

The Armenian Church of Atlanta

P.O. Box 415 • Riverdale, Ga. 30274

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SOLEMN DIVINE LITURGY
CELEBRANT
THE VERY REV. FR. MAMIGON KILIDJIAN
DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

AT
EPIPHANY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
2030 OLD ALABAMA ROAD
ROSWELL, GA. 30076

ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1995 3:00 P.M. Sharp

FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY ARMENIAN STYLE DINNER WILL BE SERVED

EASTER EGG HUNT FOR CHILDREN
*** PLEASE BRING YOUR EASTER BASKETS ***

TRADITIONAL EASTER EGG CRACKING CONTEST

RSVP: TALIN MAJOR (404)-447-9647

Beloved Faithful:

It is time for the Easter Yooghakeen.

The word *yooghakeen* literally means "the price of oil." It recalls earlier days, when churches were lit with oil lamps; the *yooghakeen* was collected in order to buy oil to keep the lamps lit, and the churches open.

For us today, the oil has a more symbolic significance, based on a tradition illustrated in the Holy Bible. We are told that, after Christ's crucifixion, the women took oil to anoint His body, which they expected to find in the tomb. When they discovered that the tomb was empty, and saw that Jesus had risen, they ran back to inform the other believers of the Good News of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thus, the *yooghakeen* is symbolically linked to a contribution which helps to maintain and transmit the Good News of Christ's Incarnation and Resurrection.

Just as the oil reminds us of the healing and strengthening that we receive through the Word of God as it is preached and lived in the Church, so the *yooghakeen* is a way of giving thanks to God for all His blessings throughout the year. It is also a sign of hope that others will be healed and strengthened through the Church.

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America