

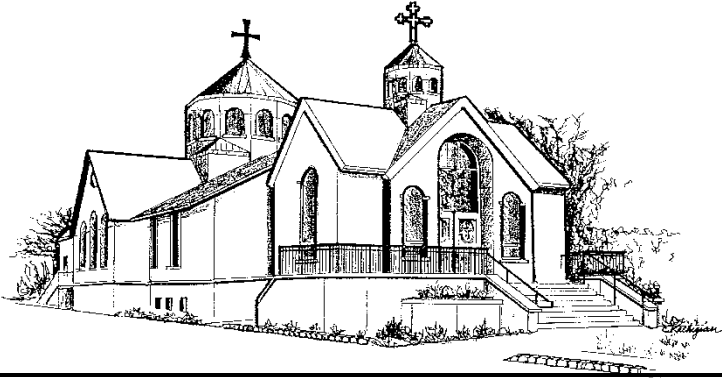
ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

Barekandan of the Fast of Advent

November 15, 2020

Morning Service 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM



Readings from the Holy Scripture

Is 25:9-26:7

Phil 1:1-11

Gospel According to Luke 9:44-50

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

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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, Levon Asdourian

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 on Sunday’s at 10:00 AM
Please call the office to reserve your seat. Only 70 people are
allowed at one time.



HOKEHANKISD

✝ Bishop Daniel has requested Hokehankisd for the brave **Soldiers, Women and Children**, who lost their lives this week in Armenia. Altar Candles are lit today in their memory.

✝ Virginia Cherishian, Valenti Family, Lessersohn Family, Joanne Cherishian and Garlick Family request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Stephen Cherishian** loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather on the 5th year of his passing into eternal rest and for all our family souls of the **Khubelian, Sarkisian & Cherishian Families**. The Family has donated toward the Altar Flowers and request the Altar Candles be lit in their memory.

PRAYER FOR REQUIEM – HOKEHANKISD

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. O Christ, Son of God, fore bearing 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. Amen

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, 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*.

SUNDAY SCHOOL We are happy to announce that we have been open VIRTUALLY since October 4th! Our teachers are in preparation and looking forward to meeting with the students twice a month for 40 minutes. They will also have music once a month with Teachers Daniella and Seta.

The teachers will be in touch about meeting times and codes, and some may send materials or ask you to drive by to pick them up.

Registration is still open. Please follow the link is below. We are asking that you register each child separately. The payment (PayPal) is at the end of the registration.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgfQZaD3jqInIHZucDY28vt95vZmstSYU7Oaj01yIb6nYhg/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&gxids=7628>

BIBLE STUDY November 25, 2020 (Located in Jessourian Hall)
Book of Ecclesiasticus

The Book of Sirach

Chapter 8 “Prudence and Common Sense”

Chapter 9 & 10 “Advice Concerning Women”

Chapter 11 “The Deceptiveness of Appearances”

“Do not do evil and no evil will over take you. Stay away from wrong and it will turn away from you.” These opening words of Chapter 7 gives us guidance and advice on how to live with people. We hear the words of God’s wisdom to live a righteous life and avoid sin. Live life in a truthful and humble manner and do not deceive others.

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 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 church.



My Dear People:

By now, every Armenian in the world has received the heavy news from our homeland, about the outcome of the war in Artsakh. By now, every Armenian heart is cracked with grief.

Millions of faithful Armenians throughout the world awoke Tuesday in a state of mourning, bitterness, or mute shock. We were united in this intense sorrow, just as we were united—mere days ago—in our intense advocacy for our people in Artsakh and Armenia.

Surely our bitter sorrow is entirely justified. We have lost ground in our holy homeland of Artsakh. Sacred shrines that have been cherished by Armenian pilgrims for more than a thousand years are no longer in Armenian hands. The fundamental human right—which is all we have ever sought—of a people to live in peace and freedom, has been desecrated.

More personally, the precious blood of our courageous, defiant, beautiful brothers and sisters has been spilled in the cause of

defending our homeland. We have hardly begun to assess the number of dead, wounded, and displaced among our countrymen. But we do know one thing with crystal clarity: Their noble sacrifices must not be in vain.

Our Catholicos spoke to these concerns in the hours after this week's turn of events, as a loving father addressing all the children of the Armenian nation. With a careworn but resolute expression, His Holiness Karekin II called for sober judgment and civil conduct. He urged us to heed the lesson of Armenian history: the need for national unity. As he has done so many times in these 44 days—indeed, throughout this year of tribulation—Vehapar spoke to the deepest truth of our identity.

In the deepest recesses of our hearts we are always united as Armenians—because we are always united in Christ. In times of ease and plenty we may forget this truth. We may even betray it—perhaps it is simply human nature to do so. But in our hours of greatest trial, the unity of the Armenian people can shine with blinding brightness. And it is something very rare and precious, which distinguishes the Armenian nation among all others.

That was surely the testimony Armenians showed to the world during the 44 days of war on our homeland. Every nation on earth has labored under burdens this year. But is there any other nation that summoned such fierce loyalty and solidarity from her people scattered across the world, than our own Armenian homeland?

We came together *instinctively* as one, when our very existence was threatened by violence from a cruel, amoral enemy. But my dear people, the struggle for our existence has not stopped. Our unity with one another will be just as critical in the days and years to come, as it was thirty years ago, in the time of the earthquake, and the earliest days of our homeland's independence.

Our instinct in the coming days may be to magnify our differences, to allow them to fracture us as a people. But we must resist that destructive impulse, and remain one in Christ. This week marks a new beginning of our work—and there is so much work to be done to repair and heal our homeland, to the

extent possible; to create a new pathway for Armenia and the Armenians to thrive. Charting the right path, under the guidance of our Lord, will require the selfless determination of all of us, in Armenia, Artsakh, and the diaspora. Our path ahead requires our unity, now more than ever.

In this troubling time, the purposes of God are very hard to discern. But surely He has not sustained us through the past centuries to see us fracture and fragment in this most critical moment. Let us live in the spirit of unity—and in that spirit, ask our Father in Heaven to reveal His will for us.

There is one further thing to say, in this dispiriting time. Over these many years we have all made connections to our homeland. Armenia is a land where we all have friends, family, colleagues. But among us are people with a very special connection to Armenia and Artsakh. Our parishes in America are blessed with clergy and families who were born and grew up there. As a Diocese and as a church, we are especially cognizant of the pain they feel today, which is indescribably deep.

We ask our merciful Lord to console them, as He consoles all of our people: in Armenia and Artsakh; in America and around the world. We pray as one people that the Lord Jesus Christ will remember, and honor, every sacrifice made in these weeks of struggle—for every single one was made in His name. We ask our risen Lord to lead us on the difficult and uncertain path that lies ahead.

Most of all, we ask Him to bless and protect Armenia, Artsakh, and His Armenian Church and people, now and always. Amen.
*“May the Lord give strength to his people.
May the Lord bless his people with peace.”* (Psalm 29:11)

With my prayers,

Bishop DANIEL

eNewsletter of the Eastern Diocese

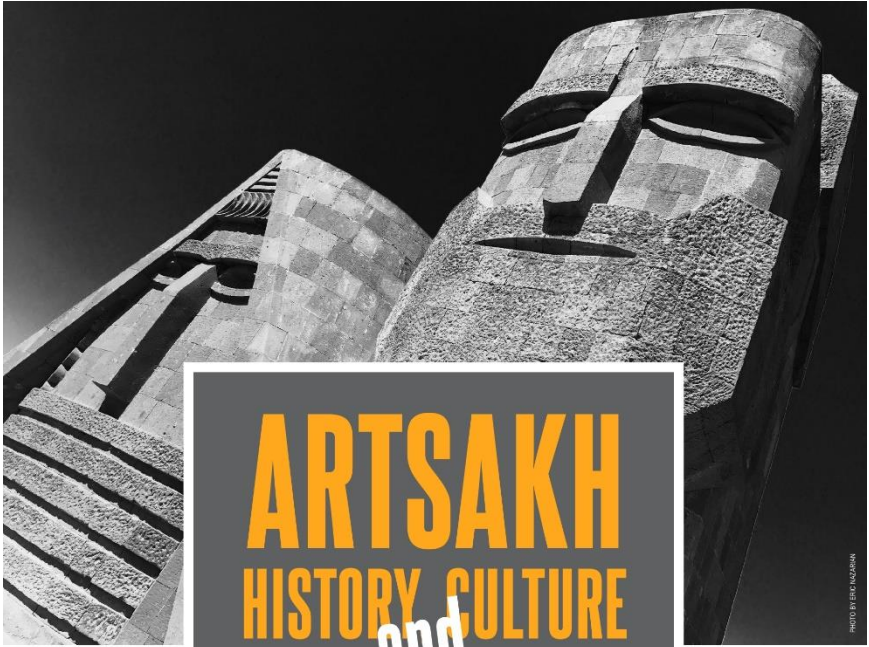


PHOTO BY ERIC HANSON

ARTSAKH HISTORY, CULTURE and CONFLICT

WEDNESDAYS, STARTING NOVEMBER 11*

7:00 TO 8:15 PM EASTERN TIME
USA / CANADA

zoom

REGISTER NOW!

<https://bit.ly/3jz5kr3>

75-MINUTE CLASSES / TUITION FOR 4 SESSIONS: \$50 DONATION TO ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

ALL DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT **ARMENIA FUND/ARTSAKH RELIEF**

Explore the history and culture of Artsakh—as its people confront an existential threat—and discover a legacy of creativity and resistance.

College students, adults and high school students are invited to join Professor Khatchig Mouradian and his featured guests—scholars, artists, and journalists—in this 4-week multi-media seminar that will employ photography, poetry, and art to delve into the past and shed light on the present of Artsakh and its people.

*NO CLASS WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 25



KHATCHIG MOURADIAN, PH.D.
instructor

Lecturer in Middle Eastern,
South Asian, and African Studies at
Columbia University, where he also
heads the Armenian studies program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: ARA@EDRCORP.NET / 917 837 1287



“We Believe in the Wisdom of Our People”

On November 9, in the early hours after the announcement of the war’s end, His Holiness Karekin II, the Catholicos of All Armenians, spoke to the entire Armenian nation as a father addressing his beloved children.

Dear Faithful Children:

The recent developments and decisions made in our homeland in connection with the settlement of the Artsakh conflict have stirred the soul of all of us.

Before our eyes are our fellow Armenians who have fought and fought for Artsakh’s independence for more than three decades; sacrificed their lives, glorified their loved ones by martyrdom in the last 44 days—our brave Artsakh Armenians overcoming the suffering of war, every soldier and commander standing on the front line.

It has been a difficult outcome for all of us; but it also places upon us a responsibility for sober courage, far-sighted wisdom, and unwavering determination to act for the benefit of the homeland.

From the depths of our heart we pray for the sake of our national prudence and unity. With the courageous awareness of the lesson

of our centuries-long history—the need to preserve national unity—we call for maintaining calm; for not giving in to unnecessary manifestations of the emotions that haunt us; for refraining from violence and riots. The current crisis must be resolved through the joint efforts of the military-political forces of Armenia and Artsakh.

Beloved ones, our conduct should never endanger the lives of soldiers who courageously continue their sacred service in the trenches on the front lines. In this situation, the back must remain strong more than ever; solidarity and stability must be firm in the back, so that we can jointly find solutions for the sake of Artsakh and Armenia, for the sake of the safe, secure life of our people.

We call on the authorities of Armenia and Artsakh to immediately provide thorough, comprehensive explanations to our people in our homeland, in Artsakh, in the Diaspora, regarding the decisions made and their impact on the future of our homeland.

We bow before the victorious spirit of our patriotic defenders, and we highly appreciate the dedication and sacrifice of every child of our nation. We believe in the wisdom of our people.

God protect us and our homeland.

eNewsletter of the Eastern Diocese