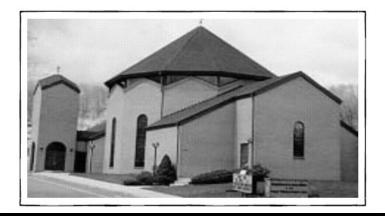


March 2015

Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection 1910 Stanley Street - New Britain, CT, 06053 Rev. Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian, Pastor



Church Directory

Rev. Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian - Pastor

Phone/Fax: (860) 223-7875 1910 Stanley Street - New Britain, CT 06053

Parish Council

Gary Hovhanessian
Arthur Simonian Jr.
David Abrahamian
Sarkis Kalfayan
Matthew Cannata
Charles Hovsepian
Gail Onanian

Chairman
Vice - Chairman
Treasurer
Asst. Treasurer
Rec. Secretary
Advisor
Advisor

Parish Council Emeritus

John Maljanian Sr. Executive Director

Diocesan Delegate

Adrienne Damian

Cemetery Custodians

Peter Bagdigian Emil Mosey, Assistant

Looys Staff

Reverend Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian Matthew Cannata Emil Mosey

Sunday School

Roxie Maljanian Superintendent

ACYOA Jrs.

Mary Connors Gary Hovhanessian

Breakfast Club

Sylvia Simonian Chair

Choir

Adrienne Damian
Yn. Patricia Buttero
Susan Sagherian

Director
Asst. Director
Organist

Hye Angels

Shannon Bagdigian Chair

Sandwich Fund

Henrietta Kallajian Chair

Seniors Coordinators

Queenie Hovhanessian **Chair** Yn. Patricia Buttero Gail Onanian

Sons and Daughters

John Paul Abrahamian

Women's Guild

Adrienne Damian Chair



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Faithful,

Perhaps we shared some similar thoughts prior Sunday, February 15.

We thought it was going to be the last Sunday prior to Great Lent to receive Holy Communion. We assumed being able to enjoy the afternoon with the Sunday School Tea Cup Auction for our Day of Great Living (Poon Paregentan). We were wrong; none of these events took place.

We then, conceivably shared some thoughts prior to Sunday, February 22.

Perhaps they centered around getting back to church, getting reacquainted with the Lenten theme of the Sanctuary with a closed curtain, having the children resume Sunday School, seeing friends, finding out who won the Men's Club drawing and enjoying Fellowship after church. We were wrong again; none of these events happened.

For two consecutive weeks, the forces of winter deprived us of community worship and gathering. For two consecutive weeks, we... you, were unable to look at a closed curtain being "hearers of the Word" (Gospel, Liturgy etc.) as were people centuries ago, who were limited in their participation in liturgy prior to baptism.

They could only stand outside the church doors and hear the service, not partake by being inside, by sight, sense of smell or by receiving Holy Sacrament. In short, they missed out on receiving 'holiness' and true self-examination in front of our Lord.

For two weeks we learned that we could control only so much. We learned that while we can't control the weather, we can control our path once the storms of life and nature break up.

The time of Great Lent is a time of organization, preparation and potentially action time for all of us to see fit and gauge our ability to better our lives when we're renewed with Christ on Holy Easter as we celebrate His Glorious and Triumphant Resurrection.

Pastor's Message Ctd...

I encourage you not to make the mistake I made so many times in my youth, by seeing the closed curtain during church as "boring" because we can't view the liturgy. Rather use the closed curtain to see inside your heart.

How have you faired with family relationships and friends? How, and what portion do you give back to the church what God has freely given to you? Are you encouraging loved ones to come to church and to have a personal relationship with God?

Can you, and are you willing to be like so many products on the store shelves, being proclaimed "New and Improved?"

Join me and others in seeing Lent for what it truly is... a time out from our stressful and jam-packed lives to see how we can be new and improved, by burying our "old self" and resurrecting our "new self" with Christ.



With prayers and wishes for a fruitful Lenten journey and beyond, Reverend Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian

Pastor



The mission of the Armenian Apostolic Church is to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and to proclaim its message of salvation. This mission is realized through Worship, Education, Witness, Service, and common life in Christ as expressed in the distinctive faith - experience of the Armenian people.

All members of the Armenian Church - both clergy and lay - are called to participate fully in this mission.



PARISH NEWS

Historic Armenia

Book Signing and Presentation by Matthew Karanian

The groundbreaking new book 'Historic Armenia After 100 Years: Ani, Kars, and the Six Provinces of Western Armenia' will be presented to New Britain's Armenian community on Sunday, March 8th, by author, Matthew Karanian at 1:00 p.m. at Holy Resurrection, 1910 Stanley Street, New Britain.

This new book by Karanian is the first-ever guide to cultural sites of the vast and ancient Armenian homeland that is located in today's Turkey. The book features all six Armenian provinces of Western Armenia, as well as the Eastern Armenian region of Ani and Kars.

'Historic Armenia' is lavishly illustrated with 125 color photographs and maps. In many cases, historic images from 100 years ago are included. These images illustrate the once magnificent condition of some of the Armenian churches, monasteries, and towns that are now either in ruins or that were razed after 1915.

The text describes the history and culture of the Armenian monuments and artifacts that are still present in Ani and Kars, and in the six Armenian provinces of Van, Erzerum, Kharpert, Bitlis, Diyarbakir, and Sebastia. Many important smaller towns are featured, including Sasoon, Gurun, Chunkush, Palu, Zara, Mush, Erzincan, and Egin.

'Historic Armenia' is 176 pages and measures 8 x 10.5 inches. The book is intended both for display on coffee tables, and also for use while traveling. Karanian is also the author of the best-selling book 'Armenia and Karabakh: The Stone Garden Travel Guide.'

This event is being co-sponsored by New Britain's Armenian churches, Holy Resurrection and St. Stephen's for Karanian, a New Britain native.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our February snowstorms this year will never be forgotten! All of us were disappointed when we were forced to cancel our much publicized Teacup Auction and Luncheon on Poon Paregentan. All gifts have been returned to the generous donors to use as they wish. We thank everyone, especially the Parents' Committee of Diane Roy, Melanie Kallajian, Sarah Kallajian and their children who went the 'extra mile' for us all.

On February 22, all students received a letter from our Sunday School along with a packet from our Diocese explaining this year's **2015 Diocesan Lenten Drive.** Each packet contains 20 religious bookmarks to be used by the families of the students during Lent, which began on Monday, February 16 until Saturday, March 27. Also, an icon of Christ, **Washing the Feet of the Disciples** with a full explanation of our Armenian Lenten practices is included.

This year, the donations from the children will be used for two missions. The first is food and clothing for very needy families in Armenia. The second will go towards **United to End Genocide**, an organization in America that is aimed to prevent future genocides, in memory of our own 100th genocide anniversary.

The graduation class is seriously preparing for its graduation day on Sunday, May 17 even with all of our snow cancellations. Keep up the good work boys and girls! Next month, we will report more on graduation details. All parishioners are invited to the ceremony and reception in our auditorium to follow.

Two dates to keep in mind, especially for our Sunday School families. On Sunday, April 26, there will be no church services or Sunday school here in New Britain. A bus is being provided to go to New York to commemorate the 100th genocide with all Eastern Diocese parishes and Prelacy churches.

On Sunday, May 10, there will be no church services in our church but there will be Sunday school classes, followed by fellowship hour. Our senior class will be practicing for their graduation the following week. Some individuals may be attending services in Washington DC for the 100th genocide commemoration by Diocese and Prelacy churches.

Hopefully, there won't be any surprise snowstorms in March or April!



COMMEMORATION OF NEW SAINTS OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

Bus travel to St. Vartan Cathedral

Commemoration of New Saints of the Armenian Church Bus travel to St. Vartan Cathedral & Times Square, Sunday, April 26

An Episcopal Divine Liturgy will be offered on Sunday, April 26, the first Holy Badarak after the Canonization of the Armenian Martyrs of the 1915 Genocide. Celebrant for this liturgy will be His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, and His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Chiloyan will offer the Homily. This will be a historic occasion for all Armenians.

The CT Genocide committee has secured bus transportation to the Cathedral and to Times Square. The bus will leave Holy Resurrection approximately 7:00 a.m. and the cost for round-trip will be approximately \$35.00 (or \$40.00 with tip). The committee will finalize this on/about March 1.

There will be no sign up sheet due to bus contracts. Your payment is your sign up and guarantees your reservation. We will inform you payment information for your check and approximate return time very soon. Thank you.

Thank You God for Everything

Thank you, God for everything...the big things and the small, For "every good gift comes from God"...the giver of them all.

And all too often we accept without any thanks or praise the gifts God sends as blessings each day in many ways.

First, thank you for the little things that often come our way, the things we take for granted but forget to mention when we pray.

Then, thank you for the miracles we are too blind to see, and giving us new awareness of our many gifts from Thee.

And help us remember that the Key of Life and Living is to make each prayer a Prayer of Thanks and every day, Thanksgiving.

"For Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things.

To whom be glory forever."

Romans 11:36

Sunday, March 15, 2015

Saintly Women's Day & Women's Guild Mid-Lenten Luncheon

Guest Speakers



New Britain Mayor The Hon. Erin E. Stewart



R.I State Representative The Hon. Katherine Kazarian

Mid-Lenten Luncheon will begin at promptly at noon.

Reservations please by March 7th @ Rose Mosey/ 860-229-4475 or ermosey158@att.net

Menu

Vospov Kheyma | Potato Kufteh| Pasta | Bread Dessert | Soda & Coffee

Adults \$12/ages 16 and under, \$6



We ask that you be with us on **Sunday, April 19**th

for the celebration of Divine Liturgy & the last offering of Solemn Requiem Services and Blessing of Madagh for the Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide prior to their Canonization on April 23rd in Holy Etchmiadzin.

Following Church Services will be a complimentary Hokejash in their memory in Abrahamian Auditorium.

Musical selections will be offered by Harry Bedrossian along with personal testimonies of faith.

There will be no admission fee for this Memorial Meal and musical program. Your kind donations will be accepted.

This is sponsored by all church organizations



DONATIONS

Church Donations

Guy Simonian - Godfather of the Cross Sophie Elia In memory of John and Lillian, Alex, he

In memory of John and Lillian, Alex, her parents and brothers Norman and Carol

Looys Donations

Angela Parnagian Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Esposito Menas and Grace Kallajian

Sandwich Fund Donations

Eleanor Egazarian Anonymous

Steward Donations

Harry Badrigian Alyssa Cannata McGiveron Harry and Janice Mazadoorian

Baggy's Birthday

Jeffrey Musumano



THANK YOU!

Our appreciation is extended to Yn. Pat and granddaughter Amanda for their making of mahs; and to the 'good person' who replaced the paper dispenser in the men's washroom:) All the deeds we offer here are for the glory of God and to maintain His Home the very best way we can.



Flower donations for our Holy Altar are always welcomed. Please speak to Der Hayr if you'd like to donate affordable floral arrangements. It's worth noting that most types of hearty flowers can last and be on our Holy Altar up to three weeks. Thank you.



Requiem Services were offered for the souls of

- Hagop & Takouhi Erikian Requested by Dian and Talin Erikian.
- Nevart & Michael Serdjenian Requested by Fr. Kapriel, Yn. Diane and Family.
- Nerses Derderian Requested by Y. Pat Buttero
- Funeral Services were offered for the soul of Haiganoush Berberian.

May Almighty God illuminate their souls in His Kingdom. Amen.



Harry Azarigian

Vatche DerAsadourian Andrea Slusarz Sue DerMargosian

Total: \$1,695

Mabel Sadoian

Eleanor Egazarian Total: \$90

The role of a Pastor is not to grow a big church...

The Pastor's role is to grow mature disciples who make disciples....

Who'll join me...?

Fr. Kapriel



NEWS AND NOTES

From the Eastern Diocese

U.S. Appoints New Ambassador to Armenia

Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, the Diocese's Ecumenical Director and Legate, was in attendance at the State Department for the official swearing in of Ambassador Richard Mills as the new U.S. ambassador to Armenia earlier this month. Ambassador Mills succeeds Ambassador John Heffern at the U.S. Embassy in Yerevan.

Archbishop Aykazian congratulated Ambassador Mills and wished him a productive tenure in Yerevan. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Eastern Diocese, sent a letter of congratulations to Ambassador Mills. He noted the close relationships the Eastern Diocese and the Fund for Armenian Relief have enjoyed with Ambassador Mills's predecessors, and said he looks forward to working effectively with the new appointee.

Members of Sister Church brutally murdered

The world was shocked mid-February by a photograph of 21 Coptic Christians, bound and kneeling in a line, with dagger-wielding killers behind them—killers who later bragged of their deed, and advertised the grisly details to the world.

For Armenian Christians, every one of us in the world looked upon that image with the same horrifying thought: That this is the story of our own people, from a century ago. This is the same inhumanity we suffered.

And like so many of our own people, the 21 Coptic Christians are martyrs—struck down because of their adherence to the faith of Jesus Christ. One day, these 21 Coptic Christians might be acknowledged alongside the 40 Armenian martyrs of Sepastia, the 1,036 martyrs of Avarayr, the countless martyrs whose lives were shed in the Genocide.

In our own time, sadly, the persecution of Christians in the Mideast is not a new story. It has been percolating for years now—and the movement of destruction and death has only escalated. The list of outrages in Syria, Iraq, the Armenian city of Kessab, and now Libya, grows ever longer, and gets worse with every instance.

In response to this unspeakable crime, His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, sent a letter of condolence to His Holiness Tawadros II, leader of the Coptic Orthodox Church, calling on the international community to take determined steps to bring peace to the region.



Bring us your talents...

What does it mean when we say "I am a member of and belong to the Armenian Church?"

Being a member of or belonging to the Armenian Church means that we are baptized, confirmed in the church. But the questions is, "What does it *really mean to us*?"

Does it mean that we want our Church vibrant, relevant and active to be there when we need her?...Or simply available for a wedding, funeral or baptism...?

Where do you come in?

Do you support your church? Do you participate in her services as often as you can? Have you ever served on Parish Council, Women's Guild, Choir, helped ACYOA or Sunday School?

Most of us can easily fit into at least one of these categories.

As a parent, how often have you encouraged your children to participate in the life of the church to carry on your family legacy?

We're blessed that some of our family members actively belong to and give of themselves to God via our church groups and activities. These are the ones who truly are pillars of the Church and are not members in name only.

They do, and work for the Church to which they belong.

It's because of the dedication of members such as these and those before us, that makes it possible to enjoy the fruits of their labor, love and service today.

We have a Christian obligation to use of God-given talents.

Bring your talents to your Church. Share them, join in, volunteer, pitch in and help your family.

Your Church always needs you, but not nearly as much as you truly need your Church.



DEAR READERS...

We are enthusiastic in bringing you a monthly newsletter that will keep you informed on the life of our parish. We recognize that you, our parishioners and friends, contribute much to our parish life and to the *Looys*, and for this we're very grateful.

Feel free to send to the editor your announcements and contributions related to the life of our Diocese and our parish to achrlooys@gmail.com. Those wishing to make donations or sponsor the cost of printing this newsletter may do so to the attention of the *Looys* staff.

We're certainly open to suggestions and thoughts that can make our *Looys*, your *Looys* a more enjoyable source of information.



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1910 Stanley Street - New Britain, CT 06053

Liturgical Service Schedule

Morning Services are offered at 9:15 and Divine Liturgy at 10:15. Fr. Kapriel is available to accommodate your requests for both weekday and weekend Requiem Services, Home Blessings and Visitations. Please call Der Hayr at 860-223-7875 for your pastoral needs.

Calendar of Events for March 2015

Wed. 4th Women's Guild Board meeting: 6:30 PM

Sunday 8th Matthew Karanian Book Presentation

1 PM co-sponsored by St. Stephen's Arm. Church

Saturday 14th Remembrance of the Forty Martyrs of Sepastia

Sunday 15th Saintly Women's Day & Mid Lenten Luncheon

Tuesday 17th Sandwich committee meets at 1:30 PM

Saturday 21st Remembrance of the St. Gregory's

Commitment to the Pit/ Khor Virab

Mon-Wed (23-25) New England Clergy Lenten Retreat

Saturday 28th Remembrance of the Raising of Lazarus

Women's Guild Bake Sale

Sunday 29th Palm Sunday/ACYOA Day

Luncheon and Program after Church

Holy Week is Monday, March 30-Saturday, April 4 Holy Easter, April 5

Save the Date!

Saturday, April 25th for the CT Genocide Program at State Capitol 11:00 a.m. with Guest Speaker and Author Chris Bohjalian

Items / Articles for this issue submitted by:

Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian, John Maljanian, Roxie Maljanian, Adrienne Damian

Articles for the *Looys* must be electronically submitted according to the submission schedule available from the Parish Council. You may email your article to our graphics editor, Matthew Cannata, at achrlooys@gmail.com. Consistent with established guidelines, editors only publish material submitted by ACHR Organizations or those that receive approval from the Parish Council.

Looys is the official publication of the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT. Your donations help support our efforts to offset the costs of publication.