

# AVEDIS

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St. Hagop Armenian Church

The Good News | October/November/December 2020

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## Behold I Will Do A New Thing



### Behold I Will Do A New Thing



These past months, the normal frustration of church leadership have been amplified by the frustration of Covid-19 and left me a bit disheartened. I've spent hours on a high-level church committee, but we aren't going anywhere fast and I'm not sure anyone is listening to me. The work I have done, doesn't seem to be appreciated. And as usual there are the annoyances of things not working right. The freezer is dripping, the toilets are leaking and there is algae and garbage in our retention pond. Did I miss these classes in seminary? And of course on top of this all, the coronavirus has tied one hand behind my back in any effort to do anything in the church. Suffice to say, I have tended to feel a bit sorry for myself this summer. Then our Sunday readings reminded me of Paul's great struggles in Christian leadership which gave me some perspective. Paul was beaten, stoned, shipwrecked and imprisoned for his efforts in church leadership. Eventually he was beheaded. Ok, so maybe I don't have it so bad. I don't mind fixing toilets. I probably need to grow some thicker skin. And if nobody listens to me, maybe it is for good reason!

So I admit I am a Christian snowflake. I think we all are compared to Paul, and certainly to Jesus. Yet, in my capacity as a priest and from personal experience, I know that many of us also endure real bone-crushing sorrows-akin to Paul's-that we often hide from others. The painful tearing apart of divorce. An unexpected cancer diagnosis just as someone is set to retire. A wayward child. Losing a job and sinking in debt. The mental prison of loneliness and depression. As a pastor I know that this pain and loss is all around us-all the time. And in this isolating season of coronavirus, our troubles are doubles. Not only do you get a bad cancer diagnosis, but your friends and family can't come anywhere near you.

But regardless if you are suffering from life-threatening persecution as Paul did, life threatening illness as many are, or just the everyday struggle of the demands and disappointments of life, the questions we ask are always the same. Where are you God in this? Why do you let this happen to me? Why do you feel so distant? These questions of suffering and pain are the questions of human life, and there are no easy answers. But there is an answer, and it is found in our Bibles and in our liturgy, through the living, healing Word of God. I could pick dozens of scriptures here, but one of my favorite of God's hope-filled answers to suffering comes from the mouth of his prophet Isaiah:

*Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you...Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Is 43:1-3,18*

In a particularly tough week this past month, I was groping in the dark for God and heard this passage in a podcast. It spoke to my heart. It reminded me not to rely on my own efforts and remember to whom I belong. I shared it with many of our faithful, and I think it spoke to theirs. And in just this way, God's word becomes a light overcoming the darkness of our own hearts, and a beacon of hope when in turned shared with others. Isaiah's words inspired my zoom conversations with our young professionals, who also have felt the isolation and despondency caused by coronavirus. For the first time for people our age, one said, coronavirus made us feel as if we weren't in control of our lives, we weren't invincible. But by the end of our conversation, each shared a new, better thing God might be doing through this time of trial; manifesting Isaiah's words, "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" I also prayed this text with a member of our community who recently received an awful health diagnosis. And though I cannot fully understand and find adequate words to console his suffering, I know God's words can: 'When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you...'

Dear faithful in Christ, let us remember what Isaiah and Paul knew. That we have a God who-as one Christian said 'instructs the heart not through ideas, but through suffering.' We know the secret of life, and certainly the Christian life, that all deepened life is deepened suffering, because it pushes us beyond ourselves into something that we only might become with God. And most importantly, we know the one-Our Lord Jesus Christ -who through his beautiful life and death on the cross-redempted suffering and death, turning a dead end into the Way to know God, now and always; amen.

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## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT by Louise Yardumian, PC Chair

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“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10

There has been much fear during the past several months - Coronavirus, killings, hurricanes, fires, lack of income, businesses closing, etc. The necessity of being quarantined at times certainly has not made any of this easy. But we are believers, and know that God is always with us, in good times and difficult times, to strengthen, help and comfort us. We must be strong and of good courage and carry on, with God’s help.

Our Parish Council continues to meet virtually or in person, socially distant and gatherings on the Diocesan level have also been taking place. I thank our PC members for the hard work they are doing to make sure that we continue to keep our church alive and well. We thank you for the support you are giving in different ways, also.

The Diocesan Council virtually brought Clergy and Parish Council Chairpersons together for a meeting earlier this month, concerning the physical state of the Cathedral and Diocesan Complex. There are varying degrees of problems which must be addressed; the order, depending on the importance. This plan will be done in three stages, over the next several years. Funds will be necessary to cover the costs.

A virtual, condensed Diocesan Assembly was held Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Daniel Srrpazan spoke about The Body of Christ, and how we are called to come together to organize the church. “When we come together” he said, “we are able to grasp the body which is much greater than us. Then we are able to make it possible to do God’s will, which is the mission of the church.” He said, “This should be our focus in this Diocese, to build up the Body of Christ. Every aspect needs to strengthen our church so it can become the Body of Christ; working together, individually, or in groups, every one of us work together, to constitute the Body of Christ. It is imperative of every member of this gathering, see that we are part of this, in our own lives, and convert the way we live, day by day, through prayer, looking out for others. The pandemic has made us exercise what we should be doing.” We must have courage to make changes and he gave five objectives which would help us. VEMKAR, a publication which comes out weekly online, is a great tool to teach us, encourage us and give us tools to help us learn and understand how to go out and do the work of God. We should all work and pray together to accomplish these goals. Surpazan Daniel’s presentation was very uplifting and encouraging.

In the afternoon, we had a wonderful session about VEMKAR, getting into the details of how to use this online tool for learning for young and old, toward the mutual building of the Body of Christ. Please read it weekly. Supporting our parishes, as well as the Diocese were points strongly encouraged. Together, with all Christians, praying and working together, so much can be done to bring us together and accomplish our goals. Financially, the Diocese has had to furlough some staff, and cut salaries of others. Ways of raising money are being assessed and implemented to alleviate these problems. We were all encouraged to support our Diocese and our church during these difficult times, as able. Please prayerfully consider making your donations to the church and to the Diocese.

We, here at St. Hagop, have returned to carefully holding open services, but with restrictions. Communion is now being carefully administered. (How wonderful it is!) If you are still unable to attend church in person, please watch our services on Facebook or You Tube. Call the church office if you have any questions about how to see either of these presentations.

In closing, recently I was amazed and delighted to find my baptismal dress, candles and a nshkhar from my baptism, tucked away in a cedar chest. These were in a decoupage box which my mother made. On the top of the box was something I would like to share with you:

“Let there be Peace throughout the world + Let all share in men’s good +  
Let man walk side by side with man + In Love and Brotherhood.

May God continue to bless us all.

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## Godspeed, Hambardumyan Family!

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It seems like just yesterday, that Bishop Daniel assigned Dn. Albert to Fr. Hovnan and St. Hagop Church as a pastoral intern and that we welcomed Albert and Silva with open arms into our community on the Feast of the Assumption and blessing of Grapes, August 18, 2019.

Joined now by their son Mikayel, Dn. Albert and Silva have much to offer the Armenian Church and the St. John Armenian Church community of Greenfield, WI, where they have been assigned to serve.

We are thankful to Dn. Albert for leading our young altar servers to grow in their service to the church. We thank him for offering his beautiful voice on Sundays, along with thoughtful and inspirational Sunday messages. We also thank Silva for her semester of Armenian language lessons.

Dn. Albert and Silva's stay was also a chance for Der Hovnan, Yn. Anna and our entire community to take on an important ministry—to help support and nurture the future ministry of a young family who joins our Diocese from Jerusalem and Armenia. Special thanks to Vasken & Karen Minassian for the use of their car for a year, Eddie Kaprielian for donating a rental car for one month, David Kazarian for help with medical insurance, and all those who supported our pastoral intern and his family with baby shower gifts and generous hospitality.

We had a terrific send off for Dn. Albert on the Feast of Exaltation of the Cross on Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup>, thanks to Rita Keshishian for skillfully organizing this event and all of you who helped make it a special day.

We will of course stay in touch and expect to hear much good news from the Hambardzumyans-so we do not say goodbye-but farewell until we meet again!

Օրհնեալք եղերուք ի շնորհաց Սուրբ Հոգւոյն:

Երթալք խաղաղութամբ եւ Տէր եղիցի ընդ ձեզ ընդ ամենեստանդ:

Be blessed by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Depart in peace and may the Lord Jesus be with you always. Amen.



## Sunday School @ Home

Dear Sunday School Parents & Grandparents,

Heartfelt greetings to all of our young families at St. Hagop! First off, we pray for God's protection and care on all of you in this trying year.

Taking into account the many disruptions and stresses on our families, and continued concerns about classroom gathering, Fr. Hovnan and our Sunday School team have come to the following decisions:

- We **will** not hold Sunday School in our classrooms this Fall Semester, but aim to reopen after New Years
- We **will** help you do church @ home with a free subscription to Manushag magazine, and periodic short videos from our teachers
- We **will** encourage you to come to worship as a family as soon as you are comfortable, and/or join us online every Sunday

As with many things in this season of trial, we pray that God will use this time of disruption to grow us closer to Him and each other by His Grace! Please let us know if you have input or questions about the semester ahead, we will be in touch with further communications.

Linda Maslar & Fr. Hovnan  
[sundayschool@sthagopfl.org](mailto:sundayschool@sthagopfl.org)



### Free Manushag Subscription

Visit <https://manushag.org/subscribe> to sign up for a free one year subscription to Manushag magazine-sent to your home courtesy of the St. Hagop Sunday School Request coupon code from Fr. Hovnan. One free issue per family.

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## Daron Nouri Completes His Boy Scout Ararat Award at St. Hagop

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### **Parev St. Hagop Community,**

It has been a privilege this past year working towards my Ararat Award for the Boy Scouts of America. I have mixed emotions as it is coming to an end. I have enjoyed being active in the church community, especially helping with the bazar and witnessing the Feast of the Cross. I wish I could have been even more involved, but with the current pandemic it was challenging. Meeting new people and learning more about my Armenian heritage has been extremely special to me. By interviewing Fr. Hovnan and my uncle, John Shamsey, I learned some very interesting facts from them.

As well as growing in the church community I have also grown spiritually. Fr. Hovnan and Dn. Albert have led me on an amazing spiritual journey as I have grown and learned more about baptism, communion, saints, and feasts. I enjoyed taking prayers, such as the Prayer of John Chrysostom, and writing my own variation of them. One of my favorite parts was studying the Nicene Creed with Fr. Hovnan and Dn. Albert. I appreciated attempting to write Psalms and learning about saints, including St. Sarkis the Warrior.

I will continue to stay active in the church and I hope to eventually meet each of you. I know these surprising events in our country have made things very different, difficult, and even a bit scary, but we must remember who is in charge, and that is Jesus Christ our King. A big thank you to Fr. Hovnan and Dn. Albert for blessing me with this opportunity and helping to guide me through this journey.

Thank you,

Daron Antranig Nouri

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## WOMEN'S GUILD UPDATE by Debbie Kamajian

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Due to Covid and the inability for some of our women to get together at this time, the Women's Guild would like to extend our prayers and comfort to those who feel these times will never end.

Be assured that they will end and we will all be able to resume comfortably.

Some of us do plan on starting a small coffee hour as soon as possible with restricted and safe guidelines so you will feel comfortable enough to join us after church.

If anyone has any further questions you may contact Debra Kamajian at (727)735-1929.

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**BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST ✝**

# VEMKAR.US

Visit [vemkar.us](https://vemkar.us) loaded with new resources for Armenian Christian formation.

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## EVENT COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Church Beautification & Picnic-Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup>

*In Celebration of St. Hagop's 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



This year is the 13th Anniversary of St. Hagop's Consecration, and we will be commemorating it in a special way! You are invited to join us for a St. Hagop clean up and beautification project on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am-12:30pm. This will be an outside-only service event to help beautify the church grounds. We will provide a delicious pre-packed lunch and drinks, and will observe social distancing rules. Volunteers will be asked to bring their own gloves and lawn chair, and should RSVP to Event Coordinators Leon and Sharon Sarkisian at 727-580-6363/727-432-8051 or [leonssarkisian@gmail.com](mailto:leonssarkisian@gmail.com) by October 13th.

We look forward to seeing you on this special day!  
All ages welcome!



The ACYOA will hold their annual Bishop's 5K Run/Walk on Sat., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>—but this year with a 'virtual' twist. Participants can run or walk the 5 kilometers at a time and place that suits them, after first registering for the race. There is also an option to fundraise to support ACYOA ministries. Bishop Daniel Findikyan will also take part. Click <https://raceforum.com/bishop5k> to register. Email Mallory with any questions [mallorymaslar@gmail.com](mailto:mallorymaslar@gmail.com).





## **SAVE THE DATE**

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

**St. Hagop Advent Dinner**

6:30pm at The Shahnasarian Hall

**Join your St. Hagop Family for The Annual Candlelight Advent Dinner**

This will be a Potluck style dinner. Please look out for the sign-up sheet in church in early November

Don't forget to bring a friend and/or your neighbor too!  
Come and nourish your body and soul to start off the Advent Season!

# Gratitude

- To Vasken & Karen Minassian & Ed Kapreilian for providing a car for the use of our intern
- To Andy Anusbigian & John Rhoads for spending Saturdays maintaining the church grounds.
- To John Arsenault for his maintenance work around the church and hall
- To Mark Keshishian for his work to set up the audio for our in-house and online services.
- To Ara Keshishian for replacing our mailbox, securing our cross monument and video camera.
- To Chris Sagherian and Bobby Maslar for hours of dedicated planning and hard work installing a cabinet, countertop and below counter storage in the vestry
- To Ryan Cornwell at Infuserve America (& David K.) for helping us with finance paperwork
- To Sason, Patricia & Armen Demirjian for installing video cameras in the church and hall
- To Oscar Picon (& David K.) for installing a new sanitary faucet in our church men's room
- To Pierre Abadjian & Haig Yaghoobian for filling in on organ while Louise was away
- To Bobby Maslar for his weekly service to maintain our sanctuary

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## SHANASARIAN HALL REPORT by Chrisanne Jensen/Event Coordinator

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We have much to look forward to in 2021 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.



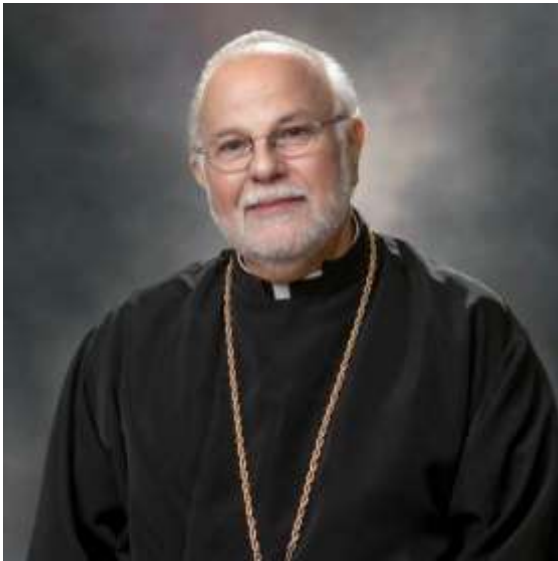
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## Christian Stewardship: A way of life by Fr. Garabed Kochakian

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**Note:** The transition from dues membership to pledge stewardship, following St. Hagop's model, continues across the Diocese. We thank Michael Shahnasarian for his diligent work on the Diocesan stewardship transition committee. Our example has even had a positive influence on the largest parish in our Diocese, St. John's Armenian Church in Detroit! Long-time retired pastor of St. John's and friend of St. Hagop, Fr. Garabed Kochakian, wrote this wonderful piece on stewardship for St. John's Torchbearer, he has allowed us to share it here for our edification.

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When asked which commandments were the most important, Jesus answered clearly, first *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.* And secondly, *Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.* [Mk 12: 3-31] This second of the new commandments is about sharing and caring; not only about our possessions but more importantly about watching out for each other. This is what Christian Stewardship is. i.e., taking care of what God has given to us- all of it!

### **What is Stewardship**

The clearest definition of being a Steward and carrying out Stewardship simply means to *take care of*. In Armenian the words for Steward/Stewardship [Dundes/Dundesootiun] are rooted in the word "House," Տնւ [Doon]. We are the keepers and watchers of the many houses that God has given to us. One Sunday of Great Lent is dedicated to the Steward and Stewardship. It would do well to read

the Gospel lection from Luke 16:1ff wherein Jesus told his disciples a parable or story about a Steward and Stewardship. Interestingly in this narrative, Jesus points out that the people of this world need to be a bit shrewd and sometimes crafty in dealing with their own kind. However, we-as Christians, *the people of the light, God's children* should be even more concerned not just for things that ours alone, but for all things, all people. We need to be aware that all the things- material and spiritual - with which God has graced us, we need to watch out for, watch over and care for and manage well. Psalm 24:1 states *The earth is the LORD's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.* These things, the Universe, the Earth, the nations, our homes, neighborhoods, streets, our Church, our souls as Jesus tells us are the houses we are called to be caretakers, managers and Stewards for. - But, most importantly we are to be Stewards for and of each other. This is our Christian duty par excellence! To be our brothers' and sisters' keepers. And it begins here in the Church, where *the people of light* gather.

### **A new roadmap and new way to define who we are:**

Recently St. John's parish along with five other Diocesan parishes has been asked to be part of a new pilot [test] program established by our Primate and Diocesan leadership. For many years it was understood that to belong to our parish one had to be a *member*. Decades ago, during the time the Primate Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan, in 1953 that the Diocesan Bylaws that govern us were ratified by the Catholicos of All Armenians. It was then that this terminology, *to be a member in good standing* came to be officially used as a way to define who belonged to the Armenian Church especially with one's financial support and care for the Christian works and life of a parish community. At that time a designated modest amount called *dues* made it possible for one, to vote, have a say so in how things in the 'house of God' should be done, and to serve God and the community in particular ways. Though this was a good beginning to raise awareness of Christian duty and responsibility, it gave an incorrect message.

### **We Pray to belong not Pay to belong**

To belong to the Armenian Church was then and is now through the sacramental grace of Baptism. Everyone who is Baptized, Chrismated and subscribes to the teaching of the Armenian Orthodox Church is not only a member but more importantly a Steward of the house, of God. It is through one's Time Talent and the Treasure of financial support, and of mutual love, concern, and care for one another that defines who we are as Stewards of the Armenian Church and St. John's parish. Saint Paul tells us that to be a member of the Body of Christ, and to become a Steward of our CHURCH

and our beloved calls us to be a Caretaker, A Shaker and a Maker; helping the Pastor and parish leadership and getting involved through time we give, talents we share, ideas and wisdom we have, to bring us to God, to the gates of Heaven.

### **Our new roadway for our Church and parish**

The New Program when it is officially sanctioned will mean, that as Stewards, no longer our membership in the Body of Christ, the Holy Church will be understood through financial donations only, but more importantly through what in many other ways we can offer; serving, leading, singing, teaching, advising, guiding, mentoring however one can, enabling us as Christ calls us to, be, our brothers' and sisters' keepers. Already here at St. John's and in the other pilot parishes, the new Stewardship Program is flourishing. Eventually after His Holiness the Catholicos approves of it, our Diocesan Bylaws will be adjusted to include this new way of naming who we are as Caretakers for the Body of Christ. STEWARDSHIP, opens the doors and roadways for all to God's Kingdom helping us better understand Stewardship makes a difference in life of the community for all. Moving us forward, this significant step truly echoes the words of the final prayer of our Baptism to be *recorded in the Book of Life* before God forever.

### **A Legacy left to us we give for tomorrow**

Throughout our Armenian Christian History, the Stewards and Stewardship has been the core, the links, the threads of our Christian life, through the Saints, the Martyrs, the Confessors and Witnesses of the Faith; all who took care of, you, me, and each other and the Church. St Paul, St. Gregory the Illuminator of Armenia, St. Mesrob who created the Armenian alphabet, St. Vartan and his army who were defended the Faith, were all Stewards of Christ's people and THE ARMENIAN CHURCH. The present leaders, Catholicoi and Patriarchs of the Armenian Church, our former pastors, and today Hayr Aren, Der Armash, our Parish leadership are all the Caretakers, The Shakers, the Makers of the 2000 + yr old legacy of Faith left to us. They are Stewards, Good Managers, watching over, watching out for the House, the Doon and the Treasure the Apostles SS Thaddeus and Bartholomew had established in Armenia. All are GOOD and HONORABLE STEWARDS; not like the one in the Parable Jesus told us, who didn't manage well.

Today with the Coronavirus/ Covid-19, beset upon us like a new world war without weapons, we have become ever so more aware of our responsibility to be GOOD Managers and Stewards of our houses and homes of the world of each other. We love our neighbors as ourselves and care for one another, heed and listen to all the guidance given to us even if it interrupts our lives the way we are accustomed to live for a while. This is what Good Stewards do, making whole what God has given to us. In the same way we take care of our Church, our parish, our community with our Time, our Talent and yes our Treasure however you are moved to offer.

### **Consider this**

When our races on this on this planet Earth- our temporary abode- is completed, when our time to be lifted up to heaven comes, it is hope to hear Jesus say to us, *Well done Good and Faithful Servant, Steward of My Church, Come back to me, and enter into the Joy of Your Master.*

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## **Request for Literary Submissions**

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Dr George Kamajian is inviting submissions for his new on-line magazine, ***Sayat Nova Today***.

Prose and poetry are welcome from all ages. The subject matter does not have to be Armenian. Previously published works are eligible.

Please submit via email to [pilafporeeg@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:pilafporeeg@tampabay.rr.com). Thank you in advance for your submissions!

# PLEDGE STEWARDSHIP-Wrapping Up 2020 and Looking Ahead to a New Pledge Year

**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 2021 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Stewardship Pledge Card**

Please mail this pledge card to the church office, or bring to offering plate by Stewardship Sunday—November 29, 2020. No payment need accompany this form. We ask that 2021 pledge monies be paid by the end of the 2021 calendar year. Payments may be made online through the St. Hagop website.

May the Lord Remember All Your Offerings  
Յիւրազ: Տէր զմեզնի Գնանքսը Ին



**September 21, 2020**

Dear St. Hagop Faithful,

St. Hagop's transition from a dues membership system to a stewardship system is four years old, and thanks to your ongoing support, our system has become a model that is emulated throughout our entire Diocese! Under the stewardship system, parishioners pledge from their hearts a gift in synch with their blessings and means, and are not imposed a due to become a church member.

Looking back on 2020, our parishioners again rose to the occasion in supporting this faith-forward way of giving. To date, **107 pledges** have been made totaling **\$157,605!** With the Fall season upon us and looking forward to 2021, we are planning events for our 2021 stewardship campaign. Pledge Sunday is November 29, 2020, and you will be receiving a letter and pledge card for 2020 in early-November.

As you prayerfully complete your pledge for 2020 and contemplate your 2021 stewardship, we invite you to reflect on Proverbs 18:16; which reminds us that *"A gift opens the way for the giver."* We hope you will also reflect on St. Hagop's essential ministries, printed and sent in previous years and always available on our website at [www.sthagopfl.org/ministries](http://www.sthagopfl.org/ministries), to discern how God might bless and multiply the time and talent you offer in service of His church.

Of course, feel free to direct any questions to us. We thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our Lord's work, and for enabling us to pursue our church's vision statement: To continuously evolve as the bedrock of the Tampa Bay Armenian Christian community, perpetuating our Armenian Christian faith and heritage.

In Faith,

Michael Shahnasarian, Ph.D.  
Stewardship Chairman

Der Hovnan Demerjian  
Pastor, St. Hagop Armenian Church

**Office Hours:** 9 am-5 pm Monday - Friday

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

**Sunday School Hours:** Sunday 11:00am – 12:30pm (Closed Fall Semester)

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

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[www.stthagopfl.org](http://www.stthagopfl.org)

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**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
January/February/March 2021	December 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](mailto: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**

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Vice-Chair – Karen Minassian  
[Karen@Homeserviceinteriors.com](mailto:Karen@Homeserviceinteriors.com)

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

<b>Sat. Oct. 3rd</b>	ACYOA's Annual Bishop's 5K Run/Walk	
<b>Sun. Oct. 4th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Sun. Oct. 11th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Tues. Oct. 13th</b>	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
<b>Sat. Oct. 17th</b>	Church Beautification & Picnic Celebrating St. Hagop's 13 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	10:30 AM- 12:30 PM
<b>Sun. Oct. 18th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Sun. Oct. 25th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Sun. Nov. 1st</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Sun. Nov. 8th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Tues. Nov. 10th</b>	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
<b>Sun. Nov. 15th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Sun. Nov. 22nd</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Sun. Nov. 29th</b>	Divine Liturgy – Stewardship Pledge Sunday	10:30 AM
<b>Wed. Dec. 2nd</b>	Advent Candlelight Dinner	6:30 PM
<b>Sun. Dec. 6th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Tues. Dec. 8th</b>	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
<b>Sun. Dec. 13th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Tue. Dec. 15th</b>	Avedis Newsletter Submission Deadline	
<b>Sun. Dec. 20th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Dec. 24th- 25th</b>	Christmas Eve Christmas Day /Office Closed	
<b>Sun. Dec. 27th</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Wed. Jan. 1st</b>	New Year's Day/Office Closed	
<b>Sun. Jan. 3rd</b>	Divine Liturgy	10:30 AM
<b>Tue. Jan 5th</b>	Divine Liturgy/Armenian Christmas Eve	6:30 PM
<b>Sun. Jan. 10th</b>	Divine Liturgy Blessing of Waters (Theophany Observed)	10:30 AM 12:00 PM
<b>Tues. Jan. 12th</b>	Parish Council Meeting	6:00 PM
<b>Sun. Feb. 14th</b>	Annual Parish Assembly	12:00PM



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