ST. JAMES OF NISIBIS ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC ORTHODOX CHURCH ԱԲ. ՑԱԿՈԲ ՄԾԲՆԱՑԻ ՀԱՅՐԱՊԵՏ

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՑ ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

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UUUSUUPU6,2020

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020



Eve (Paregentan) of the Fast of the Holy Cross Բարեկենդան U. Խաչի պահոց

Armenian Historical Year 4513 (S&P)-Armenian Calendrical Year 1470 (NS)

Morning Service 9:00 AM Holy Badarak 10:00 AM

Bible Readings Isaiah 13:1-11; 2 Corinthians 7:4-16; Mark 7:31-37

<u>ԿԻՐԱԿԻ, ՍԵՊՏԵՄԲԵՐ 6 2020</u>

Առաւօտեան ժամ 9:00 Սուրբ Պատարագ 10:00

Ընթերցումներ **Եսայի 13:1-11**; Բ Կորնթացիներին 7:4-16;

Մարկոս 7:31-37

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Alexander Adajian Michael Green Nanci Perkhaus Saro Anbarchian Sofia Petrosyan Nargez Hamayak Fred Harburg Antony Puckett Andre, Servant of God

Naringul Caliscan Arpine Hovnanian Virgie Jandegian Saskowski

Carolyn Conger Robert Lapointe Surpik Simon Cassandra Mitchell Veronica Dadourian Vigen Ter-Avakian Sam Davidson Varvara Movsesyan Milan Thakkar Seda Dilanjian Joy Nazarian Terre Tuzzolino Kary Valenziano Rick Gergerian Shirley Omartian Vartges Goorji Dn. Hagop Papazian Carla Ziegler

Hoyle Green

If you know of anyone that needs our special prayers, please call the church office (847) 864-6263 or Der Hovhan (847) 644-7389 so that their names can be included on this list or if a name should be removed.

BADARAK PEW BOOKS

Dear Parishioners, as a precasionary measure we have collected the pew books that were previousely used to follow Badarak. We are happy to inform you that the electronic version of the book is available in the KIRAKI-4hPU4h mobile app. The app is available for both Apple and Android devices.

Click here to download from Google Play store

Click here to download from Apple App store





FASTING FOR HOLY COMMUNION

The Holy Communion is one of the important sacraments for the salvation of Christians and for the nourishment of our souls. Holy Communion is a sacrament by which the believer receives Christ's Body and Blood in the form of bread and wine for remission of sins and the reception of eternal life. It is offered to the faithful during the celebration of Badarak. For person in good health, it is necessary to fast, abstain from food and participate in the sacrament of Confession before receiving Holy Communion. For those of ill health who are on special medication, a light breakfast is permitted. Fir the evening Badarak, fasting should begin after the midday meal and continue until the evening Badarak has been celebrated.

MAS

MAS (Antidoron) is very thin unleavened bread of wheat, of any reasonable size making it possible to be baked on a metal tray. It can be made by any member of the congregation. It is distributed after the Liturgy to those of the congregation who have not received communion. It is customary to take mas to the members of one's family and to friends, who have been unable to attend the Liturgy. Mas symbolizes the bond of love among the members of the church.

Mas, meaning "a portion", represents the remaining part if the loaf which the faithful used to bring to Church in ancient times to be used as bread for the Eucharist. A fraction (nshkhar) of this loaf was taken to consecration, while the remainder was distributed among the congregation at the end of the Liturgy.

Tiran Abp. Nersoyan, "Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church

ՄԵՌԵԼՈՑ – MERELOTZ - DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

It is a solemn tradition that on the day following the 5 major feast days of the Armenian Church, a day is observed in memory of those who have passed away, and are asleep in Jesus Christ. On this day, the faithful will visit the grave sides of their dearly departed, and the priest will offer requiem prayers for their souls. According to tradition, a special Divine Liturgy is also held on these days, when the faithful can remember the names of all of the faithful for whom we pray for eternal life. These Divine Liturgies are not typically celebrated in the Diaspora, because of people's work schedules, but the faithful are invited to offer the names of the faithful to be prayed for during the Divine Liturgy celebrated the following Sunday.

If you would like to observe this tradition on the Sunday following a major feast day, which includes Christmas, Easter, Feast of the Transfiguration, Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary, and the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, please contact the Church Office or Der Hovhan. The next Hokehankisd will be offered on September 20.

FEASTS AND FASTS

EVE OF THE FAST OF EXALTAION OF THE HOLY CROSS

This Sunday, September 9th, is the Eve (*Paregentan*) of the week long fast leading to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (*Khachveratz*), which is next Sunday, September 16. Because the Exaltation is a Tabernacle Feast, it is preceded by a week (Monday to Friday) of fasting.

FEAST AND FASTS

September 7-11 Fast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 8 Feast of the Nativity of the Holy Mother-of-God

September 12 Eve of the Holy Church in view of the Holy Cross (Navagadik)

September 13 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD

Today is the Feast of the Nativity of the Holy Mother-of-God. The birthd of Mary is not recorded in the Bible. The account of this event comes to us from other writings that are not part of the New Testament. According to the tradition, Joachim and Anna were faithful and pious, waiting for the promised Messiah. They were elderly and childless. They prayed to God for a child and were blessed with a daughter they named Mary, who would become the Mother of the Messiah.

EVE OF THE HOLY CHURCH IN VIEW OF THE (NAVAGADIK) HOLY CROSS

This is the commemoration of the *Navagadik* of the Cathedral of the Holy Resurrection (Holy Sepulchre), which is confirmed by the Sharagan of of that day: "*From the newly miraculous navagadik in Jerusalem, brightly vested in glory doth show thy Holy Cross*". The three Feasts of the Church celebrated during the week of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross are commemorations of three other churches and are moveable within an interval of seven days, September 13, 14 and 15 to 19, 20, 21st.

NAME DAY CELEBRATIONS

Whenever you know a friend or loved one whose Name Day/Feast Day is soon to be celebrated, honor the person by presenting them with a lit candle saying, "Anoonovut abrees" or "Anoonovut dzeranas" ("May you grow old with your name"). Or you can simply say, "Happy Name Day!"

NAME DAY celebrated this week: Mariam, Mary, Maria, Maritsa, Mayranoosh, Maro (September 8)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Եսայու մարգարեությունը 13։11-11

2 «Լեռան բարձունքին, սարահարթի վրայ դրօ՛շ կանգնեցրէք, ձեր ձայնը բարձրացրէ՛ք նրանց վրալ, մի՛ վախեցէք, ձեռքով նշա՛ն արէք, դո՛ւրս եկէք, իշխաննե՛ր, որ ես հրաման տամ։ 3 Իմ նուիրեայներն են նրանք, որոնց ես եմ բերել. ելել գալիս են հսկաները, որպէսզի գոհացում տան իմ բարկութեանը. միահամուռ գալիս են խինդով ու նախատինք թափում։ 4 Լեռների վրայ բազում ցեղերի ձայնն է հնչում, կարծես անհամար ժողովուրդներ լինեն. միահամուռ հաւաքուած թագաւորների ու ցեղերի ձայնն է հնչում։ Զօրութիւնների Տէրը հրաման է արձակել սպառազէն ազգերին, 5 որ գան հեռու երկրներից. երկնային հաստատութեան ծալրերից հասել է Տէրն իր սպառազէններով՝ բնաջնջելու ամբողջ աշխարհը։ 6 Ողբացէ՛ք, քանզի մօտ է Տիրոջ օրը, եւ հասել է Աստծոլ պատուհասը։ 7 Ահա թէ ինչու բոլորի ձեռքերը պիտի թուլանան, ամէն մարդու սիրտր պիտի դողալ։ 8 Պատգամախօսները տագնապի մէջ պիտի ընկնեն, երկունքի ցաւր պիտի բռնի նրանց, ինչպէս ծննդաբերող կանանց։ Տրտնջալով մէկը միւսին պիտի նայի, պիտի զայրանան, եւ զայրոյթից պիտի կարմրեն իրենց դէմքերը, 9 քանզի Տիրոջ օրն ահաւասիկ հասել է՝ լի անսահման բարկութեամբ, ոխակալութեամբ ու զալրոլթով, որպէսզի աշխարհն անապատ դարձնի եւ մեղաւորներին վերացնի այնտեղից։ 10 Արդարեւ, երկնքի աստղերը, Հայկի համաստեղութեան եւ երկնային բոլոր լուսատուների հետ միասին, լոլս չեն տալու, արեգակն իր ծագման պահին պիտի խաւարի, լուսինը նոյնպէս իր լոյսը չպիտի տայ։ 11 Չարիքի համար, ամբարիշտների մեղքերի համար վձիռ պիտի արձակեմ համայն աշխարհին, պիտի կործանեմ անիրաւների հպարտութիւնը, ամբարտաւանների մեծամտութիւնը պիտի խոնարհեցնեմ։

Պողոս առաքյալի Բ թուղթը կորնթացիներին 7:4-16

4Մեծ է խօսքի համարձակութիւնս ձեզի հանդէպ, մեծ է ձեզմով պարծանքս, լեցուած եմ մխիթարութեամբ, չափազանց ուրախ եմ մեր ամբողջ տառապանքին մէջ։ 5Որովհետեւ՝ երբ մենք Մակեդոնիա հասանք՝ մեր մարմինը բնա՛ւ անդորրութիւն չունեցաւ, այլ ամէն կողմէ կը տառապէինք. դուրսէն կռիւներ կային, իսկ ներսէն՝ վախեր։ 6Քայց Աստուած, որ խոնարհները կը մխիթարէ, մեզ մխիթարեց Տիտոսի գալուստով։ 7Եւ ո՛չ միայն անոր գալուստով, այլ նաեւ այն մխիթարութեամբ՝ որով ինք մխիթարուած էր ձեզմով, երբ պատմեց մեզի ձեր տենչանքը, ձեր կոծը, ինծի հանդէպ ձեր ունեցած նախանձախնդրութիւնը, այնպէս որ ա՛լ աւելի ուրախացայ։ 8Որովհետեւ, թէպէտ տրտմեցուցի ձեզ այդ նամակով, չեմ

գրջար, (թէպէտ գրջացեր էի,) քանի որ կր նշմարեմ թէ այդ նամակր տրտմեցուց ձեզ, թէպէտ միայն ժամանակ մր։ 9Ուրեմն կ՚ուրախանամ, ո՛չ թէ բանի որ տրտմեզաք, հապա՝ որովհետեւ տրտմեզաք ապաշխարութեա՛ն համար, թանի որ տրտմեցաք Աստուծոլ ուցած կերպով, որպէսցի ոչինչ միջոցով։ 10Արդարեւ մեր Uuunıdnı կորսնցուցած njjup տրտմութիւնը կր պատճառէ՝ ապաշխարութիւն՝ փրկութեան համար, որ չի գրջացներ. բայց աշխարհի տրտմութիւնը կր պատճառէ մահ։ 11Քանի դուք տրտմեցաթ Աստուծոլ ուցած կերպով, ահա՛ այր բանը ձեր մէջ ի՛նչ փութաջանութիւն գոյացուց, նոյնիսկ ջատագովութիւն, ընդվցում, վախ, տենչանք, նախանձախնդրութիւն, վրէժխնդրութիւն. ամէն կերպով դուք ձեզի հաւանութիւն տուիք թէ այդ խնդիրին մէջ անկեղծ էք։ 12Ուրեմն ինչ որ գրեզի ձեզի, ո՛չ թէ անիրաւութիւնը ընողին պատճառով էր, եւ ո՛չ այ անիրաւութիւնը կրողին պատճառով, հապա՝ որպէսզի երեւնալ ձեզի Աստուծոլ առջեւ մեր ունեցած փութաջանութիւնը ձեզի հանդէպ։ 13Ուստի ձեր մխիթարութեամբ մե՛նք մխիթարուեզանք. եւ ա՛լ աւելի ուրախազանք Տիտոսի ուրախութեան համար, որովհետեւ անոր հոգին հանգստագած էր բոլորէդ. 14 թանի որ ամօթահար չեմ րլլար՝ ձեզմով որեւէ բանի մէջ պարծենայուս համար անոր արջեւ. հապա, ինչպէս ճշմարտութեամբ խօսեզանք ձեզի, նոյնպէս Տիտոսի առջեւ մեր պարծանքն այ ճշմարիտ գտնուեցաւ։ 15Նաեւ իր գորովը աւելի առատ է ձեզի հանդէպ, մինչ կր վերլիշէ ձեր բոլորին հնազանդութիւնը, թէ ի՛նչպէս ահով ու դողով րնդունեցիք զինք։ 16Ուստի կ՚ուրախանամ որ ամէն բանի մէջ վստահութիւն ունիմ ձեր վրալ։

Մարկոս 7:31-37

<u>31</u>Դարձեալ Տիւրոսի եւ Սիդոնի հողամասերէն մեկնելով՝ գնաց Գալիլեայի ծովեզերքը, Դեկապոլիսի հողամասին մէջէն։ 32Մէկը բերին անոր առջեւ, դժուարախօս, կ'աղաչէին՝ եւ nn ձեռը վրալ։ 33 Բազմութենէն մէկդի առնելով զայն՝ իր մատները մխեց անոր ականջներուն մէջ ու թընեց, եւ դպաւ անոր լեզուին. 34ապա երկինը նայելով՝ անոր. «Եփփաթա՛», hwnwstq nL րսաւ (nn բացուէ՛.) 35իսկոյն բացուեցան անոր ականջները եւ քակուեցաւ անոր լեզուին կապը, ու շիտակ կը խօսէր։ <u>36</u>Պատուիրեց անոնց՝ որ ո՛չ մէկուն րսեն. սակայն ինք ո՛րքան կր պատուիրէր անոնց, անոնք ա՛յ աւելի կր հրապարակէին։ 37Չափացանց կ'ապշէին ու կ'րսէին. «Ան ամէն ինչ յաւ կ'րնէ. խուլերուն լսել կու տալ, եւ համրերուն՝ խօսիլ»։

Isaiah 13:1-11

<u>1</u>The oracle concerning Babylon which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw. 2Lift up a standard on the bare hill,

Raise your voice to them,

Wave the hand that they may enter the doors of the nobles.

3I have commanded My consecrated ones,

I have even called My mighty warriors,

My proudly exulting ones,

To execute My anger.

4A sound of tumult on the mountains,

Like that of many people!

A sound of the uproar of kingdoms,

Of nations gathered together!

The LORD of hosts is mustering the army for battle.

5They are coming from a far country,

From the farthest horizons,

The LORD and His instruments of indignation,

To destroy the whole land.

Judgment on the Day of the LORD

6Wail, for the day of the LORD is near!

It will come as destruction from the Almighty.

7Therefore all hands will fall limp,

And every man's heart will melt.

8 They will be terrified,

Pains and anguish will take hold of them;

They will writhe like a woman in labor,

They will look at one another in astonishment,

Their faces aflame.

<u>9</u>Behold, the day of the LORD is coming,

Cruel, with fury and burning anger,

To make the land a desolation;

And He will exterminate its sinners from it.

10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations

Will not flash forth their light;

The sun will be dark when it rises

And the moon will not shed its light.

11 Thus I will punish the world for its evil

And the wicked for their iniquity;

I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud

And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless.

2 Corinthians 7:4-16

4Great is my confidence in you; great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction. 5For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within. 6But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus; 7and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more. 8For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while—9I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. 10For the sorrow that is

according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death. 11For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter. 12So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the offender nor for the sake of the one offended, but that your earnestness on our behalf might be made known to you in the sight of God. 13For this reason we have been comforted. 14And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all. 14For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I was not put to shame; but as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also our boasting before Titus proved to be the truth. 15His affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling. 16I rejoice that in everything I have confidence in you.

Mark 7:31-37

31Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. 32There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. 33After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. 34He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). 35At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. 36Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. 37People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday:2 Corinthians 8:1-15; Mark 8:1-9Tuesday:2 Corinthians 8:16-24; Mark 8:10-21Wednesday:2 Corinthians 9:1-9; Mark 8:22-26Thursday:2 Corinthians 9:10-10:6; Mark 9:13-26Friday:2 Corinthians 10:7-17; Mark 9:37-49

Saturday: Proverbs 3:9-17; Isaiah 66:12-16; 1Timothy 3:14-16,

John 10:22-42

FROM FR. HOVHAN

REGARDING HOME VISITATIONS

It is the fifth month of our "new reality" when out of love for one other we do not come together in large groups to celebrate Badarak, worship during the week, celebrate important milestones and achievements in our lives or simply enjoy each other's presence in the daily communion of love. For clergy, visiting congregants is the fulfillment of our commitment to serve God's people, and it is with a heavy heart that I continue to avoid contact with you, including comforting the sick in hospitals or at home. And although in early July we restored church services and sacraments for inperson participation following proper COVID protocols, we continue to livestream the majority of our worship services since many of you continue to avoid public spaces.

I cannot tell you how much it sorrows me that my contact with you remains limited to phone calls, but I would like to offer two ways we can reconnect in person:

- 1. As long as it continues to be warm, I would love to stop by and spend a few minutes with you outside--on your sidewalk, in your backyard, on your porch. We can even take a walk in the park! Of course, we will wear masks and socially distance.
- 2. I can also visit you virtually via Zoom, Facebook or other means of teleconference.

If either of these two ways work for you and your family, please call or email me and we can work out the details.

REGARDING HOME BLESSINGS

In the spirit of the tradition of the Blessing of the Grapes and given the fact that I cannot perform a traditional home blessing, I would love to perform the Blessing of the Gardens (or vineyards if you have one) at your homes. Please contact me to schedule a visit.

SOT ปฏิคนิยินินิ บาคิกิยิ เกนจุคัน FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS Sunday, September 13th, 2020

YOUTH

ST. JAMES YOUTH MEETING Every Sunday 2 PM

via ZOOM Meeting ID: 938 614 7474

ST. JAMES YOUTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday at 8 PM

Via Zoom

Meeting ID: 938 614 7474

Questions? Want to participate? Contact Youth Director Ms. Irina Petrosyan at (630) 843-1304 or e-mail xorodiik@gmail.com

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL Academic Year 2020-2021

SUNDAY, Septembe 13, 2020

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL ՎԵՐԱՄՈՒՏ ԿԻՐԱԿՆՕՐԵԱՑ ՎԱՐԺԱՐԱՆԻ

All ages are welcome!

Classes will be offered via zoom and outdoors.

More details will be announced soon

ONLINE DISCUSSION: Christ as Healer on VEMKAR's Live Sessions Series

VEMKAR, the Eastern Diocese's new educational initiative, will hold another "Live Session" based on its pilot module, Christ as Healer. A live conversation with Kathryn Ashbahian, on the topic of spiritual self-care for teens and young adults, is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9, at 7 p.m. EDT.

Additional online discussions are scheduled for the weeks to come. Connect with the <u>VEMKAR.us</u> website for information—and to explore more than 60 multimedia resources that will enrich your appreciation of "Christ as Healer."

STEEPLE REPAIR PROJECT

Dear Parishioners.

Our spiritual home is in dire need of your help. St. James has stood watch over the Armenian Community since 1944. The building has stood as a testament to God since 1896 and has deteriorated to the point that urgent repairs are required. The brick facade of the steeple is separating from the wall; the mortar has crumbled and the windows are leaking into the vestibule of the hurch. Significant work is required to restore the structural integrity of the front of the building within and under the steeple.

These repairs need to be under way as soon as possible. Our community has always been protected by the shadow of the Holy Church. This is OUR opportunity to meet the church in her moment of need as she has been there for every one of our life events.

You can donate toward this project by any of these methods:

- 1) Check, via the envelope mailed to your home
- 2) Cash, in person at the church any Sunday
- 3) Via our website www.stjamesevanston.org
- 4) Via Paypal www.paypal.me/stjamesvirtualfest20

ST. JAMES CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

Over the past few years we have developed different ways of communicating with our parishioners. In addition to regular mailings of announcements, flyers, and letters we email the electronic version of our Sunday bulletin, as well as send Calling Post messages via telephone.

If you wish to be added to the mailing, emailing or Calling Post list of any of these services, please provide our office with your current contact information.

MEMBERSHIP

Many parishioners have told us that they would appreciate reminders about membership dues. So, this is our first reminder of the year! Please take a look at your checkbook or other records. If you have not yet submitted your membership dues for 2020, now is a great time to send in your 2020 St. James membership dues. Annual membership dues are \$125 per person; \$100 per person over 65; \$30 for students.

There are two easy ways to submit your membership dues. The first way is by check, made out to St. James Armenian Church.

It's also easy to send your membership dues or steeple contribution via St. James website www.stjamesevanston.org

Thank you for helping our church to keep its memberships rolls up to date!

DOWNLOAD ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH APP DESEELK

DESEELK connects users to a variety of helpful resources: details about upcoming events, the latest posts on St. James' Facebook page, photo galleries and other relevant content. You can share the link to the app via Twitter, Facebook or email.

DESEELK is the quickest, simplest and most convenient way to stay current with the goings on at St. James. Download the app today!!!

St. James official mobile app, DESEELK, is now available for both Adroid and Apple users.

Android users can download the app from Google Play store.

Apple users scan the code below.

Contact church office if you have any questions or need assistance.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please consider donating flowers to adorn the Holy Altar. You may either bring flowers or make a monetary donation towards the purchase.

ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL 2020

Chairman: Robert Simon Vice Chair: Lisa Esavian Sedrak Pashyan Treasurer Assistant Treasurer: Vartan Pavlan Secretary: Nairy Hagopian

lesayian@kirkland.com pashyan s@hotmail.com vartanp@gmail.com nhagopian@dist113.org

Assistant Secretary: Anoushik Anna Zakarian Council Member: Ohannes Korogluyan

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ohannes@aol.com

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN

St. James Church is committed to Creation care. Please recycle this bulletin by taking it with you and use the information throughout the week or leave it at the back of the sanctuary. You can also deposit it in the recycling receptacle in the Nishan Hall as you leave. Thank you!

Writing above altar:

"Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you" (James 4:8)