

AVEDIS ԱԻԵՏԻՍ

St. Hagop Armenian Church

The Good News | January/February/March 2020

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Pastor's Desk
- PC Chair Report
- Primate's Visit
- Arm. Christmas 2020
- Advent Candlelight
- ACYOA Sponsorship
- Church Bazaar
- Shahnasarian Hall
- In Memory Of...
- Flower Guild
- 2019 Pledge Update
- Issue Information
- Calendar

God is Leading
You Out Of
Here

PASTOR'S DESK by Father Hovnan Demerjian – God is Leading You Out of Here

Throw off your chains, captive daughter of Zion!

God says, "You were sold for nothing. You're being bought back for nothing." Is 52:2-3

"God Is Leading You Out of Here" is the heading of the above Christmas-season passage from the book of Isaiah. The passage goes on to exhort God's people to wake up, throw off their chains and remember who they are. "God Is Leading You Out of Here" also makes a great title for this written reflection, as we stand together on the threshold of a new year. God wants to lead you and I out of 2019 and into 2020. Most of us, at most times, probably don't think we need help from God to lead us out of this year and into the next. After all, the New Year can be a very optimistic time. A whole new 365 days opens up before us, with many opportunities. We make resolutions; mine are to exercise, to find time to do some writing and to share more quality time with family. Unfortunately though, I am old enough to know that my New Year resolutions don't last very long. With all the best intentions, experience tells me that it is extremely unlikely that the opportunity of a new year will in itself bring a new and improved me.

Today's Bible reading, and much of our scriptures, however, suggest that a new beginning might not be where we should first look for substantial change. If you want transformation, says our Scriptures and Jesus in 100 different ways, don't first look for something new to begin, rather look for something old to fall apart. That's because the pain of something old falling apart—the disruption and chaos—often invites us to listen at a deeper level. It invites and sometimes forces the soul to go to a new place because the old place is not working anymore. The Scriptures use many words to describe this chaos: fire, darkness, death, emptiness, abandonment, trial, the Evil One. Whatever it is, it does not feel good and it does not feel like God. I am being general here, but you can fill in the blanks of what the old place is that you tend to get stuck in. There might be relationships in your family that are stuck in dysfunction. Your position at work might be compromised and dull. You may have given up trying to be healthy and exercise because of age or failing health. We will do just about anything to keep our old thing from falling apart, even when they no longer work.

Wherever you are stuck, captive and sleep walking, like God's people in today's reading from Isaiah, this is where you need extra patience, guidance, and the freedom to let go instead of tightening controls and certitudes. This is when we must face the pain of 2019, be vulnerable and humbly trust that God Is Leading You and I Out of Here. Because the crucial first step in looking forward to a blessed new year is confessing to God and each other all the anxiety, boredom, frustration and shortcomings of the last one. No one likes to do this, it's easier to grin and bear it behind perfect looking social media profiles and well wishes for 2020.

But in church, I pray, as we look forward to a new year we can risk admitting the fact that we don't have it all together. First we should risk this privately with God, and then, hopefully, out loud with those dear to us. We can admit that many things in our lives are not well or not what we would like them to be. We can remember that no real change happens without something old falling apart, and with trust in God, we don't have to be scared of things falling apart. We can be less afraid that our teenager is beyond our control, that our job is out of control, that our health is beyond our control—because if you are living, you are changing, and something is always falling apart—but we know that God is always leading us out of here, from isolation to intimacy, from despair to hope, from death to resurrection.

I want to conclude with a powerful illustration of this truth from Thomas Moore's book, *Meditations*. He tells a story of a traveler walking along a road. The traveler sees some men working on a stone building: "You look like a monk," the traveler said. "I am that," said the monk. "Who is that working on the monastery?" "My monks. I'm the superior." "It's good to see a monastery going up," said the traveler. "They're actually tearing it down," said the superior. "Whatever for?" asked the traveler. "So we can see the sun rise at dawn," said the superior.

So often we build lives and institutions that get in the way of our higher purpose, our own best selves. In order to find the new me and the new you in the new year, maybe we should start by asking God's help in taking down the old me and you; the part of our ego that always gets us in trouble, the wall we put up between those we love, the harsh ways we judge others. So often our institutions, our church included, get in the way of our own higher calling. In order for God to continue to bless and renew St. Hagop in 2020, let's make sure we dismantle what is in the way of God, what blocks the sunrise, to see how God wants to build us back up right in 2020. And let us always remember that whatever you are silently suffering through, whatever holds you captive and keeps you down, God Is Leading You Out of Here, now and always, amen.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT by Louise Yardumian

Happy New Year! 2020, our new decade has arrived. For me, this past year seemed to go so quickly. So much happened, and thank God, most of it was very good. Do you feel the same? We are all blessed in so many ways. However, sometimes we don't realize it because it may not be exactly how we had hoped things would work out. But God in His infinite wisdom, is with us, always.

And how do we say thank you to Him? DO we say thank you? Is it in words or deeds, or do we just expect that He will be there for us? HOW do we say thank you to God? Do we buy a stranger their groceries when they don't have enough money to pay the bill? Do we pick up someone and bring them to church because they don't have a ride? Do we make a pledge to His church and fulfill our pledge? Do we increase our pledge by a little, or do we perhaps increase it a lot?

We are Christ's family. We are His children, his people. Our church is His home on earth. We are so fortunate to have our beautiful St. Hagop Armenian Church in the St. Petersburg/Tampa area where we come to give thanks for our many blessings and to eat at His banquet table. We are blessed to have Der Hovnan as our priest. Der Hayr celebrates Holy Badarak each week, to offer us the heavenly food at Christ's table. You will never get a better invitation to a banquet! After the choir sings the Sanctus Hymn, "Soorp, Soorp," the celebrant chants, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is distributed for you and for many, for the expiation and remission of sins." Then after the choir sings, "Amen," the priest then chants, "Drink this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the expiation and remission of sins." The holiest meal we could ever have in our lifetime. Wow, to be fed the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, at His Holy Table. Guaranteed best food you could ever eat and drink. We are privileged, beyond measure.

What better way to give thanks than to support our church community. Please make sure to send in your pledge, big or small. Support our church. Support our church not only with your monetary donation but also by coming to worship as often as possible, and don't forget to give of your time and talent also. Our ancestors gave their lives for our Lord. To come to church, give of our time and talent...it should be what we want to do, should do, can do. It doesn't hurt to do this. It actually feels really good.

The United States House and Senate finally recognized the Armenian Genocide. Thanks be to God! Let's do what we can to support our St. Hagop Church, so that our Armenian Saints will be remembered forever, by us perpetuating our precious inheritance.

We are truly blessed by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, every single day. Let us do what we can to make sure that we thank Him for His many blessings. May our strong faith get stronger, and our Armenian Ancestry live forever. Let US keep our churches full of our faithful people, our children strong in the love of God, and our thanks be to God forever. Amen.

Louise Malleen Yardumian



2020 Christmas Worship Schedule

Sunday, Jan. 5th—Armenian Christmas Eve Jrakaloots

CHRISTMAS EVE DIVINE LITURGY 5PM

TRADITION ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS EVE MEAL (KHTOOM-FISH DINNER) 6:30 PM

Monday, Jan. 6th—Armenian Christmas

NO SERVICES AT ST. HAGOP-CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER 9AM-5PM

Sunday, Jan. 12th—Armenian Christmas (Observed)

CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGY 10:30 AM

BLESSING OF WATERS SERVICE & SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP 12:30 PM

(NO REQUIEM SERVICES ON JANUARY 5TH & 12TH, REQUIEMS MAY BE REQUESTED FOR JANUARY 19TH)



FRI JAN 24
SUN JAN 26

Friday
Conversation &
Sunday
Ordinations with
Bishop Daniel



A Special Weekend with Bishop Daniel

Fri. Jan 24
6:30 PM

**Conversation & Meal
with Bp. Daniel**

On Friday evening, we will enjoy a delicious meal & inspiring conversation with the Bishop on crucial topics for our Church.

Sun. Jan 26
10:30AM

**Episcopal Badarak,
Ordinations & Fellowship**

On Sunday morning, Bp. Daniel will lead worship & ordain our altar servers. After church we will gather for a special fellowship.

ADVENT BY CANDLIGHT: Recap & Testimonies

It was a spiritually uplifting Advent Dinner on Wednesday Dec 4th! Our parishioners and friends enjoyed delicious homemade foods, fellowship and beautiful words from our three speakers: Nazley Wilson, Dn. Albert Hambarzumyan and Karine Gyularyan. Our speakers helped us all 'make Christmas real' by sharing the power of faith in their lives through difficult times. The program ended by a candlelight sing-along of Silent Night, in English and Armenian, led by Zvart Jambazian and Jean Shahnasarian. Heartfelt thanks to our committee chair Alysia Ekizian, the events committee and their team. For those who could not be present, we present testimonials of two of our speakers below:

Nazley Wilson:



Growing up, I attended Catholic School from Kindergarten-12th grade. All of my friends attended the same school, we grew up together, played sports together, it was my community. As is usually the case, we all got into various Colleges and Universities across the country, and went our separate ways to start the next chapters of our life. When I went off to college in Florida, I found my new community of people, being a collegiate athlete, my teammates naturally became my instant best friends.

It was around the end of my Junior year of college, getting ready to enter into my senior year- that I began to feel lost. For some, this is an exciting time, getting ready to enter into the real world. But, for me, this time brought on a lot of confusion. Unlike a lot of my peers who knew where they were going to be next May after graduation, I didn't know what that next chapter looked like for me. What am I going to do with my life after my softball career is over? After school is over? What would happen to my community of people, my teammates, best friends, whom I have lived and thrived with for (up until this point)- the best four years of my life?! I heard the most logical next step after college is to get a job, so that meant I needed an internship that summer before entering my senior year.

A bit of some background: Being raised in South Carolina, and more specifically in the Catholic community, Armenians were few and far between, and I'd had very little interaction with other Armenians besides my own relatives. With my name, Nazley, being Armenian, I'd always taken a special interest in Armenian things. I loved flipping through the AGBU magazines that were mailed to my parent's house- just to see what other Armenian people my age looked like, what they were doing, the camps they were attending, because I had almost no exposure to that side of my heritage growing up.

I received a care package while at school from my parents one week, as their parental instincts knew from the sound of my voice during phone calls back home, that I was not doing great. They stuck one of the AGBU quarterly magazines that they knew I enjoyed inside the box, and as I was flipping through, I saw there was a Summer internship in Yerevan being advertised.

Part of me thought to myself- "Uhm, No way. Not even an option. I don't know anyone, I can't speak Armenian- how could I possibly work over there?" And then the other part of me was being called to it. So, after an application and phone call with the program director, I was going to be heading to Yerevan for the summer in 2013.

It ended up being the summer that changed my life- and that is not an exaggeration. When I got back for my senior semester, I had a hard time explaining to my friends the experience I had that summer- they just didn't get it. I felt as though I had left a piece of my heart in Yerevan, and I knew I had to find other Armenians near me to fill my tank back up. I was lucky enough to be led to St. Hagop. It was at that time, that I knew I had found my new community of people, and I felt at peace and ease that I was in the right place in my life, that I was where I was meant to be. And it is through this Armenian community, I have found a group of my best friends, that I now consider family.

I try to look back and think about how my life would be different if I never went to Yerevan that summer, if I didn't take that leap of faith that was for some reason calling to me-(that, looking back, God called to me). While I felt like I had no direction, no plan, lost at what my next chapter in life looked like-God had the plan all along. While we might not be able to see what's ahead, we have to trust and listen to God that he will lead us to that light. As we all make our way through our own personal times of struggle, let us remember what we heard the passage from the book of Matthew read tonight "and they will call him Emmanuel, which means "God is with Us".

Dn. Albert Hambardzumyan:



I am certain that it will not come as a great surprise to any of you, that studying in the Holy Land of Jerusalem has altered the entire course of my life forever, and unquestionably, for the better. This was not clear at the beginning of the journey, for I had never left my home of Armenia, and now I found myself in this strange and mysterious, holy place. I remember the beginnings of this journey quite vividly, as if it were just yesterday. It all started in the biblical town of Bethlehem, whereby our dean, Father Theodoros, took myself and my fellow freshman seminarians through a tour of the crown jewel of Bethlehem: The Church of The Nativity of Christ. My classmates and I were amazed at the stunning beauty of this church. Every moment we spent there was spent in humility, as we knew very well that we were roaming about the very grounds where the birthplace of our Savior had occurred. Before entering this marvelous and historic church, our dean relayed to us that the church has a preserved cave inside which is believed to be the very spot in which the Holy Virgin Mary gave birth to the infant Christ.

We then entered the church and went down to that very cave and were greeted with a small and round altar and an oddly placed opening in the ground where pilgrims from all around the world would come to bow, and

kiss, and pay homage to. One is compelled to ask, why was there this small opening of stone in a seemingly random place in this holy sanctuary? That round opening challenged me and I kept asking myself why have I left my family in Armenia and came to study in the Holy Land? I had seen some other altars in Armenia and this one was not unique in its shape and ultimately what was the point of it to leave it to be left open? A closer look under the altar at the opening would soon provide the answer: the round opening was left there so that every pilgrim who bows down there understands that God himself bowed down from Heaven to earth and became a man. It was left open in accordance with scripture, specifically the 22nd verse of 118th Psalm which says - "The stone that the builders rejected has become the keystone. This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes."

It was then that a numinous energy pierced my soul and comforted me in all of my trials and tribulations found in the face of this new life, and then I realized that it was all true. The opening on the ground inside the church of the Nativity was the fulfillment of that very Psalm's ancient prophecy. The message of our all-powerful Creator 'humbling Himself' should have great implications for all of us today. It certainly did for me.

And so, as a young seminarian, deliberating my future in the church and growing my relationship with the Lord, a question began to flood my thoughts: how am I going to respond in the face of this truth? In what ways can I make sure that my response to this truth are acceptable and in service to the Lord? My response is found in who I am today as an adherent of our faith, and who I hope to be as a future priest in the Armenian Apostolic Church.

I believe it to be a great privilege to speak to you today regarding this miraculous moment that I have witnessed in my life. I take it to be nothing less than a miracle that Christ was born in my heart and I was born in Him. Especially in a time of uncertainty and doubt. Soon we will be celebrating Christmas with our families, and enjoying the newly born Christ that is in each and every one of us. Being with you here today, I am obviously a long way from the Holy Land. But no matter how far I happen to be, the Holy Land, the church of Nativity, the manger, the new born Christ still live in me until today. And in remembering the Angel in the Gospel of Luke, I wish you all Good Tidings of Great Joy for the upcoming Christmas season.



ACYOA BEACH RETREAT & GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sponsorship Request

St Hagop Armenian Church is hosting the ACYOA General Assembly and Beach Retreat May 21-25, 2020. We are looking to our community for support in helping offset the costs of events and items we need for the weekend. Your generous sponsorship will be recognized on St. Hagop social media accounts, and throughout the weekend. Donations over \$250 will be advertised on the back of the weekend t-shirt given to approximately 200 participants. Sponsorship categories and items can be found on the facing page.

If you have any questions about sponsorship, please contact the Assembly host committee and event chair Mallory Maslar at acyoa2020@stthagopfl.org.

If you would like to sponsor an item on the facing page, you may make a payment in two ways:

- 1) Send a check payable to St. Hagop Armenian Church and mail to: 7020 90th Ave, Pinellas Park, Fl. 33782. Please note ACYOA Beach Retreat in the memo
- 2) Make an electronic donation at www.stthagopfl.org/product/general-donation. Please note ACYOA Beach Retreat in order notes

In either case, please include in your donation which event/item you are sponsoring.

If your sponsorship is over \$250 and you would like attribution or advertisement on our t-shirt, submit text or logo to acyoa2020@stthagopfl.org. Family names or business logos can be used on shirts, website and social media advertising.

ACYOA General Assembly & Beach Retreat

Sponsorship Items

Welcome Bag:

T-Shirts – \$2000, estimated cost \$10 each shirt for 200-250 participants

Bags – \$1000, estimated costs \$5 each for 200-250 participants

Towels – \$2400, estimated costs \$12 each for 200-250 participants

Water Bottles - \$500, estimated \$2.50 each one for 200-250 participants

We will also need other smaller items for the welcome bags and any donation will be welcomed

Assembly:

Delegates Reception – \$3500 to cover the food for the delegate’s reception at Post Card Inn Thursday May 21 for the delegates participating in the assembly.

Breakfast for Delegates - \$500 to cover food for the delegates, we are also looking for some to help make choreg for the delegates

Saturday’s Events:

Volleyball Tournament – \$650 to cover the cost of refs and drinks for the athletes.

Pour Room Rental - \$1000 to cover the room rental fee for the night event

Dinner - \$1500 to cover the cost of food to provide to the participants at Pour

Transportation - \$1000 to cover the cost of transportation from the hotel to downtown St. Pete

Sunday’s Events:

Coffee Hour - \$1500 to provide lunch to participants and the St. Hagop Community

Music - \$7500 to cover the cost of the entertainers, transportation, lodging and equipment rental.

Bar - \$2500 to cover the servers, bartenders and drinks

Mezze - \$3000 to cover the cost of food for an estimated 300 people

Transportation - \$2000 to cover the cost of all day Sunday to and from St Hagop.

St. Hagop Armenian Church Bazaar

GOOD MEMORIES



Join us for an afternoon of Authentic Armenian Food, Vendors, Games, and More!



SAVE THE DATE
02.23.20

1pm-4pm

7020 90th Ave, Pinellas Park, FL 33782

Contact Diane Oganosova for further information at

727.331.0204.

SHANASARIAN HALL REPORT by Chrisanne Jensen/Event Coordinator

We have much to look forward to in 2020 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.



In Memory of Jacques Kojian: Noted Musician & Father of Houri & Haig Kojian



Our dad is Jacques Kojian and we carry his name with pride. He dedicated his life to bringing joy to the people around the world through his music. Born in Lebanon in the 30s, the eldest of 5, he emerged as a young pianist to help support his family. What began from necessity, immediately turned into a passion.

The teachings of Professor Cheskinoff carried with him. He formed alliances and collaborated with local artists, such as Feiruz, Rahbani brothers and Farid al-Atrash; he made significant contributions to the modern Armenian folk music (often referred to as ‘estradayin’) in the diaspora; he accompanied and wrote arrangements for all the great singers of the generation, such as Adiss, Manuel, Paul, Karnig, Hovig, Harout and others; he travelled extensively and performed in various countries in the Middle East, Europe, as well as the Americas, Australia, and Armenia; the most famous of his compositions is “Vertchin Giragin”

(The last Sunday), which was recorded by several different singers.

In 1968, he married Maritsa Hamalian in Saint Hripsime Church in candle light. The wedding was the first of its kind in Armenia and was blessed by Catholicos Vazgen I. The soon to be couple were also the first to be invited to enter the ‘veharan’ at Etchmiadzin Church where his Holiness greeted them and their guests, blessed them, and served them ‘orhnevadz’ Armenian grapes.

Our dad was a pioneer in many ways and had the thrust to live life to the fullest. He was loved by all and an entertainer at heart. He was kind, loyal, and giving and which are all the virtues we try to live up to every day.

Jacques Kojian is survived by his wife Maritsa, his daughter Houri, his son Haig and grandchildren Alina, Audric, Alexa & Leira. He leaves his brother Mihran and sisters Adelle, Elizabeth and Sossi, along with their families. We will all miss him dearly.

-Houri & Haig Kojian

Join The Flower Guild

St. Hagop has formed a Flower Guild! Parishioners-men and women, are invited to join us to learn how to arrange flowers for Sunday services. Please contact lyardumian@icloud.com for the next workshop or to learn more information about this exciting venture!

WEEKLY FLOWER DEDICATIONS



Parishioners, you have the opportunity to request flowers for loved ones on a specific Sunday during the year. With AT LEAST TWO WEEKS ADVANCE NOTICE, a message will appear in the Sunday bulletin stating who has given the flowers and for what occasion (birthday, anniversary, memorial, etc. The donation for flowers is \$35 (or more). Send requests to Louise at lyardumian@icloud.com.

2020 Stewardship Pledge Updated on 12/20/19

So far we have been blessed with **68** pledges totaling **\$110,405** for 2020! 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 2020, it is not too late!

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 2020 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 24, 2019. No payment need accompany this form. We ask that 2020 pledge monies be paid by the end of the 2020 calendar year. Payments may be made online through the St. Hagop website.

May the Lord Remember All Your Offerings
Յիշուցի՛ Տէր զամենայն նոյնարարութեան ին

ST. HAGOP
ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՊՈՍՏՈՒՆԱԿԱՆ ԵՔԿԵՍԻԱՆ ԵՒ ԳԵՂԱՐՄԱՆ ԵՊԻՍԿՈՒՊՈՍՏՈՍ

Stewardship Pledge Card

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to St. Hagop! Those who have submitted a pledge by 12/20/19 to support St. Hagop are identified below.

Richard & Diana Aginian, George & Joan Agnacion, John & Susan Arsenault, Gloria, Lee & Michael Atayan, Grace Austin, Chuck & Lisa Begian, Zara & Harris Babayan Boyiadzis, Patrick & Gail Compton, Fr. Hovnan & Yn. Anna Demerjian, Jean-Jacques & Hasmig Demerjian, John & Bernadette Derderian, Araxi Dulgeroff, Leilani Doty, Art & Adrienne Ekizian, Greg & Alysia Ekizian, Martha-Anne Garabedian, Richard & Pauline Gilgan, Adrienne Guendjoian, Teresa Haidarian, Gregory & Gina Hagopian, Berge & Tamar Hajian, Tom Hally, Mary Haydostian, Greg & Stephanie Hovsepien, Shirak & Johanna Hovsepien, Richard & Christina Kachadurian, George & Debra Kamajian, Sam & Beatrice Kapreilian, Harry & Beverly Karim, Florence Kazanjian, Hannelore Keshishian, Harout & Lucy Keshishian, Garbis & Mari Kesisoglu, Richard & Marge Kratlian, Chau Luong, Hratch & Arshalous Manoukian, Mallory Maslar, Christine Martin, Vazken & Maggie Melkisetian, John & Virginia Messerlian, Vaskens & Karen Minassian, Robert Mirak, Agop & Victoria Mourad, Bejan & Rebekah Nouri, Mirella Ovanesian, Joseph & Elisabeth Raicsics, Annette Ross, Chris & Nicholas Sagherian, Martha Samuelian, Tanya Sarafian, Vahak & Elizabeth Sarkis, Chuck & Kathy Sarkisian, Chris & Carol Sassouni, Yates & Lexy Sayers, Stepan & Seta Serpekian, Stephan Shahinian, Eddy & Maggie Shahnasarian, Michele Shahnasarian, Michael & Jean Shahnasarian, Norair & Maro Shaldjian, John & Kelly Shamsey, Robert & Christina Shamsey, Daniel & Norma Takoushian, Denise, Matthieu & Antoine vanVeen, Tigran & Lucine Vartazarian, Terry & Carolyn Waidley, Charles Walker, James & Cathy Wilson, Haig Yaghoobian, Haig & Louise Yardumian.

Office Hours: 9 am-5 pm Monday - Friday

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

Sunday School Hours: Sunday 11:00am – 12:30pm

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

Contact Information

7020 90th Ave. North
Pinellas Park, FL 33782
P: 727-545-0380
E-mail: office@stthagopfl.org
www.stthagopfl.org

Newsletter Team:

Editor

The Rev. Fr. Hovnan Demerjian

Managing Editor

Chrisanne Jensen

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
April /May/June 2020	March 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.

Rates are per issue:
\$50 for a business card,
\$150 for a half page and \$300 for a full page

Parish Council

President
Rev. Fr. Hovnan Demerjian
727-545-0380
fr.hovnan@stthagopfl.org

Co-Chair
Louise Yardumian
727-576-0380
lyardumian@icloud.com

Co-Chair
Mallory Maslar
727-481-3271
mallorymaslar@gmail.com

Treasurer
David Kazarian
727-507-9222
david@infuserveamerica.com

Secretary-Recording
Grace Austin
813-294-2531
Austin.l.grace@gmail.com

Members

Andrew Anusbigian
727-787-8072
andyanusbigian@yahoo.com

John Arsenault
508-254-3066
johnbhco@aol.com

Hayley Hovhanessian
860-690-0164
hayhov711@aol.com

Dr. George Kamajian
727-595-0780
pilafporeeg@tampabay.rr.com

Rita Keshishian
(516) 872-6631
rita_keshishian@hotmail.com

Organizations

ACYOA Seniors
Nazley Beducian Wilson
Nazley.wilson@gmail.com

ACYOA Juniors
Hayley Hovhanessian
Hayhov711@aol.com

Sunday School
Linda Maslar
SundaySchool@stthagopfl.org

Women's Guild
Chair – Debra Kamajian
jagd@tampabay.rr.com
Vice-Chair – Karen Minassian
Karen@Homeserviceinteriors.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*****Divine Liturgy takes place every Sunday from 10:30-12:30 unless noted below.***

Sunday School takes place every Sunday starting at 11am.

Fellowship in Shahnasarian Hall to follow immediately after service

Sun. Jan. 5th	Divine Liturgy/Armenian Christmas Eve Special Armenian Christmas Eve Meal in Shahnasarian Hall	5:00 PM 6:30 PM
Mon. Jan. 6th	Armenian Christmas - No Services- Church open for prayers	9AM-5PM
Sun. Jan. 12th	Divine Liturgy/ Armenian Christmas (Observed) Blessing of the Water Special Fellowship	10:30 M 12:15 PM 12:30 PM
Tues. Jan. 14th	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 19th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Fri. Jan. 24th	An Evening of Fellowship & Conversation with Bishop Daniel	6:30 PM
Sun. Jan 26th	Episcopal Divine Liturgy & Altar Server Ordinations with Bp. Daniel Special After Church Fellowship with Bishop	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Sun. Feb. 2nd	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. Feb. 9th	Divine Liturgy Annual Parish Assembly	10:30 AM 12:30 PM
Tues. Feb. 11th	Parish Council Meeting	6:30 PM
Sun. Feb. 16th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. Feb. 23rd	Divine Liturgy- Poon Paregentan/Day of Good Living Annual Armenian Church Bazaar	10:30 AM 1PM-4PM
Mon. Feb. 24th	Great Lent Begins	
Sun. March 1st	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. March 8th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Tues. March 10th	Parish Council Meeting	6:30 PM
Sun. March 15th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. March 22nd	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Sun. March 29th	Divine Liturgy Classical Musical Performance By Haig Yaghoobian & Friends	10:30 AM 1-2:30 PM
Sun. April 5th	Divine Liturgy – Palm Sunday Special Fellowship by ACYOA	10:30 PM 12:30 PM
Thurs. April 9th	Washing of the Feet/Votnlva Service Vigil/Khavaroom Service	7:00 PM 8:00 PM
Fri. April 10th	Burial Service (Good Friday)	7:00 PM
Sat. April 11th	Easter Eve/Jragalooys Divine Liturgy	7:00 PM
Sun. April 12th	Divine Liturgy-Easter Sunday Special Fellowship in Hall/Easter Egg Hunt	10:30 PM 12:30 PM
Tues. April 14th	Parish Council Meeting	6:30 PM
Sun. April 19th	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
Fri. April 24th	Genocide Commemoration in Shahnasarian Hall	TBD

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)



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAMPA, FL
PERMIT NO.180

7020 90th Avenue North, Pinellas Park, Florida 33782
727-545-0380 | office@stthagopfl.org | www.stthagopfl.org