7th Annual Armenian Street Festival
Sunday, 16th July 2017 from 12-7pm

The time is quickly approaching. Next Sunday, 16th July, the Armenian Church will be hosting their 7th Annual Armenian Street Festival (ASF) on the grounds of St. Sarkis Church and Iverna Gardens.

Like every year, this year's street festival promises to be full of Armenian music, dancing, food & drinks, entertainment, a classical music concert, a raffle, games, kids corner and other activities designed to bring joy to Armenians and friends attending the event. This year's special guests are singers Andre Simonian and Sibil.


Receiving Van Music Award in 2012

Some of the albums released by the band are "Behind the Happy Mask", "Beyond the Butterfly" and "United We Fall". One of their singles, from the album "Beyond the Butterfly" gained them a place on MTV. Click here for more information about Andre and The Beautified Project.
Sibil Pektorosoglu is a well-known Armenian singer from Turkey. Her first album was released in November 2010. In March 2011 Sibil's famous song “Namag”, with lyrics by Hovannes Shiraz and music by Majak Tosikyan, has the distinction of being the first Armenian music video film broadcasted on Turkey’s leading TV channels. Sibil’s 2012 international concert tour to promote her debut album, reached its climax in Moscow, where she received the prestigious “Armenian Music Award 2012” in the category of “Magical Voice”.

On May 11, 2014 "Armenian World Entertainment Awards" was held at Aqua Caliente in Palm Springs, California. The two-day event was organized by the “Global Arts International” in association with “USArmenia TV”. Sibil was among the celebrities who received “The Best Singer in the Diaspora Award”. These are just few of her achievements. Please click here to read more about Sibil.

In a week from now, on 16th July Andre and Sibil will perform together at 7th ASF. You can listen to the song "Qez em yergelu" beautifully performed by Andre Simonian and Sibil on YouTube by clicking here. Click here to visit the ASF page for photos and videos of previous years' celebrations.

We hope you will all come and join us next week with your family and friends for this special day of celebration in Iverna Gardens, Kensington.
On Thursday 29th June 2017, the talented and award-winning Armenian violinist Ani Batikian performed in a concert with the London Phoenix Orchestra, conducted by Lev Parikian at the prestigious venue of Cadogan Hall near London's Sloane Square. Themed as "The Art and Folk Music of Eastern Europe", the evening consisted of pieces selected to convey how folk dances and art inspire a composer's music. Among other compositions the concert also included the world première of a commissioned orchestral piece with violin solo written by Ani Batikian's composer husband, Roland Roberts, inspired by marine painter Hovhaness Aivazovsky's most famous painting "The Ninth Wave". It was dedicated to the 200th anniversary of the artist's birth being celebrated this year.

Batikian's performance of Khachaturian's violin concerto was inspiring and flawless, showcasing her remarkable skill and art as a violinist. Throughout Khachaturian concerto Ani was able to hold the audience’s attention, enthralling them with her enchanting performance and captivating with the sweet sound of Montagnana violin, worth almost £900,000 and lent by Ingles & Hayday, Sotheby’s violin experts.

Roland Roberts' composition, in the Russian Romantic style with Armenian elements, beautifully conveyed the story of Aivazovsky's painting.

The audience was enraptured by the piece with the composer taking stage beside his wife at the end. The musicians of the London Phoenix Orchestra, founded in 1924, played with much passion and skill under Parikian’s guidance as conductor. The event was sponsored and co-organised by the Tekeyan Cultural Association of London.
Dedication of Episcopal Throne at St. Sarkis Church

On Sunday, 2nd of July there was a dedication of Episcopal Throne at St. Sarkis Church after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The Throne was donated to the Church by Lord Ara Darzi and Vilma Darzi in the memory of their late father Varkes Darzi along with the Armenian Bibles for Wedding, Baptism and general use.

Before the special prayer in loving memory of Varkes Darzi, the Primate Hovakim Manukyan informed the faithful about the donations and expressed the hope that the number of Baptisms and Weddings in Armenian Churches will increase and those who receive the Bibles will remember in their prayers those who support their Church.

The Bibles were printed in cooperation with the Armenian Bible Society in Yerevan and throne was made by Aram Mkrtichian.

Boxed bibles with beautiful ornamental details donated by Lord Ara Darzi and Vilma Darzi
The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Rowell, who was Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe until 2013, has died peacefully after a short illness on Trinity Sunday 11 June 2017. He was 74. He was enthroned as Bishop in Europe in November 2001 after 7 years as Suffragan Bishop of Basingstoke.

A number of tributes have been paid to Bishop Geoffrey. Here is the excerpt from the letter of condolences sent by Bishop Hovakim Manukyan:

"I have many fond memories for him. I remember him since I was deacon in the Inter-Church Relations department of Holy Etchmiadzin. Bishop Geoffrey had undeniable impact on relations with the Oriental Orthodox Churches and in particular with the Armenian Church."

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Rowell was buried in Chichester on 5th of July. The delegation of the Armenian Church of the UK and Ireland attended his funeral.
June 29th marked the 18th anniversary of death of Garegin I, Catholicos of All Armenians. Every year at this time a tribute is paid to the beloved Catholicos by Armenian people.

He was born Nshan Sarkissian in the village of Kessab in Cilicia in 1932 and was buried on 4th July of 1999 in the heart of Motherland, in Echmiadzin as Garegin I, Catholicos of All Armenians.

Garegin I was one of the outstanding Church leaders of modern times. He was the "people's" Catholicos*. Whoever needed to see him had an easy access to him.

He had a doctorate degree and was a member of numerous international scientific and ecumenical societies. His articles were published by international inter-church publications. He was the vice-president of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches as well as was serving as a president of numerous international ecumenical councils. He was an author of a number of books on Theology, Moral and Ethics and Philosophy.

In addition to his theological and philosophical knowledge, he spoke three languages - English and French in addition to his native Armenian. He was a brilliant orator giving deeply meaningful and inspiring speeches. One of his original speeches given in Germany on 25th January, 1998 in the St. Mesrop-Sahak Church as well as additional information can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Please note that the original article is in Armenian.
**Spirituality**

**What other languages was the Holy Bible translated to before the Armenian version?**

Forming a chronological chart of the ancient versions (translations into ancient languages) of the Holy Bible is a very complex task.

The Hebrew Old Testament had been translated into Aramaic at different times and places. Aramaic was the lingua franca (common language) of the ancient Middle East and the major means of communication especially for the merchant class. The Old Testament in Aramaic is known as Targum, or Targumim in the plural form. According to the Hebraic tradition, it originated at the time of the return of the Jewish people from their exile in Babylonia (after 538 B.C.).

A Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament was produced in Egypt in the court of King Ptomely II Philadelphus (283-246 B.C.). According to tradition, seventy scholars worked on this translation. The version is known as the Septuagint ('seventy' in Latin). The Eastern and Oriental Orthodox churches, including the Armenian Church use this version of the Old Testament, which also includes the apocryphal books that are not a part of the present Hebrew and Protestant canons. There is plenty of evidence indicating that the Septuagint was the Old Testament version used throughout the early Christian Church. It was revised in the course of the first and Second centuries for further accuracy.

Before anything is said about the Christian Scriptures, it is important to note that the books of the Bible (48 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament) were not originally bound under one cover until the ninth century in the West and the 12th century in Armenia. At the earliest phase, the Bible would be circulated in parts; the earliest translations also appeared piecemeal.

Since the Old Testament already existed in Greek, the early Christian Bible incorporated the Septuagint version into the Christian Bible and added to it the Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, the epistles and the Revelation of John, which were in Greek. Some scholars believe some of the material in the New Testament may have been originally written in Aramaic, but these originals had already disappeared before the formation of the Christian canon of the Holy Scriptures, which was finalized in the fourth century.
Spirituality

What other languages was the Holy Bible translated to before the Armenian version?

(cont.)

Parts of the Greek New Testament were first translated into Latin at the end of the Second century. The Septuagint was also available in a Latin translation. The Vulgate version, which ultimately replaced the older translations, includes some older translations (later edited by St. Jerome in the late fourth century), some of St. Jerome's translations and also the apocryphal books.

Parts of the Old Testament had already been translated to Syriac, a dialect of Aramaic, at an early time by Jewish immigrants in northern Syria and particularly in northern Iraq, where in the first century the royal family had converted to Judaism. In the Second century a Syrian by the name of Tatian harmonized the four Gospels, which he presumably read in Greek, and produced a "concordance," or a single harmonized text. The four Gospels were not translated into Syriac until about the fifth century and they are contemporaneous with the Armenian version. The Syriac version known as the Peshitta is a revised edition of all the earlier translations into Syriac and is from the fifth century.

Parts of the Holy Bible were translated into Coptic, a later form of ancient Egyptian, in the course of the third century. From the fourth century there are fragments in both the Sahidic and the Bohairic dialects.

The Gothic, a Germanic language, version was produced in the second half of the fourth century. Parts of the New Testament and a small part of the Old Testament have survived.

Some of the Ethiopic versions of the New Testament are also early and may pre-date or may be contemporaneous with the Armenian version.

On Sunday, 9th of July His Grace Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, the Primate of the Armenian Diocese of UK and Ireland will hold a special prayer in memoriam of his father, Manuel Manukyan at St. Sarkis Church for ecumenical friends and for those who were unable to come and see him.

After the service those who would like to meet bishop and extend their condolences may do so from 12:45 – 1:30 at the Vicarage, W8 6TP.

Please note that His Grace will be in Armenia from July 18-August 1.
Eulogy of Hambarsoom Aharon Boghosian

Hambarsoom Aharon Boghosian passed away on Friday 23rd June 2017 at the age of 93. He is survived by his wife Nover of 69 years of marriage. They were married in Basrah, Iraq in 1948. They are blessed with eight children, eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Hambarsoom was born in Baghdad, Iraq, where his parents had found refuge as survivors from the Ottoman atrocities during 1915.

He grew up in Basrah, where he held many jobs including a managerial position with the British Petroleum Company for 25 years. After retiring he moved to Kuwait, working in local establishments in order to support his children’s education in England.

In 1985 he finally settled in England with his family. Throughout his life, wherever he lived and worked he always found time to devote himself to the Armenian community and church affairs. He enjoyed reading, music, theatre and writing poetry. As well was being trilingual, he was a witty, generous and talented rock in our lives.

Hambarsoom was devoted to his family, his brothers’ families, and the families of his grandchildren. He is sorely missed by all members of his family.

The funeral service was held at Gunnersbury Memorial Chapel on 29th June 2017. The wake took place at the Navasartian Centre on 223 Northfields Avenue, Northfields, London (UK).
**Summer Camp in Romania**

On the occasion of celebrations of the Feast of the Assumption of Virgin Mary, Armenian Diocese in Romania is organizing youth camp that will take place in Romanian city of Suceava on 9-14th of August.

The date of arrival to Bucharest is 9th of August. Departure to Suceava will take place on 10th of August at 8:00am from the Church of Arajnordanist.

Program details are coming soon.

For more information, please contact the Primate's Office or directly the Armenian Church in Romania using the contact info below.

Armeneasca 9 Str., Bucharest, Romania
Postal Cod: 021 042
E-mail: arhiepiscopie@armeana.ro
Tel.: 004 021 314 0208
Fax: 004 021 312 1083
Volunteers needed

Volunteers needed for the Armenian Street Festival that takes place 16th July, from 12-7pm. Please contact the Primate's Office by phone or email:

Phone: 020 8127 8364
Email: primatesoffice@armeniandiocese.org.uk
Deacon Training Programme

The Deacon Training Programme was re-launched on 25\textsuperscript{th} January 2017 at St. Sarkis Church. Every Wednesday, Deacons in training attend church and are instructed in the traditions of serving at the altar.

For those who are wishing to attend the training, please contact His Grace Bishop Hovakim Manukyan at: primateoffice@armeniandiocese.org.uk

ACYO London introduces their new project

"Welcome to our new borns"

If you have a new born or know someone who has just had a baby in the community please write to the primateoffice@armeniandiocese.org.uk and let us know, we would love to send a gift to them.

Kindly send us your baby's full name and your home address.

For more information about ACYO London, to donate or to help us with any of our projects please contact us on:

acyolondon@armeniandiocese.org.uk

Facebook – ACYO London       Telephone: 0208 127 8364
BOOK A STALL AT THE ARMENIAN STREET FESTIVAL!

On Sunday 16th July, the Armenian Church and its community will be hosting its 7th annual Armenian Street Festival (ASF), taking over the whole Iverna Gardens near High Street Kensington.

ASF is a celebration of our culture, history, identity and faith, bringing the community and our friends together for a fun day filled with music, food and dancing. Our event attracts over 1000 people, including the Armenian community, local residents, friends of our community, and representative of sister Churches in the UK. On the day we will be offering vendors an opportunity to hire one of our stalls in order to sell their products and raise awareness. Over the years our stalls have sold books, artwork, craftwork, charitable merchandise, jewellery and more. We are offering up to 20 vendors the opportunity to hire one of our stalls for only £100 for the whole day.

If you would like to learn more, please email us: primatesoffice@armenianchurch.co.uk or call 020 8127 8364.

Our stalls usually get sold out quickly, so we recommend contacting us as soon as possible to secure a place at ASF.

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

Annual Armenian Street Festival – Sunday, 16th July, 2017

The ASF (Armenian Street Festival) Executive Committee and Primate request our faithful to save the date on Sunday, 16th July, 2017 for the next Armenian Street festival. This will be our 7th annual Armenian Street festival and as ever we want to make it the most successful one!

The ASF Team are a very committed and creative one and are always looking for fresh new ideas and help from the community. We are specifically looking for volunteers to help and support the Primate’s office in all aspects, particularly for:

- Volunteers on the day to help set up/selling the food and drinks vouchers/clearing up etc
- Volunteers to help organise the event
- Advertising to the wider community
- Fund raising
- Volunteers to help host our VIP guests
- Journalists
- Reporters
- Photographers

Please contact us on 020 8127 8364 or email us at our new address: primatesoffice@armeniananddiocese.org.uk
Tateossian London is starting the production of beautiful golden and silver crosses with chains. Please note that they are not available on Tateossian's website yet. Items sold through Armenian Church will have "Armenian Church in UK & Ireland" writing on the back. Please contact the Primate's office for more information.
Summer School-Camp "Epic": Unique Educational Project in Armenia

Summer School-Camp “EPIC” is a unique project which will take place in Armenian most beautiful resort Tsakhkadzor from 1 to 21 August, 2017.

What’s amazing about EPIC, that it combines education with leisure in a nature environment, students get a chance to form the list of courses and activities themselves, and that it incorporates games training both body and mind, and even an open air rock fest and more exceptional events! You will get a chance to learn and communicate with worldwide top specialist from various fields.

For those students who want to discover new places, culture and nature, participate at educational, creative and sport activities while also being taken away by an idyllic forest-mountain landscape, there is a great opportunity ahead which combines it all. Students may become a part of an international non-formal platform which brings together more than 300 students from the best universities of the world: Europe, USA, Russia, China, Kuwait, Japan, UAE and other countries.

This platform will give them a chance to get quality education along with a great opportunity for interaction, cultural exchange and friendship. The program is interdisciplinary in its nature so it gives students an opportunity to broaden their worldview by combining leisure with education.

Among the invited guests and speakers will be famous people:
Serj Tankian - musician, you may know from “System of a Down”,
Garik Israelian - influential astrophysicist,
Henrikh Mkhitaryan - successful football player, and others.

At the end of the Summer School-Camp the participants will be provided with the certificates that meet international standards.

For detailed information, please contact project coordinator Anahit Babayan at coordinator@epic.study

Phone: (+374 11) 54 55 56
Email (general enquiries): info@epic.study
or visit www.epic.study
Announcement

From The Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia

The Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia re-launches “Ari Tun” program for the Diaspora youth.

The goal of the program is to familiarize Armenian Diaspora youth spread all over the world with its Homeland, instill them acknowledge their national identity, familiarize them with the traditions and practices of their people, Armenian families and the Armenian soul, foster a closer cooperation of Armenia and the Diaspora both in educational-cultural and moral-psychological respect.

In 2017 the program will be launched on June 18 and will continue till August 26, in 8 phases (each phase will last 14 days: 9 days with a host family, 4 days in camp). Diaspora youngsters from 13 to 18 will be hosted in Armenian families and will participate in a four-day camp envisaged by the program. The program is open for application by young people who did not participate in the program before.

The choice of host families is carried out by the administrative districts of Yerevan, RA community councils, and RA Ministry of Diaspora. The participants’ stay with the Armenian families is not remunerated. The process of selection of groups and individuals for program participation is carried by the Diaspora community structures, educational institutions and the Diaspora Armenian organizations, with the support of RA diplomatic representations in the given country.

Individual applications for participation in the program are also welcomed. Travel expenses are covered either by the participants or sponsors. The Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia meets the participants upon their arrival and sees them off when they leave Armenia. Armenian language classes, visits to the museums, sightseeing tours are also organized by the Ministry. During the camping days educational programs, classes of Armenian language and Armenian Studies, national songs and dances will be organized as well. Meetings with state, public and cultural figures will also take place. In order to ensure safety during the trips the participants will be accompanied by the doctor and the police.

For additional information please contact the Department Pan-Armenian Programs of the RA Ministry of Diaspora:

tel: (+37460) 500-610 or (+37460) 500-830

E mail:

 europedep@gmail.com
 europedep@yahoo.fr
 aritun.mindiaspora@gmail.com

Address:

Yerevan 0010, V. Sargsyan 3 Or Click here to download the application form
A Message from the Primate Office

His Grace Bishop Hovakim Manukyan wishes to inform you that at the bottom of our weekly e-newsletter you will find the contacts of our Churches and Parishes in the UK and Ireland. Details are also available on the websites of the respective Churches and Parishes. Please do not hesitate to contact any of these addresses if you need any help regarding Church services. You will receive a reply either from the Parish Council Chair or from the priest.

If you encounter any kind of problems regarding communication with the above, please contact the Primacy (Առաջնորդարան) directly at the following address:

Bishop Hovakim Manukyan
The Primates Office
c/o The Armenian Vicarage
Iverna Gardens
London, W8 6TP
Tel: +44 (0) 208 127 8364
e-mail: primatesoffice@armeniandiocese.org.uk (please note our NEW email address)
website: armeniandiocese.org.uk
Upcoming Events

**Bible Studies**
Every Thursday at 7:00pm in the Gulbenkian Hall
Next dates: July 13, 20, 27

**The 7th Primate's Armenian Street Festival**
**Sunday, 16th July, 12-7pm**
Iverna Gardens, London W8 6TP

**Divine Liturgy in Wales**
**3rd and 4th November**
St Davids Cathedral, The Close, St Davids, Pembrokeshire SA62 6RD
More details to follow

More events will follow. Please stay tuned.
Prayer Intentions for July:

We ask God to strengthen and give spiritual courage to our brothers and sisters, our community members, who are in search of spirituality.

Announcement

The Armenian Church News (ACN) publishes announcements of any Armenian organisation as it is an inclusive channel of communication.

The objectives of ACN are to inform the wider public and its constituency members about:

a. Activities of the Primate

b. Organisations under the auspices of the Primate: ACT UK, ACYF, Ladies Committee

c. Worldwide Armenian Church

d. Parishes

e. Upcoming events in the community

The announcements about the community events are published upon the request of a particular organisation. The articles cannot be longer than 150 words.

ACN do not raise funds on behalf of any other organisation except for Armenian Church (ACT UK, ACYF, Primate’s Office Ladies Committee, St. Yeghiche, St. Sarkis, Holy Trinity, Dublin, Cardiff, Birmingham, Oxford).

Any article, flyer or information that may contain appeals do not represent the Primate’s or ACN official position.
Worship Services in the Armenian Churches

Services are held in the Armenian Churches in London every Sunday starting at 11:00 am. **In Manchester, there is a service on the 1st Sunday of the month.** 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/
**1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**

**St. Sarkis Church**
Iverna Gardens
Kensington, London, W8 6TP
Tel: 020 7937 0152
http://www.stsarkisparish.co.uk

**St. Yeghiche Cathedral**
13b Cranley Gardens
Kensington, London SW7 3BB
Tel: 020 7373 8133
http://www.styeghiche.org.uk/

**Other 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

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:

His Grace Bishop Hovakim Manukyan
The Primate’s Office
c/o The Armenian Vicarage
Ivema Gardens
London, W8 6TP

Tel: 0208 127 8364
Email: primatesoffice@armeniandiocese.org.uk
Website: armenian.diocese.org.uk
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100014906651446

The Primate thanks Nyraff Ltd & the Tanielian family for their continued support to ACT UK and the ASF