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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.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025
FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
ՏՕՆ Ա. ԽԱԶԻ ՎԵՐԱՑՈՒՄԻՆ (ԽԱԶՎԵՐԱՑ)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Galatians 6:14-18

John 3:13-21

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Chris Bonfiglio

Joanne Chitjian

Tom Daw



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 EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the last one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It is the most important feast among the feasts dedicated to the Holy Cross, as it is dedicated to the history of the return of the Holy Cross from imprisonment, its elevation and glorification. In the Armenian Apostolic Church the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated on Sunday during the period between September 11-17. This year that date is September 14, and the Monday following the Feast is a Memorial Day. In 610 A. D., the Persian King Khosrov with a large army attacks the Byzantine Empire. Enthusiastic about the initial victory, in 614 A. D. the Persian army enters Jerusalem. Many people are killed and many are imprisoned. Pontiff Zakaria, the Patriarch of Jerusalem is imprisoned, too. However, the Persians are not satisfied and enter the Church of Holy Sepulcher and take the Holy Cross kept in the Church. The Holy Cross had been found and installed in the Church for the Christians to worship by Heghineh, the mother of the King Costandianos, in the beginning of the 4th century. In 628 A. D., the Byzantine army led by the King Herakles fight against the Persians to return the Holy Cross. The Armenian army regiment, led by Mzhezh Gnounie, supported the Persian army. With the Lord's help the Byzantine army wins the battle. The Holy Cross is solemnly brought to the Armenian town Karin, from where it is carried to Constantinople, and then - to Jerusalem. On the way the Holy Cross was raised for the people to see and worship. For Christians the Cross is God's power and strength and pride of all prides, on which Christ's innocent blood was shed. By means of the Cross Jesus proved His love towards mankind, and the Cross became for us the symbol of hope, love and saving.

ԽԱՉՎԵՐԱՅ

Խաչվերացը Հայ Եկեղեցու հինգ տաղավար տոներից վերջինն է: Այն Խաչին նվիրված տոներից ամենակարևորն է, որովհետև նվիրված է գերությունից խաչի վերադարձի և փառաբանության հիշատակին: Հայաստանյայց Եկեղեցում Խաչվերացը տոնում են սեպտեմբերի 11-17-ն ընկած ժամանակահատվածում հանդիպող կիրակի օրը: Սուրբ Խաչը տոնվում է ի հիշատակ Տիրոջ խաչափայտի՝ պարսկական գերությունից Երուսաղեմ վերադարձի և Գողգոթայում կանգնեցման (վերացման): Այստեղից էլ տոնը կոչվում է Խաչվերաց: Սուրբ խաչի գյուտից հետո Հեղինե թագուհին սուրբ Կոստանդիանոս կայսեր հրամանով Գողգոթայի վրա կառուցեց «Սուրբ Հարության» տաճարը և այնտեղ կանգնեցրեց Տիրոջ խաչափայտը: Ապա նաև Բերթեհեմում և այլ տնօրինական վայրերում տաճարներ և մատուռներ կառուցեց: Թագուհին հրամայեց մեծ հանդիսավորությամբ ութ օր տոնել սուրբ

տաճարների նավակատիքը: Այդ օրվանից կարգ սահմանվեց ամեն տարի՝ սեպտեմբերի 13-ին տոնել Խաչի նավակատիքը և Եկեղեցու տոնը, իսկ սեպտեմբերի 14-ին՝ Խաչի տոնը: Այդ օրը Հակոբոս Տյառնեղբոր օրինակով քահանայապետը բարձրացնում էր Տիրոջ խաչափայտը հավատացյալների պահպանության համար, այդ պատճառով էլ տոնը կոչվեց «Խաչվերաց»:

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The reading is from Galatians 6:14-18

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me trouble; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John 3:13-21

“No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.” “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”



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.**

***Calling All Bakers & Helpers to prepare for our Church Picnic!
No Experience Needed!***

Baking & Prep Schedule:

Monday, September 15 – Yalanchi Prep

Tuesday, September 16 – Grape Leaves: Rolling & Baking

Wednesday, September 17 – Plate Yalanchi, Baklava Syrup, Noodle/Pilaf Prep

Thursday, September 18 – Hummus & Brownies

Friday, September 19 – Cream Khadayef & Mezze Platters

Saturday, September 20 – Luleh Kebab

If you're able to join us on any day (s),
please text Gladys Tachdjian at 914-325-2232.

Thank you in advance for helping make this year's
picnic a success!

With gratitude,
On behalf of St. Gregory's Women's Guild



YOU ARE INVITED TO
ST. GREGORY'S
ANNUAL ARMENIAN




Picnic

Come join us for delicious traditional
Armenian food and wine.

21

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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

**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.



ST. GREGORY'S ANNUAL ARMENIAN Picnic

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

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



ST. GREGORY'S ANNUAL ARMENIAN Picnic

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

THREE CA\$H 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

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The Eastern Church of the Armenian Church of America's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Led by: His Grace Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate
Assisted by: Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian

January 15-26, 2026

ALL INCLUSIVE
\$3,198

PER PERSON NON-STOP FROM NEWARK
OR NEW YORK JFK*
A 3.5% surcharge will be added to credit card transactions

For more information about travel and accommodations, contact Claudia at 800-247-0077, 338

For more information about the itinerary & program, contact Fr. Mardiros dean@stnerness.edu - 917-273-8239

Deadline for registration is November 1, 2025



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Fellowship Coffee Hour

We appreciate the gracious generosity of the Parish Council 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 Meneshian Clifford at the church office at 914-428-2595.

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

**Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Morning Service & Divine Liturgy.**
Fr. Mesrob Hovsepian celebrates the Divine Liturgy.

ANTASDAN - Blessing of the Four Corners of the world service will take place at the end of the Liturgy.

Join us for the fellowship coffee hour following the Liturgy.

Sunday School Opening & Registration

Registration & meet your teacher - 10:30am

SEPTEMBER 21,
SUNDAY

Armenian Picnic

Details inside.

OCTOBER 18,
SATURDAY

An Evening of Jazz hosted by the Cultural Committee. Details to follow.

OCTOBER 21,
TUESDAY

Trip to the Bruce Museum with The Women's Guild. Details to follow.

NOVEMBER 2,
SUNDAY

St. Gregory Award Banquet.

Details to follow.

NOVEMBER 8,
SATURDAY

NextGen of St. Gregory (Young Professionals) Social Event. Details to follow.

NOVEMBER 23,
SUNDAY

Thanksgiving Brunch sponsored by the Women's Guild. Details to follow.

DECEMBER 6,
SATURDAY

The Women's Guild Advent by Candlelight Tea.

Details to follow.