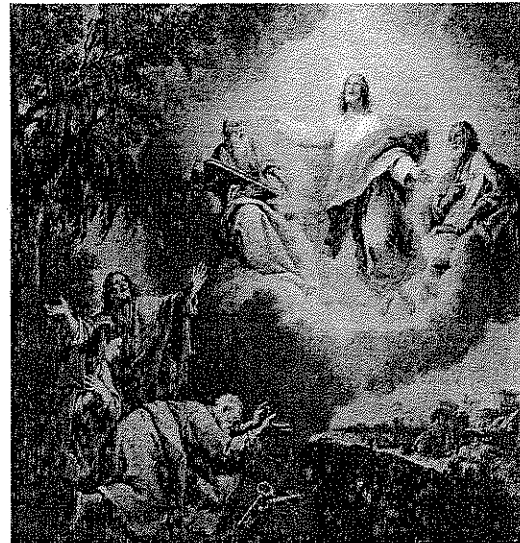


Feast of Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ



The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the five main “Tabernacle” feasts of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church. It commemorates the transformation or the “transfiguration” that came over Jesus while He was praying. Christ’s face shone like the sun and his clothes became a radiant and gleaming white. The Apostles Peter, James and John witnessed that event which occurred on a high mountain named Tabor.

Evangelists St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke testify about the transfiguration of Jesus in the Gospels (Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:1-12, Luke 9:28-36).

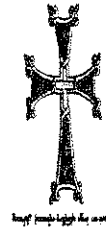
“... As they looked on, a change came over Jesus: his face was shining like the sun and his clothes were dazzling white. Then the three disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. So Peter spoke up and said to Jesus, “Lord, how good it is that we are here! If you wish I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” While he was talking, a shining cloud came over them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased – listen to him!” When the disciples heard the voice, they were so terrified that they threw themselves face downward on the ground. Jesus came to them and touched them. “Get up,” he said.

“Don’t be afraid!” So they looked up and saw no one there but Jesus. (Matthew 17:2-8)

In the Armenian Church, the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ is celebrated 98 days following Easter. The Feast also is known by the common name of “Vardavar”. This day is associated with an old Armenian tradition of pouring water on one another. Some sources attribute the tradition as a remnant of an Armenian pre-Christian celebration. The Monday following the Feast is a Memorial Day.

St. Mary Armenian Church
P.O. Box 367
Yettem, California 93670
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No.1



ԵՂԵՄ
Հրատարակութիւն
Եղեմի Ս. Աստուծածին
Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ

July, 2016

YETTEM
A publication of St. Mary
Armenian Church
Yettem, California

Pastoral thoughts

This Sunday we will celebrate the Transformation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Every year we commemorate this celebration and I believe that it helps people to think and contemplate about their own transformation. Really it should be transformation of thinking, of understanding and eventually it should be transformation of kind.

Every celebration brings for us new breath and new opportunity for new life, but to feel these all circumstances we need to cultivate our spiritual life. We should attend in the church and to be in constant communication with the community. In this sense church should be a part of our life. It is a place where we learn how to organize our spiritual life. It is a place where we learn to live according to God’s commandments. These are very important circumstances which help us to nourish our beings as Christians. Eventually it teaches us about our Lord and about church celebrations which are indivisible part of our Lord’s celestial and terrestrial life.

Lots of things are going around in our church life. All these events, church services, programs are not pointless. In fact we really need them. Spiritual education lifts up our moral sense and the only place is the church where we can receive right and comprehensive spiritual education. Why? Because the main condition for spiritual education is communication with God’s living church which is a group of faithful people.

Like I said already, our church celebrations are not pointless. All of them, without exception have deep mystery which can help us to contemplate about spirituality. But at the first we need to desire to change something in our life. If we try to renew our connectedness with God’s living church it’ll be the best transformation for us.

This celebration is a one more chance for human being to be transformed. God doesn’t want to perish this world anymore as he promised in the Old Testament. He wants us to be transformed. That’s why He said to Noah; “I stablish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood to destroy the earth.” This promise Noah received because he believed in God. He just simply believed and walked with the designated pathway of God.

After thousands of years with His Transformation Jesus reminds us about this covenant between human being and God. He reminds us that Almighty God is merciful as he proclaims: “I desire mercy not sacrifice.” (Matthew 12).

With Love of Christ,
Rev. Fr. Zaven Markosyan

PASTORAL VISITATION OF HIS EMINENCE
ARCHBISHOP HOVNAN DERDERIAN
ST. MARY, YETTEM

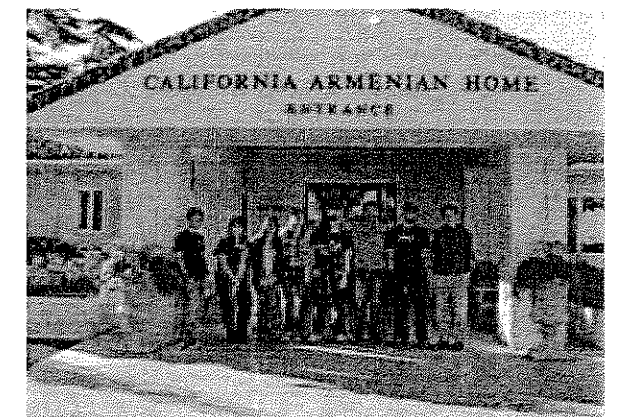
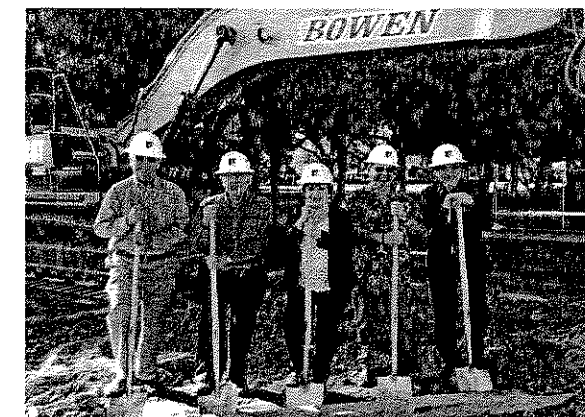
SUNDAY, JULY 10, 2016



St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Zaven Markosyan and the Parish Council invite all parishioners and friends to the pastoral visit of His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian to receive His spiritual message and to take communion. During Divine Liturgy His Eminence will present the Hye Spirit Awards to Gerard Garoian, Dr. Neshan Tabibian and George Ouzounian.

Following services, Fellowship will be hosted by Parish Council, ACYO and Ladies Society in the Majarian Hall.

Armenian Home Fresno, California
Ground Breaking Service
For the New Building
June 16, 2016



SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT



June 12, 2016

Parish Notes

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP
THIS 2016 JUNE BULLETIN IS
SPONSORED BY
JIM AND BEA SOXMAN IN HONOR OF
THEIR GRANDDAUGHTER
ELIZABETH TOROSIAN'S
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

CONDOLENCES
 Our condolences to Delores Armo and Family on the recent passing of her husband, Paul Armo.
 Also, our condolences to Lori Cherian Derman and Karen Ekizian and all family members on the recent passing of Roxie Barsamian.
 Our thoughts and prayers are with the families.

ALTAR CANDLES
 June 5, 2016
 George and Shirley Ouzounian and Family forty days after Shirley's mother, Rose Megerian's passing

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS
 June 12, 2016
 Annie L. Davidian in honor of her son Gregory's 3rd birthday

HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS
 June 5, 2016
 Rose Megerian, forty days after her passing
 Requested by George and Shirley Ouzounian and Family

St. Mary, Yettem ACYO took 2nd Place in Dodgeball during the Sports Weekend which was held at Buchanan High School in Clovis. (see collage)

Save Mart Shares
program changing to eScrip
 St. Mary Armenian Church has received nearly \$7,800 from the Save Mart SHARES program since we enrolled. SHARES cards were distributed to our parishioners to swipe at Save Mart, Lucky, Food Maxx and Smart Foods stores. Your participation has generated these funds that directly benefit our Church.
 Unfortunately, the program is being changed, and the SHARES cards are not valid after March 31, 2016.
 A new program known as eScrip began on April 1 and you may still sign up for free with your phone number at checkout when you shop at the stores listed above. Save Mart/eScrip will donate 3% of your qualifying grocery purchase to St. Mary Armenian Church, Yettem. Sign up at: <http://www.escrip.com/shares> and you will be able to designate St. Mary Armenian Church as your charity of choice. I have already registered 27 of you and when you give your phone number at checkout the program will work for you. I encourage the rest of you to sign up; this is an easy way to help our Church financially.
 If you have difficulty signing up, please call me (733-8741) and I will do it for you. Thank you for supporting the SHARES program and signing up for the eScrip program.

Jim Soxman
 Ways & Means Chairman

We want to organize a group for Religious and Armenian Language Classes which will take place on Wednesday evenings, twice a month. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office at (559) 528-6892 or Fr. Zaven at (818) 644-9398.

ACYO has no meeting or event in July.

Ladies Society has no meetings in July or August.

Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2016 in the Majarian Hall at 7:00 p.m.

We will have a Movie Day, Friday, July 29, 2016.

Faith of Zion meeting will be held on Sunday, July 31, 2016 after Divine Liturgy.

SUMMER CAMP DATES ANNOUNCED

Week 1: July 10 - July 16

Week 2: July 17 - July 23

Week 3: July 24 - July 30

Week 4: July 31 - August 6

Applications available online. Register at <http://hyecamp.com/or>
E-mail: info@hyecamp.com

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 11, 2016.

Ladies Society has "Bracelets" for sale from their 100th Anniversary event for \$8.00. Please contact the Church Office at (559) 528-6892 if you are interested in purchasing one.

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. Cost of mailing will be \$25.00 plus \$6.00 for shipping and handlings, a total of \$31.00. Sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee The "Armenian Genocide Survivors and Heroes" can be purchased for \$40 at St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church in Yettem or contact the Church Office at (559) 528-6892. If you wish a book or books mailed to you, the cost of mailing one, two, or three books will be an additional \$5.00. The cost of mailing four or five books will be an additional \$6.00.

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.

REMINDER

If you have not sent in your 2016 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.

St. Mary Spiritual Conversation meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 2:00 p.m., home rotation. Please come and join in. If you have any questions, please call the Church Office at (559) 528-6892 or Fr. Zaven at (818) 644-9398.

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 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Anna and Armine graduated in their studies from the United States



Farewell at the Vartanian's home

Ladies Society Meeting (Picnic & Bunko Game)

June 4, 2016



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 has been redesigned. The old format was originally designed in 2010. The new design will work better with today's web browsers on home computers, laptops, tablets and smart phones. If you haven't visited the website lately, try it out and see all the information that can be found online.

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

Sunday Schedule
 Morning Service [Matins] – 9:45 A.M.
 Divine Liturgy – 10:30 A.M.
 Sunday School – Will resume on Sept. 11, 2016

St. Mary Armenian Church, Yettem

Fr. Zaven can be reached at:
 559-528-6892 – Office
 559-528-6897 – FAX
 1-818-644-9398 – Cell

July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
10 His Eminence Archbishop Hovhann Derderian, Primate Visitation to St. Mary Fellowship, Parish Council, Ladies Society, ACYO- Week 1 of Camp	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Week 2 of Camp	18	19	20	21 Parish Council Meeting in the Majarian Hall at 7:00 p.m.	22	23
24 Week 3 of Camp	25	26	27	28	29 Movie Day	30
31 Faith of Zion meeting after Divine Liturgy Week 4 of Camp						



Photos submitted by David Safrastian

Central Valley Regional Meeting

2016



SAVE THE DATE
FOR
FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

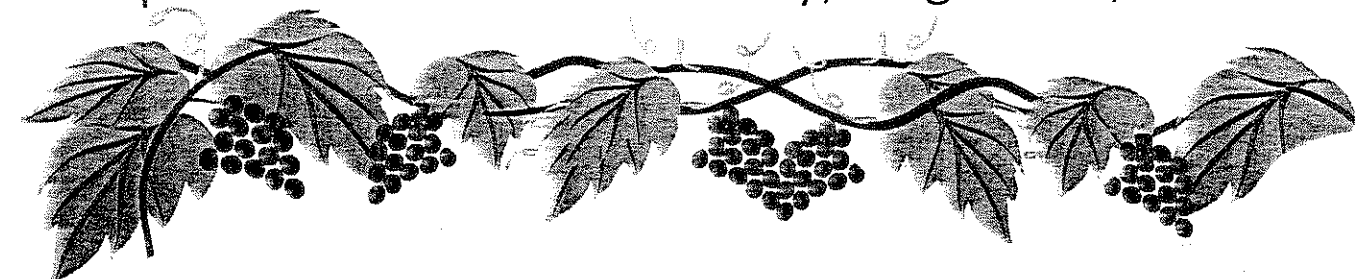
St. Mary Armenian Church
Yetttem, California

Blessings of Grapes

Sunday, August 14, 2016
Morning Service – 9:45 A.M.
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 A.M.

Reminder

Grapes are needed for Sunday, August 14, 2016



Ways and Means Committee announces.

Bake Sale

Sunday

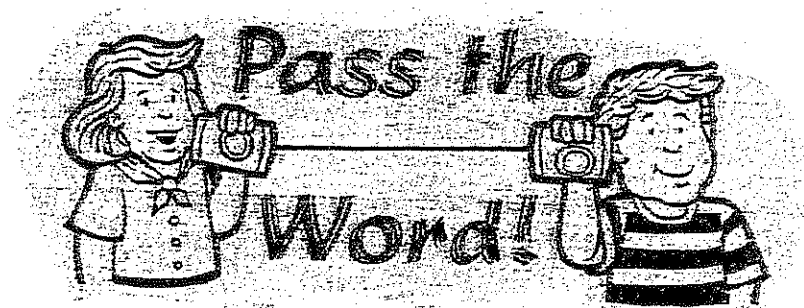
August 14, 2016

Feast of the Assumption
Asdvadzadzin & Grape Blessing

Immediately after the day's worship

*your favorite Armenian delicacies
will be available*

- ✓ Cheoreg
- ✓ Simit
- ✓ Nazoog
- ✓ Bread Sticks
- ✓ Plus lots more

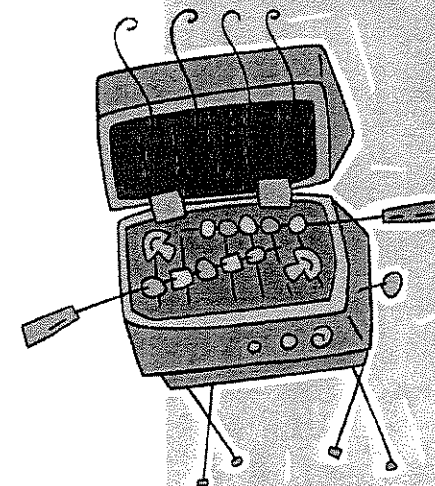


Save the Date!

*Join Faith of Zion at the
2nd Annual Family Fun Day!*

September 25, 2016

In the church yard after
the Divine Liturgy



More information to follow