

Սուրբ Երրորդութիւն Հայաստանեայց
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Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Mother Church

Զայն

Voice

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2226 Ventura Street • Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 486-1141 Office; (559) 486-1939 Fax
www.holytrinityfresno.org



Happy
Mother's
Day



H.G. BISHOP TORKOM DONOYAN, PRELATE VISITS HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

The Prelate and his entourage arrived in Fresno Friday, April 9, 2021 and were welcomed by the pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Very Rev. Fr. Ashod Khatchadourian and Honorary Consul of Armenia in Fresno and member of the Executive Council Deacon Berj Apkarian. By the singing of “Ourakh Ler” the Prelate and clergy members were guided into the church, where a “Canonical Prayer” service took place. The official 3-day visit to the Fresno community – which was carefully prepared and coordinated by community officials – commenced following the “Canonical Prayer” service.

On Friday evening, the Prelate and his entourage were hosted at the residence of the Chairman of the Holy Trinity Church Board of Trustees, David Sarabian and wife Patti, in the presence of members of the Executive Council, local National Representatives, the Pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Board of Trustees and the young adults of the area. The Prelate blessed the Sarabian family and in his speech praised the organizers of the three-day visit, the members of his entourage and those present at the event. He then interacted and conversed with more than 70 young adults, who listened to his eloquent words with great enthusiasm which imprinted in their souls a unique memory of this historic evening. The evening ended with prayer.

Impressed by the meeting with the Fresno young adults, the Prelate wrote on his Facebook page that night: “We had a blessed evening with the youth of Fresno, praying, singing and talking, spreading the love of Jesus Christ.”

On Saturday, April 10, the Prelate, Clergy, Executive Council members, the Pastor of the Holy Trinity Church, Board of Trustees, as well as the Chairman of the local Homenetmen Board and the Homenetmen scouts, formed a procession towards the Genocide memorial at the California State University of Fresno. In attendance were the President of the CSU Fresno, Dr. Saul Jimenez-Sandoval, Vice President Mrs. Debra Adishian-Astone, Director of the Armenian Studies program Prof. Barlow Der Mugerdechian and Dr. Sergio La Porta.

The Prelate presided over the prayer service for the memory of the 1.5 million Armenian Martyrs, emphasizing the pro-Armenian activities at the Fresno State, and thanking its leadership, which years ago was willing to erect the genocide monument on its premises. Dr. Sandoval welcomed the Prelate and expressed his full support for all the programs of the Armenian community. Thereafter, souvenirs were exchanged.

After a short meeting at the residence of Benefactors Mr. Vahan and Mrs. Anoush Chamlian, the Prelate and his entourage headed over to the Masis Cemetery in Fresno, where Homenetmen scouts laid a wreath at the tomb of Soghomon Tehlirian. The Prelate conducted a requiem service for the memory of Soghomon Tehlirian and delivered a short message, where he mentioned “in support of the final establishment of justice and the end of the Turkish state’s policy of denial.”

H.G. BISHOP TORKOM DONOYAN, PRELATE VISITS HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, (Continued)

In attendance were representatives of ARF “Soghomon Tehlirian” committee, AYPF “Kevork Chavoush,” ARS “Sophia” and “Mayr” chapters, Hamazkayin “Taniel Varoujan” chapter representatives and members of the Fresno Armenian community.

On the same day, the Prelate and his entourage gathered for lunch at the Holy Trinity Church. Thereafter, Bishop Donoyan had meetings with the executives of church organizations, as well as the Board of Trustees and Sunday school teachers. Following the meetings, the Prelate met with the members of the church choir and as a remembrance of this first visit, he taught the choir members two new hymns, and practiced various parts of the Divine Liturgy. The cheerful atmosphere was contagious; the choir was deeply inspired by the presence of the Prelate and driven by his dedication.

Saturday evening, H.G. Bishop Torkom Donoyan and his entourage were hosted at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph and Janet Hovannisian, where the benefactors of the Armenian community of Fresno were also present. After the “blessing of the house” service and welcoming remarks were delivered, the Prelate met with more than 60 guests and had an intimate conversation with those present, which experienced a warm and unforgettable moment of friendship with their Prelate. In his speech, the Prelate praised the Armenians of Fresno for their high level of preparation and warm hospitality, emphasizing that the Armenian community of Fresno plays the role of a beacon of light in the life of the Western Prelacy.

On the morning of Sunday, April 11, our faithful parishioners attended the Episcopal Divine Liturgy which was celebrated by H.G. Bishop Torkom Donoyan, Prelate. The Divine Liturgy was served by Archpriest Fr. Vicken Vassilian and Rev. Fr. Movses Shannakian. The choir was directed by Rev. Fr. Ashod Khachadourian. The occasion was also unique as the faithful came to meet the Prelate and get to know him personally.

During the Divine Liturgy, the Prelate consecrated the image of the “Prodigal Son,” in which the image invites the faithful to be pious and God-loving, and to love Jesus more than anything else in life. “It is God who brings us together, and the church becomes the bridge which brings heaven to earth, and as humans are joined together, they are joined with God,” stressed the Prelate.

After the Divine Liturgy, H.G. Bishop Torkom Donoyan took part in an Easter egg fight (havgitakakh) in the Church courtyard, which was organized for the Sunday school students and gave a special moment of joy to the children.

A large number of parishioners from the Armenian community of Fresno – young and old alike – expressed their congratulations and gratitude to the Prelate for reviving the community life and filling everyone’s souls with joy through such a historic three-day visit. The Prelate and his entourage departed for Los Angeles Sunday afternoon.

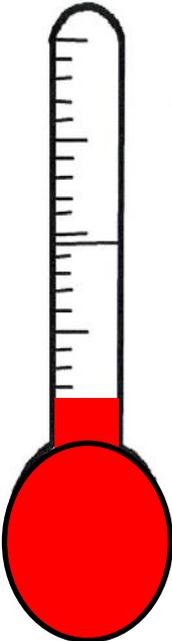
Dear Parishioners,

April brought our first visit from our newly-appointed Prelate, H.G. Bishop Torkom Donoyan. I am excited for the future of our church because he is bringing forth new visions and ideas. As we look into the future, we need to initiate his ideas locally, so we as a larger Armenian community can learn, live and share the Gospel.

As my term winds down, I would like to thank all board members and our congregation who help keep the church moving. It has been a great joy to serve the community which I love and am looking forward to my last year as a board member to continue to help our church.

Aid organizations are meeting again, so please get involved . Take your kids to Sunday School and watch for Youth Group meetings.

Have a blessed May!



If you can, please donate towards our remodel project. Thank you.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Nicolas and Tara Kazarian on the birth of their son, **NICO ZAVEN KAZARIAN**, born March 18, 2021. We also congratulate big sisters, Scarlett and Noelle Kazarian, grandparents Nick & Lorraine Kazarian and Philip & Florence Parnagian.

Congratulations to Mark and Astghik Ohanesian on the birth of their daughter, **LORI MARGARET OHANESIAN**, born March 26, 2021. We also congratulate big sister, Noyemi Iris, grandparents Gevorg & Asya Manukyan and Mark & Margaret Shirin, and the late Steven Ohanesian. We also congratulate great grandparents Levon Manukyan and Iris Sahatdjian.



BAPTISMS



On Saturday, April 3, 2021, **ALEK HAYK IKNOIAN** received the Sacrament of Baptism. We congratulate parents Matthew & Anna Iknoian, brother Shant, godparents Levon Baladjanian and Heghine Evinyan, grandparents Charles & Joanne Iknoian and Hayk Evinyan & Armenuhi Bejanyan. *We congratulate Baby Alek on achieving this spiritual milestone.*

On Saturday, April 17, 2021, **ARMAN JACOB KALAJIAN** received the Sacrament of Baptism. We congratulate parents Harout & Tanya Kalajian, sister Liana, godparents Eddie & Alina Jerahian, grandparents Hagop & Maral Kalajian and Shant & Ani Markarian, and great grandmother Siran Jerahian. *We congratulate Baby Arman on achieving this spiritual milestone.*



On Saturday, April 17, 2021, **PRESLEY CHRISTINE SANDERS** received the Sacrament of Baptism. We congratulate parents Keenan Sanders and Brianna Sahatdjian, godparents Nicholas & Eva Sahatdjian, grandparents Tran & Julie Sanders and Bill & Christine Sahatdjian, and great grandparents Iris Sahatdjian, Jim & Mary Sanders and Ken & Carol Magdaleno. *We congratulate Baby Presley on achieving this spiritual milestone.*

Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

I can't say for certain, but I'd imagine many of you, just like me, have needed a lot of comforting over the past year. For a seemingly never-ending list of reasons, we have endured ongoing worry, stress, and anxiety. Yet there is a different kind of comfort in knowing we are in this together. Together we persevere. And it is relieving to sometimes admit that I am not ok. Most importantly, we must find comfort in God's promises. In 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, we read of how our Heavenly Father is the "God of all comfort" and that we should comfort one another just as God comforts us. The Life Application Study Bible explains these verses, "If you are feeling overwhelmed, allow God to comfort you. Remember that every trial you endure will help you comfort other people who are suffering similar troubles." The great thing is that we can be reassured by both God's love and by loving one another.

That's the thing, we are not alone in our fears, worries, and anxieties. There are so many others facing similar challenges and that actually presents us the opportunity to encourage each other. As believers, we need to share our testimony of how God has helped us so we can be a beacon of light to others. The way we do that is by living out Jesus' commands to trust and be courageous.

Don't be lying awake in your bed worrying about everything. You may be thinking: What will I do? Where will I go? What will happen? Listen, relax! Lie on the floor and rest in the fact that Your Father knows best. He moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform. While we are alike in our worry and anxiety, we are also alike in that God's love for us is beyond comprehension. We are still susceptible to self-doubt, even when we make decisions prayerfully, which is why we need to shift from relying on ourselves to relying on God. In Him, we can find peace, and by living according to His purposes, we can keep our lives on track.

Prayer: – Thank You Lord for comforting us so that we can comfort others. Thank you for reminding us that there are millions of others just like us. We lay all our worries, anxieties, and stresses at Your feet, accepting Your peace, which is beyond comprehension. Please watch over our friends and families, granting us health and safety. May we live according to Your will and Your purpose for our lives. All these things we pray in Jesus' name. Amen!

FUNERAL SERVICES



Funeral services were held for **JUSTIN MICHAEL DOEHRING** on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. Interment was at Masis Ararat Armenian Cemetery. Our sincere condolences to his parents Michael and Barbara Doehring, sister Lisa Howlin and her family. *May God bless his soul.*

Graveside services were held for **BLANCHE D. HAGOPIAN** on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at Belmont Memorial Park. Our sincere condolences to her family. *May God bless her soul.*

Graveside services were held for **ARPINE ZANONTIAN** on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at Masis Ararat Armenian Cemetery. Our sincere condolences to her children Aram & Elo Zanontian, Raffy & Sonna Zanontian, grandchildren Anto and wife Linda Zanontian, Garen Zanontian, and grandson Isaac. *May God bless her soul.*



Funeral services were held for **KEVORK MELIKIAN** on Friday, April 30, 2021. Interment was at Masis Ararat Armenian Cemetery. Our sincere condolences to his wife Ana Maria, brothers Ishkhan Melikian, George Melikian and their families. *May God bless his soul.*

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sincere condolences to

Mrs. Marian Habib and her Family for the loss of husband, **HARRY HABIB**. *May God bless his soul.*

Zepur Geuvjehizian and her Family for the loss of husband, father and grandfather **MOUSHEGH GEUVJEHIZIAN**. *May God bless his soul.*

Fred Safa for the loss of wife **JILL SCELZI FALLAHSABA**. *May God bless her soul*

Jumping Around

A group of frogs were hopping contentedly through the woods, going about their froggy business, when two of them fell into a deep pit. All of the other frogs gathered around the pit to see what could be done to help their companions. When they saw how deep the pit was, the rest of the dismayed group agreed that it was hopeless and told the two frogs in the pit that they should prepare themselves for their fate, because they were as good as dead.

Unwilling to accept this terrible fate, the two frogs began to jump with all of their might. Some of the frogs shouted into the pit that it was hopeless and that the two frogs wouldn't be in that situation if they had been more careful, more obedient to the froggy rules and more responsible. The other frogs continued sorrowfully shouting that they should save their energy and give up, since they were already as good as dead. The two frogs continued jumping as hard as they could and after several hours of desperate effort were quite weary.

Finally, one of the frogs took heed to the calls of his fellows. Spent and disheartened, he quietly resolved himself to his fate, lay down at the bottom of the pit and died as the others looked on in helpless grief.

The other frog continued to jump with every ounce of energy he had, although his body was wracked with pain and he was completely exhausted. His companions began a new, yelling for him to accept his fate, stop the pain and just die. The weary-frog jumped harder and harder and... wonder of wonders! Finally leapt so high that he sprang from the pit. Amazed, the other frogs celebrated his miraculous freedom and then gathering around him and asked, "Why did you continue jumping when we told you it was impossible?" Reading their lips, the astonished frog explained to them that he was deaf and that when he saw their gestures and shouting, he thought they were cheering him on. What he had perceived as encouragement inspired him to try harder and to succeed against all odds.

Message: This simple story contains a powerful lesson. Your encouraging words can lift someone up and help him or her make it through the day. Your destructive words can cause deep wounds. They may be the weapons that destroy someone's desire to continue trying or even their life. Your destructive careless word can diminish someone in the eyes of others, destroy their influence and have a lasting impact on the way others respond to them. "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

Ephesians 4:29

ՀՈԳԵՀԱՆԳՍՏԵԱՆ

Պաշտոն պիտի կատարուի.....

Մայիս 2:

ԻԶԱՊԷԼ ԱԲՐԱՀԱՄԵԱՆԻ մահուան առաջին տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանո՞ք զաւակներուն ձընէ՞ք Արքահամեանի, Փաթրիշա Արքահամեանի եւ Գէնըթ եւ տիկնոջ Սուզան Արքահամեաններու եւ իրենց ընտանիքներուն: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

ԱԼԻՍ ՄԱՆՈՒԿԵԱՆԻ մահուան 21-րդ տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանո՞ք ամուսնոյն՝ Վահան Մանուկեանի, դուստրերուն Տաեան եւ ամուսնոյն Տին Ուտներու, Միշէլ եւ ամուսնոյն Հազ Արիգեաններու, թոռներուն Ալինի եւ Թալիաի: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

ՍԱՅՄԸՆ ԵՒ ՀԱՅԿԱՆՈՒՇ ՓԻԹՐՐՍԸՆ, ՀԷԼԷՆ ՓԻԹՐՐՍԸՆ, ՎԸՐՉԻՆԵԱ ՄՈՒՐԱՏԵԱՆ, ՓՕԼ ՓԻԹՐՐՍԸՆ ԵՒ ՃԷՅ ՓԻԹՐՐՍԸՆ խնդրանո՞ք Փաթրիշա Փիթըրսըն Հէնըսնի: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրէ:*

Մայիս 9:

ԱԻԵՏԻՔ ԵՒ ՀՈՒՓՍԻՄԷ ԱԼԹԻՆՔՕՓԵԱՆԻ, ՆԻԳԸԼԸՍ ԱԼԹԻՆՔՕՓԻ, ԱԼՃՕՆՍ ԱԼԹԻՆՔՕՓԻ, ՐԱՆԸԼՏ ՄԱՐԹԷԼԻԻ, ԵՒ ԷՎԱ ՍՄԻԳԻ հոգիներուն համար, խնդրանո՞ք Թանյա Մարթէլի, Պարպարա Փարիզի եւ իրենց ընտանիքներուն: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

ՄԷՐԻԱԼԻՍ ԳԱԼՈՒՍՏԵԱՆԻ մահուան երկրորդ տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանո՞ք բրոջ՝ Լինտա Գալուստեանի, եղբոր Մարդի եւ տիկնոջ Տինա Գալուստեաններու, եւ եղբոր զակին Մէկըն Գալուստեանի: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

ՀՈՐՃ ԵՒ ՀԱՔԻ ԳԱԼՈՒՍՏԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ՄԱՐՏԻՐՈՍ ԵՒ ՄԱՐԻԱՄ ԳԱԼՈՒՍՏԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ԿԱՐԱՊԵՏ ԵՒ ԱԼԻՍ ԿԱՐԱՊԵՏԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ ԵՒ ՀԱՄԲԱՐՁՈՒՄ ԵՒ ԱՂԱԻՆԻ ՏՕԼԱՊՅԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, խնդրանո՞ք Լինտա Գալուստեանի, Մարդի եւ տիկնոջ Տինա Գալուստեաններու եւ Մէկըն Գալուստեանի: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

HOKEHANKIST
will be said for.....

May 2:

ISABELLE ABRAHAMIAN, on the first year of her passing, requested by her children Jeanette Abrahamian, Patricia Abrahamian and Kenneth and wife Susan Abrahamian and their Family. *Altar flower are donated in her memory.*

ALICE MANUKIAN on the 21st year of her passing, as requested by husband Vahan Manukian, daughters Diane and husband Dean Wood, Michele and husband Jack Arikian, granddaughters Aleen & Talia. *Altar flowers are donated in her memory.*

SIMON AND HAIGANOOSH PETERSON, HELEN PETERSON, VIRGINIA MORADIAN, PAUL PETERSON, AND JAE PETERSON, requested by Patricia Peterson Hansen. *Altar flower are donated in their memory.*

May 9:

AVEDIK & HRIPSIME ALTINTOPIAN, NICOLAS ALTINTOP, ALFONS ALTINTOP, RONALD MARTELL AND EVA SMITH, requested by Tania Martell, Barbara Paris and their Families. *Altar flowers are donated in their memory.*

MARYALICE KALOOSTIAN, on the second year of her passing, requested by her sister Linda Kaloostian, her brother Marty & wife Dena Kaloostian, and niece Meagan Kaloostian. *Altar flower are donated in her memory.*

GEORGE & JACKIE KALOOSTIAN, MARDIROS & MARIAM KALOOSTIAN, GARABED & ALICE GARABEDIAN, AND HAMPARTZOOM & AGHAVNIE DOLABJIAN, requested by Linda Kaloostian, Marty & Dena Kaloostian, and Meagan Kaloostian. *Altar flower are donated in their memory.*

ՀՈԳԵՀԱՆԳՍՏԵԱՆ Պաշտօն պիտի կատարուի.....

Մայիս 16:

ՍԵՐՈՐ ՅԱԿՈՐ ՎԱՐԴԱՆՅԱՆՆԻ մահուան երրորդ տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանքով տիկնոջ՝ Ազնիւ Վարդանեանի, դուստրերուն Այտա եւ ամուսնոյն Գրիս Խաչատուրեաններու, Թիմա եւ ամուսնոյն Թամ Ուիլեամզներու, Լենա եւ ամուսնոյն Բաֆֆի Փիլաւեաններու, եւ թոռներուն Նաթալիայի Դրօյի, Նատյայի, Գրիսթոֆըրի եւ Թամիի: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

ՄՆԱՑԱԿԱՆ ՅԱԿՈՐԵԱՆԻ մահուան 7-րդ տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանքով գաւակներուն՝ Աշոտ եւ Արեւիկ Յակոբեաններու եւ ընտանիքի: Նաեւ գաւակները կը խնկարկեն իրենց մօր՝ ԶՈՒԱՐԹ ՆՈՐՈՅԱՆԻ յիշատակը:

ԹԱԹՕ ԱՐԻՍՏԱԿԷՍԵԱՆ ԱՐԻՍԵԱՆԻ 27-րդ տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանքով ընտանիքին: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

Մայիս 23:

ՎԱՍՊՈՒՐԱԿԱՆԻ շերտԱՄԱՐՏԻ 106րդ ՏԱՐԵԼԻՑԻՆ ԱՌԻԹՈՎ, ՎԱՍՊՈՒՐԱԿԱՆ ՄԻՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՆՆՁՅՅԱԼ ԱՆԴԱՄՆԵՐՈՒ հոգիներուն համար, խնդրանքով՝ Վասպուրական Միութեան:

Հոգեհանգստեան Պաշտօն պիտի կատարուի ԱՐՓԻՆԷ ԾՆՈՒՆԹԵԱՆԻ մահուան ֆառասունֆին առիթով, խնդրանքով գաւակներուն Արամ եւ Էլօ Ծնունթեաններու, Բաֆֆի եւ Սօնա Ծնունթեաններու եւ ընտանիքներուն: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

HOKEHANKIST will be said for.....

May 16:

SEROP HAGOP VARTANIAN, on the third year of his passing, as requested by his wife Azniev Vartanian; daughters Aida and husband Kris Kachadoorian, Tina and husband Tom Williams, Lena and husband Raffi Pilavian and grandchildren Natalia, Tro, Nadia, Christopher and Tommy. *Altar flowers are donated in his memory.*

MNATSAGAN HAGOPIAN on the 7th year of his passing, as requested by his children Ashod and Arevig Hagopian and family. The family also wishes to honor their mother, **ZVART NOROYAN**.

TATO ARISTAKESSIAN ARISIAN on the 27th year of his passing, requested by his Family. *Altar flowers are donated in his memory.*

May 23:

*Hokehankist will be said for **ARPINEH ZANONTIAN**, on the 40th day of her passing, requested by her children Aram & Elo Zanontian, Raffy and Sonna Zanontian and their families. Altar flowers are donated in her memory.*

*On the occasion of the **106th ANNIVERSARY OF THE VASBOURAGAN HEROSAMARD AND ALL DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE VASBOURAGAN SOCIETY**, requested by the Vasbouragan Society.*

How is it already May?! As the temperatures climb and the days get longer, members of Ladies' Guild are filling their calendar with several exciting things.

We're having a Fiesta! Our **monthly meeting** is taking place Tuesday, May 4th at 11:30 a.m. It's Mexican themed and the lunch will no doubt be tasty. It's \$15 for members and guests. **Sophie Mekhitarian** will be speaking.

Our **Drive-Thru food events** have been a success thanks to your support. Our next one is set for Friday, May 14th. We're serving up a Chicken Kebob Dinner that includes pilaf, summer salad, soft lavash and dessert. At just \$15 it's a great deal! Orders must be in by Monday, May 10th. Call or text **Linda Kaloostian** at (559) 779-3803 to reserve your meals or email **Patty Torosian** at ptorosian559@gmail.com Pick-up is from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

During our April Ladies' Guild meeting we honored the participants of the **Three Servants Project**. That's where women from our guild take on a personal project that raises money for the church.

On Sundays, the Ladies' Guild is sponsoring **Coffee Hour**. If anyone would like to donate baked goods or funds for Coffee Hour, we'd appreciate it.

In closing, a big shout out to all the moms! We wish you a lovely Mother's Day. Thank you for all you do for your families and community.

In Remembrance of **FRANCES TUSAN**



A year ago, we lost our beloved Frances Tusan. On her one-year anniversary, her husband Bob and her sons Jerry and Rob, honored her with a memorial luncheon that was held on Sunday, April 18, 2021. Her family and many of her friends were present to remember Frances. A hokehankist was also said during church services. God bless her soul. We miss you Frances, our kufta queen.



The days were busy and the nights were long. During Ruby Baladjanian's 38 year marriage to her late husband Edward, their event calendar was full. There was dancing at Rainbow Ballroom. PTA meetings. Church doings. And soccer. Lots of soccer.

"We had a good marriage," Ruby says with a smile. "We were quite lively. We went dancing most Saturday nights. We were night owls. We would stay out till one, two o'clock in the morning."

Ruby misses dancing. She misses her husband more. He passed away in 1995 at just 65-years-old, from colon cancer. The couple met in Old Armenian Town. Eddie used to walk past Ruby's house on M Street to go to work at Hotel Fresno. That's how it was in the old days. The times were simple and the people were welcoming.

Ruby's parents Michael and Louise Kasparian were genocide survivors. Michael was born in 1896 in Mush. He and one of his brothers survived the massacre. Somehow Michael made it to Montana for a job working on the railroad. He returned to the Old Country to marry Louise. She was living at an orphanage in Constantinople. Together they came to the United States. Arriving at Ellis Island before settling in Fresno. "My dad threw all of his Turkish papers into the ocean," Ruby says, regarding her father's past life. "He didn't want anything to do with Turkey."

The Kasparian's built a life for themselves in America. Their home was at 445 M Street. Where Freeway 41 is today. Just steps away from Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church. It was there that Ruby grew up with her five older siblings. Sisters Queenie Iknoian and Dorothy Domino have passed away. As have brothers Andy and Haig. Ruby's sister Roxie lives in Gilroy. They enjoy reminiscing about their childhood.

"It was a lot of fun," Ruby says, about growing up in downtown Fresno. "Today they'd probably call it a ghetto, but it wasn't. The majority were all Armenians. To me those were good times. Real good times. Saturdays you'd play in the neighborhood. You could play outside until it was dark. It was very safe."

Ruby can picture the house she grew up in. It had two bedrooms and one bathroom. Not much space for eight people. The house had a porch where everyone would hang out. Her mom would make Armenian coffee, three or four times a day because someone was always stopping by.

"Everyone was poor, so you didn't have to keep up with anybody," Ruby says. "It was a different era." Ruby's dad worked in the fields and her mom worked at Roeding Packing House. In the summer, they'd leave the Valley to go work in the canneries. Later in life Ruby's dad got a job at Gottschalks Department Store.



Get to Know Ruby Baladjanian, *Continued*



The Kasparian children attended Emerson School and Longfellow Junior High. Most of Ruby's older siblings went to Fresno Technical High School. She graduated from Roosevelt in 1953. Following graduation, Ruby got a job at Gottschalks and then at Pacific Oil Seed.

She moved with her family to a home on Balch, near Ventura and 3rd Street. A lot of "Hyes" were moving to that neighborhood.

When Ruby and Edward married in 1957, they lived close by in a home on Mono. They

raised their children: Levon, Michael and Louise there. Life was full. Ruby took an active role in her children's schooling. When her kids were attending Roosevelt, she was active in the PTA and helped organize and chaperone the famed Disneyland Grad Night Trips. She still has the certificate that the school gave her, recognizing her hard work.

Ruby still gets excited talking about those Grad Night trips. She knows it was an important night for so many students; it was a dressy affair. No jeans and t-shirts. Girls wore dresses, boys wore their Sunday best. "We were strict," Ruby says. "We would drop them off on the highway, if we had too."

That never happened. But the threat was real. Maybe that "take no nonsense mentality" came from Ruby's time on the playing field. Not as an athlete, but as the ultimate "Team Mom."

Eddie was born in Russia in 1929. He was forced to live in German camps and came to America in 1950, with his mother, as part of a larger group of Displaced Persons.

If he hadn't come to America, he very well may have played professional soccer in Europe. He was that good. Instead he teamed up with Ernest Hekimian and Albert Abrahamian to build a standout soccer program in Fresno.

The Armenian Soccer Club started in 1958. It morphed into the Ararat Team. Eddie was the coach. They played at Romain Playground and traveled for games up and down California.

Not all the players were Armenian, but an all-Armenian team did compete in the Armenian Olympics.

Ruby fell in love with soccer. She loved supporting her husband and his players. "I'd wash the uniforms," she said. "I'd yell and scream on the sidelines. I'd fundraise. We were like a family. It was a real nice atmosphere."



Get to Know Ruby Baladjanian , *Continued*

When it stopped, I sure missed it.” Levon and Michael played soccer. Ruby admits Louise wasn’t much of a fan.

In 1987, the Baladjanian’s built the home Ruby currently lives in. It’s in Northwest Fresno. It’s full of soccer memorabilia. Ruby wishes that somehow those mementos could be used in a local museum. Especially since soccer has such a rich history in the Valley.

After Eddie died, Ruby’s life changed. No more soccer. No more dancing. She took a more active role in the church. She joined the Trinity Guild, now known as the Ladies’ Guild. She’s been the group’s Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. She helps out in the kitchen. Takes on jobs for the Bazaar. She’s a great baker. She mans the ovens to make sure everything comes out just right. And she’s a big part of the church’s catering crew. Ruby says she gets her work ethic from her parents.



“We had the best parents,” she says, proudly. Ruby’s folks got her involved in the church at a young age. She attended Sunday School and was even recruited by Diana Shirin’s father to be in the church choir. A highlight was when they performed at St John’s Cathedral during Cardinal Agajanian’s visit in the 1950s.

She’s always had a deep appreciation for the Badarak, one of the only remaining church members who continues to follow the custom of covering their head with a veil during services. “I would not change the Badarak for anything,” she says. Ruby is one of the church’s Mahs makers. She’s also in charge of buying the coffee and previously served as a church greeter. A job she misses. “I enjoyed doing it,” she says. “I enjoyed meeting people. It’s important to Ruby that younger Armenians embrace their culture and heritage. She thinks the church plays a vital role in that. “We’ve got a heritage, that no one else has,” she says, with pride.

Ruby likes that her son Levon has taken such an active role in the church. He serves on the board, is a member of Men’s Society and oversees catering. “It makes me feel great,” she says, of Levon’s involvement. “All three of my children have done well.” Son Michael lives in Santa Barbara with his wife and 4-year-old daughter. Becoming a grandparent is something that Ruby wishes her husband was able to witness. “He would have been in seventh heaven,” she says.

As for the future. Ruby hopes to spend more time with granddaughter, Alessandra. She wants to see more young people given the opportunity to take a more active role in the church and she hopes to enjoy plenty of more soccer games on TV. “I watch a lot of soccer games,” she says, with a chuckle. “I just got done watching a game before this interview.”

Attention, Attention: Our Saturday study of the Armenian language Zoom classes are coming to an end. Our last session shall be held on May 29, 2021.

Although, we were not able to hold classes for our children and beginning students, our advance students have benefited nicely. My thanks to each and every one who was able to attend those Zoom classes.

We would like to notify our church membership that we shall begin our 2021/2022 sessions on September 11, 2021. We invite and welcome anyone who is interested in learning the Armenian language to attend our classes this coming fall, beginning September 11th. It is our wish to conduct these lessons in person; however, we shall also be able to utilize Zoom at the same time for people who would rather take the classes from home.

If you are interested, I invite you to call me, Vartouhy Pandukht, at (559) 907-7729, Michelle Shirinian at (559) 473-7896, or Sharon Williams at (559) 696-3115, regarding any questions you may have. We would also appreciate your advising us as to whether or not you wish to attend personally or by Zoom.

We look forward to hearing from you very soon. We Shall provide further information to our membership as the September 11th date approaches.

Thank you. Stay safe and healthy.

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(In memory of Matthew Maroot-SS)

Michael & Gail Garabedian—*Hall remodel*

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DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE VASBOURAGAN SOCIETY

Fresno Chapter Vasbouragan Society

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\$100, Continued

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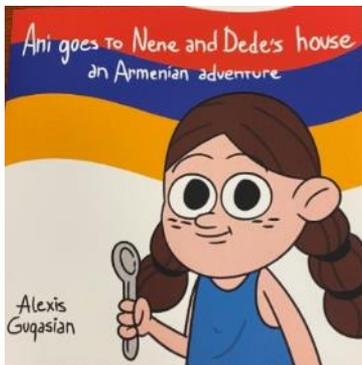


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ՄԱՅԻՍ 2021**

1. Ղուկասու 11:14-32; Գործք Առաքելաց 16:6-40; Բ. Պետրոսի 3:10-18; Յովհաննու 7:1-13; Մատթեոսի 13:36-52; Մարկոսի 6:14-29
2. **Տօն Երեւման Ս. Խաչին**
Գաղատացիս 6:14-18; Մատթեոսի 24:30-36; Ղուկասու 11:33-12:12; Գործք Առաքելաց 17:1-15; Ա. Յովհաննու 1:1-10; Յովհաննու 7:14-23; Մատթեոսի 13:53-58; Յովհաննու 19:25-30; Մարկոսի 6:30-44
3. Ղուկասու 12:13-31; Գործք Առաքելաց 17:16-34; Ա. Յովհաննու 2:1-6; Յովհաննու 7:24-36; Մատթեոսի 14:1-12; Մարկոսի 6:45-56
4. Ղուկասու 12:32-48; Գործք Առաքելաց 18:1-11; Ա. Յովհաննու 2:7-17; Յովհաննու 7:37-8:11; Մատթեոսի 14:13-21; Մարկոսի 7:1-16
5. Ղուկասու 12:49-13:9; Գործք Առաքելաց 18:12-28; Ա. Յովհաննու 2:18-23; Յովհաննու 8:12-20; Մատթեոսի 14:22-36; Մարկոսի 7:17-30
6. Ղուկասու 13:10-21; Գործք Առաքելաց 19:1-20; Ա. Յովհաննու 2:24-25; Յովհաննու 8:21-30; Մատթեոսի 15:1-20; Մարկոսի 7:31-37
7. Ղուկասու 13:22-35; Գործք Առաքելաց 19:21-40; Ա. Յովհաննու 2:26-28; Յովհաննու 8:31-59; Մատթեոսի 15:21-28; Մարկոսի 8:1-9
8. Ղուկասու 14:1-24; Գործք Առաքելաց 9:1-16; Ա. Յովհաննու 2:28-3:1; Յովհաննու 9:1-38; Մատթեոսի 15:29-16:12; Մարկոսի 8:10-26
9. **Ջատկուան վեցերորդ կիրակի**
Ղուկասու 14:25-15:32; Գործք Առաքելաց 20:17-38; Ա. Յովհաննու 3:2-6; Յովհաննու 9:39-10:10; Մատթեոսի 16:13-17:13; Մարկոսի 8:27-9:13
10. Ղուկասու 16:1-31; Գործք Առաքելաց 21:1-14; Ա. Յովհաննու 3:7-10; Յովհաննու 10:11-21; Մատթեոսի 17:14-20; Մարկոսի 9:14-28
11. Ղուկասու 17:1-19; Գործք Առաքելաց 21:15-26; Ա. Յովհաննու 3:10-20; Յովհաննու 10:22-42; Մատթեոսի 17:21-18:9; Մարկոսի 9:29-49
12. Ղուկասու 17:20-37; Գործք Առաքելաց 21:27-36; Ա. Յովհաննու 3:21-4:6; Յովհաննու 11:1-46; Մատթեոսի 18:10-35; Մարկոսի 10:1-12
13. Համբարցման Տեառն Մերոյ Յիսուսի Քրիստոսի
Ղուկասու 18:1-14; Գործք Առաքելաց 1:1-14; Մատթեոսի 28:16-20; Մատթեոսի 19:1-15; Մարկոսի 10:13-27
14. Ղուկասու 18:15-34; Գործք Առաքելաց 21:37-22:29; Ա. Յովհաննու 4:7-21; Յովհաննու 11:47-54; Մատթեոսի 19:16-20:16; Մարկոսի 10:28-32
15. Ղուկասու 18:35-19:28; Գործք Առաքելաց 22:30-23:11; Ա. Յովհաննու 5:1-12; Յովհաննու 11:55-12:11; Մատթեոսի 20:17-28; Մարկոսի 10:33-45
16. **Երկրորդ Մաղկազարդ**
Ղուկասու 19:29-48; Գործք Առաքելաց 23:12-35; Ա. Յովհաննու 5:13-21; Յովհաննու 12:12-23; Մատթեոսի 20:29-21:17; Մարկոսի 15:20-37
17. Ղուկասու 20:1-8; Գործք Առաքելաց 24:1-26; 2 Յովհաննու 1:1-13; Յովհաննու 12:24-26; Մատթեոսի 21:18-32; Մարկոսի 11:12-26

**ԱՄԷՆՕՐԵԱՅ ԱՍՏՈՒԱԽԱՇՈՒՆՁԻ ԸՆԹԵՐՑՈՒՄՆԵՐ
ՄԱՅԻՍ 2021**

18. Ղուկասու 20:9-19; Գործք Առաքելոց 24:27-25:12; 3 Յովհաննու 1:1-15; Յովհաննու 12:27-43; Մատթեոսի 21:33-46; Մարկոսի 11:27-22:17
19. Ղուկասու 20:20-26; Գործք Առաքելոց 25:13-22; Յովհաննու Գ. 1:1-7; Յովհաննու 12:44-50; Մատթեոսի 22:1-14; Մարկոսի 12:18-34
20. Ղուկասու 20:27-21:4; Գործք Առաքելոց 25:23-26:32; Յովհաննու Գ. 1:8-15; Յովհաննու 13:1-15; Մատթեոսի 22:15-46; Մարկոսի 12:35-44
21. Ղուկասու 21:5-38; Գործք Առաքելոց 27:1-28:16; Յովհաննու Գ. 1:16; Յովհաննու 13:16-30; Մատթեոսի 23:1-39; Մարկոսի 13:1-37
22. Ղուկասու 22:1-30; Գործք Առաքելոց 28:17-32; Յովհաննու Գ. 1:17-25; Յովհաննու 13:31-14:13; Մատթեոսի 24:1-26:2; Մարկոսի 14:1-26
23. *Տօն Դալստեան Յոզուլն, Սըրբոց (Պենտեկոստէ՝ յիսնեբորդ օր ի Զատիկէն) Գործք Առաքելոց 2:1-21; Յովհաննու 14:25-31*
24. Հոովմայեցիս 1:1-17; Մատթեոսի 7:28-8:4
25. Հոովմայեցիս 1:18-25; Մատթեոսի 8:5-13
26. Հոովմայեցիս 2:2-11; Մատթեոսի 8:18-27
27. Հոովմայեցիս 2:12-24; Մատթեոսի 8:28-34
28. Հոովմայեցիս 2:25-3:9; Մատթեոսի 9:1-8
29. Երեմեայ 1:1-10; 38:1-13; Բ. Պետրոսի 2:9-22; Մատթեոսի 2:16-18
30. *Թագաւորաց 18:29-46; Դ. Թագաւորաց 2:1-15; Յակոբու 5:16-20; Ղուկասու 4:25-30*
31. Սրբոց Կուսանացն Յըոիպեսիմեանց Առակաց 31:29-31; Եսայեայ 61:10-62:3; Հոովմայեցիս 15:30-16:2; Մատթեոսի 10:26-33



For Sale

Ladies' Guild has limited supply of the book *Ani goes to Nene and Dede's house* for only \$10.00. To get one, **Call Patty 559-591-2217.**

DAILY BIBLE READING
MAY 2021

1. Luke 11:14-32; Acts 16:6-40; 2 Peter 3:10-18; John 7:1-13;
Matthew 13:36-52; Mark 6:14-29
2. ***Apparition of the Holy Cross***
Galatians 6:14-18; Matthew 24:30-36; Luke 11:33-12:12; Acts 17:1-15;
1 John 1:1-10; John 7:14-23; Matthew 13:53-58; John 19:25-30;
Mark 6:30-44
3. Luke 12:13-31; Acts 17:16-34; 1 John 2:1-6; John 7:24-36;
Matthew 14:1-12; Mark 6:45-56
4. Luke 12:32-48; Acts 18:1-11; 1 John 2:7-17; John 7:37-8:11;
Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 7:1-16
5. Luke 12:49-13:9; Acts 18:12-28; 1 John 2:18-23; John 8:12-20;
Matthew 14:22-36; Mark 7:17-30
6. Luke 13:10-21; Acts 19:1-20; 1 John 2:24-25; John 8:21-30;
Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:31-37
7. Luke 13:22-35; Acts 19:21-40; 1 John 2:26-28; John 8:31-59;
Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 8:1-9
8. Luke 14:1-24; Acts 9:1-16; 1 John 2:28-3:1; John 9:1-38;
Matthew 15:29-16:12; Mark 8:10-26
9. ***Sixth Sunday of Easter***
Luke 14:25-15:32; Acts 20:17-38; 1 John 3:2-6; John 9:39-10:10;
Matthew 16:13-17:13; Mark 8:27-9:13
10. Luke 16:1-31; Acts 21:1-14; 1 John 3:7-10; John 10:11-21;
Matthew 17:14-20; Mark 9:14-28
11. Luke 17:1-19; Acts 21:15-26; 1 John 3:10-20; John 10:22-42;
Matthew 17:21-18:9; Mark 9:29-49
12. Luke 17:20-37; Acts 21:27-36; 1 John 3:21-4:6; John 11:1-46;
Matthew 18:10-35; Mark 10:1-12
13. Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ
Luke 18:1-14; Acts 1:1-14; Matthew 28:16-20; Matthew 19:1-15;
Mark 10:13-27
14. Luke 18:15-34; Acts 21:37-22:29; 1 John 4:7-21; John 11:47-54;
Matthew 19:16-20:16; Mark 10:28-32
15. Luke 18:35-19:28; Acts 22:30-23:11; 1 John 5:1-12; John 11:55-12:11;
Matthew 20:17-28; Mark 10:33-45
16. ***Second Palm Sunday***
Luke 19:29-48; Acts 23:12-35; 1 John 5:13-21; John 12:12-23;
Matthew 20:29-21:17; Mark 15:20-37

DAILY BIBLE READING
MAY 2021

17. Luke 20:1-8; Acts 24:1-26; 2 John 1:1-13; John 12:24-26; Matthew 21:18-32;
Mark 11:12-26
18. Luke 20:9-19; Acts 24:27-25:12; 3 John 1:1-15; John 12:27-43;
Matthew 21:33-46; Mark 11:27-22:17
19. Luke 20:20-26; Acts 25:13-22; Jude 1:1-7; John 12:44-50; Matthew 22:1-14;
Mark 12:18-34
20. Luke 20:27-21:4; Acts 25:23-26:32; Jude 1:8-15; John 13:1-15;
Matthew 22:15-46; Mark 12:35-44
21. Luke 21:5-38; Acts 27:1-28:16; Jude 1:16; John 13:16-30; Matthew 23:1-39;
Mark 13:1-37
22. Luke 22:1-30; Acts 28:17-32; Jude 1:17-25; John 13:31-14:13;
Matthew 24:1-26:2; Mark 14:1-26
- 23. Pentecost (Eve of the Fast of Elijah)**
Acts 2:1-21; John 14:25-31
24. Romans 1:1-17; Matthew 7:28-8:4
25. Romans 1:18-25; Matthew 8:5-13
26. Romans 2:2-11; Matthew 8:18-27
27. Romans 2:12-24; Matthew 8:28-34
28. Romans 2:25-3:9; Matthew 9:1-8
29. Jeremiah 1:1-10; 38:1-13; 2 Peter 2:9-22; Matthew 2:16-18
- 30. First Sunday after Pentecost (Beginning of Sundays of Resurrection)**
1 Kings 18:29-46; 2 Kings 2:1-15; James 5:16-20; Luke 4:25-30
31. Sts. Hripsimiank
Proverbs 31:29-31; Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Romans 15:30-16:2;
Matthew 10:26-33

Get Well Soon!

The Pastor and the Board of Trustees wish to express
to all church members who are ill and not feeling well,
(listed or not listed below) a speedy recovery.

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Alice Michigian

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Bookkeeper
lisaterzian@gmail.com
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Volunteer Coordinator
rich03di@comcast.net

Nareg Apkarian 559-486-1141W
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