

Easter in the Armenian Church

Holy Week In Sunday School

“I wonder if we’ll win the prize this year. We really tried hard this time,” were the comments of some of the children in Mrs. Sarkisian’s third grade class. “We had good attendance at every service, except for Jackie. He was absent every time, except today.”

The children in Mrs. Sarkisian’s Sunday School class were talking about the contest the Sunday School had. Each class was to try to attend as many services during Holy Week as possible, and the class with the best attendance was to get a special treat from Der Hayr. Every year during Holy Week the Sunday School had this contest, and until now, Mrs. Sarkisian’s children had never won the prize. This year they had a chance.

The fifth grade class taught by Mr. Gregory also had very good attendance at Vodunluva, on Holy Thursday, but all of Mrs. Sarkisian’s children remembered to come ready to have their feet washed, and not all of Mr. Gregory’s children did. The third graders had talked about what would happen at Vodunluva in class, so they were all ready. Mrs. Sarkisian was so proud of them all!

Only three members of the third grade stayed for the Thursday evening service, Khavaroom, but that was more than any of the other classes. Der Hayr commented to Mrs. Sarkisian that the children were very attentive.

On Holy Friday night all of the Sunday School children came to the Taghoom service. The church was full of daffodils, placed on the

Lord's Tomb as well, all brought by Sunday School students.

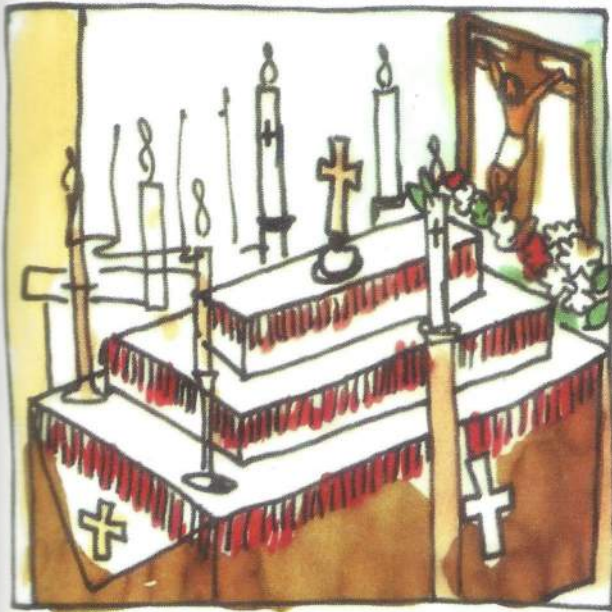
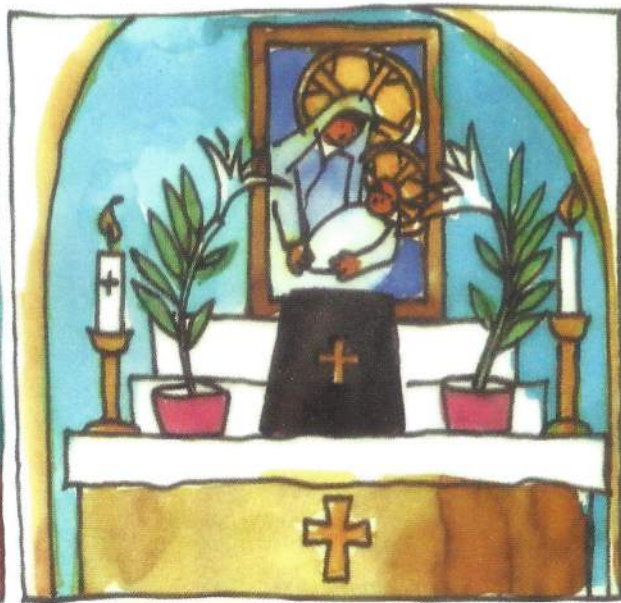
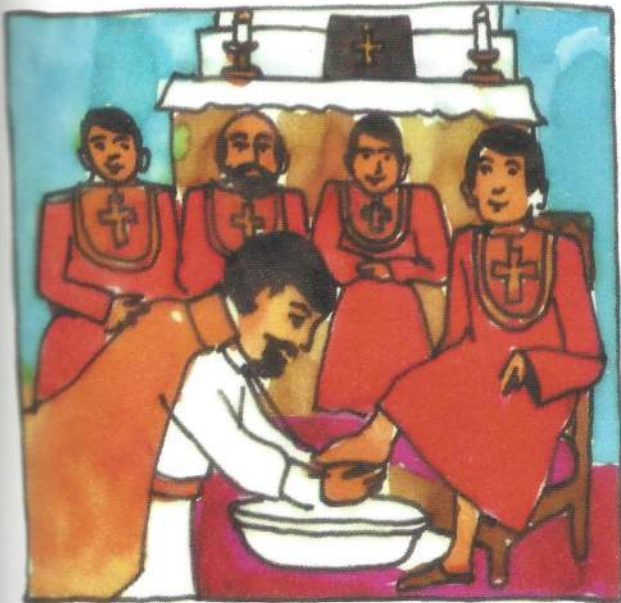
Holy Saturday night, all the children in Mrs. Sarkisian's class attended Holy Badarak, including Jackie. "Where have you been?" asked his classmates. "You knew we needed you to come so we could win the prize. You're coming tomorrow morning to take Holy Communion, aren't you?"

"Of course, I'll be there," Jackie said.

Mrs. Sarkisian had taught the boys and girls the Easter greeting, so that when Der Hayr gave it at the end of the service, they were all set to answer him. After the Divine Liturgy that evening the children had eggs and choreg, and "cracked" each other's eggs. Jackie had the prize egg. "Don't forget to bring it tomorrow," Ara called after him. "And be sure to be on time. If we're all here, we'll win the prize!"

On Easter morning all the children in the parish got ready to go to church. When Mrs. Sarkisian arrived, she noticed that most of them were already waiting for her. She reminded the children that today was the most important feast day of the year. She counted heads, and found all eight of her students there. When the time for Holy Communion came, Mrs. Sarkisian and her class went forward together. Soon church ended, and all the people went outside. Krisdos Haryav Ee Merelotz! Orhnyal Eh Harootyoonun Krisdosi! The greeting was exchanged back and forth, over and over. And then everyone went inside to the hall, where they had doughnuts, milk, eggs, choreg, and coffee for all the church family. "We're glad you came, Jackie," Mrs. Sarkisian whispered in his ear.

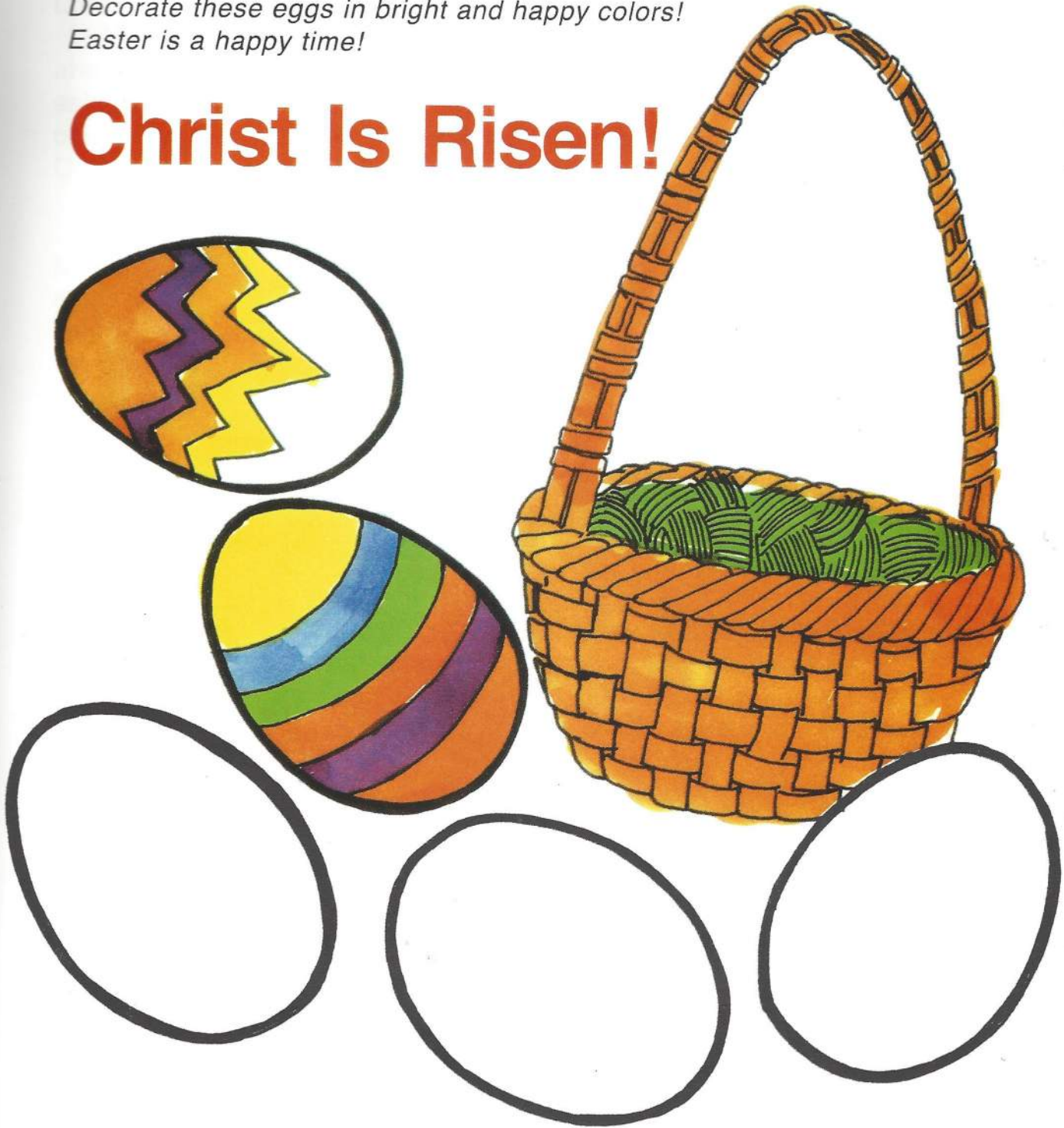




Holy Week
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Avak Shapat

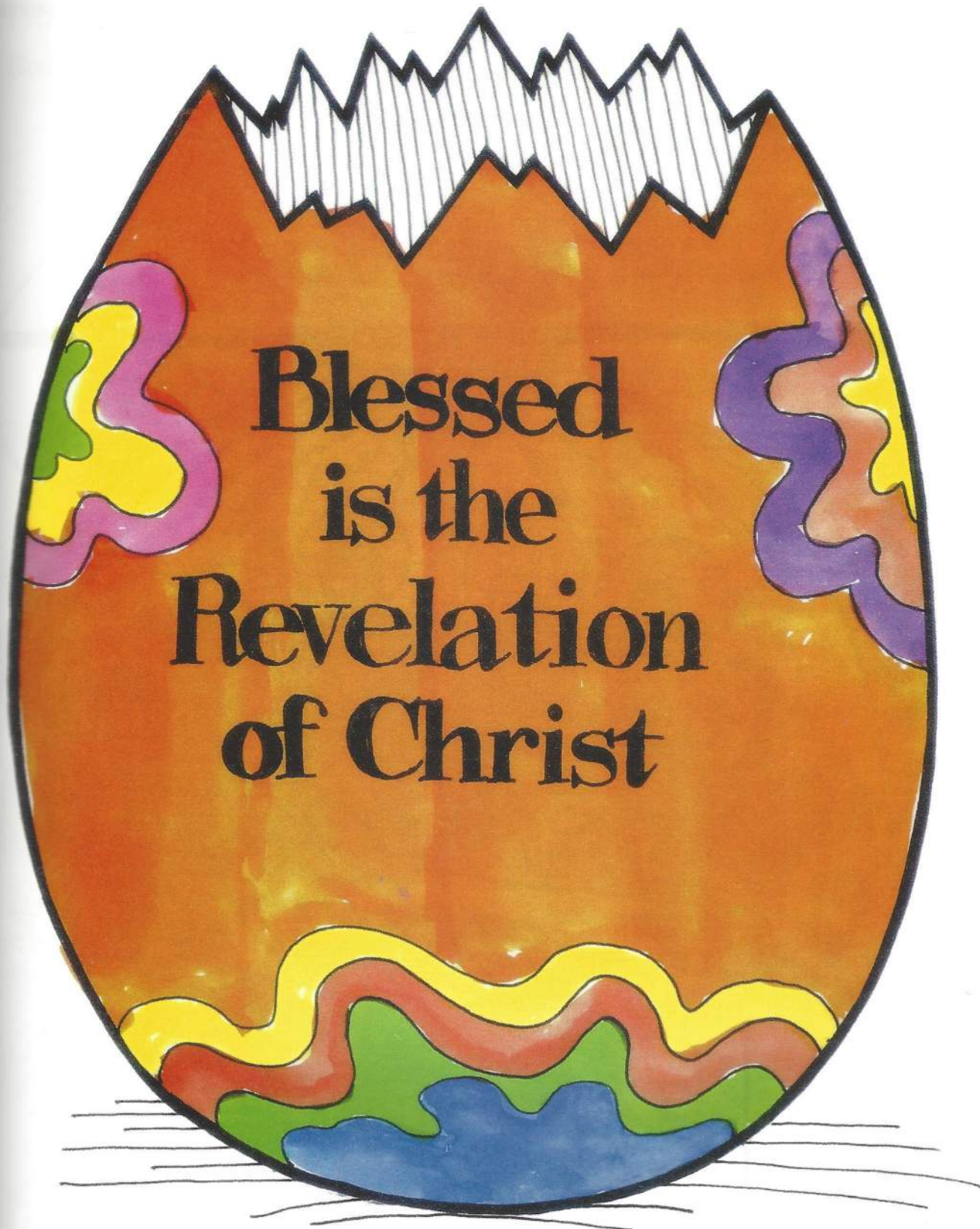
*Decorate these eggs in bright and happy colors!
Easter is a happy time!*

Christ Is Risen!



Krisdos Haryav Ee Merelotz!

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Blessed
is the
Revelation
of Christ