



**April 2017** 

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**

Arthur Simonian Jr.
Gary Hovhanessian
John Maljanian Jr.
David Abrahamian
Guy Simonian
Ellen Hovhanessian
Tim Smith

Chairman
Vice - Chairman
Treasurer
Asst. Treasurer
Secretary
Advisor
Advisor

## **Parish Council Emeritus**

John Maljanian Sr. **Executive Director** 

## **Diocesan Delegate**

Adrienne Damian

## **Cemetery Custodians**

Peter Bagdigian Gregg Kallajian, Assistant

## **Looys Staff**

Reverend Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian Matthew Cannata Peter Bagdigian Jr.

## **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



Sunday, April 9 - Palm Sunday/ACYOA Day Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 a.m.

# April 13 - Holy Thursday

Divine Liturgy @ 10:45 Complimentary Luncheon to follow

Service of the Washing of the Feet & Remembrance of the Passion of Our Lord @ 7:00 p.m.

# April 14 - Holy Friday

Remembrance of the Crucifixion of Our Lord @ 12 noon Remembrance of the Burial of Our Lord @ 7:00 p.m.

# April 15 - Holy Saturday

Reading of Sacred Scriptures @ 6:30 p.m. Candle light Pascal Liturgy @ 7:00 p.m.

# April 16 - Easter Sunday

Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 a.m. Service of the Blessing of the Fields to follow

## Remember your "And One"

Who is your "And One..", that you pick up, or call to say, "meet me at church?"

This is when one, becomes two, and we grow...

## MISSION OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH



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**

#### Forget Me Not Pins Available

You can show your support by wearing the symbolic forget-me-not lapel pin this spring at events commemorating the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide. Pins are available for purchase from Holy Resurrection Church of South Milwaukee, WI. For more information and online ordering, visit the Holy Resurrection Church at www.holyresurrectionsm.org

#### Stewardship made visible again, and again...

Our parish's heartfelt appreciation is extended to:

- Guy & Darlene Simonian for their most gracious donation of the new carpeting which has just been installed in our entry way, Narthex, hallways, Parish Council office and up to the entire choir loft.
- Greg and David Abrahamian for their electrical and plumbing work offered a few weeks ago. Our outside spotlights now have a built in timer to continue working once the switch itself has been turned off.
- Yn. Diane Mouradjian for our Palm Cross for our Holy Altar, donated in memory of Nevart Serdjenian.
- Deramayr Irene Mouradjian for our Palms for distribution to all in memory of Derahayr Aram Mouradjian.

#### **ACYOA Jr's Reach FAR**

Thank you to our ACYOA members for their quick action during a Sunday Fellowship in making available for sale, Easter cards made by children in a FAR sponsored school. Thank you to those who indeed, gave from the heart. Your generosity quickly raised \$110.00!!!

#### **Fellowship Sponsors**

Our Pastor and Parish Council would like to recognize and thank the following for their Sunday Fellowship offerings: Simonetti family, Connors family, Roy & Abrahamian families, Debby & Gary Kerr, Carolyn Haboian- Jane Der Asadourian and Yn. Diane Mouradjian.

#### ACYOA Central Council Sponsors Retreat in Springfield, MA

On Saturday, March 11, the ACYOA Central Council hosted the first of their annual regional Lenten retreats at St. Mark Church in Springfield, MA. ACYOA Central Council members Danielle Malconian and Lauren Piligian led the retreat, with 16 participants from the New England area attending. Kathryn Ashbahian of the Diocese's Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries provided additional support.

The Rev. Fr. Sevak Gabrielian, pastor of St. Mark Church, led a matins service & the young people took part in Bible study on the "Fruits of the Spirit." Rev. Fr. Vasken Kouzouian led a session on the Holy Spirit in the Armenian Church, and participants watched a related "Bread and Salt" episode called "Tongues of Fire."

Representing our parish were: Mary Lou Connors as chaperone, Fr. Kapriel, Megan & Lauren Simonian, Emily Kallajian, Elizabeth Kalfayan, Michael Connors and Olivia Demircan.



# LATEST NEWS FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL

Last month, our senior class was busy in the kitchen, learning to make "Mas" with their teacher Debra Maljanian-Kerr. Each graduating class has had at least one session to learn about this church tradition before they graduate. They have also been studying for tests in preparation for the graduation exam on May 7.

Our Poon Paregentan activities of Teacup Auction and Luncheon were a joy on February 26. Thanks to our many students' families and other parishioners who generously donated gifts to the auction table. All donor names are listed below (as indicated on sign up sheet) and are on our bulletin boards. They were: Arben and Alina Asatourian, Betty Bagdasarian, Hasmig and Alyssa Cannata, Adrienne Damian, Olivia and Aiden Demircan, Violet and Vicky Galazan, Taylor and Parker Gregory, Carol Hougas, Kallajian Families, Debra Kerr, Grace and Alex Machata, Roxie Maljanian, David and Matthew Marottolo, Sonia Ohanian, Paula Pare, Lily Roy, Susan Sagherian, Darlene and Guy Simonian, Lina Tomasssian, and Stephanie Velasquez. A portion of the profit from the event will benefit the Syrian Relief Fund.

With Holy Week being April 7-16, some of our students will be participating on the Altar for Holy Thursday "Washing of the Feet" service and as altar servers for Good Friday through Easter. Of course, the choir director, Adrienne, welcomes all who wish to sing during the services. On Palm Sunday, all students will be making their traditional crosses with the blessed Palms to share with family and friends.

A reminder to all students that their Diocesan Lenten Offerings are to be returned on Easter. Photos of the students will be taken on both Palm Sunday and Easter.

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## **PARISH REGISTRY**

Solemn Requiem Services were offered for the souls of:

Our brothers and sisters in Karabagh who died pushing back the Azeri incursion into our ancestral territory last April

Requested by the Holy See of Etchmiadzin

His Grace, Archbishop Yeghishe Gizirian (First Year)

Requested by the Diocese of the Armenian Church

#### Luisa Simonetti

Requested by Ivan & Lisa Simonetti, Angel Yirigian, Robert & Beverly Yirigian and family, John & Roxie Maljanian., Elizabeth & Nick Bagdasarian

Paul Abrahamian, Gregory Abrahamian, John & Mary Abrahamian, Sarkis & Arshalous Abrahamian, and Ramon Hovsepian.

Requested by the Abrahamian and Roy Families

#### **Aramast Mahtesian**

Requested by Fr. Kapriel, Yn. Diane and family

May Almighty God Accept and illumine their souls in His heavenly Kingdom. Amen.

## **DONATIONS**

#### **Church Donations**

Ivan & Lisa Simonetti
In memory of Luisa Simonetti

#### In Lieu of Flowers

In memory of Mr. Harry Hougas

Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian - Office supplies and Airline ticket to Clergy conference.

Jeanette Day, James & Eveleen Morancy Total as of March 13, 2017: \$2,845

Looys Donations Sandwich Fund Eleanor Egazarian Harry and Janice

Eleanor Egazarian Harry and Janice Catherine Joseph Mazadoorian

Rachel Boloyan & Family Altar flowers for Holy Week and Easter in memory of Dn. Paul Abrahamian

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

## **VISIT TO NEW BRITAIN BY ST. NERSESS STUDENTS**

On Sunday, March 12, our parish opened her heart and doors to the students of St. Nersess Armenian Theological Seminary accompanied by their Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Yeprem Kelegian.

Fr. Yeprem offered the sermon for the day, as the seminarians served on our Holy Altar. During our Lenten Fellowship offered by Carolyn Haboian, Jane Der Asadourian and Yn. Diane Mouradjian, Fr. Yeprem invited one of the students to give an overview of the progress of the seminary, its new location and the size of the student body.



## **'SAVE THE TOMB' RECEPTION IN CAMBRIDGE**

A fundraising reception in support of the "Save the Tomb" campaign was held on April 4 for the New England region parishes, at the Sheraton Commander Hotel in Cambridge, MA. Diocesan Primate Archbishop Khajag Barsamian presided.

The "Save the Tomb" campaign is raising funds to help the restoration effort currently underway at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The site marks the burial place of Jesus Christ, and has long stood as one of the most precious shrines of the Christian heritage. The Armenian Church, through its Patriarchate of Jerusalem, shares joint custodial oversight of the Holy Sepulchre, and is deeply involved in the restoration. The Eastern Diocese aims to raise \$300,000 to contribute to this effort. To date, the Holy See of Etchmiadzin joins the Roman Catholic and Greek Church by each donating 1 million dollars (totaling 3 million dollars) for this historic renovation. The first such renovation in over 200 years. #savethetomb

## **ACEF ANNOUNCES LARGEST DISTRIBUTION IN HISTORY**

\$4.1M Awarded to Beneficiaries

The Board of Directors of the Armenian Church Endowment Fund (ACEF) met at the Diocesan Center on Friday, March 24, with Archbishop Khajag Barsamian presiding.

Board members analyzed strong 2016 portfolio returns and approved 2017 asset allocations recommended by the Investment Committee. As of December 31, 2016, ACEF's portfolio returned a total of 7.1% for the calendar year, which exceeded its target benchmark (which returned 5.7 percentage points) and matched its long-term financial goal of returning inflation (CPI) plus 5%.

The board reviewed and agreed to the 2016 distribution to beneficiaries. The total distribution of \$4,189,360 is the largest in the 44-year history of ACEF.

A total of \$2,586,038 in new donations was received in 2016. Melanie Dadourian and Gregory Zorthian were welcomed as new board members in 2016.

Our parish benefitted from those thoughtful members of our community who thought enough of our community and future to establish Endowment Funds benefitting the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection. From the success of ACEF, our parish received nearly \$3,500 in interest payments.



# Meet with Former U.S. Ambassador to Armenia John Marshall Evans

Friday, April 21, from 5-7 PM *Right here* @ Holy Resurrection

Wine & Cheese Reception and Book Signing to benefit your CT Genocide Committee

Adults \$25/Students free...(with RSVP)

We all must RSVP to Melanie Kevorkian-Brown via mel.brown25@sbcglobal.net

Donations as your confirmation may be mailed to Melanie Brown 74 Wildwood Rd, Simsbury, CT 06092

payable to

Armenian Genocide Commemoration Cmte of CT. Limited to 100 attendees with RSVP

## NEW ENGLAND CLERGY RETREAT HELD IN CONNECTICUT

The annual clergy Lenten retreats continued with a gathering for clergy of the New England region, held from March 27 to 29 at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford, CT.

Under the presidency of Diocesan Primate Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, 15 clergymen from parishes in Connecticut and Massachusetts reflected on the topic "Stress and the Peace of Christ." The theme was explored through discussion groups, Bible study, and a presentation by Rev. Don Stiger, formerly of NYU Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. The participants prayed together, with various clergy offering meditations on the topic of forgiveness as a means of stress alleviation. They also viewed a video on forgiveness, titled "Amish Grace."

Coincidentally, Archbishop Leonard Paul Blair, head of the Hartford Roman Catholic Archdiocese, was also meeting with his clergy at the Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, which gave Archbishop Barsamian an opportunity to meet with Archbishop Blair.

## THE PROMISE

As many of you know, the film "The Promise," produced by Survival Pictures and financed by the late Kirk Kerkorian, will be premiering in nearly 1,500 theaters in the U.S. and Canada on Friday, April 21, 2017. The film, set with the backdrop of the Armenian Genocide, is the first time our history will be featured in a wide-release film.

This is to inform you that Haig Boyadjian of the AGBU is working closely with the film's PR agencies and distributors, to ensure that our people are aware of the need to see the film in local theaters on its opening weekend (April 21-23). The Diocese has been fully supportive of the AGBU in this endeavor, and we encourage our parishes to contact Haig directly (at the e-mail address below) and to welcome outreach, messages, and mailing from him.

It is vitally important that the parishes and people of our Diocese support this film to help ensure its success. We should also encourage non-Armenians to attend the showings being organized by our parishes. The opening weekend's box office sales are critical in securing a long theatrical run for the film. For this reason, all parishes are encouraged to reach out to Haig at keepthepromise@agbu.org; Haig can help you to buy out showings of "The Promise" on its opening weekend at theater locations in close proximity to you.

Haig has already kindly arranged for every parish to receive posters for display at your churches and halls. Most parishes should have received them by now. He is also providing promotional materials to be printed or used in electronic communications, e-blasts, and social media posts. Please note the link and use the following hashtags: #KeepThePromise | #ThePromiseTheFilm | #NeverStaySilent

# **SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Registration is now open for Diocesan Summer Camp programs: St. Vartan Camp at the Ararat Center in upstate New York and Hye Camp in Illinois. Online registration and credit card payments are available for both programs. For more information about St. Vartan Camp, contact Lorie Odabashian at lorieo@armeniandiocese.org.

#### Think about this...

"If I love until it hurts, then there is no hurt, but only more love...

# TODD HOUGAS NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR AT SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Congratulations to Todd Hougas, who was named the Teacher of the Year at Smith Elementary School in New Britain! Todd has been working for the Consolidated School District of New Britain for numerous years and his impact is felt both in and out of the classroom.

Todd will be honored on May 15 at 5:00 PM at New Britain High School. Todd will also now be in the running to be named the District Teacher of the Year, which will be announced on that date.

Congratulations to Todd on this great honor!

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## IN THE CHURCH



When you are attending the church service, let your apparel be appropriate and modest. Abstain from adornments and flashy clothing which are not suitable in a church setting, where a spirit of concentration and meditation is required as a precondition to participate in a communal prayer.

As you enter the church, it is appropriate to cross yourself. It is also an age long Armenian tradition, just as it is customary in Eastern Orthodox and Catholic churches too, to light a

candle as a way of placing yourself in a contemplative mood.

The lighting of the candle is also a symbol of the sacrifice of the self and the radiance of Christian's love . Just as the candle burns and is consumed to spread light, so must every Christian man and woman live to radiate love, light and warmth.

It is a genuine Armenian custom of piety to light the candle in front of an anointed picture of a Saint, to pose for a moment, and breathe a prayer of self-dedication and to prepare oneself spiritually to participate in the church service.

Like everywhere else that we receive information from, we will increasingly be relying on e-mail to keep you informed as to the life of our church. This will allow us to keep you better informed and will provide you with better quality publications.



It doesn't hurt to remind everyone that our parish actively seeks suitable folks that would like to rent our hall for their function use. We currently host the New Britain Chess Club as well as numerous birthday parties, anniversaries and other medium-large functions.

Please keep your church hall in mind for any need including memorial meals, as it's very affordable and convenient for all.



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#### ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY RESURRECTION

1910 Stanley Street - New Britain, CT 06053

# **Liturgical Service Schedule**

Morning Services are offered at 9:15 and Divine Liturgy at 10:00. 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 - April 2017**

**9-16** Holy Week-Easter

Please refer to schedule inside/& mailed to you.

Monday - 24 Feast of the Holy Martyrs of the

Armenian Genocide

# Calendar of Events - May 2017

Sunday - 7 Red Sunday

Sunday - 14 Mothers Day

**Thursday - 25** Feast of the Ascension of

Our Lord Jesus Christ

**Sunday - 21** Graduation of senior class after Badarak

Reception to follow in Auditorium. All are welcome!

Monday - 29 Memorial Day

Grave Blessings will be offered at Fairview Cemetery

from 10 AM - 1 PM. For all other locations, please

contact Fr. Kapriel to coordinate times.

#### Articles/Items Submitted By:

Henrietta Kallajian, Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian, Debbie Kerr, Roxie Maljanian

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.