### DAJAR SUZUP

#### Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Armenian Church

March 2025 Volume 85 No. 3 Fr. Yessai Bedros, Parish Priest



#### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GREAT LENT IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN

The mystery of the Great Lent is embodied in the essence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Christ opened before the path leading to light and righteousness. Therefore, as we prepare to enter the 40-day spiritual journey of the Great Lent, let us, as devout faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Church, pray, fast, and devote time for daily scriptural readings in order that we may emerge enlightened and renewed, a grace bestowed upon us by the Almighty. By adhering to the canons of the Armenian Church, we emulate Christ – Love's Greatest Teacher.

Undoubtedly, we live in such a world where we are in dire need of prayer and fasting in order that we may self-examine ourselves and fulfill the promise to transform our lives into the Living Gospel.

Beloved faithful, in our message we present to you works that had been published throughout the years specifically for the Great Lenten Journey in hopes that they will accompany you and serve as a spiritual resource as we embark on a journey with Christ who will lead us to light and everlasting life.

We also present to you three thoughts, which allow us to comprehend God's greatest gift of life through the creation of mankind and the concept of time for which we out to be thankful.

#### **MAN**

"Man, after God, possesses the greatest power, the lever of strength, the spring of movement (action), the mover of waves."

"Man ceases to be the creation of God when he forces to live within the boundaries of material possessions.

"Man, whoever he is, wherever he may be, is not the owner of his life. He is life's steward. My life belongs to God. What belongs to me is the way I choose to live my life. I decide how much I value and appreciate it, for it is my sole responsibility to give an account of my life to God. And every one of us, whether an individual or a nation must give an account to God, the Giver of life."

"Life is God's radiance in us."

Karekin I Sarkissian

131st Catholicos of All Armenians

#### **TIME**

Preserve and cherish time. Remember well that it is not subject for retrieval. The perfect juxtaposition of man, life and time is the revelation of our existence for the glory of God.

The Great Lent, therefore, is the perfect opportunity to stand before a mirror to witness our own reflection. If we stray from God's path, then we ought to remain true to our Christian calling.

Archbishop Hovnan Derderian

Primate

#### KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr. Yessai Bedros 559-226-6343 f.isaiah@hotmail.com

Parish Council: Jeff Markarian 559-696-9826 Markarian@cpaplus.com

Ladies Society: Darlene Chardukian 559-301-8027 dchardukian@gmail.com

Men's Forum: Ted Mooradian 559-435-7004 tedmooradian@sbcglobal.net

Senior ACYO: Mariam Iskenyan 559-776-7404 fresnoacyo@gmail.com

Junior ACYO: Keghart Bedros 559-290-6474 acyojuniors@gmail.com

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**Saturday School:** Margarit Dumanyan 559-577-5659 dumanyan@ckacs.org

Athletics: Tim Kuckenbaker 559-470-3306 tim\_kbaker@gmail.com

Choir: Roza Pashayan 559-307-1035

Avaks: Dn. Allan Jendian 559-313-7483 ayjendian@gmail.com

K.E.F. (Keeping. Everyone. Faithful.)
559-226-6343 stpaul.kefclub@gmail.com

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

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. info@stpaulfresno.com

#### **SUNDAY LITURGIES**

Morning Services - 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy - 10:00 a.m.

**OFFICE:** 559-226-6343

**KITCHEN:** 559-224-3812

#### WEBSITE

www.stpaulfresno.com

FACEBOOK / INSTAGRAM

St. Paul Fresno



#### LADIES SOCIETY

As we move into Great Lent, our Ladies are reflecting, cleaning, and preparing for our Annual Palm Sunday Brunch coming up on Sunday, April 13, 2025, following church services. For more information, please see the flyer in this month's Dajar.

Our monthly Business/Dinner-Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m., at the St. Paul Haig Berberian Hall. A delicious Lenten Kheyma dinner is planned (\$20 per person) which will include spinach boreg, garbanzo salad, yalanchi, pickles, and dessert. Following dinner will be a wonderful program featuring Dr. Talin Suciyan, visiting professor of Armenian Studies. The topic of his program is, "Medicinal Practices from the Ottoman Empire: Hripsime Topdjian's Notebook." Please see details in our monthly Newsletter. Also, we are invited to join the Men's Forum for their monthly Dinner-Meeting on Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m., at the St. Paul Haig Berberian Hall. Dinner will feature a delicious Salmon Kebab meal and interesting program to follow. For reservations, please call Diane Messerlian at 559-301-2515, or email her at dianerose09@yahoo.com

### Men's Forum

Since Men's Forum Members were graciously invited to attend the festive Pre-Valentine's Day Dinner/Program on Wednesday Night, Feb. 12, hosted by the St. Paul Ladies Society, it was decided not to schedule our normal Dinner Meeting on the third Wednesday of the month. Those members able to attend enjoyed a 'picnic style' buffet, featuring delicious Polish Sausage chili dogs, root beer floats, and apple pie for dessert. Entertainment for the evening included the vocal harmonies and songs provided by the talented 'Front Line Barber Shop Quartet' of Fresno. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Ladies Society Chairwoman, Darlene Chardukian, and her dedicated committee for hosting a very enjoyable and memorable evening.

Our resourceful Men's Forum Chairman, Ted Mooradian, has lined up a very relevant program for our upcoming March 19 Dinner Meeting, which will be held at the St. Paul Haig Berberian Hall. The guest speaker will be Cal Fire Chief and forester, Nick Kent, whose presentation will address California Fires, Fire Preparation Measures, Fire Safety & Preparedness, and Climatic Changes. Since this event will occur during Lent, we are planning a special salmon kebab dinner, catered by the The Ark Mediterranean Grill. An announcement flyer will be forthcoming to publicize this timely and important event. In keeping with recent tradition, the Ladies Society members are cordially invited to attend this special occasion, in addition to St. Paul parishioners, as well as guests of our members.

We would like to remind our members that Sunday, March 9, will be a Men's Forum hosted Fellowship and encourage them to make a special effort to attend Sunday church service, as well as participate in providing goodies for our hosted Fellowship.

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

#### **Donations**

Dennis & Vicky Hagobian

Sarah Koloyian Nareh Abovian

Isabelle Bishop

Ovsep Danielyan

David Zakarian

Nubar Gyunashyan

Narek Khatchikian

Chuck & Debbie Poochigian

#### In Honor of Alice Koligian's B-Day

George & Shenora Adishian

Bethany Baker

Jonathan & Janet Chilingerian

Beverly Achki

#### In Memory of Mimi Koligian

Artin & Armine Jibilian

Karen Melikian Mary Torosian Kevin Torosian Kim Kezirian

Elizabeth Derderian

Ben & Clarice Krikorian

Wayne Gomes

Deborah Adishian Astone

#### In Memory of Harold Antranikian

Nancy Boudakian

## Baptism

February 23, 2025 - Abraham Tashchian received the Sacraments of Baptism. Congratulations to the parents, Nerses & Breanna Tashchian and the entire Tashchian and Aivazian families.

### Congratulations on this wonderful milestone!

# St. Paul Parish Extends Its Sincere Sympathies to the Following Families: Momory

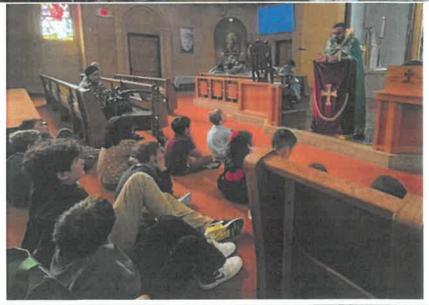
February 10, 2025 - Emma Tsaturyan - survived by family and friends. February 11, 2025 - Bagrat Karapetyan - survived by family and friends

#### MAY GOD REST THEIR SOULS IN PEACE

### Sunday School Pictures





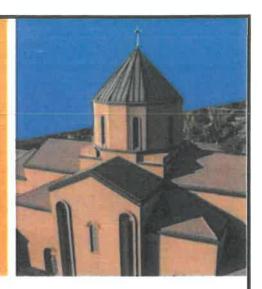




13TH ANNUAL

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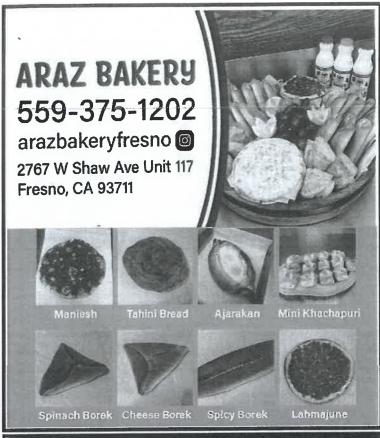
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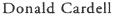
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