



Saints' Days

Soorperou Doner

Heroes of our church

What is a saint?

A saint is like a hero – an ordinary person who does something extraordinary – someone who is admired for his achievements, service to others or courage in the face of danger.

People look up to saints as role models. Children are named after saints so that they will have similar qualities. Many churches bear the names of saints.

The Armenian Church has quite a few saints and honours them by designating special feast days to remember these extraordinary men and women in a special way.

There is also an All Saints Day celebrated in November, to remember all named and unnamed saints.

Some of Armenians most beloved saints...

Soorp Sarkis (Saint Sarkis)

It is believed that Sarkis with his army of forty brave soldiers defeated an enemy of ten thousand. He was persecuted by the Romans because he believed in Christ and even when he was captured and threatened with death, he chose to stay firm in his beliefs.

According to legend *Soorp Sarkis* rode his horse to rescue the innocent. He is considered the saint of youth because he makes the wishes of young lovers come true.

Soorp Sarkis is celebrated between mid-January and mid-February.

