

# News from our parish

## *Parish Council*

November was the end of our church fiscal year and we will be busy preparing reports for our Annual Assembly coming up in February. With the Thanksgiving holiday behind us, the Christmas and New Year's season is here for everyone to enjoy.

On November 11, our first "All You Can Eat Prime Rib and Fish Feed" was held. The committee, under the chairmanship of Mark Der Matoian, did an outstanding job. A special tribute was done for the veterans present and in memoriam. For those who missed the event, you'll have an opportunity to attend next year.

We have some notable events happening in the parish in December:

- On December 2, the Ladies Society will be holding their Annual Christmas Luncheon.
- Also on December 2, the Senior ACYO will be participating in the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Downtown Fresno Christmas Parade.
- On December 9, the St. Paul Saturday School will be commemorating its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at its Annual Banquet to be held in the Haig Berberian Hall at 6:00 p.m. Archbishop Hovnan Derderian will be presiding and will also be the celebrant for the Divine Liturgy the next day. Tickets are \$25 and you can obtain them through the church office.
- On December 22, the Junior ACYO will have their annual Christmas caroling at the California Armenian Home and perhaps some of our parishioners' residences.

- On Sunday, December 24, during the Divine Liturgy, the Celebration of the Feast of St. Stephen will take place to honor the Deacons of our church.

There will be a Nominating Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 12, to select candidates for Parish Council, Diocesan Delegates and Assembly Offices. Please contact Der Hayr or any Parish Council member if you have a desire to serve.

The 2018 Pledge Forms are ready and will be mailed in December.

As far as projects around our complex are concerned, we have completed everything planned to date. The last project was the repainting of the exterior doors and stucco and was completed in November. Our next project in the planning, is the renovation of the bathrooms in the Haig Berberian Hall. This will be a huge undertaking as we hope to accomplish a complete redecorating of the bathrooms as well as provide for proper handicap access.

Our secretary, Vartush Mesropyan, will be on maternity leave starting mid-December for the birth of her first child. The Parish Council extends its best wishes to Vartush and her husband, Zhor Pogosyan, on this very special event in their lives.

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**  
**Հնոբհավոր Նոր Տարի եւ Սուրբ Ծնունդ:**



## Men's Forum

The Men's Forum November 15<sup>th</sup> dinner-meeting was attended by twenty members and guests including the main speaker and church member, Bart Hagopian. A delicious turkey breast dinner, prepared by the "semi-retired" cooking committee, was enjoyed by everyone present. Assisting "head chef" Bob Der Matoian, were Russell Adams, Jerry Mootafian, Paul Mooradian and Ben Krikorian. In keeping with the traditional November "Salute to Veterans" theme, Bart described his special experience as part of the Central Valley Honor Flight in early October. Other Forum member Honor Flight participants included Mike Kilijian and Ed Kaye, who were unable to attend this evening. Bart, who served during the Korean War, revealed how well every veteran was treated, including each having a personal chaperone. He also acknowledged what a moving and inspirational experience it was to visit all the memorial sites in Washington D.C. Russell Adams, a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, shared his Honor Flight experience from a few years ago, prior to establishment of the Central Valley Chapter. It was wonderful to have member, Joe Garabedian, present at the dinner-meeting. Joe, a World War II combat veteran, along with veteran, Paul Mooradian, shared their thoughts as well.

As for the annual election of Men's Forum officers, it was decided by those present, to retain the current officers. Perhaps, next year, there will be some new faces to take over the leadership.

At this time, there are no Forum activities planned for December as it appears that Fowler Men's Forum is planning to host the Five-Church Dinner sometime this coming January. Hopefully, there will be information to share on this annual event, soon.

In closing, Men's Forum wishes all St. Paul parishioners and their families a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.



## Ladies Society

Mark your calendars for our Next dinner-meeting will be Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at 6:30 pm, at Plaza Ventana, located at 5088 N. Blackstone. Please join us for a devotional and our 2018 officer elections. The dinner will be a choice of:

1. Tostada Compuesta (salad) --- beef, chicken or Chile Verde
2. Chile Verde
3. Tamales Dos Colores --- 1 beef and 1 chicken
4. Combination Plate-2 items --- Taco, Enchilada, Tamales, Taquitos, Chile Relleno, Burrito or Bean Tostada

Please make your reservations for dinner to Gaila Peloian at 559-439-3001 or send an e-mail to [g.peloian@gmail.com](mailto:g.peloian@gmail.com). A huge thank you to our church family for their kind generosity to the Evangel Home and their residents. Our volunteers visited the Home on Sunday, November 5, as they shared time together laughing, singing and praying. Salpy Adams gave an inspiring devotional on encouraging one another. She included each member around the circle of new friends to encourage each other then share that encouragement with another person. A special thank you to Salpy Adams, Mary Egoian, Shenora Adishian, Shoghig and Thalia Colorian, Susie and Araxie Kalinian, Donna and Emily Durham

and Sara Beberian, for their support and devotion to this ministry.

Be sure to make your reservations quickly for the Annual Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, December 2, 2017. The luncheon is a great way to kick off the holiday season with the country store, food, fun and fellowship. This year, Elvis will be in the House so be sure to bring your friends and family to come see what everyone is talking about!

### Coming up:

- December 2, 2017-Annual Ladies Society Christmas Luncheon
- December 9, 2017-Saturday School 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Banquet
- December 13, 2017-LS General Dinner Meeting at Plaza Ventana

## *Senior ACYO*

On Wednesday, November 8, the seniors had their meeting and finalized some dates for upcoming events. During fellowship on Sunday, November 19, they welcomed Fresno State students, Mone Harrison and Genevieve Nakimbugwe, to St. Paul Armenian Church. After taking a tour of the church with member, Isabella Papikyan, the two students helped set up and serve for fellowship. Thank you to all members for helping!

On Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the seniors met in the office and put together “goodie bags” which they passed out to all parishioners that entered church for services on Sunday, November 26, wishing them all a Happy Thanksgiving. On Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, they also met at church to decorate the walls in room 4 and prepare for the upcoming Christmas parade to be held in downtown Fresno.

For the second time, the Senior ACYO will be participating in the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Downtown Fresno Christmas Parade: A Funky Fulton Christmas on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Seniors will be wearing their funky Christmas outfits with Santa hats and will be ringing bells. They will be walking down the newly opened Fulton Street while holding the ACYO banner, a few posters and will have a nicely decorated float. The parade is open to the public and everyone is welcome to come and watch the ACYO as they participate in the parade.

The Senior ACYO wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May the Lord’s love, blessings, and serenity be with you and your families.



## *Junior ACYO*

During the month of November, the Junior ACYO had their monthly meeting and discussed upcoming events. As you may have noticed, they planted flowers and bushes around the church to beautify the grounds. A special thanks to Zar Der Mugardechian for assisting the ACYO with this project. On December 22, the Juniors will be spreading holiday cheer by going Christmas caroling at the California Armenian Home as well as visiting several parishioners’ homes. If you would like the Juniors to stop by your home and sing Christmas carols, call Mark at 559-960-9887, or the church office at 559-226-6343 to sign up.

The Junior ACYO will be baking and selling simit and chorag at the end of December, so stay tuned to find out when and where to purchase these delectable treats. Elections for Junior ACYO officers will take place at their next meeting on December 10 and they hope to see all members there. If anyone is interested in joining the Jr. ACYO, please call or text Mark Topoozian at (559) 960-9887.





## Sunday School

Our Sunday School attendance increased slightly at about 30 students each week during November so thanks so much to all the supporting families and we miss all those that have been unable to make it lately! We entered Advent (Hisnag or 50 days period prior to Christmas) in mid-November awaiting another divine celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks to the Angelica and Rose from the Fresno CA Armenian Home and the Chardukians for helping organize the Advent Fair at the Fresno California Armenian Home. Special thanks to Christine Antranikian for taking lead on the fun activities. Thanks to our teachers and the following families for attending and participating in the Advent Fair: Bates, Chardukians, Kismetians, Prudhumes, Iskenyans, and Sargsyans!

A belated happy birthday to all the November birthdays we may have missed!

Following Sunday School event for the month of December:

- Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> **Communion Sunday and Church Attendance together with Sunday School**

**family following SS Assembly** (No after church lunch this month)

- Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> **Regular Assembly and Class Lessons**
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> **Regular Assembly and Class Lessons**
- Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> **Abbreviated Assembly and Class Lessons and Church Attendance**
- ♦ Church Attendance (Probably signing Christmas Songs with Choir and Parish)
- ♦ Sunday School Fellowship (Please bring a treat and/or help platter and serve and/or clean up)
- Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> **No Sunday School**



A huge thank you to our church family for their kind generosity to the Evangel Home and their residents. Our volunteers spent Sunday evening (November 5) in the home visiting, laughing, sharing, singing and praying. Salpy Adams gave an inspiring devotion on encouraging one another. She included each member around our circle of new friends to encourage each other and then share that encouragement with another person.

A special thank you to Salpy Adams, Mary Egoian, Shenora Adishian, Shoghig and Thalia Colorian, Susie and Roxie Kalinian, Donna and Emily Durham, and Sara Beberian for your support and devotion to this ministry.





Sunday School students, teachers, and parents at the  
the Fresno California Armenian Home Advent Fair and Visitation  
on Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>



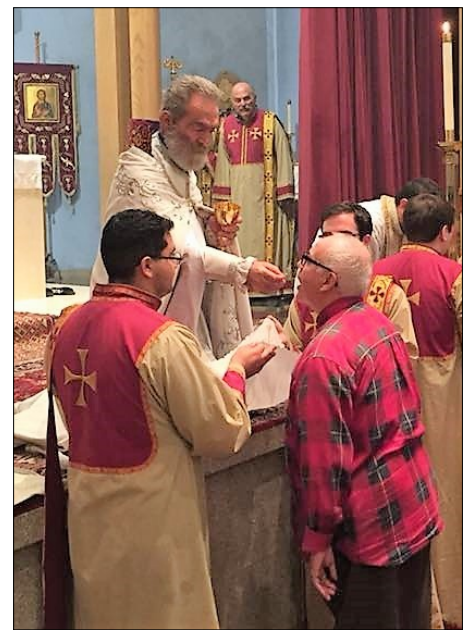


His Grace Bishop Moushegh Babayan  
Visiting Bishop from the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin  
11-05-2017





His Eminence Archbishop Barkev Martirosyan  
Primate of the Diocese of Artsakh  
11-12-2017





*Dzovinar*  
*Armenia Outreach Project*

Please remember the Dzovinar Village Project that St. Paul supports as you plan your year-end donations. You can make a general donation, or specify from the list below, what part of the project you wish to support.

Chairs (need 50)	\$20.00 Each
Tables (need 4)	\$70.00 Each
Bookcases (need 6)	\$110.00 Each
Security Door For Entrance	\$550.00 Each
Desk	\$1,750.00 Each

The students have been using the computer and projector with speakers we helped buy last year to further their lessons and they are very thankful for your support.

**Make checks payable to:**  
**St. Paul Church**  
**Memo: Armenian Outreach**



**ST. PAUL ARMENIAN CHURCH SIGN - UPS HAVE BEGUN!**

**ALL BOYS & GIRLS!**  
**GRADES 6TH TO 12TH PLEASE APPLY!**

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**VOLLEYBALL**

**CONTACT COACH TIM KUCKENBAKER**  
**CALL OR TEXT 559-470-3306**  
**SEND AN E-MAIL TO: TIM\_KBAKER@YAHOO.COM**





*Pastor and Parish Council gratefully acknowledge the following donations.  
May the Lord bless you.*

**In Memory of Alice Koenig**

Kathleen Jenanyan  
Leo and Marlene Pilibosian

**In Memory of Stella Hennessy**

Russell and Nina Adams  
Jacqueline Doumanian  
Charlotte Dyer  
Mathias Matoian  
Joel and Jill Mazmanian  
Marilyn and Rodney Mazman  
Jane Moosoolian

**In Memory of Vardanush Mesropyan**

Zaven and Berjoughie Devejian

**Lillian's 80<sup>th</sup> B-day**

Elizabeth Dashjian

**Steve Adam's Birthday**

Charlotte Dyer

**General Donation**

Carlotta Bedrosian

**Thanksgiving Donation**

Bill Bohigian

**Dajar**

Shirley Booloodian

**St. Paul Parish extends its sincere sympathy**

**October 30** - *Alice Tateosian Koenig* survived by her son Robert Koenig and Daughter Penny Koenig

**November 15** - *Alesha Grishayevich Ayrapetyan* survived by his wife Sirvand Petroyan; sons Pavel Ayrapetyan, Grigor Ayrapetyan, and Karen Ayrapetyan; grandsons Allen Ayrapetyan, Gor Ayrapetyan, and Narek Ayrapetyan; sisters Nina Muradyan, Viola Danelyan, Ira Hovhanessyan, and Sveta Ayrapetyan; brothers Felix Ayrapetyan, Sasha Ayrapetyan, and Valer Ayrapetyan



May God rest their souls in peace.



***St. Paul Ladies Society Hokejash Committee***

In your time of need, be assured that St. Paul Ladies Society is here to prepare a Hokejash meal for you. We offer 3 different entrees that are all inclusive. We handle large and small groups. This is a stressful time and you can be sure the Hokejash meal will be fully taken care of by our committee of volunteers. You can choose from the following items:

Green Salad  
Lamb Shish Kabob  
Rice Pilaf  
Mixed Vegetables  
Dessert – cake  
Coffee and Water  
Peda Bread and butter  
\$20.00/person

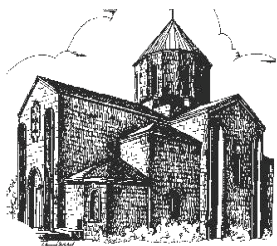
Green Salad  
Imperial Chicken  
Rice Pilaf  
Mixed Vegetables  
Dessert – cake  
Coffee and Water  
Peda Bread and butter  
\$16.00/person

Green Salad  
Baked Lulu Kabob  
Bulghur Pilaf  
Mixed Vegetables  
Dessert - cake  
Coffee and Water  
Peda Bread & butter  
\$16.00/person

All meals include tablecloths, cloth napkins and a bud vase with roses and greenery. If you would like any additional items you may bring them in and we will be happy to serve them. To request Hokejash contact Isabel Chilpigan (559) 287-7904.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>2017 DECEMBER</b>						
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Saturday School 10am
<b>3</b> Ladies Society Fellowship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> AVAKS 9:30am to 3:30pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Saturday School Banquet 6pm
<b>10</b> Men's Forum Fellowship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Junior ACYO Fellowship	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Sunday School Fellowship	<b>25</b> <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> Parish Council Fellowship	Happy New Year! Հոբնակո՞րդ Նոր Տարի:					

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Monday - Friday  
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**SUNDAY LITURGIES**

Morning Services 9:30 A.M.  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 A.M.

**Office:** (559) 226-6343 / **Fax:** (559) 226-1912 / **Kitchen:** (559) 224-3812

***Website:*** [www.stpaulfresno.com](http://www.stpaulfresno.com) ***Facebook:*** *St. Paul Fresno*

**KEEP IN TOUCH WITH OUR ORGANIZATIONS**

Parish Priest:	Fr. Yessai Bedros	226-6343	f.isaiah@hotmail.com
Parish Council:	Ben Krikorian	261-9761	benkcpa@kkcpafirm.com
Ladies Society:	Darlene Chardukian	447-0256	ochardar@comcast.net
Men's Forum:	Gary Markarian	227-2597	gary.markarian@bedrosians.com
Senior ACYO:	Vartush Mesropyan	916-0074	vartushmesropyan@gmail.com
Junior ACYO:	Mark Topoozian	960-9887	mtopoozian@sbcglobal.net
Sunday School:	Anton Kismetian	696-5143	maralanto@sbcglobal.net
Saturday School:	Margarit Dumanyan	437-9951	dumanyanm@yahoo.com





## *St. Paul Armenian Church Saturday Armenian School*

Սորբ Պօղոս Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ  
Շաբաթօրեայ Հայկական Դպրոց

***Saturday, December 9, 6:00 p.m.***

**Եաբաթ, Դեկտեմբեր 9, երեկոյեան ժամը 6:00-ին**

***Haig Berberian Hall***

**Հայկ Պերպերեան Սրահին մէջ**

***Adult tickets \$25***

***Student tickets \$10***

***Presiding***

*His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian*

Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church

**Գերշ. Տէր Յովնան Արք. Տէրապետան**

Առաջնորդ Արեւմտեան Հայոց Թեմի

The celebration will include:

Revealing of the 25th Anniversary Booklet, stories from staff, alumni, and friends,  
and musical selections and dance performances by students.

For tickets please call Anahit Ekmekchyan at 559-260-8772

or Church Office at 559-226-6343, RSVP by December 2

Տոմսերու համար զանգահարէք Անահիտ Էքմէքչեանին 559-260-8772

կամ Եկեղեցւոյ գրասենեակ 559-226-6343, Ժամկետ Դեկտեմբեր 2

**St. Paul Armenian Church**  
**3767 N First St. Fresno CA 93726**





**Sunday, December 24, 2017  
During the Divine Liturgy**

*Celebration of Feast of St. Stephen  
the first Deacon and martyr to the  
Christian faith.*

Join us on this day while we honor the Deacons  
of the Church.

Let Saint Stephen be our role model,  
so we too will have the strength to  
stand up for our Christian faith.





*St. Paul Armenian Church  
Invites you all to*

## **Jurakalouyts dinner**

**Friday, January 5, 2018**

Reading of Holy Scriptures: 4:30 PM

Badarak (Jurakalouyts): 5:00 PM

Blessing of water: 6:30 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM

Dinner is \$15 per person  
Free for children under 12

**Reservations are required for dinner**

*Please join us for Christmas Eve Services  
(Jurakalouyts) and Dinner*

*Please RSVP by December 28*

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**Make your reservation every Sunday at Fellowship  
Or by mail**

*Make checks payable to: St. Paul Armenian Church*

*Name: -----Phone: -----*

*Number of Guests: -----Amount enclosed: -----*

*I wish to be seated with: -----*

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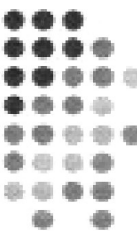
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