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YETTEM

A publication of St. Mary

Armenian Church

Yettem, California

SEPTEMBER 2017

NEWS FROM THE WESTERN DIOCESE



THE THEME OF THE PONTIFICAL VISIT IS
“LIVING OUR FAITH”

We are delighted to announce that at the invitation of the Diocesan Primate Archbishop Hovnan Derderian and the Diocesan Council, His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians will pay a Pontifical Visit to the Western Diocese on the blessed occasion of the 90th anniversary of establishment of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America.

For the first time ever, His Holiness will also visit the Diocese of the Armenian Church of Mexico which was transferred to operate under the jurisdiction of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America in November 2014.

His Holiness and his delegation will arrive in Los Angeles

on Wednesday, October 25-30, 2017

Pastoral Thoughts

We had a lovely “Asdvadzadzin” celebration in St. Mary, Yetteem, this year. Assumption of the Holy Mother of God is one of the five major celebrations of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It conveys the message of perfect faith, unselfish through the sacred life of the Holy Mother of God. Every year we celebrate this feast with special feelings because it’s also our church’s name day. In the Armenian Apostolic church we have several feasts dedicated to the Holy Virgin within a year. The feast of the Assumption is the acknowledgment of the sacred earthly life of the Holy Mother of God. It’s about Her maternal care toward people whom She lived with. For twelve years after the Crucifixion She lived with believers and apostles and comforted them every day. When people build a church and name it St. Mary they do that with the same expectations. We believe that through our churches the Holy Virgin acts in our life with Her intercession in front of Almighty God.

This year during Assumption celebration we enjoyed the presence of pilgrims with their spiritual leader, Rev. Fr. Vazken Movsesian, who joined us from the Los Angeles area. It was a very special day for all of us. We were in nice spiritual communication that renewed our life for both sides. Our pilgrims brought freshness, new thoughts and feelings to our parish. I believe that our joint prayers were fruitful for all of us. This kind of mutual visitation is important in the sense of spiritual experience which we receive communicating to each other. It helps us to achieve new spiritual ideas. It gives us an opportunity to exchange our spiritual life and thoughts and finally it helps us to be more involved in church life and to know more about our sister churches.

We enjoyed our church services with our pilgrims, the Divine Liturgy, Communion, the Blessing of the grapes. After church services we blessed our renovated Armenian Genocide Monument. A bake sale and “Asdvadzadzin” luncheon were held after ordinances which were sponsored by Ways and Means and Parish Council. We would like to thank them because they always organize it with special love and readiness.

The next program that we are going to have here in St. Mary Yetteem will be with the Western Diocese Ladies Society; it will be held on October 17, 2017. We will have church service, presentations etc. I would like to invite you all to come and to share with us this upcoming program which without doubt will enrich our spiritual life.

With Love of Christ
Rev. Fr. Zaven Markosyan

Parish Notes

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP
THE 2017 SEPTEMBER
BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY
MEL AND REGINA AGAJANIAN
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN KUTUMIAN
SAM AND ROSE KUTUMIAN
AND
AMOS MARGOSIAN

WEEKLY BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP
● August 13– *Mari Louise Menendian in honor of Asdvadzadzin and all the women named Mary.*

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS
● August 13 – *The Families of Margaret Kazarian and Neva Kazarian Holzinger in their memory.*
● August 20 - *Chuck and Susie Simonian in memory of Garabed and Rose Simonian*
● August 20 – *The Zerounian, Hovannisian and Groefsema Families in memory of Arakel “George” and Hasmig “Jessie” Zarounian*

HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS
● August 20 – *Garabed and Rose Simonian, requested by Chuck and Susie Simonian*
● August 20 – *Arakel “George” Zarounian, three years after his passing and Hasmig “Jessie” Zarounian, five years after her passing, requested by the Zarounian, Hovannisian and Groefsema Families*

CONDOLENCES
Our condolences to the Farsakian Family on the recent passing of Souren Sam Farsakian on July 28, 2017. Also, our condolences to the family of Richard Iskendian who passed on July 31, 2017, son of Arsan and Roxie Iskenderian. Our thoughts and prayers are with these families.

The Ways & Means Committee held its annual Asdvadzadzin Bake Sale on August 13th. Profits were \$1,500.00 all proceeds will go to the St. Mary general fund. This could not be possible without the generous donation of time and materials that go into this sale. Special thanks go to all who participated, both as donors of the items for sale, and those who purchased them. Thank you all.

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.

Ladies Society meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at Marie Callender’s in Visalia. Executive board at 6:00 p.m., general meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 10, 2017. Sunday School meets on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 11:00 a.m. during the school year. Welcome all children!

Grandparents’ Day Brunch will be hosted by the Ladies Society on Sunday, September 10, 2017 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall. (See flyer)

ACYO Bake Sale will be held on Grandparents’ Day, Sunday, September 10, 2017 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall. (See flyer)

ACYO meeting will be held on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at Tutti Frutti in Visalia at 6:00 p.m.

Ways and Means meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at Ryan's in Visalia at 6:00 p.m.

Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2017 in the Majarian Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Faith of Zion's 3rd Annual Family Fun Day Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2017 on the church grounds. (See flyer)

Ladies Society Keshkeg meeting will be held on Saturday, October 7, 2017 in the Majarian Hall at 11:30 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE:

For the Western Diocese Ladies Society Pilgrimage at St. Mary, Yetem on Tuesday, October 17, 2017. More information to follow.

SAVE THE DATE:

2017 Sunrise Service and Campout will be held on Friday, October 20th and Saturday, October 21st on the church grounds. (See flyer)

REMINDER

St. Mary Shish Kebab Luncheon will be held on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at the VISALIA ELKS LODGE from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by St. Mary Ways and Means Committee. (See flyer)

Ladies Society has manti for sale for \$10. You may purchase manti on Sundays from Ladies Society board members or by calling the church office to make arrangements for purchase.

Armenian Language classes will be held on the first and third Sundays of each month after the Divine Liturgy. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office at (559) 528-6892 or Fr. Zaven at (818) 644-9398.

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

EASY MONEY: ESCRIP

We began the eScrip program in April. As of July 20 St. Mary Church has earned \$189.40. This is done by 3% rewards earned on purchases at Save Mart, Lucky, and Food Maxx stores. We have 27 registered members in the eScrip program and 18 of these have used the program. To do so, all you have to do is give your phone number as you check out of these stores. If you have not registered in the eScrip program, sign up at Shares...powered by eScrip (<http://www.escrip.com/shares>) and designate St. Mary Armenian Church as your charity of choice. If you have difficulty signing up please call me (Jim Soxman, 733-8741) and I will do it for you.

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)*

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.

PAYPAL

Our Parish has opened a "PayPal" account to make it convenient for you to make donations. 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.

The Parish Council has approved to have our weekly bulletin and the monthly newsletter available for sponsorships. We are not selling ads. This was done to help offset costs. 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.

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!

To St. Mary Parishioners: The Parish Council would like to invite any parishioner who may have concerns or questions with anything dealing with Church affairs. The Parish Council meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. To be placed on the agenda of the meeting, please contact Der Zaven at (818) 644-9398 or Bea Soxman Parish Council Chairperson at (559) 623-2390.

St. Mary Armenian Church, Yetttem

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6 Ladies Society Evening meeting at Marie Callender's in Visalia, 6:00 Exec and 6:30 General	7	8 Feast of the Nativity of the Holy Mother-of-God	9
10 Barekandan of the Fast of Holy Cross Grandparents' Day Brunch sponsored by Ladies Society ACYO Bake Sale ACYO meeting at Tutti-Frutti 6 PM Sunday School Begins	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Exaltation of the Holy Cross	18 Remembrance of the dead	19 Ways and Means Meeting at Ryan's Place 6 PM	20	21 Independence Day of the Republic of Armenia Parish Council Meeting at 7 PM in Majarian Hall	22	23
24 Barekandan of the Fast of Holy Cross of Varak Faith of Zion Family Picnic after services Sunday School	25	26	27	28	29	30

Sunday Schedule:

Morning Service (Matins) 9:45 AM
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 AM
Sunday School: 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 11 AM

Father Zaven can be reached at:

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

ARMENIAN CHURCH SUMMER CAMP – 2017
ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH – YETTEM, CALIFORNIA
MEKJIAN/KUTUMIAN SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Through the generosity of the donors of the Mekjian/Kutumian Funds, St. Mary Armenian Church of Yettem, California is able to offer partial sponsorship for children who attend the Armenian Church Summer Camp. The amount of the sponsorship funds allocated to any individual is dependent upon the annual revenue available from the funds and the number of campers applying for sponsorship. The sponsorship funds are awarded in the form of partial reimbursement for camp fees paid. According to the guidelines of the trust agreement, priority is given to children and then grandchildren of voting members, respectively. Anyone who has camp age children or grandchildren that attended Armenian Summer Camp is eligible to apply for the Mekjian/Kutumian Camp Fund Sponsorship.

In order to expedite the disbursement of the funds, the Parish Council of St. Mary Armenian Church is implementing a sponsorship application system. The Sponsorship application form must be submitted in order for the sponsorship funds to be awarded.

In order to process the application, please complete and return the form to the Church Office by September 29, 2017. (Please print and use one form per camper.) This form may be reproduced or additional forms may be obtained from the Church Office.

Name of Camper _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

Birth Date _____

Age _____

Camp Week Attended (circle one) 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

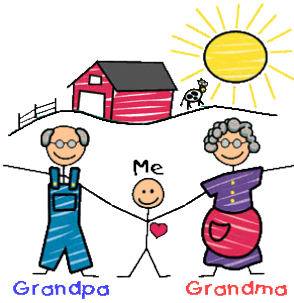
Camp Fee Paid \$ _____

Make Check Payable to: _____

Is the camper receiving camp fee reimbursement from any other source? Yes No

If yes, from where? _____

In what amount? \$ _____



St. Mary Ladies Society
Invites you to a Brunch
in Celebration of

'Grandparents' Day'

Sunday, September 10, 2017

Immediately following church services in the Majarian Hall



☞ Enjoy a Delicious Brunch
featuring—Beeshee
and many other specialties ☞



Entertainment to follow from our Sunday School...

\$12 per Adult and \$8 per Child (10 and under)

-To reserve a table or seat(s)-

**Call or Text - Tina Peters 559-967-2593 or
e-mail: dtpeters@lightspeed.net by September 7.**

RESERVATIONS ARE NOT REQUIRED

**Celebrate Grandparents...
Everyone Welcome!!!**



ACYO BAKE SALE

After Church Services

Sunday, September 10, 2017
(Grandparent's Day)

Freshly Baked Armenian Desserts
Handmade by
the ACYO Members.



- Chorag
- Simit Cookies
- Gata

and much more...

****SUPPORT the ACYO Bake Sale****

**Donations of any Armenian Baked Goods or
Specialty Desserts will be greatly
appreciated and accepted
the day of the Bake Sale.**

**Join St. Mary Armenian Church
3rd Annual Family Fun Day
Organized by Faith of Zion**

September 24, 2017

**Church Services start at 10:30 with
festivities following**

Hot dogs, Hamburgers, Salads, Chips, Desserts,
Drinks (1 included w/ meal)

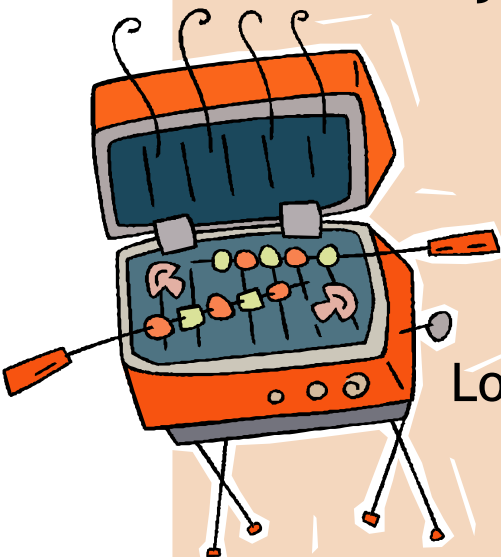
\$12 for adults, \$8 for kids (10 and under)

Enjoy games for the whole family!
Tavloo tournament, bean bag toss, ladder
ball, and more!!

Enjoy music by Richard Hagopian

Chuck Simonian has also continued
Betty Farsakian's genealogy endeavor,
with family trees available for
printing on site!

Looking forward to good old-fashioned
family time!



St. Mary Armenian Church of Yettem

Shish Kebab

LUNCHEON

Featuring Hagopian's Deli Lamb Shish Kebab

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2017

11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

VISALIA ELKS LODGE

3100 W. Main – just east of County Center Dr.



Ticket Price: \$22

Dine in or Take Out or Drive Thru

Lunch includes: Lamb shish-kebab, rice pilaf, salad,
gourmet green beans, peda bread & dessert

Sponsored by St. Mary Ways & Means Committee

The Parish Priest and Parish Council of

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, Yetttem

Invites you to:

2017 Sunrise Service and Campout

Friday, October 20th – Saturday, October 21st



\$10 per person ages 12 and up

- Campout on church grounds
- Set up beginning at 5 PM
- Bring tents, trailers, RVs for outside camping or sleeping bags, blow-up mattresses or cots to sleep in the church hall
- Friday dinner BBQ includes: hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, chips, soft drinks and s'mores
- Saturday breakfast includes: fruit, pancakes, eggs, bacon, juice and coffee



- Beautiful and serene country setting very near 2 National Parks



- Fellowship at night and in the morning



- Rise early and worship together at sunrise

For more information and directions go to www.stmaryyetttem.org. To make a reservation by October 16th call (559) 280-7315

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church ~ 14395 Ave. 384 ~ Yetttem, CA 93670



more photos at www.stmaryyettem.org





Asdvadzdzin, Grape Blessing, Re-Dedication of Monument



August 13, 2017

IT'S GOING TO BE

EXCITING **P**OSSIBILITIES **I**MPROVING **C**AMP

Hyecamp



SATURDAY
30 SEPT
2017

ST. JOHN - SAN FRANCISCO
ST. PAUL - FRESNO
ST. PETER - VAN NUYS

MORE INFO : HYECAMP.COM/EPIC

OR VISIT : FACEBOOK.COM/HYECAMP



Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the last one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It is the most important feast among the feasts dedicated to the Holy Cross, as it is dedicated to the history of the return of the Holy Cross from imprisonment, its elevation and glorification. In the Armenian Apostolic Church the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated on Sunday during the period between September 11-17. This year that date is September 17, and the Monday following the Feast is a Memorial Day. In 610 A. D, the Persian King Khosrov with a large army attacks the Byzantine Empire. Enthusiastic about the initial victory, in 614 A. D. the Persian army enters Jerusalem. Many people are killed and many are imprisoned. Pontiff Zakaria, the Patriarch of Jerusalem is imprisoned, too. However, the Persians are not satisfied and enter the Church of Holy Sepulcher and take the Holy Cross kept in the Church. The Holy Cross had been found and installed in the Church for the Christians to worship by Hekhineh, the mother of the King Costandianos, in the beginning of the 4th century. In 628 A. D., the Byzantine army led by the King Herakles fight against the Persians to return the Holy Cross. The Armenian army regiment, led by Mzhezh Gnounie, supported the Persian army. With the Lord's help the Byzantine army wins the battle. The Holy Cross is solemnly brought to the Armenian town Karin, from where it is carried to Constantinople, and then - to Jerusalem. On the way the Holy Cross was raised for the people to see and worship. For Christians the Cross is God's power and strength and pride of all prides, on which Christ's innocent blood was shed. By means of the Cross Jesus proved His love towards mankind, and the Cross became for us the symbol of hope, love and saving.

St. Mary Armenian Church

P.O. Box 367

Yettem, California 93670

Return Service Required

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 1