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**SAINTESTEPANOS
ARMENIAN
APOSTOLIC
CHURCH**

11 Մայիս 2014

**ԿԻՐԱԿՆՕՐԵԱՅ ԹԵՐԹԻԿ
SUNDAY BULLETIN**

May 11, 2014

**ԿԱՐՄԻՐ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ
(Red Sunday)**

Church Website: www.ststepanos.org

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

Rev. Fr. Daniel Karadjian - Pastor

Տ Դանիէլ Թինյ. Գարաճեան - Հոգևոր Հովիւ

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

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the commencement of the Armenian Genocide, we have the unique opportunity to tell our stories of how our ancestors miraculously survived. The concerted efforts of the Turkish government to compound the atrocities by denying its crimes highlight the need to tell our stories with truth and power. Fortunately, the Center for Holocaust, Human Rights & Genocide Education (“Chchange”), a nonprofit entity located at Brookdale Community College, understands the enormous signifi-

importance of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. Chchange plans to create an exhibit at their facility at the college to memorialize facts concerning the Armenian genocide through the stories of the descendants of the survivors. This exhibit will open in April 2015, and an expanded version will be part of a permanent comparative genocide exhibit scheduled to open in 2016—featuring the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust and the genocide in Rwanda. To date, we have collected 15 such stories for the Armenian exhibit. However, that is not enough. To reveal the falsehoods of those who deny the genocide, we need as extensive of a record as we can generate.

In light of the above, we urge you to step forward and tell your ancestors’ story if you are the descendant of a survivor. We have examples we can provide of how the ancestors of others in our community survived the genocide that we would be happy to share upon request. In addition, if you do not feel comfortable writing at all, we will arrange to meet with you at church, in your home or anywhere where you feel comfortable so you can tell your story. We will then find a way to transform your explanation into a written story for your review and approval so we can make sure we have told the story accurately and in a way you feel comfortable. Also, if you have pictures of those that survived the Genocide in their youth as well as one in their later years, please provide a copy (or an electronic copy) with the story or ask us to make a copy for you.

If you have any questions about this extraordinarily worthwhile project, feel free to contact John Haytaian at 732 577 0866, Jeff Surenian at 732 267 6740. Also, while we prefer that you email your stories in Word format to John Haytaian at haytaian@optonline.net, we will welcome your stories in any way you prefer. In closing, there is power in truth. There is also force in words. Let us seize this opportunity to tell our stories accurately and clearly so that they add to the record of truths of what really happened and so that the miracle of our survival is not lost in the shroud of deceits perpetrated by the Turkish government.

Very truly yours,

St. Stepanos Armenian Church

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY

*Mother is the name for God in the lips and hearts of little children.
William Makepeace Thackeray*



Red Sunday

In the Calendar of the Armenian Church, the third Sunday following the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ is known as Red Sunday. The color “red” has been used throughout history to represent many things. One of the symbolic meanings is the blood of the martyrs who were sacrificed for Christ, His Holy Church, and their Christian faith.

During the early years of Christianity, faithful followers of Jesus Christ were subjected to severe persecutions and torments. Many elected to die rather than betray their principles of life and faith, which the Incarnate God - Christ Jesus - had endowed to them and all of mankind. The psalmist writes, “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of the saints” (Psalms 116:15).

Today, martyrdom is far less often an occurrence in the lives of Christians, yet it does happen. However, the greater struggle is the one against sin, which we can see manifested in many ways throughout the world. The battle against wickedness and evil, which will be victorious in the end, is the current expression of the significance of Red Sunday.

The Apostle Paul writes that Christ Himself endured such opposition, that we should not grow weary in our battle against wickedness. In his letter to the Hebrews, Paul says: “In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.” (Hebrews 12:4).

We are to use the opportunity of Red Sunday to once again remind ourselves of Paul’s exhortation to remain steadfast in the Lord, and to continue our daily labors of goodness and righteousness.

Հայաստանյայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցու տոնացույցում Սբ. Զատիկին հաջորդող կիրակիներն հատուկ խորհրդանշական անվանումներ ունեն: Զատիկի չորրորդ կիրակին կոչվում է Կարմիր:

Կարմիրը Քրիստոսի եկեղեցու եւ հավատի համար մարտիրոսացած նահատակների սուրբ արյան խորհրդանշան է: Քրիստոնեության վաղ շրջանում, երբ քրիստոնյաները դաժան հալածանքներ էին ենթարկվում, շատերը գերադասեցին մեռնել, քան դավաճանել հավատի այն սկզբունքներին, որ մարդկությանն ավանդել էր մարդացյալ Աստված՝ Քրիստոս: «Տիրոջ աչքում հարգելի է մահն իր սրբերի» (Մաղմ. 115:15):

Սակայն այսօր նահատակության անհրաժեշտություն չկա, եւ արյուն թափելը, մահը, պայքարն ու հաղթանակն այլ իմաստ են ձեռք բերել ընդդեմ մեղքի ու չարիքի: «Չլինի թե հոգնեք և հուսալքվեք, դուք, որ կովի մեջ դեռ արյուն թափելու չափ չհակառակվեցիք մեղքին», - ասում է Պողոս առաքյալը (Եբր. 12:3-4) եւ իբրեւ պատգամ բոլոր քրիստոնյաներին խրատում. «Նա, որ մեռավ, մեղքի համար մեռավ մեկընդմիջտ, եւ նա, որ կենդանի է, կենդանի է Աստծո համար:

Նույնպես եւ դուք ձեզ մեռած համարեցեք մեղքի համար, բայց կենդանի՝ Աստծո համար, մեր Տեր Հիսուս Քրիստոսով» Հռոմ. 6:10-11):

<http://www.araratian-tem.am>

MIDDAY READINGS ASCRIBED FOR THIS SUNDAY:

ACTS 13:16-43:

The Apostle Paul speaks to the Jews gathered in the synagogue of Antioch of Pisidia. He recapitulates the history of the Hebrews emphasizing the fulfillment of the Law and Prophecies was to be found in Jesus.

I PETER 3:12-18a:

St. Peter counsels the early Christians to have patience in persecution. Always be ready to defend your hope as a Christian, but with gentleness and reverence.

JOHN 5:19-30:

The writer of the Fourth Gospel writes “the Son ... does only what He sees the Father doing ...”. That is, Jesus as the Son, gives life to men and as Son of Man, He is the judge of mankind at the final resurrection.



**Mother's Day Celebration
Dinner**

MAY 17, 2014 AT 6:30PM

FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Roberta Ervine Professor of Armenian Studies
"Armenian's Mothers of Faith"



Honoring Mother's & Woman of the 2013
Aida Leon Kado

*Come and celebrate this special occasion with us and
enjoy the evening in our Church Hall.*

This is a family event and tickets are limited.

Adults \$25 and children \$10

✚ So get your tickets before its too late.

For more info call: Church Office at 732-229-3661

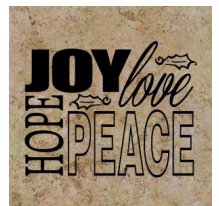
or stepanoschurch@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE

**On Saturday, June 7 at 7 p.m. at St. Stepanos Armenian Church
Celebrating Feast of The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ
at St. Stepanos with the evening of Armenian folk and classical songs
Performed by Anna Mehrabyan.**

**The official Ascension Day is on May 29. This is the most loved holiday for young people in Armenia. In some areas the celebrations turn into folk festival with music, dances, and games. Our concert is dedicated to the festive spirit of Hambartzum with its promise of hope, joy and love.
Suggested Donations - \$15.00 per person. Students - \$10.00 Children under 10 - free**

All proceeds from this event will support St. Stepanos Church's future cultural events. Light snacks and beverages will be served after the concert at Kevork and Sirvart Hovnanian hall.





GUEST CELEBRANT

On Sunday, May 11 we will be blessed with the presence of **Rev. Fr. Vahram Melikyan**, Director of the Information System of the Holy See of Etchmiadzin who will celebrate Badarak and deliver a spiritual message to us. We wish Fr. Vahram a pleasant stay and happiness during his visit to our area.

Բարի գալուստ կը մաղթենք վերջերս Ամերիկայ գտնուող Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածնի մամլոյ դիւանի տնօրէն Արժ.Տէր Վահրամ Քինյ. Մելիքեանին, որ պիտի մատուցանէ Սուրբ Պատարագ եւ մեր Ծուխը հաճոյքն ու պատիւը պիտի ունենայ լսելու իր հոգեւորական պատգամը:

EASTER HOME BLESSINGS

Father Daniel would like to visit your home and bring to you the blessings of God. Please contact him at 732-229-3661 to schedule a convenient for you time for your home blessing.



Apply for a Diocesan Scholarship Online

The **John M. Azarian Memorial Armenian Youth Scholarship Fund** is now accepting applications for the 2014-15 academic year. To download an application and all other necessary forms please visit:

www.azariangroup.com/scholarship.html. Complete applications must be submitted by **May 31, 2014**.

When one requests Hokehankisd / Requiem Services



The Requiem Service or Hokehankisd is not only a custom but also a rule of the church. Forty days after the death of a member of the church, a Requiem is offered for the repose of his/her soul. This also ends the official mourning period and usually the grave of the departed is also blessed.

After the Forty Days Requiem (Karasonk), Hokehankisd may be requested annually on the Sunday closest to the date of death. Requiem services may not be performed on the Five Major or Tabernacle Feasts (Daghavars).

Likewise, Hokehankisd should not be performed on Dominical Feasts, i.e. Palm Sunday, Ascension and Pentecost. Although through the Requiem we are praying for our departed as a matter of love and respect, we cannot alter their state or the final judgment. What we do request through prayer is that the Lord remembers our loved ones and judges them mercifully and with compassion.

DER VOGHORMYA / A SPECIAL PRAYER at the altar today is for the healing and health of **Trudy Takakjian, Annette Serabian, Dorothy Othchy, Seroun Wang and Joan Yates**. *Please offer your prayers for our Armenian brothers and sisters in Syria. In this hour of need, please remember them in your prayers.*

ARMENIAN LANGUAGE CONVERSATIONAL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 6:30PM Come to learn or brush up on your Armenian-speaking skills; Learn about the Armenian culture and history.

Church Website: www.ststepanos.org

We hope you enjoy its new format as we continue to give you information for the church's events and chronicle life within our Church .Please feel free to share your comments, suggestions and ideas regarding our updated Website. Enjoy !

Fellowship hour: will be hosted by WG. Please contact Mary Ann Tutunjian at 732-776- 8333, if you would like to sponsor a fellowship hour.