



ARMENIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH **OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION**

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Dear Parishioner,

It is generally accepted that any successful and vibrant organisation or a community such as our, must always have a plan of action for the future. To achieve the above objective it is the responsibility of those who are at the helm, of such an organisation, to identify the needs of the community and embark on its careful planning and implementation, with the full support and participation of the community at large. The need for an adequate Hall and Presbytery has been identified for quite some time now. We have even, as you may recall, laid the foundation stone for the abovementioned project during His Beatitude's recent visit. This, of course, dear parishioners, is not an easy task for a small community like ours, but with careful planning and cooperation nothing is impossible. First of all, we as a community must place our trust in God and most importantly in one another. Without this trust nothing can be achieved, and as we have indicated to our Patriarch, this Church council's modus operandi is openness and transparency under our spiritual leader Fr Parsegh Sousanian, as we firmly believe that it is the only way a community can achieve its goal.

Committees

The abovementioned project naturally would require the participation of many hands and minds. This approach would ensure its success and it would reflect the true wish of the community whilst catering for its basic needs. It is envisaged, that we would have to create few committees to take charge of the different aspects of this project, Vis:

- 1) Buildings Planning Committee
- 2) Finance Committee
- 3) Seniors Club Committee
- 4) Youth Club Committee
- 5) Funds Raising Committee
- 6) Bulletin Committee

In addition to the abovementioned committees the church council and the Ladies auxiliary group would also be involved in all aspects of this project.

Dear Parishioners, if we really want the best for our community we can't afford to sit on our hands, we can't stay where we are, because if we don't try to go forward, we most definitely will end up going backwards. The Church Council, you will be pleased to know, has decided to go forward and as such requests your participation in

any of the above committees. We, thus invite all our parishioners to support their church and their council in pursuing this worthy cause.

Fr. Parsegh, in the very near future will be approaching certain members of our community and ask for their involvement and participation in some of the abovementioned committees. However, should you feel you have something to offer to the community please contact us at any time; we will be extremely pleased to hear from you.

New Church Council

As you are aware our Church constitution requires that each year 3 Council members step down and 3 new council members elected. This method will not only provide new blood and the opportunity for the rest of the members of the parish to participate and be involved in the affairs of their church but it will also ensure its smooth and perpetual continuity.

The names of the Church council members for the year 2004 are:

Mr. Avedis Qasabian	- President
Mr. Garo Tcherkezian	- Vice President
Mr. Levon Bardakjian	- Secretary
Mr. Bedros Sinian	- Treasurer
Mr Harout Zeitunian	- Councillor
Mr. Edmund Tutunjian	- Councillor
Mr. Harout Asmar	- Councillor
Mr. Harout Boladian	- Councillor

Council members who have stepped down are: Mr. Michael Ghogasian, Mr. Jack Majarian, Mr. Joseph Said

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those ex council members for all their valuable contributions over the past few years. Also our special gratitude to all those parishioners and friends who have assisted us in every aspect during the visit of His Beatitude Nerses Bedros XIX.

And last but not least our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors without whom the organising of His Beatitude's visit would not have been possible.

Home Visits

Fr. Parsegh would like thank all those parishioners who have made donations during his Home Visits during the Easter break. Those who missed out last time will be first on his next visit. He asks you to be somewhat tolerant as he has a lot of ground to cover.

April 24 Memorial

All Australian Armenians, irrespective of their religious or political affiliations have come together to commemorate our fallen ancestors during the 1915 genocide perpetrated by the young Turks of the Ottoman Empire. There was also the laying of the wreath ceremony that took place at the Armenian Khatctchkar Memorial in the gardens of the NSW Parliament. Speeches were delivered in The English and Armenian Languages by The Honourable John Watkins representing the Premier of NSW the Honourable bob Carr and M/s Gladys Berejckian, the Honourable Member for Willoughby. The ceremony was concluded by special prayers for the fallen led by Fr Parsegh Sousanian and two other priests from the Apostolic church.

Our Lady of the Rosary

As you are all aware that the month of May is the month of our lady of the Rosary, we wish to remind our parishioners to take advantage of this special Month and pray a little bit extra so that our lady intercedes on our behalf and bring peace to this troubled world of ours. For this purpose there will be daily prayers from the 25th to 29th May at 7.30 pm at our church in Lidcombe. And on Sunday 30th May, there will be a special Mass followed by a Procession with the Statue of Mary.

Mother's Day 9th May

The Ladies Auxiliary, as usual, is celebrating Mother's day with a big Kebab Function after Mass in our Church Hall. All Mothers within our community are invited to join in on this very important day. Tickets numbers are limited due to the size of the venue. So hurry and secure your tickets immediately by contacting committee Vice President Mrs. Kristine Tcherkezian on 96891322

General News

Our Church has seen record crowds during the Holy Easter week. It is very gratifying to see so many of parishioners attend Mass during the Holy week. This truly reflects the Armenian tradition as it not only shows our deep faith in our religion but it is also serves as a good example for our young. During the 'Washing of the feet' ceremony and 'Good Friday' Our church was packed and many could not stay for the traditional 'Falafel' supper due to this over crowdedness .we have never seen anything like it in the past 25 years.

Film Screening

Good Friday was also an occasion to screen the "Passion of Christ" produced by the Australian actor /Director Mel Gibson.

We wish to announce that there will be Monthly screening of interesting films in our church Hall. The first screening will take place on Friday 14th May at 7.30PM. A comedy film will be screened: ' My Big Fat Greek wedding'. It should be a fun night and all are invited.

Seniors Club

The Church Council and the Ladies Auxiliary would like to launch a seniors Club in our Parish in the first Friday in June 2004. We wish to invite all the seniors of our community to become members of this Club. We appeal to all our Parishioners to encourage their elderly relatives to join this club. This will give them the opportunity to socialise with their peers and also engage in many interesting and entertaining activities vis: Movies, Backgammon, excursions, Chess etc.

NB: those who need transport to contact Fr. Parsegh on or before 16th of May, and we will happily organise it for them on a regular basis.

New Bishop for Egypt and Sudan

We wish to congratulate His Beatitude Nerses Bedros XIX and Msgr. Bedros Miryatian on the ordination of Rev. Krikor Augustinos Kussan as Bishop of Alexandria for Egypt and Sudan, the ordination ceremony will take place 9th May 2004 in Aleppo- Syria. However the enthronement ceremony will take place in Cairo on the 20.5.2004

Engagements

We are happy to announce the engagements of Dikran Totonjian and Karina Momdjian on the 27th 3.2004 and Michael Khatchikian and Mary Louise Tcherkezian on the 25th 4. 2004 both ceremonies were conducted by Fr Parsegh Sousanian. We wish to take this Opportunity in expressing our best wishes and congratulations to the happy couples and we ask the Lord to bless them so that they may become complete one day.

Baptisms

Baby Daniel Artinian on the 28.9.2003
Baby Nadia Artinian on the 28.9.2003
Baby Hripsi Hera Kalpakjian on the 4.10.2003
Baby Sarah Janit Boghos on the 18.10.2003
Baby Lana Mary Shehadeh on the 25.10.2003
Baby Natalie Marsel Asmar on the 4.1.2004
Baby Jordan george Kashkourian on the 11.1.04
Baby Michelle Mary Badoyan on the 17.1.2004
Baby Samuel Alexander Markarian on the 15.2.2004
Baby Isaac Diodati on the 28.2.2004
Baby Andre Diodati on the 28.2.2004
Baby John Paul Gardner on the 18.4.2004

Births

Our congratulations to Mr and Mrs Harout Asmar on the birth of their second child on the 29th April 2004. They were blessed with a healthy baby boy.
Mr.& Mrs. Avedis Majarian were blessed with a healthy baby girl on the 26th 4. 2004
Mr.&Mrs. Vicken Babkenian were blessed with a healthy baby girl on the 24th4. 2004
We ask the Lord to bless them and give them a long and happy life.

Hokehankist

16th May: Levon and Baizar Qasabian
 Aris & Carmel Izmirilian
 Hagop Izmirilian
 Vartan Balekhjian
23rd May: George Madikian
27th June George Kalenderian

Funerals

5 January: George Muzaik
5 May: Linda Tutunjian, service at 263 Mona vale Road, St Ives at 10.00 AM
7 May: Joseph Kelenchian at 5 John St, Lidcombe at 10.00 AM

Envelopes

All our parishioners are reminded that the weekly Envelopes for 2004 are ready now from the printers. All those who are interested in making regular predetermined weekly donation to contact Fr Parsegh Sousanian on 96493380 or 0427404952 any day of the week. The weekly envelope is very important as it provides us the tool to plan and budget the church finances. We encourage all our parishioners young and old to contribute to their Church. Our Church and priest totally rely on our community for survival. It is the duty of every member of the community to stand up and be counted and by doing so; you would have helped your church in more ways than one.