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SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATES FIFTEEN STUDENTS

On Sunday, June 1, St. James proudly celebrated the graduation of fifteen Sunday School students. The class, taught by Julie Cristello, focused on the importance of service and emphasized that faith without action is meaningless. Students spent the year completing a variety of service projects, both small and large. They began by raking the grounds around the church. Throughout the year, they then took on projects and organized drives to support the various charities where they would go and volunteer. Some of those organizations included: More than Words, a book store that provides jobs to underprivileged youth; Holiday Mail for Heroes through the American Red Cross; and the Pine Street Inn, a homeless shelter in Boston. By participating in service, students were able to mature, develop stronger relationships with their classmates, and grow in their faith.

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Fr. Arakel Aljalian, Marsha Alabachian, and Julie Cristello pose for a photo with the Sunday School graduates.

ACYOA JUNIORS HOST OVER 200 YOUTH AT HYE M'RTSOOM SPORTS WEEKEND



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SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATION *continued from page 1*

During the reception following the graduation ceremony, Salutatorian Alyssa Bogosian reflected on her time as a student. "The first few years focused on learning the basis of our faith; learning about who Jesus was, what the Bible was all about. As we learned about the basis of our faith and the church, we learned about how our traditions came to be, and what our church means. We learned about our Armenian roots, about our tumultuous history, and about how our beautiful culture continues to be reflected in the church services we take part in each week. As we entered high school and began facing the challenges of the real world, we learned about how our faith can guide us in all aspects of life."

Emma Kaloostian, this year's Valedictorian, spoke on the importance of participating in service during her last year of Sunday School. "I can honestly say that I don't think any of us have experienced life more than we have this year. All of us are taking so many lessons from this year, ranging from not judging a book by its cover to simply holding the door open for someone and how it could just maybe make their day. Going on these service trips have made us better people, more mature people, people with perception, people with empathy. This past year has changed my outlook; I want to be a better person, for myself, for society, in the eyes of our church. I hope we all never forget that we are capable of making a difference."

Julie, this year's eleventh grade teacher, left the students and their families with an important message. "Don't let our world be a world where we ignore things that matter. Make sure that as you all head out into the real world you speak up about things that matter. Remember that you can make a difference, and that you already have. And remember, when the world gets overwhelming, you can always return home to Saint James."

We congratulate Superintendent Marsha Alabachian, Julie Cristello and assistant teacher Alex Bresnee, and all the students and families of the graduating class on this accomplishment. We pray that they continue to grow in their faith and remain active within the life of the Church.

PROMOTION SUNDAY

It is said that the two most exciting days for Sunday school are the first Sunday and the last Sunday. Sunday, June 8th was the last day of Sunday school classes for the 2013-

2014 school year, and Promotion Sunday. The theme of the Promotion Day Assembly was based on graduation of the senior class the week before.

Ms. Julie Cristello, teacher of the graduating class, showed a video of the graduates, with their feelings of Sunday school prior to this year's class, their accomplishments, and then their feelings prior to graduation. Mrs. Marsha Alabachian then addressed the assembly, urging and challenging students to go the distance, to become Sunday school grads; to make Sunday school a priority: to build on the foundation that their parents and grandparents had set; and to grow in their faith, so that they too, could do good works and make good decisions.

Students were then called by class to receive promotion certificates and kind words from their teachers. Students from the class of 2013, who returned this year to fulfill their service year as altar servers, office assistants and teachers were recognized for their commitment and their good works.

Sincere thanks are extended to the Sunday school staff, students, and parents who made this another wonderful Sunday school year.

ACOLYTES RECEIVE RECOGNITION

Sunday, June 8, eight fifth grade students were recognized for their service as acolytes. Under the leadership and guidance of Mr. Mark Kavonian, these students served on the altar of our parish with dignity, grace and reverence. Fr. Arakel presented Certificates of Appreciation and Acolyte Pins to: Joseph Alberico, Lori Ganjian, Stephanie Guler, Deran Hazarvartian, John Kapilian, Catherine Movsessian, Nicholas Saraf, and Isabelle Minasian Suggs.





SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

On Sunday, June 15, our community recognized the young adults of our parish who received scholarship awards from St. James Church. We extend our sincere gratitude to all those parishioners who have established scholarship funds to support and encourage the youth of our church in their academic endeavors. Over \$21,000 in scholarships was awarded to the young adults of St. James.

Alina Bazarian
 Karina Bekelian
 Liana Bekelian
 John Bogosian Trocchi
 Alex Bresnee
 Arlin Cimen
 Kevin Eskici
 Kevin Eskici
 Natalie Eskici
 Natalie Eskici
 Aram Gurekian
 Ava Gurekian
 Ava Gurekian
 Ari Kazanjian
 Shane Madden
 William Musserian
 William Musserian
 Paul Pirundini
 Paul Pirundini
 Alec Seferian
 Alec Seferian
 Ari Shirinian
 Simon Tacvorian
 Simon Tacvorian
 Hagop Toghramadjian

Armene Tarvezian Memorial Scholarship (GKT)
 Virginia Bedrosian Scholarship
 Michael & Ovsanna Hovannesian Scholarship
 Levon, Herant, Zarouhie & Raffi Hollisian Memorial Scholarship
 Vernon Assarian Memorial Scholarship
 Edward & Elaine Patapanian Scholarship
 Herach & Anne Kazanjian Memorial Scholarship
 Robert Movsessian Memorial Scholarship
 Edward & Joyce Berberian Memorial Scholarship
 John Kurkjian Memorial Scholarship
 Martin Martinian Memorial Scholarship
 Hovnan & Agnes Hovnanian Scholarship
 Alice Khederian Scholarship
 Veronica Tarvezian Memorial Scholarship (GKT)
 Jocko & Phyllis Ananian Memorial Scholarship
 Terjenian & Thomas Families Scholarship
 Greg Janian Memorial Scholarship
 Simon Dersimonian Scholarship
 Madeline Kasabian Leone Scholarship
 Gladys & Anna Najarian Medzorian Scholarship
 Daniel Percy Hindlian Scholarship
 Edward & Elaine Patapanian Scholarship
 George & Rose Tashjian Memorial Scholarship
 Haig and Blanche Yacubian Memorial Scholarship
 Alice & Ann Kaprielian Scholarship



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

TALAR ABDALIAN, daughter of Kevork and Endza Abdalian, graduated from MCPHS University with Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

ARMEN ANDONIAN, son of Kaspar and Jayne Andonian, graduated from Walpole High School. He plans to attend Stonehill College this fall.

GARY BABIGIAN, son of Peter and Gloria Babigian, graduated from Arlington Catholic High School in May. He was a 4 year member of the Varsity Golf Team, and Captain this past year. He will attend Bryant University in the fall, playing Division I Golf with the school.

ALINA BAZARIAN, daughter of Ishkhan and Anahit Bazarian, graduated from Skidmore College with a BS in Neuroscience. While there, she was a member of the Psi Chi International Honors Society, Dean's List, and National Residence Hall Honorary. Alina will start graduate school in the fall, pursuing an MS in Medical Sciences from Boston University.

ALEXANDER M. BRESNEE, son of Laura Bresnee, graduated from Watertown High School and plans to attend the University of New England in the fall to study Pharmacy. He is the recipient of several academic scholarships, the Watertown High School Community Service Award, and a certificate of recognition from the Sunday School for completing his service year.

ARLIN CIMEN, daughter of Avedis and Vilda Cimen, graduated from Watertown High School. Arlin will attend Regis College in Weston in the fall.

TALAR KAYA, daughter of Hagop and Solair Kaya, graduated from Watertown High School. She was in the top 10% of her class and a member of the National Honors Society. She will attend the Honors College at UMass Boston in the fall on a full academic scholarship.

RAFFI EDWARD KAZANJIAN graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor of Science in Human Physiology and a minor in Public Health. He is the son of Edward K. and Nirva Kazanjian and the grandson of Edward and Bertha Kazanjian and Vasken and Arpine Fereshetian. Raffi is currently volunteering with Birthright Armenia in Armenia.

TANIA MELKONIAN, daughter of Robert and Genie Melkonian, graduated from Lexington High School in June. She will attend Suffolk University in the fall, studying Electrical Engineering. She is also the recipient of the University Achievement Grant.

JESSICA PETERSON, daughter of Bill and Kristine and granddaughter of past St. James members, graduated from Littleton High School. She plans to attend Roger Williams University in Rhode Island in the fall, majoring in criminal law.

PAUL PIRUNDINI JR, son of Paul and Lori Pirundini, graduated from Oliver Ames High School in Easton. He will attend the University of New Hampshire in the fall, majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Best wishes to the class of 2014

SERENA ANNE SEFERIAN, daughter of Alan and Marlene Seferian and granddaughter of Dn. Apkar and Arpie Potookian and Alice Seferian, graduated from UMass Amherst with a Bachelor of Science in Resource Economics and a minor in Information Technology. She has accepted an Analyst position at Tech Target in Newton, MA.

ARI SHIRINIAN, son of Gazaros and Helda Shirinian, graduated from Watertown High School with honors. He will attend Endicott College this fall, where he received a number of academic scholarships, studying business and accounting. Ari was a varsity soccer player at Watertown High, and was a team captain this year. He is a Sunday School graduate and completed his service year this year. Ari currently works as a counselor at Pequossette Summer Camp in Watertown.

ALINE NATALIE TOMASIAN, daughter of Andy and Nirva Tomasian, graduated from Lexington High School in June. She plans to attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute in the fall, majoring in biomedical engineering.

LAUREN TRIMBLE, daughter of Stephen and Andrea Koumjian, graduated from Acton Boxborough High School in June, where she was a member of the National Honor Society. She will attend Villanova University's School of Nursing in the fall.

CAITLIN ANDIE ZEYTOONIAN, daughter of Armen and Mary, graduated Summa Cum Laude from St. Michael's College in Vermont with a double major in Political Science and History and a minor in Gender Studies. Additionally, Caitlin was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Alpha Theta and Pi Sigma Alpha honors societies. She plans to continue her studies at Boston University Law School this fall.

CHLOE ZEYTOONIAN, daughter of Amy and Arra Zeytoonian, graduated from Watertown High School. Chloe will attend Mass Bay Community College in Wellesley, MA this fall.

PARISHIONER MILESTONES

ARMEN ANDONIAN: *Trail to Eagle Scout*

Armen Andonian, son of Kasper and Jayne, began his scouting career at the age of 7, as a Tiger Cub in Walpole. Armen flourished in scouting, advancing through the ranks and eventually earning the Cub Scouts highest award, The Arrow of Light. He enjoyed everything about scouting, the campouts, learning to live outdoors, and more. Armen then moved on to the Boy Scouts, where he kept busy with his duties in the troop while progressing through the ranks. He achieved the highest rank in Boy Scouts, Eagle Scout, on September 26th, 2013.

Throughout the years, Armen has earned 35 Merit Badges and has taken on many leadership positions in his Troop including Patrol Leader, Den Chief, Troop Guide, Instructor, Junior Assistant Scout Master, and leading the troop as the Senior Patrol Leader for 14 months. In the summer of 2010, at Camp Squanto, Armen was elected by his troop into Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor Society.

Armen's Eagle Service project involved developing a Baseline Water Quality Testing Program to help improve the water quality in Bird Park in East Walpole. Upon completion of his project, he handed all of his findings and research over to the Reservation Trustees for further testing. With the

results of Armen's testing as a baseline, it is hoped pollution or other changes to the aquifer can be detected early enough to enable early mitigation.

We congratulate Armen on this significant achievement, which took dedication, leadership, and perseverance. We wish him well in all his future endeavors.



Armen with his mother Jayne at the Eagle Scout ceremony.



SUNDAY, JUNE 8
ARMENIAN FESTIVAL

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A NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you to chairs Emily Bedrosian and Mark Yacubian Torre, to the countless volunteers, and to all who attended – all of whom helped make this year's St. James Armenian Festival a success! Thank you also to our sponsors!

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2014 FESTIVAL SPONSORS

A&A Corporation
 Lillian & Sylvia Barmakian
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For sponsoring the Children's Games!
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 Hagop & Nadia Ucuzian
 Aida Yavshayan
 Natalie Zakarian







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ST. SAHAG AND ST. MESROB ARMENIAN SCHOOL

SPRING NEWS FROM ST. SAHAG AND ST. MESROB ARMENIAN SCHOOL

Our academic year at St. Sahag & St. Mesrob came to an end with much preparation and excitement. The last day of classes featured a special visit by "Curious Creatures," which gave our students the opportunity to interact with a variety of interesting animals, including a bearded dragon, alligator, boa constrictor, and more! We concluded the morning with an ice cream social to end the school year on a fun note.

On the afternoon of May 18th, St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Armenian school held its year-end program and graduation ceremony, featuring a sampling of various cultural treasures to which the students are exposed throughout the school year. The opening act featured a special skit entitled "A Scene in the Cobbler's Shop" written by Hagop Baronian, performed by students from the post-graduate class and a few upper classmen. The comedic act was performed in Armenian and was warmly received by the audience. The musical portion of the program was followed, where the students sang and recited poetry pertaining to Spring.

We are proud to report that three seventh grade students - Aurora Kantarjian, Katya Maserejian and Adrena Seferian graduated from Armenian School with honors, thanks to the guidance and mentoring from their teacher Ms. Mayda Yetimian. Their testimonials were emotional for both faculty and parishioners. Before the students were granted with their diplomas they sang a farewell song, accompanied by music instructor Yelena Hakobyan.

During the ceremony, six kindergarten students, with the guidance of teacher Svetlana Vehapetian, were promoted to 1st grade. They, too, were acknowledged with certificates issued by the Diocese. The program continued with a patriotic dance performed by the students and choreographed by Tina Kurkjian and Lucine Baghsarian. The cultural part came to conclusion with piano recitals by Ani Vehapetian, Alexandra Minasian and a solo singing by Nareg Kalaydjian.



REGISTRATION

for the 2014-2015 school year will
begin on September 13, 2014.

Please contact Superintendent Marina
Minasian at (978) 663-1755 or e-mail
amindra@comcast.net for more
information.



The highlight of the afternoon was the recognition and appreciation of Mrs. Annie Kalaydjian for her thirty years of service and dedication to the Armenian school. She was awarded a citation from Abp. Khajag Barsamian honoring her commitment to Armenian studies.

On behalf of our pastors and school board, we extend our gratitude to the entire faculty

—Anna Kupelian, Svetlana Vehapetian, Mary Demirdjian, Rita Meneshian, Alex Kalaydjian, Annie Kalaydjian, Mayda Yetimian and Yelena Hakobyan, and all the parents and volunteers who make our programs come to fruition, and help with the refreshments which are always abundant and prepared with love.

— Marina Minasian, Superintendent



Hye Café

Food Fun Fellowship

*Save the date for the next Hye Café
on September 26, 2014.*

It's been a great Hye Café season! May 30th was our last Hye Café before our summer break. We look forward to seeing everyone when we come back on September 26th!

It's hard to believe our first Hye Café's grand opening was September 17, 2004. It's been an amazing ten years of fun, fellowship, friendship and of course GREAT food! A heartfelt thank you to our teams of volunteers and patrons!

Congratulations to our May 30th door prize winner Ani Eskici.

Please join us for our next Hye Café on September 26 for some delicious Armenian food, catch up with friends and enjoy our musical entertainment. Wishing everyone a fabulous summer!

If you would like to join the Hye Café team, please email Linda Sahagian at hyelinda65@aol.com.



MY EXPERIENCE IN THE HOLY LAND

In early June, a group of young adults from parishes across the Eastern Diocese came together to journey halfway across the world, to a place they had only heard about. Ten days later, the 29 young pilgrims returned as a family, changed by their experiences and brought together by their spiritual journey in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The fourth annual Youth Leadership Pilgrimage to the Holy Land was led by Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern). The Primate was assisted by the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Karapetyan, pastor of St. Mary Church of Washington, DC, Maria Derderian, our youth minister; and Arpi Nakashian, a student at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary.

What follows is a reflection from ACYOA Seniors Co-Chair Karina Bekelian, this year's representative from St. James.

After I received the news that I would be traveling to Jerusalem with other young leaders of the Armenian Church, there were no words to describe the mix of emotions I felt. I was so excited to finally be able to experience the Holy Land. Our group instantly clicked at the airport when we all met for the first time, and it wasn't until the trip had been well under way that I realized the effect of the group on my trip as a whole.

During the entire plane ride, and until the morning after we landed, I was more anxious than ever. I truly didn't know what to expect, and it was a huge culture shock to walk around Jerusalem and seeing people from every religion live so close to one another, with such a clear divide among their cultures. It wasn't until we began our pilgrimage in Bethlehem and participated in the Divine Liturgy where Jesus was born that I began to feel at home. After that, I felt immediately connected to the state that we would continue to explore. Badarak in Bethlehem was special for so many reasons. We walked up the hill to the entrance plaza to find the Armenian flag waving proudly atop the Church of Nativity,

next to the symbol of the Armenian Patriarchate. We soon learned that the Armenians have the right to celebrate Divine Liturgy daily at the birthplace of Christ, and other holy sites. I did not expect to see Armenian priests holding back other tourists from entering the grotto while we were celebrating Badarak. Just as Jesus' life began in Bethlehem, it was also the beginning of the pilgrimage and my faith only grew stronger as we continued our journey.

I could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit as we traveled to the various holy sites, especially at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site of Christ's tomb. We celebrated Divine Liturgy there at 3 a.m. and after it concluded, we were able to see the tomb of Jesus. Immediately after I set my hand upon the tomb, I felt chills. It is difficult to describe such a life-changing experience, but it is safe to say I have never felt anything of this nature in my life before. One thing most of us take for granted at our home parishes is our choir, sharing their talent and leading us in all the sharagans. Each time we had Divine Liturgy, it was up to us to provide the vocals and bring the service together, from the deacons to the choir to the celebrant. Participating in it this way helped me stay connected to the service and learn more of what takes place throughout the Liturgy.

Along with visiting these holy sites, we also had influential Bible studies that correlated with the sites we were visiting. One was at the Jordan River and we discussed the concept of baptism, how it related to Jesus' life back then, and how it related to us now. These Bible studies brought everything we experienced into perspective, as we walked in the footsteps of Jerus. Discussing the Bible with my peers that were on this special journey with me helped strengthen my faith in a way I never would have thought was possible. They helped bring various things to light that I had interpreted differently prior to the trip.

My pilgrimage to Jerusalem was special in so many ways and it doesn't do justice by writing about it for everyone to read – it really is something each individual should experience at least once in their lifetime. We learn about Jesus' life in Sunday school and see the drawn pictures, but to see these places in real life is an eye opening experience. I'm now able to associate a place and feeling with what I've grown up learning. Not only did I grow spiritually, but I was also lucky to experience the Armenian culture in Jerusalem. The Armenian community was extremely welcoming and the Sts. James cathedral was the most beautiful church I have ever visited. I am extremely grateful for the amazing opportunity to travel to Jerusalem and I hope to go back as soon as possible.

— Karina Bekelian



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
Feast of the Exaltation of the HOLY CROSS
HOMECOMING SUNDAY
Sunday School Opening Day



ACYOA JUNIORS HYE M'RTSOOM

FIND YOUR GREATNESS

As usual, St. James was bursting with activity over Memorial Day weekend as ACYOA Juniors from throughout the Diocese gathered for the 39th annual Hye M'rtsoom Sports Weekend. We hosted a record-breaking 248 participants from 16 parishes across

the Diocese! Participants came from all over, including New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and throughout New England. Diocesan Vicar V. Rev. Fr. Simeon Odabashian and Jennifer Morris, the Diocese's director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, were

present throughout the weekend, and Jennifer delivered the "Insights" message at the conclusion of the morning service on Saturday.

The theme of this year's Hye M'rtsoom was 'Find Your Greatness,' which



encouraged ACYOA members to focus on their God-given gifts and make a difference in the world. A focus on service continued once again this year to help support the theme. On Saturday afternoon, the kitchen counters turned into a massive assembly line as participants, parents and volunteers lined up to make over 200 sandwiches to donate to the Pine Street Inn in Boston.

On Sunday, May 26, all the participants filled the St. James sanctuary as we gathered for Divine Liturgy, which was celebrated by Very Rev. Fr. Simeon Odabashian. His sermon focused on the weekend's theme, encouraging the youth to define 'greatness' in the eyes of Christ, and to seek out His greatness in all that they do.

After services, participants gathered to watch the intense sports finals. The highlight of the weekend came on Sunday night, as we enjoyed a delicious dinner, awards banquet, and masquerade ball!

Sincere thanks are in order to all who volunteered, supported, and helped make this year's Hye M'rtsoom a great success. The example of those who gladly offered their time to serve our Church has left a lasting impression on our youth. Much

appreciation goes out to all the parents who graciously opened their homes to our guests and cared for them as they would their own children, to St. James leadership and organizations, who so willingly took on responsibilities and tasks to make everything run so smoothly, and to our area parishes for their support whenever needed. We couldn't have done it without you!





'SELFIE' PROJECT FOCUSES ON THE TRUE DEFINITION OF BEAUTY

To tie in with the "Find Your Greatness" theme of this year's Hye M'rtsoom, the ACYOA Juniors Executive Board organized a 'Selfie' Project. Spearheaded by Talar Kaya, this project asked all participants to send in a picture they took of themselves, which was received an overwhelmingly positive response. The photos were printed and hung

all throughout the lobby, next to quotes and Bible passages which focused on what makes each person beautiful in God's eyes, rather than society's definition of beauty. We thank the Executive Board for their initiative and leadership not only in organizing this project, but working so hard to lead their peers by example.



ACYOA JUNIORS RECEIVE NATIONAL AWARD

Every year, the ACYOA Central Council distributes awards to ACYOA Juniors and Seniors, recognizing their efforts and accomplishments within the organization. This year, the St. James ACYOA Juniors were chosen as the recipients of the Junior Chapter

'A' Award, which recognizes the chapter that has done its best to create an atmosphere conducive to Christian love, education, and service. We congratulate the ACYOA Juniors on a job well done!





ACYOA General Assembly and Sports Weekend



The St. James ACYOA Seniors headed to New York over Memorial Day weekend to participate in the 2014 General Assembly and Sports Weekend, hosted by the Holy Martyrs ACYOA Seniors of Bayside, NY. St. James was well represented at the General Assembly, held at the Diocesan Center in New York City, with six delegates: Karina Bekelian, Liana Bekelian, Aaron Derderian, Shaunt Fereshetian, Caiti Zeytoonian, and Peter Oundjian. We were proud to represent our chapter and work together to discuss the national business of the ACYOA.

The evening events brought a chance for fellowship, as we enjoyed the dances in unique venues, including a Hudson River boat cruise! It was an exciting weekend, and we congratulate the Holy Martyrs ACYOA on a job well done.

We had an exciting spring season, and we look forward to welcoming the 2014 high school graduates to the ACYOA Seniors in the fall!

Top: The delegates of the 2014 ACYOA General Assembly pose for a photo on the Diocesan plaza. (Photo by Jebejian Images)



During Sports Weekend, our teams competed in all the sporting events on Saturday and Sunday. We were proud to win 2nd place in basketball, forming a team with the Providence ACYOA Seniors.

St. James delegates pose for a photo. (Photo by Jebejian Images)

The St. James volleyball team poses for a photo during the competition.



ST. JAMES 67TH ANNUAL BAZAAR

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 AND SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

DELICIOUS ARMENIAN FOOD

(Served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

Shish, Chicken and Losh Kebab, Kheyma and
Eetch, Boereg, Manti, Yalanchi, Porov Kufte,
Tourshi & more

FABULOUS DELICACIES & PASTRIES

Choereg, Cream & Nut Khadaif, Baklava, Tahin
Hatz, Simit & more

BOOTHS AND VENDORS

Including the Farmer's Market, Silent Auction, Attic
Treasures, Jewelry, Armenian Handcrafts, & more

APPLE RAFFLE

Win a MacBook Air, iPads, iTouches, and more

\$100 RAFFLE

\$5,000, \$1,000, \$750, and three \$500 prizes
Purchase by September 26, 2014 to enter an
extra \$500 early bird drawing at the September
Hye Cafe

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Clowns, Games, and Prizes

VENDORS / VOLUNTEERS

contact Nancy Kassabian
nkass@comcast.net
(781) 322-0029

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

contact Sandy Raphaelian
sandyraphalian@verizon.net
(781) 762-6465

COOKING & BAKING SCHEDULE

Everyone is invited to help prepare! Come and learn from our experienced cooks
how to make the Famous St. James pastries and more! Just show up at the fol-
lowing dates! Lunch will be served each session.

CHOEREG — 9 a.m., Thursdays: July 31,
August 7, 14, 21,

MANTI — 9 a.m., Thursdays: August 28,
September 4, 11, 18, 25

TAHIN BREAD: 10 a.m., Saturday, September 6

POROV KUFTE — 9:00 Wednesday, September 10

TOURSHI — 5 p.m., Friday, September 12

BOEREG — 10 a.m., Saturday, September 13

SIMIT — 10 a.m., Saturday, September 20

APRICOT SQUARES — 9 a.m., Thursday, October 2

PAKLAVA/BOURMA — 10 a.m., Saturday, October 4

YALANCHI — 9 a.m., Thursday, October 9

PASTRY BAKING AND PACKAGING — All day!
Wednesday, Oct. 15





WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

From May 1st-4th, Gail Boroyan, Nancy Kassabian, Janice Kavjian and Aracse Kurkjian took part in the 28th Annual Women's Guild Assembly in New York City, presided over by His Eminence Khajag Barsamian. Held in conjunction with the Diocesan Assembly, clergy and Women's Guild delegates participated in an interactive session, where they brainstormed how parishes can encourage more women to be active in the Women's Guild, and how they can carry out the Diocesan theme of "Living the Gospel of Christ." Nancy Kassabian, St. James Women's Guild Chair, was elected Chair of the Women's Guild Central Council for 2014-2015.

Maria Derderian, St. James Youth Minister, led a workshop after having conducted an online survey about the ministry taking place in the women's guild groups focusing on "Living the Gospel of Christ: Assessing Needs in Ministry." Meline Grigorian, WGCC member conducted an interactive session on women's guild groups, - their strengths, their needs, and increasing membership. Other sessions included a summary of Women's Guild activities throughout the Diocese, a presentation on the Zohrab Center by V. Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, and a talk by Dr. Roberta Ervine from St. Nersess Seminary about the influences of women in the Church and the sacrifices many made for their Christian beliefs.

The delegates were in agreement that this was a productive Assembly in that much business was accomplished along with many opportunities for interaction and collaboration with their fellow delegates.



Top: Nancy Kassabian poses for a photo during the "W.O.W" Women of Wonder luncheon at the Assembly. Photos above: Women's Guild Fourth of July Summer Barbecue.



MEN'S CLUB NEWS

This winter and spring we held six meetings with an average attendance of 150 people, and featured six outstanding speakers. Special thanks to the volunteers for preparing the meals.

Our meetings featured the following speakers:

January - Judy Saryan
February - Gabrielle Wolohojian
March - Dr. Jack Keverian
April - Jacqueline Karaaslanian
May - Dr. Rojeh Melikian
June - Dr. Ara Tachjian

Additionally, this May we held our annual golf tournament at the Oakley Country Club, followed by dinner and entertainment at St. James. The event was a great success, with 85 golfers who enjoyed the beautiful weather and an outstanding Armenian dinner. The tournament was supported by 100 sponsors and many raffle and auction gift items. Many thanks to the tournament committee and to all the volunteers who worked hard to make this event another success!

-Dick Janjigian



This page, top: – The Golf Tournament Planning Committee poses for a photo during the dinner.

Below: Golf Tournament participants pose for photos.

Opposite page, from left: Participants enjoy a ride at the golf course. Volunteers take a break for a photo.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JAMES

Join us a few hours a month and help support the financial stability of our parish!

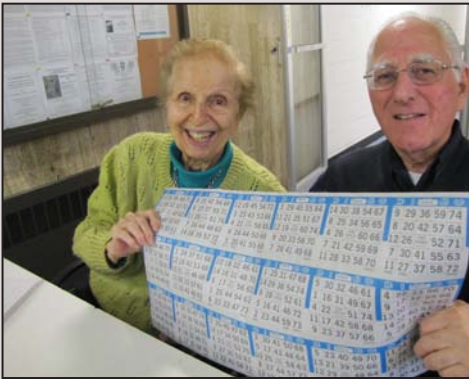
Tuesday night BINGO is a decades old tradition at St. James, with dedicated volunteers lovingly giving their time each week for the good of our parish! Since its inception in the 1970s, Bingo has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to help offset operating expenses at St. James.

BINGO is crucial to the financial viability and security of St. James. BINGO accounts for 15% of our total income to the church, putting over \$100,000 a year into the parish budget.

Volunteers help on the floor, help acknowledge winners, call back numbers, and assist in other ways, as needed.

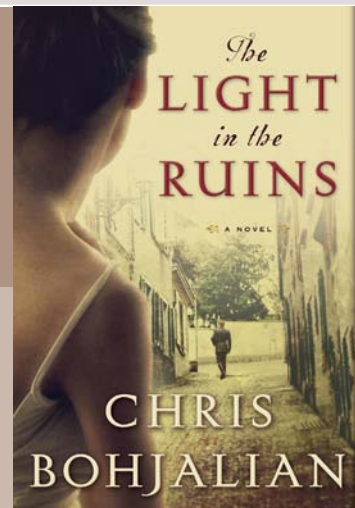
The time commitment is flexible: Tuesday evening, a minimum of two hours. Once a month...every week... We welcome your involvement! It's easy and fun!

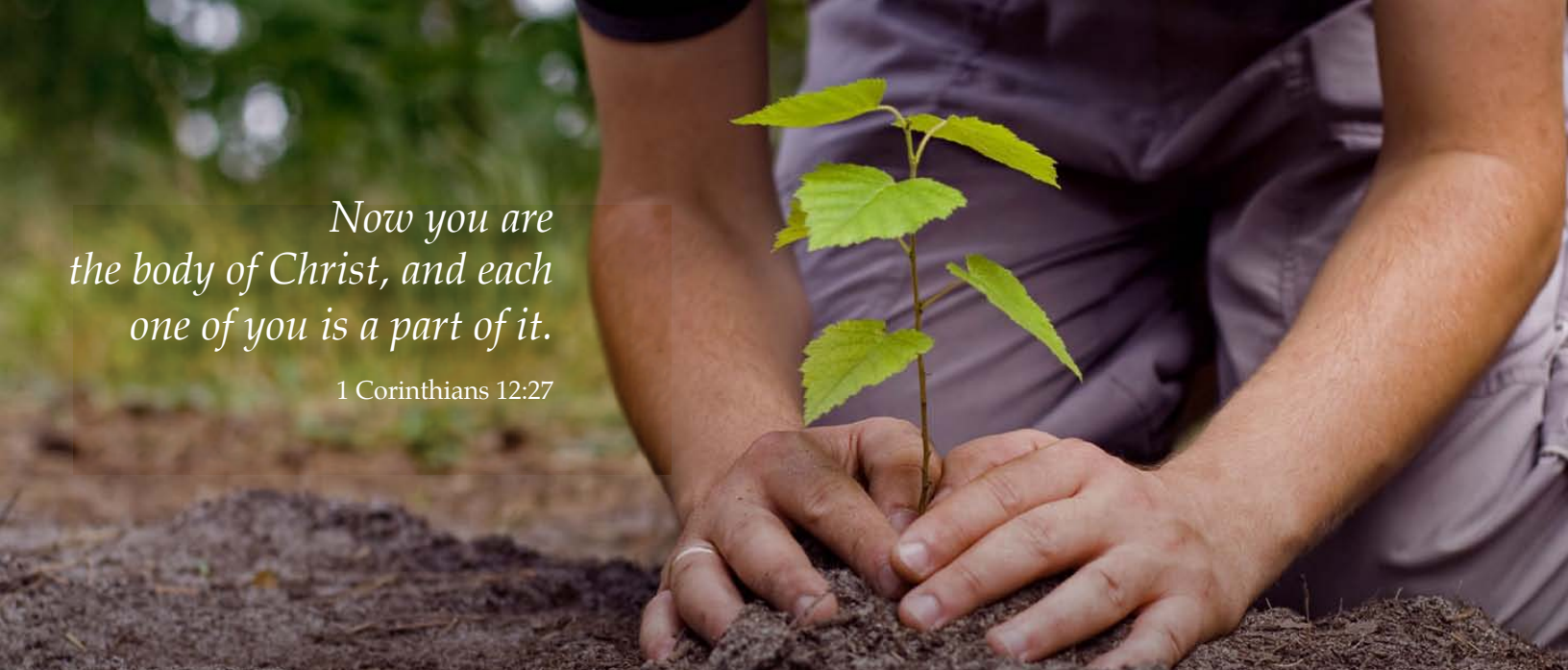
The only requirements are you must be 18 or older, have a friendly smile and love to welcome people. For more information, please call the church office or e-mail info@stthagod.com.



LOOKING FOR SUMMER READING?

ST. JAMES BOOK CLUB IS BACK! The next selection will be *The Light in the Ruins* by Chris Bohjalian. Stay tuned for information about our next meeting date, and please contact Yn. Natasha Aljalian at aljalian@comcast.net if you would like to attend, or for more information.





*Now you are
the body of Christ, and each
one of you is a part of it.*

1 Corinthians 12:27

STEWARDSHIP 2014

What Is Christian Stewardship? Christian stewardship is the faithful management of all that God gives. It is what you do after you say "I believe." Making a commitment to be a faithful and wise steward of St. James Church begins by acknowledging that everything we have comes from God. Stewardship takes root in our lives when we offer our gifts to God with generosity and gratitude.

St. James is your church. Join us and your fellow parishioners in making an active commitment and continuing the legacy of this parish for years to come.

MEMBERSHIP

- Your annual membership commitment entitles you to fully benefit from the parish's various ministries while financially supporting the work of your Armenian Church.

2014 Membership Dues:

\$50 – ages 18-24 (NEW Reduced Rate!)

\$200 – ages 25-64

\$125 – ages 65 +

- Membership in the parish is a wonderful way to make an intentional commitment to be part of something larger than yourself, to be a part of a Christian Community, united in our love of God and God's love for us even though we may come from very different places.

ANNUAL APPEAL

- Your Annual Appeal pledge will help sustain our parish and contribute toward its growth, thus ensuring that our children, grandchildren and family will always have a place of worship to call their home in the years ahead.
- It takes a lot of resources to keep such a large, active parish going. In order to fulfill the ever-changing needs of our parishioners and community, it is vital that we secure the financial health of our church. It is impossible to make true progress and appropriate plans effectively meet the needs of our parishioners in the years to come while operating on unpredictable cash flow.

Why should I pledge? Spiritually, because stewardship concerns our relationship with God, it helps us understand that those things we call possessions are really ours in trust. It allows us the chance to let go of some of our earthly possessions and experience the joy that comes from sharing what we have been given and offering it back to God.

I'm not sure what to pledge so I just put money in the offering plate each Sunday. Isn't that good enough? It's good, but, it could be better. Our weekly offering is not intended to replace our pledge. The church cannot be as flexible about its expenses. We need to budget and to plan. So, think about what you might normally put in the plate - or what you have normally put in the plate over the years - and write it down in the form of a pledge.

How do I become a member or make a pledge? Membership and Annual Appeal cards have been included in previous issues of the Looys, or are available in the church office and in the church entrance. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Fr. Arakel or any Parish Council member, or contact the church office at 617.923.8860 and info@stthagop.com.

Everything we have comes from God



In Lieu of Flowers

The following donations have been received with appreciation by St. James Armenian Apostolic Church. May God bless the souls of our dearly departed and give comfort to their families.

STEPAN AYANIAN

April 19, 2014

Sara Helen Ayanian
Mr. & Mrs. Kevork & Endza
Abdalian
Mary Guleserian Bergoudian
Susan & Dr. Kim Hazarvartian
George Manjikian
Araxie Poladian
Dn. Apkar & Arpie Potookian

Total: \$200

MARY (AJAMIAN) PAPAZIAN

April 28, 2014

Arthur Papazian & Family
Greg & Lenore Arabian
Dr. & Mrs. Jacob & Ruby
Baboian
Don & Sunny Boghosian
Debra A. Boyajian
Mr. & Mrs. Harry DerMinasian
Dr. Vartan Ghugasian
Armen Ghugasian
Steve & Margie Glikas
Nora Kalajian
Nancy Guleserian
Mary-Ann K. Hagopian
Rosalie Hausserman
Leon W. Kachadorian
Susy Karadzian
Kachadour & Marilyn Kojoian
Lucy Mardirosian
Arthur & Margaret Masmanian
Mr. & Mrs. Edward G.
Minasian
Claire Musserian
Beatrice Ohannessian
Shirley Onanian
Arthur & Louise Panosian
Marilyn Papazian
Peter Papazian
Lillian, Mark & Rick Papazian
Families

Harry & Hripsime Parsekian
Zakarian Family

Total: \$985

MARIE GULBANKIAN

May 3, 2014

Donald Gulbankian
Sonia Gulbankian
Reidar Gresseth
Aphrodite Adamopoulos
Anonymous
Broadmeadow Mobile Home
Village Assoc.
Walter & Susan Demoorjian
Robin (Tutunjian) & Ron Hines
& Family
The Capone Family

Total: \$540

ROBERT HOWARD NAHIGIAN

May 5, 2014

Harold & Gladys Partamian
Leon & Marion Semonian
Mr. & Mrs. Raffi Yeghiayan

Total: \$100

RICHARD S. GUREGHIAN

May 16, 2014

Armand & Helen Andreassian
Ernie & Ruthann Covino
Mr. & Mrs. Viken Haytayan
Berj & Virginia Najarian

Total: \$200

MARGARET BEJIAN

May 21, 2014

Dr. Paul H. Aswad
Edward Brewster
Berj & Annie Chekijian
Steven Chilian
Sally Swihat

Helen Chilian
David & Betty Conley
Joan Fassler
Tom Kay
Raymond & Ann Marie Fischer
Dr. Vartan & Mr. Armen
Ghugasian
Michael & Victoria Giuliani
Dr. & Mrs. Nishan
Goudsouzian
Mary-Ann K. Hagopian
Gail Haroutunian
Martin & Juliette Hatzadourian
Vartkes Hovsepien
Sona D. Kapilian
Samuel Kapreilian
Edward K. & Nirva Kazanjian
& Family
Berdj Kiladjian
Harold & Agnes Kloongian
Mr. & Mrs. Emilio Lyons
Arthur Madenjian
James Madenjian
Armand Paboojian
Nancy & David Papazian
Paul & Lori (Abrahamian)
Pirundini & Family
Stephen J. Poor, III, MD
William & Ada Russell &
Family
Diane & Kenneth Samuelian
George K. Tekeyan
Haig & Rosalie Tekeyan
Michael G. Yapchaian
Gayle M. Yapchaian
Dr. Gregory G. Zirakian

Total: \$1,490

DOROTHY AIRASIAN

May 23, 2014

George & Carol Airasian
Suzanne J. Bere
Tom & Connie DeVol
JM Whitney Insurance, Inc.

Virginia Safer
Harvey & Gretchen Silverman
Lena F. Toli

Total: \$400

ADDITIONAL IN LIEU DONATIONS as of July 8, 2014

LEON MANOOGIAN

November 25, 2013

Mediterranean Market Place, Inc
New Total: \$1,325

ARUSYAK OZCAN

March 26, 2014

Francine Ciampolillo
New Total: \$2,635


FILOR S. NISHAN aka MINASSIAN

March 28, 2014

Roupen Kiredjian
New Total: \$800

MARGARET (Jojokian) JANIKIAN

Margaret & Leon Atamian
Steve & Margie Glikas & Nora
Kalajian
Barbara Sarkisian-Arthur
New Total: 2,305



Օրհնեցէք զՏէր յերկինս: Ալէլուիա:
Օրհնեցէք զնա ի բարձունս: Ալէլուիա:

SACRAMENTS



BAPTISMS & CHRISMATIONS

You have been baptized in Christ. Alleluia.

Adrian Nuran Chavushian

June 8, 2014

Son of Nuran and Dayana
Chavushian

Godparents: Carlo and Lindsay
Sarkissian

Natalie Elle Khalarian

June 29, 2014

Daughter of Alex and Carol
Khalarian

Godparents: Gregory Vartanian and
Sylvia Khalarian

Tigran Mnatsakanian

July 13, 2014

Son of Vardan and Meri
Mnatsakanian

Godparents: Arman and Hermine
Poghosyan



FUNERALS

*May Christ our God shed His Eternal Light upon the souls of our dearly departed.
May God bless the souls of the deceased and comfort the members of their families.*

Siranush Arutyunova

June 14, 2014

Rose Kirakosian

July 3, 2014

Azadouhi Vorperian

July 11, 2014

Helen Tutunjian

June 17, 2014

Sarkis Najarian

July 8, 2014

Kevin York

July 11, 2014

Bessie Michigan

June 24, 2014

Michael Dasho

July 8, 2014

Astkhik Ismintseva

July 11, 2014



WEDDINGS

And the two shall become one.

Arthur Atinizian and Karin Cemcem

May 25, 2014

Best man: John Yardemian

Maid of Honor: Carolyn Yardemian

Wedding was held at St. Leon Armenian
Cathedral in Burbank, CA

Sarkis Duhanyan and Kimberly Lisa Mayer

June 14, 2014

Best man: Vrej Melkonian

Maid of Honor: Carly Rockstroh

Roman Avanesov and Nadezda Ershova

June 14, 2014

Best man: Robert Popas

Maid of Honor: Diana Avanesova

Herman I. Sahan and Elinar Mkrtchyan

May 31, 2014

Best man: Mnuik Degirmenci

Maid of Honor: Susie Degirmenci

Edward Michael Minasian and Sandra Castro

July 12, 2014

Best man: David Louis Glinka

Maid of Honor: Angelica Castro

A PERPETUAL MEMORIAL

for remembrance of our loved ones

The St. James Perpetual Memorial is located in the foyer of the Church on both sides of the entrance to the sanctuary. The archway and modules of the Memorial Plaques were installed in 1991. The archway depicts symbols of the Armenian Church, with the name of our church, St. James Armenian Apostolic Church, at the top of the door. Three sets of wooden modules that hold the Memorial Plaques are on either side of the door. They are made of red oak and enhance and complement the interior of the church sanctuary.

Each Memorial Plaque is 2" x 10" in size. Each plaque bears the name of the departed loved one being memorialized in both Armenian and English, and also bears an inscription of years of birth and passing. Plaques are installed on the Perpetual Memorial at the requested area. Only one person may be remembered on each plaque.

The contribution for each Memorial Plaque is \$1,000. The majority of this donation is placed in the St. James Permanent Fund, where it will generate continuing income for our parish. Families or individuals wanting to reserve Memorial Plaques in advance may do so, and may also select the area of the Perpetual Memorial on which their plaque(s) will be placed, by making full payment in advance.

The Perpetual Memorial is a way to honor our departed loved ones and to remember them as we enter our church sanctuary to worship. For more information, please contact Haig Deranian the Memorial Plaque Chairman at (617) 489-9465 or the church office at (617) 923-8860.



DONATIONS TO LOOYS: THANK YOU



We thank the following for their generosity and their support of St. James and the publication of Looys.

Elise R. Harrison	20.00
Iskouhi Khalarian	25.00
Rose Tatarian	25.00
Haige J. Garabedian	
In memory of Dora (Berberian) Garabedian	35.00
George and Aramene Sarkisian	30.00
Bertha Mugurdichian	20.00
Garbis and Mary-Louise Essaian	30.00



PLEASE NOTE: There is an expense of approximately \$3,000 for publishing and mailing each issue of *Looys*. Any contributions sent to defray part of this cost are greatly appreciated. Please use the form below to send your donation for this purpose.

St. James Armenian Apostolic Church
465 Mt. Auburn Street, Watertown, MA 02472

Donation for *Looys* in the amount of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please list occasion (if any): _____

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORY

WORSHIP HOURS

Sunday Morning Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

ՊԱՇՏԱՄԱՌՆԻԹԻ ԺԱՄՆԵՐԸ

Կիրակի Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն - 8:30
Կիրակի Սուրբ Պատարագ - 10:00

CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday
Office closed Saturday and Sunday
Phone: (617) 923-8860; Fax: (617) 926-5503
E-mail: info@stthagop.com
www.stthagop.com

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Arakel Aljalian
Rectory: 6 Langdon Ave., Watertown, MA 02472
E-mail: derarakel@stthagop.com
H: (617) 923-8990

ASSOC. PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Fr. Arsen Barsamian
53 Hill Road, Apt. 302, Belmont, MA 02478
H: (617) 484-2614

PARISH COUNCIL

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Joanna Doherty, Bookkeeper

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Michael V. Mamishian
Email: mvmamishian@stthagop.com

YOUTH MINISTER (EXT. 19)

Maria Derderian
Email: mderderian@stthagop.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL (EXT. 19)

Marsha Alabachian, Superintendent

CHILD CARE CENTER (EXT. 22)

ST. SAHAG AND ST. MESROB ARMENIAN SATURDAY SCHOOL (EXT. 21)

James Najarian,
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Marina Minasian, Superintendent

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Fr. Arakel Aljalian, Fr. Arsen Barsamian,
St. James Office Staff, Yn. Natasha Aljalian,
Maria Derderian, and Alex Kalaydjian

PASTORAL CARE: HOME AND HOSPITAL CLERGY VISITS

The clergy are always available and would like to visit homebound and hospitalized parishioners. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized and would like to be visited, please call the church office at (617) 923-8860. Please note: when asked about your religion at a hospital, patients should list themselves as "Armenian Orthodox" or "Armenian" not "other."

REQUIEM SERVICE/HOKEHANKISD

Arrangements for Requiem Service, Altar Flowers and Candles should be made through the church office by Thursday at noon. In accordance with the canons of the Armenian Church, Requiem Services may not be performed on the five major feast days: Armenian Christmas, Easter, The Feast of the Transfiguration, The Feast of the Assumption of the Mother of God, and The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

All baptisms must be scheduled at least two months in advance by calling the church office. According to the Armenian Church canons, a Baptism may only be performed once in a person's lifetime, provided such Baptism has been performed in a Christian Church and in the name of the Holy Trinity.

At least one of the godparents must be a member of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church.

WEDDINGS

Parishioners should contact the church office at least eight months in advance. A couple must contact St. James to confirm the availability of the Pastor and sanctuary prior to making any other arrangements.

All weddings must follow the Canons of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church and the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In accordance with Diocesan discipline mandated by the Primate, all Sacraments must be performed in the church sanctuary.

The couple must meet with the Pastor at least once for pre-marital preparation and counseling. Weddings cannot be performed during Great Lent or Holy Week, or on the five major feast days: Armenian Christmas, Holy Easter, The Feast of the Transfiguration, The Feast of the Assumption of the Mother of God, and The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

FUNERALS

Families should make arrangements with the funeral director of their choice, who will contact the church office to arrange the funeral service. Generally, St. James coordinates funerals with Bedrosian Funeral Home and Giragosian Funeral Home; both are located in Watertown and are familiar with our Church traditions.

Funerals may not be performed on religious holidays, major feast days, Saturdays after 3:00 p.m., or on Sundays.

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
465 Mt. Auburn Street, Watertown, MA 02472

Please rush, dated material

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