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

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՑ ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

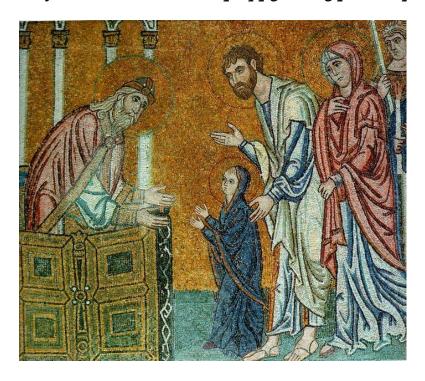
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ՆՈՑԵՄԲԵՐ 21, 2021

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Presentation of the Holy Mother of God to the Temple Ընծայումն ս.Աստուածածնի երից ամաց ի Տամարն



Eve (*Paregentan*) of the Fast of Advent Բարեկենդան Յիսնակի Պահքին

Armenian Historical Year 4514 (SG&A)-Armenian Calendrical Year 1471 (AGAU)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2021 NO. 47/2021

Psalms 8:30 AM Morning Service 9:00 AM Holy Badarak 10:00 AM

Bible Readings Isaiah 29:11-20; Philippians 4:8-23; Luke 11:1-13

<u>ԿԻՐԱԿԻ, ՆՈՅԵՄԲԵՐ 21, 2021</u>

Մաղմոսներ 8:30 Առաւօտեան ժամ 9:00 Մուրբ Պատարագ 10:00

Ընթերցումներ Եսալի 29:11-20; Փիլիպացիներուն 4:8-23;

Ղուկաս 11:1-13

Scripture Reading: Gospel of Matthew 11:25-30 (page 58)

For the soul of **Nerses Nersessian (1 year)** Requested by Shacky and Araxie Nersessian



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Alexander Adajian Dn. Hagop Papazian Fred Harburg Saro Anbarchian Araxie Hardy Nanci Perkhaus Dn. Garabed Hardy Andre, Servant of God Sofia Petrosyan Fr. Thomas Baima Leo Harootyan Surpik Simon Vigen Ter-Avakian Naringul Caliscan Jorayr Krikorian Carolyn Conger Robert Lapointe Milan Thakkar Seda Dilanjian Melina Loloyan Terre Tuzzolino Rick Gergerian Pat McCoy Kary Valenziano Vartges Goorji Cassandra Mitchell Dina Youna Varvara Movsesyan Michael Green Carla Ziegler

Nargez Hamayak Joy Nazarian

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.

PRAY FOR THE PRISONERS OF WAR

Please, pray for the speedy return of the prisoners of war being held by the unjust enemy.

Յաղագս հարց եւ եղբարց մերոց, որք ի գերութեան են եւ ի չար ծառայութեան, զՏէր աղաչեսցուք։ *Տէ՛ր, ողորմեա՛։*

For our brothers and sisters who are in captivity and in evil servitude, let us beseech the Lord. *Lord, Have mercy*.

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

FEAST OF THE APOSTLES STS. THADDEUS AND BARTHOLOMEW Sunday, December 4, 2021

Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00 am
Prayer of intercession
Veneration of the relics of Sts. Thaddeus and Bartholomew

FEASTS AND FASTS

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD TO THE TEMPLE

According to the Holy Tradition of the Church, after turning three, the parents of the Holy Virgin, Jehoiakim and Anna, fulfilling their promise, brought Mary to the temple and presented her to God. Mary remained in the temple until her engagement. One of the feasts dedicated to the Holy Virgin is her presentation to the temple. All Christian Churches celebrate this feast on November 21.

Establishment of the Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Mother of God to the Temple began with King Justinianos' building of a cathedral in honor of the Holy Mother in place of the old Jewish temple on the hill of Moria. The cathedral was consecrated on November 21, 543 AD. After 638 AD, when the cathedral was converted into a mosque, the celebration of the Feast spread throughout the entire Christian world. The Feast has been included in the Armenian Apostolic Church Calendar since the nineteenth century.

ADVENT

"Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." (James 5:8)



Advent means "coming"—the coming of Christ. In Armenian it is called *Hisnag* from the word for "fifty." It is the 50-day period during which we prepare to celebrate the Nativity and Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is a time for us to think of the why of Christmas—why the greeting cards, the decorations, the gifts, the

family gatherings? A time to look within our hearts to see if there is anything that stands between us and the Good News of Jesus' birth.

During Advent, we can rededicate ourselves to Christ through our actions, thoughts, and prayers. This is a good time for us to improve our habits and offer them as gifts to God. Perhaps Advent can also be an occasion to discover God's gifts all around us. We need to have an open heart to receive Christ—God's greatest gift of all! We complain that Christmas is too "commercial," but there is a way to live out the real "reason for the season."

Special Feasts and Fasts During Advent

The Advent in the Armenian Church is approximately two weeks longer than it is in the Western churches, and that is why it is called *Hisnag*, "a 50-day period."

Fasting During Hisnag

Hisnag is in a sense introduced by a week of fasting. The fast is officially known as "the Fast of the Beginning of *Hisnag*." There is a second fast of a week's duration following the third Sunday of *Hisnag*. This fast is known as "the Fast of St. James, Bishop of Nisibis." The commemoration of the latter takes place on the following Saturday.

The third and final fast, again of a week's duration, precedes the Feast of the Nativity and Theophany of Christ our God, and that is how it is officially recognized in the calendar.

During the remaining weeks of *Hisnag* when there is no fasting, the Wednesdays and Fridays are regularly observed as fasting days.

Feasts During Hisnag

The Armenian Church celebrates a number of feasts and observes some important commemorations during the 50 days of *Hisnag*.

The Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Virgin to the Temple, as it has a fixed date, is celebrated on November 21st, even if it falls within the week of the fasting. On such occasions, the feast is celebrated liturgically, but the fasting prevails in dietary matters.

The same practice is also observed during the Feast of the Conception of the Holy Virgin by St. Anna, which is always celebrated on December 9th. During the *Hisnag* we commemorate some of the important and major saints of the Christian Church. Among them are the 4th-century founders of Christian theology St. Gregory the Wonderworker and St. Basil of Caesarea; the Holy Apostles Thaddeus and Bartholomew, the enlighteners of Armenia; the Egyptian fathers; the early bishops of the church, such as St. Clemens, St. Ignatius, St.Polycarpus, St. Nicholas; St. James of Nisibis; and at the very end of the year, King David commemorated as a prophet; the Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord; St. Stephen the Protomartyr; the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul; the Holy Apostles James and John, both of them surnamed as Sons of Thunder.

ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA, THE WONDERWORKING FATHER

Saint Nicholas was born in the Middle East in the fourth century. He grew up to become the bishop of Myra. His hometown was Lycia, near the coast of what is now Turkey. Legends tell of his love for children, his kindness and the miracles that have been attributed to him. The most famous story about St. Nicholas tells of how he helped three unfortunate young sisters who all had suitors, but had no dowries because their father, a poor nobleman, could not raise the money. Because of this, they could not marry.

Bishop Nicholas was a shy man and did not like to give money directly, so he thought of a way to give it anonymously, When the first daughter was ready to marry, the good bishop tossed a bag of gold into the house at night. Later, when the second daughter prepared to marry, she too received a mysterious bag of gold.

When the third daughter prepared to marry, the poor nobleman and father of the three girls was determined to find out who had been so generous. So he kept watch and saw the bishop drop another bag of gold into the house.

It has been said that Saint Nicholas climbed on the roof and dropped the third bag of gold down the chimney where it landed in a stocking hung to dry, giving us a reason to hand up Christmas stocking today. When the father saw what had happened, Saint Nicholas begged him to keep the secret, but, of course, the news got out. From then on, whenever anyone received an unexpected gift, they thanked Saint Nicholas.

He was ordained a priest by his uncle. On his way in pilgrimage to the Holy Land, he was caught in the middle of a terrific storm. Saint Nicholas began praying and calmed the stormy sea. He was ordained a bishop of the city of Myra (Smyrna) upon the death of the presiding bishop. With great zeal he assumed his new position, especially he focused his energy on the poor, the sick, the imprisoned, the widows and the orphans. When the Emperor Licinius resumed the persecution initiated by Diocletian, Saint Nicholas was arrested and exiled. During his exile, he did not abandon his preaching of the Gospel. With the return of peace, he was restored to his throne. He was present at the council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. On the following year he passed away peacefully and happy. This saint is considered a patron saint not only to sailors, but also to children toward whom he had always given special attention. In America, he is often referred to as Santa Claus the equivalent to the Armenian Gaghand Baba (Father New Year). He is considered the national saint of all Russia. His popularity spread to the west when his relics were translated in 1087 A.D. to the city of Bari in Italy where a huge cathedral was built in his name.

FEASTS AND FASTS

Sunday, November 21

Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Mother-of-God (Asdvadzadzeen) to the Temple Eve (*Paregentan*) of the Fast of Advent

Monday, November 22 - Friday, November 26 Saturday, November 27 Commemoration

Commemoration of Sts. Gregory the Wonderworker, Nicholas the Bishop (of Myra) and Myron the Bishop

Fast of Advent

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: Mary, Maria, Mariam (November 21), Nikoghayos, Nick, Nicolas, Muron (November 27

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Եսայու մարգարեությունը 29:11-20

11 Թող այս բոլոր պատգամները ձեզ համար լինեն ինչպէս կնքուած նամակի խօսքեր, որը երբ տան որեւէ գրագէտ մարդու եւ ասեն նրան՝ ընթերցի՛ր այդ, պիտի ասի. «Չեմ կարող ընթերցել, որովհետեւ կնքուած է»։ 12 Եւ նոյն գիրը պիտի տան մի մարդու ձեռքը, որը տառեր չի ձանաչում, ու ասեն նրան՝ ընթերցի՛ր այդ, նա պիտի պատասխանի՝ կարդալ չգիտեմ։ 13 Տէրն ասում է. «Այս ժողովուրդը մօտ է ինձ իր բերանով, իր շրթունքներով է մեծարում ինձ, բայց սրտով հեռացել ու մեկուսացել է ինձնից. զուր է ինձ պաշտում, մարդկանց պատուիրաններն վարդապետութիւններն է ուսուցանում։ 14 Դրա համար ես էլ պիտի փոխեմ այդ ժողովրդին, պիտի այլափոխեմ նրան, պիտի կորցնեմ իմաստունների իմաստութիւնը եւ արհամարհեմ խորհրդականների խորհուրդները»։ 15 Վա՜յ նրանց, ովքեր խորին խորհուրդներ են խորհում, բայց առանց Տիրոջ. վա՜յ նրանց, ովքեր թաքուն խորհուրդներ են խորհում, ու նրանց գործերը խաւարի հետ են։ Նրանք ասում են. «Ո՞վ կտեսնի մեզ, ո՞վ պիտի իմանայ, թէ ինչ ենք անում»։ 16 Բայց չէ՞ որ դուք բրուտի կաւ էք. մի՞թէ ստեղծուածն իր ստեղծողին կասի, թէ՝ դո՛ւ չես ինձ ստեղծել, կամ արարածն՝ Արարչին, թէ՝ իմաստութեամբ չես արարել ինձ։ 17 Շատ չէ, քիչ ժամանակ կանցնի, եւ Լիբանանը կդառնայ ինչպէս Քերմէլ լեռը, իսկ Քերմէլն անտառ կհամարուի։ 18 Այն ժամանակ խուլերը պիտի լսեն այդ գրուածքի խօսքերը, եւ խաւարի ու մէգի մէջ գտնուող կոլրերի աչքերը պիտի տեսնեն. 19 աղքատներն ուրախութեամբ պիտի ցնծան Տիրոջ համար, եւ յոյսր կորցրած մարդիկ պիտի լցուեն խնդութեամբ։ 20 Անօրէնը պիտի վերանայ, ամբարտաւանը պիտի անհետ կորչի, անիրաւները պիտի ոչնչանան չարիքների մէջ։

Փիլիպեցիներ 4:8-23

8Վերջապէս, եղբայրնե՛ր, ինչ որ ճշմարիտ է, ինչ որ՝ պատկառելի, ինչ որ՝ արդար, ինչ որ՝ անկեղծ, ինչ որ՝ սիրալիր, ինչ որ՝ բարի համբաւով, ինչ որ առաքինութեամբ եւ ինչ որ գովելի է, ատո՛նց մասին մտածեցէք: **9**Ինչ որ սորվեցաք, ընդունեցիք, լսեցիք ու տեսաք իմ

վրաս՝ զանո՛նք որէք, եւ խաղաղութեան Աստուածը պիտի ըլալ ձեզի հետ: <u>10</u>Մեծապէս ուրախացայ Տէրոջմով, որ հիմա վերջապէս նորոգուեցաւ իմ վրաս ձեր ունեցած մտածմունքը, ինչպէս մտածէիք ալ, սակալն պատեհութիւն չունէիք: <u>11</u>Կարօտութեան համար չէ որ կ'րսեմ. որովհետեւ ես սորվեցայ ինքնաբաւ րլյալ իմ եղած վիճակիս մէջ: 12 Թէ՛ գիտեմ նուաստանալ, թէ՛ ալ գիտեմ առատութեան մէջ րլլալ: Ամէն բանի մէջ՝ ամէն կերպով վարժուած եմ թէ՛ կշտանալ, թէ՛ ալ անօթենալ, թէ՛ առատութեան եւ կարօտութեան մէջ րլլալ: 13 Ամէն բանի կարող եմ անով՝ որ զօրացուց զիս: 14 Սակայն լաւ րրիք՝ որ հաղորդակից եղաք տառապանքիս: **15**Դո՛ւք ալ գիտէք, Փիլիպպեզինե՛ր, թէ աւետարանին քարոզութեան սկիզբը, երբ մեկնեցալ Մակեդոնիայէն, ո՛չ մէկ եկեղեցի հաղորդակից րնդունելու համար, հապա ինծի՝ տայու եւ դո՛ւթ. 16 որովհետեւ նոյնիսկ մինչեւ Թեսադոնիկէ դրկեզիք ինծի պէտք եղածր՝ մէկ-երկու անգամ: 17 Ես կր փնտրեմ ո՛չ թէ նուէր, հապա կր փնտռեմ պտուղ, որ աւելնայ ձեր հաշիւին վրայ: 18 Իսկ ես բան ունիմ, եւ առատօրէն. լիացած եմ՝ ստանալով ամէն Եպափրոդիտոսի միջոցով ձեր դրկածները, որ անուշաբոյը հոտ մըն է, րնդունելի զոհ մը, հաճելի՝ Աստուծոլ: <u>19</u>Եւ իմ Աստուածս պիտի լեցնէ ձեր բոլոր կարիքները՝ իր ճոխութեան համեմատ, փառքով՝ Քրիստոս Յիսուսի միջոցով: **20**Ուրեմն փա՛ռը Աստուծոյ ու մեր Հօր՝ դարէ դար՝: Ամէն: 21 Բարեւեցէ՛ք բոլոր սուրբերը Յիսուս Քրիստոսով: (21a) Կր բարեւեն ձեզ ինծի հետ եղող եղբայրները: 22 Կր բարեւեն ձեզ բոլոր սուրբերը, մա՜նաւանդ անոնք՝ որ Կայսրին տունէն են: 23 Տէր Յիսուս Քրիստոսի շնորհքը ձեր բոլորին հետ: Ամէն:

Ղուկաս 11:1-13

1Երբ տեղ մը կ՚աղօթէր, դադրելէն ետք իր աշակերտներէն մէկը ըսաւ իրեն. «Տէ՛ր, աղօթե՛լ սորվեցուր մեզի, ինչպէս Յովհաննէս սորվեցուց իր աշակերտներուն»: 2Ուստի ըսաւ անոնց. «Երբ կ՚աղօթէք՝ ըսէ՛ք. "Հա՛յր մեր՝ որ երկինքն ես՝, քու անունդ սուրբ ըլլայ. քու թագաւորութիւնդ գայ. քու կամքդ ըլլայ, ինչպէս երկինքը՝ նոյնպէս երկրի վրայ՝՝: 3Մեր ամէնօրեայ հացը՝ տո՛ւր մեզի օրէ օր. 4ներէ՛ մեզի մեր մեղքերը, քանի որ մենք ալ կը ներենք բոլոր անոնց՝ որ պարտապան են մեզի. ու մի՛ տանիր մեզ փորձութեան, հապա ազատէ՛ մեզ Չարէն՝ "»: 5Նաեւ ըսաւ անոնց. «Եթէ ձեզմէ մէկը՝՝ բարեկամ մը ունենայ, ու կէս գիշերին երթայ անոր եւ ըսէ. "Բարեկամս ճամբորդած ատեն ինծի եկաւ, եւ ոչինչ ունիմ՝ անոր հրամցնելու", 7ու եթէ ան ներսէն պատասխանէ. "Ձիս մի՛ անհանգստացներ. արդէն

դուռը գոցուած է, ու զաւակներս իմ քովս՝ անկողինին մէջ են. չեմ կրնար կանգնիլ եւ քեզի հաց տալ", 8կը յայտարարեմ ձեզի. "Թէեւ բարեկամութեան համար ոտքի չելլէ՝ անոր տալու, անոր պատճառած տաղտուկին՝ համար պիտի կանգնի ու պէտք եղածը տայ անոր": 9ես ալ կը յայտարարեմ ձեզի. "Խնդրեցէ՛ք՝ եւ պիտի տրուի ձեզի. փնտռեցէ՛ք՝ ու պիտի գտնէք. դուռը բախեցէ՛ք՝ եւ պիտի բացուի ձեզի: 10 Որովհետեւ ո՛վ որ խնդրէ՝ կը ստանայ, ո՛վ որ փնտռէ՝ կը գտնէ, եւ ո՛վ որ դուռը բախէ՝ պիտի բացուի անոր: 11եթէ որդի մը հաց ուզէ ձեզմէ ոեւէ մէկէն՝ որ հայր է, միթէ քա՞ր պիտի տայ անոր. կամ եթէ ձուկ ուզէ, միթէ ձուկին տեղ օ՞ձ պիտի տայ անոր. 12կամ եթէ հաւկիթ ուզէ, միթէ կարի՞ն պիտի տայ անոր: 13 Ուրեմն եթէ դո՛ւք որ չար էք՝ գիտէք ձեր զաւակներուն բարի նուէրներ տալ, ո՛րչափ աւելի ձեր Հայրը երկինքէն Սուրբ Հոգի՛ն պիտի տայ անոնց՝ որ կը խնդրեն հոմէ՛՛»:

Isaiah 29:11-20

And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment of men learned by rote; therefore, behold, I will again do marvelous things with this people, wonderful and marvelous; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hid." Woe to those who hide deep from the Lord their counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay; that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"?

It is not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among men shall exult in the Holy One of Israel. For the ruthless shall come to nought and the scoffer cease, and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off.

Philippians 4:8-23

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me; you were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I complain of want; for I have learned, in whatever state I am, to be content. I know

how to be abased, and I know how to abound; in any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and want. I can do all things in him who strengthens me.

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving except you only; for even in Thessalonica you sent me help once and again. Not that I seek the gift; but I seek the fruit which increases to your credit. I have received full payment, and more; I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

LUKE 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and when he ceased, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive every one who is indebted to us; and lead us not into temptation."

And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything'? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

 Monday:
 Colossians 1:1-11; Luke 11:14-23

 Tuesday:
 Colossians 1:12-23; Luke 11:27-32

 Wednesday:
 Colossians 1:24-2:7; Luke 11:33-42

 Thursday:
 Colossians 3:16-4.4; Luke 11:49-54

 Friday:
 Colossians 4:5-18; Luke 12:1-12

Saturday: Wisdom 10:9-12; Malachi 2:5-7; 1 Peter 5:1-7; John 10:11-16

LITTLE SAINTS

St. James Armenian Church invites you to join us on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 am for 45 minute session on Saturday, December 4, 2021 (more dates in 2020 will be announced soon)

All children, birth to age four, are welcome to join us for our monthly interactive lesson led by Fr. Hovhan.

Little Saints is a parish ministry geared toward children from birth to age four. This program has two goals:

- 1. to bring our youngest children (ages 0-4) into our church so that they feel comfortable and welcome in the Sanctuary,
- 2. to have parents participate while getting to know one another in order to foster community.

For questions, e-mail church office at <u>office@stjamesevanston.org</u> or the program coordinator Mrs. Rani Yousefzai at <u>raniyousefzai@gmail.com</u>.

OUTREACH

PILL BOTTLES WILL NO LONGER BE COLLECTED

Pill bottles will no longer be collected at St. James. Thank you for all of your generous contributions over the past few years. The local organization that was collecting pill bottles for Haiti has ended their project and expressed their thanks. Please recycle your pill bottles with your regular home recycling.



FAMILY PROMISE

Our Outreach Project, FAMILY PROMISE, is in need of donations of breakfast, lunch or dinner for needy families. For more information and to sign up, please go to https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0e4baea62ba64-family.

Meals may be prepared at home or sent in from a local restaurant and should be delivered to Family Promise Day Center, 1417 Hinman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201. Thank you for your generosity.



PARISHIONERS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE

If you know a parishioner in need of assistance please contact our church office at 847-864-6263 or email Der Hovhan derhovhan@gmail.com.

SERVICE ACCESIBILITY



The St. James parish is working hard to make our church accessible to those with special needs. Over the last several years we were able to discover ways to meet the needs of those that are mobility challenged. We welcome your suggestions in areas which we could further improve your worship experience.

We would like to remind our parishioners that:

- A stair lift is available at the side entrance of the church. If assistance is needed, please ask a member of the Parish Council.
- Large print Sunday bulletin and other worship materials are available in the sanctuary.
- There is a handicapped parking spot in front of the building.
- Additionally you can park in the parking spot next to the main staircase. (Note: Signs say "Reserved for pastor only". Please disregard.)

A sacramental visit by our pastor Der Hayr can also be arranged. If you wish Der Hayr to visit you or a friend or family member, please contact the church office or Der Hayr.

PHOEBE VISITING MINISTRY

"I was sick and you visited me . . ." (Matthew 25:36)

Join the Visiting Ministers and take friendship and care to someone who cannot attend church. The mission of the Phoebe Visiting Ministry of St, James is to reach out to fellow parishioners to ensure that each person among us is known, loved, and cared for. This is especially true of those who, temporarily or for long periods, cannot get out to enjoy the church community.

If you notice that a familiar face has not been in church for a while, either reach out to them if you know them or contact Der Hovhan. If you know of someone who is sick or infirmed, please let the church office know at 847-864-6263.

If you would like to participate in the Phoebe Visiting Ministry of St. James please contact Der Hovhan at derhovhan@gmail.com or (847) 644-7389.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE SUGGESTION

Have you ever had a desire to make an impact on others, but weren't sure how? Have you ever thought about hosting a Sunday Fellowship Table following a *hokehankisd*, but didn't want to do all the preparation?

The St. James Outreach Committee would like to suggest that you make a \$100 donation to FAR. That \$100 would be used to serve a *madagh* (sacrificial) meal at the soup kitchen for underprivileged Armenians in Armenia.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Der Hovhan or check out www.farusa.org or www.weareayo.org.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ST. JAMES SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday at 12:30 pm

Our No. 1 priority is to keep our children and their families safe and healthy. We will offer both in-person and online "Zoom" experiences, while maintaining social-distance, wearing face masks and taking other precautions during the pandemic.

VEMKAR PRESENTS ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Vemkar is very excited to announce the launch of our Adult Christian Education program! This 12-part online live session series aims to shepherd the faithful of the Armenian Church into mature disciples of Christ. Every Tuesday from September 21 to December 14, a session will be held by an expert member of our Diocesan body concerning all aspects of adult Christian life. Bring your Bible, a prayerful attitude, and let us all build in our knowledge of Christ! Areas of study include:

- Scripture
- Liturgical tradition
- Armenian Church history and teachings (History, Saints, Church Fathers, Music, Art etc.)
- Prayer

Visit the program page on Vemkar's website to register for live sessions! https://vemkar.us/adult-christian-education

WORD OF GOD THROUGH THE ARTS

4 SESSION BIBLE STUDY:

Word of God on canvas, in literature, in music, in poetry. Led by Fr. Hovhan

> Thursdays, October 14, November 11, December 9, 2021 and January 13, 2022 7 - 8 PM via Zoom

PARISH COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHURCH BELLS PROJECT

The Parish Council of Saint James Armenian Church in Evanston, IL, at Der Hovhan's behest and guidance, has made the decision to install electronic bells in our renovated steeple. These digital bells have a beautiful sound. The manufacturer has reproduced bell sounds that are unmatched in fidelity of tone. Most people think they are hearing real bells! The set will have a keyboard, computer, software and outdoor speakers, and is easy to operate.

We ask *not* for your *donation* but in fact your *participation* in this historic project, and we want *every* family, when they hear the toll, to feel that they were involved in the acquiring of these bells.

To put the cost into perspective, if each of the 250 families that call St. James their spiritual home donated \$20, we would raise the \$5K cost of the complete set. We are hoping to install the bells in December and ring them during the Church's Name Day on December 18.

Please make your check made payable to St. James, or make a donation online through our secure website www.stjamesevanston.org. We ask that your generous contributions be made by December 1, 2021.

MASK AND SIGN UP UPDATES

It continues to be a joy and a blessing to see so many of you at St. James! Cook County continues to have a mask mandate for indoor gatherings, due to the still-rising rate of Covid diagnoses in our area and the highly infectious Delta variant. Therefore, for now, St. James will re-institute an indoor mask requirement when indoors at our church, even for those who are fully vaccinated. Last Sunday, many of you were wearing masks, and we appreciate your caution at this uncertain time. Also, for now, we are re-instituting the requirement that parishioners sign in when they enter the church. This is so that we have a record of attendance in the unfortunate event that we need to do Covid contact tracing. And as always, we ask that if you have had a temperature in the past 72 hours, or if you have recently been exposed to someone who has been diagnosed with Covid-19, for the safety of your fellow parishioners please do not attend church. We very much hope that the current situation will improve in a few weeks and we will be able to once again give parishioners the opportunity to attend without wearing face coverings.

Thank you to all of our parishioners who have made it possible for St. James to conduct safe and welcoming services. We are looking forward to worshipping with you in the Holy Sanctuary of St. James in Evanston!

HELP NEEDED

St. James' long-time office assistant Irina Petrosyan is moving to New York, and we wish her well in her new endeavors! St. James is looking for a new office assistant. Responsibilities include assisting Der Hovhan with preparation and printing of the weekly bulletin, mailings to parishioners, monitoring office supplies, maintaining parishioner contact information in our database, and other possible responsibilities subject to discussion with the pastor and parish council. Hours per week are subject to discussion but typically we would need at least 5 hours per week. Interested candidates, or parishioners who know someone who may be interested, should contact Der Hovhan or PC Chair Gevik Anbarchian

STEEPLE REPAIR PROJECT

We have been informed by ComEd and the City of Evanston that work will be performed on our block of Clark Street, in front of and near the church, to improve the reliability and coverage of the Verizon Wireless Network in the area and to replace a lightpole and certain underground wiring. The work is scheduled to be performed Mondays through Thursdays from 7:30am through 5:00pm for about one month. Work signs and barricades will be posted in the areas where there will be trucks and equipment, and there will be temporary parking restrictions during working hours. At present we do not expect any impact to parking in front of the church on Sundays, but as the work proceeds, we will keep you informed.

CELEBRATING 75th (PLUS 1!) ANNIVERSARY

Dear Parishioners,



St. James is pleased to invite you to our 75th (plus 1!) anniversary weekend, December 17 to 19, 2021, with our Primate Bishop Daniel Findikyan presiding. More information to follow, but please save the date for these joyous events:

Saturday, December 18

Divine Liturgy with Bishop Daniel Findikyan presiding and guest celebrants and homilists, and featuring our Bell Choir.

Coffee and dessert to follow.

7:00 pm Concert at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Evanston, to include performance by Marta Aznavoorian, presentation by Bishop Daniel, and awards for St. James Parishioners

Free Will Offering

Reception after the performance and program

Sunday, December 19

10:00 am Divine Liturgy and Ordination of three acolytes, with Bishop Daniel as celebrant

Coffee and dessert to follow

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

HOME BLESSING

All parishioners who wish to have their homes blessed should call Der Hovhan (847) 644-7389 to make arrangements. Have a piece of bread, dish of salt and glass of water available for the blessing.

ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL 2021

Chairman:Gevik Anbarchiangevsan@yahoo.comVice Chair:Lisa Esayianlesayian@kirkland.comTreasurer:Sedrak Pashyanpashyan_s@hotmail.comAssistant Treasurer:Robert Simonbcsimon@wowway.comSecretary:Nairy Hagopiannhagopian@dist113.org

Assistant Secretary: Anoushik Anna Zakarian anna@annaz1.com
Council Member: Ohannes Korogluyan ohannes@aol.com

Diocesan Delegates: Lisa Esayian and Ralph DerAsadourian

ALTAR SERVERS OF ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

Dn. Garabed Hardy Sub-Deacon Melkon Melkonian
Dn. Krikor Mirijanian Sub-Deacon Vartkes Minatiskan
Dn. Larry Farsakian Sub-Deacon Haig Hagopian

Dn. Kavork Hagopian Sub-Deacon Alexander Khoja-Eynatyan

Dn. Levon Kirakosyan
Dn. Aram Sarkisian
Tbeer Aram Kirakosyan
Tbeer Brandon Simon

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)