

*Ս. ԼՈՒՄԻՆԱՏՈՐԻՉ ՀԱՅՅ. ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ՄԱՅՐ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ
ՆԻՒ ԵՈՐՔ*

*ST. ILLUMINATOR'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CATHEDRAL
NEW YORK, NY*

E-NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2013

REV. FR. MESROB LAKISSIAN, PASTOR



St. Illuminator's John Pashalian Hall

221 East 27th Street, New York, NY 10016
Tel: 212-689-5880 Fax: 212-889-1174
E-Mail: office@stilluminators.org
Website: www.stilluminators.org

Dear parishioners and friends of St. Illuminator's Cathedral,

*On the joyous occasion of the Lord's Nativity, Pastor and Board of Trustees wish you a
very Happy New Year and Merry Christmas.
May the New Year bring renewed joy, good health and happiness to you and your
families!*

*ՈՂՋՈՅՆ ՍՈՒՐԲ ԾՆՈՒՆԴԻ
VOGHCHOOYN SOORP DZNOONTI
GREETING AT CHRISTMAS*

The one who gives the greeting, says:

**Քրիստոս ծնաւ եւ յայտնեցաւ
Krisdos dzunav yev haydnetsav
Christ was born and revealed**

The one who receives the greeting, says:

**Օրհնեալ է յայտնութիւնն Քրիստոսի
Orhnyal e haydnootyoonun Krisdosi
Blessed is the revelation of Christ**

*ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS
AND THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2013
At 10:30am**

**The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by
H. E. Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan**

Prelate of the Eastern Prelacy

**Following the Divine Liturgy Archbishop Choloyan will consecrate the newly
constructed doors of the St. Illuminator's Cathedral.**

**The Godfather of the Holy Cross will be Mr. Ardashes Bedrosian, who is the
donor of the Cathedral's new doors as well.**

***Բաց Մեզ Տէր Չորուն Ողորմութեան
The Doors Of Thy Mercy Open Unto Us***

SAVING ARMENIAN MOTHER'S LIFE



From left to right: Yeretskin Ojeen and Fr. Mesrob Lakissian,
Judge Aris Babikian, Mr. Giragos Turbendian and
Mrs. Sevan Hajinian

Sevan Hajinian is a 52 year old mother of 15 and 17 year old daughters who needed a life-saving spine surgery at NYU Langone Medical Hospital for Joint Diseases.

Mrs. Hajinian and her brother are highly-dedicated members of the Canadian-Armenian community and active in the Canadian civil society. In addition to authoring an important resource book about "The Armenian Genocide Denied (A Response to Turkey's Thirteen Propaganda Spins)", she has been a volunteer youth leader, school board trustee, school parents committee member, and a social services, immigration and government relations adviser. Mrs. Hajinian had here surgery on Tuesday December 4. According to the doctors, the surgery went well. She was discharged from the hospital on December 15.

The initial estimated cost of the hospital and the doctors is US \$146,000. The Hajinian family, the Canadian Armenian Community, and their friends

from various faiths based and Canadian civil society organizations have raised CDN \$120,000. The hospital agreed to schedule the surgery with what they have raised so far on the condition that the remaining balance will be paid after the surgery. Already the family transferred US \$71,000 to the hospital. The doctors' fees of US \$48,500 have been paid in full. The family still have to pay the hospital's remaining fees.

The above cost is based on 5 hours of surgery room operation time and 5 days of hospitalization. The surgery lasted around 7:30 hours. Mrs. Hajinina's stayed in the hospital exceeded the 5 days. In total she stayed at the hospital almost two weeks.

Mrs. Hanjinian's case is high profile case in Canada and the media covered her story on TV, radio, and print.

So far St. Illuminator's Cathedral and community already raised \$4,000.00.

If you would like to help in covering Mrs. Hajinian's remaining hospital fees, please make a donation payable to the St. Illuminator's Cathedral (221 East 27th Street, New York, NY 10016). Please indicate "Fund for Sevan Hajinian" in the memo area.

Any help is greatly appreciated.

We pray that with your help we will be able to give the family the best ever New Year and Christmas gift any one would wish---a good health. God Bless.

B A P T I S M

RAFAEL YESSAIAN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Bedros and Liza Yessaian, was baptized on December 31, 2012 at the St. Illuminator's Armenian Apostolic Cathedral.

Godparents were Mr. & Mrs. Mardik and Maro Sarkissian.

We extend our congratulations to the newly baptized Rafael, his parents Bedros and Liza, brother Hrair, grandparents and godparents.



Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian and Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian with the Yessaian and Sarkissian families



Mr. Viken Najarian, Cathedral's Board member, Mr. Jerry Agajian and Rev. Mesrob Lakissian

On Friday, December 21, 2012, Twin Peaks, Inc. Annual Christmas Party was held at Water's Edge restaurant in Long Island City. Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian attended the event and delivered the opening prayer.

The president of the company, Mr. Jerry Agajian is one of the supporters of the Cathedral and entire Armenian community.



Education

Corner



BLESSING OF THE HOMES

Throughout the year, Armenian homes are blessed. They are blessed most often at Christmas and Easter. A family, moving into a new home, contacts the priest to come for a home blessing.

The family provides a slice of bread, a glass of water and a small dish of salt on a tray. These three things are known as life-giving gifts from God.

Priest come to the home with incense, an incense burner and a wafer or nushkhar.



The priest blesses the incense (khoong). The burning incense and the smoke rising are our prayers on their way to God. In church, the priest and deacon use the censer (poorvar) to cense the congregation and holy objects.

The priest blesses the bread (hatz). We need bread to provide our bodies with nourishment. During the Badarak, we remember the Last Supper. We believe that the bread becomes the body of Jesus Christ.

The priest blesses the water (choor). Like bread, water is necessary for life. Water also reminds us of our own baptism in holy water.

The priest blesses the salt (agh). Salt provides flavor to our food. Jesus called his followers “the salt of the earth.” Because each one of us is different, we can make the world a better place. Like adding salt, we can add our own special flavor to the world – our faith, our hope, our acts of kindness, our love for other people.

The priest asks God to continue to provide the family with the gifts of bread, water and salt. He also asks God to bless and keep the family and grant them good health. When the service is finished, the priest leaves the wafer (nushkhar) for the family. The family usually places the wafer in a jar of rice, flour, or lentils or other grain). This is done as a way of asking God to keep these grains always in supply for the family to use.

BLESSING OF THE WATER

The baptism of Jesus Christ is celebrated on the same day as Armenian Christmas, January 6. At the end of the Christmas Badarak, a special service is held to remember the baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan. It is called Churorhnek (the Blessing of Water).

Water is poured into a bowl. A cross is placed in the water to remind us of the baptism of Jesus. Holy Oil (Muron) is poured into the water from a dove-shaped vessel to remind us that the Holy Spirit was sent by God and was present at the baptism. At the end of the service, the priest removes the cross from the water and gives it to a member of the congregation chosen as the godfather of the cross. The congregation comes forward to kiss the cross and to receive some of the Holy Water. They can drink the water or take it home.

Ս. ԾՆՈՒՆԴ ԵՒ ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱՅԱՅՏՆՈՒԹԻՒՆ

ԱԲԵՏԱՐԱՆ ԸՍՏ ՄԱՏԹԷՈՍԻ (1: 18-25)

Այսպէս պատահեցաւ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի ծնունդը: Իր մայրը՝ Մարիամ, նշանուած էր Յովսէփի հետ, սակայն նախ քան ամուսնութիւնը Մարիամ յղի մնաց Սուրբ Հոգիէն: Յովսէփ՝ անոր նշանածը արդար մարդ մը ըլլալուն՝ չուզեց հանրութեան առջեւ խայտառակել զայն, այլ խորհեցաւ լռելեայն ետ ընել իրենց նշանախօսութիւնը: Մինչ այս մասին կը մտածէր, ահա Տիրոջ Հրեշտակը երագի մը մէջ երեւեցաւ իրեն եւ ըսաւ.-«Յովսէփ, Դաւիթի որդի, մի վախճար ամուսնանալու նշանածիդ Մարիամի հետ, որովհետեւ իր մէջ յղացուածը Սուրբ Հոգիէն է: Որդի մը պիտի ծնի եւ զայն պիտի կոչես Յիսուս, որովհետեւ անիկա իր ժողովուրդը իրենց մեղքերէն պիտի փրկէ»:

Այս բոլորը պատահեցան, որպէսզի կատարուի այն ինչ որ Տէրը ըսաւ Եսայի մարգարէին միջոցաւ.- «Ահա կոյսը պիտի յղանայ եւ որդի մը ծնի, եւ զայն պիտի կոչեն Էմմանուէլ», որ կը նշանակէ՝ Աստուած մեզի հետ է»: Երբ Յովսէփ արթնցաւ, կատարեց ինչ որ Տիրոջ հրեշտակը հրամայեց իրեն եւ ամուսնացաւ իր նշանածին՝ Մարիամի հետ, բայց չյարաբերեցաւ անոր հետ, մինչեւ որ անդրանիկ իր զաւակը ծնաւ, եւ զայն Յիսուս կոչեց:

ՃՇ. ԸՆԹԵՐՑՈՒՄ

Տիտ. 2:1 – 15

ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS

NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST (THEOPHANY)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (1:18-25)

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

BIBLE READINGS

Titus 2: 1 – 15

ARMEN BABAMIAN
1915 - 2012

Mr. Armen Babamian, long time choirmaster of the St. Illuminator's Cathedral, Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Church and the active member of the Armenian community, passed away on Monday, December 24, 2012 in New Jersey.

Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian participated at the funeral service which took place on Saturday, December 28, at Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church in Ridgefield, New Jersey, and on behalf of St. Illuminator's Cathedral expressed profound sorrow on his death to his wife Rita and Babamian and Abbatiello families.

May he rest in heavenly peace.



Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian with Mr. & Mrs. Armen and Rita Babamian on October 14, 2012 at the Armenian Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Emerson, NJ

MEMORIES

Three months prior to marrying my dear wife Rita in 1941, I was fortunate to become the choirmaster at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. I was 25 years old. It was indeed trilling for me to rehearse this fine group of singers and build the choir up, as I was told many times, to one of the finest Armenian choirs in the country.

The memories of 25 years at St. Illuminator's are etched in gold in my heart. On this highly notable 95th anniversary, I congratulate the Board of Trustees, Fr. Mesrob Lakissian, and the choir, and pray with them for continued success in carrying out the work of the Lord our God.

Կը շնորհաւորեմ Ս. Լուսաւորիչ Մայր Եկեղեցւոյ 95-ամեակը:

Սիրով՝

Armen Babamian

May 1, 2011

FROM CATHEDRAL'S MAIL BOX



Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian, Pastor
Board of Trustees
St. Illuminator's Armenian Apostolic Cathedral
221 E. 27th Street
New York, NY 10016

Dear Pastor and members of the Board,

Our entire team from Washington and around the country sends you our heartfelt thanks for your generous donation to the ANCA.

Your gift allows us to expand the reach of the Endowment Fund and one of our most important projects, bringing young Armenians to Washington D.C. as part of the Capital Gateway Program (CGP). The CGP enables Armenian college graduates to come to D.C, live rent free for three months, and secure a job within the government, the media, or public policy arenas. Our aim is to continue to increase the number of Armenians elected, appointed and hired to serve our government in key foreign and domestic policy positions.

Please know how much we value your support for the vital work of the ANCA Endowment Fund.

Ken Hachikian
President

Դեկտեմբեր 30, 2012

Արժանապատիւ
Տ. Սեդրոպ Քհնյ. Լազիսեան
Հոգեւոր Հովիւ

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Յատուկ շնորհակալութիւն կը յայտնեմ հոգեճաշին եւ մանաւանդ Ձեր ներկայացուցած յարգանքի եւ սիրոյ խօսքերուն համար Կարալիսի յիշատակին:

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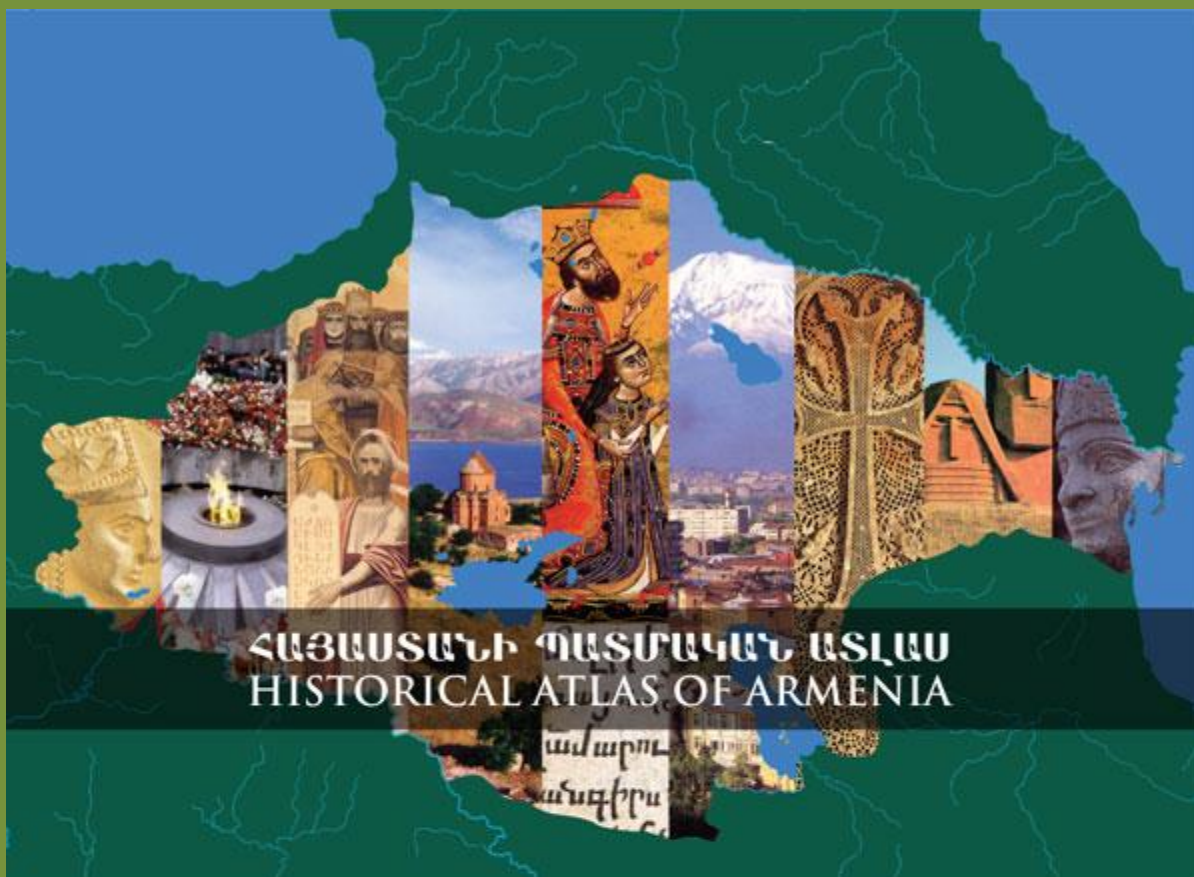
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