

## WESTERN DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA

Հայաստանեայց Հեռավելական Եկեղեցույ Հիուիսային Հեմերիկայի Հերեոմտեան Թեմ

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP HOVNAN DERDERIAN, PRIMATE

October 2, 2023

## HEARTFELT APPEAL TO THE FAITHFUL OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE IN SUPPORT OF ARTSAKH REFUGEES

Beloved Fellow Compatriots,

I trust that you are all well-informed about the recent developments in Artsakh over the past few weeks and days. Once again, our brothers and sisters, numbering over 100,000, have been forced to become refugees, compelled to leave their homes and ancestral lands.

It is a blessing from the Merciful God that these innocent men, women, and children, who have been afflicted by grief and trauma due to ethnic cleansing, were able to find safe haven in Armenia. There, they are receiving initial assistance through government initiatives, local and international organizations, individual philanthropists, and, of course, with the support of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin.

These are indeed somber times for our nation, and it is our Christian duty and moral obligation to offer support to the refugees from Artsakh.

With this in mind, we humbly appeal to you, asking that your prayers for the peace and safety of our Motherland also find practical expression through your generous donations to aid the Artsakh refugees.

To contribute, kindly send your heartfelt donations to the following address, using the enclosed envelope:

**To:** The Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America 3325 N. Glenoaks Blvd.

Burbank, CA 91504

Memo: Artsakh Refugee Fund

May the Lord reward and bless you for your benevolence and patriotic spirit.

In Prayer,

Archbishop Hovnan Derderian, Primate

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Western Diocese, Armenian Church of North America