

ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH
Sunday of the Prodigal Son
March 13, 2022

Morning Service 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM



Readings from the Holy Scripture

Isaiah 54:11-55:13
2 Cor. 6:1-7:1
Gospel of Luke 15:1-32

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
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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, Nurhan Ezik,
Gregory Kazanjian

Subdns. Paul Chamesian, Vahe Kiljian, Jack Hamparian



CHOIR MASTER

George Paroonagian

PRINCIPAL ORGANIST

Sirvard Galstian

ASSISTANT CHOIR DIRECTORS

Daniella Ashbahian

Dawn Donofrio



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

Kiss of Peace: If you would like to volunteer to perform the “Kiss of Peace” during Sunday Badarak, please call our church office.

Holy Communion: There is no Holy Communion during the Lenten season.

Sunday, April 24th – The Gomidas Choir of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, under the direction of Maestro Kris Kalfayan, will be singing during our Sunday Badarak.

2022 Church Directory – Additional copies of our 2022 St. Leon Church Directory can be purchased. Call church office on weekdays or speak with a Parish Council member on Sundays.

HOKEHANKISD

✝ The Bairamian and Basmajian Families request Hokehankisd for the soul of *Lawrence Radner, loving father, grandfather, and great-grandfather* on the **40th year** anniversary of his passing into eternal rest and *Lawrence Radner, Jr., loving uncle and brother*, as well as all departed members of the *Radner, Cox, Richens, Muller, and Hering families* on their passing into eternal rest. The families have donated toward the Altar Flowers and request that Altar Candles be lit in their memory.

✝ Nora Vartivarian Balekji requests Hokehankisd for the soul, *Mihran Margarossian* , *loving brother-in-law* on the occasion of his 40th day of passing into eternal rest (**Karasoonek**), in Lebanon.

Hokehankisd Deadline: Please note that Hokehankisd requests must be received by **Thursday** to be included in that week's Sunday bulletin. You may email or call the church office.

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 in 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 Sebu Oscherician, Robert John Karanfilian III, Silva Jinivizian, Greg Tenbekjian, Annette Kouchshirin, Brandon Katz, Zoe Brooks, Jim & Wendy Lathey, Dan Patoyia (Moynihan), James Azarian, Varoujan Harutunian, Mosses Bairamian, 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

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*.

BIBLE STUDY



Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

TIME: 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Zoom Bible Study. Please call or e-mail Fr. Diran and he will send you the link for the Bible Study

Book of Jeremiah

Chapter 50 “Judgement on Babylon”

Chapter 51 “Thus says the Lord”

Chapter 52 “The Destruction of Jerusalem Reviewed”

The continued warnings of the Prophet Jeremiah fall on deaf ears. A year and a half ago into the siege, the Israelites are starving to death. So, the king and his army break for it under the cover of darkness. The unprotected citizens are left behind. Babylonian soldiers, however, catch the fleeing king and capture the city. The last memorable scene King Zedekiah sees is the execution of his sons; then he is blinded, locked into chains and taken to Babylon where he dies a prisoner. Set afire are the temple, the palace, all the important buildings, and the homes. Then the protective walls of the city are broken down. The Babylonian commander locates Jeremiah in a string of chained slaves bound for Babylon. **“I am taking the chains off your wrists and setting you free!”** he tells Jeremiah. Jewish prisoners had apparently spoken of the prophet who tried to convince the king to surrender. A prophet is a seer in a divine dimension which is the foundation of all understanding. As Christians we receive this guidance also through the Holy Spirit. Romans 8 and I Cor. 2:10-16 are good examples of how the Holy Spirit works as an agent in our lives.



St. Leon Armenian Church Lenten Service

& Lecture Series for 2022

Friday March 4th **“Understanding the Lord’s Prayer”**
Presented by Deacon Adam Bullock

Friday March 11th **“Understanding the Divine Liturgy ”**
Presented by Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian

Friday March 18nd **“ First and Second Marriage”** The Armenian Church’s Position Presented by Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian

Friday March 25th **“The Messiah of the Prophets”**
Presented by Mr. Hovanes Khosdeghian

Friday April 1 **“Lessons I learned from the devil” An Exorcist shares some wonderful truths of our faith he has learned in ministry of spiritual liberation”**
Presented by Very Rev. Fr. Glen Sudano

Friday April 8th **“Christ is Resurrected from the Dead ”**
Rev. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian

(Lectures will be approximately 30-45 minutes)

Lenten Service begins at 7:30 p.m. – Lenten Lecture begins at 8:30 p.m.

Sponsored by The Sarkis Gabrellian Endowment Fund

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Week and Easter

St. Leon Armenian Church
12-61 Saddle River Road
Fair Lawn, New Jersey
Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian, Pastor

<u>Sunday, April 10, 2022</u>	<u>Palm Sunday</u>
Morning Service	9:00 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
Opening of the Doors	12:00 pm

<u>Thursday, April 14, 2022</u>	<u>Great and Holy Thursday</u>
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
Washing of the Feet	7:00 pm
Betrayal Service	9:00 pm

<u>Friday, April 15, 2022</u>	<u>Great and Holy Friday</u>
Burial Service	7:00 pm

<u>Saturday, April 16, 2022</u>	<u>Easter Eve</u>
Children's Communion & Breakfast	9:30 am
Great Vespers	7:15 pm
Divine Liturgy	8:00 pm

<u>Sunday, April 17, 2022</u>	<u>Easter Sunday</u>
Morning Service	9:00 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am





PLANTS FOR CHRIST'S TOMB

Good Friday is the day Christians around the world commemorate the death and burial of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the Armenian Church tradition, during the Evening Vespers a tomb is placed in the Chancel of the Church and decorated with flowers and candles, reminding the congregation of the sacrificial crucifixion and death of our Lord for the sake of our salvation. It is a tradition in the Armenian Church for the congregation to bring flowers to the church to decorate the Tomb of the Lord. The flowers are placed on the tomb throughout the service. At the conclusion of the service, they are distributed to the congregation. This year at St. Leon Church, in addition to flowers, the tomb will once again be decorated with indoor potted plants. Every family will be invited to take a plant from the Tomb of the Lord and place it in their homes. As they grow and flourish, these plants will remind each member of our community of the beautiful bond we enjoy with each other and with our Church as our family in Christ.

Please help us maintain this beautiful spiritual custom in our Church. Your donation will help defray the cost of the purchase of these plants.



Plants for Christ's Tomb

Yes, I would like to support/maintain the beautiful tradition of our Armenian Church. Enclosed please find the amount of \$ _____ towards the purchase of plants for Christ's Tomb. Please return this form with your donation to the Church Office by Monday _____.

Please print:

Name _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Telephone _____



LILIES FOR THE HOLY ALTAR

Parishioners who wish to make a contribution to the Lilies that will grace the Holy Altar on Easter Sunday by filling in the form below and submitting it to the Church Office by Monday, Enclosed please find the amount of \$_____.

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LILIES - Please print:

Name _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Telephone _____

----- ✂ -----

Armenian School All inquiries about upcoming purchase opportunities for *baghaj*, *sujuk*, & *lahmajun* may be forwarded to Barabara Hovsepian at (551) 206 - 6686..

Coffee Hospitality – Everyone is invited to the Community Center immediately following worship services. Today’s Hospitality is hosted by the ACYOA Seniors.

**St. Leon Armenian Church Women's Guild
Annual Fish 'N Chips Dinner
Tuesday, March 22, 2022
5:30 pm – 7 pm**

Please Note: Last serving is at 6:45 pm



Come and enjoy great food with great friends!
Adults: \$16.00 Children under 12: \$10.00
Sorry, NO WALK-INS!!

Make your reservations by March 15
and make your check payable to:
St. Leon Women's Guild (put Fish 'N Chips in memo)

St. Leon Armenian Church
WG - Fish 'N Chips Dinner
12-61 Saddle River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

If you have any questions you can email or call:
Christine Badach: clchak@aol.com
Gladys Fenarjian: gafenarj@gmail.com or 201-328-7276

Appeal on Vandalism of Artsakh Armenian Monuments

Dear Parishioners,

Last week the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin asked us to bring to the attention of government officials and ecumenical leaders a recent announcement by Azerbaijani officials regarding the removal of all Armenian inscriptions from Armenian religious monuments in Artsakh, which will amount to open acts of vandalism.

Please use the following “Appeal on Artsakh TEMPLATE” to prepare letters on letterhead to your local officials. Also, encourage your parishioners to write similar letters to express outrage toward this threat to our sacred places.

Thank you,

Fr. Simeon Odabashian

Diocesan Vicar

Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern)

MESG 220211 Appeal on Artsakh Armenian Monuments TEMPLATE

[to be sent to public officials.]

I am writing to express concern and outrage over recent announcements from the government of Azerbaijan, that signal its official plans to desecrate Armenian Christian monuments, and erase evidence of their Armenia origin, in the region of Nagorno-Karabagh.

It is well known that Nagorno-Karabagh has been the subject of a territorial dispute between the Republic of Armenia and Azerbaijan, since the period before the fall of the Soviet Union. Scholars recognize Karabagh (known anciently as Artsakh) as a centuries-old, majority-Armenian region, considered part of historic Armenia since antiquity. For 30 years, starting in the early 1990s, Karabagh was governed as an independent Armenian republic. But in the fall of 2020, Azerbaijan launched a surprise attack on the region, conquered large portions of it through force of arms, and incorporated these lands into its own territory. That event displaced thousands of Christian Armenians from their homes, and left hundreds of Armenia monuments vulnerable to desecration by Azeri military forces.

Earlier this month, the Azeri Minister of Culture announced his government’s intention to proceed with another anti-Armenian initiative. According to this announcement, in Azerbaijan a “working group of experts in Albanian history and architecture” has been formed, whose goal is to remove “false traces [sic] left by Armenians” from “Albanian religious temples.”

The Culture Minister’s statement references a theory, which has become prominent in Azerbaijan—but is categorically dismissed by mainstream scholars—that Armenian inscriptions in churches on Azerbaijani territory are not original, but were late additions to churches built under Caucasian Albania, an ancient Christian kingdom that ruled part of the territory that is today Azerbaijan.

Scholarship testifies to the contrary, however, that the Armenian identity of these Christian holy places has never been in question. That identity is a reality firmly established by scholars across the globe, and not a topic of debate. The supreme authority of the worldwide Armenian Church, the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, has strongly condemned this initiative of the Azerbaijani authorities, calling it “an uncivilized act against humanity, which demonstrates an ongoing, underlying enmity and hatred towards Artsakh and the Armenian people.”

Now, we join our voices in this cause. We implore all nations concerned with settling the Karabagh conflict, as well as religious organizations and international bodies, to condemn this attempt of “cultural genocide” by Azerbaijan, in the hope of preventing similar acts of vandalism against Christian monuments in Karabagh, and indeed around the world.

We appeal to you to make your condemnation of this outrageous policy known to the public, and especially to the government authorities of Azerbaijan. Thank you for your consideration and attention to this urgent matter.

FYI: You can download this Word document template from our website, stleon.org

St. Leon Armenian School

Boxed Lenten Lunch

Sunday, March 27, 2022

This year we are doing Take-Out only!

Following Church Services

Pick-up orders in Abajian Hall

We strive to continue our Armenian traditions, culture, and cuisine.

Bring your family and friends to our luncheon and enjoy the delicious foods from our Armenian roots.



Imman Bayaldi

Vospov Keufte

Yalanchi

A Wonderful Array of Lenten Foods

\$25 Adults and Children over 12 - \$12 Children 12 and Under

Our Menu:

Salad, Yalanchi, Spinach Boureg, Vospov Keufta, Imman Bayaldi,

Humus and Pita, Chocolate Cake, Fruit
(Children's order will be smaller portions.)

Call, E-mail, or See Barbara Hovsepien
Cell 551-206-6686 bhovsepien@optonline.net

Must Be PREORDERED BY MARCH 20

St. Leon Armenian School

Boxed Lenten Lunch

March 27, 2022

Take-Out Only

Must ordered by MARCH 20

Give this form to Barbara Hovsepien

or call her cell 551-206-6686

or email bhovsepien@optonline.net

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Name: _____

Menu

Salad, Yalench, Spinach Boureg, Vospov Keufta,

Imman Bayaldi, Humus and Pita Bread

Chocolate Cake, Fruit

**Number of Adult orders
at \$25 Per Adult**

**Number of Child orders
at \$12 Per Child 12 and Under**

Children's order will be smaller portions.

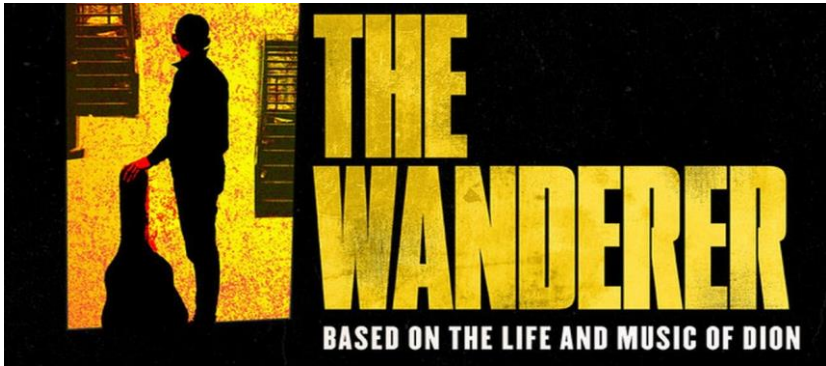
Total amount due:

\$ _____

***Pick Up in the Community Center Vestibule
on March 27 after church.***

Make checks payable to:
St. Leon Armenian School

Join us on a journey to see



*Sponsored by our Women's Guild at the
PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE
in Millburn, New Jersey*

Thursday, April 21, 2022 - Matinee Performance
50 tickets only (First come, first served!)
Reserve before March 15th!

*Price of \$105 includes your choice of a custom-ordered
boxed-lunch from Panera Café, round-trip bus transportation,
and admission to the show.*

*Lunch will be served in Abajian Hall beginning at 11:15 AM; bus departs for
the theater at 12:15 sharp! Lunch orders will be taken later.*

NOTE: Papermill Playhouse Covid Requirements for All Attendees:

(1) Face masks are to be worn in the theater and throughout the performance, (2) Proof of vaccination card is needed to gain entrance to the theater, and (3) Driver's license (or photo ID) must be shown.

*Please make \$105 check payable to St. Leon Women's Guild,
write "Papermill" on the memo line and mail your check to
Nadya Boyadjian, 26 Holmhill Circle,*

*Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417. Check must be received by March 15, 2022 and
your check confirms your reservation.*

Palm Sunday
ACYOA Day
April 10, 2022

Luncheon & Program to follow Church Service

Donation: \$25.00 Adults
\$15.00 ACYOA Junior Members and Children 12 & under
RSVP by April 3rd - **Sorry, No Walk-Ins**

For reservations, please email Susan Chamesian at
susanchamesian@gmail.com

Make checks payable to "St. Leon ACYOA Jrs"
and mail to: Susan Chamesian
694 William Bliss Drive
New Milford, NJ 07646



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fri	Mar 18	Armenian School
Sun	Mar 20	Morning Service Divine Liturgy, Sunrise Service, Sunday School
Tues	Mar 22	Saint Leon Annual Fish ‘N Chips Dinner, 5:30 PM – 7 PM at Abajian Hall
Fri	Mar 25	Armenian School
Sun	Mar 27	Morning Service Divine Liturgy, Sunrise Service, Sunday School
Fri	Apr 1	Armenian School
Sun	Apr 3	Morning Service Divine Liturgy, Sunrise Service, Sunday School
Fri	Apr 8	Armenian School
Sun	April 10	Morning Service Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy, Opening of the Doors Service, Sunday School, Palm Sunday ACYOA Day
Thur	April 14	Holy Thursday Service – (refer to page 7 in this bulletin)
Fri	April 15	Holy Friday Service – (refer to page 7 in this bulletin)
Sat	April 16	Holy Saturday (Easter Eve), Sunday School Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Communion Service & Breakfast
Sun	April 17	Easter Service

Last Gospel Luke 12:32-40

*There are no wedding sacraments permitted on the five major feast days in the Armenian Church which are:

Armenian Christmas – January 6, 2022

Palm Sunday—April 10, 2022

Easter – April 17, 2022

Transfiguration – July 24, 2022

Assumption of the Virgin Mary – August 14, 2022

Exaltation of the Cross – September 11, 2022