

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.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025
FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS OF VARAK
ՏՕՆ ՎԱՐԱԳՄԱՅ Ս. ԽԱՉԻ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Galatians 6:14-18

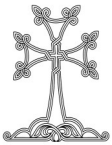
Matthew 24:30-36

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Arman Bedonian

Ani Khachian

Arek Ohanissian



REQUIEM SERVICE WILL BE HELD TODAY

Martha Samuelian

Requested by: The Samuelian Family

***May God rest her soul in His eternal peace and presence and grant
her loved ones the comfort of the Holy Spirit.***

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 Holy Cross of Varague

All Christian Churches each year solemnly celebrate all feasts dedicated to the Holy Cross. The Armenian Apostolic Church, in difference to the other Christian Churches, celebrates another purely national feast dedicated to the Holy Cross, which is famous as the Holy Cross of Varague. The Armenian Church celebrates this feast two weeks after the Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross, that is - the Sunday during the period of September 25 - October 1. According to the historian Agathangelos, St. Hripsime and her companions, running away from the Roman Emperor Dioklethianos, who started persecutions against Christians, reach to Armenia and find shelter in Vagaharshapat. However, before reaching Vagharshapat they stop at the Mountain Varague, which is to the south-east from the Lake Van. Taking off from her neck the relic of the Lord's Wooden Cross, St. Hripsime gives it to the praying monks living on the mountain and asks them to preserve it in one of the caves. Thus, the sacred relic remains hidden till the seventh century. In 653 A. D. the monk Todik and his disciple Hovel pray at the Mountain Varague and ask God to show the place of the relic. Suddenly 12 bright columns appear around the mountain and the sign of the Cross is seen among the columns. For 12 days the bright columns remain visible even from distant sites. This joyful news spreads everywhere. Nerses the Creator Catholicos who was the Catholicos of All Armenians of that period, and Captain Vard, son the Knight Theodoros, learning about that miracle, go the Mountain Varague to personally witness it. With the support of the Armenian people the Pontiff builds a magnificent church, which in honor of the miracle is named Holy Cross Church. The Pontiff Nerses also writes the marvelous church hymn "By means of the most powerful sign", which is sung in the churches on the day of the feast. The sacred relic remains at the Mountain Varague till 1021 A. D. Later the Armenian King Senekerim Artsrouni brings the relic to Sebastia. After the latter's death the relic is again transferred to its old place and remains there until 1651 A. D. when the relic is taken to Khoshab. In 1655 A. D. the relic is placed in the Church of Holy Godmother, in Van, which is renamed to Church of Holy Sign. The relic was preserved there till 1915 A. D.

ՎԱՐԱԳՎԱ ՍՈՒՐԲ ԽԱՉԻ ՏՈՆ

Քրիստոնեական բոլոր եկեղեցիներն ամեն տարի մեծ հանդիսավորությամբ նշում են Խաչին նվիրված տոները: Բայց ի տարբերություն մյուս եկեղեցիների, Հայ Եկեղեցին ունի նաև Խաչին նվիրված զուտ ազգային մի տոն, որը հայտնի է Վարագա Սուրբ Խաչ անունով: Այն միշտ տոնում են Խաչվերացից երկու շաբաթ հետո, այսինքն՝ սեպտեմբերի 25-ից մինչև հոկտեմբերի 1-ը հանդիպող կիրակի օրը: Ազաթանգեղոս պատմիչի վկայության համաձայն՝ Հռիփսիմյանց կույսերը, փախչելով Դիոկղետիոնոս կայսեր հալածանքներից ու հետապնդումներից, գալիս են Հայաստան և ապաստանում Վաղարշապատի հնձաններում: Սակայն մինչև Վաղար-

շապատ հասնելը, նրանք բնակություն են հաստատում Վանա լճից հարավ-արևելք ընկած Վարագա լեռան վրա: Մբ. Հռիփսիմեն իր կրծքին կախած Տիրոջ խաչափայտի սրբազան մասունքն ապահովության համար հանձնում է աղոթող ճգնավորներին և խնդրում, որ պահեն այն քարայրներից մեկում: Սուրբ մասունքն այդպես պահված մնում է մինչև 7-րդ դարը: 653 թվականին, երբ Թողիկ ճգնավորն իր Հովել աշակերտի հետ աղոթում էր Վարագա լեռան վրա և խնդրում, որ Աստված ողորմություն անի և ցույց տա Մբ. Խաչի տեղը, հանկարծ 12 լուսեղեն սյուներ են երևում լեռան շուրջը, իսկ նրանց միջև փայլում է լուսավոր Խաչի նշանը, որն իրենց հետ Հայոց աշխարհ էին բերել Տիրոջ սիրասուն կույտերը: 12 օր շարունակ լուսեղեն սյուները տեսանելի են լինում նաև հեռավոր վայրերից: Ուրախալի այս լուրը տարածվում է ամենուր: Սրբազան այդ մասունքը մինչև 1021 թվականը մնում է Վարագա վանքում, որը Մենեքերիմ Արծրունին տեղափոխում է Մեբաստիա: Նրա մահից հետո մասունքը նորից փոխադրում են նախկին վայրը, որտեղից 1651 թվականին գերեվարվում է Խոշաբ: Սակայն 1655 թվականին ազատվելով՝ զետեղվում է Վանի Մբ. Տիրամոր եկեղեցում, որն այնուհետև վերանվանվում է Մբ. Նշան, ուր և պահվում էր մինչև 1915 թվականը:

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The first reading is from the Letter of Paul to 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. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to 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, brothers and sisters. Amen.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew (24:30-36)

Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. “Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.



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.**



St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church Women's Guild



Join us for our General Membership Meeting on October 5, 2025, with a special guest speaker Angela Ciminello, Interim Chief Development Officer, who will share how My Sisters' Place works to end domestic violence.

Meeting immediately following Badarak in Tutak Hall.



Ending domestic violence and human trafficking through comprehensive services, advocacy, and community education in Westchester County.

How You Can Help

At this meeting, we invite you to support **My Sisters' Place** by donating **gift cards** for the women and families they serve.

Requested Gift Cards

Visa, MasterCard, American Express
ShopRite / Stop & Shop
CVS / Walgreens
Starbucks / Dunkin' Donuts
Walmart / Target
Amazon
MetroCards



For more information visit <https://mspny.org>





ST. GREGORY CULTURAL COMMITTEE

PRESENTS

JAZZ UP WITH

Astghik Martirosyan & Ensemble

TUTAK HALL

Sat. Oct.

18

7pm

Tickets

- \$40 with reservation
- \$50 at the door
- \$20 (20 years & under)
- \$300 for a table for eight

Drinks and Mezze will be served

For reservations call **212-873-0708** or email stgregoryculturalcommittee@gmail.com

1131 North St, 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 WOMEN'S GUILD PRESENTS

A morning at the Bruce
Museum



Join us for a fun and enriching morning exploring the newly renovated Bruce Museum, featuring fascinating exhibits in art, science, and natural history. After the tour, everyone is welcome to join us for lunch at a nearby restaurant. Please note, lunch will be at individual expense.

**Tuesday, October 21st,
2025, at 11:00 am**

Bruce Museum
1 Museum Drive
Greenwich, CT 06830
Free admission
Free parking on premises

RSVP to:
Dawn Papalian
dawn@papalian.com
Call/Text: (310) 850 - 6496

Join the Saint Gregory Women's Guild as we give thanks and celebrate the season with food, fellowship, and gratitude at our **Thanksgiving Luncheon**

Date: Sunday, November 23rd, 2025

Time: Immediately following Badarak

Location: Tutak Hall

\$25 for adults; Children 5 to 12 years old \$15; Children 5
and under - free

Bring your appetite and your thankful heart!
Delicious food and a warm community await.
Families and friends are welcome!

Please RSVP by November 15th, 2025:

Alicia Wood
awood@wcv3.com
Call/Text: (203) 246 - 7420



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The Eastern Diocese 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

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

Deadline for registration is November 1, 2025



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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	<p>Morning Service & Divine Liturgy. Fr. Mesrob Hovsepyan celebrates the Divine Liturgy. Join us for the fellowship coffee hour following the Liturgy. ACYOA Juniors meeting, 12:30pm.</p>
OCTOBER 5, SUNDAY	<p>Women's Guild General Membership Meeting after Badarak. Guest Speaker: Angela Ciminello</p>
OCTOBER 18, SATURDAY	<p>ACYOA Juniors Apple Picking. Details to follow. An Evening of Jazz hosted by the Cultural Committee - 7:00pm. Details inside.</p>
OCTOBER 21, TUESDAY	<p>Trip to the Bruce Museum with The Women's Guild—11:00am. Details inside.</p>
NOVEMBER 2, SUNDAY	<p>SAVE THE DATE: ST. GREGORY AWARD LUNCHEON This year St. Gregory Award recipients will be Deacon Mirijohn and Anoush Givlekian. We congratulate them and express our appreciation for their dedication to our parish. <i>The details to follow.</i></p>
NOVEMBER 15, SATURDAY	<p>ACYOA Juniors Gathering. Details to follow.</p>
NOVEMBER 15, SATURDAY	<p>NextGen of St. Gregory (Young Professionals) Social Event. 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>

Sunday School Monthly Calendar

September 28, Gardening