

AVEDIS ԱԻԵՏԻՍ

St. Hagop Armenian Church

The Good News | July/August/September 2019

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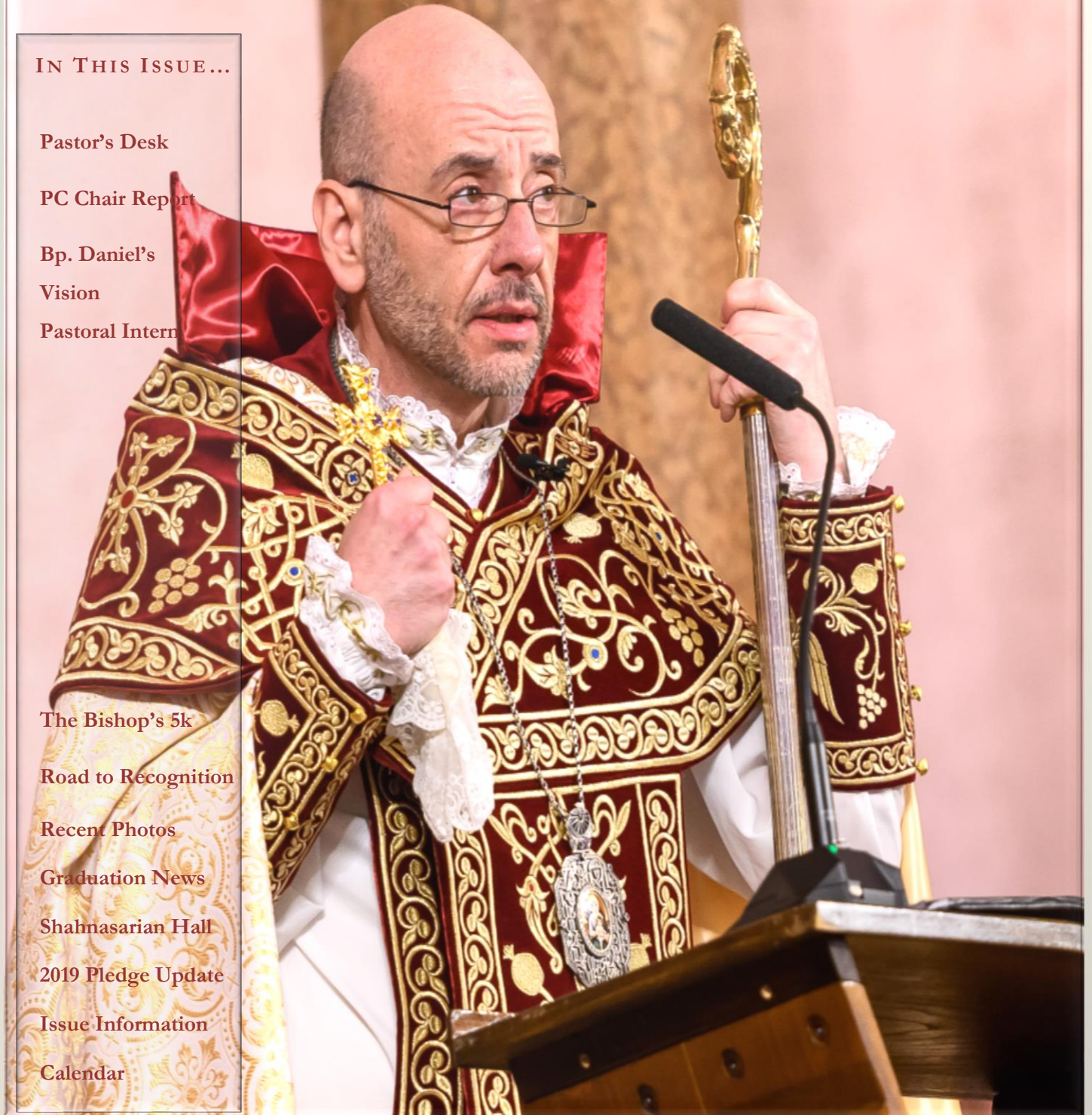
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7020 90th Ave. North, Pinellas Park, Florida 33782

The Rev. Fr. Hovnan Demerjian, Pastor

A LETTER TO THE PRIMATE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS FIRST EPISCOPAL BADARAK

From the Clergy of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

He turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water. And there he lets the hungry live, and they establish a town to live in; they sow fields, and plant vineyards, and get a fruitful yield. By his blessing they multiply greatly. Ps 107:35-38

The soil of the United States has been fertile ground for the Armenian Church. Our faithful have been transplanted from various and sundry places, from Cuba to Krasnodar, yet have taken root and blossomed here into a beautifully diverse garden. The clergy of our church reflect this diversity. We represent and carry forth the long-rooted traditions of the great hierarchical sees of this church. Our Armenian-born clergyman carry forth the vision of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and our Jerusalem-raised clergy bring to bear the precious spiritual inheritance of our great Patriarchate. Our hierarchical sees have produced good fruit from generation to generation, and the devoted clergy of this Diocese who were raised there are themselves evidence.

However, the ability for this Diocese in America to produce its own fruit-faithful and knowledgeable American-born leaders of the Armenian Church-is still a work in progress. This multi-cultural and thoroughly modern American soil -is vastly different than the traditional lands of the Armenian Church. The diasporic seed that landed here were predominantly the cast away remnants of genocide. Would the seeds of Diaspora take root here? Would they fall on good soil and bring forth fruit of their own?

In Your Eminence's election as Primate and elevation as Bishop, we have a visible sign and manifest example that the seeds of the Gospel and its ministry can take root, grow and produce fruit of its own in this Diocese. Your Primacy is a sign of hope that God has indeed blessed the humble labors of so many dedicated clergy and lay people of this Diocese in America, to raise up faithful and knowledgeable Armenian Christians. It is a sign of hope that even now, in this time and this place, God's grace continues to work in and among us.

The sacramental occasion of your enthronement as Bishop, like all sacraments, is not merely a passive sign of God's movement in our Diocese. You have actively made it manifest, in the course of your dedicated ministry to educate and inspire the sons and daughters of our church in the Gospel of Christ. The honorific Armenian saying «մեծերի հետ մեծ, փոքրերի հետ փոքր» "he is elder with the aged and youthful with the youth" characterizes your more than twenty year ministry. From the podium you have led countless seminars to erudite theologians; from the piano you have led countless sing-a-longs to boisterous adolescents. Your ministry has impacted young and old, through head and heart, and in the first year of your Primacy we have already begun to see the fruits of your labor.

Though the challenges which threaten the mission and growth of this Diocese are pervasive, like weeds sown by an enemy in the night, we join you in patient toil to nurture and support all that is of God. Wherever we trace our backgrounds, we look forward together to raise our children in the fruitful vineyard of this Diocese, of which you are chief steward and we laborers.

May the blessed words of the Psalmist be the blessing of this Diocese; that God has established this vineyard and by His blessing alone will it continue to multiply greatly. And may the sacrament of your elevation to the office of Bishop, be the means by which all the faithful sons and daughters of this Diocese are lifted up.



An Unforgettable Religious Experience

Love encircled us during our pilgrimage to Armenia. Love for our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, love for Armenia, love for our church, love for fellow human beings, love for teaching and learning...yes, love was definitely there. Love was in our Primate, our shepherd on earth, who follows Christ's teachings with all his heart and soul. How blessed we are. I knew that going to the Consecration for Very Reverend Daniel Michael Findikyan would be unforgettable, and it was.

This man of the cloth, has been a teacher to deacons and lay people, using endless information he learned, believed, compiled and translated so that we ALL could learn. This priest was going to become a bishop, our bishop. As the group from St. Hagop, along with hundreds of others, sat under the beautiful blue sky in Etchmiadzin that Saturday evening, we watched, as Hayr Daniel, on his knees, made his way to the altar, with the two other candidates, to answer the Vehapar's questions. He confirmed that he was worthy, that he would uphold the faith, believed in the Holy Trinity, would care for the poor, and much more. The Vehapar prayed that the Lord God would give him the gifts of the Holy Spirit to open the doors of the Kingdom of Heaven, and that his body and heart would be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday morning, the rest of his consecration took place during Holy Badarak. Our bishop was anointed with holy muron. By the power of the Anointing of the Holy Oil, His Holiness prayed that this new bishop would remain strong in faith, in the love of truth, in sincerity and peace. Daniel Srpazan was given a bishop's staff and beautiful vestments, including his miter. The choir, at times sang quietly, with awe and wonder, and in other hymns their voices soared, proclaiming their faith and thanksgiving.

Was I really hearing and seeing such love? The answer was yes, and it continued the next day, at St. Gayane Church. We were honored to take part in Daniel Srpazan's first celebration of the Divine Liturgy as a Bishop. Clergy, lay people, children, relatives, friends, all felt the jubilation in our hearts as he processed around the church. He let each of us kiss his cross and be remembered during the Liturgy. This humble man of God, the teacher, the priest who wants us to follow Jesus, made us all part of this special day. Prayers were lifted by deacons and acolytes, his Goddaughters sang along in the service, along with the choir of deacons, as did many in the congregation. God's love abounded that day at St. Gayane Church. His message touched our hearts; the prayers he lifted for us reached the heavens. I just wanted to close my eyes and feel the incredible love that surrounded us. Bishop Daniel loves God, he loves us-his flock, and we feel God's love, through him. We love him. Such a blessing...Thank you, Jesus, thank you. Bless your new Bishop, dear Lord. May he serve Your flock in our Diocese for MANY years to come.

BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST

Excerpts From 'A Vision for Our Diocese in the Third Millennium' by Bishop Daniel Findikyan

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. -Eph. 4:11-16

1. Unity of Faith – Knowledge of the Son of God



Rationale Most parishes of our Diocese are observing steady attrition in many aspects of their life. Seeking to attract greater numbers, we have tended to try to be all things for all our people, a sort of marketplace of all things Armenian. But this approach has diluted our specifically God-given, Christian mission. Many attend non-Armenian churches to receive spiritual nourishment, while others who do remain attached to the Armenian Church are relatively uninformed about the fundamentals of the Bible, our Christian responsibilities and privileges, and the witness and life of the Armenian Church. This also applies, most alarmingly, to our church's lay leadership.

Objective Forming our people into fervent and informed followers of Jesus Christ according to the holy tradition of the Armenian Church becomes the priority of the Diocese, its parishes and all affiliated bodies and organizations. Quality, stimulating Christian education and formation is offered always, everywhere and for everyone, from font to funeral.

2. Equipping Saints for the Work of Ministry



Rationale The Diocese lacks sufficient numbers of theologically trained and competent teachers and mentors to effectively and measurably build up our people, our parishes and our Diocese. In most places it falls largely on the priest's shoulders to spearhead all of the parish's educational and other properly Christian ministries, a situation that is untenable and contrary to the tradition of the Armenian Church. Many diocesan and parish organizations have strayed from their original apostolic mission and are choking in bureaucracy, inertia and "administrivia."

Objective In accordance with their baptismal vows, all members of the church are inspired and "equipped" to participate actively in the daily ministries of the Armenian Church, especially in the building-up of our people and parishes. Every member of the church is a servant. Each parish has a core of trained and active apostles, prophets, evangelists, and teachers working with the pastor to "promote the body's growth in building [the parish] up in love." Mentoring becomes the hallmark of our parishes and Diocese in every facet of its life and work.

3. Knitting Together the Body in Love: The Holy Badarak



Rationale Theologically, biblically, historically and intuitively, the Holy Badarak is the centerpiece of the Armenian Church's life and identity. Above all, it is through the Badarak that the Church becomes the Body of Christ, the living agent of God's healing in a broken world, armed with "the grace, the love and the divine sanctifying power" of God. Yet this exalted vision is hardly realized in most parishes of our Diocese. Sunday worship attendance is declining noticeably. Many people that attend the Badarak do so more out of a vague sense of duty rather than eagerly and joyfully as a privilege. The challenge of drawing our people into a meaningful engagement with the Badarak is a complex and emotional problem that involves issues of faith, language, culture, a general lack of biblical and liturgical knowledge among our people, societal and economic pressures,

and other factors, many of which are out of our control and jurisdiction. Nevertheless they must be addressed as an issue of primary importance.

Objective The Holy Badarak is once again regarded as the source, heart and summit of our Christian calling within the Armenian Church. Every activity and occupation of the parish feeds, and is fed by the community's meaningful participation in the Badarak. The Badarak fuels our faith, inspires us, challenges us, and guides us "into him who is the head, into Christ." The Holy Badarak builds up our people, our parishes, and our Diocese into "unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."

BISHOP DANIEL'S WELCOME HOME by Louise Yardumian



Saturday, May 18, 2019, hundreds of people greeted their new bishop and took part in his first Holy Badarak at St. Vartan Cathedral in New York City. Every person in attendance was given the opportunity to kiss his cross as the procession went around the Cathedral. And standing to Srpazan's left during the procession and all throughout the Badarak was our own Der Hovnan Demerjian. What a great honor to assist him during the Badarak during this historic service.

And we must note that Bobby Maslar was an acolyte during Srpazan Daniel's first service as bishop at St. Gayane Church, and participated at the Saturday evening portion of the

Consecration in Holy Etchmiadzin, as well! Abrees to both of you! St. Hagop Armenian Church had the most people represent their parish in Holy Etchmiadzin. All these blessings!!!

Introducing Our New Pastoral Intern Dn. Albert & Silva (Hakobyan) Hambardzumyan



Dn. Albert Hambardzumyan was born in Yerevan, where he completed his primary and secondary education. Concurrently with high school, he studied for five-years at the Danielyan Music Academy, and graduated from both in 2005. In 2006, he enrolled in the Teacher's University of Yerevan and began attending services at nearby St. Sarkis Armenian Church. Within a short period of time, Dn. Albert began to seriously consider the priestly vocation and realized the positive impact it had on people. In addition, during this time, he was more heavily involved in the liturgical life of the parish. Consequently, in 2008, Dn. Albert was chosen through a selection process to move to Jerusalem in order to begin studies at the Armenian Theological Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate.

He completed the Seminary's preparatory program, as well as its full program in Theological Studies, in preparation for eventual ordination. In conjunction with studies was daily worship in the Armenian Cathedral of St. James and scheduled service in the Holy Sites including at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Mary's Tomb among

others. Dn. Albert was ordained into the Diaconate in 2014, upon his graduation from the Seminary, by Patriarch Nourhan Manougian. The Patriarch then assigned him to serve as a Deacon and Choirmaster in St. James Cathedral, while also working as the Executive Secretary at the Seminary. Throughout his lengthy years in Jerusalem, the sense of calling to serve within the Church, and to further his education, grew stronger. In 2016, he was accepted into the joint Master of Divinity program at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary and St. Vladimir's Seminary, and left Jerusalem for New York. As part of the Master's program, Dn. Albert also completed a chaplaincy program at Norwalk Hospital in Connecticut.

In the summer of 2018, Dn. Albert married Silva Hakobyan, a high school language teacher in Armenia. She grew up in the town of Masis to a family with strong historical roots in Armenia. Silva earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Yerevan State University in Armenian Language and Literature. After relocating to New York with Dn. Albert for his final year of study at St. Nersess, Silva registered at the local community college to improve her English language skills and also taught Armenian Language and dance at the local St. Gregory Armenian Church Saturday school in White Plains, NY.

Dn. Albert & Silva will be joining our St. Hagop family for one year, beginning in mid-August, to complete their pastoral internship. We look forward to welcoming this talented and committed couple to our Church family!



Help Us Provide A Comfortable Stay for Dn. Albert & Silva!

St. Hagop is known around our Diocese for our generosity and warm-welcome; that's why we were chosen for a second time to host a pastoral intern! Though the Diocese provides stipend & insurance support, we need your help to host Dn. Albert & Silva for their internship! Please contact Chrisanne at the office if you can help with any of the below.

Our Wish List:

Office Desk: Thank You Leon & Sharon Sarkisian for providing an office desk!

Housing: If you can help provide a safe & private rental near church, let us know

Vehicle: If you can help provide the use of a well-maintained car for 1 year, let us know

Furniture: If you can help provide like-new furniture sets (bedroom, dining, living) let us know

St. Hagop Parishioners Organize & Participate in Inaugural Bishop's 5k

Run, Run, Walk.. As fast as you can.

By Grace Austin



The inaugural Bishops 5K was a grand success. The skies were blue, the weather cool and sneakers light. A runner at heart, our beloved Daniel Srpazan blessed more than 60 runners and walkers in Paramus, NJ to kick off the first of three 5K fun runs (Chicago and Watertown will also host races in June).

With the benefit of experience, our own Mallory Maslar acted as consultant to the ACYOA organizers, ensuring that the event ran smoothly. St Hagop was also well represented at the volunteer water station, thank you to Linda Maslar, and also in the athlete division (where yours truly ran a very moderate race).

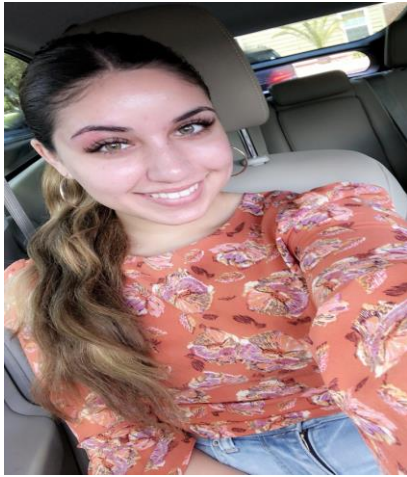
In his comments, Daniel Srpazan mentioned that physical health and spiritual health go hand in hand. It has been a spring of firsts for our diocese, with the earlier elevation of Daniel Srpazan in Armenia, the first American-born Primate of our Diocese, and these races. It has been a true blessing to see the heart of our leadership connect with all generations of our church.

This summer's 5K fun runs are sure to be the first of many in our future, so dust off those sneakers, take a walk or run and admire the nature that God has placed all around us.



The Road to Recognition by Janae Kamajian

This Essay won 2nd Place in the 2019 Knights & Daughters of Vartan Armenian Genocide Essay Contest



I had a lot of “why’s” growing up as a third generation American -Armenian. Why can’t I trace back my ancestors on ancestry.com past 1915? Why is it so reinforced that I have to date only Armenians? Why is it frowned upon if I have Turkish friends? Why are church services so sad or so boringly repetitive and old-school that it can be harder to connect with? Why do I have so many fake aunts, uncles, and cousins when all my *odar* friends have real relatives? The most important “why,” however, why were one- and one-half Armenians wiped off the face of the planet on that fatal year of 1915. Then we move on to the question of “what.” What possibly could the Armenians have done that was so bad to make the Turkish people so mad. It is one thing to read about the Armenian genocide but quite another to actually understand. Sometimes I close my eyes at night and try to imagine what it must have been like being “them.” I

have read the books, I have seen the movies, but my life in America has been blessedly sheltered from the insanity that sometimes percolates in our human experience. The music of Aram Khatchadourian best epitomizes the Armenian genocide to me. From the wild chaos of the saber dance, to the lyrical magic of the Gayaneh ballet, I see the violence and beauty that once was theirs. Then I come to the realization that the plan was simple and the goal was clear. On April 24, 1915 the government of Turkey began a systematic policy of murder and deportation of their Armenian citizens, not because of anger we caused, but because of pure jealousy.

On April 24th, the ethnic cleansing of ninety percent of the Armenian population, 1.5 million Armenians, began. Disappearing from their ancestral homelands from Greater Anatolia, current day Turkey, these people were brutally massacred for their faith and their beautiful culture. Although the word “genocide” was not coined by Raphael Lemkin until 1943, historians agree that this was the first genocide of the 20th century. (Tolbert, David)

The genocide happened, as I would imagine, a lot like Aram Khachaturian’s song Gayaneh. Khachaturian dives right in, with fast rhythm and anxiety-driving tones, just like how the Turkish stormed right in on the Armenians without any warning. In the middle of the song, Khachaturian slows down the rhythm and adds in more melodious tunes of a flute, mixing it with the faded background noise of the faster tune. I would relate this to the beauty of how Armenians still carried on God’s faith throughout the torture of the genocide.

To this day, the government of Turkey sickeningly denies that a genocide has ever happened. How could the Turkish people kill so many of my ancestors and go about as if it never happened? How could they have caused the dilemma of this generation not knowing what Armenian even is, what Armenian music sounds like, or where Armenia is located, creating such a huge cultural barrier amongst me and my peers? The Ottoman Empire and its successor, Turkey, and Armenia have been cultural and geopolitical neighbors for millennia. I thought you were supposed to love thy neighbor as thyself. We did not harm them, we only were creators. After all, my last name, Kamajian, does not translate to swordsmen for no reason.

The beautiful medley of songs like Gayaneh should be more than just a ringtone on my father’s phone that no white or colored man has heard of. A common ground compromise is much needed so that we can finally both be at peace and this dream can hopefully become a reality. Just like the Jewish people received, what could work for both countries are reparations for Armenia and acceptance into the European Union for Turkey, but it really leads down to the issue of stubbornness.

Genocide denial is not unique to one people or political group. Ethnic pride, religious tenants and historical revisionism take for the center of the denial platform. (Tolbert, David) The Ottoman Empire was formed in the 1400's by military conquest. The Ottomans were not builders but conquerors. Sure, they were also creators of arts and music as well, but why is it fair that their music should be heard and ours forgotten? Their culture was not based on creation like ours, their national identity of conquest is a historical fact. (Turkey Government)

Article 301 of the Turkish penal code makes it a crime to discuss the Armenian genocide or admit any Turkish responsibility. (Armenia Genocide Denial) The thought of such a poor excuse for so many painful deaths that impacted my people is dumbfounding. We did not die because of war casualties. We died in strength in the name of God. Our love for him and our people was powerful. The blaring and prominent drums in Gayaneh, remind me of a representation of this strength.

The Turkish Government is fearful of ending up in the same predicament as that of Germany, owing billions of dollars to the Armenians. However, neither money, nor land, can bring back the dead or the beautiful music we have lost before the times of Gayaneh.

If steps towards peace do not take place, then history will, as we see on a regular basis, repeat itself. "Each and every society needs to take a self-critical approach, one that should be firmly institutionalized as a community's moral tradition regardless of what others might have done to them. It is this that prevents renewed eruptions of violence." (AkcIasm, 2007) Only when these countries take action is when true peace will occur and songs like Gayaneh will be heard amongst all peoples, helping to convey the history of my people and aspects of culture that what was lost.

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Photos From Recent Events



Easter Egg Hunt –April 21st



Armenian Genocide Remembrance –April 24th



Bishop Daniel's Return to St. Vartan Cathedral-With St. Hagop Faithful-May 18th

GRADUATION NEWS!



Christian Ahrem is the son of Laura and James Ahrem of Garden City, NY and the grandson of Ann and Noubar Mahdessian of St. Petersburg, FL. We are very proud of our son, brother, and grandson Christian Ahrem for his academic and musical achievements. During his senior year at Garden City High School he completed AP classes of Calculus, Biology, Macroeconomics and College Business Law. In addition, he participated in Garden City Centennial Travel Soccer for 10 years, St Joseph's CYO Basketball for 4 years and was a member of the Garden City High School Chamber Choir for 7 years. His hard work has given him the opportunity to study at Fordham University School of Business which he will attend in September of 2019. We wish him continued success in his future academic and extracurricular endeavors!!

Lizzy Shahnasarian graduated with a Master's Degree in Industrial Organizational Psychology from Columbia University. She is working as a consultant in Boston for Boston Consulting Group, and lives close by to her brother and wife, Eddy and Maggie, and their two children. Congrats Lizzy!!



Eric Takoushian, son of Dan and Kathy Takoushian of West Chester, PA and grandson of Daniel and Norma Takoushian graduated from the University of North Carolina with Honors of the Highest Distinction and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Eric was a Chemistry Major with minors in Neuroscience and Biology. He received a Fulbright Research Scholarship to conduct a maternal-infant anemia study in The Dominican Republic for the upcoming year and plans to attend medical school following.



GREETER MINISTRY UPDATE by Rita Keshishian



Join Our Greeters Ministry!

To warmly welcome our parishioners as they arrive to celebrate Badarak at St. Hagop is a rewarding and fulfilling privilege. Both members of the parish council and congregation serve as greeters prior to, during, and after Sunday mass. Duties include readying the church for worship services, welcoming and orienting church attendees, counting attendees, and participating in the liturgy by receiving and spreading the kiss of peace, assisting parishioners who partake in Holy Communion, and distributing the collection plate. Parish council members count, document and prepare for deposit collection receipts and other contributions.

Please consider this opportunity to meaningfully participate in this fulfilling ministry and actively be an important part of the St. Hagop family.

Contact Rita Keshishian at rita_keshishian@hotmail.com

SHANASARIAN HALL REPORT by Chrisanne Jensen/Event Coordinator

We are already having a record breaking year for special events at our beautiful hall. Both clients and parishioners are giving us rave reviews about the hall's features and amenities. We made many improvements this year such as a permanent pavilion curtain to add privacy to outdoor use, a tri-folding mirror in the back "bridal" room, and a new cleaning company to keep our floors buffed and polished.

There are many events planned by our Events Committee for this upcoming year so please check our bulletins and Avedis to plan ahead to join us! Shahnasarian Hall is a wonderful place to socialize after each week's Divine Liturgy and our Women's Guild group does a great job welcoming everyone.

We have much to look forward to this upcoming year and dates are booking up quickly so if you know of any looking for an amazing event center for any type of event, send them to me! Special discounts are available for parishioners who need a banquet hall for upcoming events so contact Chrisanne at 727-545-0380 for more information.



PLEDGE STEWARDSHIP- Update as of 06/12/19

So far we have been blessed with **106** pledges totaling **\$149,300** for 2019! Our goal is for all to participate regardless of amount! We invite you to mail in your pledge card or make an online pledge for 2019.

**In prayerful consideration of my stewardship of God's resources
and my commitment to St. Hagop's mission and programs:**

My/Our Stewardship Pledge for 2019 is:

\$_____, given () weekly () monthly () quarterly () annually

☐ Yes, please issue me offering envelopes ☐ No, offering envelopes will not be needed

I /we wish to support St. Hagop with time and talent in these areas:

Signature: _____ **Date:** ____/____/____

Name(s):

Phone/Email:

Please mail this pledge card to the church office, or bring to offering plate by Stewardship Sunday—November 25, 2018. No payment need accompany this form. We ask that 2019 pledge monies be paid by the end of the 2019 calendar year. Payments may be made online through the St. Hagop website.

May the Lord Remember All Your Offerings

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**Stewardship
Pledge Card**



Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to St. Hagop! Those who have submitted a pledge to support St. Hagop during 2019 are identified below.

George & Joan Agnacion, Gloria Alvandian, Karen Anjoorian, Artak Apyan, John & Susan Arsenault, Patrick & Gail Aslanian Compton, Leon & Gloria & Mike Atayan, Grace Austin, Shagen Babayan, Bagrat & Tatiana Badalyan, Walter & Mirian Bandazian, Alice Bedrosian, Chuck & Lisa Begian, Jacob Bournazian, Robert & Janet Davidian, Fr. Hovnan & Yn. Anna Demerjian, Hasmig & Jean Jacques Demerjian, Sason & Patricia Demirjian, John & Bernadette Derderian, Rita Dilanian, Araxi Dulgeroff, Art & Adrienne Ekizian, Gregory & Alysia Ekizian, Harbig & Mary Garabedian, Martha-Anne Garabedian, Richard & Pauline Gilgan, Adrienne Guendjoian, Gregory & Joan Hagopian, Teresa Haidarian, Berge & Tamar Hajian, Irene Hakim, Tom Hally, Janet Haydostian, Mary Haydostian, Nazdar Hermiz, Hayley Hovhanessian, Greg & Stephanie Hovsepien, Zvart Jambajian, David & Darwin Jamgochian, Eileen Barsamian Jennings, Jimmy & Lisa Justiniano, Richard & Christina Kachadurian, Dr. George & Debra Kamajian, Edward & Michelle Kapreilian, Sam & Bea Kapreilian, Sergei & Irene Kardashian, Florence Kazanjian, David & Nancy Kazarian, Lilian Kazarian, Sam & Nancy Kazarian, Ara & Rita Keshishian, Lori Keshishian, Mari & Garbis Kesisoglu, Zaven Koltookian, Shahe & Lena Kotchounian, Richard & Marge Kratlian, Sophia Manoulian-Kugeares, Noubar & Ann Mahdessian, William & Christine Martin, Hagop & Tobe Mashikian, Richard & Linda Maslar, Aram & Carla Megerian, Vazken & Maggie Melkisetian, Ida Merakyan, Jack & Virginia Messerlian, Vasken & Karen Minassian, Bob Mirak, Agop & Victoria Mouradian, Bejan & Rebekah Nouri, Mirella Ovanessian, Margaret Penerian, Bernard Przegendza, James Roesch, Christopher & Nicholas Sagherian, Martha Samuelian, Ayda Sarafian, Ara Sarafian, Berc & Tracy Sarafian, Dr. Vahak & Elizabeth Sarkis, Chuck & Kathy Sarkisian, Tanya Sarafian, Leon & Sharon Sarkisian, Hrach & Thelma Saroyan, Chris & Carol Sassouni, Yates & Lexy Sayers, Stepan & Seta Serpekian, Eddy & Maggie Shahnasarian, Michael & Jean Shahnasarian, Norair & Maro Shaldjian, Rubina & Xay shaldjian, John & Kelly Shamsey, Robert & Christina Shamsey, Charles & Garine Babian Stanish, Haig Tachejian, Daniel & Norma Takoushian, Nevere Tavoukdjian, Anna Tossoonian, Denise, Matthieu & Antoine Van Veen, Charles Vartanian, Tigran & Lucine Vartazarian, Tim & Adrienne Vartanian Milewski, Terry & Carolyn Waidley, James & Cathy Beducian Wilson, Haig Yaghoobian, Haig & Louise Yardumian

Office Hours: 9 am-5 pm Monday - Friday

Worship Hours: Sunday 10:30am – 12:30pm

Fellowship Time in Shahnasarian Hall – 12:30pm – 1:30pm

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Avedis Newsletter is a publication of St. Hagop Armenian Church in Pinellas Park, Florida.

Submissions are welcomed and should be sent to the church office. All text should be electronic format, preferably Word. Editorial board reserves the right to modify or reject any submissions. All material must be received no later than the published deadlines below:

Issue	Submission
October/November/December 2019	September 15th

It costs over \$1,100 to print and send each issue of Avedis. We would like to communicate as often as possible with our parishioners. Will you help defray some of the costs? Please send your check memo: Avedis Newsletter 1/2 issue (\$550); 1/4 issue (\$275) or other (\$) amount.

The *Avedis* is grateful to accept business ads, which help us, pay for our newsletter and help you reach your customers. Please email the office at office@stthagopfl.org if you are interested. Make checks payable to St. Hagop Armenian Church.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Divine Liturgy takes place every Sunday from 10:30-12:30 unless noted below, with Fellowship in the Shahnasarian Hall to follow immediately after service

Thurs. July 4th	Office Closed	
Sun. July 7th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Tues. July 9th	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
Sat. July 14th	NO Divine Liturgy Today	
Sun. July 21st	Divine Liturgy-Hayr Simeon Odabashian Guest Celebrant	10:30 AM
Sun. July 28th	Divine Liturgy Vartavar – ACYOA Outdoor Youth Fun Event	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Sun. Aug. 4th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. Aug. 11th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Tues. Aug. 13th	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
Sun. Aug. 18th	Divine Liturgy/Blessing of the Grapes Special Fellowship in Shahnasarian Hall Welcome to Pastoral Intern Dn. Albert & Silva!	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Sun. Aug. 25th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. Sept. 1st	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Mon. Sept. 2nd	Labor Day – Office Closed	
Sun. Sept. 8th	Divine Liturgy/First Day of Sunday School	10:30 AM
Tues. Sept. 10th	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
Sun. Sept. 15th	Divine Liturgy – Exaltation of the Cross Special Fellowship Hour in Shahnasarian Hall	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Sun. Sept. 22nd	Divine Liturgy/Sunday School	10:30 AM
Sun. Sept. 29th	Divine Liturgy/Sunday School	10:30 AM
Sun. Oct. 6th	Divine Liturgy/Sunday School	10:30 AM
Tues. Oct. 8th	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
Sun. Oct. 13th	Divine Liturgy/Sunday School	10:30 AM
Sun. Oct. 20th	Divine Liturgy/Sunday School	10:30 AM
Sat. Oct. 26th	12 th Anniversary Dinner-Dance in Shahnasarian Hall	6:00 PM
Sun. Oct. 27th	Divine Liturgy/Sunday School	10:30 AM

Please note that by canon law of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church, no Requiem Services may be held on the following major feast days of the church; Christmas, Palm Sunday/Easter, Pentecost, Transfiguration & Exaltation of the Cross)



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