

**“ETCHMIADZIN”  
OFFICIAL MONTHLY REVIEW OF  
HOLY ETCHMIADZIN  
(December 2003)**

1. Visit of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Diocese of South Russia, December 27-30, 2003, Vladikavkaz and Piatigorsk (p. 3-9).

**PONTIFICAL ENCYCLICALS AND LETTERS OF BLESSING**

2. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, to Mr. Arthur Bagharian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of “Saint Gregory the Illuminator”, December 4, 2003, no. 218 (p. 10-11).
3. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, to Mr. Arthur Bahaturian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of “Saint Gregory the Illuminator”, December 25, 2003, no. 215 (p. 12-13).
4. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, to Mr. Armand Bahaturian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of “Saint Gregory the Illuminator”, December 25, 2003, no. 214 (p. 14-15).
5. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, to Mrs. Gohar Gasparian on the occasion of her decoration with the Order of “Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop”, December 14, 2003, no. 211 (p. 16-17).
6. Pontifical Awards (Encyclicals, Orders of “Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop”, “Saint Nerses Shnorhali” and Blessing messages granted in December 2003 by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, to devoted clergymen and laymen of the Armenian Church) – (p. 18).
7. His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, granted Orders of “Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop” to opera singer Gohar Gasparian and painter Hacob Hacobian, December 22, 2003 (p. 19-20).
8. His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, granted the Order of “Saint Nerses Shnorhali” to Mr. Kirakos Guyumjian, benefactor from Kuwait, in the Yerevan Cathedral of Saint-Gregory the Illuminator, December 28, 2003 (p. 21).

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10. Sermon delivered by Reverend Fr. Ignatios Malkhassian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the Feast of the Conception of the Holy Virgin, December 9, 2003 (p. 25-27).
11. Sermon delivered by His Eminence Archbishop Nerses Pozapalian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, December 14, 2003 (p. 28-29).
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16. **HACOB KEOSSEYAN** – Echoes of the "Book of Lamentation" of Grigor Narekatsi in Patristic Theology (investigation) – (p. 43-53).
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20. **SANDRO BEHBUTIAN** – The First Encyclical of His Holiness Khoren I Muradbekian, Catholicos of All Armenians (introduction) – (p. 76-77).



21. The First Pontifical Encyclical of His Holiness Khoren I Muradbekian, Catholicos of All Armenians, June 1, 1933 (p. 78-82).
22. **KHACHIK SAMVELIAN** – Komitas and “The Braves of Sipan” (introduction) – (p. 83-85).
23. **ARCHIMANDRITE KOMITAS** – “The Braves of Sipan” (report delivered on the occasion of teaching this song) – (p. 86-90).
24. **AZNIV MOVSESSIAN** – Norwegian Publishers on Armenian Miniature (investigation) – (p. 91-92).

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26. Conference devoted to the “Book of Lamentations” of Gregory of Narek (dedicated to the Conference devoted to the Millennium of the “Book of Lamentation”, held in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin on December 27, 2003) – (p. 94-96).
27. The Divine Liturgy of Oath celebrated by Archimandrite Derenik Davtian, Locum Tenens of the Gegharkunik Diocese Primate, November 30, 2003 (p. 97).
28. The Divine Liturgy of Oath celebrated by Archimandrite Oshakan Gulgolian, Pastor of the Armenians of Calcutta, December 21, 2003 (p. 97).
29. The Divine Liturgy of Oath celebrated by His Eminence Archbishop Gissak Muradian, Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Argentina, December 28, 2003 (p. 98).
30. Office for the Dead celebrated in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, December 7, 2003 (dedicated to the victims of the earthquake of December 7, 1988, His Eminence Archbishop Sahak Aivazian and His Eminence Archbishop Mesrop Ashjian, recently passed away) – (p. 99).
31. Pilots working in Sudan expressed their gratitude to His Holiness Karekin II for his help in transporting to Armenia bodies of Armenian pilots dead in the air crash of November 17 in Sudan, December 11, 2003 (p. 100).
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34. Ordination of seventeen Deacons in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin on the Feast of Saint Stepanos, December 25, 2003 (p. 104-108).
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38. Weekly News from The Diocese See, November 24-30, 2003 (p. 111-113).

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41. Brief Church News. Information about the Divine Liturgies, sermons and other services held at the Mother See and the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during December 2003 (p. 117-118).
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