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A group of Turks and Azerbaijanis tired to disturb the annual mass held in the Holy Cross Armenian Church located at Akhtamar Island of Lake Van. As reported by "ArmenPress", citing the Turkish Haberler.com, the members of Turkey's famous anti-Armenian ASIMDER organization arrived at Lake Van and made anti-Armenian statements.

One of the members reiterated the false statement of the Turkish propaganda, according to which "Armenians massacred a large number of Muslims in Van in 1915". The statement that the Holy Cross Armenian Church located at Akhtamar Island belongs to Christian Turks and not the Armenians was ridiculous.

At the end, the gathered threw lilies in Lake Van and burned the photos of Andranik Ozanyan.

On September 8, nearly 800 Armenians participated in the fourth mass held in the Holy Cross Armenian Church on Akhtamar Island at Lake Van. For the first time in the past century following the Armenian Genocide, eight Armenians were baptized at the Holy Cross Church.