

ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER

ARMENIAN CHURCH

FR. MESROB HOVSEPYAN, PASTOR

MORNING SERVICE: 9:45 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY: 10:15 A.M.

AUGUST 13, 2023 FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD

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TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Galatians 3:29-4:7

Luke 1:26-28

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Arman Bedonain Chris Bonfiglio Tom Daw





REQUIEM SERVICE WLL NOT BE OFFERED TODAY

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

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

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FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Each year on the Sunday closest to the date of August 15, the Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This feast is the fourth of five major feasts that are commemorated, and is the oldest one dedicated to St. Mary.

Following the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, the Holy Virgin remains in Jerusalem, and lives under the care of St. John the Evangelist. For nearly 12 years, St. Mary lives by praying, fasting, and often visiting the empty tomb of her beloved Son. During one such visit to the tomb, the Archangel Gabriel appears and gives her the news of her imminent assumption to heaven. St. Mary relays the news to her relatives and all Christians, asking them to bury her in the valley of Gethsemane. St. Mary also asks the Apostle John to celebrate a Divine Liturgy, so she may receive Holy Communion one final time. After receiving Holy Communion, St. Mary returns to her room. As the Apostles prepare to mourn her death, St. John asks the Mother of God to leave an image of her face on a board of wood. St. Mary takes the board, crosses herself and brings it close to her face. Moistening the board with her tears, she asks God that by means of the board, people would be cured from disease. As the Apostles surround St. Mary, an indescribable light appears. The Son of God and the angels of heaven appear in the room. Seeing Christ, St. Mary dies. St. Bartholomew the Apostle was absent and did not participate in the burial service of St. Mary. Upon his return to Jerusalem, he wishes to see St. Mary for the last time. Per his request, the Apostles open the tomb, yet they do not find the remains of St. Mary. According to His promise, Jesus Christ had delivered His mother to His heavenly kingdom. The Apostles give the board of St. Mary to St. Bartholomew for consolation. According to Moses of Khoren, St. Bartholomew brings the board to Armenia. It is kept in the Province of Andzav, in a location called Darbnots. Years later, a church is built there in honor of St. Mary, and a convent is opened.

On the Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary, the Ceremony of the Blessing of the Grapes is conducted, and the harvest for the entire year is blessed on that day.

The Armenian Church has a deep and abiding respect towards St. Mary. Special emphasis is placed on her being a mother, her honesty, her unique spirit of humility, her virtuous behavior and her unselfish dedication. For Armenian women, the Holy Virgin is the embodiment of virtue, pious motherhood, and the protector of family sacredness.

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Վերափոխման տոնին՝ հավարտ Մ. Պատարագի, բոլոր եկեղեցիներում կատարվում է խաղողօրհնության կարգ։ Բոլոր պտուղներից առավել օրհնվում է խաղողի ողկույզը, քանի որ Տերը խաղողի որթը ամենազորավոր ծառերից ավելի վեր բարձրացրեց և պատվեց առավել, քան մյուս տնկիները՝ Իրեն Խաղողի որթ անվանելով՝ ըստ այն խոսքի, թե. «Ես եմ ձշմարիտ որթատունկը» (Հովհ. 15.1)։ Իսկ Տիրոջը սիրով կապվածներին ձյուղեր անվանեց և Հորը՝ Մշակ, որպեսզի Հայրը էտելով որթատունկը՝ այն պտղաբեր դարձնի արդարության գործում, իսկ էտված ձյուղերը հավիտենական կրակի նյութ դարձնի։

Միածին Որդին Վերնատանը խորհրդավոր ընթրիքի ժամանակ գինին՝ խաղողի արյունը, Իր փրկական Արյան նյութը դարձրեց և Իր ձեռքերի մեջ վերցնելով՝ օրինեց՝ ասելով. «Մա՛ է Նոր ուխտի Իմ Արյունը»։ Դրանով մենք գնվեցինք ու ազատվեցինք մեղքերի ծառայությունից ու մահից։

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The first reading is from First Letter of Paul to Galatians 3:29-4:7

And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So through God you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke 1:26-38

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



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.

WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

Stewardship is about our VALUES, about FAITH, about GIVING, about GRATITUDE, THANKFULNESS and GENEROSITY.

Stewardship is grounded in the fact that all human life and experience is a gift, a gift from God, a gift which requires a response of faithful service.

Your annual contribution is the backbone of the church's operational budget.

Your participation as a steward is an expression of your appreciation for our spiritual legacy and cultural heritage.

Above all, through your generous giving, you offer your gift of love to Christ to continue His ministry through our Church.

Your donation makes a BIG difference in sustaining our Church which:

- **†** is a place where we feel the presence of God and the warmth of His love.
- **†** helps us find a sense of inner peace and provides comfort in our time of need.
- **†** is a place to share our joys and sorrows.
- **†** provides a place for our children to experience their Armenian Christian heritage.
- **†** sustains our common bond as Armenian Christians.
- + represents centuries of tradition.

WHAT WE DO WITH YOUR HELP

Worship Services
Spiritual Programs
Educational Programs
Cultural Programs
Youth Ministry
Church operational expenses
Church maintenance





1131 NORTH STREET, WHITE PLAINS, NY 10605

SCHOOL REOPENING - 4& CUUNTS

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2023 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

IN PERSON LEARNING AGES 3 AND OLDER



WE WELCOME

NEW STUDENTS

WE TEACH:

- **❖ READING**
- ❖ WRITING
- CONVERSATION
- HISTORY
- ❖ MUSIC
- **❖ DANCE**
- **RELIGION**
- **❖ CULTURE/ TRADITION**



FOR MORE DETAILS YOU CAN CALL OR EMAIL:

MARGRIT HAMPARSOUMIAN (PRINCIPAL): 914-261-3738 – mhamparsoumian@yahoo.com
MARIA BEDONIAN (ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL): 914-329-5352 – maria.bedonian@gmail.com

St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church

WOMEN'S GUILD

Aida's Book Club

Invites you to a

BOOK DISCUSSION

KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON

By David Grann

The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI

SATURDAY 08/26/2023 - 11 AM at Tutak Hall

1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605





Come join us for delicious traditional

Armenian food and wine.

24 SUNDA

SEPTEMBER 12PM - 5PM

LIVE ARMENIAN MUSIC, RAFFLES, FUN ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND SO MUCH MORE

Picnic 2023 baking Schedule

We start at 10:30

Friday Aug 25 - Simit
Tuesday Aug 29 - Choeregs
Thursday Sept 7 - Choeregs
Wednesday Sept 13 - Nazook, Tahini Bread, Date cookies
Saturday Sept 16 - Gata, Cheese Boeregs, Paklava
Tuesday Sept 19 - Yalangi
Wednesday. Sept 20 - Yalangi and general help
Thursday Sept 21 - Khadayef
Friday. Sept 22 - Hummus
Saturday Sept 23. Luleh, Prep Pilaf.

We need all the help we can get, thanks!

To let us know of your availability please call or text:

Gladys Tachdjian

914-325- 2232

Dawn Kasparian

914-560-6512

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY	Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy on this Sunday. Blessing of the Grapes service will take place at the end of the Badarak. Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow after the service which is hosted & sponsored by the St. Gregory Armenian School.
AUGUST 26, SATURDAY	Aida's Book Club 11 am Tutak Hall RSVP to Ellie Krolian ebkrolian@gmail.com
SEPTEMBER 16, SATURDAY	Armenian School Registration and Reopening - 10am–12pm
SEPTEMBER 17, SUDNAY	Sunday School Registration and Reopening – 10:30am–12pm
SEPTEMBER 17, SUNDAY	Women's Guild Membership Meeting and Guest Speaker - Rina Gallo, 12:30pm.
SEPTEMBER 24, SUNDAY	ANNUAL PICNIC with live music, kids activities, raffle and more, 12:00-5:00pm.
OCTOBER 21, SATURDAY	SAVE THE DATE: 25 th & 50 th ANNIVERSARY GALA BANQUET at Brae Burn Country Club.

Fellowship Coffee Hour

We appreciate the generosity of the St. Gregory Armenian School for providing the refreshments for today's fellowship coffee hour.

If you would like to sign-up for a future date to host and sponsor refreshments for the fellowship coffee hour on Sunday, kindly contact coordinator: Adriane Keleshian Bonfiglio (914) 649-1072.