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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.

MAY 5, 2024  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE**  
ՎԵՑԵՐՈՐԴ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ ՅԻՆԱՆՑ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

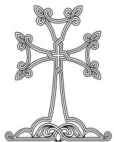
1 John 3:2-6

John 9:39-10:10

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Tom Daw

Joanne Chitjian



**REQUIEM SERVICE WILL BE HELD TODAY FOR:**

**Nierses Der-Sookias and Mardy Der-Sookias**

*Requested by: Benita Der-Sookias*

**Zevart Dermanjian (11 years)**

*Requested by: the Givelekian Family*

**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](http://www.stgregorywp.com)

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

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

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

## FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord on the fortieth day following the Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Savior Jesus Christ which this is year is on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Following His Resurrection and defeat of death, Christ remained on earth for forty days, and continued to appear to His disciples. On the fortieth day, Christ is seen by His disciples for the last time. He blesses them and leaves them with instructions, after which He ascends into heaven. Two of the Gospel writers, St. Mark and St. Luke, testify about Christ's ascension. There is also an account of it in the Acts of the Apostles. Following a final meeting of Christ with the eleven remaining apostles, St. Mark writes, "So then, after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God." (Mark 16:19) St. Luke gives a little greater detail as he writes, "And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen." (Luke 24: 50-53). The hymn that is sung in the Armenian Church on Ascension Day mentions the miraculous event of Christ's Ascension into heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. In the Armenian Church, the day of Jesus Christ's Ascension is also commemorated for another reason as well. On this date in 1441, the See of the Catholicosate of All Armenians was returned to its historical origins. The Patriarchal See was relocated from the city of Sis in Western Armenia to the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. Following his vision of Christ striking the ground with a golden hammer, St. Gregory the Illuminator had founded the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin in 303. However, less than 200 years later, in 484, the Patriarchal See was forced to relocate, and for the next 1000 years, settled in various cities throughout Armenia. The decision to return the throne of the Catholicos to the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin was the fulfillment of a national dream for the Armenian people.

### ՀԻՍՈՒՍ ՔՐԻՍՏՈՍԻ ՀԱՄԲԱՐՉՄԱՆ ՏՈՆ

Տոնը նշվում է Քրիստոսի Հարության 40-րդ օրը, 35 օրվա շարժունակությամբ՝ ապրիլի 30-ից մինչև հունիսի 3-ը՝ հինգշաբթի: Հարությունից հետո Քրիստոս 40 օր մնում է երկրի վրա եւ երեւում էր աշակերտներին: Այդ ընթացքում Հիսուս էր վարդապետությունն ուսացանում էր նրանց, իսկ վերջին հանդիպման ժամանակ օրհնում ու պատգամներ էր տալիս առաքյալներին, որից հետո համբարձվում երկինք: Քրիստոսի Համբարձման մասին վկայում են Սարկոս եւ Ղուկաս ավետարանիչները, վկայություններ կան նաեւ Գործք Առաքելոցում. «Եւ Ինքը՝ Տեր Հիսուս, նրանց հետ խոսելուց հետո, դեպի երկինք վերացավ եւ նստեց Հոր աջ կողմը»: Հայ Առաքելական Եկեղեցին Համբարձման տոնին հիշատակում է նաև Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսության Աթոռը Սիս քաղաքից Մայր Աթոռ Սբ. Էջմիածին փոխադրելը:

## **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### ***The reading is from the First Epistle of John (3:2-6)***

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

### ***The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John (9:39-10:10)***

Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind." Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains. "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them. Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

## **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”.

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## **Bake Sale Today!**

The Women’s Guild will have a Bake Sale today, May 5th, after Badarak in the Atrium. Please stop by to buy delicious hand-made Armenian baked goods just in time for Mother’s Day!

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## **Fellowship Coffee Hour**

We appreciate the Cultural Committee for arranging the luncheon as part of the Lionel Galstaun Memorial Concert.

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.

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## **Graduates of 2024**

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](mailto:saintgregorychurchwp@gmail.com). Please share with us the student’s name and photo, school, special achievements, future plans, etc., so we may share our pride in their accomplishments with our entire parish in the Enlightener eNews-letter. Congratulations to all graduates!

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**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.*

ST. GREGORY CULTURAL COMMITTEE PRESENTS

21ST ANNUAL LIONEL GALSTAUN MEMORIAL CONCERT



SUNDAY  
MAY 5, 2024



**JARED BLAJIAN, CELLIST**  
**NARA AVETISYAN, PIANIST**

Complimentary Luncheon following Badarak in Tutak Hall

Performance in the Sanctuary 1:30pm

RSVP 4/26 at [stgregoryculturalcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:stgregoryculturalcommittee@gmail.com) or call at 914 428 2595

Your generous donations will help support young Armenian musicians!

ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER ARMENIAN CHURCH  
1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

WOMEN'S GUILD

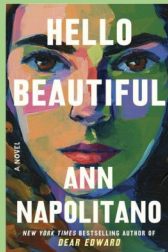
**Aida's Book Club**

Invites you to a

**BOOK DISCUSSION**

**HELLO, BEAUTIFUL**

BY ANN NAPOLITANO



***SATURDAY 05/11/2024 at 2:00 PM***

1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

"Hello Beautiful is a profoundly moving and propulsive novel about the deepest connections of family and love, trauma and healing. In intricately elegant prose, Ann Napolitano explores both the cost and power of loyalty and honesty. This is a book to treasure and share with friends and loved ones."

**RSVP:** Ellic Krolian (914) 588-7047 [cbkrolian@gmail.com](mailto:cbkrolian@gmail.com)



Feast of

# St. Gregory's Deliverance from the Pit

Տօն Ար. Գրիգոր Լուսաւորչին Ելն ի Վիրապէն



St. Gregory the Enlightener  
Armenian Church  
1131 North street  
White Plains, NY 10605

**1**  
**JUNE**  
**SATURDAY**

DIVINE LITURGY

10:30 am

PRESIDED BY

Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate

CELEBRANT

Fr. Mesrob Hovsepian

HOMILIST

Fr. Abraham Malkhasyan

Lunch to follow

RSVP by May 26  
frmesrob@gmail.com

ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER  
ARMENIAN CHURCH

PRESENTS

**HUYSER**  
**AND**  
**FRIENDS**

**SATURDAY**  
**JUNE 15**  
**2024**

*International Rhythms*

AN OPEN-AIR CONCERT

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

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM  
CONCERT STARTS AT 7:30 PM

**\$45** INCLUDING WINE & CHEESE  
12 & UNDER \$25

FOR TICKETS & RESERVATIONS  
CHURCH OFFICE (914) 428-2595 / SIMONE (845) 548-5390

[www.huysermusic.com](http://www.huysermusic.com)



Der Karekin turns 50...*years old as a priest!*

Please join us for Coffee Hour following Badarak on Sunday May 19 to celebrate this milestone.



## **DONATION OF INTERACTIVE SMARTBOARDS FOR THE SCHOOL'S CLASSROOMS**

We express our heartfelt gratitude for the generous donation received from Ed and Carmen Gulbenkian to sponsor the installation of interactive smartboards in our school's classrooms. The interactive smartboards will be used by both Armenian and Sunday Schools. The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on May 19, Sunday, at 2:30pm in the school. Everyone is welcome to join us.



# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY **Fr. Mesrob Hovsepian celebrates the Divine Liturgy.**

**Annual Lionel Galstaun Memorial Concert featuring Jared Blajian, Cellist and Nara Avetisyan, Pianist.** The flyer can be found inside.

The Women's Guild Mother's Day Bake Sale will be held in the Atrium.

MAY 11,  
SATURDAY

**Aida's Book Club 2:00 pm in the Atrium**

**Armenian/Sunday School  
Spring Yard Sale and Clean Up 10:30–1:00pm**

MAY 19,  
SUNDAY

**A priest for 50 Years** —Der Karekin turns 50 years old as a priest! Please join us for Coffee Hour following Badarak to celebrate this milestone.

**Ribbon cutting ceremony of interactive smart boards, Sunday School—2:30pm.  
Armenian School Graduation, 3:00pm.**

JUNE 1,  
SATURDAY

**Feast of St. Gregory's deliverance from the pit  
Divine Liturgy will be celebrated.  
Our Primate, Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, will  
preside over the service.  
The flyer can be found inside.**

JUNE 2,  
SUNDAY

**Women's Guild General Meeting and  
Learn to Make Jingalov Hats**

JUNE 8,  
SATURDAY

**Co-ed BBQ and Game Night  
Hosted by the St. Gregory Men's Club**

JUNE 15,  
SATURDAY

**Huyser Ensemble Concert  
The flyer can be found inside.**