

ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

Second Day of Theophany

January 7, 2024

Morning Service 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM



Readings from the Holy Scripture

Acts 6:8-8:2
John 12:24-26

“God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life” John 3:16

Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian
ՏԻՐԱՆ ՔԶՆՅ. ՊՈՀԱՃԵԱՆ

12-61 Saddle River Road, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
Phone (201) 791-2862

Church E-mail address: churchoffice@stleon.org
Fr. Diran's E-mail address: dbohajian@stleon.org
St. Leon's Website: <http://www.stleon.org>

ALTAR SERVERS

Deacons Nurhan Ezik, Dr. Berdj Feredjian,
Diran Jebejian, Dr. Hrach Kasaryan,
Nubar Kasaryan, Dr. Gregory Kazanjian,
Sebuh Oscherician, Sarkis Pilavdjian

Subdns. Paul Chamesian, Jack Hamparian, Vahe Kiljian



CHOIR MASTER
George Paroonagian

PRINCIPAL ORGANIST
Sirvard Galstian

ASSISTANT CHOIR DIRECTORS
Daniella Ashbahian Dawn Donofrio



Our Artsakh Refugee Brothers & Sisters Need Our Help
Please Keep Armenia in Your Prayers



PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairperson	<i>Dr. Mark Badach</i>
Vice Chairperson	<i>Serda Belekdanian</i>
Treasurer	<i>George Kundakji</i>
Assistant Treasurer	<i>Haig Buchakjian</i>
Recording Sec'y	<i>Peter Bedevian</i>
Corresponding Sec'y	<i>Patricia Toofangjian</i>
Members at Large	<i>Hratch Beylerian, Hagop Cilingiryan, Dawn Hourdajian, Marilou Pinajian, Barbara Royland</i>



Thank you to the Fair Lawn High School Transition Program students who typically fold & deliver our weekly bulletins.

HOKEHANKISD

† Rose Kirian & family request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Mirjan Kirian**, beloved husband, father, grandfather on the occasion of the 35th year of passing into eternal peace. The family has donated towards the altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved one.

† Anait Kasabyan requests Hokehankisd for the soul of beloved husband, father, grandfather, **Toros Kasabyan**, and also for the souls of **all the deceased Kasabyan family members**, and **Antranik, Alice, George, & Lucig Boyajian**, **Luso Gaysimonian & family members**, and **Sergey & Maro Krikorian**. She has donated towards the altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of her loved ones.

Hokehankisd Request Deadline:

Hokehankisd requests must be submitted by **noon on Thursdays** so that it can be printed in that week's Sunday bulletin.

Please be mindful that a standard word format is used to maintain non-preferential consistency in the allotted printing space.

Be sure to **include contact information** when emailing or leaving a message with your submissions.



PRAYER FOR REQUIEM- HOKEHANKISD

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, Son of God, forbearing and compassionate, have compassion, in your love as our creator, upon the souls of your servants who are at rest, especially upon the souls of your servants (names), for whom we are offering these prayers. Be mindful of them on the great day of the coming of your kingdom. Make them worthy of mercy, of expiation and forgiveness of sins. Glorify them and reckon them with the company of your saints at your right hand. For you are the Lord and creator of all, judge of the living and of the dead. And to you is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and unto the ages of ages.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Remember in your prayers and ask for the recovery of,

(Kindly assist with updating the prayer list by notifying the church office of any changes).

Aleksan Aristakesian, Felicia Asomani, James Azarian, Mosses Bairamian, Hana Botie, Zoe Brooks, Frank Cornacchiulo, Jerry DiSanti, Julie Frattarola, Varoujan Harutunian, Lusine Hovsepyan, Silva Jinivizian, Robert John Karanfilian III, Brandon Katz, Annette Kucukshirin, Jim & Wendy Lathey, Sara Malajian, George Malke, Carmelina Mancini, Bill Manookian, SebuH Oscherician, Emily Ring, Michael Sakolsky, Melanie Sarkisian, Marie Tenguerian, Greg Tenbekjian, Clara Yeramian.

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

Do you know what the writing above the altar says?



*It is written in classical Armenian and says,
"Love one another, because God is Love."*

("Seeretsek izmeemeeyanis, zee Asdvadz ser e")

Church Etiquette

Reverence Required

Please refrain from entering the pews when the following parts of the *Divine Liturgy (Soorp Badarak)* are taking place.

Kindly, stand in the back of the church until these parts have ended.

The parish council members will be happy to assist you.

1. Chanting of the Gospel, pg. 17
2. Recitation of the Creed (Havadamk), pg.18
3. Chalice Procession, pg. 24-25
4. Intonation by the Priest, pg. 31
5. Vorti Asdoodzo pg. 33
6. Hayr Mer, pg. 41
7. Hymn, "Der Voghormya," pg. 42-45
8. Holy Communion, pg. 49.

1. Also, please **do not** chew gum, cross legs, nor stretch arms over back pews during church services.
2. Please observe the "arrows" in the liturgy books, they indicate when you should **Stand, Sit, or Kneel**.
3. For your convenience, liturgy book pages are indicated on the monitor located on the right side of the altar.



ՀԱՂՈՐԴԱԳՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածինը դատապարտում է Երուսաղեմի Հայոց Պատրիարքության և հայ համայնքի նկատմամբ իրականացված բռնությունները

Խոր մտահոգությամբ տեղեկացանք Երուսաղեմի Հայոց Պատրիարքարանին պատկանող «Կովերի պարտեզ» կալվածքի շուրջ շարունակվող սադրիչ գործողությունների մասին: Դեկտեմբերի 28-ին երեք տասնյակից ավելի զինված անձինք ներխուժել են «Կովերի պարտեզ»-ի տարածք, իրականացրել բռնի գործողություններ, որի հետևանքով մարմնական տարբեր աստիճանի վնասվածքներ են ստացել Պատրիարքության եկեղեցականներ և տեղի հայ համայնքի անդամներ:

Ակնհայտ է, որ սադրիչները հերթական անգամ փորձում են ահաբեկության, սպառնալիքների ու բռնի գործողությունների միջոցով հասնել «Կովերի պարտեզ» կալվածքի յուրացմանը՝ ոտնահարելով օրենքով սահմանված ընթացակարգերը:

Խստորեն դատապարտելով կատարվածը՝ հույս ենք հայտնում, որ Իսրայելի իշխանությունները իրավաչափորեն կարձագանքեն Պատրիարքության և հայ համայնքի նկատմամբ դրսևորված հանցավոր գործողություններին, պատասխանատվության կենթարկվեն մեղավորները և կբացառվի նմանօրինակ դեպքերի կրկնությունը:

Մեր գորակցությունն ենք հայտնում Երուսաղեմի Սբոց Հակոբյանց զինվորյալ միաբանությանը և հայ համայնքին՝ հայցելով Տիրոջ օգնականությունը:

Statement of Support for the Armenians of Jerusalem



My blessings to our Diocesan faithful, as we await the New Year and our celebration of the Lord's Nativity and Theophany.

Earlier today, the Mother See of Holy

Etchmiadzin issued a statement on the ongoing situation concerning properties of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem. In the statement, the Mother See condemns a disturbing recent turn towards violence against the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem and the Armenian community. We share the full statement in an English translation here:

"With deep concern, we have learned about the ongoing provocations surrounding the 'Cows' Garden' property long owned by the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

"On December 28, some three dozen armed men invaded the precinct of the Cows' Garden and carried out violent actions, as a result of which clergymen of the Patriarchate and members of the local Armenian community received various physical injuries.

"The provocateurs are once again trying to seize the Cows' Garden property through terror, threats, and acts of violence, in clear violation of the procedures established by law.

"We condemn what occurred, in no uncertain terms. In doing so, we also express our hope that the Israeli authorities will respond to the criminal actions against the Armenian community and Patriarchate by using the full force of law; that the culprits will be held accountable; and that a repetition of similar cases will be deterred.

"Finally, we express our support for the monastic Brotherhood of Sts. James of Jerusalem, and the Armenian community, as we pray for God's aid."

On behalf of the Eastern Diocese, I wish to echo the Mother See's expression of support for the Patriarchate and the faithful Armenian community of Jerusalem, and its condemnation of the violence and threats enacted against our brothers and sisters.

We are grateful to His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, and the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, for their clear and forceful statement on the distressing turn of events involving our centuries-old Jerusalem Patriarchate and the community that has lived and prospered in the Holy City since ancient times.

In these final days of the year, I ask our faithful to please offer prayers to our Lord Jesus Christ, to protect and preserve the Armenian heritage of the Holy Land, and to place His supportive hand on our people there, in our homeland, and throughout the world.

Prayerfully,
Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan,
Primate

Fundamental Teachings of the Armenian Church



The Seven Sacraments...

Baptism, Confirmation, Penance, Holy Communion,
Matrimony, Holy Orders, Unction with Oil (for the sick)

The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy...

To instruct the ignorant,
To counsel the doubtful,
To exhort & convert sinners,
To comfort the sorrowing & afflicted,
To forgive offenses,
To suffer wrongs patiently,
To pray for others, living & dead.

The Four Cardinal Virtues...

Prudence, Justice, Temperance, Fortitude

The Four Notes of the True Church...

One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

The Four Symbols of the Gospels...

St. Matthew- Angel St. Mark- Winged Lion,
St. Luke- Winged Ox St. John- Eagle

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit...

Wisdom & understanding,
Counsel & spiritual strength,
Knowledge & true godliness,
Holy fear of the Lord.



BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday, Jan 10, 2024.

TIME: 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Call or e-mail Fr. Diran to receive a zoom invite to the Bible study group.

Next bible study will focus on Jesus's public ministry in the Synoptic Gospels.

John the Baptist- Apart from Jesus Christ, John the Baptist is the most theologically significant figure in the Gospels. As was the case with Jesus, his birth was meticulously recorded. His entrance into the world was marked by angelic proclamation and divine intervention. John's birth not only parallels that of Jesus but echoes the momentous occasion of the birth of Isaac to Abraham and Sarah. John is clearly a pivotal figure in the salvation history of God. The central theme of his ministry was, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near (Matthew 3:2). He was called "The Baptist" because his practice was to baptize those who responded to the message he proclaimed and sincerely repented of their sins. John was an end-times prophet. He conducted his ministry with an eschatological authority that demanded immediate action. He taught that judgement is at hand. The axe is laid to the roots and God will thoroughly purge his threshing floor. And the authenticity of repentance was evidenced in very practical terms: share with those in need, eliminate graft and prohibit extortion. John was courageous in that confronted the hypocrisy of the religious establishment. He did not hesitate to expose the immorality of Herod and chose to die a martyr's death rather than compromise his convictions (Matthew 14:3-12, Mark 6:17-19).

Church Campus Happenings...

Kiss of Peace: “Krisdos ee mech mer haydnetsav.”

(Christ is revealed among us.)

“Orhnyal e haydnootyoonun Krisdosi.”

(Blessed is the revelation of Christ.)

We need volunteers to perform the “Kiss of Peace” during Sunday Badarak. It’s a beautiful way to partake in our service. Please consider volunteering & call our church office if interested.

Armenian School:



All inquiries for purchasing opportunities of lahmajun, sujuk, & baghaj, may be forwarded to Nora Balekji at 973-513-2507 or nbalekji@gmail.com
Pre-paid orders may be picked up in Abajian Hall on the designated day.

Sunday School:

Runs from 10am -12pm, PreK through 11th grades. Click on the following link to register students; <https://bit.ly/3zLZoF6>. For further inquiries contact **Andrea Carden at 201-264-2805, acarden56@gmail.com.**

St. Leon’s Social Club:

Social Club meets every Wednesday, 11:30am-3:00pm at the elevator accessible, upper level of our **Youth Center**. We encourage you to bring a friend and spend an afternoon together! *Donation is \$3.*
Hope to see you there this week!

Coffee Hospitality:

Today’s hospitality is hosted by our ACYOA Jrs.
Please join us *after* Badarak, in Abajian Hall for coffee & fellowship.

Please Note: All campus postings *must be pre-approved* by the church office. **All others will be removed.** No taping on glass nor doors permitted. And *sorry*, no personal business promotions. Consider instead, inquiring about advertisement opportunities in our *Lradoo*.



RECYCLE YOUR BIKES

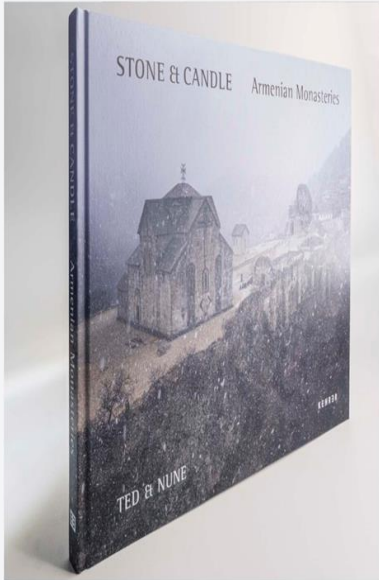
**Here's a chance to do something really meaningful,
*WITHOUT WRITING A CHECK!***

**The children forced out of Artsakh had to leave their
*prized possession behind: THEIR BIKES!***

**Donate your bike and put a big smile on the face of a refugee kid.
Contact George Bedrosian at 201-666-3539 or text to 201-887-0635.**

George will arrange for someone to pick up your bike. The bike should be in working order (flat tires ok). Rob Ohnikian, owner of Bicycle Depot in Pearl River, NY has generously agreed to tune up the bikes and prepare them for shipping in conjunction with the next Knights of Vartan container shipment to Armenia.

SAVE THE DATE



STONE & CANDLE: ARMENIAN MONASTERIES BOOK PRESENTATION & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION BY TED & NUNE

JAN 12 2024, 7:30 PM

ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH | ABAJIAN HALL
12-61 SADDLE RIVER ROAD, FAIR LAWN, NJ

EVENT INFO: ARA@EDRCORP.NET | 917.837.1297
WWW.TEDANDNUNE.COM | 914.693.0649 | NUNE@TEDANDNUNE.COM

STONE & CANDLE

Armenian Monasteries

Book Presentation & Photography Exhibition
By Ted & Nune

Friday, January 12, 2024 7:30 PM

St Leon Armenian Church, Abajian Hall

12-61 Saddle River Road Fair Lawn, NJ, 07410

For more info: ara@edrcorp.net or 917 837 1297



Register here

Advance registration
appreciated.

Immerse yourself in the captivating beauty of Armenian monasteries through stunning photographs. Some from Artsakh—dating from the 4th century and among the earliest of the Christian world—were centers of education, where art and science flourished. They stand as timeless monuments of faith, devoid of crowds, open to the winds, and silent.

In addition to celebrating our rich architectural heritage, the enchanting evening will be an opportunity to learn from Columbia University's Dr. Kim Hekimian about our collaboration with the Fund for Armenian Relief supporting the special needs of pregnant women, infants, and young refugees from Artsakh. St. Leon will match each dollar donated by parishioners and friends, through the end of January, up to \$50,000. Proceeds from the exhibition will also be dedicated to this effort.

www.tedandnune.com . 914.693.0649 . nune@tedandnune.com

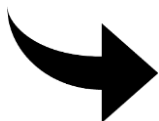


Holy Name Medical Center provides
**COMPLIMENTARY BLOOD PRESSURE
SCREENING at St. Leon**

Typically, every third Wednesday of each
month, **from 2-3pm.**

We need more participants for this service to
continue.

Please consider stopping by on our next
scheduled screening-



January 17, 2024
(Mark your calendars)

It's a walk-in service, no appointment needed.
Feel free to call the church office,
with any questions.
201-791-2862

Your heart will thank you!





ST. LEON

Winter Dance

SATURDAY, JAN. 27
7PM TO MIDNIGHT

SHANT MASSOYAN VOCALS
RAFFI MASSOYAN OUD
STEVE VOSBIKIAN, JR. CLARINET
ARA DINKJIAN KEYBOARD
JIM KZIRIAN DUMBEG

\$65 adults

\$30 students 22
and younger

MEZE INCLUDED
CASH BAR

TICKETS

MAIL CHECKS TO: Ara Araz
876 Pueblo Drive, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417
OR VISIT <https://bit.ly/Winter-Dance-Saint-Leon>

Reservations accepted with full payment to
ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH.
Please provide names of guests with
payment. An entire table may be reserved by
providing names for 12 guests with payment.

NO REFUNDS.

ara@edrcorp.net // 917 837 1297



Please join the St. Leon's Women's Guild for

An Evening of Music: Early Recordings of Armenian Classics

Presented by Musician & Composer Ara Dinkjian

Ara Dinkjian will discuss early recordings of well-known Armenian songs, play recordings made more than 100 years ago, and share historic photographs. Experience a celebration of the profound influence of Armenian music and tradition.

6:30 – 7:30PM

Mezze and Social Hour

7:45PM

Presentation by Ara

RSVP by 1/24/2024

\$25 Donation per person in advance

\$30 Donation per person at door

Checks Payable to:

St. Leon Women's Guild
12-61 Saddle River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Questions?

Please contact Lisa Boyajian
(551) 265 – 1105
levonandlisab@verizon.net

February

2

6:30PM

St. Leon Armenian
Church
12-61 Saddle River Rd
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410



EVENT SUBSIDIZED BY THE GABRELLIAN ENDOWMENT FUND



ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

12-61 Saddle River Road Fair Lawn, NJ 07410 Tel 201-791-2862 Fax 201-791-1329

\$50,000 MATCHING DONATION CHALLENGE

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Leon Armenian Church,

Father Diran, the Parish Council, and Delegates are pleased to announce a program to support the special needs of pregnant women, infants and young refugees from Artsakh. In an effort to address this urgent humanitarian crisis, **St. Leon has pledged to match each dollar you donate up to \$50,000, for a total of \$100,000!!**

This vulnerable population is arriving in Armenia malnourished and unprepared. If left unchecked, these conditions could lead to serious developmental difficulties and long-term health issues. Many of us have wondered, "What can I do; what's the best way I can help?" In response to these questions, St. Leon is partnering with the Fund for Armenian Relief (FAR) which has the capability of implementing this initiative with their on-the-ground team in Armenia.

This program will:

- *Remedy deficiencies in nutrition for pregnant women, newborns, and young children
- *Ensure healthcare access for refugees
- *Strengthen perinatal health systems
- *Provide mental health and psychosocial support
- *Conduct health education programs for refugees on prenatal care, child nutrition, and hygiene
- *Be closely monitored and evaluated by FAR as it progresses

Please be generous in your support of this most fragile population which represents the current and future generations in our Homeland. Checks should be written to St. Leon Armenian Church, with "Artsakh Relief" in the memo line. Questions can be directed to Ara Hourdajian at ahourdajian@gmail.com or (201) 341-9489. Together we can make a difference!

Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian, Pastor

Dr. Mark Badach, Parish Council Chair

COLLECTION FOR ARMENIA

Sponsored by The Knights/Daughters of Vartan

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

As the humanitarian crisis in Armenia continues, we are stepping up our efforts! The Knights/Daughters of Vartan will be sending a container of **NEW CLOTHING** and **OTHER MUCH NEEDED ITEMS** to families that have lost everything!!

**EVERY SUNDAY, BEGINNING FEBRUARY 28TH from
10AM to 12PM**

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE VERY MUCH NEEDED:

NEW OR GENTLY USED (MUST BE WASHED BEFORE DONATING)

- All Sizes of Clothing, Accessories, Belts, Costume Jewelry, Handbags, Ties, Hair Accessories, et
- Items for Sewing: Fabric, Felt, Notions, Buttons, Thread, Sewing Needles, etc.
- Items for Crafting: Yarn, Embroidery Thread, Knitting and Crochet Needles, Crafting Items
- Art Supplies; School Supplies; Office Supplies
- Small Household items; Kitchen Utensils, Pots, Pans
- Sporting Goods (Sports Jerseys, Deflated Soccer Balls, Volleyballs, Basketballs, Tennis and Badminton Rackets and Balls, Helmets, Pads, Frisbees, Gym mats, Baseball and Softball Bats, Gloves and Balls (as well as gear), Lacrosse Sticks, Balls, and Gear, Yoga mats, etc.
- Musical Instruments -Legos; Non-breakable Christmas Ornaments/Décor

NEW ONLY

- Underwear, Bras, Tights,
- Shoes, Boots, Sneakers, Slippers; Hats, Scarves, Gloves, Socks
- Beauty Supplies: Nail clippers, Files, Polish, Combs, Skin Care, Makeup, Face Cream, Perfume
- Dental supplies: Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Floss, Mouth Wash
- Hygiene products: Adult & Baby Diapers, Shampoo, Soap, Laundry Detergent, Feminine Napkins, Deodorant, etc.
- Toys (without batteries); Board games and Puzzles; Pet Supplies
- Blankets, Sheets, Towels, Pillow Covers, Pillows

PLEASE DROP OFF DONATIONS TO:

St. Leon Armenian Church (at the Cottage House)
12-61 Saddle River Rd, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

All items MUST be delivered in unsealed cardboard boxes or reusable bags (no plastic bags) and at the DAYS/HOURS listed above.

Also, we kindly ask all who are able to please help with shipping costs by making a tax-deductible donation to "Knights of Vartan" - please write "Artsakh Refugees" on the memo line.

For further information contact: Leo Manuelian (201-218-4058)

St Leon Church Membership

How do we understand membership
in the Armenian Church?

By receiving the sacrament of baptism in the Armenian Church, we are all members. However, per the bylaws of our diocese, membership is further understood as those who annually pay dues to a specific parish.

A dues-paying member is one who takes responsibility for offering their service for the spiritual and financial growth of our parish and in the advancing our Diocesan Christian mission.

“The mission of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox 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 the common life in Christ as expressed in the distinctive faith-experience of the Armenian people.”

Further, dues-paying members are eligible to participate in the governance of our parish by voting at the Parish Assembly and may run for office in any of the executive bodies of the various organizations of the parish, including the Parish Council.

The St. Leon Parish Assembly has designated the following amounts as the required minimum dues for St. Leon Parish Membership. Please consider becoming a dues-paying member & contribute as generously as the Lord leads you.



*Individual (18+): \$175

*Student (18-24): \$50


*Senior (65+): \$100

**Applications will be supplied upon request.*

REMINDER: Parish Assembly is scheduled for February 4, 2024.
Dues paying members should be up to date with their payments to vote.

Happy New Year 2024

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Jan 7	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School
Wed	Jan 10	Senior Social Club
Fri	Jan 12	Stone & Candle Exhibit 7:30pm Armenian School resumes
Sun	Jan 14	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School
Wed	Jan 17	Senior Social Club, HNH Nurse Visit 2pm 
Fri	Jan 19	Armenian School
Sun	Jan 21	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School ACYOA MANTI SALE
Wed	Jan 24	Senior Social Club
Fri	Jan 26	Armenian School
Sat	Jan 27	Winter Dance
Sun	Jan 28	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School
Wed	Jan 31	Senior Social Club
Fri	Feb 2	Armenian School
Sun	Feb 4	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School Parish Assembly
Tues	Feb 6	St Leon Day
Wed	Feb 7	Senior Social Club
Fri	Feb 9	Armenian School
Sun	Feb 11	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School

Last Gospel: John 12:24-26

There are no wedding sacraments permitted on Palm Sunday (March 24, 2024) & on the five major feast days in the Armenian Church which are:

Armenian Christmas – January 6, 2025

Easter – March 31, 2024

Transfiguration – July 7, 2024

Assumption of the Virgin Mary – August 18, 2024

Exaltation of the Holy Cross – September 15, 2024

