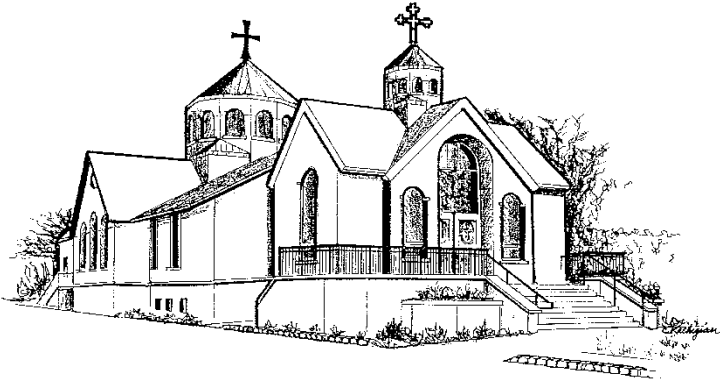


ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH
Mother's Day/ Red Sunday
May 8, 2022

Morning Service 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM



Readings from the Holy Scripture

Acts 13:16-43

I Peter 5:1-14

Gospel of John 5:19-30

“Krisdos hanyav ee merelots!” –
“Orhnyal é harootyunun Krisdosi!”
“Christ is Resurrected from the Dead!” -
“Blessed is the Resurrection of Christ!”

Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian
ՏԻՐԱՆ ԲՀՆՅ. ՊՕՀԱՃԵԱՆ

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,
Dr. Hrach Kasaryan, Nubar Kasaryan,
Sebuh Oscherician, Sarkis Pilavdjian,
Nurhan Ezik, Dr. Gregory Kazanjian

Subdns. Paul Chamesian, Vahe Kiljian, Jack Hamparian



CHOIR MASTER

George Paroonagian

PRINCIPAL ORGANIST

Sirvard Galstian

ASSISTANT CHOIR DIRECTORS

Daniella Ashbahian

Dawn Donofrio



“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



~ We welcome His Grace Bishop

Vahan Hovhanessian to offer the Homily.



Special thanks to Hagop & Garo Tabibian & their families for having donated the roses you received today.

Illustration of a rose #120058

Kiss of Peace- 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 to be placed on a rotating list.

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

Church Etiquette

Reverence Required ~ Please refrain from entering the pews when the following parts of the Divine Liturgy (Soorp Badarak) is taking place (see below). You may stand in the back of the church until these parts have ended. The parish council will be happy to assist you.

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*.



Coffee Hospitality: Today’s hospitality is hosted by our *ACYOA Juniors*. Please join us in Abajian Hall after church services.

Armenian School:

All inquiries about upcoming purchase opportunities for *sujuk*, & *lahmajun* can be forwarded to **Nora Balekji at 973-513-2507** (sorry, no baghaj until further notice). Orders must be in by Friday, 5/13/2022. Pick-up is scheduled for Sunday, 5/22/2022.

St. Leon’s Social Club: Seniors have much to offer, wisdom, experience, and time! Our Social Club meets every Wednesday, 11:30am-3:00pm at the community center. You can play cards, backgammon, board games of your choice, or just enjoy a cup of coffee! We encourage you to bring a friend and spend an afternoon together! Donation is \$3. Hope to see you there this week!

HOKEHANKISD

✝ Hagop Tabibian & Garo Tabibian & their Families request Hokehankisd for the souls of **Yeghsapet Bergazyan**, *loving grandmother*, & **Mannik Tabibian**, *loving mother, grandmother* of their passing into eternal rest. The family also requests Hokehankisd for the soul of Vartouhi Sirabian, loving mother & grandmother on the occasion of her 1st year of passing into eternal rest. The family has donated toward altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved one.

✝ The Hovhanessian Family request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Diramayr Seta Hovhanessian**, *loving mother & grandmother* on the occasion of her 1st Mother's Day in Heaven. The family has donated toward altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved one.

✝ Berjoughie Adamian & family request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Krikor Marounian**, *beloved brother*, on the occasion of his **40th day-Karasoonk**, of passing into eternal rest. The family has donated toward altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved one.

✝ Mehran & Lusine Naljjan request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Loucine Naljjan**, *loving grandmother*, on the occasion of her **6th year** of passing into eternal rest and for the soul of **Vartan Naljjan**, *loving father*, on the occasion of his **6th year** of passing into eternal rest. The family has donated toward altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved ones.

✝ Sheila & Edward Devejian and Jacqueline & Joseph Basrelian request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Hagop (Jack) Sagherian**, *loving father, grandfather*, on the occasion of his **40th year** of passing into eternal rest. The family has donated toward altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved one.



Sarkis, Ruth, & Peter Bedevian request Hokehankisd for the soul **Edward Karnig Shahbazian**, *beloved brother, uncle, & brother-in-law*, who entered into eternal rest. The family has donated toward altar flowers and has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved one.



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.



Hokehankisd Deadline: Please note that Hokehankisd requests must be received by **3pm, Thursday** to be included in that week’s Sunday bulletin. You may email or call the church office.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Remember in your prayers and ask for the recovery of *Glenn Ajamian, James Azarian, Mosses Bairamian, Hana Botie, Zoe Brooks, Frank Cornawchiulo, Jerry DiSant, Lynne Ford, Julie Frattarola, Ruben Grigoryants, John Hallak, Ryan Hallak, Varoujan Harutunian, Silva Jinivzian, Robert John Karanfilian III, Brandon Katz, Mary Ann Kral, Annette Kouchshirin, Jim & Wendy Lathey, Carmelina Mancini, Sebulh Oscherician, Dan Patoyia (Moynihan), Emily Ring, Michael Sakolsky, Melanie Sarkisian, Marie Tenguerian, Greg Tenbekjian, and Clara Yeramian. 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”.

Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսը մեկնեց ԱՄԷ

Մայիսի 5-ին Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Գարեգին Երկրորդ Ծայրագույն Պատրիարք և Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսը հայրապետական կարճատև այցով մեկնեց Արաբական Սիսիլիայի Էմիրություններ:



John 5:19-30

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever he does, that the Son does likewise. 20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows him all that he himself is doing; and greater works than these will he show him, that you may marvel. 21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. 22 The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, 23 that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. 24 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. 25 "Truly, truly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself, 27 and has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of man. 28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice 29 and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. 30 "I can do nothing on my own authority; as I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me. (Revised Standard Version)

Red Sunday

Based on the Gospel reading for this Sunday (Twenty-second Day of Zadeeg, Fourth Sunday, Red Sunday). Although there seems to be no ecclesiastical origin or significance for **Red Sunday (Կարմիր Կիրակի)**, the color red re-calls numerous themes within Christianity and the tradition of the Armenian Church. It is the blood of Jesus Christ that redeems and heals us, the source of life which spilled into the ground from the Cross to give life and salvation to the entire created order. As we sing Առաջի քն Տէր during Badarak: Son of God, who are sacrificed to the Father for reconciliation, bread of life distributed among us, through the shedding of your holy blood, we beseech you, have mercy on your flock saved by your blood. (p. 33) But bringing about a renewed creation, one that is made whole, requires the corruption which ails us to be judged. And so, the Father gives the Son, as the Son of man (see Daniel 7:13-14) authority to bring judgment on the forces of sin and evil that have plagued us, diverted us, misled us, oppressed us, and led us to believe that this world and what it has to offer is satisfactory and sufficient. And so, the Cross and the resurrection call us to live *in him*, in holy communion with Jesus Christ, just as we were created to live. Jesus invites us to pass from death to life into a resurrection of life rather than the path that leads to a resurrection of judgment. As St. Gregory of Nazianzus writes, some will be welcomed by the unspeakable light and the vision of the holy and royal Trinity, which now shines on them with greater brilliance and purity and unites itself wholly to the whole soul...the others...must endure being outcast from God and the shame of conscience which has no limit. Built into the Gospel is a sense of urgency, a matter of life and death. Rather than right vs. wrong, the Orthodox Churches view sin from the perspective of life vs. death, as taught in Scripture and by Church Fathers such as St. Athanasius in his work *On the Incarnation*: He accepted and bore upon the cross a death inflicted by others, and those others His special enemies, a death which to them was supremely terrible and by no means to be faced; and He did this in order that, by destroying even this death, He might Himself be believed to be the Life, and the power of death be recognized as finally annulled. (4.24) And so, Jesus calls us to hear his word and believe in him so that we may have eternal life (v. 24). What is the number one concern of our existence? Jesus isn't looking to be fourth or fifth place or even second place. His desire is not to be someone who is only called upon when we are in need. He didn't take on flesh, shed his blood, and rise from the dead just so we could relate to his ideas and principles and imitate his style of life as one among many religious figures. Many religions and individual beliefs around the world consider Jesus to be a prophet, a good teacher, and someone to respect. But the Son of God himself calls us friends! (See John 15:15) And so he wants to spend time with us. He wants our love in return, our entire being. He wants to *commune* with us! So, what do we do with the time and life given to us by God? How do we fill our schedules? How often do we pray, participate in Badarak? Is our life marked by seeing others as more important than ourselves, or is it just occasional? Do we live as though we are dependent on God daily, momentarily as our Savior? Do we really believe we *need* him, that we are utterly lost without him?

**Information taken from Vemkar , please visit for more information online*



Armenian Motherhood

By Patriarch Shnork Kaloustian (1913-1990)

One of the finest customs in the United States of America is the setting aside of one day in the year in honor of the mothers of this land. It is a day in which we want Mother to know that we think of her constantly and that we love her deeply. It is also a day to meditate upon the virtues of motherhood, to appreciate Mother more and even to be inspired by her. There is nothing in the world that can rival mother's love either in intensity of feeling or sincerity. Love, which is the essence of motherhood, is the greatest thing in this world and in the world to come. One day everything material will pass away, including this world itself, but love shall abide forever. Let us mention briefly, on this occasion, some of the characteristics of the Armenian Mother for which she has been noted. Her first noble quality has been her whole-hearted devotion to her family. She sacrifices herself, her pleasure, and her time for the sake of her children and husband. The Armenian woman has kept her home life sacred through the centuries. This fact has gained the admiration of well-known travelers and historians. No honor can be greater to a real Armenian mother than to see her offspring following this code of purity and family loyalty. Divorce was something practically unknown in Armenia for centuries. Only through our contact with other so-called "civilized nations" has this social curse, divorce, been introduced into Armenian families. Purity inspires courage and self-confidence. The Armenian woman had this virtue of heroism as well. To protect her honor, she fought fiercely. She faced death as a relief rather than be captured to live in slavery. There are many stories, especially during the massacres and deportations of 1915, of many Armenian women who threw themselves from cliffs or jumped into the fires of their burning homes, or into rivers, to escape slavery and apostasy. They preferred to die with courage when they saw that it was impossible for them to live with dignity and in their Christian faith. Another characteristic of the Armenian woman is her great working capacity. She is a tireless housewife. No amount of poverty and difficulty is too great for her to cope with. When she must toil for the bread and maintenance of her family, no work is too menial for her, as long as she is earning

honorably the daily bread of her family. The most outstanding characteristic of the Armenian mother has been her piety, her Godliness, and her devotion to her Church and to charitable institutions. She went to church daily, as there were morning and evening church services every day. At her work, she turned her inner eyes to heaven and entreated God to help her in her daily life, to protect her children and to give good health to all sick people. She believed in the power of prayer. She received Holy Communion as frequently as she could and without fail at Easter and Christmas. With great reverence and with a clean heart she approached the altar for Holy Communion, first forgiving others and then seeking forgiveness of others. Here in America, she works for the building of churches and for their upkeep, giving to these God-pleasing endeavors part of her time. She contributes generously to church and charitable institutions; she gives to work of charity her time and energy, which sometimes are more important and valuable than money itself. These are some of the characteristics of the Armenian mother. We give thanks to God, on this Mother's Day that there are still wonderful mothers living among us. My prayers shall be to ask God to help us to preserve these good mothers in these United States, because this country needs nothing so much as good mothers. They will be one of the greatest and best contributions to this great country. On Mother's Day we openly and lavishly express our deep love and respect for our mothers, with gifts and sweet surprises. However, we can render no greater honor to our mother, deceased or living, than to follow in her footsteps, to carry on in our own family life her devotion, her loyalty, her courage, and hardworking spirit, and last, but not least, her intense devotion to God, to the Church and community. Such an honor extends far beyond the second Sunday in May into the whole year and into even everlasting life. Nothing on this earth could be more precious than good mothers. Mothers are the ambassadors of God's love and providence on earth. We all love Mothers. May God bless all mothers, giving them patience and wisdom to keep on living their devoted lives on earth as an inspiration for their children and for the greater glory of God.



His Beatitude Archbishop Shnork Kaloustian was the Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople from 1963 to his death in 1990. Born in Ighdeh in 1913, and educated at the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem, he was renowned for his saintliness and erudition, and is considered one of the greatest Armenian churchmen of the 20th century. During a long period of service in the Eastern Diocese he was pastor of the St. Mary Church of Irvington (now Livingston) N.J., among other roles.

** Information taken from The Armenian Church Eastern Diocese of America, please visit for more information, online*



BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday, May 11, 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 Ezekiel

Chapter 7 “Impending Disaster”

Chapter 8 “Abominations in the Temple”

Chapter 9 “The Slaughter of the Idolaters”

This book is full of strange imagery that is thought provoking. Ezekiel is a 25 year old priest in Jerusalem when Babylonian soldiers arrive to suppress a rebellion there. They take Ezekiel away as a hostage. He has prophetic visions of God which are viewed as a metaphor. In a vision of the throne room of God, the prophet Ezekiel reports seeing humanoid creatures, each with four faces, four wings, human- hands and calf-like hooves. This is part of Ezekiel’s visions of prophecy. Ezekiel tells about the most famous vision: His spirit is transported to a valley filled with the scattered bones of human beings. Right before his eyes, these bones begin to rattle, snapping together to form skeletons. Muscles and skin then erupt onto the bones, quickly spreading and covering them to form lifeless corpses. Finally a wind begins to blow to blow, breathing into the bodies the breath of life. This, God promises, is what he will do for Israel, destroyed by Babylon. Ezekiel perseveres in prophesying to the Israelites to renounce idolatry and return to God. As a nation, the Israelites will be resurrected. We see very powerful insights about God. He would rather forgive than punish. God will never give up trying to bring back the Israelites into a covenant with Him.



Annual St. Leon

Armenian Church Picnic



Sunday,
June 5, 2022
12:30p.m. to
4:30p.m.
Rain or Shine

Bring your
family,
friends and
appetites for
great
Armenian
food, music and
community.



Want to help make sure the picnic
is a success? Become a sponsor!

Visit the following URL

<http://bit.ly/StLeonPicnic> or scan
the QR code with your smartphone

Volunteers needed, please contact Lynn Markarian
(lynn.markarian@gmail.com)

For more information call 201-791-2862

Dear St. Leon Church Parishioners and Friends:

We are very pleased to host our long running annual St. Leon Church Picnic on **Sunday, June 5, 2022** immediately following church services. We invite you to come and enjoy delicious kebab, bulghur pilaf, desserts and more all made with care by our talented volunteers. And as always, there will be music!

While we are fortunate to receive donations of many of the ingredients and supplies required for the picnic, the church must still make a significant financial investment in order to ensure we can host an enjoyable picnic for all. It's financial donations from our generous sponsors that make this possible.

Please consider becoming a sponsor this year to help keep this wonderful tradition going. Visit <http://bit.ly/StLeonPicnic> to make an online payment or use the attached sponsorship form to mail in your pledge of support. We look forward to hearing from you; with your support we make the St. Leon Church Picnic better each year! If you have any questions call the church office or **Haig Buchakjian at 201-317-8619**.

*Not able to make a financial contribution?
We need volunteers too!*

So many members of our community come together each year to make the picnic the wonderful event we have come to enjoy from planning committee volunteers to our beloved Women's Guild who spend hours preparing our favorite foods for the big day to the many volunteers who come out the weekend of the picnic to setup, grill, man registers, serve meals, work in the kitchen and clean up. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated people in our church family working for the benefit of our parish and we'd love for you to become a part of the team. If you are not sure where your talents can be best used, we are certain we have a perfect spot for you! Please contact Lynn Markarian (lynn.markarian@gmail.com).

Picnic Sponsorship Form

(Detach the section below and mail to our church office at **12-61 Saddle River Road, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410**, along with your payment)

Yes, I would like to be a Picnic Sponsor for the 2022 Annual St. Leon Armenian Church Picnic.

_____ \$50 pledge _____ \$100 pledge _____ \$250 pledge

_____ \$500.00 pledge

\$_____ Other pledge amount

Please write "Picnic Sponsor" in the memo portion of your check

Name: _____

Check #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for your support!



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SAINT VARTAN CAMP 2022



WHERE FAITH, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP MEET!

CAMPERS (ages 8-15) | CITs (ages 16-17) | STAFF (ages 18+)

STAFF TRAINING: JUNE 29 - JULY 2

SESSION A: JULY 3 - JULY 16

SESSION B: JULY 17 - JULY 30

SESSION C: JULY 31 - AUGUST 13

Questions? ✉ KathrynA@armenlandiocese.org ☎ 215-452-8322

REGISTER ONLINE: DiocesanSummerCamps.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	May 8	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School, Mother's Day
Fri	May 13	Armenian School
Sun	May 15	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School, Apparition of the Holy Cross
Fri	May 20	Armenian School
Sun	May 22	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School
Thur	May 26	Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Fri	May 27	Armenian School
Sun	May 29	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy, Sunday School,

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

Easter – April 17, 2022

Transfiguration – July 24, 2022

Assumption of the Virgin Mary – August 14, 2022

Exaltation of the Holy Cross – September 11, 2022

