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**SAINT STEPANOS  
ARMENIAN  
APOSTOLIC  
CHURCH**

19 Յունուար 2014

**ԿԻՐԱԿՆՕՐԵԱՅ ԹԵՐԹԻԿ  
SUNDAY BULLETIN**

January 19, 2014

**Առաջին Կիրակի զկնի Ա. Ծննդեան  
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY**

Join us in worship this Sunday  
Morning Service 9:30 AM  
Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

Church Website: [www.ststepanos.org](http://www.ststepanos.org)

1184 Ocean Avenue, Elberon, NJ 07740 / office (732) 229-3661

Rev. Fr. Daniel Karadjian - Pastor

Տ Դանիէլ Թնյ. Գարաճեան - Նոգետր Նովի



On January 12 we celebrated a solemn Divine Liturgy. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy we conducted a Blessing of the Waters Service, which is a symbol of the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan.

Just a minute after the blessing of the water, when special prayers were offered, hymns sung and the cross, which had been submerged in the water was taken out. Then Der Hayr pours out the Holy Chrism drop by drop into water and by a prayer he blessed the water.

The "godfather of the cross" was Maurice Lahham Sr. The congregation approached with reverence, kissing the cross held by the godfather, and the holy water was distributed to all to be taken to their homes. According to the tradition people take some blessed water with

them to use it as a medicinal remedy for the sick.

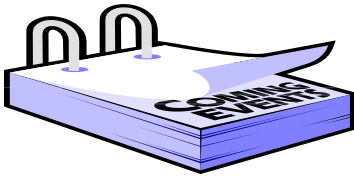
### Armenian Language Class

St. Stepanos had our first Armenian Language Class on Tuesday, Jan. 14th with Fr. Daniel and Yester Garabedian as instructors with 2 and a future 3 more students who are eager to learn or refine their Armenian language skills. The class was informed about the history of the language and learned some phrases and when to use them. For example, "Menak parov" if you are leaving for a long time, "Tsedesoution" if leaving for a short period of time.

We will also be discussing Armenian traditions. It was an enjoyable evening and we open an invitation to others to join us at our next lesson on Tuesday, January 28th.



**Pastor's Office Hours Tuesday - Friday: 10AM - 2PM.  
After hours in an emergency, please contact: Pastor's Cell: (732) 312-8661**



## February 23 – Divine Liturgy

Followed by the **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**.  
Light luncheon will be provided by members of the PC.



### **Communicant Member**

Did you know the Armenian Church has two kinds of members: “communicant” members and “voting” (a.k.a “dues-paid”) members? All men, women, and children baptized in the Armenian Church are communicant members of the Armenian Church- this means they have full access to the sacramental life of the Christian church. After Baptism and Chrismation they thrive in the life of the church through participation in all the rest of the sacraments; namely, Penance, Communion, Holy Orders, Holy Matrimony, and Rites of the Sick. The sacraments guide us in our life-long journey toward Christ.

### **Voting Member**

A voting member is a special kind of communicant member. Through the donation of a nominal annual fee; a voting member gains additional rights and privileges. Specifically, voting members are able to:

- a. Participate fully and vote in the Parish Assemblies
- b. Hold elected office within parish administration or special committees
- c. Enjoy special discounts and courtesies for sacramental services (weddings, baptism, funerals, etc)
- d. Enjoy reduced rates for facility rentals
- e. Draft and Vote on proposals that influence our parish and the Diocese

### **Stewardship**

A steward of the church is a voting member who supports the church above and beyond the nominal annual fee. Stewards respond to the call to serve as servants of Christ through a profound commitment of financial support-each according to their means. Your annual stewardship commitment will help sustain our parish and contribute toward its growth, thus ensuring that our children, grandchildren and family will always have a place of worship to call their home in the years ahead. Your annual membership commitment entitles you to fully benefit from the parish’s various ministries while financially supporting the work of your Armenian Church. Voting members must be at least 18 years of age.

### **The Parish Assembly**

Voting members and communicant members are able to attend the Annual Parish Assembly, but only voting members have the right to vote, make motions, submit proposals, and/or hold elected office. The Parish Assembly is one of the administrative bodies of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America headed and presided over by the Primate of the Diocese. Within our parish it is the highest administrative body and its jurisdiction covers all administrative matters associated with our church, including: building/renovation projects, outreach, education, auxiliary organizations, Diocesan issues, parish finances, as well as short and long term parish vision. The Pastor presides over the Parish Assembly and a lay chairman is elected from among the voting membership to conduct the meeting.



**Fellowship hour:** Today the fellowship hour will be hosted by the Bakhtirian family.

**HOSPITAL VISITATIONS BY THE PASTOR:**

If you, a member of your family or a friend are hospitalized, please contact the Church Office so that the Pastor may visit, to pray for the recovery and spiritual well being of the patient/parishioner.

**OUR CHURCH'S WISH LIST**

St. Stepanos Church is looking for either an individual or a family to donate:

**A High Powered Snow Blower** to clean the church parking lot and sidewalks. Your donation will be tax deductible. Please contact Der Hayr if you are interested in donating some of these items.



**ARMENIAN LANGUAGE CONVERSATIONAL CLASSES FOR ADULTS**

**Where?** At our Church. **When?** Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

**SECOND lesson on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 7:00PM**

Come to learn or brush up on your Armenian-speaking skills;

Learn about the Armenian culture and history.

**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!**

Please, contact the church office at 732-229-3661 with your interest to attend.



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Friday, January 24th Join us for our**

**First Family Night,**

**Beginning at 6:30 PM with a Pot Luck Dinner.**

**DO NOT FORGET THAT OUR FAMILY NIGHTS WOULD**

**GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER ... to tell and hear our respective stories ... to enjoy the fellowship of being with each other in this sharing experience ... and to do this in a typical Armenian manner sharing our own food with others.**



**January 26.** – After Badarak the PC will host a Dinner.

**February 2.** - Instructional Badarak **10:30AM** sharp. More details to follow.

**Feb. 4.** – Bible Study Class at **6:30PM**- Contact us at 732-229-3661 with your interest to attend.



**The Parish Council cordially invites you for a celebration honoring the families of our parish. This appreciation dinner will take place Friday, February 14, 2014 at 6PM in our church hall.**

**Live Music will be provided by Bob Aslanian.**

**Enjoy a delicious meal provided by Fr. Daniel and Yn. Mariam.**

**The donation for this event is \$20.00.**

**Kindly RSVP by Feb. 10 to the church office at (732) 229-3661.**

**We look forward to seeing you at this event.**

## MIDDAY READINGS ASCRIBED FOR THIS SUNDAY:

**ISAIAH 54:1-13.** *A series of metaphors is used to repeat the promise that the nation will be rebuilt and Israel's relationship to the Lord restored. The people of God are called upon to rejoice, firm in the faith that God has an everlasting love for His people.*

**I TIMOTHY 1:1-11:** *The Apostle Paul reminds us to avoid idle theological speculation that only promotes dissension. For us as Christians, the accent must always be on faith, acted out in everyday life, in love for our fellow man.*

**JOHN 2:1-11:** *In the Gospel reading from John, we hear of Jesus' first miracle, which takes place at a wedding in Cana. This miracle is the first of seven that John presents to show the true identity of Jesus as the Son of God. On this occasion, Jesus is at a feast with his family and disciples. When the wine runs out, he "saves the day" by creating more wine from water. John's selection of a miraculous event within the context of a wedding feast is quite deliberate. Drawing on the imagery and tradition of God's people as the bride of God, and the Kingdom of Heaven as a great feast, John identifies Jesus as God's chosen who transforms God's relationship with his people. It is no longer just a feast, a loving relationship, but now a feast and relationship with God that has been given new life and joy by Jesus. As the steward of the feast tells the bridegroom that he has "saved the best wine for last," so also in Jesus the fullest and truest - the best - relationship with God is now available to all.*

**The Gospel reading:** On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus \*said to Him, "They have no wine." And Jesus \*said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come." His mother \*said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." Now there were six stone water pots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each. Jesus \*said to them, "Fill the water pots with water." So they filled them up to the brim. And He \*said to them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it to him. When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter \*called the bridegroom, and \*said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely, then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

**DER VOGHORMYA / SPECIAL PRAYER** will be offered for peace in Syria and for:  
Trudy Takakjian, Gegham Tukmanyants, Frank Yates, Dothy Otchy, Anahid Ghazinyan and Artin DerBoghossian.



## REQUIEM SERVICE / ՀՈԳԵՏԱՆԳԻՍ

**Requested by:**

Alice and Sylva Bakhtarian  
Hagop, Lina, Haig and Lora Bakhtarian

**Requested in loving memory of:**

† Haig Onnig Bakhtarian (27 years)