

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 15, 2024

BAREKENDAN OF THE FAST OF ST. JAMES

ԲԱՐԵԿԵՆԴԱՆ Ս. ՅԱԿՈԲ ՍԾԲԼԱՅ ՀԱՅՐԱՊԵՏԻ ՏՕՆԻ ՊԱՀՔԻՆ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Hebrews 1:1-14

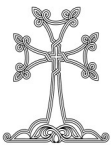
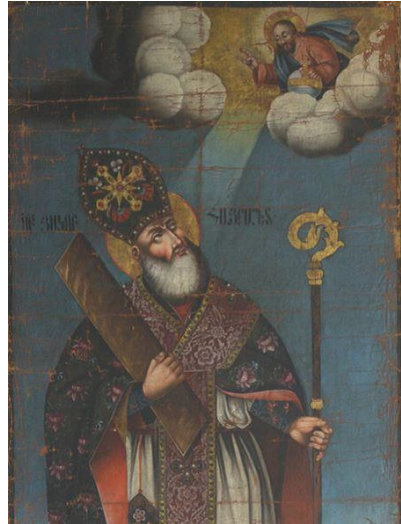
Luke 17:1-10

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Joanne Chitjian

Tom Daw

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

Commemoration of the Pontiff St. James of Nisibis, Hermit St. Maruge and Bishop 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 անկոտորում կամքին՝ չի կարողացել հասնել Արարատի գագաթը և երկար տանջվելուց հետո նիքիել: Երազում հրեշտակն այցելել է նրան և տապանից մի մասունք դրել գլխատակին: Ըստ ավանդության, Մբ. Հակոբի պատկած տեղում սառնորակ աղբյուր է բխել, բուժիչ և հրաշագործ հասկություններ ունեցել, իսկ աղբյուրի կողքին հետագայում արբի անունով եկեղեցի է կառուցվել: Նոյյան տապանի այդ մասունքը ցայսօր պահվում է Մայր Աթոռ Մբ. Էջմիածնում: Լինելով ժամանակի պատկառելի անձնավորություններից մեկը՝ մասնակցել է 325 թվականի Նիկիայի Տիեզերաժողովին: Իր կյանքի ընթացքում բազմաթիվ հրաշքներ է գործել: Մծբինի եպիսկոպոսի մահից հետո Աստված Մարուգեին հայտնել է, որ Հակոբն է լինելու աթոռի արժանի հետնորդը: Երկար տարիներ իր հոտը հովվելուց հետո մահացել է 350 թվականին:

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.'



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.

Seeking a Nanny for a Loving Family in Our Parish

A new family in our parish is looking for a caring and experienced nanny to provide attentive care for their sweet 6-month-old baby girl. The position begins on **January 1, 2025**, with the following schedule:

- **Days:** Monday—Thursday
- **Hours:** 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

If you or someone you know is interested in this wonderful opportunity to support one of our parish families, please reach out to Masis Parseghian, masis.par@gmail.com or 201-693-2325 for more details.

Fellowship Coffee Hour



We greatly appreciate the generosity of the Parish Council members on duty for providing today's refreshments.

The Parish Council and Fr. Mesrob extend their heartfelt gratitude to Adriane Keleshian Bonfiglio for her exemplary dedication as Fellowship Refreshment Coordinator since 2022. Adriane's efforts have enriched our community, transforming Coffee Hour into a cherished time for fellowship, connection, and hospitality. Alongside the spiritual nourishment of weekly Badarak, Coffee Hour fosters peace, friendship, and a deep sense of togetherness within our parish family. Thank you, Adriane, for your hard work, warm spirit, and commitment!



You're invited to our



LUNCH WITH SANTA



SUNDAY
DECEMBER

22

12:30
PM

ST. GREGORY'S
TUTAK HALL

All children are welcome to attend,
have lunch and pictures with Santa.

Organized by the Armenian School
and Sunday School





St. Gregory Men's Club

2024 COAT DRIVE

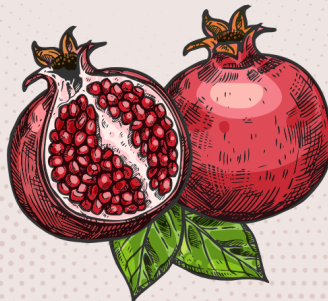
Now Through January 5th!

This year, the St. Gregory Men's Club, will once again be sponsoring a men and women's coat drive for donations to local shelters. We have been donating primarily to the White Plains Ecumenical Kitchen. It's here where people facing food insecurity are also being offered a warm coat for the winter. Men's Coats in particular are needed. There is a coat rack in the church Narthex to bring your donations. (on hangers if possible). As a reminder, there is also a food donation box for non-perishable food items. *Thank you for your generosity!*

BLESSING OF POMEGRANATES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

immediately following the Divine Liturgy



Donations are welcomed to defray the cost of the pomegranates

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

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



Join us for a fun
and social event;
connect with the
Young Professional of
our community.
Friends are welcome.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

21+ event

Social

JANUARY 11, 2025
6:00-8:30PM

Enjoy Armenian & European Music vibes and
learn Armenian and ballroom dance basics
with our professional instructors

RSVP by Jan. 3rd to Arsen Yelegen at
ayelegen92@gmail.com | 914-227-3978



Armenian Dance Instructors
**HARUT & SIMONE
BARSUMIAN**



Ballroom Dance Instructor
ARSEN SARGSYAN

\$45 p/p
Includes dinner,
drinks, wine &
1 raffle ticket



Venmo: @stgregorywp
Cash at the door

JANUARY 25,
SATURDAY

CHILDREN'S DAY AT THE DIOCESE

A special Children's Day event to bring together all the youth in faith and service. This gathering will provide a meaningful experience for students from 3rd grade to 8th grade and will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Vartan Cathedral.

We are planning to have a bus trip to the Diocese. Please ask Der Mesrob to sign up your children to travel with us.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

Narrated Divine Liturgy today. Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy. The Sunday School will be holding a Poinsettia Sale after Badarak.

DECEMBER 22,
SUNDAY

Lunch with Santa following the Liturgy. Details inside.

DECEMBER 29,
SUNDAY

Blessing of Pomegranates service at the end of the Liturgy.

Donations are welcomed to defray the cost of the pomegranates.

JANUARY 4,
2025
SATURDAY

Eve of the Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ–J'arakalootz

Reading of Holy Scriptures - 6:00-6:30 pm.

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

JANUARY 5,
2025
SUNDAY

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

Morning Service - 9:45am.

Christmas Badarak & Blessing of Water Service -
10:15am

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.

JANUARY 11,
SATURDAY

Young Professionals Social–6:00–8:30pm.

The flyer can be found inside.

JANUARY 19,
SUNDAY

EPISCOPAL DIVINE LITURGY - His Grace, Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate of our Diocese, will celebrate the Liturgy. Fellowship Hour will be hosted by St. Gregory's Women's Guild

JANUARY 20,
MONDAY

***Project Linus–Third Annual Day of Service
10:30–12:30***