

Սուրբ Երրորդութիւն Հայաստանեայց
Առաքելական Մայր Եկեղեցի

Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Mother Church



Զայն

Voice

Volume: XXV Issue 1

Յունուար - January 2025

Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church

Armenian Christmas Eve

Sunday, January 5, 2025

Evening Hour Service: 4 pm

Reading of the Holy Scriptures: 4:30 pm

Christmas Eve Holy Badarak: 5 pm

Dinner: 7 pm

\$20 Adults; \$10 for 12 and under

* RSVP by Tuesday, December 31, 2024 *

Sossie (559) 681-4001 or Mary (310) 291-3550

ՍՈՒՐԲ ԵՐՐՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՄԱՅՐԵԿԵՂԵՏԻ
ՃՐԱԳԱԼՈՅՑ Ս. ԾՆՆԴԵԱՆ

Կիրակի, Յունուար 5, 2025

Երեկոյեան Ժամերգութիւն՝ - 4:00 կէ

Ս. Գրոց Ընթերցում՝ - 4:30 կէ

Ճրագալոյցի Ս. Պատարագ՝ - 5:00 կէ

Աւանդական Ընթրիք՝ - 7:00 կէ

Տոմսի գին՝ \$20 , 12 տարեկանէն վար՝ \$10

Հեռաձայնեցէք տեղ ապահովելու համար

Սոսի (559) 681-4001 կամ Մարի (310) 291-3550

Մինչեւ Դեկտեմբեր 31, 2024

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

December 6, 2024



HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY HASMIG AARONIAN!



Your life is a beautiful testament to strength, wisdom, and love. You've touched so many hearts and created a legacy that will last for generations. May your special day be filled with the joy and warmth that you've shared with everyone around you. Here's to celebrating a century of incredible memories and to many more moments of happiness ahead!

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS!

2025 is a remarkable milestone for our Holy Trinity family. We celebrate not only the rich history and legacy of our beloved church, but also the unwavering faith, dedication, and love that have been passed down through generations. For 125 years, our church has been a beacon of hope, unity, and compassion in our community.

As we reflect on the countless lives touched by its service and mission, let us also look forward with renewed commitment, along with hearts full of gratitude and anticipation. May the foundation of faith laid by our forebearers continue to inspire us as we strive to live in service to one another and to God.

Here's to the next 125 years of spiritual growth, fellowship, and love!

Hayr Soorp & Board of Trustees

PASS IT ON

By: Krista Parnagian

Distorted Views

Ava walked silently through the town, deep in thought. She'd had a hard day, or maybe I should say a hard month or even year. Nothing had gone the way she wanted. She'd sprained her arm. It was wrapped in a splint under her coat, effectively rendering it hard for her to do much at all, except walk. She was hoping this walk would help clear her head and lift the fog from her heart.

She paused at the first home she passed, stealing a glance in the window as she did. She saw a little boy laughing and a mom pulling a plate of steaming hot cookies out of the oven. The scene looked so warm, so inviting. *There aren't any cookies back at my house... and I can't bake them with this arm*, Ava thought to herself. She sighed and walked on.

The next home she passed looked strangely like one from her early childhood. In fact, almost exactly like it. She ventured a longer look inside this time and gasped at what she saw. There was a little girl who looked remarkably like she had, playing with her brother and sister, giggling and laughing. The scene brought back a rush of memories of the fun she used to have with her siblings, siblings that had long since grown up and moved out. If only she could go back in time.

PASS IT ON *(continued)*

“Ava, what are you doing?” The voice came, not from within the house or her head this time, but from right next to her. Her friend Ella stood by her side. “Just remembering,” Ava replied. “This window, it’s like a glimpse into my past.”

“A distorted glimpse,” Ella replied.

“What do you mean?” Ava inquired.

“Did no one warn you about the windows in this town?” Seeing Ava’s silence, Ella quickly continued. “They’re coated with a special substance that distorts what you see. They only show the good, not any of the hard or the bad. Take this home, for instance. You see a scene that reminds you of happy moments from your childhood. But you don’t see all the times you and your siblings quarreled, or the hard days you had then too. Like the time you broke your back, remember?” Ava remembered. She had to rest for weeks. The past hadn’t always been easy. “I wish my life could be more like that glimpse I saw in the house over there,” she muttered, pointing back to the home with the fresh cookies.

“You mean the distorted glimpse you saw,” Ella corrected. “If we could look through true glass into that home, we’d find it has struggles too. Is that the Jones’ house? I think the husband just lost his job. You can’t escape hardships, Ella. They come in different shapes and sizes, but we all have them. “But here’s the deal. You can spend the rest of the day pining after distorted pictures through the windows, or you can head back home and see about making some beautiful memories yourself. Just because you can’t move your arm doesn’t mean there aren’t things you can do.”

“Oh yeah? Like what?” Ava asked. She still wasn’t fully convinced.

“Like lose to me at a game of chess,” Ella replied with a laugh. “You don’t need two hands for that!”

“That’s true,” Ava replied with a laugh that felt impossible a few minutes ago. She turned around from the town with the distorted windows back to her reality. She was glad she’d made the positive memories she had in her early childhood, and she wanted to go on making beautiful memories today in this new season, with life’s new challenges... and blessings.

Message: Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19



December was a short but a rewarding month for Sunday School! Our students wrote Christmas cards for the residents of the California Armenian Home and hand-delivered them on December 8th after they sang Christmas carols in the Sequoia Dining Room. The residents were so excited to hear our students as they enthusiastically applauded

after each song! We also heard many "bravos" from the residents. There were a handful of residents who are our church parishioners, and they absolutely loved hearing the angelic voices of our students! The President of the California Armenian Home Residents' Association personally thanked our students for their visit! Thank you to our Superintendent Jasmine Kalanjian and Board Liaison Paul Khasigian for preparing the lunch for our students and parents prior to our visit. Thank you to Sharon Toroian, Andrew Esguerra and Margaret Galistl for directing our students and accompanying them in their program. Thank you also to our students and supportive parents who brought them to the Armenian Home and stayed to witness and record their children's beautiful performance!

For Armenian Christmas, our students will be performing their Christmas program at the Armenian Christmas Eve dinner on January 5. A special thank you goes out to our teachers Sharon Toroian and Lara Simonian for their hard work in directing our students and organizing our Christmas program. Thank you also to Margaret Gallistl for playing beautiful Christmas songs on the piano accompanying our students' angelic voices. Please attend our Christmas program and support our students as they perform a spectacular show!



LADIES' GUILD

By: Sarah Soghomonian

Happy New Year to all our Voice readers. The Ladies' Guild wishes each of you a safe, healthy and blessed 2025. We hope you plan to start the year by taking part in the Armenian Christmas celebrations happening at church.

Saturday, December 14th, was a wonderful day for our Ladies' Guild. That's when our annual Christmas Luncheon at Fort Washington Country Club took place. The event was



organized by Susie Parnagian, with help from Jennette Parnagian. Guests enjoyed catching up with new and old friends. There was a photo booth, fantastic food and a raffle featuring dozens of beautifully wrapped prizes. This year funds were raised to support The Birds' Nest Orphanage in Lebanon and Advance Armenia Foundation.



The Ladies' Guild has a new board of directors in place. Janet Williams returns as Chair, Linda Jura is Vice Chair, Mary Belemjian is Corresponding Secretary, Julianne Williams returns as Recording Secretary and Debby Bagdasarian returns as Treasurer. Thank you to everyone for volunteering to serve our guild and church.

During the months of November and December, the Ladies' Guild sponsored the after-church coffee hour. Seven ladies (included our coffee hostess Lianna) actually baked and brought items, and 21 ladies donated money for items to be purchased or made by our catering crew. The variety of items included savory and sweet appetizers and desserts. We also thank the Youth Group, Sunday School, and Men's Society for contributing their extra food items from their events at various times.



Our first meeting of 2025 will be a lunch meeting on Tuesday, February 4th. We look forward to seeing you.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group members participated in the Living Nativity Scene during the Christmas Celebration and their Annual Christmas Party with a successful Toy Drive



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Serop & Pauline Topalian on the birth of their son, **NYCOLAS TOPALIAN**, born October 24, 2024. We also congratulate his siblings Nyrie and Serop Jr., proud grandparents Hasmig Topalian and Rudy Balderas. Nycolas is the grandson of the late Zohrab Topalian and Margie Balderas.

Congratulations to Menas & Arevik Arisian on the birth of their son, **MONTE TATEOS ARISIAN**, born November 11, 2024. We also congratulate proud grandparents Nazik Arisian and Artem Stepanyan & Anahit Madatyan. Monte is the grandson of the late Tateos Aristakessian Arisian.



Congratulations to Hagop & Anoush Ohanessian on the birth of their son, **HOVANES JOHN OHANESSIAN**, born December 11, 2024. We also congratulate proud grandparents Hovanes & Astghig Ohanessian and Varoujan & Zepur Fustokjian.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Arlen & Alina Pilavian on the birth of their daughter, **ELLIANA ROSE PILAVIAN**, born December 4, 2024. We also congratulate proud grandparents Pierre & Melissa Pilavian and John & Vicki Hokokian, Auntie Alik Pilavian and Uncle Christopher Hokokian, as well as, Great Grandmother Rose Marie Margosian.



BAPTISMS



On Saturday, November 30, 2024, **TIGRAN PARKER NOAH TOMASSIAN**, received the Sacrament of Baptism. We congratulate parents Mark Amezcua & Paris Tomassian, Godfather Blaise Tomassian, Grandparents Serge & Mona Tomassian and Luis & Sandra Anaya. We congratulate baby Tigran Parker on achieving this spiritual milestone.

FUNERALS



Funeral services were held for **CHARLES JAMES IKNOIAN**, on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 with interment at Masis Ararat Armenian Cemetery. Our sincere condolences to his wife Joanne Iknoian, children Audra & Rob DeGeorge, Matt & Anna Iknoian, grandchildren Gabriella and Zachary DeGeorge, Shant and Alek Iknoian, siblings Pete & Jeanette Parnagian and John & Caroline Paboojian, Aunts Ruby Baladjanian and Roxie Thomas and many nieces, nephews and cousins, as well as, his extended family and friends.

Memorial Service was held for **GINA BAGDASARIAN EVANS**, on Thursday, December 5, 2024. Our sincere condolences to her husband Jeremy Evans, daughters Lenna and Addison, parents Sam & Debby Bagdasarian, brother Nick & Christina Bagdasarian and family, in-laws Jeff & Pam Evans, Jacob, Josh, Jessica and Caity and their families, as well as, her extended family and friends.



Funeral services were held for **HAIG HAIRABET AVAKIAN**, on Monday, December 9, 2024 with interment at Masis Ararat Armenian Cemetery. Our sincere condolences to his wife Sonia Avakian, children Armen, Shant, and Roupen Avakian and their families, siblings Anoush, Ohan and Avak Avakian, as well as, his extended family and friends.

Graveside services were held for **NANCY JOBOIAN**, on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at Kingsburg Cemetery. Our sincere condolences to her children Ron & Tami Joboian and Kenny Joboian, grandchildren and great grandchildren, as well as, her extended family and friends.

HOKEHANKISTS

January 26:

REV. FR. HRANT SERABIAN on the 3rd year of his passing, requested by his wife Yeretsgin Arda Serabian, children Serge Serabian, Sebouh Serabian & Christopher Bazin, Sylvia and husband Azad Deeb, grandchildren Gabriella, Anisa, and Andre, and Asdghig Jebian and family. *Altar flowers are donated in his memory.*

ՀՈԳԵՀԱՆԳԻՍ

Յունուար 26:

ԱՐԺ. Տ. ՀՐԱՆԳ. ՔՀՆ. ՍՐԱՊԵԱՆԻ մահուան 3-րդ տարելիցին առիթով, ինդրանօր տիկնոջ՝ երեցկին Արտա Սրապեանի, գաւակներուն՝ Սերն Սրապեանի, Սեպուհ Սրապեանի եւ Քրիստաֆօր Պեյզընի, Սիրվիա եւ ամուսնոյն Ազատ Տիպերու, թոռներուն՝ Կապրիելայի, Անիսայի եւ Անտրէյի, ինչպէս նաեւ Աստղիկ Ճէպեանի եւ ընտանիքին: *Այս առիթով Ս. Խորասնի ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

HOKEHANKIST DONATIONS

Are made in memory of.....

LILLIAN BUCHAKLIAN

Harry Buchaklian

JOHN HOVANNISIAN JR.

Evelyn Hamamjian

Armenio & Ani Kevorkian

VARTITER HOVANNISIAN

Berj & Arpi Apkarian

Armenio & Ani Kevorkian

Philip & Florence Parnagian

BOB & ANN KEVORKIAN

Ron & Barbara Mortanian

Kathryn K. Stockdale

VARTKES MESSERLIAN

Berj & Arpi Apkarian

Armenio & Ani Kevorkian

Serpouhie Messerlian

ARSEN TER GHOUGASOV

ZAKAR, ASTGHIK & LIZ

MATEWOSIAN AND ALL

DECEASED MEMBERS OF

MATEWOSIAN & GRIGORIAN

FAMILIES

Sophie Mekhitarian

ANDREW TOROIAN

Michael & Gail Garabedian

BELLA VARDANYAN

Shoghagat Papoyan

DAVID WRIGHT

Krikor & Susan Poladian

GENERAL DONATIONS

Barret & Caroline Arakelian

Michael & Gail Garabedian

Larry & Jean Avedisian

Lucine Keroglian

Carlotta Bedrossian

Sarkis & Houry Sabiljian

Laura Castanos

Dr. Randy & Kathy Shahbazian
(*Sunday School*) & Youth Group

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Laura Castanos

Ralph & Janet Hovannisian

David & Patti Sarabian

Ron & Barbara Mortanian

(*In Honor of grandson being baby Jesus at the celebration*)

IN-LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS

Are made in memory of.....

HAIG AVAKIAN

Alice Abrahamian

Harry Manoogian

Beverlee Bargamian (*Choir*)

John & Mary Megerdichian

Marvin & Helen Caprelian

Hagop Paklarian

Varoujan & Satenig Kassabian

Mark & Margaret Shirin

Ladies' Guild

GINA BAGDASARIAN EVANS

Tom Ahajanian

Margie Poochigian Hill

Jason Ahronian

Gary Poochigian & Family

Bryan & Terry Ananian

Richard & Anna Sadoian

Bryan & Pamela Arakelian

Joey, Laurie & Brittany Sahakian

Richard Bedoian

Virctor & Arlyne Sahatdjan & Family

Marvin & Helen Caprelian

David & Patti Sarabian

Gerald & Tammy Chooljian

Dr. John & Gladys Saroyan

Christine Darmanian

Myron & Debbie Sheklian

Margie Davidian

Diana Shirin

Sam Esraelian Family

Mark & Margaret Shirin

Richard & Geraldine Hagopian

Roger & Bonnie Simonian

Scott & Linda Jura

Mark & MaryLyn Topoozian

Linda Kaloostian

Harry & Sheryl Torosian

Ladies Guid

Albert & Tracy Valencia

Harry Manoogian

Stan & Carrie Zulewski Jr.

Marcus & Anchalee Marootian

IN-LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS

Are made in memory of.....

DEEDEE DIDIER

David & Sharon Casparian

CHUCK IKNOIAN

Jason Ahronian
Richard & Joan Ahronian
Frank & Karen Balekian
Ruby Baladjanian
Alberta Bedoian
Richard Bedoian
Patricia Benneyan
Steven & Carol Brock
Marvin & Helen Caprelian
David & Shari Casperian
Anoush Chamlian
Gerald & Tammy Chooljian
Suzanne Cole
Christine Darmanian
Johnny & Gloria Eknoian
Alan & Marceen Farsakian
Randal & Terri Garabedian
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John & Janet Hein
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Eugene & Yvonne Kandarian
Ron Kazarian

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Jackie Manoogian
Mathias Matoian
Sophie Mekhitarian
Paul & Kathleen Mesple
Kay & Rosemary Paboojian
James & Linda Parnagian
Kenneth & Jeanne Parnagian
Philip & Florence Parnagian
Florence Peters
Leland & Barbara Picchi
John & Karyn Robertson
Victor & Arlyne Sahatdjian
& Family
Diana Shirin
Joyce Terzian
Tigers Club
Robbie Topoozian
Robert Tusan
Michelle & Kendra Tutunjian
Robert & Annie Tutunjian
Steven & Gail Vartanian

DOROTHY KATEIAN

Helen Mickalian, John D. Mickalian, Nancy D. Mickalian



Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

*Holy Trinity Armenian
Apostolic Church*

*Sunday School
Christmas Program*



*Performance will be held at the
Christmas Eve Dinner*

Sunday, January 5, 2025

7:00 PM

Church Social Hall



COMMUNITY EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5: Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church Armenian Christmas Eve. Evening Hour Service 4 PM; Reading of the Holy Scriptures 4:30 PM; Christmas Eve Holy Badarak 5 PM; Dinner 7 PM; Traditional Armenian Christmas Eve Dinner, \$20 for Adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 31st to either Sossie (559) 681-4001 or Mary (310)291-3550.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16: Holy Trinity Christian Education presents “Enemies Within the Church”. A video documentary by Trevor Loudon. Small Social Hall, 6 PM, free admission, Mezze will be served.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1: Armenian Home Guild Baking Class Fundraiser, “Katah with Khoritz,” 10 AM; AACL Hall, 6720 E. Kings Canyon Rd., Fresno, Guild members \$20, nonmembers \$25, call or text Mary at (310) 291-3550 to register by January 27, includes light lunch.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28: Hamazkayin Taniel Varoujan Chapter presents Vahe Berberian. Garo & Alice Gureghian Armenian Cultural Center; Doors open at 6:30 PM, show will start at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$60. For tickets or sponsorship opportunities call Maggy at (559) 765-6062 or Nazik at (559) 974-3089.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8: Armenian Relief Society Fresno Mayr Chapter Save the Date for International Women's Day Luncheon. Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church Hall. Back by popular demand, Lory Tatoulian, as Dandegen Hripsimeh Hovsepian. More information to follow.



*To schedule a visitation or
Home Blessing,
call the office at
(559) 486-1141
to schedule*

Ս. Երրորդութիւն Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական Մայր Եկեղեցի
Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Mother Church
537 M Street - Fresno, California 93721
(559) 486-1141
www.holytrinityfresno.org

Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America
Prelate H.E. Archbishop Kegham Khacherian

Very Rev. Fr. Ashod Khachadourian
moseskhachadourian@gmail.com

Executive Council Representative Deacon Berj Apkarian

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Diana Shirin, Volunteer Coordinator

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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Sato Sanikian, Administrator
ssanikian@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP

Very Rev. Fr. Ashod Khachadourian

LADIES' GUILD

Janet Williams
jrae00@sbcglobal.net

MEN'S SOCIETY

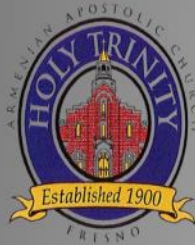
Bill Sahatdjian
sahatdjian@comcast.net

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Armine Ghazaryan, Organist
Serpouhie Messerlian, Chair

BIBLE STUDY

Sharon Williams
sharoninkingsburg@sbcglobal.net

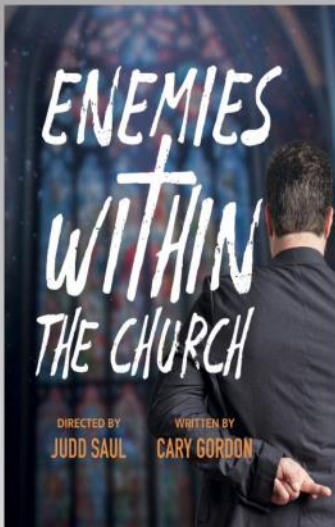


Christian Education
PRESENTS

ENEMIES WITHIN THE CHURCH

A video documentary by Trevor Loudon

Learn about infiltration of the American churches



**THURSDAY
JANUARY 16, 2025**

6 PM

SMALL SOCIAL HALL

FREE ADMISSION

MEZZE WILL BE SERVED



HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
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