

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.

**MAY 25, 2025**

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTERTIDE**

**ՎԵՑԵՐՈՐԴ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ ՅԻՆԱՆՑ**

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

1 John 3:2-6

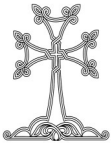
John 9:39-10:10

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Joanne Chitjian

Tom Daw

Annie Shalian



**REQUIEM SERVICE WILL BE OFFERED FOR:**

**Razmik & Rima Gukasyan, Ruzanna, and Zara Gukasyan**

*Requested by: Nelli Gukasyan and Tigran Gukasyan*

***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 29<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 եւ նրանց, իսկ վերջին հանդիպման ժամանակ օրհնում ու պատգամներ էր տալիս առաքյալներին, որից հետո համբարձվում երկինք: Քրիստոսի Համբարձման մասին վկայում են Մարկոս եւ Ղուկաս ավետարանիչները, վկայություններ կան նաեւ Գործք Առաքելոցում. «Եւ Ինքը՝ Տէր Հիսուս, նրանց հետ խոսելուց հետո, դէպի երկինք վերացավ եւ նստեց Հոր աջ կողմը»: Հայ Առաքելական Եկեղեցին Համբարձման տոնին հիշատակում է նաև Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսության Աթոռը Միս 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.



## **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.

• **PLEASE SANITIZE YOUR HAND(S) BEFORE RETURNING TO YOUR SEAT FROM THE RIGHT OR LEFT SIDE OF THE CHANCEL.**

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## **Fellowship Coffee Hour**

We appreciate the gracious generosity of the Gukasyan Family 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 Elise Hingson at the church office at 914-428-2595.

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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.*

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## **Sunday School Schedule**

**May 25th–No class for Memorial Day weekend**

**June 1–Class is scheduled**

**June 8–Graduation Ceremony**

THE EASTERN DIOCESE OF  
THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA  
BISHOP MESROP PARSAMYAN, PRIMATE  
REJOICES TO

# WELCOME HIS BEATITUDE ARCHBISHOP SAHAK II MASHALIAN

FOR A SPECIAL CELEBRATION AT  
ST. VARTAN CATHEDRAL  
630 SECOND AVE. NEW YORK

## SUNDAY JUNE, 29

PATRIARCHAL DIVINE LITURGY

### 10AM

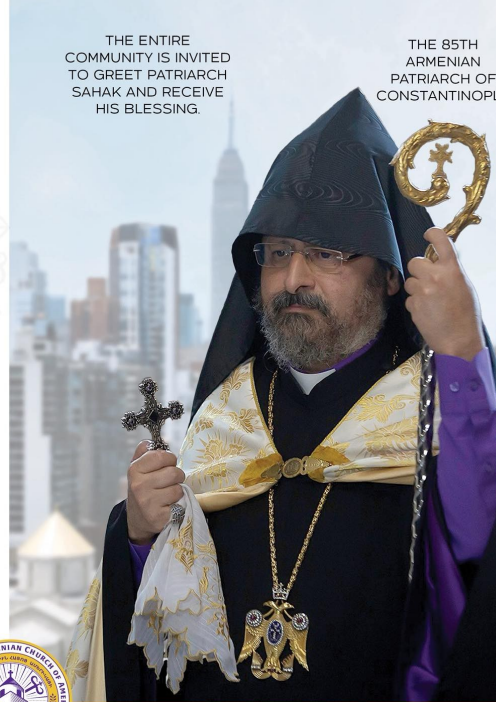
PATRIARCH SAHAK WILL BE  
THE CELEBRANT AND  
DELIVER THE HOMILY

A CELEBRATORY BANQUET  
WILL FOLLOW IN HAİK & ALICE  
KAVOOKJIAN AUDITORIUM

ADMISSION: \$125 // YOUTH UNDER 14: \$50

THE ENTIRE  
COMMUNITY IS INVITED  
TO GREET PATRIARCH  
SAHAK AND RECEIVE  
HIS BLESSING.

THE 85TH  
ARMENIAN  
PATRIARCH OF  
CONSTANTINOPLE



MAKE BANQUET  
RESERVATIONS BY  
JUNE 20

ELIZABETH KHODABASH  
718.451.6441  
elizabethkhodabash@yahoo.com

ANI MINNETYAN  
516.521.5396  
animinnet@gmail.com

TALAR SESETYAN SARAFIAN  
201.240.8541  
Talar@sarafian1.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”.



**THE KING OF KINGS**  
A Story Told by Charles Dickens  
may 31 @ 4:30PM

PG mofac

Tickets: Adults | \$13  
Children | \$11  
ANGEL

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

For tickets: Scan the QR code above  
to pay online or pay at the door

## Graduates of 2025!



If you know of any St. Gregory parishioners graduating from high school, college, or graduate school this spring, please notify the church office or Der Hayr by calling 914-428-2595 or by email [saintgregorychurchwp@gmail.com](mailto:saintgregorychurchwp@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 eNewsletter.

ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER ARMENIAN CHURCH

# CHOIR DAY

*Appreciation*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 22**  
**12:30 PM**

POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP

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**Performance by the**  
**Choir Members**

Free Will Donation

1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY	<b>Morning Service &amp; Divine Liturgy.</b> <b>Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy. HAPPY MEMORIAL WEEKEND.</b>
MAY 31, SATURDAY	<b>MOVIE NIGHT: THE KINGS OF KINGS</b> <b>4:30PM. Details inside.</b>
JUNE 1, SUNDAY	<b>Hokehankist for our beloved Women's Guild members.</b> <b>St. Gregory Award Committee meeting—1:00pm.</b>
JUNE 8, SUNDAY	<b>Sunday School Graduation following the Liturgy.</b> <b>Meeting with the group of travelers to Armenia—1:00pm.</b>
JUNE 22, SUNDAY	<b>CHOIR APPRECIATION DAY.</b> <b>Details inside.</b>
JUNE 29, SUNDAY	<b>Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople, Archbishop Sahak Mashalian will be celebrating Liturgy at St. Vartan Cathedral. Details inside.</b>
JULY 20, SUNDAY	<b>Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Ghevond Ajamian.</b> <b>Fr. Mesrob will be traveling to Armenia along with parish trip participants and will return on August 12.</b>
JULY 27, SUNDAY	<b>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Arshen Ayvazian.</b>
AUGUST 3, SUNDAY	<b>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Arshen Ayvazian.</b>
AUGUST 10, SUNDAY	<b>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian.</b>
AUGUST 17, SUNDAY	<b>Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary</b> <b>Blessing of Grapes service.</b> <b>All-American BBQ, Women's Guild.</b> <b>Details to follow.</b>
SEPTEMBER 21, SUNDAY	<b>Armenian Picnic</b> <b>Details to follow.</b>