

January 2015 Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection 1910 Stanley Street - New Britain, CT, 06053 Rev. Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian, Pastor



Dear Looys Readers,

With some returns still coming in, we've extended the printed form of the Looys for another month:)

Below, <u>please take a moment **right now**</u> to tear off this page and mail to us your delivery preference of the *Looys*.

As you can imagine and have commented, it doesn't make financial for us both print and e-mail so many copies to the same folks.

Your reply will help us continue to provide you with the Looys and help our budget :)



Name

	Please e-mail the <i>Looys</i> to help save postage costs for the church.
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Church Directory

Rev. Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian - Pastor

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

Parish Council

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

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Vice - Chairman
Treasurer
Asst. Treasurer
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Advisor
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Cemetery Custodians

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John Paul Abrahamian

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Adrienne Damian Chair



PONTIFICAL ENCYCLICAL

His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch of All Armenians

The following Pontifical Encyclical issued by His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch & Catholicos of All Armenians was read in all Diocesan Churches on Sunday, December 28. We share with all again, on such an important event.

"The path of the righteous is as the dawning light that shines brighter and brighter unto the perfect day."

(Proverbs 4:18)

The centennial of the Armenian Genocide is before us, and our souls resound with a powerful call for justice and truth that will not be silenced. Each day of 2015 is a day of devotion for our people, a spiritual journey to the memorials of our martyrs in the homeland and in the diaspora, before which we kneel humbly in prayer for the souls of the innocent, who rest in unmarked graves, having accepted death rather than reject their faith and nation. Indeed, "the path of the righteous is as the dawning light that shines brighter and brighter unto the perfect day."

In 1915, and in the years that followed, Ottoman Turkey committed genocide against our people. In Western Armenia —our historic homeland—and in Armenian communities throughout other parts of the Ottoman Empire, one and a half million sons and daughters of our nation were subjected to slaughter, famine, and disease, as they were deported and forced to march to their deaths. A centuries-old inheritance was pillaged. Thousands of monasteries and churches were desecrated and destroyed. National institutions and schools were razed to the ground.

Our spiritual and national values were uprooted. Western Armenia—where our people had lived since the time of Noah, where we forged an identity and shaped a distinctive culture—was savagely wrested from its native population. Eastern Armenia—the birthplace of our church, where the Only Begotten descended, and from where our people received the light of St. Gregory —was threatened out of existence. In this time of darkness —when Armenia was splintered, when its fragments were scattered the world over —it was hard to believe that a new day would come. But our people persevered. By the Lord's grace, our people rose up from the ashes, and they began to build anew. In Eastern Armenia, a country was built out of ruins, a homeland of light and hope—where Armenians once again harnessed our people's creative force in education, in the sciences, and the arts.

Pontifical Encyclical ctd...

Today, though we still face hardships, we continue to strengthen our independent homeland, where our people live in freedom, and look with hope to the future. The Armenian spirit also flourished in far-flung lands, where our exiled people set down roots, built schools and churches, and gave generously of their talents in these new places they now called home. Glory to you, O Lord, boundless glory.

"Like a shield you protect us with your good favor" (Ps. 5:12). By placing our hope in You, O Lord, our people were illuminated and empowered. Your light kindled the ingenuity of our spirit. Your might propelled us to our victories. We created in the face of destruction. We lived in the face of annihilation. It was your will, O Lord our God, that our nation should live and rise again, so that we might seek justice where there has been oppression, concern where there has been indifference, and truth where there has been denial. We will continue our fight without retreat , working together in unity until justice triumphs over darkness.

Our innocent martyrs and the suffering of our people cry out for justice. Our destroyed shrines and the falsification and distortion of our history cry out for justice. Our people believe that the countries, national and civic organizations, and individuals who have recognized the Armenian Genocide will be joined by others who believe that the affirmation of truth will lead to a world free of hostility and violence.

We express our gratitude to all those who had the courage and conviction to recognize and condemn the Armenian Genocide, and also to the countries and individuals who gave a new home to our people. These acts of justice and compassion are glimpses of humanity at its best, and they are lessons we can pass on from one generation to the next, to guide our world toward peace and harmony. It is a spiritual consolation for us, as the Catholicos of All Armenians, to announce to our people that during the Divine Liturgy on April 23, 2015, our Holy Church will perform a special ceremony canonizing as saints our sons and daughters who became martyrs for their faith and for their homeland.

With this encyclical, we pronounce April 24 as the Day of Remembrance of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

My dear Armenian people—a nation martyred and resurrected—live boldly, go forward with confidence, never lose sight of our beloved Mount Ararat, and always keep faith and hope alive in your hearts. For it is to you that our Lord speaks: "I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name...Hold fast what you have ,so that no one may seize your crown" (Rev. 3:8-11).

Pontifical Encyclical ctd...

Let us remain steadfast in our faith, which dispels darkness and brings into view the horizons of hope. We walk with God, and the life of faith is our victory. May the memory of our martyrs guide us as we walk uprightly on the path to justice. In this milestone year, let us draw strength from the firm determination of our people, who trampled death and rose again to rebuild, to renew, and to reassert the spirit of our ancestors.

And let this be the lesson we teach our children and our grandchildren, so that they, too, keep our Armenian spirit burning bright. Before the Holy Altar of the descent of the Only Begotten, we ask God to keep our people everywhere in peace, safety, and prosperity. May the innocent souls of our martyrs rest in peace, and may love, justice, and truth reign over humankind.

May the ways of the righteous shine upon the world until the dawn of a new day brings peace to all. May our Lord Jesus Christ be with us, now and always. Amen.

With blessings,

Karekin 11

Catholicos of All Armenians



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



Madrigal Concert...Thank you to all

On Thursday, December 18, the Women's Guild hosted the performance of the NBHS Madrigal Singers of New Britain, CT. The 40 piece group comes to our sanctuary yearly to perform their Boar's Head music and Christmas Carols. Following the performance, a reception was held in Abrahamian Auditorium where punch and finger foods were served. We wish to thank the following individuals who prepared food and drinks for

this event as a reception would not be possible without your help: Yn. Patricia Buttero, Hasmig Cannata, Sonia Ohanian, Paula Pare, Rose Mosey, Betty Bagdasarian, Darlene Chiloyan, Der Hayr and Yn. Diane Mouradjian, Gail Onanian, Darlene Simonian and Adrienne Damian.

The pews were filled to capacity with family, friends, and community members who enjoyed the beautiful rendition of renaissance Christmas carols. To our delight, they also sang Silent Night in Armenian, (Loor Kisher).

We thank all who came to support this musical event as we hit a new attendance record for over 125 people. Mark your calendars - the Madrigals will be with us next year on December 17, 2015!

Thank you!

We'd like to recognize and thank the following 'good stewards' of our spiritual home for their quiet deeds of faith.

Greg Abrahamian, Jr. for his making of mahs; Art Simonian for purchasing and staking the parking lot for snow removal areas and for his generous donation towards a new router for our computer system; Guy Simonian for the donation of a new Nest programmable thermostat and to Rose & Emil Mosey for their thoughtful poinsettia donation. We thank these and all who serve His Holy Church.

New website for Summer Camps...

The Diocese's Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries is pleased to announce that they have launched a new website for summer camps. Simply visit www.diocesansummercamps.org for more information! The new site offers online registration and credit card payment options for both Hye Camp and St. Vartan Camp, simplifying the registration process for families across the Diocese. In addition, all CIT, staff, and volunteer applications are available for download. Other features include a blog, photo galleries, resources for parents, and an alumni corner.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Shunorhavor Nor Dari yev Soorp Dzununt (Happy New Year and Holy Birth)

Once again, we write this article after a successful and unique Christmas program and elaborate luncheon that took place on December 14. This year, we were not threatened with snow like we were in 2013 but a beautiful sunny winter day greeted us as we awoke that morning. The theme of this year's program 'Light a Candle' was capably directed by Jeanne Abrahamian with background music as the students acted out the parts. It all began with the audience looking up to the choir loft to listen to Nicholas Kallajian on Alto Saxophone, Matthew Marottolo on Flute and Susan Sagherian on the Organ as they beautifully played several Christmas melodies.

We were pleased that the three new families in our Sunday School were in attendance and introduced to everyone.

The parents' committee did a fantastic job with the luncheon, introducing new items this year. After a few songs were sung as a group by the audience, Santa appeared to the delight of the children, with gifts for all the students. A few photos appear in this issue with several more on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium.

We hope to continue this beautiful tradition of celebrating the Christmas season with our entire church family!

A new CD, 'We Sing Armenian Church Songs' with Nvair and friends, has been donated to our Sunday School by Eleanor Egazarian. We thank her for this thoughtful gift, which will be put to good use in the New Year.

Stay safe and peace to all!







CAUGHT ON CAMERA



New Britain High School Madrigal Singers



Sunday School Christmas Program









Gary & Ellen Hovhanessian

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Our Pastor & Parish Council would like to thank the following for offering their Christmas Greetings to all via the Looys.

Fr. Kapriel & Yn. Diane Charles Hovsepian John & Darlene Chilovan Peter Bagdigian, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. B.J. Hovhanessian Beri & Henrietta Kallaiian Mr. & Mrs. Peter Galazan Gail Onanian **Todd Hougas** Arthur & Sylvia Simonian & family Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Sagherian & family Mr. & Mrs. John Maljanian, Jr & family Sonia Ohanian Mary Abrahamian Mr. & Mrs. George Boyajian & family Atty. Harry & Janice Mazadoorian John & Lynne Mazadoorian-Lockhart Arthur, Lucy, Mark & Craig Simonian Carol & Harry Hougas

Cara and Hayley Hovhanessian

Ruth & Will Swisher and family John & Roxie Maljanian Alice Norsigian Susan Der Margosian Nick & Elizabeth Bagdasarian Gregg, Melanie, Nicholas and Anna Kallajian Michael, Sarah, Emily and Brian Kallajian Dr. & Mrs. Gerard Roy and family Victoria Galazan Mr. & Mrs. Tom Connors and family Amy & James Moshovos and family Mr. & Mrs. John Abrahamian & family Margaret Abrahamian Yn. Pat Buttero Manusak Terdjanian Dr. Gary & Debra Kerr and family David Abrahamian Peter, Nancy and Rob Hansen Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cannata & family Mr. & Mrs. Guy Simonian

Harold & Ann Manoian

May we all give and receive the true gifts and blessings of Christmas, Love, Joy, Peace and Hope

Christ is Born & Revealed Blessed is the Revelation of Christ



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.



DONATIONS

Church Donations

Yn. Patricia Buttero In memory of Fr. Michael on his name day

Looys Donations

Charlotte and Albert Grella Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kallajian

Steward Donations

Harry Badrigian Marlo Pesino Sarah Sansone Alyssa McGiveron

Sandwich Fund Donations

Art Bagdasarian



FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Our Pastor and Parish Council would like to recognize and thank the following for hosting Sunday Fellowship in December. Sunday School Christmas Program committee, Lucy & Arthur Simonian.



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:

- The children and adult victims of the Newtown massacre
- Jerry Litteral

Requested by Marge Litteral, Shannon, Tammy, Kimberly, Jeremy Makayla and Jamison

• Funeral Services were offered on December 26 for Mr. Harry Azarigian.

May Almighty God enlighten their souls. Amen.

Service of Baptism was offered for Jamison Peter Mc Laurin, Son of Jeremy & Kimberly-Jo Mc Laurin. Grandson of Marge Litteral and Peter Bagdigian, Jr. Serving as Godparents are Tammy Bagdigian and Michael Azarigian.

May this child of God always be lead in His ways. Amen.



THANK YOU!

Der Hayr,

December 22

I heard a fascinating sermon yesterday (here at Holy Resurrection) about the gift of prayer. While I rarely tell anyone that they are in my prayers, your sermon motivated me to write this e-mail to tell you that you are in prayers for all the good works you do in so many ways and in many circles, and that you may continue these good works.

Your job is a very difficult one and sometimes (in fact perhaps very often) what you do is not known to many and certainly not recognized.

(We) wish you and your family all the Blessings of this sacred season. You make a difference!

With admiration, (Name withheld)



BAPTISMAL RECORDS

We know full well when our birthdays are, for we usually celebrate them with stress free days, cake, family and friends. Do we know the date in which we were born/brought into the Christian faith by our parents and grandparents? *Our Baptism date*.

In each of the upcoming editions of the *Looys*, we'll publish by month (not year) our Baptism records so that as many people as possible may now know or confirm when they were baptized a Christian and who their Godparents were.

Jack Roy, as a service to his church, compiled these records.

Please bear in mind that some were not legible. We'll provide as much as we can.

Baptized	Date	Godparent(s) (legible)
Taylor Danielle Mulryan	5th	Thomas Mulryan & Georgine Jones
John Martin Maljanian, Jr.	6th	Karnig Maljanian & Nancy Maljanian
Pierre Alkhasian	6th	Daniel Shanazarian & Rebecca Shanazarian
Lindsey Diana Hopper	11th	Douglas Ovian & Cindy Claney
David Joseph Abrahamian	14th	Paul Abrahamian
Robert Ara Boyajian	17th	Robert Horenian & Sylvia Horenian
Rose Azarigian	20th	John Shahinian
Harmig Armen Thomassian	21st	Sarkis Davootlarian
Gregg Richard Kallajian	22nd	Vasken Kallajian
Hrant Haroutiun Donabedian	26th	Ralph Anoushian & Sarah Anoushian
Victoria Maritza Galazan	26th	Miron Sadoian & Ann Sadoian

Order of Baptism according to the Armenian Apostolic Church

"Our peace and our maker of peace Jesus Christ, anointed and worshipful and eternal priest, behold this thy servant (name) has received the unction of holiness from you; therefore, we pray to you, Lord, may he/she never be blotted out of thy Book of Life. And may we also be worthy of thy heavenly glory, when you crown your saints and those that love your name. And we shall incessantly glorify you with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen."



THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE 100TH YEAR OF REMEMBERANCE

"I Remember & I Demand" wristlets will be blessed and handed out to our youth in church on Sunday, January 11. A member of the CT Armenian Community donated these wristbands, with the international symbol of the Violet for the remembrance of the Armenian Genocide Centennial.

The coming year will mark 100 years since the start of the Armenian Genocide of 1915. At the time, it was the greatest calamity to ever befall our nation. But the subsequent century also tells an extraordinary tale of our people's resilience, strength, and faith.

Armenian-Americans will commemorate this milestone year with a national observance in Washington, D.C. in May 2015. Special events are scheduled for May 7 to 9. The weekend will include an ecumenical prayer service at the National Cathedral, a Pontifical Divine Liturgy, a memorial concert, and an awards banquet honoring organizations and individuals who helped the survivors. His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, and His Holiness Aram I, the Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, will both journey to the United States to lead the Washington commemoration. They will be joined by Armenians from across the U.S., under the auspices of the Eastern and Western Dioceses, and the Eastern and Western Prelacies.

The Eastern Diocese's Annual Diocesan Assembly and Clergy Conference will convene in Washington that same week.

People in the Tri-State and New England region should also reserve the dates of April 24, 25, and 26 for commemoration events in New York City. These will include liturgical celebrations and the annual Times Square program sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Knights and Daughters of Vartan.

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



GENOCIDE RESOLUTION

Virginia Council of Churches Passes Genocide Resolution

RICHMOND, Va.—The Virginia Council of Churches unanimously approved a resolution calling for the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, at its 70th Annual Meeting at Faith Community Baptist Church in Richmond, Va., on Nov. 6. The Virginia Council of Churches presented this resolution to its entire member congregation, so that they share this resolution with their congregations.

The Convention was attended by representatives of every Christian denomination in the Commonwealth, including representatives of the Baptist, Orthodox, Lutheran, Episcopal, and Catholic churches. Rev. Dr. Jonathon Barton, executive director of the Virginia Council of Churches, has been most instrumental in forwarding this action. For many years, he has participated and joined in activities of the St. James Armenian Orthodox Church community of Richmond. He is currently an honorary member of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide Committee.

A strong commitment from many of the attending clergy indicated that they will join with the Armenian community of Virginia to participate in an ecumenical service on April 18, 2015, at St. James Armenian Church in remembrance of the $100^{\rm th}$ Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.



Dear Reader,

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

Sincerely, Looys Staff



Everything we have comes from God

What exactly is Christian Stewardship?

Christian Stewardship is the faithful management of all that God gives us. Making a commitment according to our individual ability to be a faithful and wise steward of the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection begins with acknowledging that everything we have comes from God.

Stewardship then begins and takes root in our lives when we offer our gifts back to God with generosity and gratitude.

- Your annual membership commitment entitles you to fully benefit from the parish's various pastoral and educational resources while supporting the work and volunteers of your parish.
- Membership in the parish is a wonderful way to make a commitment to be part of something larger than yourself...to be part of a Christian Community, united in our love of God and God's love for us regardless of our different backgrounds.
- Your annual gifts will help your parish sustain and contribute towards our future, thus ensuring that our children, and your grandchildren and families will always have a place of worship to call their own home that you help build and sustain.

We appreciate all those who provide Stewardship to our spiritual home.



The 'church' has responded to the needs of her people for centuries.

When the 'church' needs and looks to you for a helping hand,

please be attentive to her needs.

May all who respond in His name be blessed.



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.

Veggie World

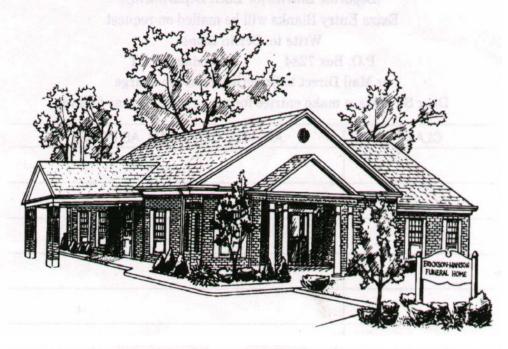
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ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY RESURRECTION

1910 Stanley Street - New Britain, CT 06053

Liturgical Service Schedule

Morning Services are offered at 9:15 and Divine Liturgy at 10:15. 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 January	2015
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Monday 5th Candlelight (Christmas Eve) Liturgy at 6:30 PM. This will be jointly celebrated at St. George Armenian Church.

Tuesday 6th Epiphany Liturgy 11:00 at Holy Resurrection. Celebrated

with the faithful of St. George Church.

Blessing of the Waters Service.

Brown bag and Potluck lunch to follow. Coffee and soda will be provided.

Wednesday 7th Hishadag Merelots/Remembrance of the Deceased.

Requiem prayers will be offered for our departed

loved ones and friends at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday 11th Presentation of the Deacon Charles N. Mazadoorian

Altar Servers Award

Tuesday 13th Feast of the Naming of our Lord Jesus Christ

Thursday 15th Feast of the Birth of St. John the Baptist

Thursday 22nd Remembrance of St. Vahan of Goghtn

Saturday 24th Remembrance of the 150 Fathers of the

Holy Council of Constantinople (A.D. 381)

Sunday 31st Remembrance of St. Sarkis the Warrior

We remind all church organizations and members that on Tuesday nights, from 6:00pm-on, our hall, for the foreseeable future will be used strictly for our new guests, the New Britain Chess Club. Please note this in all of your organizational planning. Church members will receive free membership to this wonderful club. (Speak to Der Hayr before coming).

Items / Articles for this issue submitted by:

Fr. Kapriel Mouradjian, John Maljanian, Roxie Maljanian, Yn. Patricia Buttero, Adrienne Damian, Henrietta Kallajian

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.