

ՍՈՒՐԵ 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 17, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ՅԻՍՆԱԿԻ Չորրորդ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Hebrews 1:1-14

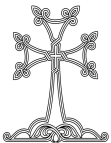
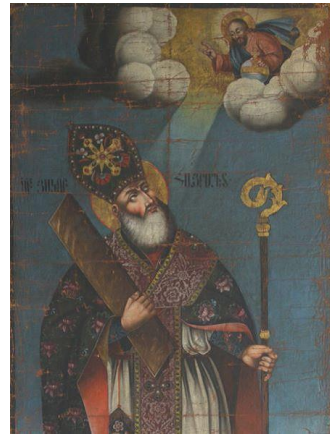
Luke 17:1-10

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Arek Ohanissian

Janet Ozsolak

Sybil Postian



REQUIEM SERVICE WILL BE OFFERED FOR:

**Gerard Cesar & Marie Azniv Polissedjian
& Jessica Lynn Polissedjian**

Requested by: Martine Polissedjian-Roussel

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.

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

Commemoration of the Pontiff St. James of Nisibis, hermit St. Maruge and Bishop St. Melitus

Pontiff St. James of Nisibis is one of the authoritative and beloved saints of the Universal Church. He deserved the epithet “Thaumaturge (Wonderworker) for the numerous miracles relating to his name. According to hagiographical sources St. James was from a Parthian dynasty and the nephew of St. Gregory the Illuminator. When the family members of Anak the Parthian were killed, nurses secretly fled to Caesaria taking with them baby Suren and James, where they were educated in Christian spirit. Soon after, baby James and his sister Sakden were taken to Persia and for a while lived in the royal palace. However, James refused a safe and well-to-do life and became a hermit. He left for Nisibis where he met hermit St. Maruge, who was famous for leading a life befitting saints. Learning from the hermit Maruge that many people despite their conversion to true faith were skeptic and suspicious about the existence of Noah’s Ark, James decided to climb the mountain in order to see the Ark and bring a piece of it back. Despite his unwavering willpower he couldn’t reach the peak and after long suffering, he had a short nap. The angel visited him in his dream and put a piece of the Ark under his head. According to the tradition in the place where St. James had lain down there appeared a cold stream having healing and miraculous qualities. Later, a church bearing the saint’s name was built beside a nearby stream. The piece of the Ark, to this day, is kept in the museum of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. He is one of the clergymen who participated in the Nicene Council in 325. After the death of the Bishop of Nisibis, God appeared to Maruge and told him that St. James was the deserving candidate for the Bishop of Nisibis. St. James passed away in 350, after leading the flock for a long time. Bishop St. Melitus was born in Melitene, Armenia Minor. In 358 he was the Bishop of Sebastia. In 360 he ascended the throne of Antioch. He struggled against the Arians. In 381 he presided over the Second Ecumenical Council convened in Constantinople but unfortunately passed away before the end of the Council.

Ս. Հակոբ Մծբնա Հայրապետի, Մարուգե ճգնավորի և Մելիտոս եպիսկոպոսի հիշատակության օր

Ս. Հակոբ Մծբնա Հայրապետն Ընդհանրական Եկեղեցու հեղինակավոր և սիրված սրբերից է: Կատարած բազում հրաշքների շնորհիվ նրան կոչել են նաև «Մքանչելագործ»: Վարքագրական աղբյուրների համաձայն՝ Մբ. Հակոբը պարթևական տոհմից էր և մեր առաջին Հայրապետ Մբ. Գրիգոր Լուսավորչի հորաքրոջ որդին: Երբ Անակ Պարթևի տոհմը բնաջնջվել է, դայակները մանուկ Սուրենին և Հակոբին փախցրել են Կեսարիա, ուր նրանք դաստիարակվել են քրիստոնեական ոգով: Շատ չանցած, մանուկ Հակոբն իր քրոջ Սակդենի հետ տեղափոխվում են Պարսկաստան և որոշ

Ժամանակ ապրում արքունիքում: Սակայն Հակոբը թողել է այդ ճոխ կյանքը՝ դարձել ճգնավոր: Հետո գնացել է Մծբին՝ հանդիպել Մարուգե ճգնավորին, որն հռչակված էր սրբակենցաղությամբ: Նրանից լսելով, որ մարդկանցից շատերը թեպետ հավատքի են եկել, բայց թերահավատ են և կասկածում են Նոյյան տապանի գոյությանը, որոշել է բարձրանալ լեռը՝ տապանը տեսնել և մի մասնիկ բերել: Հակառակ անկոտրում կամքին՝ չի կարողացել հասնել Արարատի գագաթը և երկար տանջվելուց հետո նիհիել: Երազում հրեշտակն այցելել է նրան և տապանից մի մասունք դրել գլխատակին:

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The first reading is from the Second Letter of Paul to Hebrews (1:1-14)

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (17:1-10)

Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. So watch yourselves. "If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them." The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you. "Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking

after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'

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 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

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".



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



CHRISTMAS *Market*

DECEMBER 17, 2023

Following the Liturgy our
Christmas Market will be open
during the Fellowship Coffee Hour

Christmas Cookies and Simit sale
by Women's Guild
Armenian Artisan Gifts

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS

JANUARY 5, 2024

Reading of Holy Scriptures (bilingual) | 6:00-6:30 pm

Divine Liturgy of Light - J'rakalootzee Soorp Badarak
6:30-7:45 pm

JANUARY 6, 2024

Matins | 9:45-10:15 am

Christmas Badarak & Blessing of Water Service
10:15-12:15 pm

Christmas Potluck Lunch "Agape Meal" to follow

**We ask all attendants to kindly contribute a
dish to share for 8 -10 people.**

Fellowship Coffee Hour



We appreciate the Parish Council members on duty 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: Adri-

ane Keleshian Bonfiglio (914) 649-1072.



St. Gregory Men's Club

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE



The St. Gregory Men's Club is collecting & distributing winter coats, jackets, hats, scarves & gloves for donation to men & women. These are local people in need of warm outer wear and Christian kindness.

Beginning **Sunday, December 17th 2023 thru Sunday January 7th, 2024**

kindly leave your donation of **NEW or GENTLY USED (clean)** garments
in designated area of St. Gregory Church Narthex

Note: Most shelters accept MENS & WOMAN sizes only.



The **St. Gregory Men's Club** is grateful for your support....
whether it be small, medium or large in size!!

ST.GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER ARMENIAN CHURCH
1131 NORTH STREET WHITE PLAINS NY 10605

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

Fr. Mesrob Hovsepian celebrates the Divine Liturgy. Please join us for Fellowship hour after Bazarak.

**Christmas Market will be open today:
Christmas Cookie sale by Women's Guild
Armenian Artisan Gifts**

DECEMBER 24,
SUNDAY

**Morning Service & Divine Liturgy
Christmas Caroling immediately following the Liturgy.
No Service in the evening on Western Christmas Eve.**

DECEMBER 31,
SUNDAY

**Morning Service & Divine Liturgy
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 inside.**

JANUARY 6,
SATURDAY

**FEAST OF THE NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. Details inside.**

JANUARY 7,
SUNDAY

**First Sunday After the Feast of Nativity
Divine Liturgy & Requiem Service
Christmas Brunch - Hosted by Women's Guild**

JANUARY 13,
SATURDAY

**Armenian Breakfast to benefit Artsakh Refugees
Hosted by the Armenian School
9:30 AM**

JANUARY 15,
MONDAY

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

JANUARY 28,
SUNDAY

Annual Parish Assembly following the Liturgy

FEBRUARY 10,
SATURDAY

**Poon Paregetan Family Fun Night
Hosted by the Armenian School
7 PM**