

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church U. UUSNトルグルグトン ベルՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ 200 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Livingston, New Jersey 07039 973-533-9794 Parish Council

Dear Parishioners:

At our 2024 Annual Parish Assembly members voted and resolved that St. Mary Armenian Church would join the Diocesan Dues to Stewardship Program. This means that your membership in the church is not based on a predetermined dues payment. Instead, you are now pledging to be a steward of the church.

Remember, the Church is not a building or an organization or a business. The Church is the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23). And just as our physical bodies have different parts with their own individual functions, the Church is also made up of many different members, each with their own special gifts and talents (1 Corinthians 12:12-31). We are all vitally important parts of the same body, working together for the common good. When one part suffers, we all suffer; when one part is honored, we all rejoice (Romans 12:4-5). We need each other and we need to be in community with each other.

This is the concept of Stewardship. Jesus is asking all of us to love, care for and honor each other, just as He does all of these (and more) for us. Stewardship, and membership, are more than just paying the monetary fee. It is about giving of your time and talent as well.

Please complete the Pledge Form and look in your heart and decide how you can help St. Mary. You decide how much financial support you want to give and how to make those payments. It really helps the church if you set up an automatic payment either through you bank account or on the website. Please don't forget to tell us the other ways you want to help St. Mary. If you are not sure how you can help, we really need people to assist with Sunday School and the upcoming Food Festival.

If you already sent your 2024 membership payment in, please complete the Pledge Form to complete your membership.

We are asking everyone to send these in before the end of April so we can plan for the remainder of the year.

Thank you, in advance for your love and dedication to St. Mary.

May God Bless you and your family abundantly,

## St. Mary Parish Council