



ԵՂԵՄ

Հրատարակութիւն

Եղեմի Ս. Աստուծածին

Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ

FEBRUARY 2018

YETTEM

A publication of St. Mary

Armenian Church

Yetter, California

The Armenian Church has defined the period of Great Lent as a time of abstinence and repentance for the faithful. Each Sunday during this period is named after an event in the Holy Bible that contains the message of the day. According to the calendar, the days prior to weekly fasts, as well as Great Lent, (with the exception of the fast preceding Holy Nativity) are called Barekendan. The word Barekendan means “good living” or “good life”, as we are called to live cheerfully, joyfully, and to be happy on these days preceding fasting periods. On these days of Barekendan, the angel’s words addressed to the prophet Elijah are fulfilled: “Arise and eat, otherwise the journey will be too great for you” (1 Kings 19:7). The Armenian Church thus allows her faithful to organize games, festivals, carnivals and large, plentiful meals to observe the feast, as it is followed by a period of fasting and abstinence. The Eve of Great Lent, as Great Barekendan is also called, commemorates the human bliss, which Adam and Eve enjoyed in the Garden of Eden. It also symbolizes the heavenly right, according to which, mankind could eat all types of fruit, except the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Barekendan is the manifestation of the virtues of the soul, through which people can transform mourning to joy, and torment to peace. It is with this comprehension, with bowing of our souls, penitence, fasting and hope for mercy, that each Christian individual should take his first step on the long, 40 day journey of Great Lent, culminating with the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The period starting from the day following the Great Barekendan and lasting till the Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, is called Great Lent. In the period of the Great Lent, people refraining from bodily pleasures and sins get prepared for the Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ by means of abstinence and repentance. Spiritual, moral and bodily abstinence are considered to be important. Our church fathers have called the period of the Great Lent as “Karasnordats”, as the period of fasting lasts 40 days. This period of the Great Lent is also called “Salt and bread”, as in the past during the period of the Great Lent people have eaten only salt and bread. In the New and Old Testaments there are many testimonies concerning the period of Great Lent. Moses fasted for forty days and only then received the Lord’s rules and canons. However, this period is related to 40-day period of temptation of Christ in the desert, following which our Church fathers established this period of fasting. Fasting may be of three kinds: usual fasting, rigorous abstinence and absolute fasting. In case of usual fasting people can eat only food of vegetable origin. In case of rigorous fasting people refuse to eat any food even of vegetable origin. And in case of absolute fasting people refuse to eat any kind of food, including even bread and water. During the period of the Great Lent curtains in the churches are closed in commemoration of the fact that after sinning Adam was exiled from Eden and the doors were closed before him.

ԲՈՒՆ ԲԱՐԵԿԵՆՆՐԱՆ

Սովորաբար Բարեկենդան է կոչվում շաբաթապահքերի և Մեծ պահքի նախընթաց օրը: Բարեկենդանին թույլատրվում են չափավոր վայելքներ, խրախճանքներ, խա-դեր եւ ուտեստներ: Բարեկենդան բառացի նշանակում է կենդանություն, բարի կյանք: Մեծ պահքի բարեկենդանը կոչվում է Բուն Բարեկենդան, քանի որ նախորդում է ամե-նաերկար պահքին: Բարեկենդանը մարդու երջանկության հիշատակն է, որը դրախ-տում վայելում էին Ադամն ու Եվան: Այն նաև դրախտային կյանքի օրինակն է, որտեղ մարդուն արտոնված էր ճաշակել բոլոր պտուղները, բացառությամբ բարու և չարի՝ գիտության ծառի պտղից, որը պահքի խորհրդանիշն է: Բարեկենդանն առաքինությունների արտահայտություն է: Այդ օրը մարդիկ սզից անցնում են ուրախության, չարչարանքից՝ խաղաղու-թյան: Այս ընկալմամբ է, որ յուրաքանչյուր քրիստոնյա հոգու խոնարհումով, ապաշխարությամբ, պահքով և ողորմության հույսով սկսում է Մեծ պահքի 40-օրյա ճանապարհը: Այն տևում է 48 օր՝ Բուն Բարեկենդանից մինչև Ս. Հարության՝ Զատիկի տոնը: Պահքի շրջանում օգտա-գործում են բացառապես բուսական ծա-գում ունեցող սննդամթերք: Պահքի ընթաց-քում հրաժարվում են ոչ միայն որոշակի կերակուրներից, այլև մոլի սովորություն-ներից, շատախոսությունից, հայեռանքից և այլ մեղքերից: Կերակրից հրաժարվելն առանց մեղքից հետ կանգնելու անօգուտ է: «Լեռան քարոզում» Քրիստոս պահքի մա-սին ասում է. «Երբ ծոմ պահեք, տրտմերես մի լինեք կեղծավորների նման, որոնք իրենց երեսներն այլանդակում են, որպեսզի մարդկանց այնպես երևան, թե ծոմ են պահում, ճշմարիտ են ասում ձեզ, այդ իսկ է նրանց վարձը, այսինքն՝ մարդկանց երևալը և նրանցից գովվելը: Այլ երբ դու՝ ծոմ պահես, օծի քո գլուխը և լվա քո երեսը, որպեսզի չերևաս մարդկանց ծոմ պահող, այլ քո Հորը՝ գաղտնաբար, և քո հայրը, որ տեսնում է, ինչ որ ծածուկ է, կհատուցի քեզ» (Մատթ. 6:16-18): Մեր Տերը սովորեցնում է, թե ինչ ոգով է պետք այն կատարել: Ինչպես հիվանդությունն է ազդում մարմնի վրա, այնպես էլ մեղքն է ազդում հոգու վրա: Պահեցողությունը չէ, որ մեղքը քավվում է, այլ Աստված է քավիչը: Սակայն պահեցողությունը կա-րևոր է քավչարար այս սրբագործության մեջ: Զոջումը, աղոթքը, ապաշխարանքը հիմնական պայմաններն են Աստծո բուժիչ և քավիչ գործությունն ստանալու: Մեծ Պահքի 40 օրը խորհրդանշում է անապա-տում Քրիստոսի քառասնօրյա աղոթքի, ծոմապահության և ապաշխարության շրթ-ջանը: Իր մկրտությունից հետո Հիսուս «հոգով անապատ առաջնորդվեց ու քառասուն օր փորձվեց սատանայից: Չկերավ ու չխմեց այն օրերին» (Ղուկ. 4:1-3): Հիսուս Իրեն ծոմապահության ենթարկեց մարդկային ցեղի փրկության համար, մարդկության փոխարեն Ինքն ապաշխա-րեց, որպեսզի բոլոր պահեցողություն անողների ապաշխարանքն իմաստ և իրականություն ստանան շնորհիվ Իր ծոմապահության: Քառասնօրյա պահքին հաջորդում է պահոց ևս մեկշաբաթյա շրջան՝ Ավագ շաբաթը: Այդ է պատճառը, որ քառասնօրյա կոչվող պահքը 48 օր է տևում: Պահքը չի սահմանափակվում միայն կենդանական սննդից հրաժարու-մով. այն առաջին հերթին հոգեկան ու բարոյական ամեն տեսակի ախտերից ու մոլություններից, մեղանչական մտքերից, խոսքերից ու գործերից մաքրվելն է, զրոջ-մամբ ու ապաշխարությամբ աստվածա-հաճո և առաքինի կյանքին դառնալը: Պահոց շրջանում կարևոր է հոգևոր շնորհների ու հատկապես եղբայրասիրու-թյան մեջ գորանալը: Պահք պահելը չպետք է պատճառ դառնա պահեցողության մեջ տկարացող մեր եղբայրակցին դատելու. <<Ով ուտում է, թող չարհամարհի նրան, ով չի ուտում, իսկ ով չի ուտում, թող չդատի նրան, ով ուտում է>> (Հռոմ.14:3):

Parish Notes

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP
THE FEBRUARY 2018
BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY
JERRY AND JULIE POOCHIGIAN
IN HONOR OF THEIR NEW
GRANDDAUGHTER
KASSIDY NICOLE YOSHIDA
BORN DECEMBER 4, 2017 TO
PHILIP & KRISTIN YOSHIDA

CONDOLENCES
Our condolences to the family of Mary Jane Poochigian. She entered her eternal rest on Saturday, January 20, 2018. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

- January 7 – Parish Council
- January 14 – Stella Ananian, David and Lisa Krause, Bryan, Terry, Renee and Michelle Ananian in memory of George Ananian
- January 28 - Myron and Debbie Sheklian in memory of Debbie's mother, Violet Joan Nicholas.

HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS

- January 14 – George Ananian, seven years after his passing, requested by Stella Ananian, David and Lisa Krause, Bryan, Terry, Renee and Michelle Ananian
- January 21 - Nerses Enfiedjian, Melkon Enfiedjian, Arshalous Enfiedjian, Sonia Markarian and Edward Enkababian Requested by the Enfiedjian and Enkababian Families
- January 28 – Violet Joan Nicholas, one year after her passing, requested by Myron and Debbie Sheklian

Thank you to Dn. Dr. Hagop Tabibian for donating a car to the church and for Sark Davidian, Jr. organizing the sale of \$2,500.

We would like to once again extend our appreciation to the Ways and Means Committee for the highly organized Armenian Christmas Luncheon. The event was full with Christmas fillings by our Sunday School performance.

Seth and I want to thank Fr. Zaven and all St. Mary parishioners for their prayers, cards, donations and support during Randy's illness and also, for the beautiful plant basket. We cannot express enough how much we appreciate everything! Sincerely, Sonya and Seth Barton

The Ladies Society will be holding their monthly meeting on Saturday, February 3, 2018. Executive board 11:00 a.m., General meeting 11:30 a.m.

Poon Paregentan Dinner and Celebration will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2018 in the Majarian Hall at 6:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee (See flyer)

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
Annual Parish Assembly Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 11, 2018. Registration will begin at 12:00 noon and a light lunch will be served. Meeting will begin approximately at 12:45 p.m.

Lent begins Monday, February 12, 2018. Wednesday Souper Suppers at 6:00 p.m., Lenten Evening Services at 6:30 p.m.
THIS IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THE SOUPER SUPPERS
February 21, February 28, March 7, March 14, and March 21

February 14, 2018 is the Ladies Society Central Council Women's Day of Prayer at the Diocese.

Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 in the Majarian Hall at 7:00 p.m.

The Ladies Society will be sponsoring fellowship following services on Sunday, February 18, 2018.

The ACYO meeting will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2018 at Starbucks on Noble at 5:00 p.m.

Ladies Society Lenten Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2018 in the Majarian Hall. Executive meeting at 11:00 a.m. and General meeting 11:30 a.m.

Sunday School meets the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

COOKBOOK

By popular demand, a second edition of the "Treasured Recipes from the Garden of Eden" has been made available. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, call the church office at (559) 528-6892 or Debbie Sheklian at (559) 733-4417. The cost of the cookbook is \$30 or \$30 plus shipping if mailed.

Armenian Language classes still available for our parishioners. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office at (559) 528-6892 or Fr. Zaven at (818) 644-9398.

DVD SET FOR SALE: St. Mary Armenian Church, 100th Anniversary, July 2, 2011. DVD set is \$25.00 and can be purchased by calling the Church office at (559) 528-6892. A \$6.00 charge for shipping and handling will be added to the price if you would like one mailed to you. (Sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee)

If you wish to place any information in the monthly Bulletin, please notify the Church Office by the 20th of month.

The "Armenian Genocide Survivors and Heroes" book can be purchased for \$40 at the St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church Office. Copies can be mailed for an additional cost. Call the church office at 528-6892 for details.

REMINDER

If you have not sent in your 2018 Annual Stewardship Pledge and Voting Member Application, please do so as soon as possible. If you need a form, call the Church Office at (559) 528-6892.

The Parish Council has approved to have our weekly bulletin and the monthly newsletter available for sponsorships. We are not selling ads. If you would like to sponsor an edition of either publication please contact the office, or there is a form at the front desk in the church. The sponsorships for the weekly bulletin are \$25.00 per issue, and to sponsor the monthly newsletter is \$100.00 per issue.

PAYPAL

You may access PayPal through the St. Mary YetteM web-site (www.stmaryyetteM.org) and click on the "Donation" button on the bottom of the Home Page. You may donate for General Donations, Yughakins, Pledges, Membership Dues, In Lieu of Flowers, or pay for Altar Flowers you have ordered on behalf of the Church.

To St. Mary Parishioners: If you know of anyone ill or in the hospital, please call Rev. Fr. Zaven Markosyan at the Church Office (559) 528-6892 or his cell (818) 644-9398. St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, from 9:30 -2:30

The St. Mary Armenian Church webpage at www.stmaryyetteM.org includes archived copies of church bulletins, pictures from events, a current church calendar, and an improved LIVE Camera System. View services on any desktop, laptop, or tablet!

St. Mary Armenian Church, Yetteem

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 National Freedom Day	2 Groundhog Day	3 Ladies Society meeting at Majarian Hall 11 am – Executive 11:30 – General Meeting
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Poon Paregentan Dinner sponsored by Ways and Means 6:30 PM
11 Annual Parish Assembly Meeting Sunday School Meets Eve of Great Lent	12 Lent Begins	13 Holy Day	14 Valentine's Day Womens' Day of Prayer, Ladies Society Central Council at Diocese	15 Parish Council meeting in Majarian Hall at 7 PM	16	17
18 Sunday of Expulsion Fellowship sponsored by Ladies Society	19 Presidents Day	20	21 Souper Supper & Lenten Service at 6 PM	22	23	24
25 Sunday of the Lost (Prodigal) Son Sunday School Meets ACYO Meeting at Starbucks on Noble 5 PM	26	27	28 Souper Supper & Lenten Service at 6 PM	Notes:		

Sunday Schedule:

Morning Service (Matins) 9:45 AM
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 AM

Father Zaven can be reached at:

559-528-6892 – Office
559-528-6897 – FAX
818-644-9398 - Cell

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church
Christmas Yughakin 2017/2018

Agajanian, Melvin & Regina	Kizirian, Abe and Sandra
Ananian, Serge and Judith	Krause, David & Lisa
Crowder, Evelyn Boudakian	Krikorian, Gary and Nancy
Davidian, Edward and Georgia Ann	Maranian, Carol A.
Davidian, Margie L	Margosian, George and Rose Marie
Davidian, Sark Jr.	Margosian, Lucille
Derrick, James E. and Sadie	Menendian, Laurie
Ekizian, Mike and Lesta	Menendian, Mari Louise
Enfiedjian, Sarkis and Hasmik	Ouzounian, George and Shirley
Garoian, Gerard and Sylvia	Peloian, Joyce and Gary McCrea
Gomes, John & Janet	Peters, Darrell & Tina
Gregory, Jack and Hasmik	Poochigian, Brian and Adrienne
Groefsema, Bruce and Gail	Poochigian, Jerry and Julie
Hagopian, Richard and Geraldine	Poochigian, Mary Jane
Hampar, Arthur	Skaff, Judith A.
Hebesha, Madlien N.	Skaff, Judy and Mike
Jendian, Allan & Rosemary	Toukdarian, Alice and Aresa
Jiggerian, Varsanig	Vartanian, Sandra
Kaprielian, John Ara & Sharon	Zakarian, Archie and Kathy
Kaye, Ernest and Lillian	
Total	\$ 4,035.00

Sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee



POON PAREGENTAN

Dinner, Kef and Raffles



Saturday, February 10, 2018

Majarian Hall at St. Mary Church in Yetteem

6:30p.m. *All You Can Eat Dinner*



Dance to the Armenian Music of Richard Hagopian

All You Can Eat

6:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.

• Spaghetti and Meatballs

• Salad

• Bread

• Dessert Table

\$10 per person

Armenian Dancing

Enjoy the Music

Of

Richard Hagopian

WINE AND CASH

RAFFLE TICKETS

WILL BE AVAILABE

Be 1 of the 14 winners

of the night!

Try your LUCK with the 50/50 Raffle

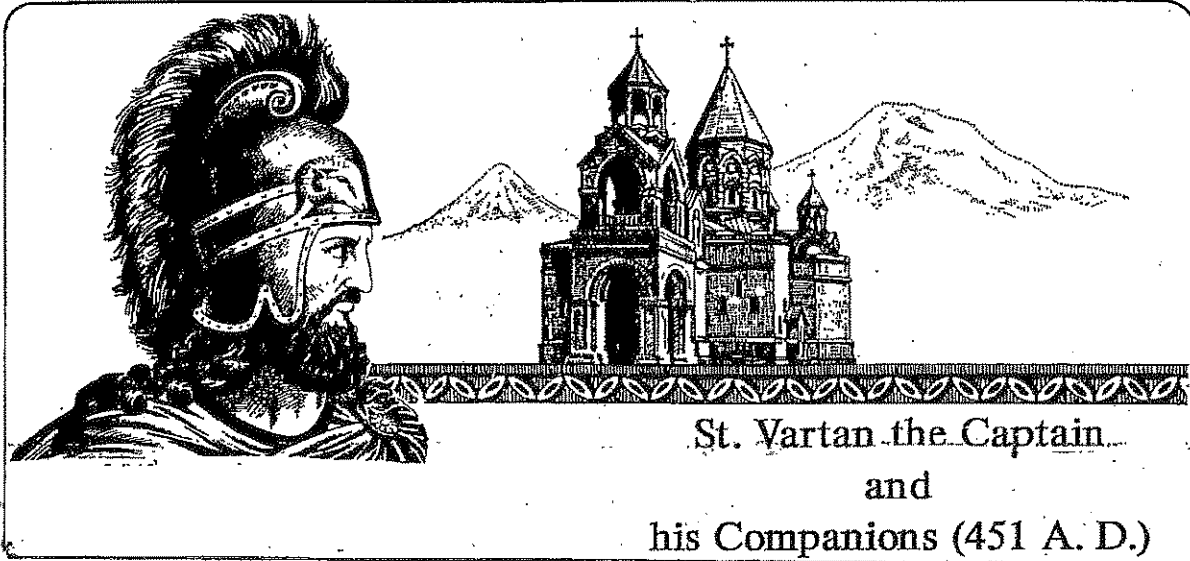
Last year's winner took home - \$325!

ՍՐԲՈՑ ՎԱՐԴԱՆԱՆՑ ՏՕՆԸ

Ս. Գրիգոր Լուսավորիչ Հայր. Եկեղեցի, Ֆավոր

ՍՈՒՐԲ ՊԱՏԱՐԱԳ
ՅԱՅՏԱԳԻՐ ԵՒ ԸՆԴՈՒՆԵԼՈՒԹԻՒՆ
Սիրով կը հրաւիրուի Հայ հասարակութիւնը

Հին ԳՇԱԲԹԻ 8 , ՓԵՏՐՈՒԱՐ - 6:30ԻԸ



St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church of Fowler Presents
FEAST OF SAINTS VARTANANTZ COMMEMORATION
Thursday, February 8, 2018 - 6:30 P.M.

CHURCH SERVICE, SPECIAL PROGRAM & RECEPTION

Featured Speaker
MARK POOCHIGIAN, Esq.

With the participation of the area Armenian Clergy
English and Armenian Spiritual Messages

This event is being sponsored by
KNIGHTS OF VARTAN YEPRAD TAHLIJ

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church
220 South Third Street - Fowler, CA - (559) 834-2919

St. Mary Armenian Church, Yettem - Blessing of the Water and Home Blessing – January 7, 2018





St. Mary Armenian Church, Yettam
Armenian Christmas Sunday School Program
January 7, 2018



Tiarn'ndaraj

On February 14, the Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of the Lord's Presentation to the Temple. Tiarn'ndaraj, or Candlemas as it is known in the West, symbolizes the presentation of the 40 day-old Christ Child to the Temple in Jerusalem.

In accordance with the Law of Moses, the infant Christ was brought to the Temple by Mary and Joseph and presented to God. A man named Simeon was there, to whom it had been revealed that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord. Simeon held the infant in his arms, blessed God, and said, "Lord, let your servant now depart in peace, for my eyes have seen your Salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people. A Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Your people, Israel." (Luke 2:29-32)

In the tradition of the Church, Evening Services (Nakhatonak) are conducted on the night preceding the Feast Day. At the conclusion of the service, the priest lights a candle from the Holy Altar, and distributes the flame to all present. With great care, the faithful take the lit candles home to their families.

The morning of the Feast Day, Divine Liturgy is celebrated in Armenian Churches throughout the world. The hymn offered during the Liturgy commemorating Tiarn'ndaraj glorifies Simeon's articulation of "a Light to lighten the Gentiles". The hymn praising Simeon also lauds the Mystery of the Incarnation.

Many additional customs have been inherited from the past, including the blessing of the four corners of the world in the Andastan Service, the blessing of newlywed couples, as well as offering prayers for the crops and fertility of the fields.

St. Mary Armenian Church

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