

THE DEDICATION SERVICE OF THE CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF, PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Teaching Christianity to the young of the Church is a distinct honor as well as a great responsibility. Christian education involves everyone: teachers, parents, students and all parishioners. At the beginning of the new school year this service can be done after Badarak.

The Dedication Service

Priest: Brothers and sister in Christ, we are partners in the task of providing Christian education. To remind us of that partnership and the importance of our roles in the process of Christian education, I ask you to share in a rededication to Christian education.

(Teachers and staff go to the Chancel as the choir sings, Oorakh Ler.)

Deacon: Yev yevus khaghaghootyan uzder aghachestzook, ungal getzo yev voghomya.

Priest: Ornootyoon yev park....

You have been chosen to serve because of your love and concern for the Gospel and for God's people, and because of your unique and effective skills and abilities. On behalf of our church, I now ask you:

Will you strive for excellence in your teaching, remaining faithful to the message of God's love in Christ Jesus as it is revealed in the teachings of the Armenian Church? Will you present that message with all the skills God has given you?

Teaching Staff: We will with the help of God.

Priest: Will you model Christ's love, forgiveness, and selfless concern to your students and fellow teachers?

Teaching Staff: We will with the help of God.

Priest: Will you look to God, the author and replenisher of our faith, as you seek to carry out your ministry of teaching in this coming year, confident that your labor will not be in vain?

Teaching Staff: We will with the help of God.

(Teachers and staff to be seated.)

Superintendent: Will the parents of all the children enrolled in our Church School please stand?

Priest: God has given to you the gift of children. God has entrusted to you the care and nurturing of these children, which includes their Christian education. This parish priest stands beside you in that task. On behalf of our church, I now ask you:

Will you bring your child to church for worship and Church school regularly during this coming year?

Parents: We will with the help of God.

Priest: Will you encourage your child at home through regular prayer and the reading of the Bible?

Parents: We will with the help of God.

Priest: Will you support the teachers and educational leaders of this parish so all God's children may grow in faith and knowledge of their Lord and Savior?

Parents: We will with the help of God.

(Parents to be seated.)

Superintendent: Will all the children please stand?

Priest: You have heard the promises of your teachers and parents regarding your Christian education. On behalf of our parish, I now ask you:

Will you commit your time and attention to coming to Church School during the coming year?

Students: We will with the help of God.

Priest: Will you receive God's Word from your teachers and parents as a gift from God?

Students: We will with the help of God.

Priest: Will you show love and respect to your teachers and parents, realizing that they are God's representatives in your lives?

Students: We will with the help of God.

(Students may be seated)

Deacon: Alleluia, alleluia, yeridasark yev goosank, dserk yev dughayk ometzek zanoun dyam, alleluia orthi...

Priest: Khaghaghootyoon ametzoon.

Choir: Yev unt hokvooyt koom.

Deacon: Yergooghadzootyamp luvarook.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus according to Mark.

Deacon: Broskhoomeh.

Choir: Aseh Asdvadz

Priest: "And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them; and His disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said to them, "Suffer the little children to come to me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Truly I say to you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein'. And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them and blessed them."

O Christ our God, you are the protector and the hope of the believers, preserve and protect the teachers, the officers, the parents of this Church School so that they will do your Will and teach the children of our Church to become faithful followers of the Holy Gospel. Give the children a joy in their learning. Bless the families as they nurture one another. Make us worthy to glorify you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Everyone Sing: Hayr Mer