

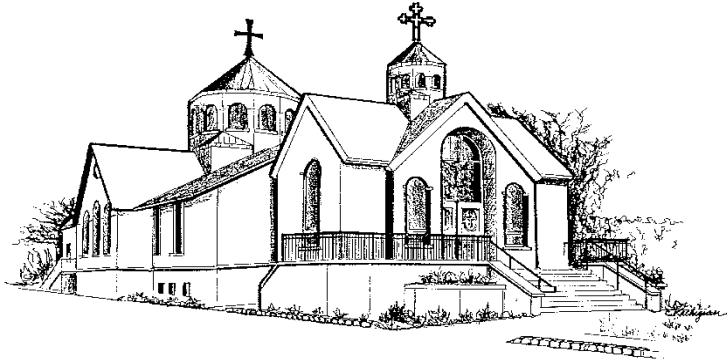
ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

First Sunday of the Advent

November 26, 2023

Morning Service 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM



Readings from the Holy Scripture

Isaiah 36:1-9

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Luke 12:13-31

“God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life” John 3:16

Rev. Fr. Diran Bohajian
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12-61 Saddle River Road, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
Phone (201) 791-2862

Church E-mail address: churchoffice@stleon.org
Fr. Diran's E-mail address: dbohajian@stleon.org
St. Leon's Website: <http://www.stleon.org>

ALTAR SERVERS

Deacons Nurhan Ezik, Dr. Berdj Feredjian,
Diran Jebejian, Dr. Hrach Kasaryan,
Nubar Kasaryan, Dr. Gregory Kazanjian,
Sebuh Oscherician, Sarkis Pilavdjian

Subdns. Paul Chamesian, Jack Hamparian, Vahe Kiljian



CHOIR MASTER
George Paroonagian

PRINCIPAL ORGANIST
Sirvard Galstian

ASSISTANT CHOIR DIRECTORS
Daniella Ashbahian Dawn Donofrio



*Gus & Karen Pirchio have donated towards
the altar flowers in celebration of their 50th
wedding anniversary.*



PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairperson	<i>Mark Badach</i>
Vice Chairperson	<i>Serda Belekdanian</i>
Treasurer	<i>George Kundakji</i>
Assistant Treasurer	<i>Haig Buchakjian</i>
Recording Sec'y	<i>Peter Bedevian</i>
Corresponding Sec'y	<i>Patricia Toofangjian</i>
Members at Large	<i>Hratch Beylerian, Hagop Cilingiryan, Dawn Hourdajian, Marilou Pinajian, Barbara Roylan</i>



*Remember our brothers & sisters in
Armenia in your prayers.*



HOKEHANKISD

† Der Diran & the Parish Council are requesting Hokehankisd for the soul of **Mary Ann Mozian**, on the 2nd anniversary of her passing into eternal rest.

† Khatchig Hayrabetian & daughter Aline, Annie & Christopher Havatian & daughters, Stephanie & Cynthia request Hokehankisd for the soul of **Panos Hayrabetian**, *beloved father & grandfather*, on the occasion of his 8th anniversary of passing into eternal rest. The family has donated towards the altar flowers & has requested that the altar candles be lit in memory of their loved one.

Hokehankisd Request Deadline:

Hokehankisd requests must be submitted by **noon on Thursdays** so that it can be printed in that week's Sunday bulletin.

Please be mindful that a standard word format is used to maintain non-preferential consistency in the allotted printing space.

Be sure to include contact information when emailing or leaving a message with your submissions.



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 on the great day of the coming of your kingdom. Make them worthy of mercy, of expiation and forgiveness of sins. Glorify them and reckon them with the company of your saints at your right hand. For you are the Lord and creator of all, judge of the living and of the dead. And to you is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and unto the ages of ages.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Remember in your prayers and ask for the recovery of.

(Kindly assist with updating the prayer list by notifying the church office of any changes).

*Aleksan Aristakesian, Felicia Asomani, James Azarian,
Mosses Bairamian, Hana Botie, Zoe Brooks, Frank Cornawchiulo,
Jerry DiSanti, Julie Frattarola, Ruben Grigoryants,
Varoujan Harutunian, Lusine Hovsepyan, Silva Jinivizian,
Robert John Karanfilian III, Brandon Katz, Annette Kouchshirin,
Jim & Wendy Lathey, Sara Malajian, Carmelina Mancini,
Bill Manookian, Sebu Oscherician, Emily Ring, Michael Sakolsky,
Melanie Sarkisian, Marie Tenguerian, Greg Tenbekjian,
Clara Yeramian.*

We commit our sick and shut-ins to our Heavenly Father who care
and watches over all His children. "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.

Do you know what the writing above the altar says?



*It is written in classical Armenian and says,
"Love one another, because God is Love."*

("Seeretsek izmeemeeyanis, zee Asdvadz ser e")



*Thank you! Fair Lawn High School Transition Program
students who typically fold & deliver our bulletins every week.*

Church Etiquette

Reverence Required

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

1. Chanting of the Gospel, pg. 17
2. Recitation of the Creed (Havadamk), pg.18
3. Chalice Procession, pg. 24-25
4. Hayr Mer, pg. 41
5. Hymn, "Der Voghormya," pg. 45
6. Holy Communion, pg. 49.

* Also, please do not chew gum or cross legs during church services.

* Please observe the "arrows" in the liturgy books, they indicate when you should Stand, Sit, or Kneel.

*For your convenience, liturgy book pages are indicated on the monitor located on the right side of the altar.

Fundamental Teachings of the Armenian Church



The Seven Sacraments...

Baptism, Confirmation, Penance, Holy Communion, Matrimony, Holy Orders, Unction with Oil (for the sick)

The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy...

To instruct the ignorant,
To counsel the doubtful,
To exhort & convert sinners,
To comfort the sorrowing & afflicted,
To forgive offenses,
To suffer wrongs patiently,
To pray for others, living & dead.

The Four Cardinal Virtues...

Prudence, Justice, Temperance, Fortitude

The Four Notes of the True Church...

One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

The Four Symbols of the Gospels...

St. Matthew- Angel St. Mark- Winged Lion,
St. Luke- Winged Ox St. John- Eagle

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit...

Wisdom & understanding,
Counsel & spiritual strength,
Knowledge & true godliness,
Holy fear of the Lord.



ՀԱՂՈՐԴԱԳՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

Նոր նշանակումներ

Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Գարեգին Երկրորդ Ծայրագույն Պատրիարք և Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսի Հայրապետական տնօրինությամբ կատարվել են եկեղեցականների նոր նշանակումներ:

Արցախի թեմի առաջնորդ Գերաշնորհ Ս. Վրթանես եպիսկոպոս Աբրահամյանը նշանակվել է Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածնի Արցախի հոգևոր-մշակութային ժառանգության հարցերով գրասենյակի տնօրեն, իսկ Հոգեշնորհ Ս. Գարեգին վարդապետ Համբարձումյանը՝ Արցախի հոգևոր-մշակութային ժառանգության հարցերով գրասենյակի վարիչ: Հոգեշնորհ Ս. Սահակ վարդապետ Շաքարյանը ծառայության է կոչվել Սյունյաց թեմում առաջնորդական տեղապահի իշխանության ներքո:





BIBLE STUDIES

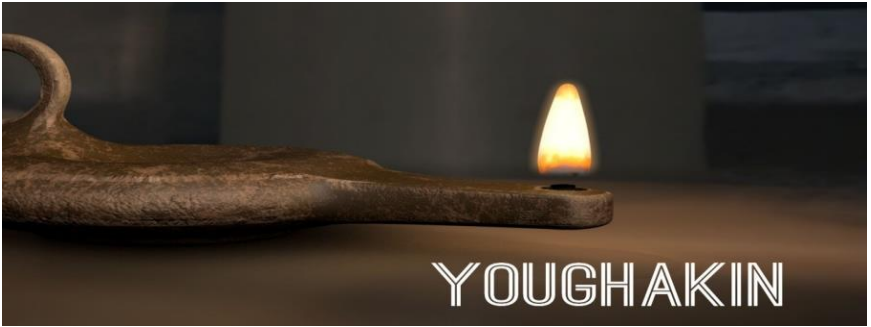
Wednesday, Dec 13, 2023.

TIME: 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Call or e-mail Fr. Diran to receive a zoom invite to the Bible study group.

Synopsis of the Gospels on the Adoration of Jesus

Jesus following the Prophecy was born in Bethlehem who was understood as King of the Jews. He is the Messiah that the Jews were anticipating, the Messiah that, for hundreds of years prophets have been saying God would send. The Wise Men came from the East and came to Jerusalem. These men were astrologers which was a respected science of the stars. Herod wanted to know where this King of the Jews was to be born so that he could seek out Jesus and worship him but in reality, he wants to destroy him. Jesus escapes to Egypt and later return after Herod's death. More than any other Gospel, Matthew, zeroes in on exactly what that good news is, for he concentrates on the words Jesus spoke. Matthew records Jesus in accusing words, comforting words, and motivating words. In Matthew's Gospel, we see on behalf of Jesus dramatic action which is also seen in Mark's Gospel and also in Luke's Gospel or as much proof of the deity of Jesus as we will uncover in John's Gospel which emphasis the divinity of Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus, is God's son in a human body, and Messiah that prophets said God would send to Israel. Mary and Joseph were continually growing in their knowledge of Jesus especially when they search for him, and he is in the Temple speaking with Teachers and Elders. Jesus affirms to his parents, why are they searching for him. Jesus emphasizes that He is in His Father's House. The Announcement of Jesus by John the Baptist is very powerful in which he says, "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand", "The voice of one crying in the wilderness Prepare the way of the Lord". Matthew 3:1-6



Youghakin is made up of two Armenian words: “*yough*” and “*kin*.”

“*Youghakin*” literally means the price of oil or donation in lieu of oil. In olden days, prior to electricity, oil lamps and lanterns illuminated homes and worship places.

Parishioners donated oil to keep the church lit.

After the invention of electricity, as oil lamps were replaced with electrical lamps, the Armenian Apostolic Church continued asking members to bring symbolic contributions for the illumination of the church through the youghakin program at Christmas and Easter.

The context of this practice is inner illumination rather than stewardship. When you send in your youghakin gift, you are not merely helping the church financially but are helping centuries of Armenian faith shine.

Through youghakin, you are in effect refueling the traditional symbolic lantern of faith, which St. Gregory the Illuminator lit.



... Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8



CHRISTMAS GREETING

We are offering the opportunity of sending holiday greetings to your fellow St. Leon Parishioners through a **Special St. Leon Christmas Greeting Page**. Please complete this form and return it to the Church Office by Dec 4th, 2023, so that your names can appear in the December 24th Sunday bulletin & also in the January/February 2023 Lradoo issue.

**CHRISTMAS GREETING
DONATION:** _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

Email _____

Telephone _____



POINSETTIAS for the HOLY ALTAR

If you wish to donate towards the **poinsettias** that decorate the altar during the Christmas season, please complete the form below and return it with your donation, to the Church Office by Sunday, December 17, 2023. The list will appear in the January/February 2024 Lradoo issue.

**POINSETTIAS FOR THE ALTAR
DONATION:** _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

Email _____

Telephone _____



Church Campus Happenings...

Kiss of Peace: “Krisdos ee mech mer haydnetsav.”

(Christ is revealed among us.)

“Orhnyal e haydnootyoonun Krisdosi.”

(Blessed is the revelation of Christ.)

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 if interested.

Armenian School:

School Fundraiser



All inquiries for purchasing opportunities of lahmajun, sujuk, & baghaj, may be forwarded to Nora Balekji at 973-513-2507 or nbalekji@gmail.com
Pre-paid orders may be picked up in Abajian Hall on the designated day.

Sunday School:

Runs from 10am -12pm, PreK through 11th grades.

Click on the following link to register students; <https://bit.ly/3zLZoF6>.

For further inquiries contact **Andrea Carden** at **201-264-2805**,
acarden56@gmail.com.

St. Leon’s Social Club:



Social Club meets every Wednesday, 11:30am-3:00pm at the upper level of our **Youth Center**. We encourage you to bring a friend and spend an afternoon together! *Donation is \$3*. Hope to see you there this week!

Coffee Hospitality:

Today’s hospitality is hosted by our ACYOA SRS.

Please join us *after* Badarak, in Abajian Hall for coffee & fellowship.

Please Note: All campus postings *must be pre-approved* by the church office. **All others will be removed**. No taping on glass nor doors permitted. And sorry, no personal business promotions. Consider instead, inquiring about advertisement opportunities in our *Lradoo*.



Christmas Market

St. Leon Women's Guild

Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 12-2PM

St. Leon Armenian Church
✦ 12-61 Saddle River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

ARMENIAN VENDORS

GIFTS CRAFTS GAMES



Holy Name Medical Center provides
**COMPLIMENTARY BLOOD PRESSURE
SCREENING at St. Leon**

Typically, every third Wednesday of each
month, **from 2-3pm.**

We need more participants for this service to
continue.

Please consider stopping by on our next
scheduled screening-



December 13, 2023
(Mark your calendars)

It's a walk-in service, no appointment needed.
Feel free to call the church office,
with any questions.
201-791-2862

Your heart will thank you!



CALLING ALL WALKERS!

Sponsored by The St. Leon Woman's Guild



Mondays, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

**We will meet weekly and hope that you can
join us!**

Where: St Leon Front Parking Lot

Bring water and your sneakers!

Enjoy fun & fellowship with your friends!

Questions? Please call Lisa Boyajian
at 551-265-1105

Hope to see you!



BASKETBALL SCHEDULE



ACSA BASKETBALL 2023-2024 Season

DATE	GARDEN CITY MITCHEL GYM					FAIR LAWN ST LEON GYM					HACKENSACK HIGH SCHOOL				
OCT 22	2:00 St LEON1	3:15 M SVC	4:30 Jr SARK	VART		1:30 G LEON	2:45 Sr LEON	4:00 St LEON2	HOV2						
OCT 29	1:30 St HM2	2:30 St HM1	3:30 Jr HM	4:45 Sr HM	VART		2:00 St HOV1	3:00 M LEON2	4:15 M SVC	2:00 G HM1	3:15 G HM2	4:30 Jr LEON	VART		
NOV 5	2:00 St HM3	3:00 G HM1	4:15 Sr HM	LEON		2:00 St HM1	3:00 St HM1	4:00 St HOV1			2:00 Jr HM	3:15 M HC	4:30 M LEON1	LEON2	
NOV 12	1:30 Jr LEON	2:45 G HM1	4:00 Jr HM	5:15 St HM2	SARK		1:00 M LEON2	2:15 M HC	3:30 St HM3	4:30 G HM2					
NOV 19						2:00 M HC	3:15 St HOV1	4:15 St HOV2	LEON1		2:00 M VART	3:15 M SVC	LEON1		
DEC 3	1:30 G HM1	2:45 St HM2	3:45 St HM1	4:45 Jr HM	SARK		1:30 St HOV1	2:30 St LEON1	3:30 M LEON1	1:30 Jr LEON	2:45 G LEON	4:00 Sr LEON	5:15 M HC	SVC	
DEC 10	1:30 G HM1	2:45 Jr HM	4:00 St HM3	5:00 St HM1	HOV1		2:00 St HOV2	3:00 Jr VART	4:15 G VART	1:30 M LEON1	2:45 Sr HM	4:00 M HC	5:15 M SVC	LEON2	
DEC 17	1:30 St HOV2	2:30 G HM1	3:45 Jr HM	5:00 M HC	SVC		1:00 M LEON1	2:15 St HM2	3:15 St HM2	4:15 St HM1	1:30 G HM2	2:45 Jr SARK	4:00 Sr HM	5:15 M LEON2	VART

RS vol 44.1

Note to all players and coaches: Please arrive at least 30 minutes before game time.
Scores, standings and information at www.acsasports.org
www.facebook.com/acsabasketball
www.instagram.com/acsa_basketball

Come Support our Teams!



St Leon Church Membership

How do we understand membership
in the Armenian Church?

By receiving the sacrament of baptism in the Armenian Church, we are all members. However, per the bylaws of our diocese, membership is further understood as those who annually pay dues to a specific parish.

A dues-paying member is one who takes responsibility for offering their service for the spiritual and financial growth of our parish and in the advancing our Diocesan Christian mission.

“The mission of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church is to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and to proclaim its message of salvation. This mission is realized through worship, education, witness, service, and the common life in Christ as expressed in the distinctive faith-experience of the Armenian people.”

Further, dues-paying members are eligible to participate in the governance of our parish by voting at the Parish Assembly and may run for office in any of the executive bodies of the various organizations of the parish, including the Parish Council.

The St. Leon Parish Assembly has designated the following amounts as the required minimum dues for St. Leon Parish Membership. Please consider becoming a dues-paying member & contribute as generously as the Lord leads you.



*Individual (18+): \$175

*Student (18-24): \$50




*Senior (65+): \$100

**Applications will be supplied upon request.*

REMINDER: Parish Assembly is scheduled for February 4, 2024.
Dues paying members should be up to date with their payments, to vote.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Nov 26	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy NO Sunday School
Wed	Nov 29	Senior Social Club 11-3pm
Fri	Dec 1	Armenian School
Sun	Dec 3	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy Sunday School Christmas Market (Abajian Hall 12:30-2:30pm)
Wed	Dec 6	Senior Social Club 11-3pm
Fri	Dec 8	Armenian School
Sat	Dec 9	ACYOA JRS Progressive Dinner 
Sun	Dec 10	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy Sunday School Christmas Pageant
Tues	Dec 12	WG Meet & Xmas Lunch at MADO 12-3pm
Wed	Dec 13	Senior Social Club 11-3pm  HNH Nurse Visit
Fri	Dec 15	Armenian School Christmas Hantes
Sun	Dec 17	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy NO Sunday School
Wed	Dec 20	Senior Social Club 11-3pm
Fri	Dec 22	NO Armenian School Christmas
Sun	Dec 24	Morning Service, Divine Liturgy NO Sunday School Vespers & Christmas Caroling 7:30pm 



Last Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

There are no wedding sacraments permitted on Palm Sunday (Mar 24, 2024) & on the five major feast days in the Armenian Church which are:

Armenian Christmas – January 6, 2024

Easter –March 31, 2024

Transfiguration – July 7, 2024

Assumption of the Virgin Mary – August 18, 2024

Exaltation of the Holy Cross – September 15, 2024

