




SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE
Armenian Apostolic Church
12600 South Ridgeland Avenue
Palos Heights, Illinois 60463

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DATED MATERIAL
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February 3, 1994

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PPrayer is the

to inner peace.

Parishioners are
invited to:

**Women Saints Day
Commemoration**



**Saturday,
March 12, 1994
12:00 Noon**

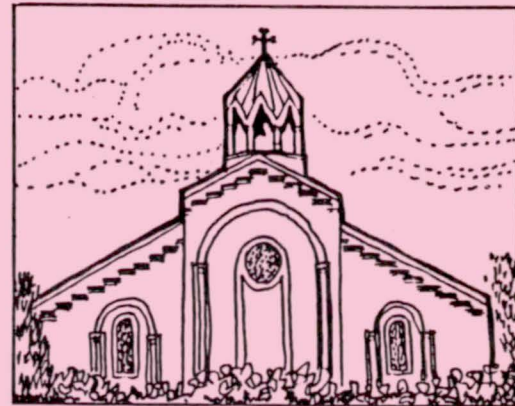
Sts. Joachim & Anne
Women's Guild
will host Chicago area Churches

**FEBRUARY
27,
1994**

**ANNUAL
PARISH
ASSEMBLY**



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Parish Newsletter
Saints Joachim & Anne Armenian Apostolic Church
12600 South Ridgeland Avenue
Palos Heights, Illinois 60463
Pastor—Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian

February / March / April 1994
Vol. 6, No. 1

STS. JOACHIM & ANNE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Archpriest Diran Papazian, Pastor

Soorp Badarak 10:00 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M.
708/388-4940

PARISH COUNCIL

*President*Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
708/614-1331*Chairman*Dr. Garbis Meguerian
708/748-4499*Vice-Chairman*Sonia Harlan
708/323-0027*Secretary*Peggy Enokian
708/489-1784*Treasurer*Sonya Doumanian
219/980-0546*Building & Grounds*Karneg Boyajian
708/389-4242*Advisors*Arakel Arakelian
708/349-0322

Greg Srabian

708/448-4373

Dennis Vander Meer

708/448-6007

Dr. Ara Yeretsian

219/972-9024

*Diocesan Delegate*Dr. Raffy Hovanesian
708/895-3545

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

*SUNDAY SCHOOL Supt.*Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian
708/614-1331*Asst. Superintendent*Shunt Madanyan
708/597-2872*CHOIR Director*Dr. Susan Mardoian
708/729-7145*WOMEN'S GUILD Co-Chairmen*Kathryn Hajaved
708/986-9276

Liz Sahagian

708/687-5948

SENIOR CITIZENS Hostess

Alice Boyajian

708/597-0098

ACYOA Chairman

Shunt Madanyan

708/597-2872

"ANI NEWSLETTER STAFF"

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Sona Diorio 312/445-4728

Special Reporter - June Randall

708/429-6700

Parish Council Corner

... Communications from the Primate, (1) newly ordained Rev. Fr. Tavit Boyajian has been appointed pastor of St. John the Baptist, Greenfield, WI. (2) The National Council of Churches of Christ met and passed 2 resolutions: (a) appealing for the settlement of the Azerbaijan/Karabagh conflict; and (b) solidarity and missionary cooperation with the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church in Armenia. (3) On March 12, the Women's Saints and Confessors Day will be commemorated at Sts. Joachim & Anne Church with area Armenian Churches. ... Peggy Enokian was appointed to serve on the Regional Refugee Committee. The Committee will be networking thru parishioners in our region to assist new arrivals efficiently. ... Arakel Arakelian was appointed liaison for Membership.

... Parish Council voted to dedicate the window in the Cry Room of the Church in the memory of Araxie Samarjian. ... Parish Council appreciated Dennis Vander Meer's efforts as 10th Anniversary Committee Chairman. ... Building & Grounds agenda included paving the side drives and parking lot, and repairing roof leaks. New thermostats were installed to help control heating and cooling bills. ... February 27th is the date for the Annual Parish Assembly.

ARMENIAN BOOKSTORE

(New Display Case)

The Women's Guild is pleased to bring a new community service to our parishioners and friends - an Armenian Bookstore. In the very near future, the Armenian Bookstore will offer books, music tapes, coffee mugs, Armenian cookbooks and other gift items for sale, not only at Bazaar time, but all year round for your convenience. The Armenian Bookstore Display Case is located in the lobby.

We sincerely thank Charlie Terzian for donating the display case. Also, we thank Dick Atkian and daughter, Melissa for delivering the display case to Church, and to Marty Randall for helping to set-up.

... Liz Sahagian, Women's Guild Co-Chairperson

PARISH REPRESENTATIVE

Sts. Joachim & Anne is permitted one more parish representative for the Midwest Regional Council, in addition to Raffy Hovanesian and Garbis Meguerian who are members ex-officio. Please contact Garbis, 708/748-4499 or Sonya Doumanian, 219/980-0546.

GOVERNOR'S GREETING

The Governor of the State of Illinois, Honorable Jim Edgar, was kind enough to send the following congratulatory message in observance of our 10th Anniversary. Our community appreciates the Governor's thoughtfulness.



STATE OF ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHICAGO 60601

November 21, 1993

Greetings:

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome you to the tenth anniversary of the consecration of the Saints Joachim and Anne Armenian Church in Palos Heights.

The church works to secure a better future for its parishioners while acting as a foundation for the Armenian-American community throughout the greater Chicago area. I commend the church for its campaign to preserve the Armenian language and culture.

On behalf of the citizens of Illinois, please accept my congratulations and best wishes for a successful future.

Best regards,

Jim Edgar
GOVERNOR

FUNERALS

ARMEN SAMARJIAN on January 1st, 85 years old. Funeral services held January 4th at Sts. Joachim & Anne Armenian Church, officiated by Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, assisted by Rev. Fr. Vahram Hazarian. Interred at Mt. Hope Cemetery. He is survived by 3 daughters, including Alice (Sarkis) Boyajian, 8 grandchildren, including Susan (Paul) Mardoian, Joyce (Mark) Michaels, and Jill (Jon) Soghomonian, and 8 great-grandchildren, including Rachel & Melissa Mardoian, Hope Michaels, and Daniel Soghomonian.



SIRVART BALKANIAN, 84 years old, Wildwood, FL on November 21, 1993. Services held at Mt. Hope Cemetery Chapel, January 7, 1994, officiated by Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian. There were no survivors.

CONDOLENCE

LILLIAN J. DAVID, January 6, 1994, 77 years old. Services at Beczar Funeral Home, Niles. Interred at St. Adalbert's Cemetery, Niles. She was the great-aunt of Carol (Richard) Vorperian, and children Paul, Kimberly and Victoria Vorperian.

JUDY M. GALOVICH, November 13, 1993, 38 years old. Services at St. John Bosco Church, Hammond, IN. Interred at Elmwood Cemetery, Hammond, IN. She was the daughter-in-law of Rose Galovich.

HOKEHANKIST

November 28th ARAXIE SAMARJIAN (40 days), mother/grandmother - requested by Gladys Avakian, Genevieve Samarjian, Nancy & Gary O'Rourke, Denise & Dennis Stachowiak and families, and Mark Avakian

December 12th VICTIMS OF THE 1988 EARTHQUAKE IN ARMENIA on the 5th Anniversary

December 12th SHNORIG CHOLAKIAN, mother; ANITA CHOLAKIAN, RICHARD FUNDUKIAN, SR., RICHARD FUNDUKIAN, JR., ELSIE SANFILIP, MANOOG FUNDUKIAN, ARMAV FUNDUKIAN & HOVAGIM FUNDUKIAN, loved ones - requested by Jack & Glenna Cholakian

December 19th MESROP BENNEYAN (10 years), father/grandfather - requested by Sarkis & Elisabeth Arakelian, Kevork & Annette Sultanian & family, and Kevork & Judy Arakelian

January 14th General Hokehankist in memory of ALL DECEASED ARMENIANS on the occasion of the Memorial Day of Armenian Christmas

January 14th EDWARD MARDIGIAN - requested by Pastor and Parish Council

May God Repose the Souls of all the Deceased and send His comforting Holy Spirit to their Families

February 13, 1994 - Hokehankist for **Arman Samarjian**, father/grandfather, requested by Sark & Alice Boyajian & family on the occasion of the 40th day of his death

BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION MARY CHRISTINE SRABIAN January 2th: Parents - Gregory & Jennifer of Boca Raton, FL; Godparents - Rafael Srabian & Danielle Srabian

GREGORY VAUGHN ENOKIAN January 29th: Parents - Lee & Leslie; Godparents - John E. Enokian & Irene V. Bortko

BIRTH JACLYN ELISE DOUMANIAN born December 30th, 6 lbs. 5 oz.; Parents - Duke & Angele; Grandparents - Ozzie & Flo Doumanian; Great-grandmother - Vokouhi Kalafian

NICOLE PEPRONE PAPA ZIAN born January 30th, 7 lbs. 15 oz.; Parents - Garo & Donna of Worcester, MA; Grandparents - Der Diran & Yerezgin Rosalie Papazian

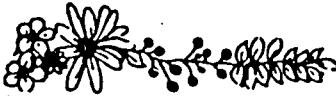
God Bless the Little Children

Generous donations received for **Sacraments and Rites** are always appreciated.

ENGAGEMENT JOHN E. ENOKIAN & FRAN MILLER on December 18th. No wedding date has been set. *Best Wishes.*

WELCOME NEW CHURCH MEMBER PAUL MARDOIAN recently became a new Church member. Paul is the husband of Dr. Susan Mardoian, our Choir Director. They have two daughters, Rachel & Melissa, and reside in Glenview. *Congratulations.*

GIFTS OF LOVE



Sincere sympathy is extended by the Pastor and Parish Council to the families of those faithful who have departed from this life.

Additional **In-Lieu-Of-Flowers** in memory of Araxie Samarjian \$250.00; Total to date \$3,060.00

On the occasion of Hokehankist for Shirley Shnorig Cholakian - \$25.00 from Vivian Kimble

On the occasion of Hokehankist for Mesrop Benneyan

\$20.00 - Mr. & Mrs. Garabed Krikorian

\$25.00 - Mr. & Mrs. Ohannes Krikorian

\$100.00 from the estate of Sirvart Balkanian

Grateful acknowledgment is expressed to the families of the deceased for making it possible for friends and relatives to contribute in-lieu-of flowers toward the Church.

Alterations of Vestments - Our appreciation to Alice Madanyan for her dedication, who put into good use her expertise as seamstress, making last minute alterations to the new priestly vestments in time for the Christmas celebration.

Handmade Chalice Cover from Soutlan Buchaklian, Waukegan, in memory of her late husband, Bob

Case of Altar Wine from Dr. Raffy Hovanessian for sacramental use

COFFEE HOSTS - November 28th - the family of Araxie Samarjian; December 5th - Liz & Tony Haboian; December 12th - Virginia & Kachie Bogosian; December 19th - Elisabeth & Sarkis Arakelian; December 26 - Women's Guild; January 2nd - Edma Dumanian; January 16 - Janna & Arman Simonian and Lynn & Craig Capen; January 23rd - Leona & Greg Srabian

ALTAR FLOWERS - November 28th - the family of Araxie Samarjian (40 days); December 19th - Sarkis & Elisabeth Arakelian in memory of Mesrop Benneyan (10 years); January 16th - Richard & Karen Nalbandian and family in memory of Marie Claire Nalbandian, mother/grandmother

GREETERS - January 9th - Dennis & Laura Vander Meer



CHRISTMASTIDE

Christmas Trees - Foyer tree donated by Arro & Irene Merijohn. Cultural Hall tree purchased by Parish Council

Parish Christmas Greeting Card included 150 names (60 families). Donations - \$1,120.

Poinsettia

In memory of Dr. Khoren Yeretsian and Dirouhi Hovanessian - Dr. & Mrs. Ara Yeretsian, 2 plants

In memory of Marderous, Araxie & Virginia Samarjian - Gladys Avakian, 3 plants

In honor of daughters Melissa & Shannon - Dick & Debbie Atkian

Mr. & Mrs. Arakel Arakelian

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Cholakian, 2 plants

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Randall

Mr. Serab Vartanian

Christmas "Yughakin" Offering received from parishioners and friends - \$1,098.

M/M A. Arakelian

Mardoian Family

M/M D. Atkian

Ms. C. McDonnell

M/M B. Auer

M/M M. Meguerdichian

Ms. R. Boghosian

M/M A. Merijohn

M/M O. Doumanian

Dr. G. Merijohn

Mrs. E. Dumanian

M/M G. Mikaelian

M/M C. Gederian

Mr. M. Missakian

Mrs. J. Gopoian

M/M T. O'Shea

Mr. G. Gopoian

Dr/M A. Semerdjian

M/M H. Gopoian

Mrs. G. Semerdjian

M/M T. Haboian

M/M M. Semerdjian

M/M H. Hakalmazian

M/M R. Shehigian

M/M N. Halajian

M/M A. Simonian

M/M J. Harlan

M/M J. Skinner

M/M A. Kaprelian

M/M D. Stachowiak

Mr. R. Koshkarian

M/M S. Terzian

Dr/M N. Madanyan

M/M D. Vander Meer

M/M H. Marabanian

Mr. S. Vartanian

M/M M. Mardoian

Dr/M S. Yaylayan

Dr/M A. Yeretsian

WINTER RELIEF FOR ARMENIA

The Chicago community responded to the Armenian plight by contributing generously to ARMENIA FUND USA for the purchase of heating oil for Winter Relief 1994. Our tiny community of Sts. Joachim & Anne was once again on the forefront through the devoted work of parishioners involved in the actual fundraising. The Chicago community was also fortunate having an anonymous benefactor who promised matching dollars which later was multiplied many folds by the double matching of Lincy Foundation. Thus the total contributions of the Chicago community to ARMENIA FUND USA was well over \$700,000.

MIDWEST REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Armenian Language Crash Course, a one day affair, with presentation and discussion of Armenian cultural subjects, designed for young adults and organized by the Diocesan Armenian Language Lab and Resource Center (ALLARC), took place at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church, Chicago on Saturday, December 11th. The participating guest scholars were Prof. Apraham Terian of Kansas, Prof. Kevork Bandakjian of Michigan and Prof. Vartan Abdo of New Jersey. ALLARC's Director is Sylva Der Stepanian who developed the program.

An **AIDS Seminar** was offered by the Diocesan Department of Youth Ministry at the AGBU Center, Chicago on December 11th. The seminar was jointly sponsored by ACYOA Seniors of the midwest and AGBU Young Adults. The participants viewed a video entitled "AIDS and the Christian Response" and conducted their discussion along the same lines.

A **Holiday Dance** with live Armenian music was held on Christmas Day, December 25th at the AGBU Center, Chicago. The dance was jointly sponsored by Chicago area ACYOA and Chicago chapter AGBU Young Adults.

IN CHICAGOLAND

A **Concert** of Composer Vazken Muradian was performed by the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, October 31st. The enthusiastic reception of the audience, coupled with the composer's presence made this concert very special.

A **Benefit Recital** for Armenia was held on January 7th at the AGBU Center, Chicago. Sisters, Marta and Ani Aznavoorian performed with great artistry on piano and cello, under the auspices of AGBU. Proceeds of the recital reached over \$80,000 through the local matching program, both locally and through the Lincy Foundation. This figure will be added to the total Chicago contribution for Winter Relief 1994.

A **Lecture** on "Armenian American from Being to Feeling" was given by Dr. Anny Bakalian on January 23rd at the AGBU Center. She is Professor of Sociology at the College of Notre Dame, Baltimore, Maryland.

OUR PARISHIONERS

Kevin Bargamian graduated December '93 from Northern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. His future plans include dental school in August '94. Kevin is the son of Martin & Violet Bargamian.

Peter Bogosian recently graduated from Northeastern Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting and Business, with high honors. His future plans include graduate school to acquire an MBA and becoming a CPA. Peter is the son of Kachie & Virginia Bogosian.

Dr. Heratch Doumanian was elected President of the medical staff at St. Mary Medical Center at Gary-Hobart, IN. His term in office started January 1994. Dr. Doumanian is a radiologist who has been in practice since 1967. He is also Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiology at Indiana University, Northwest Medical School.

Aileen Hovanesian interned last summer at the New York City Art Commission, as well as at the Leo Castelli Gallery, one of New York's leading contemporary art galleries. She was involved in researching artists and art work at the gallery and maintaining the slide archives. She was offered a paid internship by Leo Castelli Gallery for the coming summer. Aileen is attending Tufts University, Boston, majoring in Art History. She is the daughter of Dr. Raffy & Vicki Hovanesian.

Dennis & Laura Vander Meer celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a surprise party hosted by their family on January 8th at their residence. Dennis is on our Parish Council. Congratulation and many happy returns.

Dr. Ara Yeretsian led a five day seminar on "Family Systems" at the Arab American Medical Association's winter meeting in Keystone, CO, December 27-31, 1993. Family roles and problems were reviewed with special attention to cross-cultural issues faced by immigrants and their children in the U.S. The seminar was well attended by physicians, their spouses and children, whose interest spurred the opportunity to tackle difficult subjects in openness and candor.

Rosy Yeretsian was elected in December 1993, President of American University of Beirut Alumni Association, Chicago chapter for a term of 3 years.

PRIMATE Presides Over

Town Meeting on Saturday, November 20, 1993, was presented at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church, Chicago, hosted by our Diocesan Primate Archbishop, Khajag Barsamian and Midwest Regional Council. The town meeting was organized in recognition of the United Nations' declaration of "International Year of the Family, 1994". The Town Meeting introduced, in a workshop setting, the Diocesan Resources for parish leadership. Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Diocesan Chancellor and Rev. Dr. Keith Muhleman, Diocesan Director of Development Dept. took part in the presentation, along with Archbishop Barsamian.

Midwest Clergy Meeting of Illinois and Wisconsin Diocesan parishes at St. George Armenian Church, Waukegan on November 22, 1993. Der Hayr attended the meeting.

Midwest Regional Meeting on November 22, 1993 at St. George Armenian Church, Waukegan. Those attending the meeting were Midwest Regional Council members, the clergy, and midwest church representatives. Those who attended from Sts. Joachim & Anne were Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor; Dr. Raffy Hovanessian, Diocesan Delegate; and Sonia Harlan, Parish Council member & Midwest Program Coordinator.

PASTORAL ACTIVITIES

Clergy Stress Conference

Der Hayr attended a special conference on Clergy Stress at Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ, Oak Lawn, on November 18th. The conference was presented by Midwest Resources for Counseling and Psychotherapy and was sponsored by Moraine Valley Clergy Association.

Workshop on Family Bonding

Der Hayr attended a workshop on Family Bonding at Moraine Valley Community College on December 16th. The workshop was presented by Palos Neuropsychiatric Institute, under the sponsorship of Moraine Valley Clergy Association. The workshop strived to demonstrate "The Connectiveness Between Family Bonding and Spirituality".

Nursing Home Ministry

Der Hayr attended a discussion meeting through the Moraine Valley Clergy Association on Nursing Home Ministry led by Nursing Home Chaplains at Peace Memorial Home, Oak Lawn, January 20th.

GET WELL PRAYERS

Nectar Arakelian, Dr. Vaughn Avakian, Haiganoosh Babagian, Chuck Giragosian (FL), Alfred III, Isabelle Kaprelian, Mary Kaprelian-Lemaster (OK), Penny Giragosian-Ritenbaug (FL), Genevieve Samarjian & Genevieve Semerdjian
"Relieve the troubles of my heart, O Lord, and bring me out of my distresses." (Psalms 25:17)

BIBLE STUDY SERIES

In Fall '93, for the first time, AGBU, Chicago presented a twice-a-month Bible Study Series entitled "Let's Talk About the Good News". Lisa Markarian, with the Board's approval, invited Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian to be the facilitator and presenter. Fr. Diran Papazian was the presiding priest at all sessions.

To some this series seemed an inappropriate program to be presented at the AGBU Center; to others, the sessions reflected the importance of Christianity as a vital, integral part of the culture and identity of the Armenian people, and not to be relegated to Church buildings only.

At the suggestion of parishioner Sona Diorio, this series is being sponsored by our Women's Guild on a monthly basis at our church. Thus far, we have discussed "Our church and Christendom and Our Use of the Bible," an "Overview of the Bible", and an introduction to the "Ten Commandments". Watch the church bulletin for the announcements of dates for a continuation of the "Ten Commandments", "The Lord's Prayer", "The Parables" and the "Beatitudes". Many current issues are being discussed in conjunction with the subjects presented.

The response of our parishioners has been good, both at the AGBU Center and at our Church. We encourage everyone to attend future sessions.

LECTURE IN OUR CHURCH

Professor Apraham Terian was a guest lecturer at our Church on Sunday, Dec. 12th, during coffee hour. He spoke on the unique greatness of St. Gregory of Narek. Earlier, during Soorp Badarak, he sang with the Choir. Prof. Terian is an internationally recognized biblical scholar. Since September, he has joined the faculty of Sterling College, Dept. of Religion & Philosophy in Kansas.

GUEST DEACONS

Deacon Krikor Goshgarian of Evanston was guest Deacon on December 12th. Deacon Dr. Larry Farsakian was guest Deacon on January 16th.

CHRISTMAS SEASON IN OUR PARISH

POINSETTIAS

Beginning with our Christmas Eve Services and throughout the entire Christmas season, the Sanctuary was decorated beautifully with poinsettia plants, donated by parishioners, which gave the Church a real holiday atmosphere.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Christmas observances began in our Parish with congregational caroling on Sunday, December 19th, which put our congregation into the holiday spirit.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

On the Eve before Christmas, December 24th, a very enjoyable Christmas Eve Service was performed entirely in English. The congregation sang Christmas carols accompanied by Joyce Michaels on the piano. "Good Christian Men Rejoice", "Christmas Bell", and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" was sung by Jennifer Randall and Stephanie Simonian, Sunday School students. Der Hayr and Lorene Skinner sang "O Holy Night" accapella.

HOLY THEOPHANY EVE SERVICE

On Saturday night, January 8th, Candlelight Badarak ("Jurakalooytz") was offered.

ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

On Sunday, January 9th, Armenian Christmas was celebrated with great solemnity. Der Hayr was vested in his new regal looking vestments for the first time, a gift from the Mardigian's to our church. Immediately after Badarak, the ancient ceremony of "Blessing of the Water" was performed in commemoration of our Lord Jesus Christ's Baptism. The Godfather of the Cross was Sunday School student Paul Vorperian, 11 year old son of Dr. Richard & Carol Vorperian.

Following Church services, a delicious dinner and beautiful program was presented by Sunday School as a grand finale of the climactic events of the Christmas season in our Church.

CHRISTMAS DINNER APPRECIATION

I'd like to thank all who helped with the Christmas Dinner. The first one I want to thank has always been the last to leave - Marty Randall; he quietly comes in, never says a word and cleans EVERYTHING.

Set-up, Kitchen and Clean-up Crew - Laura & Dennis Vander Meer, Pam, Dana & Laura Nalbandian, Rich & Karen Nalbandian, Kevork Sultanian, Mark Michaels, Dick Atkian and Elizabeth Williams.

First on the scene on Sunday was Alice Boyajian and her famous pilafs. My right hands were Izzy Gederian and Gladys Avakian quietly behind the scene getting it all together, along with Violet Bargamian, Annette Sultanian, Marc, my son, and Sandi Williams. Our gracious servers included Renee Gawron, Karen Tarazoff, June Randall, Judy Arakelian, Gisele O'Shea and Denise Stachowiak. Denise also made and donated the delicious fudge on every table. Last but not least, my husband, Arakel - without him, it would never have taken place.

I want to thank you all because without you it would not have been possible. If thank yous came in colors, you'd all be a rainbow. If I forgot anyone, please accept my apologies, it was a long weekend.

... Irene Arakelian, Christmas Dinner Chairperson



Der Hayr delivering Benediction at the Sunday School Dinner / Program on Armenian Christmas



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Armenian Christmas Day

On Sunday, January 9th, over 160 children, parents and relatives gathered together to worship, dine and celebrate Armenian Christmas and Holy Theophany.

After the Christmas Badarak, an explanation of the "Blessing of the Water Ceremony" was given by Marc Arakelian, Dana Nalbandian, Laura Nalbandian and Rita Yeretsian. Paul Vorperian, 11 year old son of Dr. Richard and Carol Vorperian, was Godfather of the Cross of Christ's Baptism.

Irene Arakelian planned and prepared the delicious meal with the help of her committee which she acknowledges in this edition of "Ani". She and her husband, Arakel, donated the cake with an Armenian inscription, which translates "May Your Holy Season be Blessed by God".

Thirty-three children from our Kindergarten, Primary, Intermediate and Senior Classes, teachers, and parents participated in the program, entitled "The Carols of Christmas". The program was opened with "O Holy Night" played by Rita Yeretsian, violinist, accompanied by her father, Dr. Ara Yeretsian on the piano. This was followed by Bible readings and favorite carols with informative and interesting stories of their origins as either Gen Semerdjian or Joyce Michaels played the piano. June Randall sang "Khorhurt Medz", a sharagan of Christmas.

June Randall and Lorene Skinner recited the words of "O Holy Night" to music as an interpretive dance was performed by Hope Michaels, Jennifer Randall, Lela Tabet, Kimberly Vorperian and Elizabeth Williams.

Jennifer Randall and Elizabeth Williams sang "Good Christian Men Rejoice" and "Christmas Bells". "Aysor Don Eh Soorp Dzununtyan", a Christmas ode, was sung by Alice Madanyan.

"We Three Kings" was sung by Arakel Arakelian, Richard Nalbandian and Kevork Sultanian, dressed in "Maji" costumes.

The manger scene included Marc Arakelian as Joseph, and Dana Nalbandian as Mary. The audience joined in with the children and parents to sing Christmas carols.

We were happy to have in attendance Rose Nugent and Marnee Reich, mother and grandmother of Denise Chaffee who is with the Peace Corps in Armenia.

Breakfast with Der Hayr

Our thanks to Pam and Karen Nalbandian for chairing the "Breakfast with Der Hayr" on

Saturday, January 8th. After breakfast, a rehearsal was held for the Christmas program. Thanks again to Jay Harlan who arranged for Santa Claus to pay us a visit. As Christmas gifts, the children received red and white checkered placemats inscribed with the 38 Armenian letters in upper and lower case with pictures.

Christmas Eve Service

In the Sanctuary, on December 24th, Jennifer Randall and Stephanie Simonian sang "Good Christian Men Rejoice", "Christmas Bells" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas".

Junior Choir

On December 5, 1993, the Junior Choir sang with the Church Choir and received Holy Communion. Jennifer Randall and Stephanie Simonian served as acolytes. The Creed was said in English.

10th Consecration Anniversary

On the 10th Anniversary of the Church, Sunday, November 21st, the Sunday School students received Holy Communion from the celebrant, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian. At the banquet, the Sunday School children and parents, participated in the program.

New Students

We welcome our new students who recently moved with their families to the Chicago area from Baku: Narina Simonyan, in the Intermediate Class; and Arphenya & Arthur Muradyan and Viola Simonyan in the Senior Class.

Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian, Superintendent

FROM BOCA RATON

Saturday, October 23rd, twenty-four women came together from three parishes at St. David Armenian Church and joined together to experience a retreat titled "The Lifestyle of the Armenian-American Woman," led by Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian. Yeretzgin Rosalie has done many similar retreats over the years and was an excellent facilitator for the group. During the retreat, the participants were able to pray, discuss and share. The retreat was sponsored by the Women's Guild Central Council and was organized by St. David Armenian Church Women's Guild.

SENIOR CITIZENS

At the January Kheyra Luncheon, the Armenian Christmas grab bag was once again a big hit by all who attended. Seniors celebrated Harry Vorperian's birthday. Happy Birthday!!!

WOMEN'S GUILD

TO THOSE WHO ORDERED LAMAJOON AT THE BAZAAR, PLEASE CONTACT ALICE BOYAJIAN, 708/597-0098, TO PICK UP YOUR ORDER.

1993 Bazaar Report

The annual fundraiser, held by the Women's Guild, took place on Sat., Nov. 13th, 9:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M. It was again a success due to the diligent and steadfast help and support of our parishioners and friends. Our most sincere thanks to all:

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Laura Vander Meer

DECORATING, SET-UP AND/OR DISMANTLING:

Dick Atkian, Marty Randall, Arro Merijohn, Lorene Skinner, Bob & Martha Auer, Kathryn Hajaved, John Sahagian, Melissa Atkian, Liz Sahagian, Peter Santucci & Van Giragosian

ARTS & CRAFTS: Renee Gawron, Gail Santucci, Kelly Giragosian, Lynn Capen, Laura Vander Meer, Sandi Williams, Elizabeth Williams, Lisa Schlesinger & Robin Kmiec

CAFE KITCHEN: Pearl Gopoian, Violet Bargamian, Irene Arakelian, Laura Vander Meer, Gloria Nigohosian & Gladys Avakian

HANDMADE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS: Janna Simonian, Alice Madanyan, Isabelle Gederian, Irene Merijohn, Gladys Avakian & Liz Sahagian

ETHNIC BOOTH: Peggy Enokian & June Randall

NEW/ALMOST NEW: Martha Auer & Elisabeth Arakelian

RAFFLE: Sona Diorio, Debbie Atkian, Lorene Skinner, Melissa Atkian and donors

JEWELRY/LLADRO/WATERFORD: Charlie & Sharon Terzian, Sandi Williams, Ken Tarazoff, Sr., & George Terzian

TABLE CENTERPIECES: made and donated by Lisa Schlesinger

PREPARATION & SALE OF BAKED GOODS: Alice Boyajian, Martha Auer, Pearl Gopoian, Elisabeth Arakelian, Isabelle & Chuck Gederian, Marge & George Terzian, Virginia Bogosian, Beverly & Joe Miller, Liz & Tony Haboian, Ann McTigue, Ann Raptzian, Rose Halajian, Jill Boyajian, Gloria Nigohosian, Sue Semerdjian, Gen Semerdjian, Gladys Avakian, Anna Giragosian, Melissa Atkian, Arro Merijohn, Vera Ourfalian, Lucy Miller, Julia Gopoian, Lucia Bargamian, Violet Bargamian, Rose Halajian, Louise Allen, Attia Megurdichian, Alice Madanyan, Sandi Williams and Laura Vander Meer

BAZAAR CO-CHAIRPERSONS: Kathryn Hajaved & Liz Sahagian.

If I have inadvertently left anyone's name out, please contact me so that I can correct the error.

... Liz Sahagian, Bazaar Co-Chairperson

12-MONTH DINNER

Although some time has passed since our 12-Month Dinner was held, it is never too late to thank all who participated in making it a most enjoyable and successful afternoon on Sunday, September 26th. Special thanks to our generous hostesses who again displayed their talents. Our hostesses were:

Violet Bargamian & Pearl Gopoian - January "Happy New Year"; Liz Sahagian - February "Be My Valentine"; June Randall March "Come Fly With Me"; Martha Auer - "April Showers"; Irene Arakelian & Pam Nalbandian - May "Maypole"; Kathryn Hajaved - June "Here Comes the Bride"; Ann Raptzian - July "4th of July"; Karen Nalbandian & Annette Sultanian - August "Back to School"; Laura Vander Meer & Sandi Williams - September "Hoe Down Sunday"; Lottie Mikaelian - October "Indian Summer"; Alice Boyajian - November "Thanksgiving"; and Janna Simonian December "Merry Christmas". Our chefs were Chuck Gederian and Bob Auer. The dessert table was outstanding. Special mention to: Dick Atkian, Marty Randall, Lottie Mikaelian, Beverly Miller and Mardy Semerdjian. Thank you one and all.

... Isabelle Gederian, 12-Month Chairperson

COFFEE HOUR



The hostess program was established by the Women's Guild to promote fellowship following Church Services. We need each family to volunteer to host a Coffee Hour on any Sunday of your choice by signing up on the schedule provided for this purpose in the Church lobby. The Guild will provide refreshments on Easter Sunday, Christmas Eve and other specific occasions. Some Sundays will be hosted by those families who have requested Hokehankist. Other Sundays are taken by parish dinners, etc.

The hosts' part is to bring the refreshments and clean up afterwards. Your table can be simple or elaborate. The important thing is that this hour provides a friendly atmosphere.

We thank all the families who have supported this program. It has proven very successful and we all find it very congenial.

... Liz Sahagian, Guild Co-Chairperson

(continued)

Glimpse/Remembrance

*** Sunday School students and parents, along with the Church Choir combined voices for the 10th Anniversary Chorus. Thirty-two, energetic and spirited, sang the song, "IF YOU BELIEVE", heralding the program theme, "Give us the Future". Banquet guests enthusiastically applauded and Archbishop Khajag Barsamian lauded the three generational Chorus.

Our wonderful Sunday School students, parents and Church Choir worked very hard toward this performance. Many rehearsed individually with an audio tape at home. They attended Sunday group sessions, before and after Church, rehearsing either with the tape, with Miss Gen Semerdjian playing the piano, or fine tuning the melody, acappella.

The 10th Anniversary Chorus met for final rehearsal Saturday afternoon with musician Dennis Colby. He prepared a CD that provided a special background to his keyboard work.

Chorus Co-Directors, Dr. Sue Mardoian (Church Choir) and Lorene Skinner (10th Anniversary Committee) thoroughly enjoyed the fullness of sound accompanying the Chorus. The 32 voices responded with a **perfect performance!!** What a remembrance!!!

10th Anniversary Chorus members: *Sunday School students and parents*, Marc Arakelian, Vanessa Harlan, Dana, Laura & John Nalbandian, Karen & Jason Nalbandian, Christine O'Shea, June, Martin & Jennifer Randall, Annette, Sarkis & Sevan Sultanian, Valentine, Ramzie & Lela Tabet, Elizabeth Williams, Jennifer Winternheimer and Rita Yeretsian; *Church Choir members*, Arakel Arakelian, Bob & Martha Auer, Sark & Alice Boyajian, Karn Boyajian, Anna Giragosian, Alice Madanyan, Keyork Sultanian and Greg Srabian. *Thanks to each and every one of you!*
 . . . Lorene Skinner

Blessing of the Past, Joy of the Present, Hope of the Future

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The Grand Total of the proceeds of the 10th Anniversary Celebration came to \$22,122. We are truly blessed with our community's generous donations.
 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**10TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER
 CANDLELIGHTING DONORS**

M/M A. Arakelian	\$ 50
M/M O. Arakelian	50
S. & M. Arakelian	50
Mr. B. Aprahamian	200
M/M D. Atkian	250
M/M B. Auer	100
M/M M. Aznavoorian	100
M/M K. Bogosian	300
M/M K. Boyajian	500
M/M S. Boyajian	500
M/M J. Cholakian	100
Ms. S. Diorio	50
Dr/M H. Doumanian	1,000
Mr. M. Fundukian	500
M/M C. Gederian	100
Mr. N. Genjoian	50
M/M K. Giragosian	1,000
Mr. G. Gopoian	500
M/M H. Gopoian	100
Mrs. J. Gopoian	100
M/M K. Goshgarian	100
M/M B. Guerjikian	100
M/M T. Haboian	100
M/M K. Hachikian	100
M/M J. Harlan	250
Mr. A. Hovanessian	100
A., A. & A. Hovanessian	1,000
Dr/M R. Hovanessian	1,000
M/M J. Hovsepian	75
M/M A. Kaprelian	50
M/M Z. Kodjayan	100
Ms. V. Koresian	25
Dr/M N. Madanyan	600
M/M S. Markarian	75
M/M J. Mardoian	100
M/Dr P. Mardoian	100
Ms. H. Marsoobian	100
M/M G. Mazian	100
M/M H. Mazian	250
M/M A. Mesrobian	150
Dr/M G. Meguerian	500
M/M A. Nalbandian	50
D., L. & J. Nalbandian	50
M/M R. Nalbandian	600
Rev/M. D. Papazian	100
M/M A. Pridjian	500
M/M G. Rejebian	100
Sayat Nova Restaurant	150
Dr/M A. Semerdjian	1,000
M/M M. Semerdjian	50
M/M A. Simonian	300
M/M F. Simonian	100
M/M K. Sultanian	100
M/M F. Tabet	100
Mr. Z. Tazian	200
M/M S. Terzian	100
M/M D. Vander Meer	500
Ms. J. Vartanian	100
M/M S. Varjabedian & Mrs. A. Varjabedian	100
Mr. S. Vartanian	50
Wilhelm & Assoc. Ins.	75
Dr/M A. Yeretsian	500
Anonymous	500
TOTAL	\$15,800

(continued from page 3)

While everything moved along smoothly, it was not without a great deal of coordination and work on the part of Peggy Enokian. From having everything set-up at the Church to the young people picking up envelopes on the dinner tables, Peggy handled it all masterfully and with expertise. Kudos to Peggy. Great job.

An active member in our community and a major coordinator of Der Hayr's and our Administration efforts throughout the year has been Annette Sultanian. Her quiet yet effective handling of our typing and mailing correspondence were very instrumental in the success of our Anniversary Celebration. The conviction in which her entire family sang in the Choir was a tribute to our efforts. Thank you! Thank you!

To Dr. Raffy Hovanesian who early on in our planning process agreed to handle the Candlelighting portion of our program and allowed me the luxury of not having to worry about it again. My heartfelt thanks for your special efforts with this.

To our Der Hayr, Fr. Diran Papazian, who allowed us (the committee) to operate in an atmosphere of freedom and cooperation. His translation of English to Armenian for our theme song adopted for the program recitation, his coordination with the Diocese and Godfather's, and his participation in the program that day is appreciated. Thank you Der Hayr.

Our committee and community extend a special thank you to His Grace Archbishop Khajag Barsamian for attending and participating in this special event of our Church. His availability to our parish, committee and to Der Hayr all added to the importance of this day. His special recognition of our committee, Der Hayr's 35 years of service, and Dr. Raffy Hovanesian's Pontifical Encyclical award all added to the importance of this day for our community.

On a personal note, thanks are not enough for my committee. There will always be a special place in my heart for your efforts, support, guidance, and unselfish dedication to our Church. The spirit with which we worked is a great tribute to us as a group, Church and community. This spirit is recognizable in our children and I am most confident that IT WILL BE manifesting itself on many levels within our Church.

To all our supporters within and outside our Church, your efforts have contributed beyond words to the preserving of our Church in Palos Heights. Thank you! Thank you!

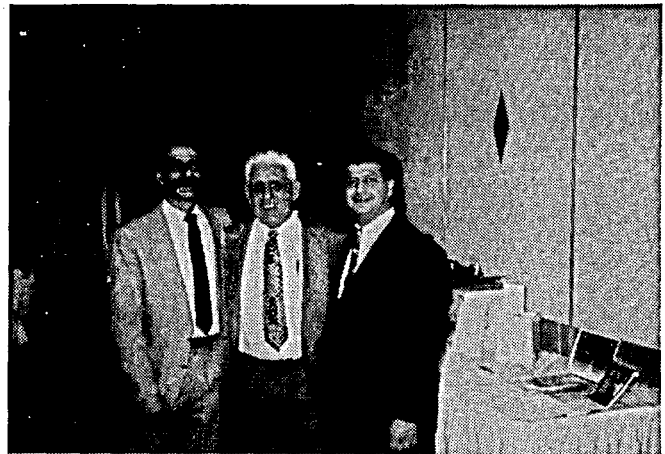
May our children embrace our strong points, discard our weak points, and continue on in the service of our Most Holy and Heavenly Father. **The future is yours, if you believe it will be.** God does great things with little churches.

... Respectfully, M. Dennis Vander Meer,

Glimpse/Remembrance

*** The presence of our beloved Primate, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian made our 10th Anniversary Celebration a special occasion. The singing of the children and adult Chorus was a great feat for all involved. I was happy to be asked by Dr. Garbis Meguerian to record the donations made during the candlelighting ceremony. And last but not least, I was delighted that Der Diran's 35 years of outstanding, devoted service to the Armenian Church was acknowledged. Congratulations 10th Anniversary Committee! *... Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian*

*** Regarding the 10th Anniversary Celebration, I would like to congratulate and commend all of the hard working committee people, the children and entire Sunday School staff that were involved in getting the various details worked out. *... Greg Srabian*



Silent Auction Team (l. to r.) Dick Atkian, Charlie Terzian and Richard Nalbandian

*** Special thanks to **Charlie Terzian** for spearheading the Silent Auction of the 10th Anniversary celebration.

*... Dick Atkian & Richard Nalbandian,
Silent Auction Committee*

(continued on next page)



*Blessing of the Past, Joy of the Present,
Hope of the Future*

FROM THE ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

And so, it has been several months since we celebrated this special event of our church. Yet the music should still sing within our hearts.

What a grand affair; proving once again that our community is made up of so many diverse and talented people. Each segment of the program was executed perfectly by its respective chairperson. Our committee worked for over a year pulling the individual parts together (like fine instruments) and in the finale, sweet music was heard by all. Many thanks to all my committee for their tireless efforts and dedication to OUR program.

I am sure I speak for our whole community when I thank the Sunday School students and parents, and Church Choir for their beautiful and inspiring musical contribution to our program. It was a first for our Choirs and they sang with voices of angels. It was thrilling! Thank you all for the extra efforts and rehearsals. Thank you to Lorene Skinner for putting the music together, to Dr. Susan Mardoian for leading the Church Choir into and through a new musical experience and to Greg Srabian for underwriting much of the production costs for both Choirs. What a great program.

Another first for our community was the Silent Auction. Charlie Terzian, Dick Atkian and Rich Nalbandian took this concept and made it a reality. Fun was had by all and there really was some serious bidding. Great job group, you're the greatest!

The Commemorative Booklet proved once again to be a challenge to our committee but true to form, we were able to produce a product that will provide many lasting memories of that day, especially for those of you who use the first ever listing of our members for future references and information. Special thanks to Virginia Bogosian, Sonia Harlan, Liz Sahagian and Rosy Yeretsian for an excellent piece, and to Shanoor and Sylva Varjabedian for working with us on our cover design and logo. Their talents were a great resource for our committee. Great job everyone!

They say a picture is worth a thousand words and this is truly the case with the excellent slide

The spirited 10th Anniversary Chorus



presentation composed by Sonia Harlan. It allowed each one of us, in our own time, to review and remember the many special events of the past ten years. It ran quietly throughout the banquet available to all. My thanks to Jay Harlan and Jason Vander Meer for the set-up and take down. Thanks for the memories everyone. Great picture show.

To the Dinner Committee, which at times seemed to be a step-child to everything else that was going on, choice of room, menu, room arrangement, seating and invitation control was magnificent. It all seemed so perfect! Yet much work and many hours of review made this day. My heartfelt thanks to Liz Sahagian, Sonya Doumanian, Gladys Avakian and Laura Vander Meer. Great job ladies.

Musically, my special thanks and great appreciation to Alice Madanyan for her singing of our anthems, to Rita Yeretsian and Kevin Giragosian for their excellent rendition of "Give Us the Future". Each gave us a glimpse of the creative talent in our community. Applause. Applause. Great job everyone.

(continued on next page)



Rita Yeretsian reciting and Kevin Giragosian on guitar



Blessing of the Past, Joy of the Present, Hope of the Future

FROM THE PASTOR A WORD OF THANKS AND PRAISE

The 10th Anniversary celebration of Sts. Joachim & Anne is history now, but its lasting memory will remain as one of the most beautiful pages in the annals of our parish history. It was a joyful and fitting celebration, both in the Church and at the banquet hall. Our Primate, The Most Rev. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian presided over the day's affairs, giving full dignity to the significant milestone. Our people enjoyed the delightful moments of the celebration of our first decade in Palos Heights.

We are pleased that in a sense, our entire community was involved in different ways in many phases of the celebration. During Badarak, Deacons Nazar Halajian and Dr. Norayr Madanyan served on the altar, as well as guest Deacons Kevork Hagopian of Waukegan and Dr. Larry Farsakian of Evanston. Shunt and Onnig Madanyan's censing in pair made it especially festive. Dr. Susan Mardoian led the Church Choir, accompanied by Organist Martha Auer.

The original Godfathers of the Crosses of the consecration and the Godfather of the Church were all honored in special ways. Our youth participated in all phases of the celebration, both in the Church and at the banquet. Shunt Madanyan was assigned to coordinate the youth participation in the celebration. The Chorus with their exuberant singing was a fitting grand finale of a great celebration.

The 10th Anniversary was also an occasion of Pontifical recognition, through the good offices of our Diocesan Primate, of our Diocesan Delegate Dr. Raffy Hovanesian, who was bestowed with the medal of St. Nersess Shnorhali, accompanied with an Encyclical by His Holiness Vazken I, Catholicos of All Armenians. This was in recognition of Raffy's lifelong accomplishments in the service to the Armenian Church and Armenian people. We congratulate the recipient of this great honor, which was also an honor for our community.

The 10th Anniversary was also an occasion to give a special tribute to the Pastor on the 35th Anniversary of his ordination into sacred priesthood. I was touched by this gesture towards my humble person. I thank the Primate, Archbishop Khajag and Dr. Garbis Meguerian, Chairman of Parish Council for their kind remarks and for the gifts.



10th Anniversary Dinner Head Table (l. to r.) Moore Fundukian, Church Godfather; Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor; Dr. Raffy Hovanesian, Candlelighting Chairman; Yerezgin Rosalie Papazian; Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate; Dr. Garbis Meguerian, Parish Council Chairman; and Dennis Vander Meer, 10th Anniversary Committee Chairman

We are indebted to Sark and Alice Boyajian for being such gracious hosts to Surpazan during his entire stay. Furthermore, they hosted an evening with Primate and our Church lay leaders, accompanied with their spouses for dinner on Saturday, November 20th, giving an opportunity for a wonderful dialogue with the Primate.

The Anniversary Committee did a fantastic job organizing all phases of the celebration. We thank the committee chairman, Dennis Vander Meer and through him, all his members for the great job. Dennis' suggestion of the song motivated the committee members into action.

We are also happy that the candlelighting of the anniversary cake realized a good sum of donations for our Church.

All in all, it was a great weekend, ever memorable. We look to the future with enthusiasm and great hope.

God bless America!

God bless the Armenian people!

God bless the Armenian Church!

... Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian



The Pontifical Encyclical (Gontag) in the hands of Vicki and Raffy Hovanesian, with Fr. Diran Papazian onlooking

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

"LOVE-HALLMARK OF CHRISTIANITY"

Love is the supreme reality and the epitome of the Christian value system. Faith, Hope and Love constitute the three theological virtues, "but the greatest of these is love", as Apostle Paul ascertains. These three virtues are inseparable; if you don't have all three, then you don't really have any. Love being the greatest is the proof of faith and hope; without love the other two lose their quality of genuineness.

Faith without love is cold, and hope without love is grim! Love is the fire which kindles faith and it is the light which turns hope into certainty.

In his famous passage of First Corinthians, chapter 13, Apostle Paul in discussing Christian Love (charity), uses three illustrations to show that even the highest achievements in life are meaningless when they lack love.

In his first illustration he says; *"Though I speak with the tongues of men and angels, and have not love, then I become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."*

Speech is our basic means of communication, but if it does not serve as a channel for the expression of love, then it does not serve its purpose at all and loses its real value. Even the most refined eloquence becomes nothing but noise, when it is without the power of love.

In his second illustration, Paul says: *"Though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and possess all knowledge, and I have all faith so that I could remove mountains and have not love, I am nothing."*

Think of all the great minds and all the spiritual giants in history; these are men of vision and men of faith. In his sweeping statement, Apostle Paul is saying that unless they were motivated by true love in their thinking and believing, they are literally nothing in the sight of God.

Men of vision and men of faith must be men of love first and foremost. It is not a question of how much we know, or how wise we are, nor even how good we are; it all depends how much love we have in our heart. Jesus said, *"He that is the greatest among you shall be your servant."* Gifts of God bestowed on us are intended to make us servants and not masters; the greater the gifts, the greater must be the service.

Apostle Paul is even more astonishing in his third striking illustration, where he says, *"Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor,*

and though I give my body to be burned, and I have no love, it profiteth me nothing."

This illustration presents an incredible picture. We are told that even benevolence and martyrdom can be worthless in the sight of God if they are void of love. Think of the great benefactors and the heroic martyrs in history, whose names are written in golden scripts on the pages of history; their deeds have become legends and inspired generations; monuments have been erected in their honor. Yes, men can do such great things and yet they amount to nothing in the sight of God if they are not motivated by love.

It is entirely possible for a man to be self-centered in his self-denial and self-righteous in his self-sacrifice, and as such, be generous only to feed his vanity and pious only to feed his pride. The human heart can become so pervert that it can turn the noblest virtue into the lowest vice; thus, without true love benevolence can become egotism and martyrdom hypocrisy.

The most eloquent speakers, the most profound thinkers, the most pious believers, the most generous donors, and the most heroic martyrs are failures from God's point of view if they lack love in their intention. Conversely, even the smallest achievement of man has infinite value in the sight of God if it is motivated by true love.

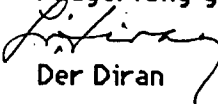
Love transcends death and endures forever. Everything in this world passes but love never ends. It is the only virtue which St. John the Evangelist identifies with God by stating, *"God is love; and anyone who lives in love, lives in God, and God lives in him."* (1 John 4:16).

This love supercedes the Law of the Old Testament, as a New Commandment, given by our Lord which is the only criteria of our being Christian, *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you. That you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* (John 13:34-35)

One cannot help but ask, is this Christian ideal of love much too high for us to attain? Love is not an accomplishment on our part, but it is simply the gift of God. All one has to do is to respond wholeheartedly to the love of God which He freely and unconditionally offers to man.

In the words of St. John the Evangelist, *"We love because He first loved us."* (1 John 4:10)

Prayerfully yours,


Der Diran

LENTEN PERIOD IN THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

February 14-March 26, 1994

Our Lord Jesus Christ went into the desert for 40 days for seclusion after His Baptism in the River Jordan to prepare Himself for His mission by praying and fasting. At the end of this period, the devil, disguised as an angel, came to Him and tempted Him with food, power and wealth. Each time Jesus rebuffed the "bad angel" and finally he left Jesus. The good angels came to Jesus and cared for Him. (Matthew 4:1-11) Lent is designated in commemoration of our Lord's withdrawal into the wilderness.

SIX-STEP PLAN FOR MEDZ BAHK

The forty day period of Great Lent ("Medz Bahk") is a time of preparation for the events of Holy Week and Easter. Here are six suggestions for adequate observance for this year's Lent:

1. **Fasting** - Church tradition says that we should abstain from all meat and dairy products during Great Lent. Though difficult, this is not impossible, especially with the wealth of cookbooks containing meatless recipes (both Armenian and non-Armenian) available. If family members have favorite meatless meals, be sure to include them in your menu planning. If traditional fasting is not possible, consider eating one meal a day or less portions.
2. **Bible Reading** - Start with the Scriptures for each Sunday of Lent (see schedule below). Read and discuss with family members. Aside from Sunday Gospel passages, set a goal to read through one of the Gospels in its entirety. Try a chapter a night and pick a time when the whole family is together.
3. **Attend Lenten Services** - Check parish calendar. Get involved in Lenten vigils and suppers. The Lenten Services consist of Psalms, Prayers and Hymns. Subdued and penitential in tone, the service sets the mood for drawing into ourselves for the soul-searching which we must do during Lent.
4. **Penance** - This is the time to make amends for the wrongs we've done. Send notes of apology, do good deeds to make up for those to whom you have been less than loving, phone those with whom you must rebuild bridges of love and friendship. Make an appointment with your priest for private counseling and penance.
5. **Prayer** - Gather favorite prayers, penitential prayers, "With Faith I Confess" a set of 24 prayers (intended for each hour of the day) by St. Nersess the Graceful, favorite Psalms (32 and 51 are good ones) to read and meditate during Lent. Discuss the meaning and purpose of prayer and designate best times to pray. Try to arrange a family prayer time.
6. **Alms** - Giving up something during Lent doesn't refer to food alone. It also means giving up frivolous entertainment and activities. The money that would have been spent on meat and frivolous entertainment could be given to a favorite charity, such as sponsoring an Armenian orphan; helping school children in Armenia; and assisting homeland and Karabagh liberation struggles.

Lent is a period which strengthens us spiritually. Make a special effort to attend Church during this period. Let it be a time of growth for the whole family.

SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS

During Lent, the altar curtain in the Armenian Church is traditionally veiled in black. The black altar curtain and the solemnity of the Lenten Services make us realize how much we truly value our Badarak and liturgical traditions. The absence of Holy Communion, the inability to see the priest in his regal vestments as he raises the chalice or signs "Peace unto all" (Khaghaghootyoon Amenetzoon), and not passing the Kiss of Peace, all work to remind us how bleak and lifeless our existence would be without the splendor of the Divine Liturgy.

The Lenten period heightens our awareness and evokes yearning in our souls for the Lord Jesus Christ in a more vivid way.

GOSPEL READINGS FOR LENTEN SUNDAYS

February 13, 1994, Sunday of Poon Paregentan - Matthew 6:1-12

February 20, 1994, Sunday of Expulsion - Genesis 3:1-24 and Matthew 5:17-48

February 27, 1994, Sunday of the Prodigal Son - Luke 15:11-32

March 6, 1994, Sunday of the Steward - Luke 16:1-13

March 13, 1994, Sunday of the Judge - Luke 18:1-18

March 20, 1994, Sunday of Advent - Matthew 22:34-23:39

CONFORMING TO THE LORD'S PRAYER

I cannot say **OUR** if my religion has no room for others and their needs.

I cannot say **FATHER** if I do not demonstrate this relationship in my daily living.

I cannot say **WHO ART IN HEAVEN** if all my interests and pursuits are in earthly things.

I cannot say **HALLOWED BE THY NAME** if I, who am called to bear this name, am not holy.

I cannot say **THY KINGDOM COME** if I am unwilling to give up my own sovereignty and accept the righteous reign of God.

I cannot say **THY WILL BE DONE** if I am unwilling or resentful of having it in my life.

I cannot say **ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN** unless I am truly ready to give myself to His service here and now.

I cannot say **GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD** without expending honest effort for it, or by ignoring the genuine needs of others.

I cannot say **FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US** if I continue to harbor a grudge against anyone.

I cannot say **LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION** if I deliberately choose to remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.

I cannot say **DELIVER US FROM EVIL** if I am not prepared to fight in the spiritual realm with the weapon of prayer.

I cannot say **THINE IS THE KINGDOM** if I do not give the King the disciplined obedience of a loyal subject.

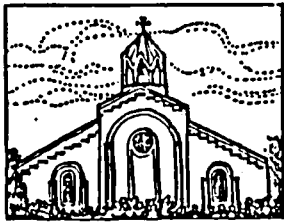
I cannot say **THINE IS THE POWER** if I fear what my neighbors and friends may say or do.

I cannot say **THINE IS THE GLORY** if I am seeking my own glory first.

I cannot say **FOREVER** if I am too anxious about each day's events.

I cannot say **AMEN** unless I honestly say "Cost what it may, this is my prayer."

(The Beam)



Lent

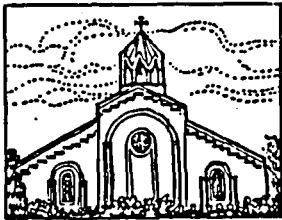
**STS. JOACHIM & ANNE
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

12600 S. Ridgeland Avenue
Palos Heights, Illinois 60463

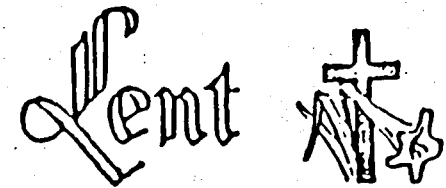


March 1994

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SOORP BADARAK SUNDAY SCHOOL PASTOR: REV. FR. DIRAN PAPAIIAN OFFICE: 708/388-4940 RESIDENCE: 708/614-1331	10:00 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	WOMEN'S GUILD 7:30 P.M.	LENTEN VIGIL & SUPPER Hosted By Parish Council 6:30 P.M.			St. John, Patriarch of Jerusalem, & Sts. John of Otzoon, John of Orotni, Gregory of Tathev MIDWEST ACYOA RETREAT Camp Hickory Feb. 5 & 6 Forty Martyrs of Sebastia Chicago Area Women's Guilds WOMEN SAINTS DAY Hosted By Sts. Joachim & Anne NOON
Sunday of the Steward LENTEN LITURGY SUNDAY SCHOOL **Lecture 6 AGBU	7	SENIORS' VOSPOV KHEYMA & FISH LUNCHEON-NOON	9 Median Day of Lent	10	11	12
Sunday of the Judge LENTEN LITURGY SUNDAY SCHOOL **Lecture 13 AGBU	14	15	16 LENTEN VIGIL & SUPPER Hosted By Seniors & Choir 6:30 P.M.	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 St. Gregory the Enlightener of Armenia (Commitment to the Pit)
Sixth Sunday of Lent LENTEN LITURGY SUNDAY SCHOOL	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 PM	22	23 LENTEN VIGIL & SUPPER Hosted By Sunday School 6:30 P.M.	24	25	26 Remembrance of the Raising of Lazarus Lecture "Armenia-Karabagh" AGBU Center 7 PM
Palm Sunday SOORP BADARAK SUNDAY SCHOOL Palm Sunday Brunch Bake Sale 27 ACYOA Day Youth Sunday	HOLY WEEK March 28- April 2	29 Remembrance of Ten Virgins	30	31 Great & Holy Thursday Feet Washing & "Tenebrae" 7:30 P.M.	**Lecture/Slides 3/6/94 of Arshille Gorky AGBU Center 3 PM **Lecture/Slides 3/13/94 Knights of Vartan present Mrs. Monty Melkonian AGBU Center 3 PM	BIBLE STUDY with Yeretzgin Dates will be announced



February 1994



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SOORP BADARAK SUNDAY SCHOOL PASTOR: REV. FR. DIRAN PAPAIZIAN OFFICE: 708/388-4940 RESIDENCE: 708/614-1331	10:00 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	St. Sookias the Martyr and Companions WOMEN'S GUILD 7:30 P.M.	SENIORS' KHEYMA LUNCHEON NOON			St. Sahak Parthev, Catholicos "Hyé Jinks" 7P.M. variety show, sponsored by Women's Guild 5 (curtain 7:30P.M.)
Middle Sunday SOORP BADARAK SUNDAY SCHOOL 6	7	St. Ghevont Yeretz 8	9	St. Vartan the Captain and Companions 10	11	150 Fathers of the Council of Constantinople (381 A.D.) 12
Great Barekendan SOORP BADARAK SUNDAY SCHOOL **Lecture 13 AGBU	Presentation of the Lord to the Temple First Day of Lent 14 Valentines Day	15	Ash Wednesday 16	17	18	St. Theodore the Captain CHOIR WORKSHOP sponsored by Saints Joachim & Anne Church Choir 19
Sunday of the Expulsion LENTEN LITURGY SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR WORKSHOP 20	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 PM George Washington's 21 Birthday	22	LENTEN VIGIL & SUPPER Hosted By Women's Guild 23 6:30 P.M.	24	25	St. Cyril of Jerusalem 26
Sunday of the Prodigal LENTEN LITURGY SUNDAY SCHOOL *ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY 27	28	** Lecture 2/13/94 "Ancient Armenian Arts and Architecture" AGBU Center 3 P.M. Bible Study with Yeretzgin Dates will be announced				

STS. JOACHIM & ANNE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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