



YETTEM ԵՊԵՄ



Հրատարակուիլն Եղեմի Ս. Աստուածածին Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցոյ
A Publication of St. Mary Armenian Church Yettem, California
Rev. Fr. Mashdots Keshishian, Parish Priest

July 2022

The Transfiguration of Jesus!

What is the transfiguration of Jesus? Was it REAL? Where and when did it occur? What does it prophetically mean?

The transfiguration is the miraculous manifestation of Jesus' glory along with the glorified forms of Moses and Elijah (Matthew 17:1-9, Mark 9:1-10, Luke 9:27-36). This manifestation was witnessed by three specially selected disciples (Peter, James, and John) who were on a high mountain with the Lord when the event took place.

The Bible reveals that Moses and Elijah, during the transfiguration, were discussing with Jesus his upcoming suffering and death in Jerusalem (Luke 9:31). Christ himself had only first begun to openly teach the details of his upcoming sacrifice to his disciples less than two weeks prior (Matthew 16:21, Mark 8:31).

As the three men were speaking, a cloud enveloped them with the voice of God declaring, *"This is My Son, the Beloved. Listen to Him!"* (Luke 9:35). The cloud, along with Moses and Elijah, then quickly disappeared.

Was it real?

The Lord, when the transfiguration ended, revealed to his three disciples what they had experienced along with a stern warning, *"Tell the VISION to no one until the Son of man has risen from the dead"* (Matthew 17:9).

Where did it take place?

Jesus and his disciples were in Caesarea Philippi (Matthew 16:13, Mark 8:27) six days before his transfiguration took place (Matthew 17:1, Mark 9:2). He then decided to take three of the disciples to an unspecified high mountain where he would pray (Luke 9:28).

When did it occur?

Surprisingly, the transfiguration also likely took place after sunset! Luke states the three disciples were "heavy with sleep" while Jesus prayed (Luke 9:32). It is only when they suddenly awoke that they witnessed the vision. Christ was known for frequently praying at night (Matthew 14:23, 26:36, Luke 6:12, etc.).

What does it mean?

There are manifold meanings attached to the transfiguration. Some of these include the following.

1) It reinforced, especially given God's words (Luke 9:35) and what Elijah and Moses were perceived to discuss, that Jesus' teachings for telling his suffering and death would surely happen. When God spoke the command to listen to Jesus, He was in effect saying even though Moses and Elijah were great men of God and represented the Law and the messages given by prophets, we should now listen to Jesus, His beloved Son.

2) The appearance of Moses, symbolizing God's law, and Elijah, representing the prophets, testified how both the law and the prophets (Matthew 11:13, Luke 24:44, John 1:45) prophesied about Jesus' coming, ministry, death and resurrection.

(Continued on the back page)

Parish Notes

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

THIS JULY 2022 BULLETIN

IS SPONSORED BY

LARRY AND WENDY FARSAKIAN

WE MAKE THIS DONATION TO HONOR
OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS,
PAST AND PRESENT, WHO HAVE SERVED
ST. MARY YETTEM.

ALTAR CANDLES DONATION

June 26th

***Carrie, Amos, Maria, Zoie, and
Margo Margosian***

in memory of

Aron Margosian,

four years after his passing, June 26th

ALTAR FLOWERS DONATIONS

June 12th

The Vartanian Family

in honor of Davy and Reilly's
wedding on June 11th

June 12th

***Judy Kachadoorian, Kandy Kachadoorian
Basmajian, Kris and Aida Kachadoorian
and family***

in memory of

Kaye Kachadoorian

June 12th

Lisa and David Krause,

Bryan, Terry, Renee, and Michelle Ananian
in honor of Stella Ananian's birthday

June 26th

Renee Yahnian and family

in memory of

Bryan Yahnian and Helen Bagdasarian

**DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH FOR
MEMORIAL DAY GRAVE BLESSINGS**

Madlien Hebeshia

Julie Poochigian

HOKEHANKIST REQUEST

June 12th

Jack Ananian

four years after his passing,
requested by Shari Ananian and Julie Bair

June 19th

Fathers' Day Hokehankist Requests

Pete Zerounian

Artin Zerounian

Armen Menendian

Der Garabed Avak Kahana

Kalfayan

Diran Garoian

Mugerdich Bezdigian

Tom Tejerian

Richard Nicholas

Harry Ananian

Vartan Khanjian

George Ananian

Hrant Farsakian

Chris Yaldezian

George Tiller

Yervant Sheklian

George Kevorkian

Harry Ekizian

Don McWilliams

Giragos Davidian

Harry Davidian

Greg Davidian

Michael Megerian

Hagop Sousamian

Charlie Zeroun

Abraham Menendian

Kurken "Kirk" Garoian

Garabed Garoian

Edward Tejerian

Neshan Sheklian

Jack Ananian

Dn. Hagop Keshishian

Sark Davidian

Dn. Garabed Simonian

Souren Sam Farsakian

Robert Wall

Haig Sheklian

George Margosian

Mike Ekizian

Hadji Ekizian

Haig Balakian

Art Ekizian

Johnny Davidian

Charles Ouzounian

John Megerian

June 26th

Bryan Yahnian

one year after his passing,

Helen Bagdasarian

ten years after her passing,

requested by Renee Yahnian and family

HOKEHANKIST DONATIONS

(May 24, 2022 – June 26, 2022)

For Repose of Kaye Kachadoorian's Soul

June 12th

***Judy Kachadoorian and family,
Serge and Judith Ananian***

For Repose of Jack Ananian's Soul

June 12th

Julie Bair

Father's Day Donations

Mark and Linda Wall

Grant Bedrosian

Lesta Ekizian

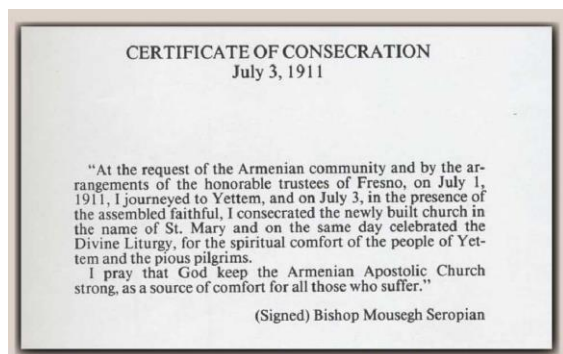
PARISH COUNCIL CORNER

On Sunday, July 3, 2022, we will celebrate the 111th year of the consecration of our first St. Mary Armenian Church in Yettem. This month, I am “borrowing” the words of Deacon Christopher Sheklian who wrote the following dedication of the St. Mary Armenian Church of Yettem 100th Anniversary Book. As I reread what he wrote eleven years ago, I felt it was worth sharing as we mark another year of our existence:

In the hot San Joaquin, a small group of Armenians carved out a little garden and called it Yettem. By 1911 they had built a church, the fifth Armenian Apostolic Church in America, and dedicated it to the Mother of the God. Far from home, with hardships behind and many more to come, the church was consecrated while they again dedicated themselves to the Lord and to each other. They praised God, sang hymns to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, danced, lived, loved, had children, watched them grow with the church, and went to rest with the Lord. Their children and children's children grew up together, praised God, learned to dance, to feast, to sing, to love, to live.

One hundred years later, we the living, now generations, Diaspora anew, write the history of Yettem wherever we go. At home in the garden of our church, we grow up, praise God, learn to dance, to sing, to love, to live. We pray together, mourn together, love together. We come together in feast and fast, in hope and despair. Siblings and friends grow old together. Families remain and depart. Loved ones remain and depart.

At one hundred years, we look forward with the expectation of a child and back with the wisdom of a sage. Most importantly, we look to the present with the strength of Samson, the courage of David, and the faith of Abraham. For through Christ, all things are possible. In our hundredth year, in loving memory and in hopeful expectation, we rededicate ourselves and one another to the Lord God Almighty.



Myron Sheklian – Parish Council Chair

LADIES SOCIETY NEWS

The Ladies Society held our Executive Board and General monthly meetings June 6. The luncheon for the general meeting was our annual Margie L. Davidian food treat. Margie put together delicious pulled pork sandwiches topped with her homemade sauces. Brilliant throughout the year, Margie never fails to impress, so let's thank her grandma Zarouhi Davidian and her mother Sylvia Davidian, both of blessed memory and long-time Ladies Society members, for teaching her and giving her the gift that keeps on giving. The beneficiary is the whole parish. Thank you to Margie and her committee.

We haven't scheduled a meeting for July, but plans are in progress this summer, nonetheless. The Ladies' Society bylaws say local chapters should invite Ladies Societies of neighboring parishes for a social gathering and receive reciprocal informative hospitality within the respective parishes. Here in the valley, we call this our Sister Churches Luncheon. The host chapter rotates. This year, St. Mary Yettem hosts. Linda Farsakian-Wall is chairing the event, scheduled for September. We have a speaker, we have a luncheon, we have a favor for attendees, we have a chance to visit with our friends all over the valley.

With sadness, we expressed our condolences to the family of Rose (Barsamian) Kaplan, who entered eternal rest April 27. Rose joined the Ladies' Society in 1986. Many of us have known Rose our whole lives. You may not know her twin was Lily Armo. Their brothers were twins Pete and Charlie Barsamian. The two sets of twins were born a year apart on the same day at a house located where the Menendian house is now on Avenue 388.

Choreg

Each night during Western Diocese Summer Hye Camp, the campers and staff enjoy choreg at snack time. Mark Pryor is the Choreg Coordinator. Yes, it's an actual position. Mark asked all the parishes for donations. He needs 400 dozen choregs! 100 per week! Four weeks of camp! Debbie Sheklian generously consented to chair our Yettem Ladies' Society choreg team. Early Saturday June 25, the dough was kneaded and allowed to rise. Then the fancy braiding, then the baking. St. Mary Ladies' Society prepared at least 50 dozen choregs and did our part to support our Hye Camp. Bravo!

Karon Penny is our only current member born in July. Happy birthday, Karon.

*Mari Louise Menendian
Ladies Society Chair, 2022*

MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS

*Melvin and Regina Agajanian
Rose Marie Margosian
Tania Martell
Madelaine H. Tolegian
Patricia Zerounian*

SAVE THE DATE

Pastoral visitation of His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian to St. Mary Armenian Church will be on **Sunday, July 24th**. (See flier)

ALTAR FLOWER INCREASE

Effective May 2022 Peter Perkins has increased the price of delivery of altar flowers to our church. The new cost for two altar flowers is \$125. If you choose to supply your own flowers already in vases, they must be here at church before 10:00 AM on Sunday.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council's next meeting will be held via Zoom on **Thursday, July 21st at 6 PM.**

WAYS AND MEANS

The Ways and Means next meeting will be via Zoom **Wednesday, August 17th at 7 PM.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Sunday School will resume on **Sunday, September 11th**.

RAFFLE

Our sixth church raffle of 2022 was held on Sunday, June 19th.

Congratulations to...
(\$150) Jennifer Daily
(\$100) Mark Wall
(\$50) Mark Wall

Our **seventh raffle drawing** will be held on **Sunday, July 10th**. The drawing will also be streamed on Facebook. Thank you to our Ways and Means Committee for this great fundraiser for our church. If you would like tickets, contact Tina at (559) 967-2593 by phone or text.

PASTORAL VISITATIONS

Now that Covid restrictions have been relaxed, Father Mashdots is willing to make informal visits.



Profits from the sale benefits our church. It's easy! For more information, contact, Linda Farsakian-Wall at 559-786-1419.

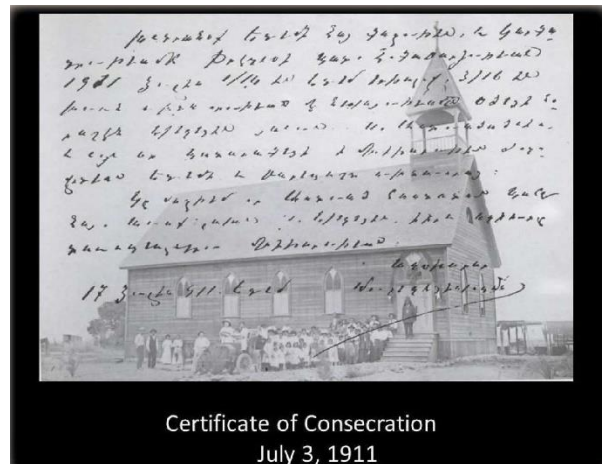
BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

If you would like to sponsor either the weekly bulletin for a minimum donation of \$25 or the monthly bulletin for a minimum donation of \$200, please call the church office at (559) 528-6892.

ALL services are livestreamed on our webpage at www.stmaryyettem.org. Click the link on the "camera tab" to watch services. The Holy Badarak is streamed on our Facebook page each Sunday beginning at **10:15 AM.**

DONATIONS

It seems that every month we are challenged with unexpected expenses such as cars running into our property, compressors going out on air conditioning units and replacing old equipment. Checks may be mailed to the church office, or you may access PayPal through the St. Mary Yettem website (www.stmaryyettem.org). You may donate for General Donations, Yughakins, Pledges, Membership Dues, In Lieu of Flowers, or pay for Altar Flowers you have ordered for the church altar. An envelope has been attached for your convenience.



Certificate of Consecration
July 3, 1911

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 St. Gregory of Illuminator Discovery of His Relics
3 1911 Consecration Day	4 Independence Day	5	6	7 St. Sahag & Mesrob Translators	8	9
10 7 th Raffle drawing	11	12	13	14	15	16 12 Holy Apostles of Christ & St. Paul the 13 th Apostle
17	18	19	20	21 Parish Council meeting via Zoom at 6 PM	22	23
24 Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ "Vardavar" Bishop's Pastoral Visit Ordinations Parish Council Luncheon	25 Remembrance of the dead	26	27	28 St. Isaiah the Prophet	29	30 St. Thaddeus the Apostle & Sandoukht the Virg
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 24, 2022

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

- Celebration of the Divine Liturgy by his Eminence
- Ordination of Dustin Vartanian to rank of Sub Deacon
- Bestowing of the Hye Spirit Awards to Laurie Menendian and Rose Marie Margosian
- Celebrating the 95th Anniversary of the Western Diocese
- Complimentary luncheon prepared by St. Mary Parish Council with all costs paid for by the Peters Family in honor of Rose Marie Margosian



Congratulations to Davy and Reilly Vartanian who were married in our church on June 11th. Davy is the son of Sandra Vartanian and David Vartanian. Reilly is the daughter of Kelly and Troy Reis. Davy is the Vice Chairman on the St. Mary Yettem Parish Council. Best wishes for a long, happy, and fruitful marriage.



Christian Education Committee Pilgrimage - June 5

(Continued from the front page)

- 3) The transfiguration revealed the glory Jesus possessed as a member of the Godhead, the same glory he will display at his Second Coming! His prophetic return, possibly starting on the Feast of Trumpets, will be as King of Kings (Revelation 19:16) to bring God's righteous Kingdom to the earth (Luke 9:27).
- 4) The transfiguration vision revealed the glory the resurrected saints will possess in the first resurrection that takes place during the return of Jesus.
- 5) When the three disciples looked up when Jesus touched them after they fell, they saw only Jesus. In other words, Jesus (representing God's salvation through grace) has now replaced the Law and the messages of the prophets. As God's voice said: "Hear Him." Jesus is now the One to be obeyed by the believer.

Symbolically, the appearance of Moses and Elijah represented the Law and the Prophets. But God's voice from heaven "Listen to Him!" clearly showed that the Law and the Prophets must give way to Jesus. The One who is the new and living way is replacing the old and He is the fulfillment of the Law and the countless prophecies in the Old Testament. Also, in His glorified form they saw a preview of His coming glorification and enthronement as King of kings and Lord of lords.

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St. Mary Armenian Church
 P.O. Box 367
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