

ՍՈՒՐԲ ԳՐԻԳՈՐ ԼՈՒՍԱՒՈՐԻՉ

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

FR. MESROB HOVSEPYAN, PASTOR

MORNING SERVICE: 9:45 A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY: 10:15 A.M.

DECEMBER 10, 2023

BAREKENDAN OF THE FAST OF ST. JAMES

ԲԱՐԵԿԵՆԴԱՆ Ս. ՅԱԿՈԲ ՄԾԲԵՆԱՅ ՀԱՅՐԱՊԵՏԻ ՏՕՆԻ ՊԱՀՔԻՆ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

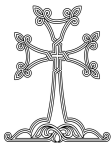
Luke 14:12-24

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Arman Bedonian

Edik Eskandarian

Ronald Sanossian



REQUIEM SERVICE WILL BE HELD TODAY

*Please see page 7 of the bulletin
for the complete list of names.*

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

CONCEPTION OF ST MARY BY ANNA

St. Mary is known in the Armenian Church as *Asdvadzamayr-Asdvadzadzin*, the "Mother of God" and the "Bearer of God"—a position doctrinally established at the Ecumenical Council of Ephesus in the 5th century. Her life of holiness and purity, and her graceful acceptance of the role to which God called her, as the mother of Jesus Christ, all make Mary one of the pre-eminent exemplars of the Christian faith, whose birth and very conception are occasions for celebration in the church. Only those aspects of St. Mary's life, which are directly related to Christ are recorded in the Gospel. The remainder of her biography is attributed to tradition, which is found in ancient ecclesiastical literature. In all likelihood, Mary was born in Bethlehem or Nazareth, some 20 years before Christ's nativity. Her parents, Joachim and Anna, were a devout couple whose earnest prayers for a child were answered with the birth of a daughter. Although Mary was born naturally, she is considered morally pure and immaculate. It is for this reason that the church celebrates not only her birth, but also her conception, which the Armenian and the Greek Orthodox churches observe on December 9, and the Roman Catholic Church celebrates on December 8. Mary's purity is unquestioned. According to the teachings of the Armenian Church, at the time of the Annunciation, when the Holy Spirit entered Mary, she was cleansed of all original sin, as she was to be the vessel in which God manifest was to be incarnated. According to tradition, following the Ascension of Christ, Mary lived out the rest of her days in Jerusalem, cared for by St. John the Evangelist. She died in Jerusalem some 15 years after Christ's Ascension and was buried in her family tomb in Gethsemane.

ՀՂՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ Ս. ԱՍՏՎԱԾԱԾՆԻ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The first reading is from the Second Letter of Paul to Thessalonians (1:1-12)

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you. With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (14:12-24)

Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor,

the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, “Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” Then Jesus said to him, “Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for everything is ready now.’ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.’ Another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.’ Another said, ‘I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ And the slave said, ‘Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.’ Then the master said to the slave, ‘Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.’”

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER IS NEEDED

We currently have an opening for a Sunday School teacher. Please contact Fr. Mesrob if you or someone you know would be interested to teach in our Sunday School.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates to run for Parish Council/ Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee for the upcoming two year term.

If you are interested or would like more information please feel free to contact any of the committee members. We look forward to hearing from you and hope that you would consider serving your parish in these important roles.

Ann Daw 914-334-200 adaw2383@gmail.com

Lauren Kayaian 917-887-4027 teaticket67@netscape.net

Ellie Krolian 914-588-7047 ebkrolian@gmail.com



You're invited to our



LUNCH WITH SANTA



SATURDAY
DECEMBER

23

11:30
AM

ST. GREGORY'S
TUTAK HALL

All children are welcome to attend the Western Christmas Party and Lunch with Santa.

Organized by the Armenian School and Sunday School



1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

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”.



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.
 - 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.

Fellowship Coffee Hour



We appreciate the Sanossian Family for providing refreshments for fellowship hour today.

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.

THE KISS OF PEACE

The GIVER says:

Christ is revealed amongst us.

Քրիստոս ի մէջ մեր յայտնեցաւ:
Kreedsos ee mech mer haydnetsav.

The RECEIVER says:

Blessed is the revelation of Christ.

Օրհնեալ է յայտնութիւնն Քրիստոսի:
Orhnyal eh haydnootyoonun Kreedsossee.

WHEN TAKING MAHS

The GIVER says:

May this be to you a share and portion of the Holy Sacrifice.

Մաս և բաժին եղիցի քեզ ի Սուրբ Պատարագէս:
Mahs yev pazheen yegheetsee kez ee Soorp Badarakes.

The RECEIVER says:

My portion is God forever.

Բաժին իմ Աստուած յախտեան:
Pahjeen eem Asdvadz haveedyan.

THE PSALM OF DISMISSAL - PSALM 34

I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall be at all times in my mouth.

Օրհնեցից ըզՏէր յամենայն ժամ, յամենայն ժամ, օրհնութիւն նորա ի բերան իմ:

Orhnetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenayn zham orhnootyoon nora ee peran eem.

When approaching the Holy Gospel at the end of the Divine Liturgy you say:

May the Lord remember all your sacrifices.

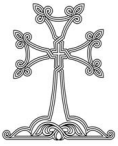
Յիշեցէ Տէր զամենայն պատարագս քո.
Heeshestseh Der zamenayn Badarakus ko

The Priest answers:

May the Lord grant you according to your own heart, and fulfill all your desires. (Psalm 20:4)

Տաքէ քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քում և զամենայն խորհուրդս քո ի բարիս նա կատարեցէ:

Datseh kez Der usd srdee koom yev zamenayn khorhoortus koh ee pareas na gadarestseh.



REQUIEM SERVICE WILL BE OFFERED TODAY FOR:

Godfathers, benefactors and friends of St. Gregory's

Hayik & Vartuhi Tutakian
Simon & Cicek Tutak
Suren & Virginia Fesjian
Harry Keleshian
Harry & Victoria Abajian
Zaven Adourian
Kevork Adourian
Garabet Aksu
Raffi Atamian
Mary & Puzant Azarian
John Babakian
Ohan Bas
Taniel Bas
Anna Baydar
Anahid Birnbaum
Ann D. Boghosian
George & Grace Bozian
John Ashod Boyajian
Gregory Chamourian
Frieda Khadjehturian Coppola
Menas Daderian
George & Elmas Davidian
Dr. Mariana Davidian
Migirdich Demirjian
Berdj & Rose Derdarian
Edward S. & Ethel Dorian, Sr.
Youra Ebrahime
Edward & Anita Essayan
Lionel Galstaun
George & Sally Guendjoian
Judge Vincent & Martha Gurahian
Armen & Grace Guroian

Jack Hachigian
Dn. Mark & Helen Kapikian
Dn. Joseph Kalemkarian
Arsen & Alice Keleshian
Rubik & Terez Khadjehturian
Harry K. & Gloria Kouzoujian
Pauline Lylegian
Anna Longobardo
George Masumian, Sr.
George Mekenian
Daniel Mushegian
Harry & Vilma Nakashian
Apkar Omartian
George Omartian
George & Catherine Papalian
Gale Perzigian
Aida & Michael Pisani
Ara Proudian
Avedis & Alice Sakalian
Ruth & George Sanossian
Richard Sarkisian
Ara Shimshidian
Puzant Sirabian
Mary Sohigian
S. Robert Stepanian
Zaven Tachdjian
Ben & Lucy Tepikian
Karapet Tiratsuyan
Dn. John & Alyce Vakassian
George Watts
Jon Andrew Wolohojian
Mari Yelegen

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

Please let the Parish Council members know if there are names to be added and given to Der Hayr before the service.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy and the Requiem Service for the Godfathers, Benefactors and Friends of St. Gregory

Christmas Market featuring:

Womens Guild Christmas Cookie Sale;

Armenian Artisan Gifts;

KRUSH! Armenian Wine;

Harry Nakashian's Gallery Photos.

Stephen Casarella will give a presentation about his recent summit climb of Mount Ararat.

Women's Guild Membership Meeting.

DECEMBER 24,
SUNDAY

Morning Service-9:45am.

Divine Liturgy-10:15am.

Commemoration of St. Stephen the Protomartyr will immediately follow the Liturgy.

No Service in the evening on Western Christmas Eve.

DECEMBER 31,
SUNDAY

Morning Service-9:45am.

Divine Liturgy-10:15am.

New Year's Eve. Blessing of Pomegranates Service to follow after the Liturgy.

JANUARY 5,
FRIDAY

EVE OF THE NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - J'RAKA-LOOYTZ. Details to follow.

JANUARY 6,
SATURDAY

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. Details to follow.

JANUARY 7,
SUNDAY

First Sunday After the Feast of Nativity

Divine Liturgy & Requiem Service

Christmas Brunch - Hosted by Women's Guild

JANUARY 15,
MONDAY

**Parish-Wide National Day of Service on MLK Day
10:30 am-Noon**

JANUARY 28,
SUNDAY

Annual Parish Assembly