



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.

MARCH 8, 2026

SUNDAY OF THE UNJUST STEWARD
ՏՆՏԵՍԻ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Ephesians 4:17-5:14

Luke 16:1-31

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Arman Bedonian

George Krikorian

Annie Shalian



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

Sunday of the Unjust Steward

The fourth Sunday of the period of Great Lent is called the Sunday of the Steward, and the message of the day teaches us with the parable of the unjust steward. This parable is mentioned only in the Gospel of St. Luke. In the parable, a wealthy man learns that the steward of his house is squandering his possessions. The rich man calls the steward, asking for an accounting, having decided to release him from employment. The steward, realizing that he may soon be without work, begins to act accordingly so that in the near future, others may accept him into their homes. The steward calls those men who have debts to his employer, and he relieves them of a portion of their debts. Following this act, the wealthy man praises the steward for his contrivance. At first glance, it seems as though there is a great contradiction in this commendation. But the unjust steward grants back to the debtors, only that which he had added to the debt originally for his own gain. Thus, the wealthy man is not injured by the actions of his steward. The master praises the steward for resigning himself from the gains that the steward would have realized in these transactions. Thus, high praise is given to resignation, or abstinence, which is one of the foundations of Great Lent. Lent teaches mankind about the ability we each have to resign ourselves from all forms of temptation, the beginning of which is self-control and self-denial. Christ says, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me". This parable admonishes every one of us that the journey towards salvation must include self-control and resignation. The allegorical meaning of the parable is in the wealthy man symbolizing God, and the unjust steward symbolizing the sinner. For an extended period of time, the sinner carelessly wastes the graces granted by God, until God calls him for an accounting of his life. The unjust steward symbolizes all who, upon regretting their actions, forgive those who have sinned against them, and become seekers of righteousness and the just.

ՏՆՏԵՍԻ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ

Մեծ Պահքի չորրորդ կիրակին կոչվում է Տնտեսի՝ ըստ այդ օրվա խորհուրդը բացատրող անհրաժ տնտեսի առակի: Առակի բովանդակությունը հետևյալն է. մի մեծահարուստ իմանում է, որ տնտեսը վատնում է իր ունեցվածքը, կանչում է նրան և հաշիվ պահանջում, որոշում հեռացնել աշխատանքից: Հասկանալով, որ կարող է անգործ մնալ, տնտեսը խորամանկության է դիմում: Նա կանչում է տիրոջ պարտապաններին, նրանց շնորհում իրենց պարտքի մի մասը: Եվ այս ամենից հետո տերը գովում է տնտեսին՝ հնարամտությամբ վարվելու համար: Առաջին հայացքից թվում է, թե հակասություն կա այս գովեստի մեջ: Բայց անհրաժ տնտեսը պարտապաններին շնորհում է

այն, ինչն ավելիով գրել էր իր օգտին՝ պարտքի շնորհումով ոչ մի վնաս չպատճառելով իր տիրոջը: Տերը գովում է սնտեսին՝ասելով թե որքան երանելի կլինենք, եթե նույն ժրաջանությունը, որը դրսևորում ենք մեր նյութական կարիքների բավարարման համար, առավել ցուցաբերենք մեր հոգևոր կարիքների համար:

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The reading is from the Ephesians 4:17-5:14

Now this I affirm and insist on in the Lord: you must no longer live as the Gentiles live, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of their ignorance and hardness of heart. They have lost all sensitivity and have abandoned themselves to licentiousness, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. That is not the way you learned Christ! For surely you have heard about him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus. You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke 15:1-32

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked

him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'" The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg— I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.' "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' "Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.' "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.' "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight. The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing their way into it. It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the least stroke of a pen to drop out of the Law.

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".

CLOSING OF ALTAR CURTAIN: The curtain of the Altar was closed on Sunday, February 15 on Poon Paregentan. It will remain closed throughout the forty days of Great Lent until it is reopened on March 29, on Palm Sunday. The closing of the curtain symbolizes the Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise. The entire church is in repentance during this time.

- During Lent the Divine Liturgy (Badarak) is celebrated with the Main Altar curtain closed.
- The Kiss of Peace is not given.
- Holy Communion is not given. In special circumstances, Holy Communion may be received by making arrangements with Der Hayr after the service.
- The Gospel is not kissed at the end of Divine Liturgy.
- Mas is distributed during Lent.
- Sunrise service will be offered at the end of the Liturgy, following the sermon

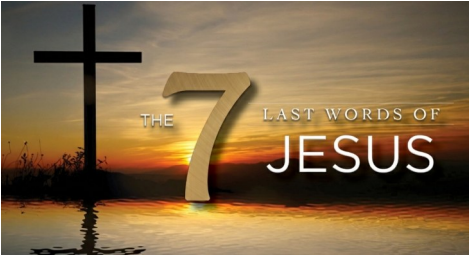
RECITING THE NICENE CREED IN ENGLISH

The **Nicene Creed** is one of the most important parts of our Divine Liturgy. In it, we proclaim the core of our Christian faith—our beliefs, our theology, and the truths handed down to us from the early Church. By reciting the Creed, we unite our voices with generations of faithful who have confessed these same teachings throughout the centuries.

To deepen our understanding and strengthen our communal prayer, we will begin **reciting the Nicene Creed in English every other Sunday** during the Divine Liturgy. This will allow all parishioners to fully participate, reflect more deeply on the meaning of the words, and grow together in the faith we profess.

March 8 - Armenian
 15 - English
 22 - Armenian
 29 - English

LENTEN SUNDAY SERMON SERIES



The Seven Words of Christ from the Cross

This Great Lent, we invite you to join us for a Sunday sermon series reflecting on the Seven Words of Christ from the Cross. Spoken in the final hours of our Lord's earthly life, these brief yet

powerful statements reveal the heart of Christ and the meaning of His saving work. Each Sunday of Great Lent will focus on one word spoken by Jesus from the Cross, helping us slow down, listen attentively, and prepare our hearts for the mystery and joy of Easter.

Series Schedule:

- March 8: "Today you will be with Me in Paradise." - Children's Sermon
- March 15: "Woman, behold your son... Behold your mother."
- March 22: "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
- April 2: "It is finished." - *Maundy Thursday service*

All are encouraged to attend and journey together through Great Lent as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter.

Lenten Series Presents on March 8:



"Creating in Diaspora: The Poetry of Tenny Arlen (1991–2015)" presented by Dr. Jesse Arlen

This talk will introduce readers to the life and poetry of Tenny Arlen, whose 2021 book of verse *Կիրքով ըսելու ինչն ւ հոս եմ* (To Say with Passion: Why Am I Here?) (Yerevan: ARI Literature Foundation) marked a watershed

moment in the Armenian literary tradition, being the first full-length volume of creative literature published in Armenian by an American-born writer. In 2025, a bilingual (English and Armenian) language edition was published, along with afterwords by Hagop Gulludjian and Arthur Ipek. This talk will reflect on the significance of this volume and some of its important themes, such as solitude, iconic seeing, and the transcendence and immanence of the ineffable realm of the spirit.

Lenten fellowship will be hosted by the Women's Guild.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Today

**Sunday of the Unjust Steward.
Morning Service & Divine Liturgy.
Fr. Mesrob Hovsepian celebrates the Divine Liturgy.
Sunrise service will be offered at the end of the Liturgy. Children's sermon to follow.**

**Lenten Series presents:
Creating in Diaspora: The Poetry of Tenny Arlen (1991–2015) presented by Dr. Jesse Arlen
Lenten fellowship will be hosted by the Women's Guild.**

"The Spear of Christ" documentary screening has been rescheduled to a later date. A new date and time will be announced soon.

**MARCH 14,
SATURDAY**

Women's Guild Lenten Retreat at St. Nersess Seminary. RSVP now to save your spot!

**MARCH 15,
SUNDAY**

**Lenten Series presents:
"Women Creating Space for Faith" presented by Dr. Roberta Ervine
Lenten fellowship will be hosted by the Choir and Cultural Committee.**

**MARCH 27,
FRIDAY**

**Lenten Series presents:
Friday, Lenten Service - 6:30 pm / Lenten Dinner - 7:00 pm / Program - 7:30 pm
Presentation by Rev. Fr. Belson Paulose Kuriose.
The Women's Guild will be hosted by the Armenian and Sunday Schools.**

**MARCH 21,
SATURDAY**

**Movie Night at 5pm.
The flyer can be found in the narthex.**

**MARCH 28,
SATURDAY**

**Saintly Women's Day
The flyer can be found in the narthex.**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

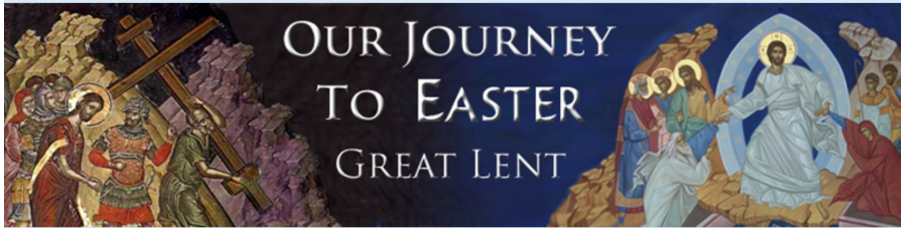
MARCH 29,
SUNDAY **Palm Sunday, ACYOA Day**
The flyer can be found in the narthex.

APRIL 5,
SUNDAY **Easter Sunday**
Easter bake sale by ACYOA Juniors

APRIL 12,
SUNDAY **St. Gregory Women's Guild General Membership Meeting after the Divine Liturgy.**

APRIL 19,
SUNDAY **LIONEL GALSTAUN MEMORIAL CONCERT**
The flyer can be found in the narthex.

JUNE 6,
SUNDAY **Huyser Ensemble Concert**
Details to follow.



GREAT LENTEN SERIES:



Dr. Jesse Arlen

March 8, 2026

Sunday, following the Liturgy

"Creating in Diaspora: The Poetry of Tenny Arlen (1991 -2015)" presented by Dr. Jesse Arlen



Dr. Roberta Ervine

March 15, 2026

Sunday, following the Liturgy

"Women Creating Space for Faith" presented by Dr. Roberta Ervine



Rev. Fr. Belson
Paulose Kuriakose

March 27, 2026

Friday, Lenten Service - 6:30 pm / Lenten Dinner - 7:00 pm / Program - 7:30 pm

"Carrying the cross without losing the faith" presented by Rev. Fr. Belson Paulose Kuriakose