ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

December 22, 2019
Fifth Sunday of Advent

Morning Service 9:00 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Readings from the Holy Scripture
Is 40:18-31
Heb 4:16-5:10

God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. John 3:16

Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian
S. ՀԱՅԵՐԻ ՊԵՏԵՐԻ, ՊԵՏԵՐԻԱՆ

12-61 Saddle River Road Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
Phone (201) 791-2862 Fax (201) 791-1329
Church E-mail address: stleon@stleon.org
Fr. Diran’s E-mail address: dbohajian@stleon.org
St. Leon’s Website: http://www.stleon.org
ALTAR SERVERS

Sr. Dns, Dr. Berdj Feredjian,
Diran Jebejian, Hrach Kasaryan, Nubar Kasaryan,
Sebuh Oscherician, Sarkis Pilavdjian
Subdns. Paul Chamesian, Gregory Kazanjian, Vahe Kiljian

CHOIR MASTER
George Paroonagian

PRINCIPAL ORGANIST
Sirvard Galstian

“Krisdos ee méch me haydnetsav.” – “Orhnyal é haydnootyoonun Krisdosi.”
“Christ is revealed among us.” - “Blessed is the revelation of Christ.”

Parish Council Members: Lorig Chorluyan, Vicken Jessourian
Marilou Pinajian, Alex Avedis, Hagop Cilingiryan, Diran Jebejian,
David Kasparian, Gregory Parseghian, Dennis Tarzian,
Dawn Hourdajian and Haykanush Melkonyan.

A second plate collection will be collected today for the
Most Blessed Sacrament Church 787 Franklin Lake Road in
Franklin Lakes NJ. About one week ago flames broke out around
1:45 a.m. at the Church on Franklin Lake Road in Franklin Lakes.
The fire was caused by arson.

HOKEHANKISD

Rick & Chris Dabagian, Alan & Donna Philibosian, Charles &
Linda Silverstein and their Families request Hokehankisd for the
soul of Lucy Dabagian beloved mother, grandmother and great-
grandmother on the 40th day of her passing into eternal rest. The
Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar
Candles be lit in her memory.

Sandie & Larry Burke & Family, Linda & Paul Patruno &
Family request Hokehankisd for the soul of Lucy Dabagian,
loving aunt on the 40th day of her passing into eternal rest. The
Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar
Candles be lit in her memory.
Rose Kirian, Sossi Coopersmith and Family request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Lucy Dabagian**, beloved friend on the 40th day of her passing into eternal rest. The Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar Candles be lit in her memory.

The Astourian Family, Wassef Family and Wells Family request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Ashken Movsessian Amirian**, beloved aunt on the 40th day of her passing into eternal rest. The Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar Candles be lit in her memory.

Dawn, Ed, Michael, and Melissa Donofrio request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Alice Foronjy** loving mother and grandmother on the 6th year of her passing into eternal rest. The Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar Candles be lit in her memory.

John, Mimi & Sylva Demirdjian, John Garo, Christina & Lucas Aram, Ryan John Demirdjian request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Hagop & Sivart Demirdjian, Levon & Nazeli Chaboyan** loving parents grandparents and great grandparents, **Maurice & Krikor Demirdjian, Garbis Chaboyan, Harootium, Lucine & Agavni Babikian, Antranig & Mermine Sahadjian** loving brothers, uncles and aunts of their passing into eternal rest. The Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar Candles be lit in their memory.

Lily Sarkissian & Family request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Alice Najarian**, loving mother and grandmother on the 2nd year of her passing into eternal rest. The Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar Candles be lit in her memory.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Remember in your prayers and ask for the recovery of Robert John Karanfilian III, Annette Kouchshirin, Karen Weidner, John Damergy, Brandon Katz, George Ghazarian Jr., Robert Foronjy, Jim & Wendy Lathey, Aram & Mary Varteressian, Dan Patoyia (Moynihan), Juliette Haddad, James Azarian,
Varoujan Harutunian, Mosses Bairamian, Lou Scipione, Jared Tashjian, Ruben Grigoryants, Michael Sakolsky, Lynne Ford, Frank Cornawchiulo, Ryan Hallak, John Hallak, Carmelina Mancini, Marie Tenguerian, Hana Botie, Mary Ann Kral, Emily Ring, Clara Yeramian, Jerry DiSant, Julie Frattarola, Melanie Sarkisian and all those who are suffering.

We commit our sick and shut-ins to our Heavenly Father who cares and watches over all His children. “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee”

**CHURCH ETIQUETTE:**
Father Diran and the Parish Council sincerely request that parishioners respond to the following, so that our beloved Church may function in a more orderly and respectful manner:

**Altar Candles** ~ Please note, according to Armenian Church tradition, all Altar Candles must be lit before the beginning of Badarak. Those desiring to light candles in memory of loved ones or friends are requested to notify the Church Office in advance by noon of Wednesday preceding the Sunday of remembrance.

**Reverence Required** ~ Please be advised that, according to the tradition of the Armenian Church, members of the congregation are strongly reminded to refrain from walking in and out of the Sanctuary while services are in progress. You are especially reminded **not to do so** during 1) the Chanting of the Gospel, (pg. 17); 2) recitation of the Creed (*Havadamk*), (pg. 18); 3) the Chalice Procession, (pg. 24-25); 4) Hayr Mer (pg 41); 5) the Hymn, “*Der Voghormya,*” (pg. 45); and 6) distribution of the Holy Communion, (p. 49). Also, please do not chew gum or cross legs during church services. Please observe the “arrows” in the new liturgy books. They indicate when you should *Stand, Sit,* or *Kneel.*

**DRESS CODE FOR CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL**
As we worship in our beloved Armenian Church on Sundays and attend Sunday School, let us be mindful that we are in God’s House. Since we are in God’s House, it is important that we dress appropriately. The attire (clothing) we wear on Sundays should be
in good taste; therefore, any transparent clothes, shorts and skirts with length above the knees, halter and tank tops, spaghetti straps, jeans, etc, should be avoided. Bare shoulders should be covered with a shawl.

**KIDNEY DONOR REQUESTS**

**Robert Ross** is one our St. Leon Parishioners and is in need of a kidney transplant. Please call Marlene Ross for further information (201-410-5840). Any donation of a kidney match or otherwise elevates the patient to the top of the list.

**Sebuh Oscherician** is one of our St. Leon Parishioners and Deacon and is in need of a kidney transplant. Please call Rita Oscherician for further information (201-417-7145). Any donation of a kidney match or otherwise elevates the patient to the top of the list.

**ARMENIAN SCHOOL** is selling Baghaj today in the Community Center. Please see Barbara Hovsepian.

**ST. LEON SOCIAL CLUB.** Seniors have much to offer - our wisdom, our experience and our time. St. Leon Social Club meets every Wednesday from 11:00-4:00 PM. Donation $4 coffee and dessert. Bring a sandwich, lunch is at 12:00 noon. There are card games, backgammon, bring a board game or just sit around and have coffee and dessert. Bring a friend and enjoy the afternoon.

**STAR OF HOPE**

**TOYS FOR TOTS**

**EVA’S SHELTER**

We want to thank everyone for the gifts donated to the above organizations for the children in the metropolitan area.
**BIBLE STUDY**  Wednesday Night – January 15 & 29, 2020  
**TIME:**  7:30-9:00 PM.  Come join us as we continue our study of  
Book of Proverbs Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13

**“Wise Sayings of Solomon”**  
The Book of Proverbs is filled with what appears to be human wisdom, but it must be read from a spiritual perspective with an emphasis on our relationship with the Lord.

Chapter 5 is a warning against adultery. There is no question that this is an admonition from a father to a son against a sin that is listed in the Ten Commandments. But it must be read in the context of God's warning to his people not to stray from the Almighty God and have a relationship with false gods.

Chapters 6 and 7 are a warning against folly and adultery. Once again the wisdom offered must be viewed not only on a human level but on a spiritual level. We cannot rest and become lazy and inattentive, or the forces of evil will overtake us, nor can we allow temptations to lead us astray. On a spiritual level, we are fighting the Lord's battle, and we cannot become so content that the lure of this world takes us away from our close relationship with God.

Chapters 8 and 9 are a call to wisdom and a warning against folly. ("Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold, for wisdom is more previous then rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her." Proverbs 8:10-11) There is a stark difference between wisdom and folly. We must choose wisely and with discernment and understanding in our lives; likewise, as God's people, there are two paths we can take, one seeking the Lord, the other seeking the destructive ways of the world. ("The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." Proverbs 9:10)
### ACSA Basketball

#### 2019 - 2020

**First Half Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>HACKENSACK MIDDLE SCHOOL</th>
<th>HACKENSACK HIGH SCHOOL</th>
<th>FAIR LAWN ST LEON GYM</th>
<th>QUEENS VILLAGE VAN BUREN HS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 27</td>
<td>2:00 G LEON1 M LEON M VART1</td>
<td>3:15 VART2 4:30 VART3</td>
<td>2:00 3:15 G LEON2 Jr LEON1 LEON3 LEON2</td>
<td>1:30 2:45 4:00 Jr APC Sr APC M SVC SARK SARK SARK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV 8</td>
<td>1:30 G LEON1 G HM M SVC M SARK</td>
<td>2:45 4:00 6:15 Jr LEON1 Jr LEON2 Jr LEON3 VART3 THOM</td>
<td>Sr HM Jr HM</td>
<td>1:30 2:45 4:00 Sr HM Sr HM M HM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV 10</td>
<td>1:30 Jr SARK Sr HM M THOM M VART2</td>
<td>2:45 4:00 5:15 Jr SARK Jr LEON2 LEON3 VART3</td>
<td>Jr SARK</td>
<td>1:15 2:15 3:15 4:30 Sr HM1 Sr HM2 M HM M LEON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV 17</td>
<td>1:30 Jr SARK M HM M SVC</td>
<td>2:30 3:30 4:45 St HM2 St HM1 St SARK M LEON</td>
<td>Jr SARK</td>
<td>1:30 2:45 4:00 Sr HM G HM Jr HM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV 24</td>
<td>1:30 St APC Jr APC M VART</td>
<td>2:30 3:45 4:50 St LEON1 Jr LEON2 Jr LEON3</td>
<td>Jr LEON1 Jr LEON2 Jr LEON3</td>
<td>1:15 2:15 3:15 4:30 St APC G HM Jr HM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| DEC 8 | 1:30 St LEON1 Jr HM M HM Sr LEON2 | 2:30 4:45 Jr SARK Jr VART Jr SARK | Jr SARK | 1:30 2:30 4:00 Jr SARK |}

**Note to all players and coaches:** Please arrive at least 30 minutes before game time.

Scores, standings, and information at [www.acsasports.org](http://www.acsasports.org)

[www.facebook.com/acsabasketball](http://www.facebook.com/acsabasketball)

[www.instagram.com/acsa_basketball](http://www.instagram.com/acsa_basketball)
Tickets are $100 each or Three (3) tickets for $250.

Drawing held at St. Leon Armenian Church Jan 19, 20 during hospitality hour in Abajian Hall, Approx. 1:00.

To purchase tickets be on the lookout in your mail for the Saint Leon raffle envelope or ask a Parish Council Member.

If you have any questions please contact Vicken Jessourian at 908-600-4670 or jessourian@comcast.net.

Fifty Percent (50%) of the total dollar amount collected will be distributed to the winners.

The prizes will be awarded as follows:

1st Prize ........ 20.0% or up to $12,000
2nd Prize ........ 8.0% or up to $4,800
3rd Prize ........ 6.0% or up to $3,600
4th Prize ........ 4.0% or up to $2,400
5th Prize ........ 3.0% or up to $1,800
6th Prize ........ 3.0% or up to $1,800
7th Prize ........ 2.4% or up to $1,440
8th Prize ........ 1.8% or up to $1,080
9th Prize ........ 1.2% or up to $720
10th Prize ....... 0.6% or up to $360

Attendance is not required for eligibility.
SAINT LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

December 2019

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

December is now upon us and we have just celebrated Giving-Tuesday (on Dec 3rd #GivingTuesday) which kicks off our “season of giving”, and so just as in years past, there is no better time to announce our annual Saint Leon Armenian Church Holiday 50/50 raffle event! Did you know that in 2019 our annual 50/50 raffle was our second largest fundraiser for our parish, placing only behind our Food Festival? Please consider participating and help make this year’s annual 50/50 fundraiser a great success. Be part of the excitement and enjoy the chance to win the big cash prize while supporting Saint Leon. Last year’s first place winner enjoyed $6,360 in cash winnings! There are only six hundred tickets available and a total of ten cash prizes.

This year’s tickets are $100 each OR three tickets for $250.

Fifty Percent (50%) of the total dollar amount collected will be distributed to the winners. The prizes will be awarded as follows:

- 1st Prize – 20.0% or up to $12,000
- 2nd Prize – 8.0% or up to $4,800
- 3rd Prize – 6.0% or up to $3,600
- 4th Prize – 4.0% or up to $2,400
- 5th Prize – 3.0% or up to $1,800
- 6th Prize – 3.0% or up to $1,800
- 7th Prize – 2.4% or up to $1,440
- 8th Prize – 1.8% or up to $1,080
- 9th Prize – 1.2% or up to $720
- 10th Prize – 0.6% or up to $360

Kindly respond by completing the form below & return it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope along with your check, payable to “Saint Leon Armenian Church”. The actual ticket(s) will be sent back to you by mail. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Please note, this year’s Holiday drawing will be held on Sunday January 19th, 2020 at Saint Leon Armenian Church during hospitality hour in Abajan Hall (at approximately 1:00 PM). We look forward to seeing you there (although your attendance is not required for eligibility).

Thank you for supporting our Saint Leon Armenian Church and this year’s annual holiday fundraising event. We wish you and your loved ones a peaceful and joyous Thanksgiving and Christmas season. If you have any questions please contact me at (908) 500-4670 or at jessouran@comcast.net.

With warm wishes,
Vicken Jessouran
50/50 Holiday Raffle Event Committee Chairman

__Saint Leon Armenian Church Year End 50/50 Cash Raffle__

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

__________________________________

Home Telephone: ____________ Work/Cell Phone: ____________

____ (1) ticket for $100
____ (2) tickets for $200
____ (3) tickets for $250

*Please return this form along with your check payable to St. Leon Armenian Church in the enclosed self-addressed envelope. Actual numbered tickets will be mailed back to you. Thank you for your support!*
CELEBRATE ARmenian CHRISTmas
AT ST. LEON

saturday, January 4 , 2020, 7PM TO MIDNIGHT
12-61 saddle river road, Fair lawn, NJ

$55 adults
$25 for students 22 and younger
Meze included cash bar

Mail checks to: Linda Araz Berenson
831 Mountain Avenue, Wyckoff, NJ, 07481

For information
Email preferred: berensonl@aol.com | 201.805.4743
Reservations accepted with full payment to ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH.
Please provide name of guests with payment.
An entire table may be reserved by providing names with payment for 12 guests. NO REFUNDS

ONNIK DINKJIAN
Featuring
MAL BARSAMIAN
ARA DINKJIAN
JIM KZIRIAN
RAFFI MASSOYAN
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

We are again offering the opportunity of sending greetings to your fellow Parishioners through a special St. Leon Christmas Greeting Card. Please complete this form and return it to the Church Office.


CHRISTMAS GREETINGS:
DONATION: ___________
PLEASE PRINT
Name __________________________________________
Address ________________________________________

POINSETTIA’S FOR THE HOLY ALTAR
The Poinsettias that decorate the Altar during the Christmas season, please complete the form below and return it with your check, to the Church Office.

(Please mail by Sunday, December 23, 2019)
The list will appear in the January Bulletin & January Lرادو.

POINSETTIA’S FOR THE ALTAR
DONATION: ___________
PLEASE PRINT
Name __________________________________________
Address ________________________________________
Telephone ________________________________
In Memory of ____________________________
In Honor of ____________
U.S. Senate Recognizes Armenian Genocide

In a stunning turn of events today, the U.S. Senate unanimously adopted the bipartisan Senate Resolution 150—the Armenian Genocide Resolution—formally recognizing the Ottoman Empire's genocide against the Armenian people.

The resolution is identical to House Resolution 296 (adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives in October by a vote of 405 to 11) in its official rejection of Turkish denials of committing genocide against Armenians—as well as against other Christian nations of the late Ottoman Empire, including Greeks, Assyrians, Chaldeans, Syriacs, Arameans, and Maronites.

Passage of the resolution was the culmination of persistent efforts by Senators Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Ted Cruz (R-TX), who introduced the measure four times in the past month—only to have it blocked on the first three occasions. Under Senate rules, any senator can ask to pass a resolution; as long as no other senator objects, the measure will clear the chamber.

On the fourth try by Menendez and Cruz, no objection was raised. The successful unanimous adoption today, December 12, marks the first time that the U.S. Senate has recognized the Armenian Genocide.
The Armenian Genocide Resolution officially establishes “recognition and remembrance” of the Armenian Genocide as a matter of U.S. policy. In addition, the resolution rejects attempts to “enlist, engage, or otherwise associate” the U.S. government with the denial of genocide, and “encourage(s) education and public understanding” of genocide to help prevent modern-day atrocities.

This year January 5th falls on a Sunday. Canonically only one Divine Liturgy (Badarak) is permitted to be celebrated in a day. Therefore we will have Divine Liturgy in the evening of January 5th as always and on Monday January 6th. On Sunday morning January 5th the order of services will be as follows;

9:00 a.m.- 9:50 a.m. Night Service (ԶԵՐԵՆԵՆՏԱԶԵՆ),
10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. Morning Service (ՄԵՆԵՆԵՆՏԱԶԵՆ),
11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Midday Service (ՏԵՍԱԶԵՆ).

**HOLIDAY FOOD SALES**

*St. Leon is selling frozen foods for the Holiday’s*

- **Lamb Shish Kabob** $15.00 package of 4 skewers
- **Keufta** $25.00 package of 6
- **Cheese Borag** $15.00 package of 6
- **Chorag** $13.00 package of 12
- **Filo Dough** $2.00 1 lb package
The 8th annual gathering of youth from Oriental Orthodox churches will take place on Saturday, December 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at the St. Mary Coptic School (80 David St., South River, NJ). The event is sponsored by the Standing Conference of Oriental Orthodox Youth Association (SCOYYA).

Diocesan Primate Bishop Daniel will attend with the leaders of our sister Oriental Orthodox churches. The conference theme, “Women in Oriental Orthodoxy,” will feature keynote speakers and a panel of women from each of the jurisdictions: the Armenian, Coptic, Ethiopian, Syriac, Malankara Syriac, and Eritrean churches.

Armenian Church teens and young adults are encouraged to attend.
What It's All About

There were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

But the angel said unto them, “Fear not! For, behold—I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying: “Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace; goodwill toward men.”

As a very wise person once said, having quoted this passage from the Gospel of Luke: “That’s what Christmas is all about.”

This coming week, as so much of the world prepares to celebrate the birth of Jesus on December 25, we wish our readers all the blessings of Christmas.

Come January 6, faithful souls in Armenian sanctuaries across the world will be raising their voices in grateful praise of our Lord’s birth—and we encourage you to be a part of that joyous celebration in your local church.

And throughout the coming days, keep hold of what Christmas is all about: God’s love for mankind; His gifts of peace and goodwill—embodied in the birth of His precious son. Eastern Diocese
Everyone is invited to the Community Center immediately following worship services. Today’s Hospitality is given by the ACYOA Jrs.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Dec 22</td>
<td>Morning Service Divine Liturgy Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Dec 24</td>
<td>Christmas Eve Service 7:30 PM Vespers 8:00 PM Caroling 8:30 PM Hospitality</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Dec 25</td>
<td>Merry Christmas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Dec 27</td>
<td>No Armenian School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Dec 29</td>
<td>Morning Service Divine Liturgy No Sunday School-Family Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Jan 1, 2020</td>
<td>Happy New Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Jan 3</td>
<td>Armenian School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Jan 4</td>
<td>Annual Holiday Dance – see flyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Jan 5</td>
<td>Night Service 9:00 AM Morning Service 10-11:00 AM Mid-Day service (Jashou Service 11-12:00 PM) Christmas Eve Service 8:00 PM Badarak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Jan 6</td>
<td>Armenian Christmas Day 10:00 AM Badarak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Jan 8</td>
<td>St. Leon Social Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>Armenian School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Jan 12</td>
<td>Morning Service Divine Liturgy Sunday School</td>
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