

Armenian Church News



Bishop interviewed by Premier Christian Radio



MENA Analysis is a monthly programme on Premier Christian Radio that has been running for over 22 months. Presented by Marcus Jones (Head of News) with resident guest Dr. Harry Hagopian, it now attracts ratings of roughly 90,000 and looks at developments in the Middle East and North Africa region. It has often referred to Armenian issues (from Aleppo, Beirut, Baghdad, Jerusalem and Isfahan). Last April, it broadcast a full one hour special on the centennial of the Armenian Genocide, featuring three guests.

This week, Premier was happy to host Bishop Hovakim Manukyan in its studio for a short interview in order to congratulate him on his new Episcopal Ministry in the UK & Ireland as well as to briefly discuss with him his hopes for the future.

You can listen to the interview (and to others) and find out more about the key focus of Srpazan's ministry as well as his ecumenical thoughts at: <http://www.premierchristianradio.com/Shows/Weekday/MENA/Episodes/MENA24>

Diocese of the Armenian
Church of the United
Kingdom and the Republic
of Ireland

His Grace Bishop Hovakim
Manukyan, Primate

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Armenian Street Festival Wrap-Up Meeting and Wine Reception

Last Sunday, 26th July, the volunteers and the committee of the Armenian Street Festival met for a wrap-up meeting followed by a wine reception at the Armenian House. The meeting was presided over by His Grace Bishop Hovakim Manukyan. The meeting started with a prayer, then His Grace thanked the ASF co-ordinator Dickran Bedrossian and all volunteers, various Armenian organisations, Parish Councils, executive and subcommittee members and everybody else who was involved in this year's ASF for all their hard work, especially important in this the centennial year of the Armenian Genocide. A special thank you to: Khachik Vartanian, Andik Hakoopian, Sako Yeghikian, Hamo Barseghian, Jorjik Younki, Razmik Hazarian and Razmik Navasartian. Without their hard work we would not have enjoyed such delicious BBQ's made on site!

"His Grace thanked the volunteers for all their hard work"



Pastoral Visits and House Blessings

His Grace Bp. Hovakim visited two elderly ladies last week. This is a new initiative and old Armenian tradition that his Grace is hoping will flourish and continue.

His first visit was to Mrs. Lisa Townian Zadeh, who is residing at a nursing home. His Grace's visit coincided with her 91st birthday. Mrs. Townian Zadeh, who does not have any relatives in the UK, thoroughly enjoyed talking with Srpazan Hovakim.

His second visit was to Mrs. Lucin Armenakian, who is visually impaired and hard of hearing. As always, she greeted his Grace with open arms.

According to her daughter, Mrs. Sosi Ross, these kind of visits make a huge difference to the emotional and psychological well being of the older members of our community.

Please contact **the** Primate's Office to request a visit from either Srpazan Hayr or any other clergy.



Birmingham Mission Parish News

“O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.” (Psalm 51:15). Like King David during the time of the Old Testament, we praise the Lord today, because He has granted us this joyous occasion to gather together under the arches of this wonderful church to share fellowship, and strengthen both our faith and sense of identity” said the Primate during the Divine liturgy for the believers in the Birmingham Mission Parish, celebrated on 2nd August, 2015, at St John's Church.



There were believers present from both the Birmingham and London Armenian Communities. At the end of the liturgy there was a small reception and the Primate got acquainted with community members and listened to their concerns. The Primate was greeted also by Mr.

Varujan Davtyan, the Chair of the Mission Parish. The Mission Parish in Birmingham is comprised mostly of Armenians from Armenia. For Divine Liturgies and community events the Parish uses St. John's Anglican Church. However, there is a wish, desire and willingness to have their own Church building and make the life of the parish and community more active.



Bible Study

“May they all be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you, so that the world may believe it was you who sent me” (John 17:21). This passage from the Gospel of John, indicating the unity of the Church and all Christians, was discussed at a recent Bible study which took place at the Gulbenkian Hall of St. Sarkis Church on Thursday, 30th July.

The Bible study evening, which was facilitated by His Grace Bishop Manukyan, was attended by the faithful of the Armenian Church. After giving an introduction on the topic, the participants of the discussion brought their contributions to the event, expressing their ideas about the unity in Christianity and its implications in real life.

Rev. Fr. Angelo, representative of the Catholic Church, who was also invited to join the Bible Study, spoke of his personal experience of unity and examples of co-

operation with the Armenian Community in Kuwait.

The Bible study was followed by a short prayer and meditation in St. Sarkis Church.

The next Bible study will be held by the Primate on 13th August, in the Gulbenkian Hall. As this is prior to the Feast of Assumption of the Virgin Mary the topic will specifically concentrate on the role of St. Mary, the Theotokos, in the four Gospels and the role of women in the Orthodox Church.

Upcoming: every Saturday evening at 6:30pm there will be an evening service (Vespers) at St. Sarkis Church led by the clergy and deacons of the diocese

“May they all be one in us”

Priests Ordained in Holy Etchmiadzin

On July 26, with the blessings of His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians; during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, the sacrament of ordination and consecration of priests was offered in the Mother Cathedral.

The celebrant was His Grace Bishop Vardan Navasardyan, Director of the Christian Education Center of the Mother See, who ordained seven deacons to the priesthood. His Grace Bishop Vardan consecrated the foreheads, then the right and left hands of the new priests with Holy Chrism (Muron) and gave them new names: Dn. Hayk Tadevosyan was renamed Fr. Tadeos; Dn. Artak Vardanyan was renamed Fr. Torgom; Dn. Avetis Asatryan was renamed Fr. Arshavir; Dn. Vardan Zeynalyan was renamed Fr. Pargev; Dn. Arman Shokhikyan was renamed Fr. Grigoris; Dn. Davit Gharibyan was renamed Fr. Karapet and Dn. Arman Martirosyan was renamed Fr. Abraham.

Following the ordination, the newly ordained clergy conveyed their first blessings to the attendees.

Afterwards, Bishop Vardan, congratulated the Catholicos of All Armenians, the clergy, the parents of the ordained priests and the faithful on the occasion of the seven newly ordained priests, and stated in part: “The Armenian Apostolic Holy Church again indicates its centuries-long victorious campaign and this day is the great evidence of the triumphant mystery of Resurrection in that process and the grace of God’s presence. During the Holy Communion, we offered one of the seven sacraments of our Church: the sacred wonderment of Ordination. Dear friends, the Armenian Church is established again on the true word of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Today, the Armenian Church once again fortified, is perpetuated through the Mother See, as by our prayers, the spirit of our Lord

blessed the priests with His grace, and generously shed the light of His wisdom. Today these seven dedicated servants are witnesses of faith who will serve at the Lord's altar for the recovery of the spiritual life of our people, to share God’s love and true word into their lives”.

Bishop Vardan addressed the new priests and stressed that God will act through their service and urged their hearts to always be close to their delivered flock, to comfort the grief of their flock through their pastoral word. Bishop Vardan also added that as it was in the case of the sacred Patriarchs and apostles, archimandrites and eminent priests, henceforth God will act on earth through the newly ordained priests.

Then, the Brotherhood of the Mother See ascended to the Holy Altar, to congratulate the newly ordained priests and kiss their anointed foreheads and hands.

In the evening, the Granting of the Cowl (veggar) service was offered. Rev. Fr. Grigoris was vested with the cowl and became a member of the Brotherhood of Holy Etchmiadzin.

Following their ordination, the new clergy will follow the traditional 40-day seclusion period of fasting and with the blessings of His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians; will be appointed to serve in different Dioceses and Institutions of the Armenian Holy Apostolic Church.



St. Sarkis Parish Council Announcements

Friday, 14th August: St. Sarkis Parish Council's next Movie Night will take place at 7pm in Gulbenkian Hall, showing "The Bible" TV Series.

Saturday, 15th August: Washing of the grapes for the Feast of Assumption of the Virgin Mary. Please join St. Sarkis and St. Yeghiche Parish members at 2pm to wash and prepare the grapes for Sunday blessing.

Sunday, 16th August: Assumption Food Bazaar after the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, in the Gulbenkian Hall. All the money raised will go towards the Dublin Parish Genocide Khachkar Fund, as will the money collected in the Church.

Pilgrimage to Armenia

A seven day pilgrimage to Armenia and the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin on the occasion of the historic blessing of Holy Muron which takes place on 27th September 2015. The group will be led by His Grace Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, the Primate of the Diocese of the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Updated Provisional Programme:

Day 1: Arrival at Yerevan International Airport and transfer to your desired hotel in the early morning followed by check in and breakfast. Tour of Yerevan. Matenadaran - The Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Ancient Manuscripts. After lunch visit to Garni and Geghard monastery.

Day 2: Embark on a tour of Armenian Monasteries - Khor Virap, then lunch followed by Noravank Monastic complex.

Day 3: Visit to the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, blessing ceremony of Holy Muron. Official dinner.

Day 4: Visit to Genocide Memorial (Tsitsernakaberd), Prayer in memory of the Late Catholicos Karekin I. Opening of Karekin I Centre, consecration of the Cross Stone (Khachkar), concert in Opera House.

Day 5: Trip to Lake Sevan, a unique fresh water lake located at an altitude of 1,900 m (6,200 ft) above sea level. Visit to the Sevanavank, Haghartsin and Goshavank Monasteries.

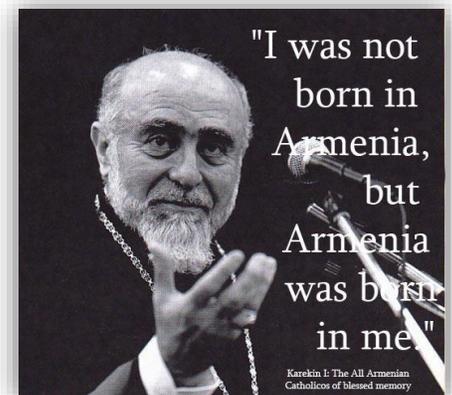
Day 6: Trip to Tsaghkadzor and Kecharis

Monastery. Visit to Bjni.

Day 7: Visit Yerevan's Vernisaj Market. Lunch. Visit to Ararat Cognac Factory. Last evening in the city. Goodbye Party. Transfer to Yerevan International Airport and departure to Heathrow Airport.

Cost: £1200 (private room); £1100 (shared Room). Roundtrip Aeroflot Airways: airfare, accommodation, transportation, meals (Breakfast, Lunch and dinner) and sightseeing. Those of you who wish to make your own flight arrangements the cost will be £ 900.

To secure your place, please send a non-refundable deposit of £500 by Friday 14th August 2015 Cheques payable to: "Armenian Church Trust UK" or you can transfer the amount to ACT UK bank account: Account Number: 20573160, Sort Code: 30-94-65



Programme

*Blessing of the Holy Muron
26-29th September 2015
Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin*

26th September 2015

*18:00 Ecumenical Meeting
19:30 Ecumenical Prayer
20:30 Dinner (at the Refectory
of the Mother See of Holy
Etchmiadzin)*

27th September 2015

*11:00 Holy Mass (Cathedral of
Holy Etchmiadzin)
17:00 Blessing of the Muron
(Open Altar)
20:00 Official Dinner*

28th September 2015

*10:00 Visit to Genocide
Memorial (Tsitsernakaberd)
12:00 Prayer in memory of Late
Catholicos Karekin I
12:20 Opening of Karekin I
Centre
13:30 Consecration of Cross
Stone (Khachkar)
14:00 Lunch
18:30 Concert at the Opera
House
20:00 Dinner*

29th September 2015

*16:00 Distribution of the Holy
Muron*

Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God

Asdvadzadzin And Blessing Of the Grapes Service

On Sunday, August 16, St Yeghiche Armenian Church Parish will observe the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God. Our Primate Bishop Hovakim Manukyan will be conducting the service at St Yeghiche which commemorates how St. Mary was taken up in body and soul, or "assumed," into heaven. Divine Liturgy will commence at 11.00 am.

On this feast day, the "Blessing of Grapes" service takes place immediately after the Divine Liturgy.

Donations in lieu of Grapes are being collected. Those wishing to offer donations please hand your donation to a member of the Parish Council or post your donations in advance to St Yeghiche Armenian Church Parish Council, 13b Cranley Gardens, Kensington London, SW7 3BB, or call 0207 373 8133 . Please make cheques payable to "St Yeghiche Armenian Church Parish"



Ecumenical Events

First International Orthodox Women's Conference

(for men and women)

Orthodox Women's Ministries (OWM)

Friday, 11 September 2015 at 18:00 - Sunday, 13 September 2015 at 17:30 London

OWM First International Women's Conference is welcoming both men and women to attend - as each member of the Body of Christ affects the other - so it is vital, a necessity that each member supports and learns the needs of the other - male and female.

OWM also welcomes all ages to attend above the age of 18.

Renowned world speakers include:

His Eminence Metropolitan Kallistos Ware of Diocletia (Oxford) (author of many famous Orthodox books)

Dr. Kyriaki Fitzgerald of the Greek Orthodox Church in America (Theologian and Clinical Psychologist and active member of the WCC)

Dr. Mariz Tadros (Research Fellow at IDS and specialist in Middle East Politics and Human Development; she has worked on many social projects for men and women in Egypt)

Emmanuel Gergis, PhD Candidate (Theologian and founder of St. Cyril Orthodox Society and College - <http://stcyrilcollege.org/>)

Fr. Seraphim El-Baramousy, Masters in Theology (Monk and Theologian from Baramos Monastery, Egypt.

Why "OWM CONFERENCE"?

There is a great desire to meet the

needs of the people of the Church and this desire is found in the role of women today across the globe, particularly in the West. A few questions, yet not exhaustive, must be asked to address such concerns:

What is the role of women outside of the diaconate and Sunday School services?

What is the purpose of their presence in the Eucharistic and other liturgical services?

How do women identify their membership as a living and equal member of the Body of Christ, among cultural aversions and feelings of subservience among the opposite sex and members of the hierarchy?

There is an essential need across the globe to revive the rich Orthodox tradition in accordance with our modern world today without compromising or altering the faith. For Orthodoxy is dynamic and living; it is not a static entity and a mere point of reference to the past.

See our temporary site for more details: <http://orthodoxwm.blogspot.co.uk/>

PLEASE NOTE: Ticket prices do not include accommodation. Each person will arrange their own accommodation. However, we have arranged for a hotel nearby (walking distance 10-15 minutes) for a special discounted price:

Exhibition Court Hotel 4: 24 Collingham Place, Earl's Court, SW5 0QF.

To book call: +44 (0) 207 370 2414 (mention you are booking for the OWM Women's Conference)

or email: info@exhibitioncourthotel.co.uk

"Orthodoxy is dynamic and living; it is not a static entity and a mere point of reference to the past."

Forthcoming Events

Arcola Theatre's

Gariné Opera

by Dikran Tchouhadjian and directed by Gerald Papasian.

Ticket Information and Times

Friday and Saturday evening at **7:30pm**

£15 / £12 concessions

Tickets are £10 or less with [Arcola Passport](#)

<https://www.arcolatheatre.com/production/arcola/garin>

Dikran Tchouhadjian is considered the first opera composer in the Ottoman Empire. He is known as 'the Armenian Verdi' and 'the Oriental Offenbach'. Since its composition in Turkish as Leblebici Horhor Ağa (Master Hor Hor the Chickpea Vendor) in 1875, Gariné has been adapted three times for film and has delighted audiences all over Europe and the Middle East.

Now Gerald Papasian directs a semi-staging of his own adaptation, previously performed in different European cities. Fusing the Armenian and Turkish settings, this rare London production – will be on for two nights only (August 14 and 15) – will mark Tchouhadjian's extraordinary contribution to Turkish and Armenian opera.

The performance will start at 7:30pm. £15 / £12 concessions. Tickets are £10 or less with Arcola Passport.



Community Announcements

Hayashen Summer Project Starts

Dates: Monday 3rd, Wednesday 5th, Friday 7th, Monday 10th, Wednesday 12th, Friday 14th, Monday 17th, Friday 21st at Hayashen 10am-1pm. All children aged under 15 welcome!

The project will culminate with an awesome day trip to Thorpe Park on the 19th August for all the family. For more details phone 020 8992 4621.

£12 Members/£16 for non-members

Wanted for a New Movie About the Armenian Genocide

YEVA - an Armenian girl 9yrs to small 14 yrs.
Bright, talkative, confident, good English.

Filming: Selected dates between September 15th to November 25th 2015 with some rehearsal prior. The child will be licensed and tutored for this project which will film in Spain and Malta.

The film also stars OSCAR ISAAC and CHRISTIAN BALE and many Armenian actors and actresses.

Please call or e mail HUBBARD CASTING
020 7292 4975 - sophie@hubbardcasting.com

HUBBARD CASTING

LORD OF THE RINGS, BOURNE ULTIMATUM, SPY, THE HOBBIT, WAKING NED, HATFIELDS AND MCCOYS, BLOODY SUNDAY, EVITA, THE COMMITMENTS...

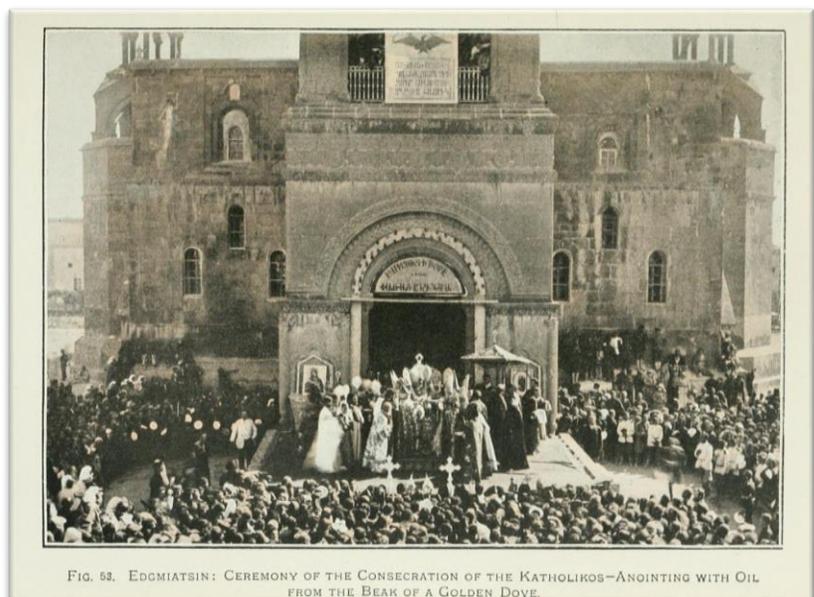


FIG. 53. EDGMIATSIN: CEREMONY OF THE CONSECRATION OF THE KATHOLIKOS—ANGINTING WITH OIL FROM THE BEAK OF A GOLDEN DOVE.

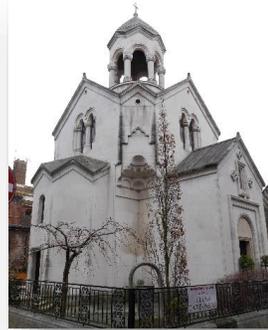
Worship services in the Armenian Churches

Services are held in the Armenian Churches every Sunday starting at 11:00 am. For further details, please contact the parish nearest to you:



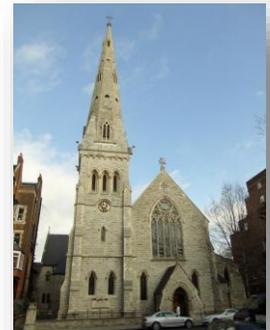
Holy Trinity Armenian Church
229 Upper Brook Street
Manchester, M13 0FY
Tel: 0161 273 1074

www.armenianchurchmanchester.org/



St. Sarkis Church
Iverna Gardens
Kensington, London, W8 6TP
Tel: 020 7937 0152

<http://www.stsarkisparish.co.uk>



St. Yeghiche Church
13b Cranley Gardens
Kensington, London SW7 3BB
Tel: 020 7373 8133

<http://www.styeghiche.org.uk/>

Mission Parishes of our Diocese:

Cardiff - Tel: + 44 771 279 2304, +44 2920779248. john@jagproperties.co.uk

Dublin - Tel: +44 2891 863559. <http://www.armenians.ie/>

Birmingham – Tel: +44 121 675 1469. St John's Church, Stratford Road, Birmingham, B11 4EA

Oxford - Tel: +44 7810 490242. armenian.society@studentsclub.ox.ac.uk

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We invite those who have questions or wish to gain deeper understanding of the faith, moral discernment, teachings and traditions of the Armenian Church to contact the Office of the Diocese of the Armenian Church in United Kingdom and Ireland:

The Primate's Office
c/o Armenian House
25 Cheniston Gardens
London, W8 6TG
or email: primatesoffice@armenianchurch.co.uk