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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 27, 2025
FEAST OF TRANSFIGURATION
ՎԱՐԴԱՎԱՌ - ԱՅԼԱԿԵՐՊՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՏԵԱՌՆ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

1 John 1:1-7

Matthew 16:13-17:13

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Chris Bonfiglio

Ron Sanossian

Annie Shalian



REQUIEM SERVICE WILL NOT BE OFFERED 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

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.

ՎԱՐՎԱՎԱՌ - ԱՅԼԱԿԵՐՊՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՏԵԱՌՆ

Եկեղեցու կարեւոր տօներէից մէկն էՔրիստոսի Այլակերպութիւնը կամ Պայծառակերպութիւնը, որը կոչւում է նաեւ Վարդավառ 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 զգեստը 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 ողողւում: Այդ փայլից առաքեալներն արքնանում են խոր քնից եւ նկատում Վարդապետի պայծառ դէմքը եւ այն երկու մարդկանց, որոնց Յիսուսը մտերիմ զրոյցի մէջ էր: Պետրոս առաքեալը յափտախաւած ու շփոթուած, յանզգնում է խզել լուրջիւնը եւ ասում է. «Վարդապետ, բարւո՛ք է մեզ աստ լինելը»: Վարդապետ լաւ է որ մենք այստեղ մնանք. առաջարկում է նաեւ երեք հատ տաղաւար պատրաստել: Այդ բոպէլին լուսաւոր մի ամպ ծածկում է նրանց, եւ առաքեալները սարսափած գետին են ընկնում: Լոյսի ցայերի միջից լաւում է խորհրդաւոր մի ձայն. «Դա է որդի իմ սիրելի ընդ որ հանեցայ, դժաւ լուարու՛ք»: Յիսուսը մօտենում է առաքեալներին եւ ասում. «Ոտքի ելէ՛ք, մի՛ վախենա՛ք»: Առաքեալները հանդարտած վեր են նայում եւ տեսնում եւ միայն իրենց

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The reading is from the First Epistle 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.



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.**



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Please note that church office hours will be limited from July 14 through August 1.

Fr. Mesrob will be leading a group of parishioners on the Parish Trip to Armenia on July 14-28. He is expected to return on August 12.

If you need immediate pastoral assistance during this time, please contact the church office: 914-428-2595 to leave a message that will be returned as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding!

GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2024-2025



If you know of any St. Gregory parishioners who have recently graduated from high school, college, or graduate school 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. 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

Annika Aslanian
Benjamin Arthur Bazarian

COLLEGE GRADUATES

John Aslanian
Christopher Koobatian

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE

Greg Mekenian

Congratulations to all graduates!

Please submit the names of any graduates not included on the list.



Fellowship Coffee Hour

We appreciate the generosity of the Parish Council members on duty 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, please contact the church office (914) 428-2595.

All-American BBQ

SUNDAY, August 17th, 2025

12:30 pm

Women's Guild Annual Fundraiser

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



\$25.pp (\$15. Children ages 5-12, Children under 5 FREE)

All American BBQ Favorites

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

Invite your Friends & Family to join us* 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 August 8th

All-American BBQ FAMILY FUNDRAISER

Reservation Name: _____ Phone Contact: (____) _____

Number Attending: _____ @ \$25. per person \$ _____

Number of Children ages 5-12 years old _____ @ \$15. per child \$ _____

Under 5 years old FREE _____ *FREE* \$ _____

Optional Donation to St.Gregory Women's Guild \$ _____

Check # _____ Total: \$ _____

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

Not able to attend, but want to support the St. Gregory Women's Guild Check # _____

MEMO: Donation

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

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT ST. NERSESS



St. Nersess Armenian Seminary is looking for a full-time cook/chef for the upcoming academic year.

Please contact the Seminary office for more information: 914-273-0200.

YOU ARE INVITED TO
ST. GREGORY'S
 ANNUAL ARMENIAN

Picnic

Come join us for delicious traditional
 Armenian food and wine.

21 SUNDAY SEPTEMBER
 12PM - 5PM

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

LIVE ARMENIAN MUSIC BY

John Berberian & Ensemble
 DJ Music



MORE INFO

reach us at 914-428-2595
 saintgregorychurchwp@gmail.com
 www.stgregorywp.com
 Free Admission

1131 NORTH STREET, WHITE PLAINS, NY 10605

ST. GREGORY'S ANNUAL ARMENIAN Picnic

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025, NOON - 5PM

ST. GREGORY'S ANNUAL ARMENIAN Picnic

PICNIC RAFFLE
 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025, NOON - 5PM

THREE CASH PRIZE WINNERS

Drawing on day of the Picnic
 Winners will be contacted, no need to be present at drawing

GRAND Prize \$2,500
 2nd Prize \$1,000
 3rd Prize \$500

Note: Balance of RAFFLE ticket income goes directly to
 St. Gregory Armenian Church

YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT, TO WIN IT!

Donation: \$50 per ticket, 3 tickets for \$100
 Payment must be received before 4:00pm on Sept. 21st, 2025

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

Please make checks PAYABLE to: St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church
 MEMO: 2025 RAFFLE
 1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

We appreciate your generous support of our beloved Annual Family Fair and Picnic.
 This is a wonderful opportunity to show & share your generous spirit
 with family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, and everyone in our community!

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$____
 In HONOR of: _____
 Sponsored by: _____
 Contact Phone: (____) _____ EMAIL: _____

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$____
 In MEMORY of: _____
 Sponsored by: _____
 Contact Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

GENERAL Sponsorship \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$____
 Sponsored by: _____
 Contact Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

BUSINESS Sponsorship \$250 (bus. name) \$350 (bus. card) \$500 (small message)
 \$750 (large message)

BUSINESS Name: _____
 Contact Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

THANK YOU from the 2025 Picnic Committee.

Please make checks PAYABLE to: St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church
 MEMO: 2025 Picnic Sponsor
 Method: Check & Online

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY	<p>Morning Service & Divine Liturgy. Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Arshen Aypazian.</p> <p>Fr. Mesrob is currently in Armenia leading the group of participants on a parish pilgrimage and will return on August 12.</p>
AUGUST 3, SUNDAY	<p>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Arshen Aypazian.</p>
AUGUST 10, SUNDAY	<p>Guest celebrant: Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian.</p>
AUGUST 17, SUNDAY	<p>Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary Blessing of Grapes service. All-American BBQ, Women's Guild.</p>
SEPTEMBER 13, SATURDAY	<p>NextGen of St. Gregory (Young Professionals) Social Event. Details to follow.</p>
SEPTEMBER 21, SUNDAY	<p>Armenian Picnic Details inside.</p>
OCTOBER 18, SATURDAY	<p>An Evening of Jazz hosted by the Cultural Committee. Details to follow.</p>
OCTOBER 21, TUESDAY	<p>Trip to the Bruce Museum with The Women's Guild - Details to follow.</p>
NOVEMBER 23, SUNDAY	<p>Thanksgiving Brunch sponsored by the Women's Guild - Details to follow.</p>
DECEMBER 6, SATURDAY	<p>The Women's Guild Advent by Candlelight Tea - Details to follow.</p>