

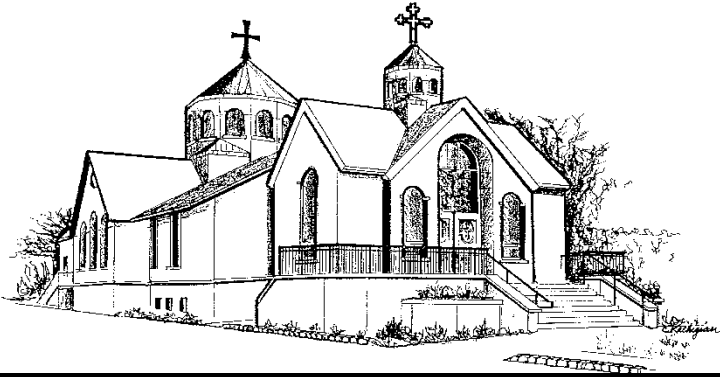
**ARMENIAN CHURCH**  
*Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord*  
*July 19, 2020*

Morning Service 9:00 AM

Առավոտեան Ժամ 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Ս. Պատարագ 10:00 AM



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***Readings from the Holy Scripture***

Zec 14:16-21

1 John 1:1-7

Gospel According to Matthew 16:13-17:13

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

Տ. ՏԻՐԱՆ ԲԶՆՅ. ՊՕՀԱՃԵԱՆ

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Fr. Diran's E-mail address: [dbohajian@stleon.org](mailto: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, Nurhan Ezik

**Subdns.** Paul Chamesian, Gregory Kazanjian, Vahe Kiljian,  
Jack Hamparian

## **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.”*

**St. Leon Armenian Church is open. Reservations are necessary, please call office.**



**No Hokehankisd Today**

**Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus**

**Antastan Service – The blessing of the 4 Corners of the world will follow after Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian’s Sermon.**

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Remember in your prayers and ask for the recovery of Kyle Wakefield, Karen Weidner, Robert John Karanfilian III, Annette Kouchshirin, Brandon Katz, George Ghazarian Jr., Robert Foronjy, Jim & Wendy Lathey, , Dan Patoyia (Moynihan), Juliette Haddad, James Azarian, Varoujan Harutunian, Mosses Bairamian, 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”.*

**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*.

## **ALL ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED**

Sunday School and Armenian School have been suspended  
Bible Study has been suspended  
St. Leon Social Club (Wednesday’s) is suspended

## **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.

## CANDLES



If you would like to come to church to light a candle, we set aside

Tuesday from 11:00-1:00 PM

Thursday from 5:00 – 7:00 PM.

Call the church office (201-791-2862) and let us know what day and time you would like to come and light a candle. By appointment only.

### **BIBLE STUDY Wednesday July 22, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.**

Bible Study is conducted by ZOOM

The Song of Solomon

Chapter 6:4 “The Bride’s Matchless Beauty”

Chapter 7 “Expressions of Praise”

Chapter 8:5 “Homecoming”

This book is a poem which is full of symbolic language. Scholars have a difference in understanding of this book. Some say that King Solomon chooses a country girl for his bride but the young lady refuses the king's advances in favor of her country lover. Another understanding is that the country lover and Solomon are the same person. Jews view this book as metaphor in God's love for the Jewish people. Christians view this book as Christ's love for the church. There is a heavy focus of passionate and erotic love between this man and woman which is expressed in a very descriptive way.

# Announcing the St. Leon Drive-by Food Pantry Donation Day



St. Leon parishioners have always donated food for those in need. During this time of the pandemic and not being able to attend church, we still want to do our part in continuing to support our local food pantry. Therefore, we will have a drive-by food donation day. We hope many of our parishioners will participate. For more information call Barbara Hovsepian cell 551-206-6686

**Sunday, July 19, 2020 between the hours of 1 PM to 3 PM.**  
**Rain date Sunday July 26**

Please bring non-perishable food in a supermarket bag. Or a gift card in any amount that the food pantry can use to buy perishable food items.

### PROCEDURE

- Cars must enter the driveway to the north between the church and priest's house, drive to the patio area, one person wearing a mask can get out to drop off the donation on the patio area.
- Gift cards can be donated and put in the box on the patio labeled **Gift Cards**.
- Cars then continue around the back of the Community Center and exit from the south side between the church and the Trinity house.

Our Custodians will collect the food and gift cards and drive them to the food pantry.

### Most Needed Items

Supermarket Gift Cards  
Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc.)  
Canned Hearty Soups  
Canned Vegetables and Tomatoes  
Pasta, White and Brown Rice, Dried Beans  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Peanut Butter & Jelly  
Tomato Sauce  
Cold Cereal (low sugar), Oatmeal, Pancake Mix  
Powdered Milk and/or Boxed Milk, such as Parmalat  
Canned Fruits  
Instant Potatoes  
100% Juice  
Coffee  
Baby Formula & Diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6  
Bar or Bottled Soap  
Toothpaste, Toothbrush & Dental



## **FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD**

St. Mary died in

Jerusalem fifteen years after the Resurrection of Christ. The Apostles, with the exception of St. Bartholomew, buried her with great reverence in the Garden of Gethsemane. When Bartholomew came to visit the tomb and pay his respects, he found it empty. He and the Apostles were convinced her body had been taken to heaven by the Lord. This belief was sanctioned by the Church between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century.

On the day of the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God (*ASDVADZADZIN - Bearer of God*), the Blessing of Grapes takes place immediately after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. As thanksgiving for the fruitfulness of the year, fruits are presented to God to be blessed. The grapes are considered the queen of fruits, thereby symbolizing all crops. The Holy Virgin Mary is considered the "Tree of Life" who gave birth to the "Good Fruit" (Christ) for our salvation. Christ compared Himself to the Vine (John 15:1) and blessed the cup of wine to be His Blood. Grape wine is used in Holy Communion as the Blood of Christ that was shed for the salvation of mankind.

## **BLESSING OF THE GRAPES**

On Sunday, August 16, 2020 -The Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God and the Blessing of Grapes.

If you wish to give a contribution to the Feast Day, please fill in the form below and mail it to the Church Office with your check by Friday, August 7, 2020

Please mark "*Grapes*" on the memo line.

*Name Please Print* \_\_\_\_\_

*Donation \$* \_\_\_\_\_

Please Note – This is a major Feast Day there will be **NO Hokehankisd.**

Every year St. Leon commemorates the Feast of the Blessing of the Grapes and Madagh to the faithful.

Due to the Covid Virus we are unable to go through with our traditions however we will still be Blessing grapes for ceremonial purses and not for consumption.

Donations for Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother -of - God and the Blessing of the Grapes is welcome.



## **“We Raise Our Eyes to Heaven”: A Message on the Attacks Against Armenia**

Diocesan Primate Bishop Daniel Findikyan issued a message today on the border attacks in Armenia. “We have all been moved this week by the terrible news of the assault on Armenia’s northern border by the military of Azerbaijan, resuming their decades-long aggression against our homeland and its people,” he says.

Naming the four soldiers who lost their lives in the fighting (see the story above), he notes that “Our Catholicos, His Holiness Karekin II, in a touching expression of his role as father of all our people, traveled to the Tavush region where the incursion occurred, to meet in person with the troops, encourage their hearts, and preside over the funeral of Major Hambardzumyan.”



Bishop Daniel continues: “Today we as a Diocese, along with fellow Armenians throughout the world, stand with our Catholicos in his humane expression of consolation and resolve. We stand with our homeland in denouncing this week’s outrage against Armenian sovereignty and security. And we stand with all our countrymen in our grief over the loss of life, and the continuing endangerment of our peace-loving people.”

The Bishop concludes: “Let us also support the cause in ways we can, by contacting our own political representatives, and insisting that the U.S. government should condemn the attack on Armenia, promote peace in the region, and withdraw support that would enable Azerbaijan to pursue its intolerant aims.

“The events of the past days—adding to those of the past months—illustrate as never before the deep need humanity has for a heavenly Savior. For centuries, our people have recognized and embraced that Savior in the person of Jesus Christ, and he is with us now and always. We raise our eyes and voices to heaven to seek his will. As we approach the inspirational feast day of *Vartavar*, let all Armenian Christians, united in spirit, more fully open our hearts to the transfiguring power of God.” *E-newsletter of Eastern Diocese*

## **KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE**

As you enter St. Leon Church, your temperature will be taken with Infrared Forehead Thermometer and you are required to use the hand sanitizer prior to enter the church.

**Sitting in the church-** Take your seat in the pews marked with a white X. Please make sure your mask is on at all times. Choir members and altar servers will sit in the front pews of the church marked with a green X.

**Hokehankisd-** Those requesting Hokehankisd will be allowed to sit upstairs in the balcony with their family members ( maximum 10 per family). Parish Council will provide guidance.

**Elevator-** Will not be in use at this time.

**Lighting Candles-** Please light your candles in the back candle stand only. Do not you use the candle stands in the front. No large gatherings around the candle stand. One person at a time should approach the candle stand. Parish Council will guide you.

**Kiss of Peace-** will not be offered in the traditional manner. Fr. Diran will offer the Kiss of Peace from the altar. From a distance you can acknowledge your fellow parishioners with the Kiss of Peace without approaching them.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion-** Fr. Diran will give instructions on how Holy Communion will be distributed. Everyone will stay in their pews during the confession and the prayer of absolution. Afterwards, the Parish Council will call you by rows to come forward to receive Holy Communion.

**Plate Collection-** will not take place in the church. As you exit the church at the end of Badarak, please place your offering in the plate which is located in the Narthex.

**Exiting the Church-** The Parish Council will call you by your pews to exit the church in a safe manner.

**Hospitality/Fellowship-** There will be **no Coffee Hospitality** after Badarak.



## **Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus (Vardavar) July 19, 2020**

**The Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus** is celebrated by various Christian denominations. While many churches do not regard it as one of the most important feasts, it is considered a very significant church holiday in Armenia.

The Feast of the Transfiguration marks one of the miracles of Jesus in the Canonical Gospels. In this episode in the New Testament, Jesus Christ was transfigured and became radiant in glory upon a mountain in front of three of his apostles (Peter, John and James).

The Armenian Apostolic Church celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ fourteen weeks (ninety-eight days) after Easter, so it always falls on a Sunday. It is one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Church.

The Feast of the Transfiguration in Armenia is commonly referred to as Vardavar. Although now it is a religious holiday, its history dates back to pre-Christian times. Its ancient forerunner was dedicated to the deity Astghik. She was the goddess of fertility, love, beauty and water. That is why the best known tradition of the holiday is to pour water on one another.

The word “Vardavar” (or “Vartavar”) means “the festival of roses”. In ancient times, roses were associated with Astghik.

## The Transfiguration

17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

2 There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. 3 Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

4 Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

6 When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. 7 But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” 8 When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

**Եկեղեցիների Համաշխարհային Խորհուրդը**

**հանդես է եկել հայտարարությամբ**

Վերջին օրերին հայ-ադրբեջանական սահմանին Ադրբեջանի կողմից սանձազերծված ռազմական գործողությունների, խաղաղ բնակավայրերի հրետակոծման և լարվածության հրահրման առիթով հուլիսի 16-ին Եկեղեցիների Համաշխարհային Խորհրդի (ԵՀԽ) գործող գլխավոր քարտուղար Հայր Իոան Սաուկան հանդես է եկել հայտարարությամբ:

«Եկեղեցիների Համաշխարհային Խորհուրդը հորդորում է շտապ դադարեցնել հայ-ադրբեջանական սահմանին հակամարտության սրացումը, որը կիրակի՝ հուլիսի 12-ից խլեց առնվազն 16 մարդու կյանք և հանգեցրեց ապակայունացման՝ սպառնալով վերաճելու լայնամասշտաբ հակամարտության:

ԵՀԽ-ն խորապես անհանգստացած է առկա զեկույցներով, որոնց համաձայն փոխադարձ հրետակոծությունների հետևանքով քաղաքացիական անձեր են տուժել և քաղաքացիական կարևոր ենթակառուցվածքներ, ներառյալ կորոնավիրուսի համավարակի դեմ անձնական պաշտպանիչ միջոցներ արտադրող Հայաստանի Տավուշի մարզի գործարանը:

Մասնավորապես Նոր կորոնավիրուսի համավարակի այս իրավիճակում, որը ներագրել է նաև Հայաստանի ու Ադրբեջանի վրա, ԵՀԽ-ն հորդորում է երկու կողմերին՝ հետևելու ՄԱԿ-ի գլխավոր քարտուղարի համընդհանուր հրադադարի կոչին՝

հնարավորություն տալով անհրաժեշտ բոլոր միջոցները տրամադրելու համավարակի դեմ պայքարին: Մինչ Հայաստանը պատրաստակամություն է հայտնել հետևելու համընդհանուր հրադադարին, ԵՀԽ-ն ցավով արձանագրում է, որ Ադրբեջանը չի հետևում դրան», - ասված է հայտարարության մեջ:

ԵՀԽ գործող գլխավոր քարտուղարը նաև անդրադարձել է ԵԱՀԿ միջնորդական առաքելությանը և ԵԱՀԿ Մինսկի խմբի համանախագահների ջանքերին՝ կոչ ուղղելով կողմերին՝ վերսկսելու դիվանագիտական ջանքեր գործադրել՝ երկու ժողովուրդների միջև հակամարտությունը հանգուցալուծելու նպատակով:

Հայաստանյայց Առաքելական Սուրբ Եկեղեցին և Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածինը 1962 թվականից անդամակցում է աշխարհի ամենամեծ համաքրիստոնեական այս կազմակերպությանը՝ 350 անդամ Եկեղեցիներով և ավելի քան 500 միլիոն քրիստոնյաներով:

Հայաստանյայց Առաքելական Սուրբ Եկեղեցին իր մշտական ներկայացուցիչներն ունի կազմակերպության ղեկավար մարմիններում՝ Կենտրոնական և Գործադիր հանձնախմբերում, Աստվածաբանական կարևորագույն՝ «Հավատ և Կարգ» հանձնախմբում, Կրթության և Էկոմենիկ դաստիարակության, Ավետարանության և քարոզչության, Միջկրոնական երկխոսության և այլ հանձնախմբերում:



# St. Leon Armenian Church

**Paving the Way...Brick by Brick**

Assist in paving the way to St. Leon Armenian Church's new education and recreation building. A common area at the entry to the building will consist of engraved bricks. This is a wonderful way to make your support of this facility permanently known. You may choose to have your name, the name of a child or grandchild, birthday, anniversary or graduation day, engraved on the brick. The possibilities are numerous and the help invaluable in meeting our goal of expanding our ministry by expanding our facilities.

There are two sizes to choose from in English and Armenian letters. Each donor will receive a certificate of ownership and the satisfaction of knowing that your support will help our St. Leon family continue to grow in faith in the Armenian Church well into the 21st century.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Commemorative Brick Purchase:

#### English Letters

\_\_\_\_\_ 4" x 8" Brick @ \$100.00

Maximum of two lines, 13 letters per line

For 4" x 8" - engraving to read as follows: (please print clearly)


\_\_\_\_\_ 8" x 8" Brick @ \$250.00

Maximum of four lines, 13 letters per line

For 8" x 8" - engraving to read as follows: (please print clearly)


Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to:

Barbara Royland

44 Benson Avenue

Westwood, N.J. 07675

Email: [hyemom@optonline.net](mailto:hyemom@optonline.net)

201-666-5735

Check payable to: St. Leon (Memo: Brick Campaign)

*All donations are tax deductible.*