

A Message From Our Chairman...

The New Year brings lots of activity to our St. John Women's Guild. We have already sponsored the luncheon for Armenian Christmas and are ready to begin our work towards another successful Palm Sunday Bake Sale. Our delegates are anxious to attend the 2015 Diocesan Assembly and participate in the historic 100th year commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. We have already visited our friends at Manoogian Manor and look forward to another visit later in the year. And, in addition to the Festival, we are also excited about an upcoming evening featuring the Armenian Heritage Collection.

Our standing committees are the backbone of our organization and are quietly at work, engaging the support of our very able membership. If you are not currently involved in a committee, we are waiting for you! Every person in our organization has a skill or talent that makes us stronger. So, let's all share our special gifts that are bright threads in the beautiful tapestry that we all become.

Please allow me a personal reflection. My heartfelt and humble thanks go to your outgoing chairperson, Linda Stambouljian. Her gentle suggestions and the unselfishness of her time have made the transition for the new board an easy endeavor. Her quiet organization came to us in a compendium of day, dates and events that make for seamless progress. Thank you Linda, and thank you to your very productive board for the high bench mark you all set for us.

So, let's go guys!!! Y. Joy Callan

HELP FOR OUR PALM SUNDAY BAKE DAYS!!

It's now time to begin our Tuesday bake days. These are scheduled from 9 a.m. – noon and will culminate with our Palm Sunday Bake Sale.

The income we generate from our sale adds much to the Guild treasury. Therefore, it's very important to have as many ladies as possible help out each bake day. Many hands make the job go so much faster!

Any questions, please contact coordinator and leader Dolly Matoian at (248) 737-9055 or email at dmatoian@att.net.

Upcoming Bake Days:

January 27 th – Khalkha	Cathy Atesian (Chairman)
February 3 rd – Cheese & Tepsee Beoreg	Linda Tiffany (Chairman)
February 10 th – Cheoreg	Marianne Dardarian (Chairman)
February 17 th – SouBeoreg	Anita Arslanian (Chairman)
February 24 th – Nazoog	Joy Callan (Chairman)

Social Services Committee

Social Service committee chairman, Carol Ohanessian, is pleased to report that at our December Christmas dinner, Guild members donated over 100 cuddly stuffed animals. These were given to the Southfield Fire Department to be distributed to children who have experienced some type of trauma. Thank you to all who contributed to this cause, which will help comfort young children facing crisis.

Armenian Christmas Luncheon

Following Father Garabed Kochakian officiating Armenian Christmas Badarak on January 6th, Guild members joined fellow parishioners at a luncheon hosted by the Women's Guild. We thank Co-Chairman Alberta Godoshian and Sara Andonian and their committee members Dawn Aginian, Anita Arslanian, Anna Baylerian and Lisa Mardigian for preparing the lovely lunch. This was followed by the Guild's first meeting of the year and was presided over by our newly elected Chairman, Joy Callan.

Manoogian Manor Visit

On Sunday, January 10th, Father Garabed Kochakian officiated the Blessing of the Water Service at the Manoogian Manor. Those assisting were Dn. Rubik Mailian, Dn. Onnig Boyagian and organist Margaret Lafian. Choir members taking part were Marge Simonian, Marianne Dardarian, Yvonne Korkorian and Sandra Nigoghosian. Also attending were Guild members Nevart Torian, Chairman of the Day, Sara Andonian, Patricia Kezelian and Linda Stamboulian.

Following the service, each of the 70 residents and staff were presented with a wrapped Christmas gift of individual cheoreg and a small container of blessed water. The Guild wishes to thank chairman Nevart Torian who donated all the ingredients for the cheoreg and her committee who helped make the cheoreg.

We also want to thank those who helped with a brunch for the Clergy, Deacons, Choir and Guild members attending the morning service. Donations included a cheese tray from Linda Stamboulian, a dried fruit tray from Marilyn Sarkesian and a sweet tray from Marianne Dardarian.

Next Women's Guild Meeting Is Wednesday, February 4th, 7:00 p.m.

The Social Service Committee is asking Guild members to help donate new books, at a first or second grade level, for students of Katy Kalajian (daughter of Guild member Kim Kalajian). These children live in an economically disadvantaged area of North Carolina and do not have books of their own. Please bring your book donation to the February meeting. Let's help "Katie's Kids"!

A Gift of Silver

Recently, Mrs. Helen Mekjian approached our Women's Guild Board to offer a gift of her beautiful silver service for the benefit of the Guild and its' service to our church. Helen has been a valuable and active member of our Guild since 1955. In between raising four children and working full time outside of the home, her devotion to our community has always been reflected in sharing her many gifts and talents. Those of us who know her well, know of her beautiful needlework that graces the homes of her family and loved ones. Her superior culinary talents are matched only by her gracious hospitality. And now, she presents this beautiful gift of a large FB Rogers Silver serving tray, graceful heated urn, coffee/tea server, creamer and sugar bowl. The serving tray has done double duty as it has also held the darose candy given at the weddings of her children. Most of us cannot say that we were ever "told" what to do by Helen. However, she has certainly led by the finest of examples in her unselfish giving and service to our church life.

Thank you Helen for your very beautiful gift that will enable us to serve in your gracious tradition.





Father Garabed Kochakian with Godfather of the Cross Nicolas Sarafian and his family



Luncheon committee members left to right: Dawn Aginian, Anna Baylerian, Anita Arslanian and Co-Chair Sara Andonian

Manoogian Manor Visit



Chairman Nevart Torian



Father Garabed Kochakian with residents of Manoogian Manor

Address change: Jackie Klugman 6543 Berry Creek Lane, West Bloomfield, MI 48322
Phone number: 248-240-1200 email: jklugman@ameritech.net

If you have something you would like to include in our newsletter, please contact Diana Vosgian at (248) 661-1875 or email: pasadenapenguin@gmail.com.