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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.

NOVEMBER 24, 2024
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
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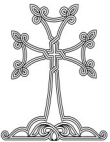
TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Luke 12:13-31

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Tom Daw
Ani Khachian
Arek Ohanissian



REQUIEM SERVICE WILL NOT BE HELD 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

Thanksgiving Day

Although Thanksgiving Day does not appear on the calendar of the Armenian Church, and although it is a civil holiday, nevertheless, there are good reasons which make it necessary that we should observe it even in our churches. One of the main reasons for this is that the origin and aim of Thanksgiving Day is religious. Another reason is that it is an American holiday, and we, as American citizens, have to observe it, not only by taking the day off but also by attending a church service. The story of the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth does not need telling as I assume it is familiar to all of us. But mention must be made of the aims and purpose for which this holiday was established. George Washington has put it like this: "As a day of public Thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God."

The expression of gratitude to God for His bounty, when He has supplied the necessary means and resources to satisfy the most primary human needs, is an idea which is by no means exclusively Christian; it belongs almost to all faiths. Nevertheless, in the Christian religion, following the personal example of our Savior, the obligation of thanksgiving has been emphasized from the very beginning.

The Epistles of St. Paul almost invariably start with expressions of thanksgiving like this: "I give thanks to my God always, who has blessed us with every blessing in Christ".

On this Day of Thanksgiving let us give hearty thanks to God for all visible and invisible gifts through which He has blessed us as a church and community. Most of all, however, let us praise God and give thanks for those good people, who have shown particular interest for their church, and those who have given not only from their material goods, but from their precious time and talent, doing big or small deeds voluntarily in their parish.

May God bless them and increase their number for the further benefit and progress of the Church and for the greater glory of His Holy name, which is blessed now, forever and ever, Amen.

Excerpts from Archbishop Shnork Kaloustian "Saints and Sacraments of the Armenian Church" 1996

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The first reading is from the First Letter of Paul to Thessalonians (1:1-10)

We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (12:13-31)

Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

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

THE WOMEN'S GUILD

is having a

FOOD SALE

NOVEMBER

24

SUNDAY

12:30 PM After Holy Badarak

We will sell Fresh Lahmajun,
Spinach Boereg, Cheese Boereg, Kadayif, Simit,
Nazook, Cheoreg, Sini Kufta, Baklava,
Pumpkin Cranberry Breads and More



Fellowship Coffee Hour

We greatly appreciate the generosity of Armen Gri-goryan and Aida Poghsyan for providing today's refreshments in honor of their newborn daughter Sofia. Our congratulations and blessing to their family.

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

As parishioners approach to receive Holy Communion:

- 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.
- Sanitize your hand before returning to your seat from the right side of the chancel.

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.



The Women's Guild

*of St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church
invite you to share joy & fellowship of the holiday season*

*at a Christmas Luncheon
on Wednesday, December 4th, 2024 at 12:30pm*

Bronxville Field Club

40 Locust Lane, Mt. Vernon NY 10552
(914)664-3585

Mail completed reservation WITH check payable to: **Women's Guild- St. Gregory Armenian Church**
1131 North Street-White Plains, NY 10605

*\$60. Per person includes luncheon with dessert, soft drinks, coffee/tea, tax and gratuity.
Valet parking & cash cocktail/wine bar drinks available.*

*Our reserved private area is based on advance reservations, we cannot accommodate walk-ins.
Kindly reply ASAP (before Nov.24th) Pre-Paid reservations only, please*

Questions? Contact: Adriane Keleshian Bonfiglio (914)649-1072

2024 St. Gregory Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon

Reservation NAME: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Attending _____ @ \$60. pp = \$ _____ CK# _____, Date: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

Will Will not need car-pooling ride from St. Gregory Church parking lot.

AGBU
ARTS

ARMENIANS
IN FILM
NEW YORK

FEATURING WORKS
BY ARMENIAN FILMMAKERS

2024
FILMMAKERS

I SPREAD MY WINGS
Sona Saribekyan

ROMEO
Marina Arzumanova

IT TAKES A VILLAGE
Ophelia Harutyunyan

AREG AND MANUSHAK
Ruben Van Leer
featuring Tigran Hamasyan

FROM THE BORDER
Artur Saribekyan

THE TICKET
Kevork Aslanyan

DEC.4.2024 | 8 PM
FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER
FRANCESCA BEALE THEATER
144 W 65TH ST, NEW YORK, NY 10023

BUY TICKETS



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy. Thanksgiving Prayer will be offered at the end of the service.
The Women's Guild Food Sale – after Holy Badarak. Details inside.

DECEMBER 4,
WEDNESDAY

St. Gregory Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon at the Bronxville Field Club. Details inside.

DECEMBER 6,
FRIDAY

Men's Club Christmas Lunch–12:30 pm
512 Bistro Bar & Restaurant in Briarcliff Manor, NY. RSVP Chris Bonfiglio 914-707-2152

DECEMBER 7,
SATURDAY

Presentation about St. Vartan Camp 10:30-11am.
Little Saints for children ages 2-4 years old.
11:30-12:30pm

DECEMBER 8,
SUNDAY

Fr. Mesrob will deliver the Children's Sermon.
Fellowship coffee hour will be sponsored by the Hovnanian School.
Armenian Dance lessons by Harout Barsoumian.
Details to follow.

DECEMBER 15,
SUNDAY

The Sunday School will hold a Poinsettia Sale after Badarak.

DECEMBER 22,
SUNDAY

Lunch with Santa.
Details to follow.

JANUARY 4,
2025
SATURDAY

Eve of the Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ–J'arakaloozt
Details to follow.

JANUARY 5,
2025
SUNDAY

Feast of the Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Potluck Fellowship Hour to follow.
Please contact Lisa Kouzoujian 203-536-2622 to let her know what you will be bringing!
The celebration of the Feast of the Nativity and Theophany of our Lord (Armenian Christmas) will take place on January 4 & 5 because January 6th falls on a Monday in 2025.