

## **WELCOME TO**

# ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER

**ARMENIAN CHURCH** 

FR. MESROB HOVSEPYAN, PASTOR

MORNING SERVICE: 9:45 A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY: 10:15 A.M.

### **SEPTEMBER 17, 2023**

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS SOՆ U. ԽԱՉԻ ՎԵՐԱՑՈՒՄԻՆ (ԽԱՉՎԵՐԱՑ)

#### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Galatians 6:14-18

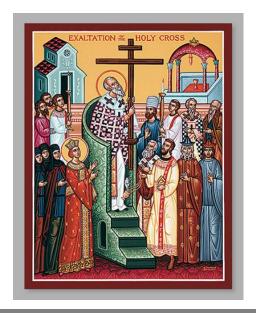
John 3:13-21

#### PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Joanne Chitjian

Tom Daw

Sybil Postian





REQUIEM SERVICE WILL 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.

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

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

### Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the last one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It is the most important feast among the feasts dedicated to the Holy Cross, as it is dedicated to the history of the return of the Holy Cross from imprisonment, its elevation and glorification. In the Armenian Apostolic Church the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated on Sunday during the period between September 11-17. This year that date is September 17, and the Monday following the Feast is a Memorial Day.

In 610 A. D, the Persian King Khosrov with a large army attacks the Byzantine Empire. Enthusiastic about the initial victory, in 614 A. D. the Persian army enters Jerusalem. Many people are killed and many are imprisoned. Pontiff Zakaria, the Patriarch of Jerusalem is imprisoned, too. However, the Persians are not satisfied and enter the Church of Holy Sepulcher and take the Holy Cross kept in the Church. The Holy Cross had been found and installed in the Church for the Christians to worship by Heghineh, the mother of the King Costandianos, in the beginning of the 4th century.

In 628 A. D., the Byzantine army led by the King Herakles fight against the Persians to return the Holy Cross. The Armenian army regiment, led by Mzhezh Gnounie, supported the Persian army. With the Lord's help the Byzantine army wins the battle. The Holy Cross is solemnly brought to the Armenian town Karin, from where it is carried to Constantinople, and then – to Jerusalem. On the way the Holy Cross was raised for the people to see and worship. For Christians the Cross is God's power and strength and pride of all prides, on which Christ's innocent blood was shed. By means of the Cross Jesus proved His love towards mankind, and the Cross became for us the symbol of hope, love and saving.

#### թացեթա

Խաչվերացը Հայ Եկեղեցու հինգ տաղավար տոներից վերջինն է։ Այն Խաչին նվիրված տոներից ամենակարևորն է, որովհետև նվիրված է գերությունից խաչի վերադարձի և փառաբանության հիշատակին։ Հայաստանյայց Եկեղեցում Խաչվերացը տոնում են սեպտեմբերի 11-17-ն ընկած ժամանակահատվածում հանդիպող կիրակի օրը։ Սուրբ Խաչը տոնվում է ի հիշատակ Տիրոջ խաչափայտի՝ պարսկական գերությունից Երուսաղեմ վերադարձի և Գողգոթայում կանգնեցման (վերացման)։ Այստեղից էլ տոնը կոչվում է Խաչվերաց։ Սուրբ խաչի գյուտից հետո Հեղինե թագուհին սուրբ Կոստանդիանոս կայսեր հրամանով Գողգոթայի վրա կառուցեց «Սուրբ Հարության» տաձարը և

այնտեղ կանգնեցրեց Տիրոջ խաչափայտը։ Ապա նան Բեթղեհեմում և այլ տնօրինական վայրերում տաձարներ և մատուռներ կառուցեց։ Թագուհին հրամայեց մեծ հանդիսավորությամբ ութ օր տոնել սուրբ տաձարների նավակատիքը։ Այդ օրվանից կարգ սահմանվեց ամեն տարի՝ սեպտեմբերի 13-ին տոնել Խաչի նավակատիքը և Եկեղեցու տոնը, իսկ սեպտեմբերի 14-ին՝ Խաչի տոնը։ Այդ օրը Հակոբոս Տյառնեղբոր օրինակով քահանայապետը բարձրացնում էր Տիրոջ խաչափայտը հավատացյալների պահպանության համար, այդ պատձառով էլ տոնը կոչվեց «Խաչվերաց»։

#### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### The first reading is from Galatians 6:14-18

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me trouble; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

# The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John 3:13-21

"No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life." "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."





# St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND ITS

# Celebratory Anniversary Banquet

Presided over by His Grace, Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate

Honoring Our Past Parish Council Chairs

Saturday, October 21, 2023 Cocktail Hour 6:30 pm Banquet 7:30 pm

BRAE BURN COUNTRY CLUB | 39 BRAE BURN DRIVE | PURCHASE, NEW YORK





Come join us for delicious traditional Armenian food and wine.

24 %

SEPTEMBER 12PM - 5PM

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

#### Picnic 2023 baking Schedule

We start at 10:30am

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





## Fellowship Coffee Hour

We appreciate the generosity of the Parish Council members 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.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy on this Sunday.

Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow after the service.

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, SAVE THE DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> & 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY GA-SATURDAY LA BANQUET at Brae Burn Country Club.

