nersoyan, to be used in all the Armenian Church Schools of the diocese.

#### GRADE FIVE — Age 10 to 11

**COURSE** — “The Armenian Church Year” — By means of the Church Year, our boys and girls are given a guide to help them keep Christ as the center of their lives. The course is designed to unfold the Christian Way through study of the feast days, their meanings and the customs associated with them, and through the study of the lives of the great saints of the Armenian Church. With this knowledge the child should feel much more a part of the Church and should maintain an ever-growing interest.

#### GRADE SIX — Age 11 to 12

**COURSE** — “The Prince of Life — This course taught during the first term presents the Life of Christ in a more methodical and mature way than is done in lower grades when it is taught. It teaches of the life of Jesus, His birth, His exile, as well as of His service to God.

**COURSE** — “The Sacraments” — This course taught during the second term introduces our pupils to the seven sacraments, with emphasis on Baptism and the Divine Liturgy. Students study also the ecclesiastical vestments in this connection.

#### GRADE SEVEN — Age 12 to 13

**COURSE** — “A History of the Armenian Church” — This course prepared by Deacon Hagop Nersoyan for the Council for Religious Education covers the religious history of the Armenian people from the beginning to the present day. The period covered is presented to the pupils in story form with each story centering around a historical person. Worksheets are also provided for each pupil.

#### GRADE EIGHT — Age 13 to 14

**COURSE** — “Citizens of the Kingdom” — This course is a study of the nature of God as He is revealed in the Bible, with a few of the later lessons devoted to Prayer and Worship. God’s Covenant with the chosen people is discussed and the lives of Old Testament leaders studied. God’s establishment of the New Covenant is also touched upon. The purpose of the course is to inspire our pupils with the lives of these great servants of God and to make them aware of God’s power in their own lives.

Pupils in fourth, sixth and eighth grades receive textbooks to take home. Parents’ help is required in urging their children to do the reading and occasional homework assignments.

Pupils are also required to keep a notebook, especially for courses which have no textbooks available. Parents should examine these notebooks and encourage their children to take neat and meaningful notes.

## WHAT WE TEACH

### SENIOR DEPARTMENT

#### GRADE NINE — Age 14 to 15

**COURSE** — “The Faith of the Armenian Church” — This is the same course taught to the 9 year olds but on a more mature level. The subject of course is the Creed. Its purpose is to study in more detail our beliefs, with special emphasis on the doctrine and hierarchy of the Church.

#### GRADE TEN — Age 15 to 16

**COURSE** — “The Divine Liturgy” — To study and review the sacraments with emphasis on the Divine Liturgy. The purpose of the course is to enlarge the pupils’ knowledge of the sacraments and to enable them to participate in the celebration of the Badarak with reverent understanding. Slides of the Badarak are used to study and analyze the Divine Liturgy.

#### GRADES ELEVEN AND TWELVE — Age 16 to 17

**COURSE** — “The Bible and the Ecumenical Councils” — The purpose of the course is to familiarize our young people with the background and contents of the Bible, encouraging them to read frequently from the Old and New Testaments, and to acquaint them with the canons and structure of the Christian Church by studying the history and decisions of the three Ecumenical Councils accepted by the Armenian Church.

Upon completion of this course, pupils graduate after passing a written examination prepared by the Council for Religious Education and oral group interview with the Pastor; therefore, every effort is made to give them a well-rounded course by including other subjects such as the Creed, the Divine Liturgy, and the Church Year. A Christian attitude and behavior is encouraged in these young people.

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Pupils in grades nine, ten, eleven and twelve are also required to keep notebooks. Pupils may be asked to purchase certain books as reference material (i.e. catechism).

## CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

Fr. Vartan Megherian, Pastor (office) BA 5-0235  
Yeretzgin Y. Megherian, Supt. Church School (res.) BA 9-8909  
Mrs. Alice DerTatevasian, Secretary  
Miss Virginia Merjian, Asst. Secretary  
Miss Mary Selvinazian, Treasurer

### TEACHERS

Mr. Haig Agababian	Miss Gloria Meldonian
Miss Arpenie Allalemdjian	Miss Peggy Mendikian
Miss Pamela Austin	Miss Joan Mozian
Mr. George Chekijian	Mrs. Mary Rapiel
Miss Osanna Damborajian	Miss Mary Selvinazian
Mr. Albert DerTatevasian	Miss Susan Shahabian
Mrs. Ann Devejian	Mr. Michael Simonian
Miss Janet Euster	Miss Elizabeth Takoushian
Mr. Jack Guevrekian	Miss Marilyn Tekeyan
Mr. Harry Gurahian	Miss Diane Terzian
Mrs. Grace Kechian	Miss Star Troshagirian
Mrs. Lucille Kimatian	Mrs. Mary Zotian

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This booklet has been prepared by Yeretzgin Y. Megherian. Our sincere thanks go to Mrs. L. Kimatian for her assistance in typing, to Mr. E. Karnikian for the typesetting, and to Mr. G. Ajemian for the printing.



### PRAYER BEFORE GOING TO BED

Bahaban amenainee Krisdos,  
Christ, Guardian of all,  
Atch ko hovani litzi ee vera eem  
May your right hand be upon me  
Ee duveh yev ee kisheri,  
Day and night,  
Ee nusdil ee dan,  
While I's sitting at home,  
Ee kunal ee janabar,  
Or going on a trip,  
Ee nuntchel yev ee harnel,  
While I sleep and rise,  
Zi mi yerbek sasanetzaitz;  
So that I may never shake.  
Yev voghormia ko araradzotz  
And have mercy upon your creatures  
Yev intz bazmameghis.  
And upon me who am most sinful.

— *Nerse s the Graceful*



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