

## **FORMATION OF THE SAINT YEGHICHE CHURCH PARISH ESTABLISHING ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY 3rd NOVEMBER, 2013**

In April 2013 the ACCC announced that the St Yeghiche Church Parish shall be formed and management of the St Yeghiche Church at Cranley Gardens in Kensington, London SW7 shall be devolved from the remits of the ACCC to the new Parish and its Parish Council.

Further to the above announcement, administrative preparations by the ACCC together with the Primate of the U.K. have now been completed and it has been announced that the Establishing Assembly of the Parish Membership shall take place on Sunday 3rd of November 2013 at 2.30 p.m. at St Yeghiche Church when the Constitution of the Parish shall be presented for adoption by the Registered Parishioners and election shall be held of the St Yeghiche Church Parish Council.

All members of the British Armenian Community are invited to register as parishioners and to take part in the above mentioned Assembly.

**If any member of the community has not received these by post, they may download and print all relevant information and announcements, Registration Form and the Parish Constitution by going to the ACC-UK's website <http://www.acc-uk.org.uk> or they may be collected from St Yeghiche Church, Cranley Gardens, London SW7 3BB any Sunday during Service hours.**

---

## **COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRESENTS GIFT TO THE QUEEN**



On the occasion of the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee (2012) of the accession to the Throne of Her Majesty the Queen and the Diamond Jubilee (June 2013) of Her Majesty's Coronation, on behalf of the British Armenian Community the Armenian Community Council of the United Kingdom presented to the Queen, a silver bound, hand crafted replica of the manuscript Gospel of Catholicos Kastandin Barjberdtsi dated 1248AD.

The original manuscript Bible is kept in the museum at the Holy See of Cilicia in Antilias. The Bible contains numerous illuminations and is considered to be one of the most valuable Gospels of the Armenian Church.

The Gift was presented for the Queen at Buckingham Palace by a deputation from the Council comprising Mr Ara Palamoudian - Chairman, Mr Zorik Gasparian – Vice Chairman, Mrs Matilda Megerdichian and Mr Viken Haladjian.

Accompanying the gift, was a booklet prepared by Avak Kahanah Rev. Dr. Nerses Nersessian giving a brief history of Cilician Armenia at the beginning of the Second Millenium and also a detailed study of the Manuscript and the individual Illuminations it contained. A PDF copy of the booklet may be viewed or downloaded from the ACC's website <http://www.acc-uk.org.uk> .

---

## Dr Armen Sarkissian Appointed Armenia's Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland



On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2013, President Serzh Sargsyan signed a decree appointing former Prime Minister Armen Sarkissian, Armenia's new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.

Dr Sarkissian's Diplomatic career began in 1991, immediately following the Independence of the Republic of Armenia, when he was appointed the Armenian Ambassador to the United Kingdom. Dr Sarkissian established the first Armenian Embassy in the West in London and served as Ambassador until 1999. In addition to his diplomatic mission to the United Kingdom, he concurrently represented Armenia as Ambassador to the European Union, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and The Vatican. In 1995-96 he was Head of Mission of the Republic of Armenia to Europe.

Dr Sarkissian served as Armenia's Prime Minister of Armenia from November 1996 to March 1997.

Dr Sarkissian succeeds the late Ambassador Karine Ghazinyan, who served from September 2011 until her untimely death in December 2012.

The Chairman of the Armenian Community Council of the United Kingdom, Mr Ara Palamoudian, congratulated Dr Sarkissian on behalf of the British Armenian Community and stated that Dr Sarkissian is well known by the community in the United Kingdom and is a highly respected and much loved personality, and he pledged the full support of the Council to Ambassador Sarkissian and wished him every success in his new appointment.

---

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBER, VIKEN HALADJIAN, RECEIVES GOLD MEDAL



This year's celebration of the 22nd Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by the Republic of Armenia became also the happy occasion to celebrate the award of a **Gold Medal** of the Armenian Ministry for the Diaspora to a member of the Armenian Community Council, **Mr. Viken Haladjian**.

During his speech at the Independence Celebratory Evening on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September, 2013, the Chairman of the Armenian Community Council of the United Kingdom, Mr Ara Palamoudian said that it was his pleasure to announce that the Ministry for the Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia had awarded a Gold Medal to a member of the Armenian Community Council, Mr Viken Haladjian, in appreciation of his services to the Armenian Community in the United Kingdom.

Mr Palamoudian said that there are numerous persons who devote a lot of their time and energy to serve their community, without whom the Council and the various organisations in the community could not function, and to all of whom we must all be grateful. However, in all communities, there is always the exceptional one or two who go beyond the call of duty and dedicate without reservation all their time and effort to serve their community and organise and lead community activities. Viken Haladjian is such a person, and there was no doubt whatsoever that he deserved the Honour in appreciation of his devotion to the community and the Church.

If there is any work to be done for the Council, the Community or the Church, Viken Haladjian has always been ready to take on the task without hesitation, and to deal with matters wholeheartedly and most efficiently.

Viken Haladjian was elected by the community about twelve years ago to serve as a Council Member of the ACCC. He is Honorary Secretary of the Council, and the Council's liaison with the Armenian Embassy in London. He is also Chairman of the Council's Executive Committee ( *Varchagan Hantznakhoump*) and amongst numerous other duties he chairs the ACCC's St Yeghiche Church Committee, the Kashadagh Committee which sends aid to Karabagh, and also is a member of the ACCC's Syrian Armenian Relief Committee and the ACCC's Committee for Recognition of the Armenian Genocide (CRAG).

The Gold Medal was presented to Mr Haladjian by Mr Ara Margarian, the Charge d'Affaire of the Armenian Embassy in London.

Mr Palamoudian said that a few months ago, on the recommendation of the ACCC, the Ministry had awarded medals of Honour and Certificates of Commendation to the Head Teachers and a large number of the staff of the two Armenian Schools in London in appreciation of their contribution to Armenian culture and education, and the current award of a Gold Medal to Mr Haladjian was most welcome, and the Council is grateful to the Ministry for their gesture.

---

---

**Armenian Community Council of the United Kingdom, P.O.Box 46207, London W5 1XX. Email: [info@acc.org.uk](mailto:info@acc.org.uk)**  
[ACCC.org.uk](http://ACCC.org.uk) [ACC-UK.org.uk](http://ACC-UK.org.uk) [ACCUK.org.uk](http://ACCUK.org.uk) [ACCC.org.uk](http://ACCC.org.uk) [ACC-UK.org.uk](http://ACC-UK.org.uk) [ACCUK.org.uk](http://ACCUK.org.uk) [ACCC.org.uk](http://ACCC.org.uk) [ACC-UK.org.uk](http://ACC-UK.org.uk) [ACCUK.org.uk](http://ACCUK.org.uk) [ACC-UK.org.uk](http://ACC-UK.org.uk)

---

---