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**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR  
CHRIST IS BORN AND REVEALED  
BLESSED IS THE REVELATION OF CHRIST**

**On behalf of the Parish Priest and  
the Church family, we wish every-  
one a Blessed New Year.  
May God bless you and your  
families.**



## Saint Paul Puzzle Pieces



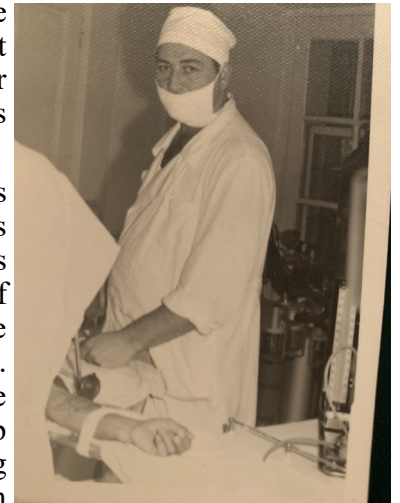
Helping others has always been a lifelong passion for Robert Tevanyan. He was born in Gyumri, Armenia in 1939. As a young boy, when Robert was in the 9th grade, he hurt his head and had to go to the hospital. While being treated, he witnessed a large group of people with various injuries coming into the hospital after a car accident. At that moment, when he saw his injured countrymen, he knew he wanted to help others through the practice of medicine, and the course of his life's work was set.

At the age of 20, he began Yerevan State Medical University and received his license to be an anesthesiologist in 1965. After a few years of practicing medicine, he began teaching at the Nursing College in Yerevan. In 1968, while enjoying a cup of coffee with a close friend in a small cafe, he had the good fortune to notice a

beautiful young woman and her friend walk in. Robert introduced himself, and they began to get to know each other. He found that her name was Nina, and she was an engineering student at Yerevan State Polytechnic Institution. The couple dated for six months and decided to get married in Yerevan in April of 1969. Their union was blessed with two lovely daughters, Lusine and Zara.

In 1971, Vazgen 1, the Catholicos of All Armenians, was taken ill and needed surgery. Dr. Robert was asked to be the anesthesiologist as part of the treatment plan. He was very proud to be offered the opportunity to look after the health of the Catholicos. It was a great honor for him, and he stayed with the Catholicos for the two days after surgery. He was very humbled to contribute to the healing of his country's spiritual leader.

Dr. Robert continued to work at one of Yerevan's hospitals, while he and his wife raised their young family. The Gyumri earthquake of 1988, was particularly a difficult time for Dr. Robert. He was very worried about his extended family and unable to reach them because of an overwhelming influx of patients at the hospital as well as the lack of working telephones. It was five long and worrisome days before he was able to confirm that his family was fine. As quickly as he was able, he and his wife gathered food and supplies and made the journey from Yerevan to Gyumri in order to distribute supplies and help those in need. During the Karabakh war of 1992, he again committed to helping his fellow countrymen. He was working at one of the Yerevan Hospitals which soon became known as the Yerevan Military Hospital. He was taken by helicopter transport multiple times to tend the soldiers who were injured on the front lines.



In September of 2001, Dr. Robert's eldest daughter Lusine had the opportunity to come to America. She encouraged her family to come and join her in California. Dr. Robert and Nina were hesitant about coming to the States and starting over. Their lives had always been in Armenia where they knew the language, the culture, and their beloved people. They decided to fill out the papers for the "green card lottery" - and as fate



would have it, their names were drawn. In 2009, they made their way to the United States.

Dr. Robert and Nina joined their daughter Lusine and grandson Erik in Fresno, where she had found a strong Armenian community.

Dr. Robert's daughter Zara and family came to America in 2015. Their first home was close to St. Paul, and they were happy to attend a church where they could speak their language, practice their faith and feel so at home.

Dr. Robert has been a member of our church for the last 12 years. His daughters and grandchildren have been involved in our St. Paul Saturday School, Ladies Society, Sunday School, and ACYO.

*Thank you Dr. Robert, for making the journey to America, and being such an amazing piece of the St. Paul Puzzle!*

# *News from our parish*



The Parish Council wishes you a Happy New Year and hopes you have a healthy and prosperous 2022!

The new year will begin with the Feast of the Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas Eve Services (Jurakalouyts) will be on Wednesday, January 5 with Divine Liturgy beginning at 5:00 pm, followed by the blessing of the water service at 6:00 pm, and the annual Jurakalouyts Dinner at 6:30 pm in the Haig Berberian Hall.

During January, annual statements of contributions will be mailed that will list your contributions to the church in 2021. Please keep this information with your income tax records and contact the church office if you have any questions or note any errors on your annual contribution statement.

Also, you should have recently received the 2022 Pledge Form. Please complete your pledge form and return to the church at your earliest convenience, as it helps us to plan the church finances for the coming year.

Sunday, February 6, will be our Annual Parish Assembly. Participation in our annual meeting by our dues paying members is very important as we will be discussing significant issues of our parish and having our annual elections.





## LADIES SOCIETY

Happy New Year! Our hope for the New Year: health and happiness, love and prosperity to everyone. The St. Paul Ladies Society is ready and excited to begin the year on a positive note. Our hope is to be able to get together monthly, worship together, socialize and continue to serve our church as Sisters in Christ. We hope you will join us in making the New Year a great one! We start January off with our new executive officers: Darlene Chardukian-Chairman, Diane Messerlian-Vice Chairman, Janice Hallaian-Treasurer, Jeanette Migirian-Assistant Treasurer, Linda Minier-Recording Secretary, Rosanna Furioso-Rojas-Corresponding Secretary, Mary Egoian-Monthly Committee Service Coordinator, Tracy Beberian-Devotional Coordinator, Gaila Peloian-Raffle Coordinator, Peggy Akbiyikian-Sunshine Coordinator, Annette Moushigian-Communications. Congratulations to our dedicated ladies. We are grateful for their service. This month we begin our Monthly General Business Dinner Meeting: Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 6:30 pm, at the St. Paul Minor Hall. The cost of the Dinner is \$15. Make your reservations to: Annette Moushigian at 559-906-2114. See you all in church.



### MEN'S FORUM

As we begin a new year, we hope and pray that pandemic restrictions on social gatherings which limited our activities in 2021, will be alleviated and allow us to resume our normal monthly dinner-meetings and other activities. At this time, we are not scheduling a dinner-meeting in January due to uncertainty of the current Covid Omicron Variant, and special health concerns for our older members.

It should be mention however, that Men's Forum is scheduled to host Fellowship on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

As previously noted, we encourage our members to make special effort to attend Sunday service that day as well as participate in hosting Fellowship after service. Since there will be no dinner-meeting this month, it also offers an opportunity to meet with fellow members.

As mentioned in earlier reports, we are considering venues for our social events that can be held outdoors or in low-density environments. These include possible Saturday field trips and/or lunch gatherings at an accommodating local restaurants..

We invite our members to share their ideas for group functions by contacting Chairman Ted Mooradian, Secretary/Treasurer, Jeff Markarian, or Gary Markarian.

In closing, we wish all St. Paul parishioners a joyous, traditional Armenian Christmas Eve on January 5<sup>th</sup> & Armenian Christmas on January 6<sup>th</sup>. We extend our hopes and prayers for a healthy, gratifying and joyous 2022 for everyone.



Many thanks to our Sunday School Teachers; Maral, Marina, Zar, Darlene, and Anton!  
Thanks to our assistant teacher Natalie Agazarian and substitute teacher Sara Beberian!  
Of course, THANKS to all our students and parents/family for their continuing support of our Sunday School Family!

**January 2022 Schedule for Sunday School:**

- Sunday, January 2nd, No Sunday School so please attend church
- Wednesday, January 5th, Christmas Eve Church Service and Dinner attendance

Below Sundays SS starts at 10:45am:

- Sunday, January 9th, Regular Fun Gathering with spiritual message followed by class lessons
- Sunday, January 16th, Regular Fun Gathering with spiritual message followed by class lessons
- Sunday, January 23rd, Regular Fun Gathering with spiritual message followed by class lessons
- Sunday, January 30th, Family Sunday with Fun Gathering and then church attendance for Communion and Children's Sermon message



**Pastor and Parish Council  
gratefully acknowledge the following donations  
May God bless you and your families**

**General Donations**

Janie Hallaian  
Thomas & Donna Adams  
Carolyn Chooljian  
Greg Markarian  
Robert Hancer  
Richard & Rosanna Rojas  
David & Stacie Boyajian  
Bob & Sara Der Matoian  
John Vogt  
Nana Knight  
Jean Claude Thomassian  
Hayganoush Keshishyan  
The Bertha and John Garabedian -  
Charitable Foundation  
Arnold and Dianne Gazarian  
Janice Hallaian  
Levon & Shakeh Karakashian

**In Memory of Svetlana Epremian**

Mary Egoian  
Iris Sahatdjian  
Mark & Margaret Shirin

**In memory of John & Rosa  
Hagopian**

Dennis Hagopian

**In Memory of Lillian Nishkian**

Paul & Kathleen Mesple

**In Memory of Justin Alexander  
Harr**

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**In Memory of Sylvia Chooljian**

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Jill Shirin  
Mike & Sue Kilijian  
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Jane Mossoolian  
Alice Koligian  
Raffi Boloyan  
Brooke Bedrosian  
Roger Simonian DDS  
Sam Parnagian  
Don & Janice Helman  
Phillip & Florence Parnagian  
Ted Mooradian  
Chuck & Debbie Poochigian  
Mary Abaci  
Kenneth & Robyn Esraelian  
Nicholas & Nancy Boghosian



***A Home Blessing Service***

is one of the most important traditions in the Armenian Orthodox Church.

The Priest visits the home and spreads good news of Christ's birth. He conducts a meaningful religious service by saying a prayer and blessing the bread, water, and salt.

***To request a traditional Home Blessing, contact the church office at 559-226-6343***

You can also call the church office to schedule a hospital visitation, graveside funeral or Sunday hokehankisd.



## Celebration of the Feast of Saint Stephen

**Kudos to our  
deacons for their  
service and  
dedication.**

**My God bless  
them!**



### Junior ACYO

*Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you. -2 Thessalonians 3:16*

From January 14th to the 16th a few of the ACYO members will be in Las Vegas for the annual ACYO convention. Here they will be talking about future and past events while being in the company of their friends from other parishes.

Hope this year is filled with joy, happiness, and peace for all of you!

**If you have any questions or would like to join ACYO Juniors, please contact chairman Erik Barsegian at [stpauljuniors@gmail.com](mailto:stpauljuniors@gmail.com) or (559) 269-3592.**



***LET'S ALWAYS PRAY AND SHARE  
GOD'S LOVE TOGETHER***



**We pray for all the parishioners who are sick and recovering from being ill.**

**May the Lord watch over you and strengthen you.**

**If you know anyone that needs a prayer, contact the church office and provide their full name.**

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

**November 15, 2021**—Asia Avedisian, she is survived by Paul Kglyan.

**November 23, 2021**— **Mari Gezalyan**, she is survived by her children , Nerses Gezalyan, Alex Gezalyan, Margaret Terarutunyan, Takuhi Tavoukjian.

**December 2, 2021**—**Sylvia Chooljian**, She is survived by her daughter, Dr. Carolyn Chooljian, daughter Lorraine and husband Dr. Nick Kazarian and daughter Jacqueline and husband Duke Grazier. Grandson Nicolas and wife Tara Kazarian, great-grandchildren Scarlett, Noelle, and Nico. Granddaughter Natalie Kazarian and fiancé Jensen Hovsepian. Granddaughter Lauren and husband Demetrio Ramirez, Jr. and great grandson Trey, and grandson Garrett Grazier. She is also survived by her many nieces and nephews.



**1 John 5:11**

And this is the testimony:  
God has given us eternal life,  
and this life is in his Son.



*“Celebrating Armenian  
Christmas with a  
Traditional Pumpkin  
Dish”*



**St. Paul Armenian Church**  
***Jurakalouyts Dinner***

**Wednesday, January 5, 2022**

Reading of Holy Scriptures: 4:30 PM  
Divine Liturgy (Jurakalouyts Badarak): 5:00 PM  
Blessing of water (Չրօփհւթ): 6:00 PM  
Dinner: 6:30 PM

\$20 per person  
\$7 Children under 12

*Please RSVP by December 29*

Make your reservation every Sunday at Fellowship or call  
the church office 226-6343  
Or by mail

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Guests: \_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be seated with: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select one entrée for each guest attending

Fish (per guest) \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken (per guest) \_\_\_\_\_

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Willard "Billy" Phipps, President  
Scott Harrell, Vice President & General Manager  
Doug Yavanian, Community Relations  
Jack Sarafian, Emeritus



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