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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.

AUGUST 16, 2026

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

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TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Galatians 3:29-4:7

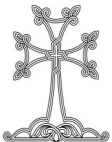
Luke 1:26-38

PC MEMBERS ON DUTY:

Jennifer Gurahian

Lauren Kayaian

Gary Oztemel



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.

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Fr. Mesrob: (804) 405-9399, fr.mesrob@yahoo.com

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Each year on the Sunday closest to the date of August 15, the Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This feast is the fourth of five major feasts that are commemorated, and is the oldest one dedicated to St. Mary.

Following the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, the Holy Virgin remains in Jerusalem, and lives under the care of St. John the Evangelist. For nearly 12 years, St. Mary lives by praying, fasting, and often visiting the empty tomb of her beloved Son. During one such visit to the tomb, the Archangel Gabriel appears and gives her the news of her imminent assumption to heaven. St. Mary relays the news to her relatives and all Christians, asking them to bury her in the valley of Gethsemane. St. Mary also asks the Apostle John to celebrate a Divine Liturgy, so she may receive Holy Communion one final time. After receiving Holy Communion, St. Mary returns to her room. As the Apostles prepare to mourn her death, St. John asks the Mother of God to leave an image of her face on a board of wood. St. Mary takes the board, crosses herself and brings it close to her face. Moistening the board with her tears, she asks God that by means of the board, people would be cured from disease. As the Apostles surround St. Mary, an indescribable light appears. The Son of God and the angels of heaven appear in the room. Seeing Christ, St. Mary dies. St. Bartholomew the Apostle was absent and did not participate in the burial service of St. Mary. Upon his return to Jerusalem, he wishes to see St. Mary for the last time. Per his request, the Apostles open the tomb, yet they do not find the remains of St. Mary. According to His promise, Jesus Christ had delivered His mother to His heavenly kingdom. The Apostles give the board of St. Mary to St. Bartholomew for consolation.

According to Moses of Khoren, St. Bartholomew brings the board to Armenia. It is kept in the Province of Andzav, in a location called Darbnots. Years later, a church is built there in honor of St. Mary, and a convent is opened.

On the Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary, the Ceremony of the Blessing of the Grapes is conducted, and the harvest for the entire year is blessed on that day.

The Armenian Church has a deep and abiding respect towards St. Mary. Special emphasis is placed on her being a mother, her honesty, her unique spirit of humility, her virtuous behavior and her unselfish dedication. For Armenian women, the Holy Virgin is the embodiment of virtue, pious motherhood, and the protector of family sacredness.

ԽԱՂՈՂՈՐՀՆԵՔ

Վերափոխման տոնին՝ հավարտ Ս. Պատարագի, բոլոր եկեղեցիներում կատարվում է խաղողօրհնության կարգ: Բոլոր պտուղներից առավել օրհնվում է խաղողի ողկույզը, քանի որ Տերը խաղողի որթը ամենագորավոր ծառերից ավելի վեր բարձրացրեց և պատվեց առավել, քան մյուս տնկիները՝ Իրեն Խաղողի որթ անվանելով՝ ըստ այն խոսքի, թե. «Ես եմ ճշմարիտ որթատունկը» (Հովի. 15.1): Իսկ Տիրոջը սիրով կապվածներին ճյուղեր անվանեց և Հորը՝ Մշակ, որպեսզի Հայրը էտելով որթատունկը՝ այն պտղաբեր դարձնի արդարության գործում, իսկ էտված ճյուղերը հավիտենական կրակի նյութ դարձնի:

Միաձին Որդին Վերնատանը խորհրդավոր ընթրիքի ժամանակ գինին՝ խաղողի արյունը, Իր փրկական Արյան նյութը դարձրեց և Իր ձեռքերի մեջ վերցնելով՝ օրհնեց՝ ասելով. «Սա՛ է Նոր ուխտի Իմ Արյունը»: Դրանով մենք գնվեցինք ու ազատվեցինք մեղքերի ծառայությունից ու մահից:

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The reading is from the First Epistle of Galatians 3:29-4:7

And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So through God you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir.

The second reading is from the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke 1:26-38.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up

from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

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.

August	16 - Armenian
	23 - English
	30 - Armenian
September	6 - English
	13 - Armenian

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”.



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'S PICNIC PREPARATION SCHEDULE 2026

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Whether you're a longtime volunteer or would like to help for the very first time, we invite **people of all ages** to join us as we prepare for our Annual Church Picnic.

SATURDAY,
AUGUST 22

CHOREGS

THURSDAY,
AUGUST 27

SIMIT

WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 2

BOEREGS

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 4

DATE COOKIES

TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8

NAZOOK & TAHINI BREAD

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12

BAKLAVA & GATA

TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15

YALANCHI

WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16

KHADAYEF & BROWNIES

THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17

HUMMUS & PILAF PREP

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18

MEZZE PLATTERS & EECH PREP

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19

LULEH & EECH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - CHURCH PICNIC DAY!

If you are able to help on any of these dates, please text or call Gladys Tachdjian at 914 - 325 - 2232



SAVE THE DATE:
ST. GREGORY'S ANNUAL ARMENIAN
Picnic

Come join us for delicious traditional Armenian food and wine.



20 SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER
12PM - 5PM

Save
The Date



Primate's Visit
Deacons' and Acolytes' Ordination
November 1, 2026

BLESSING OF THE NEW ROBES, STOLES AND VESSELS FOR ANNOINTING



Today, following the Blessing of the Grapes service, we will also bless new robes and oorars (stoles) for our altar servers. These beautiful robes were made and brought from Armenia and are sponsored by the Kayaian family in loving memory of Lucy Krolian.

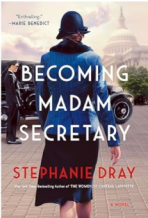
We will also bless two new liturgical vessels used during the Sacrament of Baptism: the **Aghavni (Dove Vessel)** for the Holy Muron and the **Butnots (Vessel for Anointing)**. The Aghavni is donated by the Kayaian family in loving memory of Lucy Krolian, while the Butnots is donated by the Women's Guild.



We are deeply grateful for these generous gifts to our church. These sacred items will serve our parish and future generations for many years to come.

YOU ARE INVITED TO AIDA'S BOOK CLUB MEETING!

Please join us on Saturday, September 26th, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. in the atrium for our next book club meeting!



New York Times bestselling author Stephanie Dray returns with a captivating and dramatic novel about an American heroine Frances Perkins.

Based on tales of her revolutionary ancestor, Frances Perkins arrives in New York City at the turn of the century, armed with her fiery passion and an unyielding determination to make a difference.

Frances is destined to rise in a political world dominated by men, facing down the Great Depression as FDR's most trusted lieutenant— even as she struggles to balance the demands of a public career with marriage and motherhood. And when vicious political attacks mount and personal tragedy threatens to derail her ambitions, she must decide what she's willing to do— and what she's willing to sacrifice— to save a nation.

RSVP TO ELLIE KROLIAN AT: EBKROLIAN@GMAIL.COM

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

St. Gregory Women's Guild Presents

A morning at the Bruce Museum

Tuesday, October 20th, 2026 at 11:00 am

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 the museum cafe.

Please note, lunch will be at individual expense

Free admission
Free parking on premises

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

Bruce Museum
1 Museum Drive
Greenwich, CT 06830

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Today

**Feast of the Assumption of St. Mary
Morning Service & Divine Liturgy.**
*Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Rev. Fr.
Mesrob Hovsepyan.*

*At the end of the Divine Liturgy, Blessing of the
Grapes service will be held. We will also bless
the new altar server robes and the new vessels
used for anointing during the Sacrament of
Baptism.*

*Join us for the fellowship coffee hour following
the Liturgy.*

SEPTEMBER 20,
SUNDAY

SAVE THE DATE! Annual Armenian Picnic:

SEPTEMBER 26,
SATURDAY

Aida's Book Club to meet in the Atrium at 11am.
View the flyer in the bulletin for details.

SEPTEMBER 27,
SUNDAY

**Citizens Preparedness Corps Event will be pre-
sented by New York State Division of Homeland
Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) fol-
lowing the Liturgy. Details to follow.**

OCTOBER 18,
SUNDAY

**SAVE THE DATE: A Taste of Armenian Heri-
tage: An Interactive Cooking Event with Cook-
book Author and Historian, Prof. Mari Fir-
katian. Presented by the Cultural Committee
and Women's Guild.**

OCTOBER 20,
TUESDAY

Women's Guild trip to the Bruce Museum
View the flyer in the bulletin for more details.

NOVEMBER 1,
SUNDAY

**Visit of His Grace Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan,
Primate of the Eastern Diocese**
Details to follow.