



ԵՂԵՍ

Հրատարակութիւն

Եղեմի Ս. Աստուծածիւ

Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ

MARCH 2017

YETTEM

A publication of St. Mary

Armenian Church

Yetter, California

Pastoral thoughts

Dear Faithful:

Again it's Lent period which gives us an opportunity to think about very important things. We started Lent this year on February 26th. Sometimes we believe it is a hardship, which it is not. Lent obligates us to pass through hardships but we need to accept them as an enrichment of the soul, a renewal which will put us on the right way to direct our spiritual journey to God. Certain duties are very necessary to practice during Lent and they are not easy, but to practice repentance, abstinence, to expiate our sins without difficulties is almost impossible. All of these actions are assuming difficulties. Nevertheless, we always need to remember that we are not alone: God's Spirit is with us.

Fasting can change our thoughts and deeds. It can transform our life. It has power to take us there where pious people seek to reach. Thus, we need to make it part of our daily life. People ask lots of questions about how to practice fasting. All questions are very important and we should prepare ourselves to overcome them as much as possible. Unfortunately, our life style does not give us that opportunity to overcome everything. We need to think about how we can recover harmony between our body and soul, because God created them in harmony. The soul and the body dictate to us different things. However, they are in harmonic communication with each other. Lent invites us to start recovering from our own being; here our consciousness should control our feelings, consciousness about spirituality and about spiritual values.

Lent period ordinances have one complete meaning. Each and every Sunday is the continuation of the previous one. All parables emphasize self-criticism. All parables are very pronounced examples which help us to think rightly about our own situation. Very often we look for exterior reasons about our unpreparedness. We don't want to believe that our own behavior is the reason that we can't prepare ourselves for worthy spiritual life.

Beautiful church services lead us during this whole period bringing us proper spiritual feelings and thoughts. It is very important also to have right thoughts to think about our Lord's sacrifices which He perpetuated for salvation of humankind. Great Lent is a wonderful time for us as Christians to revise our faithfulness toward our Lord, toward our church and finally toward God's commandments. Ritual life in the church really helps us to actualize real lent. Prayers, litanies, hymns and in general the design of our services have provided for believer's divine environment. In this sense it is very important to be in the church, especially in this period. That's what I want to be transferred to you dear faithful. Without sincere confession there is no mercy for our sins. Our God is merciful, but even it wouldn't help us if we don't confess and expiate our sins.

With Love of Christ
Rev. Fr. Zaven Markosyan

Հովվական

Նորից Մեծ Պահքի շրջանն է սկսվում, որը մեզ տալիս է հնարավորություն մտածելու շատ կարևոր հարցերի մասին: Այս տարի այն սկսվեց Փետրվար 26ին: Երբեմն որոշակի դժվարության, զգուշավորության տրամադրություններ են նկատվում այս շրաջանին բուլորիս մոտ, որն այնպես չէ: Պահոց շրջանը մեզ պարտավորեցնում է անցնել դժվարությունների միջով, սակայն մենք պետք է ընդունենք այն՝ իբրև հոգու հարստացում և նորոգում, որը կարող է մեզ ճիշտ ուղղու վրա դնել առաջնորդելով մեր հոգևոր ճանապարհորդությունը դեպի Աստված: Որոշակի պարտականություններ կան, որոնք շատ կարևոր են պահքի ընթացքին, սակայն հեշտ իրագործելի չեն դրանք: Ժուժկալություն, ապաշխարհություն կամ մեղքերի քավություն կատարել գրեթե անհնար է առանց դժվարությունների: Այս բուլոր գործողությունները ենթադրում են դժվարություններ: Այդուամենայնիվ մենք մշտապես պետք է հիշենք, որ միայնակ չենք, այլ Աստծո հոգին մեզ հետ է:

Պահեցողությունը կարող է փոխել մեր մտածումներն ու արարքները: Այն կարող է վերափոխել մեր կյանքը: Այն ունի կարողությունն ու զորությունը մեզ առաջնորդելու այնտեղ ուր բարեպաշտները պետք է ձգտեն: Ուստի մենք պետք է դարձնենք այն մեր առօրյան:

Շատերն են հարցնում, թե ինչպես պետք է պահքի մեջ մնալ: Բուլոր հարցերը կարևոր են և պետք է աշխատենք որքան որ հնարավոր է հաղթարենք դրանք: Ցավոք սրտի մեր կենցաղը թույլ չի տալիս հաղթահարել դրանք ամբողջությամբ: Մենք պետք է մտածենք թե ինչպես կարող ենք վերականգնել ներդաշնակությունը մեր հոգու և մարմնի միջև: Մարմինն ու հոգին տարբեր բաներ են մեզ թելադրում, սակայն այնուամենայնիվ նրանք ներդաշնակ հաղորդակցության մեջ են ստեղծված:

Պահքը հրավիրում է մեզ սկսել մեր սեփական անձից: Այստեղ մեր գիտակցությունը պետք է ուղղորդի մեր զգացողությունները: Գիտակցություն՝ հոգևորի և հոգևոր արժեքների նկատմամբ:

Պահոց արարողություններն ունեն մեկ ամբողջ իմաստ: Ամեն կիրակի իմաստային առումով շարունակությունն է նախորդ կիրակի օրվա: Ամեն կիրակի ունի մասնավոր առակ, որը շեշտադրում է անձնական ինքնաքննադատությունը:

Դրանք բուլորը ցայտուն օրինակներ են, որոնք օգնում են մեզ մտածել ճիշտ ուղղությամբ մեր անձնական իրավիճակի մասին: Շատ հաճախ մենք արտաքին պատճառներ ենք ման գալիս մեր անպատրաստվածությունը արդարացնելու համար: Մենք չենք ուզում հավատալ, որ մեր անձնական վարվեցողությունն է պատճառը, որի հետևանքով չենք կարողանում պատրաստել մեզ արժանի հոգևոր կյանքի:

Գեղեցիկ եկեղեցական արարողություններն առաջնորդում են պահքի ամբողջ ընթացքում բերելով մեզ հոգևոր զգացողություններ և մտածումներ: Շատ կարևոր է այս ընթացքում առաջնորդվել ճիշտ մտածումներով Տիրոջ զոհողությունների մասին, որը նա իրականացրեց մարդկանց փրկության համար: Մեծ Պահքը հիանալի առիթ է բուլորիս համար վերանայելու մեր հավատարմությունը Տիրոջ նկատմամբ, մեր եկեղեցու նկատմամբ և վերջապես տիրոջ պատվիրանների նկատմամբ: Մեր եկեղեցու ծիսական կյանքը իրապես լավագույնս օգնում է մեզ իրականացնելու իրական պահեցողություն: Աղոթքները, սաղմոսները, շարականները և ընդհանրապես եկեղեցական արարողությունների կառուցվածքը հավատացյալին տրամադրում են աստվածային միջավայր: Հետևաբար շատ կարևոր է լինել եկեղեցում հատկապես այս շրջանին:

Այս մտածումներն են, որ կուզեի փոխանցվելին ձեզ սիրելի հավատացյալներ: Առանց անկեղծ խոստովանության չկա թողություն մեր մեղքերի համար: Աստված Ամենագութ է, բայց նույնիսկ այդ հնազամանքը չի փրկի մեզ, եթե մենք չխոստովանենք և քավենք մեր մեղքերը:

Զրիստոսի Սիրով
Տեր Չավեն քին. Մարկոսյան

Parish Notes

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP
**THE MARCH 2017 BULLETIN IS
SPONSORED BY PARISH COUNCIL**

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

- February 5 – Sam Farsakian and Family in honor of Betty Farsakian's birthday
- February 26 – Michael and Ted Tellian and Family in memory of their mother, Elizabeth Tellian

WEEKLY BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

- February 12 – Charlie and Christine Davidian

HOKEHANKIST

- February 12 – Ed Tellalian, on the one year anniversary of his passing, requested by Dn. Randy Tellalian
- February 26 – Elizabeth Tellian, one year after her passing, requested by Michael and Ted Tellian and Family

**Wednesday Souper Suppers at 6:00 p.m.
Lenten Evening Services at 6:30 p.m.**

THIS IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THE SOUPER SUPPERS

March 8 – Myron & Debbie Sheklian and Judy Skaff
March 15 – Yn. Adrine Markosyan
March 22 – Jim and Bea Soxman
March 29 – Sadie Derrick
April 5 – Margie L. Davidian

The Holy Altar stained glass next to the picture of the Holy Mother of God is donated by Jim and Anahid Soxman, Sarkis and Hasmik Enfiedjian, Lucille Margosian, Evelyn Crowder and Jack Boudakian. Also, thank you to Chuck Simonian for organizing this job.

On Sunday February 12, 2017 the Parish Assembly Meeting was held. Thank you to Chairman Myron Sheklian, Parish Assembly who coordinated a very successful Parish Assembly Meeting and also, thank you to Laurie Menendian, Parish Assembly Secretary who prepared the minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting. Below are the 2017 Elected Officers:

Bea Soxman, Chairman
Jack Barsamian, Vice Chairman
Gerard Garoian, Treasurer
Judy Skaff, Rec. Secretary
Margie L. Davidian, Advisor
Sarkis Enfiedjian, Advisor
George Ouzounian, Advisor
Gerard Garoian, Diocesan Delegate
Chuck Simonian, Diocesan Delegate
Judy Skaff, 1st Alternate Delegate
Shirley Ouzounian, 2nd Alternate Delegate
Linda Wall, Auditing Committee
Myron Sheklian, Parish Assembly Chairman
James Soxman, Parish Assembly Vice Chairman
Laurie Menendian, Parish Assembly Secretary

We would like to extend our appreciation to the Ways and Means Committee for the Poon Paregentan Dinner and Celebration that was held on Saturday, February 25, 2017. Also, thank you to Richard Hagopian, Armen Hagopian and Andrew Hagopian for the nice music and all the people who took part in this event.

Ladies Society Lenten Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2017 in the Majarian Hall at 11:30 a.m.

Fellowship will be hosted by Faith of Zion on Sunday, March 5, 2017 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall.

There will be a Youth Rally and Christian Conference March 10-12, 2017 at St. Leon (Srbots) (Ghevontyants) Armenian Cathedral Complex, Burbank, CA. Open invitation to all. \$125 includes three day conference event and all meals. Financial assistance is available through the Diocese. If you are interested, please call Fr. Zaven Markosyan at (559) 528-6892 or (818) 644-9398.

ACYO meeting will be held on Sunday, March 12, 2017 at Baskin Robbins/Togo's in Downtown Visalia at 6:00 p.m.

The regular monthly Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Majarian Hall.

Fellowship will be hosted by the Parish Council on Sunday, March 19, 2017 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall.

Ladies Society Retreat in Malibu will be held on March 27th & 28th.

Ways and Means Bake Sale will be held on Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall. (See flyer)

ACYO Easter Luncheon will be held on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall. See flyer in April 2017 bulletin.

Armenian Religious and Language classes will be held on the 1st and 3rd 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.

Sunday School meets on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 11:00 a.m. during the school year.

Ladies Society has kufta for sale at \$30 a dozen and one pound packages of manti for \$10. You may purchase these on Sundays from Ladies Society board members or by calling the church office to make arrangements for purchase.

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 deta

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.

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.

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!

Armenian Martyrs' Monument Project



The fathers and mothers of our parish commemorated our Armenian Martyrs' in the first genocide of the twentieth century by locating a Martyrs' Monument on our church grounds. The monument is now in need of repair. The cost of repair is \$12,600 which is beyond our budgeted expenditures. Please donate towards this repair project so we can proudly carry on the wishes of our church fathers and mothers. Checks in any amount can be sent to the church office. Please indicate "Monument Project" on the memo line.

St. Mary Armenian Church, Yetttem

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Women's Day of Prayer Ladies Central Council @ Diocese	2	3	4 Ladies Society Lenten Meeting in Majarian Hall 11:30
5 2 ND Sunday of the Lent (Expulsion) Fellowship – Faith of Zion	6	7	8 Souper Supper & Lenten Service 6 PM	9	10 Youth Rally and Christian Conference at Diocese 10 th -12 th	11 Youth Rally and Christian Conference at Diocese 10 th -12 th
12 3 rd Sunday of the Lent (Prodigal Son) Daylight Saving Begins Sunday School ACYO Meeting at Baskin Robbins/Togos Downtown Visalia 6 PM Christian Conferene - Continues	13	14	15 Souper Supper & Lenten Service 6PM	16 Parish Council Meeting at 7 PM	17 Saint Patrick's Day	18
19 4 th Sunday of the Lent (Steward) Fellowship – Parish Council	20 Spring Begins	21	22 Median day of Lent Souper Supper & Lenten Service 6 PM	23	24	25
26 5 th Sunday of the Lent (Judge) Sunday School	27 Ladies Society Retreat in Malibu	28 Ladies Society Retreat in Malibu	29 Souper Supper & Lenten Service 6PM	30	31	Notes:

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

Ways and Means Committee announces.

Bake Sale

Sunday

April 9, 2017

Palm Sunday

*Immediately after the day's worship
your favorite Armenian delicacies*

will be available

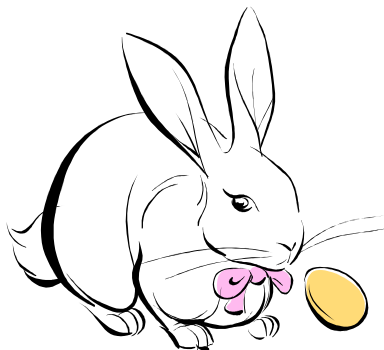
✓ *Cheoreg*

✓ *Simit*

✓ *Nazooq*

✓ *Bread Sticks*

✓ *Plus lots more*





SAVE-THE-DATE:

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017

CASINO NIGHT

ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH, YETTEM
MAJARIAN HALL

Look for more information in the
coming weeks....

Sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee



SAVE-THE-DATE

FOR

**THE 40th ANNUAL
ARMENIAN FOOD FESTIVAL**

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

VISALIA ELKS LODGE

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

Knights & Daughters of Vartan

PROUDLY PRESENT THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY SHOWING OF

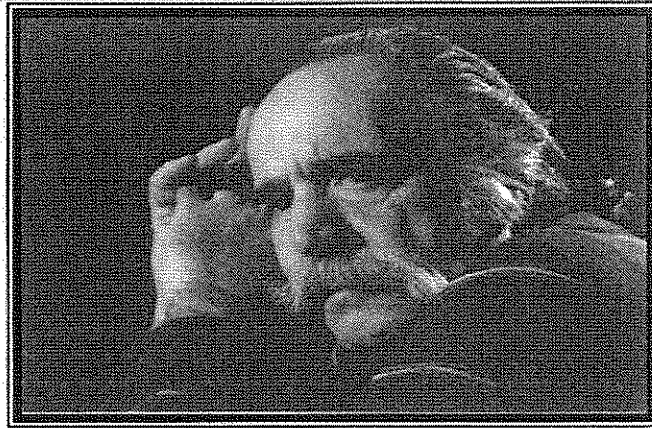
WILLIAM SAROYAN: The Man, The Writer

WINNER OF GOLD AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY, AN OUTSTANDING ONE HOUR FILM ON THE LIFE AND WORKS OF INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED ARMENIAN-AMERICAN WRITER, PLAYWRIGHT, HUMANITARIAN, PULITZER PRIZE & OSCAR WINNER, USA & USSR COMMEMORATIVE POSTAL STAMP HONOREE, WILLIAM SAROYAN SEEN IN MORE THAN 60 CITIES IN 19 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD BY MORE THAN ONE MILLION PEOPLE SINCE 1991

www.SaroyanDocumentaryFilm.com

Special Guests

California State University Fresno President Dr. Joseph Castro
Fresno County Supervisor District 5 & Former Clovis Mayor Nathan Magsig
United States Congressman Jim Costa



William Saroyan USA/USSR Stamp Portrait
Photographed by Paul Kalinian 1976 ©

Written & Directed by Paul Kalinian & Produced by Dr. Susie Kalinian
Narrated by William Saroyan & Mike Connors

FILM MAKERS WILL BE PRESENT FOR QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION
Limited Edition Saroyan Photographs & Memorabilia from Personal Collection of Paul Kalinian on Display

Sunday, March 5, 2017, Luncheon 1:00 pm & Film Show 2:00 pm

**First Armenian Presbyterian Church
430 S. First Street, Fresno, CA 93702**

RESERVATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 19, 2017

-----cut here & mail-----

Knights & Daughters of Vartan Saroyan Film Luncheon

____ Number of Adults at \$24 per person (Tables of 8) plus
____ Number of Students (8+years) at \$16 per person

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Choice of Entrée: ___ Lemon Chicken Piccata ___ Almond Crusted Tilapia ___ Vegetarian Lentil Koftah

Dessert + Salad + Coffee, Iced Tea & Water

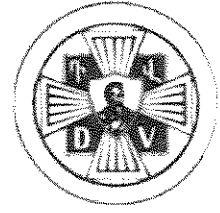
____ Number of Film Only Tickets at \$10 per person. Enclosed is my check for \$ ____

Please Make Check Payable to Daughters of Vartan, memo: Saroyan Film Luncheon and Mail To:
Dr. Dennis Shamlan: 7077 N. West Ave. Suite 107, Fresno, CA 93711

For More Information Please Call: Philip Tavlian (559) 237-6638 or Rita Shamlan (559) 970-4785
AT THE DOOR: \$30 ADULT, \$22 STUDENT, \$12 FILM ONLY

The Knights & Daughters of Vartan

MAN of the YEAR BANQUET



HONORING

DR. JOSEPH I. CASTRO

PRESIDENT, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

- For his unwavering support for the construction and placement of the Armenian Genocide Memorial monument on the campus of California State University, Fresno—the only such monument on a college campus in the United States.
- His continuing support for the Armenian Studies Program at CSU Fresno.
- His efforts to establish a partnership for educational initiatives between CSU Fresno and the American University of Armenia in Yerevan.

TO BENEFIT KNIGHTS & DAUGHTERS OF VARTAN CHARITABLE PROJECTS

Saturday March 25, 2017

Pardini's Banquet Hall

2257 W. Shaw Ave. Fresno, Ca 93711

Cocktail Reception 6:00pm - *Hors d'oeuvres & Wine*

Dinner 7:30pm - *Dinner, Dessert Buffet & Dancing*

Entertainment

Vocalist - Misak Israelyan

DJ - Hye Vibe

A Congratulatory & Advertisement Booklet is Planned

\$1000 (8½ x 5½) *Inside or Outside Back Covers*

\$500 *Full page* | \$250 *Half page* | \$100 *Business card*

Please contact Ara Karkazian (559-696-7185 - ara@karkazian.com) or

Kevork Oflazian (559-289-2265 - Koflazian@yahoo.com)

RSVP by March 3, 2017

For more information please contact Dennis Shamlan at (559)284-6286.

Banquet Tickets: \$75 - *Tickets Not Available At The Event*

Please make your checks payable to: Knights of Vartan

Formal Attire is Requested for this Adults Only Event.

Additional Charitable Funds Donations

\$5000 \$1000 \$500 \$250 Other _____

Center Cut Sirloin: _____ Vegetarian: _____ Chicken Marsala: _____ No. of Adults: _____ Total Enclosed: _____

Names of Attendees (please include a contact phone #): _____

Please detach and mail to Dennis Shamlan 7077 N. West Ave. #107 Fresno, CA 93711

Sunday of the Lost (Prodigal) Sun



The third Sunday of the period of Great Lent is called the Sunday of the Lost Son according to the Parable of the Lost Son told in the Gospel of Luke (Luke 15:15-32), the content of which is the following. There was once a man who had two sons. Upon the request of the younger one he divided his property between his two sons. After a few days the younger son sold his part of the property and left home with the money. He went to a country far away, where he wasted his money in reckless living. He spent everything he had. Then a severe famine spread over that country and he was left without a thing. In that time of trouble he remembered his father's house, regretted for his reckless living and returned to his father's home. Seeing that his younger son has regretted, the father received him joyfully. Whereas the elder son complained, saying that during all those years he had worked for his father like a slave and had never disobeyed his orders, and however, he had never deserved such honor. His father answered him: "My son, you are always here with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and to be happy, because your brother was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found."

The elder and the younger sons are the righteous and the sinful souls, and father's receiving his lost son means that in the same way God receives the regretting sinner. The allegoric meaning of the parable is in the elder son symbolizing all those who are righteous or think that there are righteous. The parable admonishes all of them not to be self-conceited.

St. Mary Armenian Church

Non-Profit

P.O. Box 367

Organization

Yettem, California 93670

Paid

Return Service Required

Permit No-1