

“ETCHMIADZIN”
OFFICIAL MONTHLY REVIEW OF
HOLY ETCHMIADZIN
(November-December 2004)

1. EDITORIAL – The Seminary and the Catholicos (Dedicated to the 130th Anniversary of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary and the 5th Anniversary of the Pontificate of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians) – (p. 3-5).
2. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, on the occasion of the 130th Anniversary of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary – (p. 6-8).
3. Encyclical of His Holiness Catholicos Gevork IV, on the occasion of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary of Holy Etchmiadzin, 5 December, 1872 – (p. 9-11).
4. Message of Congratulation of President Robert Kocharian on the occasion of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 6, 2004 (p. 12).
5. Message of Congratulation of Prime Minister Andranik Margarian on the occasion of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 6, 2004 (p. 13).

OFFICIAL INFORMATION

6. Visit of Mr. Arnold Ruutel, President of the Estonian Republic to the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 16, 2004 (p. 14).
7. Audience granted by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mrs. Sandra Elizabeth Rulovs, First Lady of the Georgian Republic, December 3, 2004 (p. 15).
8. Report (Supreme Spiritual Council convened at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 16, 2004) – (p. 16-17).
9. Report (on the attack and explosion of Armenian and Chaldean churches in Mosul, Iraq), December 8, 2004 (p. 18).

PONTIFICAL ENCYCLICALS AND LETTERS OF BLESSING

10. Letter of Blessing of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the foundation of AGBU Brazilian Branch) – (p. 19-20).
11. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Edouard Issabekian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of “Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop, November 1, 2004, no. 261 (p. 21-22).

12. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Karpis Soureniants on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop, November 1, 2004, no. 263 (p. 23-24).
13. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Sen Arevshatian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop, November 15, 2004, no. 265 (p. 25-26).
14. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Vilen Hacobian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop, November 15, 2004, no. 266 (p. 27-28).
15. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Petros Bedirian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop, November 3, 2004, no. 267 (p. 29-30).
16. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Petros Hovhannissian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop, November 3, 2004, no. 268 (p. 31-32).
17. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Simon Krkasharian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop, November 3, 2004, no. 269 (p. 33-34).
18. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Khoren Palian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Nerses the Graceful", November 3, 2004, no. 271 (p. 35-36).
19. Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Parkev Shahbazian on the occasion of his decoration with the Order of "Saint Nerses the Graceful", November 3, 2004, no. 270 (p. 37-38).
20. Pontifical Awards (Encyclicals, Order of "Saint Nerses the Graceful", messages of blessing and right of carrying pectoral crosses granted in November-December, 2004 by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to the devoted clergymen and laymen of the Armenian Church) – (p. 39).
21. Message of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, on the occasion of Khoren Abrahamian's passing away, 11 December, 2004 (p. 40).
22. New Appointment in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin (Reverend Father Zohrap Kostanian is appointed as Spiritual Pastor of University students and Director of the College Ministry of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Biography of the Reverend Father) – (p. 41).
23. Nineteen newly ordained priests begin the spiritual service to the Armenian Church (p.42).
24. Granting of "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop Orders by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Edward Issabekian, Mr. Sen Arevshatian, Mr. Vilen Hacobian and Mr. Karpis Surenians, November 15, 2004 (p. 43-44).

25. Granting of the Order "Saint Sahak – Saint Mesrop by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Iossif Kobzon, December 3, 2004 (p. 45).
26. The diamond order "Ararat", supreme award of Tekeyan Cultural Association of Armenia to the Catholicos of all Armenians, November 26, 2004 (p. 46).

SERMONS

27. Sermon delivered by His Eminence Archbishop Grigoris Buniatian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on the occasion of the 130th Anniversary of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary, November 3, 2004, (p. 47-51).
28. Sermon delivered by His Eminence Archbishop Khajak Parsamian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on the occasion of the Fifth Anniversary of the Pontificate of His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of all Armenians, November 7, 2004 (p. 52-56).
29. Sermon delivered by Rev. Father Arshen Sanossian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, November 14, 2004 (p. 57-58).
30. Sermon delivered by Rev. Father Norayr Simonian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, November 21, 2004, (p. 59-61).
31. Sermon delivered by Rev. Fr. Aristakes Hovhannissian in the Saint Gregory the Illuminator Church of Yerevan during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, October 21, 2004 (p. 62-65).
32. Sermon delivered by Rev. Father Narek Avakian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Saint Apostles Thaddeus and Bartholomew, December 4, 2004 (p. 66-68).
33. Sermon delivered by Rev. Father Tiran Petrossian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, December 9, 2004 (p. 69-70).
34. Sermon delivered by Very Rev. Fr. Momik Sargsian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, December 13, 2004 (p. 71-73).
35. Sermon delivered by His Eminence Archbishop Nerses Pozapalian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, December 19, 2004 (p. 74-76).
36. Sermon delivered by His Grace Bishop Yezras Nersissian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Saint Stephen the Protodeacon, December 25, 2004 (p. 77-78).
37. Sermon delivered by Rev. Father Vardan Navassardian in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, December 26, 2004 (p. 79-80).

GEVORKIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY – 130

38. Solemn celebration of the 130th Anniversary of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 3, 2004 (p. 81-84).
39. Gala Concert in the Aram Khachaturian Hall, dedicated to 130th Anniversary of the foundation of Gevorkian Theological Seminary, November 6, 2004 (p. 85-86).
40. In the Premises of the National Archives of Armenia (Exhibition of "Gevorkian Seminary" Archive Fund beginning from December 3) – (p. 87-89).
41. PETROS HOVHANNISSIAN – The traversed path of the Gevorkian Seminary (p. 90-92).
42. SENIOR PRIEST YEGHISHE SARGSIAN - Gevorkian Seminary (p. 93-97).
43. REV. FR. ASSOGHK KARAPETIAN – Gevorkian Seminary is an Ark of Incense (p. 98-99).
44. ARSHAK MADOYAN – On the Way of Formation (research work) – (p. 100-105).
45. PETROS H. HOVHANNISSIAN – Memoirs of Archbishop Tirayr Ter-Hovhannissian about Gevorkian Seminary (research work) – (p. 106-110).
46. ARCHBISHOP TIRAYR TER-HOVHANNISSIAN – Memoirs about Gevorkian Theological Seminary (p. 111-117).
47. VAHAN MAGHALIAN – The new volume of documents of the Armenian Church history (literary review) – (p. 118-120).

DEDICATED TO THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PONTIFICATE OF HIS HOLINESS KAREKIN II, CATHOLICOS OF ALL ARMENIANS

48. Solemn celebration of the Fifth Anniversary of the Pontificate of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 7, 2004 (p. 121).
49. VAHAN MAGHALIAN – The Catholicos of all Armenians in the Mother University, November 18, 2004 (p. 122-125).
50. REV. FATHER TORGOM TONIKIAN – On the Way of New Achievements (p. 126-128).
51. REV. FATHER HOVAKIM MANOUKIAN – Inter-Church Activities of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin during the Pontificate of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians (p. 129-136).
52. SENIOR PRIEST YEGHISHE SARGSIAN – His Holiness as main tutor of our Gevorkian Seminary (p. 137-140).
53. AZAT A. BOZOYAN – Karekin I Theological Armenological Center and Scientific Initiatives of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin (p. 141-145).
54. Churches built and consecrated in the Dioceses of the Armenian Church during the Pontificate of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians (List of 35 churches) – (p. 146-147).

55. Passages from the Encyclicals of His Holiness Karekin II and from the sermons and speeches delivered during his pontificate (p. 148-171).

IN THE MOTHER SEE AND THE DIOCESES

56. REV. FR. ASSOGHİK KARAPETIAN – The Bright Patriarch (Commemoration Evening in Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall, dedicated to 10th Anniversary of Catholicos Vazgen I's passing, 16 December, 2004) – (p. 172-174).
57. Ordination of seventeen new deacons in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, December 25, 2004 (p. 175-179).
58. Discussion on the subject "The Current State of General Instruction in Armenia and the Role of the Church in the Educational System" at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 9, 2004 (p. 180-181).
59. Course of modern bio-ethics within the framework of "Green Theology" program (Lectures delivered by Rev. Fr. Piotr Kolomentsev, professor St. Andrew Biblical Theological Institute of Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow, and the lecture series delivered by Dr. Dimitri Oykonomu, Professor of Oxford University, in the institutions of religious education in Armenia, July 21-23 and December 4-13, 2004) – (p. 182).
60. Consecration of the bells of the newly-built Holy Trinity Church of Yerevan, November 9, 2004 (p. 183).
61. Consecration of the newly-built Holy Mother of God Church in the village of Arevashogh of Gougark Diocese, December 9, 2004 (p. 184-185).
62. Repose of soul ceremony conducted in the Holy Resurrection Church of Moscow in commemoration of the earthquake victims of 1988, December 7, 2004 (p. 186).
63. News from the Armenian Diocese of Germany (p. 187-188).

In the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America

64. An exceptional celebration of Christmas in the Galajian Hall of Alice and Eleanor Tigranian Complex of the Diocesan Headquarter, December 24, 2004 (p. 189-190).

In the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America

65. Solemn Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the passing away of Catholicos Vazgen I in Saint Vardan Cathedral of New York and Hayk and Alice Hall of the Diocesan Headquarter, December 5, 2004 (p. 191-194).
66. The highest award of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences to His Eminence Archbishop Khajak Parsamian, November 8, 2004 (p. 194-195).
67. VARDAN MATEVOSSIAN – Conference devoted to Jerusalem at California University, November 6-7, 2004 (p. 196-199).

INTER-CHURCH RELATIONS

68. GAYANE ALEXANIAN – The European Conference of Christian People European Forum in Minsk, capital city of Belarus, November 4-7, 2004 (p. 200-202).
69. GAYANE ALEXANIAN – International Conference devoted to the Decree on Ecumenism of the Second Council of Vatican, Roca di Papa (Italy), November 11-13, 2004 (p. 203).
70. Meeting of “Peace, Security and Reconciliation” Committee in Brussels, November 26-27, 2004 (p. 204).
71. REV. FR. HOVAKIM MANOUKIAN – Representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, November 24-28, 2004 (p. 205).
72. DEACON VAZKEN KESSABLIAN – Meeting on the topic of “Reorganization of the Ecumenical Movement”, organized by World Council of Churches in Geneva, November 30, 2004 – December 3, 2004 (p. 206).
73. REV. FR. HOVAKIM MANOUKIAN – First Session of the Inter-religious Council Executive Committee of the CIS countries in Moscow, December 8-9, 2004 (p. 207).

AUDIENCES IN THE MOTHER SEE

74. Audience granted by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to the “Cilicia” sailboat crew, November 2, 2004 (p. 208).
75. Audience granted by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Gennady Fadeev, Chairman of “Russian Railways” Association, November 3, 2004 (p. 209).
76. Audience granted by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to a group of Turkish intellectuals, December 3, 2004 (p. 209-210).
77. Audience granted by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of all Armenians, to Mr. Boris Gryzlov, Chairman of the State Duma of Russia, December 15, 2004 (p. 210).
78. Brief Church News. Information about the Divine Liturgies, sermons and other services held at the Mother See and the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin during November-December 2004 (p. 211-212).
79. List of articles published in “Etchmiadzin” monthly in 2004 (p. 213-235).