



SOORP ASDVADZADZIN

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OF WHITINSVILLE



E-Newsletter: Friday, January 24, 2025

Join Us for Prayer & Worship this Sunday

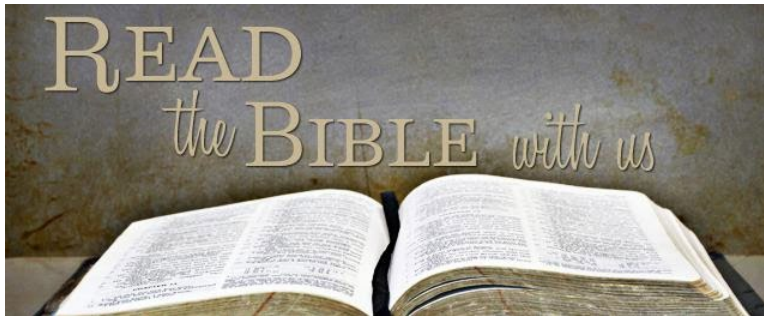
Morning Service: 9:00

Badarak / Divine Liturgy 10:00

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Heavenly King, grant me your kingdom which you promised to your beloved, and strengthen my heart to hate sin and to love you only and to do your will. Have mercy upon your creatures, and upon me, a great sinner. Lord, please keep watch over your faithful people, strengthen those fleeing persecution, and protect the holy soil of Armenia. Preserve the spirit of Artsakh in our hearts; console those who grieve; deliver your faithful children from conflict, and bestow your peace on all mankind. Amen.

Let's Read the Bible! Readings of the week



Monday, January 27:

Zephaniah 3:19-20; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6; Matthew 10:23-33

Tuesday, January 28:

Proverbs 4:10-27; Isaiah 48:17-22; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6; Matthew 10:37-42

Wednesday, January 29:

2 Timothy 2:20-26; John 6:48-55

Thursday, January 30:

Jeremiah 3:22-56; Romans 8:18-27; John 16:1-5

Friday, January 31:

2 Timothy 3:1-7; John 6:64-72

Saturday, February 1:

St. Gregory the Theologian

Proverbs 8:33-36; Hosea 10:12; Amos 5:10-14; Acts 20:25-32; John 10:11-16

SUNDAY BIBLE READING

Bible Readings for Sunday, January 26, 2025
Second Sunday after the Octave of Theophany

1 TIMOTHY 4:12 - 5:10

Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Do not speak harshly to an older man, but speak to him as to a father, to younger men as brothers, to older women as mothers, to younger women as sisters—with absolute purity.

Honor widows who are really widows. If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own family and make some repayment to their parents; for this is pleasing in God's sight. The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day; but the widow who

lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. Give these commands as well, so that they may be above reproach. And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years old and has been married only once; she must be well attested for her good works, as one who has brought up children, shown hospitality, washed the saints' feet, helped the afflicted, and devoted herself to doing good in every way.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO

JOHN 3:13-21

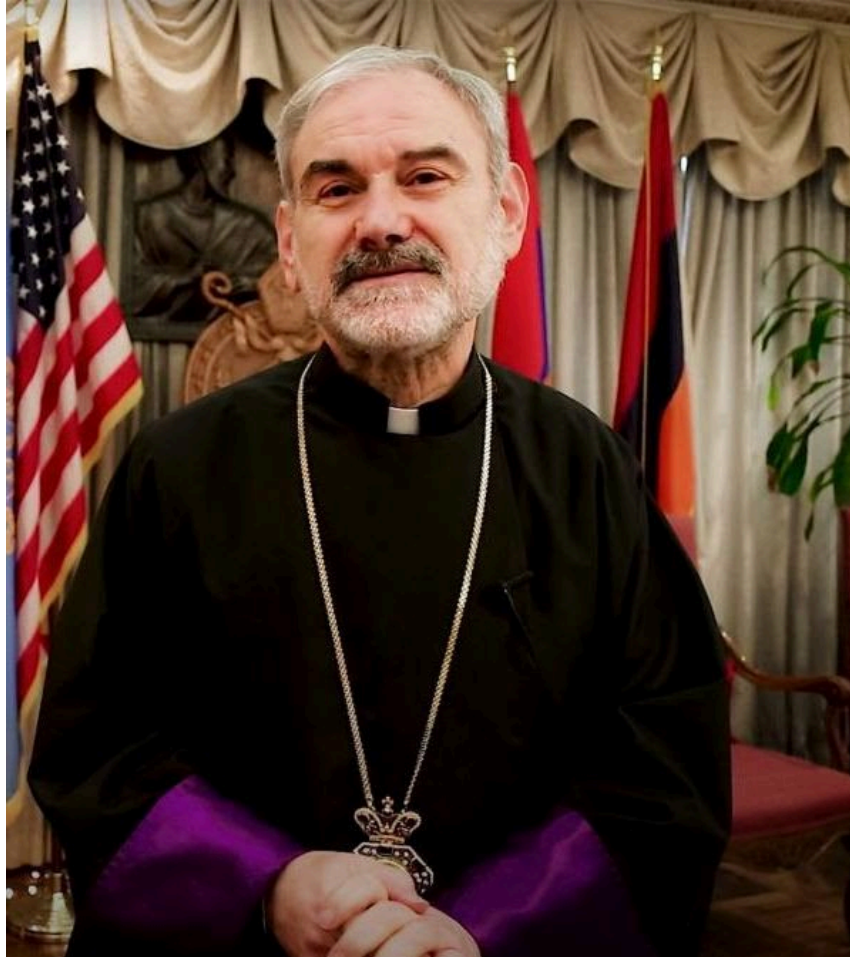
No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

LITURGICAL CALENDAR AND NEWS FROM PRELACY CROSSROADS

PRELACY'S NEW ST. SAHAG AND ST. MESROB INSTITUTE TO TRAIN FUTURE CLERGY



Dear Prelacy parishioners and friends,

We are pleased to inform you that the Religious and Executive Councils of the Eastern Prelacy have established the St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Institute to contribute to the development of Christian education in the Armenian community and to the preparation of future clergy.


This course will include subjects such as an introduction to the Bible, the history of the Armenian Church, theology, liturgy, music, and pastoral theology.

These subjects will be taught by qualified instructors, including Father Paul Tarazi, a Bible specialist and former professor at St. Vladimir's and Holy Cross seminaries; Dr. Michael Papazian, Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Berry University; Dr. George Leylegian, a specialist in the liturgy of the Armenian Church; as well as clergy members of the Eastern Prelacy.

We are confident that our community will appreciate this initiative through their participation, providing us with the opportunity to develop future, innovative programs for the growth and strengthening of our faith and identity.

Prayerfully,

ARCHBISHOP ANOUSHAVAN
Prelate



FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Saturday, January 25: Holy Fathers Sts. Athanasius and Cyril.

Monday, January 27: St. Giragos and his mother Julita. and the Martyrs Gordius, Polyeuctus, and Grigor.

Tuesday, January 28: Sts. Andrew the Commander and his Soldiers, and Callinicus and Diometes the Martyrs.

HOLY FATHERS STS. ATHANASIUS AND CYRIL



On Saturday, January 25, the Armenian Church commemorates the Holy Fathers Athanasius and Cyril. Athanasius is known as the “champion of orthodoxy” and “Father of Orthodoxy.” He served as bishop of Alexandria for 45 years (17 years in exile). He attended the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD where he was regarded as a theological expert, despite just being a deacon. He is respected and revered in the Armenian Church.

Cyril of Alexandria succeeded his uncle, Theophilus, as patriarch of Alexandria in 412. He was a brilliant theologian in the Alexandrian tradition, and like Athanasius, is highly regarded by the Armenian Church. He presided over the third ecumenical council in Ephesus in 431 AD. He wrote treatises clarifying the doctrines of the Trinity and the Incarnation, commentaries on the Gospels of John and Luke, dogmatic theology, and many letters and sermons.



Baptism-Chrismation: The Foundation of Our Life in Christ A 6-part Biblical, Historical, and Theological Study



on Wednesday evenings
January 22 to February 26, 2025
7:30-8:30 pm (EST)

Presented by
Archdeacon Shant Kazanjian
Director of Christian Education
Eastern Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church

[Click here to Register](#)

You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For information, contact the Prelacy office at 212-689-7810, shant@armenianprelacy.org

*Որք միանգամ ի Քրիստոս մկրտեցարուք, պճրիստոսս պզեցեալ էք.
As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

Գաղատացիներուն / Galatians 3:27

[Click Here to Register](#)

**FOR BREAD AND HOPE
TOGETHER WITH ARTSAKH ARMENIANS**



A hundred thousand Armenians from Artsakh have been forcibly expelled from their ancestral territory following the criminal policies of the Azerbaijani state and relocated to Armenia proper. While they are trying to solve their primary needs of housing, food, and other urgent issues, they also rely on the continuous help of the Diaspora.

You can make your donations to the Eastern Prelacy fundraiser Together with Artsakh Armenians by clicking the link below.

When donating online, please note that the company that handles the secure management of our website donations asks the donors to donate an extra amount for processing fees. This allows the Prelacy to receive the net amount of your gift without any charges. However, if the extra amount they suggest seems too high to you, please note that not only is the amount not a requirement, but there is a down arrow right next to the suggested amount. If you click on it, the drop-down menu will give you

options for lesser amounts or even 0. You can always choose not to donate any extra amount.

[Click Here to Donate](#)

SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH NEWS

Ladies Guild News



Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church Ladies' Guild welcomes anyone over the age of 18 to become a vital part of our church and community.

The Guild meets on the first Saturday of each month in the church Hall at 9:00 A.M. with refreshments followed by the meeting.

The next Ladies' Guild Meeting will take place on Saturday, February 1.

We welcome your presence and ideas. Please feel free to join us or just sit in at a meeting to see what we are all about.

Please feel free to reach out to Ladies Guild Chair, Carol Bedrosian at at 508-278-9178 or via email at carol.bedrosian@gmail.com or any member of the Ladies' Guild executive with any questions or concerns.

Home Blessing: An Armenian Custom



Throughout history, Armenian Christians have considered the home to be a sacred place: the tranquil sanctuary of the family, where habits of virtue, pious traditions, and life-affirming customs are passed from one generation to another. Under one roof, members of a household achieve a unity of spirit and assume responsibility for the larger life of the community. They break bread and share life's joys and sorrows.

Above all, the home is where one's faith in God is first kindled, and where that faith finds some of the most profound occasions for action. God's presence makes every family home a "Little Church" (in Greek, ecclesia), where His love and blessings permeate every corner.

Through a special ceremony of the Armenian Church, we ask God to bless our homes on occasions like the Nativity and Resurrection of Christ, as well as on the joyous occasion of moving into a new home. It's called the "Dounohrnek", or Home Blessing service.

During a Home Blessing, the priest takes with him wafer and incense. He blesses bread, water, and salt: three fundamental elements essential for human life. The priest asks God not to lessen these three gifts, without which life becomes impossible or imperfect.

The bread, water, and salt are symbols of God's infinite goodness and care. Bread, which symbolically represents the Word of God, grants life to all those who taste it.

Salt seasons our food, making it delicious and edible. Metaphorically, salt represents man in this world with his words and deeds; Christ said, "You are the salt of the earth." Man's life should be seasoned with wisdom, moderation, or a sense of sufficiency.

Finally, Water, the essential element of life, represents cleanliness. Through the water of baptism we are cleansed, renewed in Christ, and united with our God.

Alongside the bread, salt, and water offered on a tray by the home-dwellers, the priest places the wafer stamped with a crucifix and designs of grapes and wheat. The wafer signifies the presence of Christ in the home. The members of the family can either distribute the wafer among themselves or keep it in a jar along with flour, salt, or rice.

During a Home Blessing, it is customary to burn incense, symbolizing the burning of our souls with our Lord's love. In his prayer the Psalmist said: "Let my prayer be counted as incense before Thee."

In the prayer of the Home Blessing the priest first asks for purity and abundance of the three gifts. Then he blesses the home and all its inhabitants, asks God to keep them away from visible and invisible enemies, and prays that God will protect them and grant them health of soul and body.

The Home Blessing is a meaningful religious service that can bring the entire family together in holiness. Through this ceremony faith is replenished and strengthened, and the presence of our Lord is felt.

The beautiful tradition of the Home Blessing was once an annual routine for every Armenian Christian family. In modern times it had fallen into disuse, but has regained momentum in recent years, as more than ever before, families feel a need to acknowledge the presence Christ in their homes and lives.

Prepare for the service by placing a glass of water, a small dish of salt, and a slice of bread on a tray. The priest will bring incense, charcoal, and incense burner and whatever else he needs with him.

Please contact Der Hayr (774-462-8041 or der.mikaeldk@gmail.com) to schedule the service for your home.

Special Collection for California Fire Victims

From January 12 to February 2, the Offering received during this time period will be forwarded to the Western Prelacy to help the victims of the wildfires.

**Please Give From the Heart.
Thank You!**

Men's Club of Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church

Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church of Whitinsville Men's Club dinners will be served on the 3rd Thursday of each month (September through June) in the church hall.

All men of the community who wish to attend are welcome to join us and enjoy a great meal along with the camaraderie of their friends.

Mezza/Drinks from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm followed by dinner. A brief business meeting follows.

Dinners are \$25.00/person All Inclusive.

The next Men's Club Meeting will take place on Thursday, February 6; RSVP requested (use contact info below).

Contact Peter Bedrosian for more information at 774-462-8077 or via email at bedrozip@hotmail.com

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY (AM & PM)



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join us as we learn from the life of Paul the Apostle

**The Bible promotes INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT.
When we study, we learn the greatest piece of literature known to
man.**

The Bible promotes GROWTH.
Those who desire to grow in their character must learn first of God.

The Bible promotes FAITH.
We learn of prayer in the Bible which counteracts unbelief.
Bible study teaches us to fight against sin and the Word is a
safeguard.

The Bible promotes WISDOM.
Set a time for studying the Word. Be intentional. Study the Word
prayerfully. Rely on the Bible's teachings and ask questions.



If you and your family would like to host a Sunday Fellowship following Church Services, please call the Church Office at 508-234-3677 or sign up on the board downstairs.

SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH MINISTRY

The war in Artsakh may be over...



...But the work has just begun.

Donate Today!

Help relief efforts in Artsakh & Armenia

Regroup. Rebuild. Reclaim.



What Can We Do?

Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church of Whitinsville is committed to helping in any way we can. We have undertaken a new humanitarian effort to provide fresh food, groceries, and toiletries to the families who have either lost a soldier to the Artsakh war, or families who have a wounded hero who cannot work to support their family and the families from Artsakh who have recently been forced to relocated by Azerbaijan to Armenia.

The program is simple. We order Groceries online from the supermarket in Armenia, which are paid for here in the United States. The groceries are delivered the next day to the families. In addition to the families we have "adopted", we have started to help several families from Artsakh who are now living in villages in Armenia.

Response to our AGM (Armenian Grocery Ministry) has been extremely positive and we hope to continue this work for as long as it is needed.

Der Mikael and The Board of Trustees urge you to donate generously to the following organizations.

For those who would like to mail a contribution via check, please make the check payable to Armenian Apostolic Church with "Armenian Grocery Ministry" or "AGM" in the memo.

**Mail to: [315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588](#)
or via the UniBank link at the bottom of page.**

Your secure donation will help to continue our humanitarian assistance in Armenia.

St. Nerses the Great Charitable Fund

On the ground in Armenia, the Eastern Prelacy sees small moments and individual stories as more than just numbers and words but knows that for each person they represent an entire world. Supporting the hope of this world are the individual sponsors who through their donation change the lives of Armenia and Artsakh's children in a dramatic and positive way.

Click Here: [Orphan's Fund - Armenian Prelacy to Donate](#)



faithful steward

with little • with much • with all

Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
- 1 Corinthians 4:2 -

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH WITH WEEKLY OFFERINGS

these are challenging times for all of us. The church is committed to supporting you in your spiritual and material needs, but it is a group effort. If you are able, please consider continuing to contribute to the church so that she can continue in her mission. ***Your Sunday offerings and Stewardship can be done online by using the UniBank link at the bottom of this page, or by mailing a check to the church - or the best way - In Person on Sundays. Thank you!***



CHRISTMAS
OFFERING

CHRISTMAS OFFERING - "YOUGHAKIN"

It is a tradition of the Armenian Church to offer a gift to the Church under the name of "Youghakin", or oil offering, which in return would keep the lanterns illuminated, and ultimately the doors open to the Church. At this season of Christ's birth, let us observe and continue the custom of Youghakin. For our church community to remain vibrant, every individual's gift matters. Your contribution, in any amount, will help ensure that the lights will continue to shine brightly at Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church. Please use the envelope from our Christmas mailing for your heartfelt and much appreciated "Youghakin" donation. Thank you!

*Celebrating a special occasion?
Honoring a loved one?*

Say it with Altar Flowers and/or Candles



**Altar Flowers & Candles for the month of January are
donated by Der Mikael and Levon Der Kosrofian in
celebration of the
50th Anniversary of their arrival in Whitinsville.**



**Donation for the Incense has been made by
Harry and Pamela Ohannesian
In Loving Memory of:**

Paul and Nora Ohannesian



**If you would like to donate Altar Flowers or Candles during 2025,
Please contact Yeva Der Kosrofian at 508-514-863 or via email
yevaderk23@gmail.com or you may call the church office
at 508-234-3677 or email us at soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com**

**Donations can also be mailed to:
Armenian Apostolic Church
315 Church St.
Whitinsville, MA 01588**

You may also donate using the UniBank link below:

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/CustomerInfo.aspx?Customerid=1798>

Monthly Donations for Altar Flowers \$125.00
Monthly Donation for Altar Candles \$75.00
Monthly Donation for Incense \$25.00

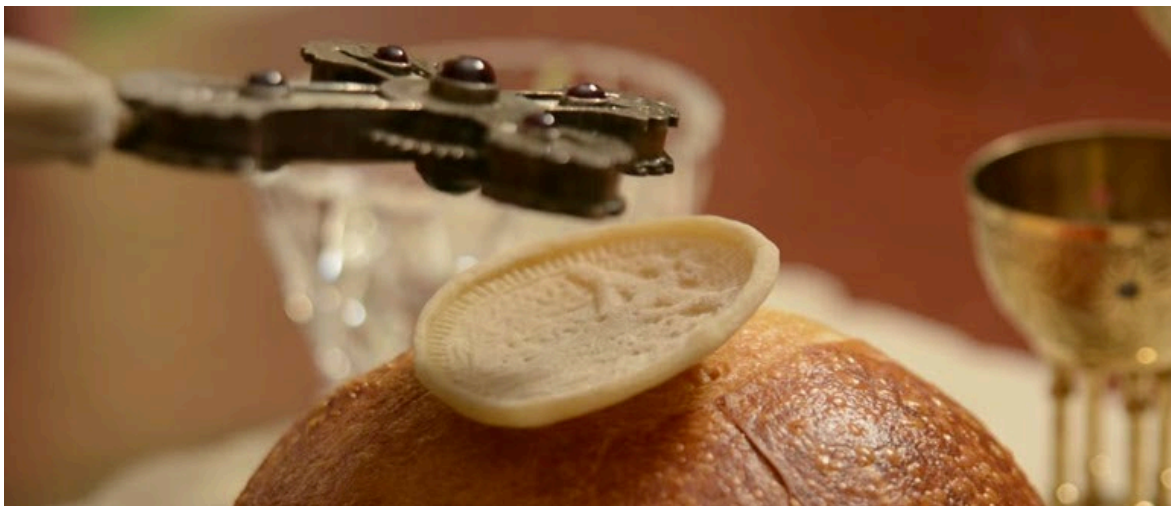
Lighting Candles and Prayer Requests

Lighting a candle is a way of extending one's prayer and showing solidarity with the person on whose behalf the prayer is offered.



If you cannot attend church but would like for Der Hayr to light a candle and offer silent prayers for you or a loved one, please email your requests to der.mikaeldk@gmail.com

Visitation & Holy Communion



If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to have a visit and receive Holy Communion, we ask that you PLEASE notify Der Hayr personally, at 774-462-8041 or through the Church Office:

Email: soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com or Office: 508-234-3677



+ Hospital + Visitations

If someone
you know is hospitalized, in a Nursing
Home or at home, we ask that you
PLEASE notify the Church Office.

All calls are kept confidential

Hospitals and Nursing Homes do not notify
the Church when parishioners are admitted.

Email: der.mikaeldk@gmail.com or soorpasvdzadzain@gmail.com
Mobile: 774-462-8041

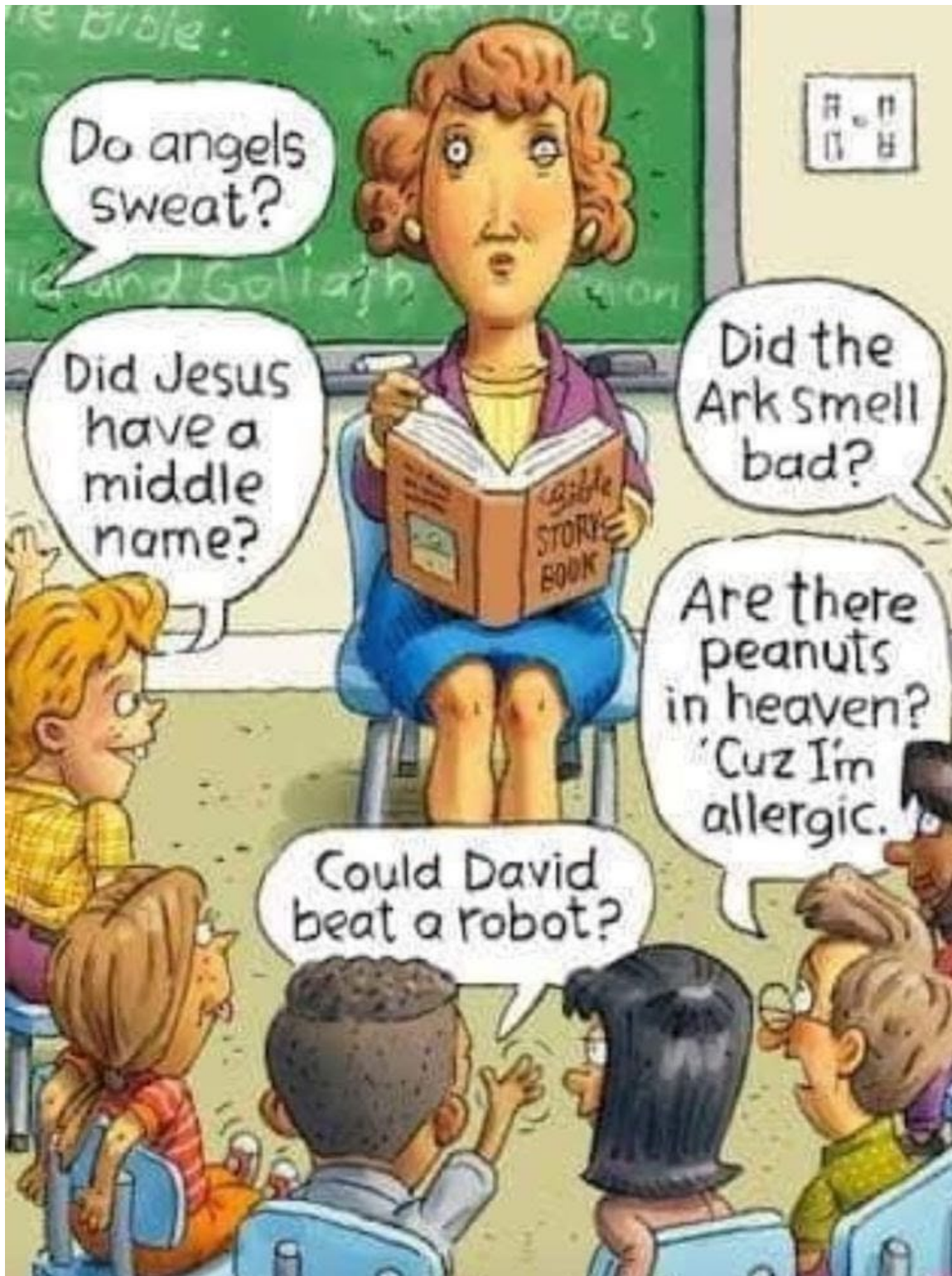
FROM OUR ARCHIVES...



George w/friend Bill - 2017 church dinner.

**Do YOU sing or play the organ? Do you know someone who does?
Then why not contribute your talents to beautify our Sunday
worship experience at Soorp Asdvadzadin Church?
Please contact Der Mikael for more information.**

A Little Humor to Start Your Weekend.....



Online Donations

For your convenience, St. Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church is now accepting online ACH/Electronic Check and Credit Card donations and payments. This is an easy and secure way to make your donations for Events, or for Stewardship, Membership and Requiem Services.

Electronic Check:

You will need to provide your bank's routing number and your bank account number to pay by this method. A helpful image is available during the payment process to assist in locating this information.

Credit Card:

We accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover.



To make a payment or a donation, please visit:

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/CustomerInfo.aspx?Customerid=1798>

OR Scan the QR Codes Below:

UNIPAY

All these Available For You Online...

Donations
Event Payments
Membership
Stewardship



QR Code for Donations



QR Code for Payment Center

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please save these dates and support our church.

2025

January 28 — Bible Study (AM & PM).

February 1 — Ladies Guild Meeting.

February 4 — Bible Study (AM & PM).

February 6 — Men's Club Dinner/Meeting.

February 11 — Bible Study (AM & PM).

February 13 — Presentation of the Lord to the Temple - Evening Service.

February 18 — Bible Study (AM & PM).

February 23 — General Membership Meeting.

February 25 — Bible Study (AM & PM).

**ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR
OUR E-NEWS LETTER?**

Please send your inquiries and comments to soorpasdvardzadin@gmail.com

Soorp Asdvardzadin Armenian Apostolic Church | 508-234-3677 |

315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588 | www.armenianchurchofwhit.org