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WELCOME TO
**ST. GREGORY
THE ENLIGHTENER**
ARMENIAN CHURCH

FR. MESROB HOVSEPYAN, PASTOR

MORNING SERVICE: 9:45 A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY: 10:15 A.M.

JUNE 11

FEAST OF THE OF HOLY ETCHMIADZIN

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TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Hebrews 9:1-10

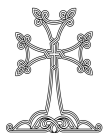
John 10:22-30

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Arek Ohanissian

Sybil Postian

Ron Sanossian



REQUIEM SERVICE REQUESTED FOR:

Mardig Kachian (40th day)

Requested by: Beatrice Pidejian & family

George Postian (1 year)

Requested by: Beatrice Postian and the Postian Families

Ara Proudian (1 year)

Requested by: his family and friends

**May God rest their souls in His eternal peace and presence and
grant their loved ones the comfort of the Holy Spirit.**

Our address: 1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605, www.stgregorywp.com

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday 9a.m.-3p.m., Mondays closed.

Contact us: Office: (914) 428-2595, saintgregorychurchwp@gmail.com

Fr. Mesrob: (804) 405-9399, fr.mesrob@yahoo.com

FEAST OF THE CATHEDRAL OF HOLY ETCHMIADZIN

One of the most celebrated feasts of the Armenian Church is the day when the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin was established, according to the inspired vision of St. Gregory the Illuminator. According to tradition, and hagiographic sources, following the declaration of Christianity as the Official Religion of Armenia in 301 AD, St. Gregory has a famous vision, wherein the Only Begotten Son of God – Jesus Christ, descends from Heaven, his face lit aglow, and with the strike of a golden hammer designates the site where the Mother Cathedral for the entire Armenian nation is to be founded. Hence, the name of the spiritual center for the Armenians, “Etchmiadzin”, means “the Descent of the Only Begotten” (Etch – descent, mi – only, dzin – begotten.) St. Gregory relayed the story about his vision to the Armenian King Tiridates, under whose royal auspices and support the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin was built. King Tiridates and Queen Ashkhen participated in the construction, as did the entire capital city of Vagharshapat by bringing stones from the biblical mountain of Ararat to lay the foundations. In the site marked by Christ, a Holy Altar of Descent was built. According of Patriarch Malachia Ormanian, from the days of her establishment, the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin has been the residence of the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. Thus, it is the Mother See of the Armenian Church, and as such, her universal, spiritual and administrative headquarters.

Another title bestowed upon the cathedral is “Catholic” - not to be confused with the Roman Catholic faith. Catholic is a Greek word meaning “Universal”. Theologically, the cathedral has been called “catholic” as a description of the catholicity (universality) of the Church.

The feast of the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin is celebrated 64 days following Easter. A Divine Liturgy is celebrated, and during services, a special hymn is sung, written by the eighth century Catholicos Sahak of Dzorap, telling of St. Gregory’s vision and the Cathedral’s construction.

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Հայոց եկեղեցու մեծ տոներից է Սբ. Գրիգոր Լուսավորչի տեսիլքով Կաթողիկե Սբ. Էջմիածնի հիմնադրման տոնը: Ըստ ավանդության Խոր Վիրապի բանտարկությունից դուրս գալուց հետո Սբ. Գրիգոր Լուսավորիչը տեսնում է նշանավոր տեսիլքը, ուր Միածինը, ողողված հրաշափառ լույսով, իջնում է երկնքից եւ ոսկե ուռով զարկում Սանդարամետի գետնափոր մեխյանը՝ ցույց տալով այն տեղը, ուր պետք է կառուցվեր հայոց սուրբ հավատի տաճարը: Այստեղից էլ առաջացել է «Էջմիածինե անունը, այսինքն՝ էջ (գրաբար) իջավ Միածինը: Սբ. Գրիգոր Լուսավորիչն իր տեսիլքը պատմում է հայոց Տրդատ թագավորին: Արքայի հովանավորությամբ կառուցվում է Սբ. Էջմիածնի Աստվածածնին նվիրված Կաթողիկե Մայր Տաճարը: Քրիստոսի իջման տեղում էլ կառուցվում է Իջման Սբ. Մեղանը: Էջմիածնի կառուցման աշխատանքներին ժողովրդի հետ մասնակցել են նաեւ Տրդատ թագավորը

եւ Աշխեն թագուհին: կաթողիկէ են անվանել զմերթ ունեցող բոլոր եկեղեցիներն ընդհանրապէս, իսկ աստվածաբանության մեջ այդ անվանումը համարվում է եկեղեցու ընդհանրականության խորհրդապատկերը:

Այս երեք իմաստներն էլ համապատասխանում են Էջմիածնի Մայր Տաճարին, քանի որ այն աթոռանիստ եկեղեցի է, զմերթավոր եւ ընդհանրական է բոլոր հավատացյալների համար: Կաթողիկէ Սբ. Էջմիածնի տոնը նշվում է Սբ. Զատիկից 64 օր հետո կամ Հոգեգալստյան կիրակիին հաջորդող երկրորդ կիրակին: Տոնի օրը մատուցվում է Սբ. Պատարագ, իսկ ժամերգությունների ընթացքում այլ շարականների հետ երգվում է նաեւ նշանավոր «Էջ Միածինն ի Հօրէն շարականը, որը գրել է 8-րդ դարի կաթողիկոս Սահակ Զորափորեցին: Շարականը Գրիգոր Լուսավորչի տեսիլքի եւ տաճարի կառուցման մասին է:

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The reading is from the Letter of Hebrews 9:1-10

Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand and the table with its consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered Ark of the Covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now.

When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry. But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still functioning. This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order.

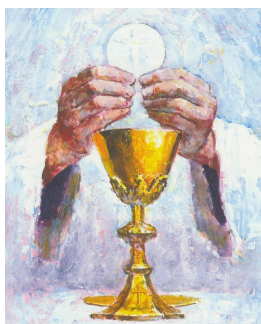
The second reading is from Holy Gospel according to John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

**50th Anniversary of our Parish &
25th Anniversary of St. Gregory**

**Save the
Date**

OCTOBER 21, 2023



**Holy Communion Distribution
Guidelines**

While we still haven't gone back to "previous normal" the Holy Communion will be distributed with some adjustments.

As parishioners approach to receive
Holy Communion:

- Sanitize your hands in the chancel and lower face mask.
 - Place your right hand in the left hand and extend it to the celebrant.
 - The celebrant will place the Holy Communion in your palm.
 - Consume it in front of the celebrant **WITHOUT TOUCHING THE COMMUNION** with other fingers.
 - Wash your palm with the help of a deacon or a parishioner.
- Return to your seat from the right side of the chancel.

CLASS OF 2023

GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2022-2023

If you know of any St. Gregory parishioners graduating from high school, college, or graduate school this spring, please notify (or pass the word along and have them notify) the church office or Der Hayr by calling 914-428-2595 or emailing saintgregorychurchwp@gmail.com.

Please share with us the student's name, school, special achievements, future plans, etc., so we may share our pride in their accomplishments with our entire parish in the Enlightener eNewsletter.

Congratulations to all graduates.

Pastoral Care, Home and Hospital Visits

Der Mesrob is always available and would like to visit homebound and hospitalized parishioners. If you or someone you know is ill, Hospitalized or homebound and would like to be visited, please call Der Mesrob directly at (804)-405-9399 to schedule the visit. Please note: when asked about your religion at a hospital, patients should list themselves as "Armenian Orthodox" or "Armenian" not "other".

Today, please take a moment to remember in your prayers all the sick and recovering members of our community.

May God touch His faithful servants with His healing hand, and grant them good health & recovery.

Please inform Der Hayr if you have friends or family who are suffering any physical or spiritual distress and are in need of prayer, and he will add them to his prayer list where they will be remembered. We all need prayer – both to say for others and to be said for us.

All-American BBQ

SUNDAY, July 16th, 2023

12:30 pm

Family Fundraiser

sponsored by The Women's Guild
St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church
1131 North Street – White Plains, NY 10605

\$25.pp (\$10. Children under 12, Children under 5 FREE)

All American BBQ Favorites

Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Pulled Pork, Chicken, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans,
Corn-on-the-Cob, Watermelon, Apple Pie, Brownies, Lemonade, Iced Tea



Net proceeds from this fundraising lunch will be donated to

Fuller Center for Housing in Armenia

toward our 12th St. Gregory House



Invite your Friends & Family to support this worthy organization

Everyone WELCOME!

RSVP via cell/text: Adriane Keleshian Bonfiglio (914) 649-1072

Please include NAME & number of adults/children in reservation

Seating is limited! Pre-Paid Advance Reservations RECOMMENDED before July 10th

All-American BBQ FAMILY FUNDRAISER

Reservation Name: _____ Phone Contact: (____) _____

Number Attending: _____ @ \$25. per person \$ _____
Number of Children *UNDER 12 years old* _____ @ \$10. per child \$ _____
Under 5 years old FREE _____ *FREE* _____

**** FCHA Donation (optional) **** \$ _____

Check # _____ Total: \$ _____

payable to: Women's Guild / St. Gregory Armenian Church
1131 North Street – White Plains, NY 10605

****optional** Separate DONATION payable to: Fuller Center for Housing/Armenia** Check # _____
MEMO: St. Gregory the Enlightener/White Plains NY

☐\$25 ☐\$50 ☐\$100 ☐\$150 ☐\$200 ☐\$250 ☐\$500 ☐\$1,000 ☐Other \$ _____

REALM—Church Management Platform

We are upgrading our church record keeping to allow us to engage more directly with our parishioners and to give parishioners access to church resources and allow them to connect to one another more easily. We will be using a cloud based solution called Realm that manages the over 500 names and profiles that are associated with our church. Realm's benefits are:

- ensures the church has your latest contact information - you go online and update your information;
- allows events such as concerts, Women's Guild luncheons, Men's Club dinners and special events like the St. Gregory Award Dinner and the New Year's Eve party to be managed and paid online with a check-in kiosk;
- stores Marriage and Baptism dates and information as a backup record keeping;
- allows you to pay membership dues and to make donations through your computer or mobile device and, if desired, set up payment plans and be assured that it appears in your Giving Statement;
- improves work life for our volunteers with a full church accounting systems and reporting package that is connected to the other modules of information; and
- has a dashboard of key metrics to ensure we have reached out to new guests, donors and those that have stopped coming (to assist where we can)

With Realm, you'll be able to connect with one another, keep your own information up to date, and manage your giving to the church all in one convenient place.

Scan the QR code below to sign up and download the app "REALM CONNECT". Realm is very easy to navigate, and we are excited about its potential benefits for our Church and parishioners.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY	<p><i>Divine Liturgy is celebrated by Rev. Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan.</i></p> <p><i>Sunday School Graduation will take place at the end of the services.</i></p> <p><i>Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow after the services.</i></p> <p><i>Armand Dikranian Scholarship presentation during the fellowship hour.</i></p> <p><i>Trip to Armenia participants' meeting will take place after the fellowship hour</i></p>
JUNE 9, SUNDAY	<p><i>Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan.</i></p> <p><i>Fr. Mesrob will be traveling to Armenia along with parish trip participants and will return on August 10.</i></p>
JULY 16 SUNDAY	<p><i>Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord</i></p> <p><i>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Fr. Arshen Ayvazian</i></p> <p>THE ANNUAL ALL AMERICAN BBQ</p>
JULY 23, SUNDAY	<p><i>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Fr. Mardiros Chevian</i></p>
JULY 30, SUNDAY	<p><i>Jashoo Service by deacons. Divine Liturgy will not be celebrated.</i></p>
AUGUST 6, SUNDAY	<p><i>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Fr. Arshen Ayvazian</i></p>
AUGUST 13, SUNDAY	<p><i>Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God. Blessing of Grapes service.</i></p>
SEPTEMBER 24, SUNDAY	<p>FAMILY FAIR AND ANNUAL PICNIC</p>
OCTOBER 21, SATURDAY	<p>SAVE THE DATE:</p> <p>25th Anniversary of St. Gregory – Banquet</p>