



YETTEM ԵՊԵՄ

Հրատարակութիւն Եղեմի Ս. Աստուածածին Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ

A Publication of St. Mary Armenian Church Yettem, California

Rev. Fr. Mashdots Keshishian, Parish Priest

July 2024

Transfiguration of Christ

In the glorious narrative of the Transfiguration, we encounter the radiance of Christ's divinity revealed to His disciples – a moment of pure joy, marvel, and affirmation of faith. The gleaming figure of Christ, the ethereal presence of Moses and Elijah, and the enveloping bright cloud convey a sense of divine grandeur. Yet, there is a mysterious link between this story of revelation and the story of the crucifixion – a narrative painted in hues of pain, suffering, and betrayal.

The Church Fathers have long held that the Transfiguration and the Crucifixion are intimately connected. Chronologically, the Transfiguration occurs just before the Crucifixion. Both incidents unfold on a mountain or a hill, with Peter, James, and John as witnesses. The Transfiguration presents Christ in glorious light while the Crucifixion reveals Him in the depth of human suffering. In the former, His clothing shine brightly, while in the latter, He is stripped of His clothing. At the Transfiguration, the greatest figures of Jewish faith validate His ministry; at the Crucifixion, He is forsaken by His closest friends. While a bright cloud shrouds the scene of Transfiguration, darkness engulfs the Crucifixion. In one story, Peter is awed by the glory of Christ; in the other – he denies Him thrice.

We might wonder why these two vastly different narratives are interconnected. Could it be that the Gospels are encouraging us to see that a genuine relationship with God encompasses both joy and suffering, victory and setback, in health and in sickness, in times of abundance and in need? Just as in human relationships, the bonds of friendship, love, and marriage require us to stand by one another in times of grief and joy, betrayal and loyalty.

The Church, understanding the need for unity in both prosperity and pain, emphasizes this in the marriage ceremony, repeatedly asking couples if they promise to stand together in sickness and health, in prosperity and poverty, in misfortune and joy.

(Continued on the back page)

Parish Notes

ALTAR CANDLE OIL

June 30th

Aron Margosian
by his grandchildren,
Zoie and Baby Aron Margosian

ALTAR FLOWERS

June 2nd

Shirley Ouzounian,
Craig and Annie Ouzounian and family, and
Lisa and Paul Dermenjian and family
in memory of George Ouzounian

June 30th

Julie Poochigian
in memory of
Iveta Galstyan,
the Nakashian, Hanenian, Galstyan, Yoshida, and
Poochigian deceased family members

HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS

June 2nd

George Ouzounian
forty days after his passing,
requested by Shirley Ouzounian,
Craig and Annie Ouzounian and family, and
Lisa and Paul Dermenjian and family

June 9th

Jack Ananian
six years after his passing,
requested by
The Jack Ananian Family

June 30th

Iveta Galstyan,
the Nakashian, Hanenian, Galstyan, Yoshida,
and Poochigian deceased family members
requested by Julie Poochigian

HOKEHANKIST DONATIONS

June 9th

For Repose of Jack Ananian's Soul
Tom and Julie Bair

DONATIONS

Mike and Joy Ananian

Betty Skaff Jacobo

Tania Martell

Alice Toukdarian

LADIES SOCIETY NEWS

Ladies Society has been busy these last two months. We had our annual Celebrating Our Mothers luncheon, attended the Diocesan General Assembly, hosted fellowship, held our community picnic, and made choreg for Armenian Summer Camp. Each event brought joy, laughter, and fellowship. I can never say thank you enough times to all who helped with each event.

The Mother's luncheon was held at the Vintage Press. Each of us shared photos and spoke about our mothers. Thank you to Janice McWilliams who donated the orchids at each table, to Julie Poochigian for donating the See's candy favors, and to Janel Zerounian for making our invitation.

Representing our chapter at the Diocesan Assembly was Der Mashdots, Mari Louise Menendian, Judy Skaff, and me. At the meeting, we passed by-laws revisions authored by Mari Louise. The revisions were passed without decent thanks Mari Louise's meticulous work.

Gina Ananian and her fellowship committee put out a spread to welcome Der Mashdots back from Etchmiadzin. Thank you to the committee for donating all the food.

Our community picnic was held at Blain Park in Visalia. We ate, played games, and shared laughter and stories. Thank you to Margie L. Davidian and her committee, who prepared and donated the food and to Gina Ananian who organized the games.

Choreg, choreg, choreg! The Armenian Church Camp campers will not go hungry with all the choreg we made. Thank you to Laurie Menendian and Debbie Sheklian who chaired the event and to all those that volunteered their time. The campers will not be disappointed! (See collage)

In August, we are hosting the annual Asdvadzadzin bake sale. If you can make an item for the sale, please let Michelle Ananian know at 559-397-9083 or at anianmichelle@yahoo.com. September 8, we are hosting our annual Grandparents' Day brunch. Make plans to attend. As always, you won't want to miss out!

Blessings to all, Linda Farsakian-Wall

HYE CAMP 2024

Fr. Mashdots will be serving as the chaplain at the Armenian summer camp July 28th - August 3rd.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The Ways and Means Committee has no scheduled meetings in July.

LADIES SOCIETY

The Ladies Society has **no scheduled meetings in July**. The Ladies Society **August meeting** will be held on **Saturday, August 3rd at 11:30 AM** in the Majarian Hall.

SAVE THE DATE

Pastoral visitation of His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian to St. Mary Armenian Church in Yetem will be on **Sunday, July 14th**. (See flier)

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council's next meeting will be held on **Thursday, July 25th** via Zoom at **6 PM**.

RAFFLE

Our **June, July and August drawings of 2024** will be held on **Sunday, August 18, 2024**.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Sunday School will resume on **Sunday, September 8th, Grandparents' Day**.

ST. MARY MEMORIAL WALL

The St. Mary Memorial Wall was started in 2001 and has been a huge success. Contact Linda Farsakian-Wall at (559) 786-1419 or email: linda.hyewall@gmail.com

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

If you are interested in **sponsoring a monthly bulletin** or a **weekly bulletin**, please call the church office at (559) 528-6892. **Sponsorships are a good way to remember or honor family members or friends. Sponsorships for the weekly bulletin are \$25 or more and a \$250 minimum donation for the monthly bulletin.**

WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATE

If you would like to have your email address added to our weekly update email blasts, please call the church office or email sonya@stmaryyettem.org



Spring is here! Time to clean out your garage or yard of that old vehicle taking up space and donate it to St. Mary Armenian Church of Yetem. What are you waiting for? Clean out that clutter! Call Linda Farsakian-Wall at 559-786-1419 for more information.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Our church office hours are **Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 – 2:30 PM**. The office phone number is (559) 528-6892. If you are in need of something beyond those hours, you can email fathermashdots@stmaryyettem.org or text/call (818) 293-9098 or email St. Mary Parish Council Chair Judy Skaff at judy@thebelmontgroup.com or text/call (559) 799-1198.

PAYPAL

You may access PayPal through the St. Mary Yetem website (www.stmaryyettem.org) by clicking on the "Donation" button on the bottom of the Home Page. You may donate for general donations, yughakins, hokehankists, pledges, membership dues, in lieu of flowers, or pay for altar flowers you have ordered on behalf of the church.

NEW QR CODE BELOW

Click to Donate to
St. Mary Yetem
With PayPal or Credit
Cards



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

JULY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7 Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ	8 Remembrance of the dead	9	10	11 St. Isaiah the Prophet	12	13 St. Thaddeus the Apostle & Sandoukht the Virgin
14 His Eminence Pastoral Visitation Hye Spirit Awards Lunch	15	16	17	18	19	20 Sons & Grandsons of St. Gregory the Illuminator
21	22	23	24	25 The Parish Council meeting via Zoom at 6 PM	26	27
28 Fr. Mashdots will be serving as the chaplain at the Armenian summer camp July 28 th – August 3 rd	29	30	31			

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Sunday Schedule:

Morning Service (Matins) 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:15 AM

Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday
9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Father Mashdots can be reached at:

559-528-6892 – Office
559-528-6897 – FAX
818-293-9098 - Cell



*You're
Invited!*

**His
Eminence
Archbishop
Hovnan
Derderian**

PASTORAL VISIT
To

***St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church
Yettem***

Sunday, July 14, 2024

St. Mary Parish invites all parishioners & friends to this great event!

- Bestowing of the Hye Spirit Awards to Janice McWilliams and Tina Peters
- A luncheon will be offered by the St. Mary Parish Council after church services. For reservations, please call the church office at 528-6892 or email lunches@stmaryyettem.org with your name and the number of lunches requested by July 7, 2024.

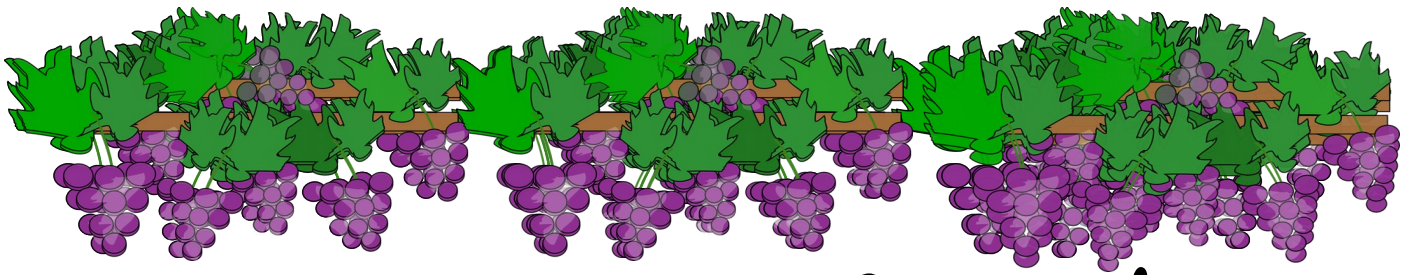


Please RSVP by July 20th to:

Yeretzgin Maral Keshishian

Call/Text 818-293-9049

Lunch will be provided



August Calendar

Sunday, August 18, 2024

After Church Services

Bake Sale & Farmers Market

-Homemade Baked Good, Fruits & Vegetables

Asdvadzadin

Blessing of the Grapes Luncheon

-Chicken Kebab, Rice Pilaf, Salad, Cooked Carrots, Bread, Dessert-
Donation—\$20 Adults/\$12 Children under 10

Monthly Raffle

-June, July and August Drawings-

Luncheon Reservations by August 13
lunches@stmaryyettem.org or (559) 528-6892



St. Mary Yettem
Armenian Church
Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 21, 2024

Sponsorships Available!

Event Sponsor - \$3,000

Name prominently displayed on Welcome Banner
4 player entry fees – which includes lunch

Gold Sponsor - \$1,500

Name on Welcome Banner
2 player entry fees – which includes lunch

Silver Sponsor - \$500

Name on Welcome Banner
2 lunch tickets

Tee Sponsor - \$100

Name on tee sign

3-hole Tee Sponsor - \$250

Name on tee signs at three holes

Name _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name to appear on Signage: _____

_____ check enclosed

Mail to:

St. Mary Armenian Church – Golf Tournament
P.O. Box 367
Yettem, CA 93670

_____ Zelle Payment: YettemWMC@gmail.com



Ladies Society Picnic at Blain Park June 1, 2024





**Making 600+ Choregs for Church Camp
June 8, 2024**



June was a busy month with so many projects completed. Lights in the hall were replaced and trees and flowerbeds were trimmed using a rented lift. A fallen tree was removed with the cost covered by Charlie Ananian. Repair of the leaking roof and the resulting damage to the interior wall in the Majarian Hall was covered from some of the interest accrued from the George and Stella Ananian Memorial Fund. A new refrigerator for the vestry and a new vacuum cleaner for the church were purchased and donated by Janice and Rich McWilliams. A huge thank you to all who donated their time and money to help keep our beloved St. Mary Church looking beautiful!



(Continued from the front page)

Just as in these earthly relationships, it is both important and challenging to discern God's presence in our varied life experiences. When our lives overflow with blessings, when our relationships thrive, our careers progress, and our health is robust, we can easily forget that all these gifts come from God's merciful love, rather than mere luck, or our own abilities. Conversely, when we face misfortune, tragedy, and pain, we might fail to recognize the comforting and guiding presence of God amidst our suffering.

Let us remember the importance of recognizing and seeking God in both our joys and our disappointments. May we have the wisdom to see God's hand in all aspects of our lives – in our victories and our losses, in our joys and our sorrows. Let us pray for the grace to recognize His presence and guidance in every circumstance, for it is through faith that we can truly navigate life's diverse realities.

Fr. Vosgi

St. Mary Armenian Church
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