

October 2020

Dear St. James Parishioners,

This has been a year like none other. The difficulties of the coronavirus and, now, the war in Artsakh, cannot adequately be described on paper.

And yet in 2020, our parish has persevered and accomplished so much. Our on-line spiritual offerings began in March and include Holy Badarak as well as Prayers for Healing and Intercession to the Holy Martyrs. In July, we safely began limited re-opening of St. James and in-person services. Our young parishioners attended a much-praised “virtual Hye Camp,” and our Sunday School, Bell Choir and youth Zoom sessions are going strong, with socially distanced lakefront gatherings as weather permits. We even staged our first-ever Virtual Street Fair! Despite our physical separation, we remain united in spirit.

Many of you have faced enormous challenges this year, and many of you are giving of your time, talents and treasure to support Artsakh. For all your efforts, we thank you.

This is St. James’ 75th Anniversary year, and despite the present challenges, we hope to keep our membership roster strong. **Please take a moment to check your records and, if you have not already paid your \$125 membership dues for 2020, enclosed is a membership form, with which you can return payment by check.** Payments may also be made via Paypal at the link on the parish website.

We also hope you will consider stewardship -- a pledge of a monetary donation of any amount to your parish that plays a vital role in helping our parish carry out its mission and meet its various financial obligations. Stewardship is a spiritual experience spelled out in Scriptures: “Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another, with whatever gift each of you has received.” (1 Peter 4:10). Even in this unprecedented year, the life of our church has been enriched by what we have been able to do collectively as a parish, including:

- Maintaining a full-time pastor who conducted Holy Badarak every week as well as other services;
- Continuing our vibrant Sunday School, Bell Choir and youth programs;
- Maintaining our aging building.

In this 75th anniversary year, we ask that you reaffirm your commitment to the mission of our parish with a stewardship contribution or pledge, so that we can continue to preserve our church community for our children, our children’s children and beyond. We welcome contributions at any and all levels. If you have already pledged, please be sure to honor your pledge before the end of the year.

Enclosed is the membership and stewardship form. Please contact Der Hovhan or any Parish Council member with questions. You may also E-mail the church (office@stjamesevanston.org) or call the office (847-864-6263).

Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

Sincerely,

Der Hovhan Khoja-Eynatyan and St. James Armenian Church Parish Council

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Hovhan Khoja-Eynatyan, Pastor
Telephone: 847-864-6263

816 Clark Street, Evanston, IL 60201
E-Mail: office@stjamesevanston.org

www.stjamesevanston.org

2020 Membership and Stewardship Form

MEMBERSHIP

- ❖ Membership entitles an individual to hold a leadership position within the parish (i.e. Parish Council member, chairperson of a parish organization and/or event.)
- ❖ Membership grants an individual the privilege to vote at the annual Parish Assembly.
- ❖ Membership entitles an individual to reduced sacrament fees.
- ❖ Membership donations are tax deductible.

Member Name _____ Standard \$125 / Senior (65+) \$100 / Student (18+) \$30

Member Name _____ Standard \$125 / Senior (65+) \$100 / Student (18+) \$30

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ I/We wish to be contacted through the Calling Post message system. Yes No

E-Mail _____ I/We wish to be contacted through e-mail. Yes No

Note:

- ❖ Existing members must pay dues by December 31, 2020, to be eligible to vote at the 2021 Parish Assembly.
- ❖ New members must pay dues by June 30, 2020, to be eligible to vote at the 2021 Parish Assembly.
- ❖ If you wish to be a member but are not able to afford the donation, please contact the pastor.

STEWARDSHIP

FOLLOWING OUR FAITHFUL FOREFATHERS 2020

In thanksgiving for God's gifts, I/we make an Annual Pledge to St. James Armenian Church in the amount of

Dollar a week - \$52.00 a year Ten dollars a month - \$120.00 per year

Dollar a day - \$365.00 per year Other \$ _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Date _____

St. James is now accepting credit card payments for stewardship.
See our treasurer if you wish to use your credit card.

St. James Armenian Apostolic Church – 816 Clark Street, Evanston, IL 60201

