

SAINT SARKIS ARMENIAN

APOSTOLIC CHURCH

December 11th, 2011

7000 Park Rd., Charlotte, NC 28210

Phone (704) 556-7575, Fax (704) 248-2835

Web: www.saintsarkis.net

Celebrant: Father Dajad Davidian



Chairperson

Lena Kupelian Neau

704-287-8955

Vice Chair

Raymond Bozoian

704-362-0888

Treasurer

Kevin Janumyan

704-491-5699

Secretary

Donna Loutigian

704-573-2940

Asst. Secretary

Pierre Arbajian

704-494-9394

Advisor

Melkum Janumyan

704-970-6541

Advisor

Anna Apelian Martin

704-866-0246

Delegate

Sylvie Yessayan

704-604-2344

Executive Staff:

Building Mgr

Charlie Diman

980-254-2743

Acopian Hall Mgr

Nina Bedrosian

704-900-7398

Office Admin

Diana Melkumyan

704-556-7575

"Parish Family Sponsor" for coffee hour

Today's coffee hour is sponsored by **Father Dajad Davidian** and **Joe & Sue (Davidian) Ferro** in memory of the 40th day of the passing of their cousin, Linda Diran, of Boston, MA.

Readings for Today:

Divine Liturgy: Isaiah 37:14-38. 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12. Luke 14:12-24.

Feasts and Commemorations:

Friday, December 9th, 2011 – Feast of the Conception of the Holy Virgin Mary

Saturday, December 10th, 2011 – St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

Sunday, December 11th, 2011 – Third Sunday of Advent

Barekendan of the Fast of St. James

Monday, December 12th, 2011 – St. Minas the Egyptian

Feast of the Conception of the Holy Virgin Mary

On Friday, December 9, the Armenian Church will observe the Feast of the Conception of the Holy Virgin Mary.

St. Mary was the child of Sts. Joachim and Anna—devout couples, whose earnest prayers for a child were answered with the birth of a daughter. Her life of holiness and purity, and her graceful acceptance of the role to which God called her, as the mother of Jesus Christ, all make Mary one of the pre-eminent exemplars of the Christian faith, whose birth and very conception are occasions for celebration in the church.

She is known in the Armenian Church as Asdvadzamayr-Asdvadzadzin, the "Mother of God" and the "Bearer of God"—beloved titles which have been embraced as the names of countless Armenian churches through the centuries.

Church Etiquette

We must keep in mind that we need to adopt reverent behavior when coming to worship during Badarak Services. When entering the narthex, we are leaving the secular world behind us. As we enter the nave of the sanctuary, we enter a space of worship that is a forestate of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Conversation and speaking should be limited to essential communication. Casual conversation should not be held in church and **never** while in line to receive Holy Communion. Fellowship time follows services during the Coffee Hour.

Chewing gum is inappropriate.

Voghchoyn – Kiss of Peace

(During the Divine Liturgy, when the Parish Council members pass
The Kiss of Peace in Church)

The person offering the Kiss of Peace should say:

“Krisdos ee mech mer Haydnetsav”

Christ is revealed amongst us

The person receiving the Kiss of Peace should say:

“Orhnial eh Haydnootyunn Krisdosee”

Blessed is the revelation of Christ

Parish Council Member on duty: Raymond Bozoian

Hokehankisd (Requiem)

Hokehandkisd (requiem) services have been requested by Father Dajad Davidian and Joe & Sue (Davidian) Ferro for their beloved cousin, **Linda Diran** of Boston, MA, on the 40th day of her passing. Linda was the daughter of the late Richard Diran and the late Marie C. Papazian Diran.

May the Lord bless her soul and give comfort to her loved ones.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptism:

Yesterday, Fr. Dajad officiated the baptism of **Nicholas Paul Stepanian**, son of Vladimir and Natalia (Barankevitch) Stepanian of Raleigh, NC. The godparents were George Stepanian and Elena Mikhaylova.

Our best wishes to Nicholas as he embarks on his Christian journey and congratulations to the happy parents and godparents.

Thank you to Sunday School Children

We would like to say a BIG thank you to the Sunday school children who came through under short notice and hosted the coffee hour two weeks ago. I hope we will see participate more often in the future.

Christmas Pageant – Sunday, December 18, 2011

We will have our annual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 18th presented by our Sunday school children. If you would like your child to participate, please contact **Sylvie Bastajian Yessayan**. We would also like to have a commitment that your child participates in the practice sessions also.

The pageant will be followed by a Christmas Party luncheon where Santa (Gaghant Baba) will be visiting us and distributing gifts for the children.

Volunteers needed. Please see **Lena Neau** or **Svetlana Janumyan**.

Donations for the event:

Adults (13 years or older): \$15.00

Ages 6 – 12: \$5.00

Children under 5: Free

Please make your **reservations** so that we have an idea for cooking and gifts.

New Year's Eve Celebration - December 31st, 2011

Tickets for the event or raffle tickets will be on sale during the coffee hour.

Pre-sale tickets are: Adults \$ 60.00, Children 5-12:\$ 35.00, Under 5: free.

Prices at the door the day of the event will be \$ 75.00 for adults.

Also Raffle tickets (1 for \$ 10) are being sold. You need not be present to win.

Please support this year's event to assure its success. As a reminder, all proceeds from this event will go toward the Stewardship fund to have a full-time priest.

We are looking for 1 baby-sitter for New Year's Eve - \$20 an hour. Please see Pierre Arbajian or Lena Neau.

Please see Pierre Arbajian, Melkum Janumyan, Diane Tudor or Lena Neau for tickets.

St. Sarkis Ministries

Women's Guild

The meeting on Tuesday, December 13th, has been cancelled.

Alexander Youth Network

We are once again doing our annual **Christmas gift drive** for children who are less fortunate than ours. We have selected 2 youths: **Alfredo & Breanna**. Monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to **Women's Guild** and give to Anna Martin.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Badarak Collections: Nov. 27th & Dec. 4th, 2011

11/27/11	Plate – \$226	Candles – \$45
12/4/11	Plate – \$174	Candles – \$61

Stewardship (pledged vs. actual):

Pledged - \$39170 Collected (1/1/2011 – 12/10/2011) – \$27495

We have met **70%** of our goal. We urge all those who signed a pledge card to honor their commitment by **December 31st, 2011**.

If you have not pledged, please take a moment to fill out a pledge card. It is not too late to sign up. We really need your support. St. Sarkis Armenian Church sustains our identity, nurtures our faith and keeps us culturally connected. It is at the heart and soul of our existence. It defines who we are. Without St Sarkis Armenian Church, there is no Armenian community and we endanger the preservation of our faith and heritage. It is the responsibility of every family to become stewards of our Church and support it as our parents and grandparents have done in the darkest years of our history.

Membership

All dues-paid members must pay their membership dues by **December 31, 2011** in order to be eligible to vote in February, 2012. Those who pay in January 2012 will **NOT** be able to vote at the 2012 Parish Assembly.

2011 Membership Dues: Adults - \$115, Senior Citizens (over 65) - \$85 and Students - \$45. Letters to this effect were received a week ago by parishioners.

Upcoming Badarak Services:

Sunday, December 18th

Sunday, December 25th

Sunday, January 8th, 2012

Sunday, January 22nd, 2012

Archbishop Vicken Aykazian

Jashoo service

Fr. Mampre Kouzouian

Fr. Dajad Davidian