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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.

**JULY 7, 2024**  
**FEAST OF TRANSFIGURATION**  
ՎԱՐԴԱՎԱՌ - ԱՅԼԱԿԵՐՊՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՏԵԱՌՆ

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

1 John 1:1-7

Matthew 16:13-17:13

**PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:**

Arman Bedonian

Chris Bonfiglio

Sylvia Kruizenga



**REQUIEM SERVICE WILL BE HELD TODAY**

**Silva Demirjian & Janet Demirjian DiDonato**

Requested by: John DiDonato

**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 Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the five main “Tabernacle” feasts of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church. It commemorates the transformation or the “transfiguration” that came over Jesus while He was praying. Christ’s face shone like the sun and his clothes became a radiant and gleaming white. The Apostles Peter, James and John witnessed that event which occurred on a high mountain named Tabor. Evangelists St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke testify about the transfiguration of Jesus in the Gospels. “As they looked on, a change came over Jesus: his face was shining like the sun and his clothes were dazzling white. Then the three disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. So Peter spoke up and said to Jesus, “Lord, how good it is that we are here! If you wish I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” While he was talking, a shining cloud came over them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased – listen to him!” When the disciples heard the voice, they were so terrified that they threw themselves face downward on the ground. Jesus came to them and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid!” So they looked up and saw no one there but Jesus. In the Armenian Church, the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ is celebrated 98 days following Easter. The Feast also is known by the common name of “Vardavar”. This day is associated with an old Armenian tradition of pouring water on one another. Some sources attribute the tradition as a remnant of an Armenian pre-Christian celebration. The Monday following the Feast is a Memorial Day.

### **ՎԱՐՎԱՐՎԱՐ - ԱՅԼԱԿԵՐՊՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՏԵԱՌՆ**

Եկեղեցու կարևոր տօներից մէկն էՔրիստոսի Այլակերպութիւնը կամ Պայծառակերպութիւնը, որը կոչուում է նաեւ Վարդավար եւ համարւում է եկեղեցու հինգ տաղաւարներից մէկը: Աւետարանները հետեւեալ կերպով են նկարագրում Յիսուսի Այլակերպութիւնը: Յիսուսը Պետրոս, Յակովբոս եւ Յովհաննէս առաքեալների հետ հեռանում է քաղաքից եւ բանձրանում է լեռ՝ աղօթելու համար: Մինչ Ինքն աղօթում էր, առակերպները օրուայ աշխատանքից յոգնած, քնել էին: Յանկարծ, Յիսուսի դէմքը արեւի լոյսի նման փայլում է ու պայծառանում եւ գգեստը սպիտակում ձիւնի նման: Քիչ յետոյ երեւում են նաեւ Մովսէսն ու Եղիան եւ խօսում Նրա հետ: Յիսուսի դէմքն այնքան է փայլում ու պայծառանում, որ ամբողջ լեռը լոյսով է ողողում: Այդ փայլից առաքեալներն արթնանում են խոր քնից եւ նկատում Վարդապետի պայծառ դէմքը եւ այն երկու մարդկանց, որոնց Յիսուսը մտերիմ զրոյցի մէջ էր: Պետրոս առաքեալը յափտակուած ու շփոթուած, յանդգնում է խօսել լուսիւնը եւ ասում է. «Վարդապետ, բարուք է մեզ աստ լինել». վարդապետ լաւ է որ մենք այստեղ մնանք. առաջարկում է նաեւ երեք հատ տաղաւար պատրաստել: Այդ բոլորէին լուստուր մի անպ ծածկում է նրանց, եւ առաքեալները սարսափած գետին են ընկնում: Լոյսի ցոլների միջից լուսում է խորհրդաւոր մի ձայն. «Դա է որդի իմ սիրելի ընդ որ հաճեցայ, դաւ լուարուք»: Յիսուսը մօտենում է առաքեալներին եւ ասում. «Ուրի ելէք, մի՛ վախենաք»: Առաքեալները հանգարտած վեր են նայում եւ տեսնում եւ միայն իրենց

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

### ***The first reading is from the First Letter of John 1:1-7***

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

### ***The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew 16:13-17:13***

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." The disciples asked him, "Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?" Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was talking to them about John the Baptist.

# CLASS OF 2024

## GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2023-2024

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 [saintgregory-churchwp@gmail.com](mailto:saintgregory-churchwp@gmail.com). Please share with us the student's name, school, special achievements, future plans, etc., so we may share our pride in their accomplishments with our entire parish in the Enlightener Newsletter and eNewsletter. This year's graduates are the following (please let us know if we missed anyone):

### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

Nicholas Cehreci  
Kelly Marina Parker  
Kyle Vahan Pidedjian  
Chloe Pisani  
Gregory Postian

### **COLLEGE GRADUATES**

Pete Klanian Blonkvist  
Cody Eskandarian  
Nyrie Ovanessian  
Taleen Postian

### **GRADUATE UNIVERSITY**

Garo Bedonian

***Congratulations to all graduates!***



### ***Fellowship Coffee Hour***

We appreciate the gracious generosity of John Di-Donato for providing 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.



## **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.
- There is a washing station on both sides of the sanctuary.  
Return to your seat from the right side of the chancel.

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**YOU ARE INVITED TO  
ST. GREGORY'S  
ANNUAL ARMENIAN**



**Picnic**

**Come join us for delicious traditional  
Armenian food and wine.**

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**22** **SUNDAY** **SEPTEMBER**  
**12PM - 5PM**

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

# All-American BBQ

SUNDAY, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
12:30 pm

## Family Fundraiser

sponsored by The Women's Guild  
St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church  
1131 North Street – White Plains, NY 10605



**\$40.pp** (\$20. Children under 12, Children under 5 FREE)

### All American BBQ Favorites

Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Pulled Pork, Chicken, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans,  
Corn-on-the-Cob, Watermelon, Apple Pie, Brownies, Lemonade, Iced Tea

Net proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to



### Fuller Center for Housing in Armenia



toward completion of our 12<sup>th</sup> St. Gregory House



*"Invite your Friends & Family to support this worthy organization"  
\*Everyone WELCOME!\**

RSVP via cell/text: Adriane Keleshian Bonfiglio (914) 649-1072  
\*\*Please include NAME & number of adults/children in reservation\*\*

*We appreciate your Pre-Paid Advance Reservations for proper planning before July 7<sup>th</sup>*

### All-American BBQ FAMILY FUNDRAISER

Reservation Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Contact: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40. per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children *"UNDER 12 years old"* \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20. per child \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"Under 5 years old FREE"* \_\_\_\_\_ \*FREE\* \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* FCHA Donation (optional) \*\*** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Check #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

payable to: **Women's Guild / St. Gregory Armenian Church**  
1131 North Street – White Plains, NY 10605

**\*\*optional\*\* Separate DONATION payable to: Fuller Center for Housing/Armenia** Check # \_\_\_\_\_  
**MEMO:** St. Gregory the Enlightener/White Plains NY

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$150 \$200 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Community OUTREACH



## OUT- REACH PROJECT

On August 18, 2024 (prepared on Aug. 17) our St. Gregory Parish will again have an opportunity to

prepare and provide lunch for "Art's Ecumenical Kitchen" at St Bartholomew's Church in White Plains. For many years they have provided weekly meals for those in need in our community.

On Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am we will need a few volunteers to help assemble the meal at our church. We will prepare sandwiches, a salad, and desserts for 45 people. If any youth in the parish need service hours this would be a good opportunity.

You can also support this worthy project by contributing financially to defray the cost of the meal and supplies. You may donate online at [www.stgregorywp.com](http://www.stgregorywp.com) or mail a check made out to St. Gregory with the memo: **St. Barts Outreach**.

Please contact the church office or Ellie Krolian ([ebkrolian@gmail.com](mailto:ebkrolian@gmail.com)) with any questions or to sign up to help.

It feels good to do good!

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### ***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".

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY	<b><i>Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy.</i></b>  <i>Please join us for Fellowship hour after Badarak.</i>
JULY 14, SUNDAY	<b><i>All American BBQ fundraiser for Fuller Center.</i></b>
AUGUST 17, SATURDAY	<b><i>Community Outreach Project, preparing sandwiches for "Art's Ecumenical Kitchen" at St Bartholomew's Church in White Plains, 10:30am.</i></b> Details can be found inside.
AUGUST 18, SUNDAY	<b><i>Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God.</i></b> Blessing of Grapes service. <b><i>Potluck Lunch following the Divine Liturgy</i></b> Please contact Lisa Kouzoujian 203-536-2622 to let her know what you will be bringing!
SEPTEMBER 22, SUNDAY	<b><i>SAVE THE DATE: Annual Picnic</i></b>
OCTOBER 6, SUNDAY	<b><i>"Early Recordings of Armenian Classics" presented by musician &amp; composer Ara Dinkjian—12:30pm lunch, 1:30pm presentation.</i></b> <b><i>Organized by Cultural Committee</i></b>

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## LITURGY TEXT CAPTIONING

We have set up a TV on a stand in the sanctuary to display the captioning of the Divine Liturgy. Our intention is to streamline participation by providing both Armenian transliteration and English translation of the text. Additionally, the display features the music notes encouraging congregational singing.

Your feedback regarding its effectiveness is invaluable to us. Please share whether this addition enhances your experience and if there are any modifications we can implement to further improve its utility for you.

Eventually two displays will be mounted on the wall if it works the way it is intended.