

## Feast of Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord on the fortieth day following the Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Savior Jesus Christ.

Following His Resurrection and defeat of death, Christ remained on earth for forty days, and continued to appear to His disciples. On the fortieth day, Christ is last time. He blesses them and leaves them with instructions, after which He ascends into heaven.

Two of the Gospel writers, St. Mark and St. Luke, testify about Christ's account of it in the Acts of the Apostles. Following a final meeting of remaining apostles, St. Mark Lord had spoken unto them,



the fortieth day, Christ is last time. He blesses them and leaves them with instructions, after which He ascends into heaven.

St. Mark and St. Luke, testify about Christ's account of it in the Acts of the Apostles.

Following a final meeting of remaining apostles, St. Mark Lord had spoken unto them,

heaven, and sat on the right hand of God." (Mark 16:19)

St. Luke gives a little greater detail as he writes, "And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen." (Luke 24: 50-53)

But by far the most beautiful account of the Ascension can be found in the Book of Acts: "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:9-11)

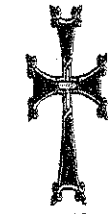
The hymn that is sung in the Armenian Church on Ascension Day mentions the miraculous event of Christ's Ascension into heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles.

ԵՂԵՍ

Հրատարակութիւն

Եղեմի Ս. Աստուծածին

Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցոյ



May 2016

YETTEM

A publication of St. Mary  
Armenian Church  
Yettem, California

Pastoral thoughts

During the month of May we greet the Glorious Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. I wish this celebration be a consolation for you and for your entire family.

The Ascension of our Lord really was a consolation for His disciples and is for all people who believe in Him. On the day of Ascension, they saw the whole power of God who ascended with the same body in front of them and promised to be with them always, to the end of ages. It was powerful encouragement for believers which strengthened them to be unshaken in their faith and to begin preaching of the Almighty.

According to the Lord's instructions contained in the church hymn (sharagan):

"Our Lord ascended to heaven, and said to the disciples:

Remain in the city of Jerusalem,

Until you receive the power from high above."

This instruction means whenever we undertake to do something we first need to ask God's power and help. Even if we want to preach or praise His name we need to ask His will and receive power from Him. To receive power means to receive blessing for our mission. This lesson is very remarkable because after Ascension, the apostles received the promised power from heaven to continue whatever their Teacher started. According to the Lord's promise, while apostles were in prayer all together, they received graces and power to act and develop Christianity among people all over the world. With their devotion and deeds, disciples showed that God's power can dwell in humans and it can work miracles.

This power can be received by anyone who talks with God and seeks to do good deeds. It already dwells in us and it is our responsibility to bring it to life. Today we are required to do the minimum, to believe in God for salvation of our soul. Today we are required to come to the church and to communicate with God's glory. But the Christian responsibility dictates us to do more. What we need to think about are the instructions to the disciples.

As Christians we need to look and find the real Jerusalem in our essence until we receive power from high above. This will strengthen us to act as real Christians.

With Love of Christ,  
Rev. Fr. Zaven Markoszyan

St. Mary Armenian Church P.O. BOX 367

Non-Profit Organization

Yettem, Californian-93670

U.S. Postage Paid

Return Service requested

Permit No. 1

Հովվական

Քանի որ մայիս ամիսը մենք պիտի դիմավորենք Հրաշափառ Համբարձման տոնակատարությամբ ես մաղթում եմ, որ այն լինի միախթարություն բոլորիս համար, ընտանիքներով հանդերձ: Համբարձումն իրապես Տիրոջ բոլոր աշակերտների համար եղավ միախթարություն: Համբարձման օրը նրանք տեսան Աստծուն Իր ամբողջ փառքով, որ համբարձվեց իրենց ներկայությամբ նույն մարմնով, և խոստացավ լինել իրենց հետ մինչև աշխարհի վախճանը:

Այն եղավ հզոր ներշնչման աղբյուր հավատավորների համար, որը զորացրեց նրանց լինելու անսասան իրենց հավատքի և Ամենակարողի անունը գովերգելու մեջ: Տիրոջ կարգադրության համաձայն Իր աշակերտները պետք է մնային Երուսաղեմում մինչև երկնքից գորություն ստանային: Ինչպես շարականն է ասում.

Համբարձաւ տէրն մեր յերկինս, ասելով աշակերտացն  
Նըստարուք ի քաղաքի Երուսաղեմ,  
մինչեւ զգենուցուք զօրութիւն ի բարձունս:

Այս հորդորը նշանակում է, թե ինչ էլ որ մենք նախաձեռնենք, նախ և առաջ պետք է Աստծո օգնականությունը խնդրենք: Եթե նույնիսկ մենք ցանկանում ենք գովերգել Իր անունը, նախ և առաջ մենք պետք է իր կամքն ու գորություն խնդրենք: Զորություն ստանալ նշանակում է օրհնություն ստանալ մեր առաքելությունը իրականացնելու համար:

Քովանդակային իմաստով այս տոնակատարությունը շատ ուշագրավ է, քանի որ աշակերտները խոստացված գորությունը ստացան, իրենց Ուսուցչի սկսած գործը շարունակելու համար: Տիրոջ խոսքի համաձայն մինչ առաքյալները բոլոր աղոթքի մեջ էին միանաբար, նրանք գորություն ստացան Աստծո անունը քարոզելու մարդկանց մեջ, ամբողջ աշխարհում: Իրենց նվիրվածությամբ ու գործերով առաքյալները ցույց տվեցին, որ Աստծո գորությունը կարող է բնակվել մարդու մեջ և հրաշքներ գործել:

Այս գորությունը կարող է ստանալ ամեն մեկ հավատացյալ, ով խոսում է Աստծո հետ և ձգտում է բարի գործերի: Այն արդեն բնակվում է մեր մեջ, մենք միայն պետք է այն կյանքի կոչենք: Այսօր մեզանից պահանջվում է անել նվազագույնը՝ հավատալ Աստծուն մեր հոգու փրկության համար: Այսօր մեզանից պահանջվում է հաճախել եկեղեցի, որպեսզի հաղորդակից դառնանք Աստծո փառքի հետ: Մակայն քրիստոնեայի պատասխանատվությունը թելադրում է մեզ ավելիի մասին: Մրա մասին է, որ մենք երբեմն պետք է մտախոհենք:

Որպես քրիստոնեաներ՝ մենք պետք է փնտրենք և գտնենք մեր մեջ իրական Երուսաղեմը և պետք է մնանք այնտեղ մինչև, որ երկնքից գորություն կստանանք, որը կգորացնի մեզ գործելու՝ իբրև ճշմարիտ քրիստոնեաներ:

Քրիստոսի Միբով՝  
Տեր Զավեն քին. Մարկոսյան

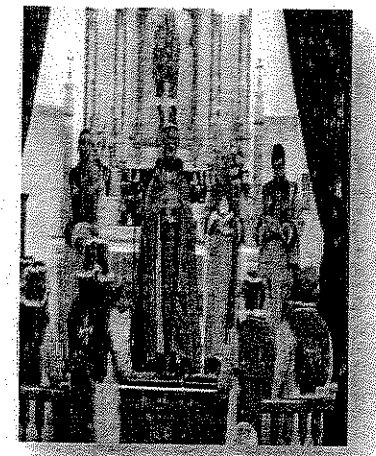
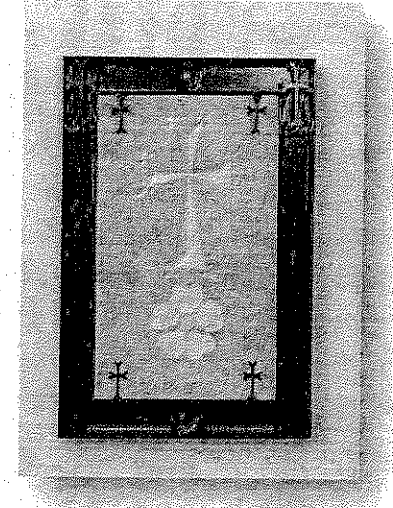
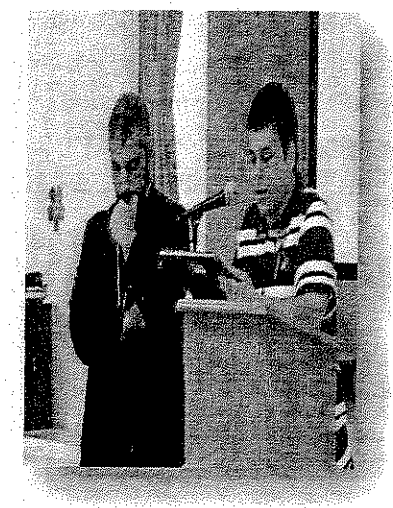
ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH, YETTEM

101<sup>st</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

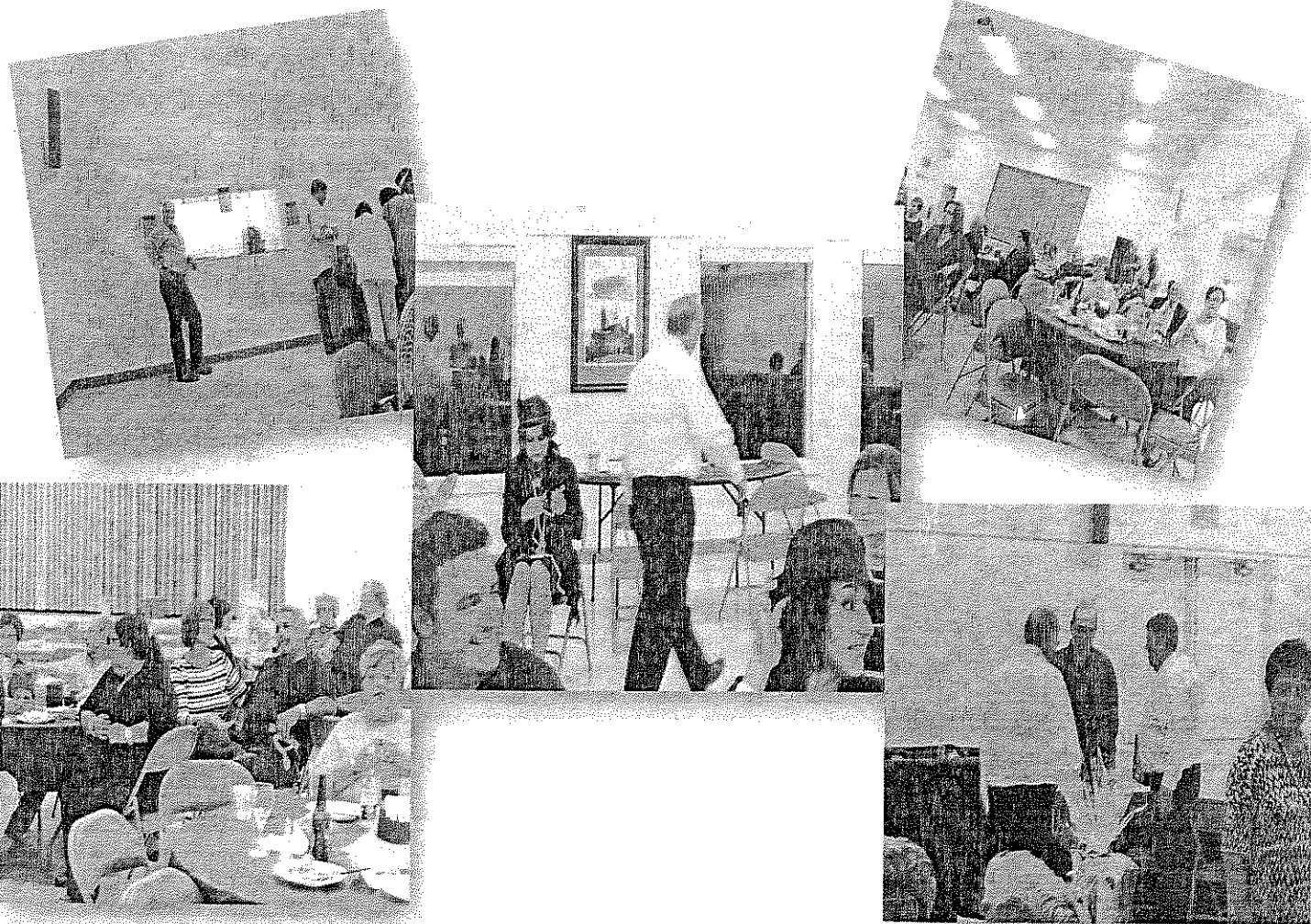
On April 24, 2016 an Armenian Genocide commemoration was held in St. Mary Armenian Church in Yettem. After Divine Liturgy parish priest, Rev. Fr. Zaven, deacons and altar servers conducted a special service dedicated to Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide.

After church services a commemoration program was held in the hall. Fr. Zaven opened the program and invited St. Mary ACYO members to do their presentations about historical events of the massacre.

After presentation a movie named, "A story of an Armenian Genocide" was shown. At the end of the program parishioners were invited to share their family experiences about the 1915 events.



Casino night was held at St. Mary, Yetttem on Saturday April 23, 2016



**Parish Notes**

**ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS**

April 3, 2016

Laura Davidian and Family in memory of Harry Davidian and Chad Tellian.

April 17, 2016

Michael and Ted Tellian and Family in memory of their mother, Elizabeth Tellian.

**HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS**

April 3, 2016

Harry Davidian, six years after his passing, Requested by Laura Davidian and Family.

Chad Tellian, forty years after his passing, Requested by Janice McWilliams and Family

April 17, 2016

Elizabeth Tellian, forty days after her passing,

Requested by Michael and Ted Tellian and Family

2016 Easter Luncheon again was sponsored by ACYO. We would like one more time to thank them and thank the parents who so generously helped out in every phase of the luncheon.

St. Mary, Yetttem Sunday School Students visited the Fresno Zoo on Saturday, April 23, 2016. Pictures compliments of Linda Wall and collage made by Myron Sheklian. (See collage)

Casino Night was held at St. Mary, Yetttem on Saturday, April 23, 2016. Pictures compliments of Myron Sheklian and Mark Wall. (See collage)

We would like to thank ACYO members for the historical events about the Genocide, Myron Sheklian for preparing the movie about the Genocide, and Faith of Zion for sponsoring the lunch on Sunday, April 24, 2016.

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.

GRADUATION season is here once again. We would like to acknowledge our graduates in the June 2016 issue of YETTEM. Accordingly, you are asked to submit the names and pertinent information to the Church Office no later than Friday, May 20, 2016.

Elizabeth Torosian is graduating from Mt. Whitney High School on June 3, 2016. Elizabeth has received a sports scholarship and will be attending California State University, Fresno in the fall of 2016. She will become a member of the CSUF softball team. Elizabeth is the daughter of Alan Torosian and Donna Torosian. Grandparents are John Torosian and Blanche Torosian and Jim and Bea Soxman. Please join us on Saturday, June 4, 2016, in celebrating this special occasion at the Soxmans residence, 2405 E. Hillcrest Ct., Visalia CA, 93292 at 6:30 p.m.

Ladies Society has no scheduled meeting in May 2016.

On Sunday, May 1, 2016, Ladies Society will be hosting a special lunch honoring Deacons, Altar Servers and Choir Members after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall.

Diocesan Assembly will be held May 5, 6, & 7, 2016 in the Armenian Apostolic Church in Las Vegas, Nevada.

At the close of the Divine Liturgy on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8, 2016, a general Requiem Service/Hokehankist will be conducted in memory of all the deceased mothers of our parish.

Parish Council will be hosting Fellowship on Sunday, May 15, 2016 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall.

The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Armenian Food Festival will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at the Visalia Elks Lodge. (See flyer)

Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2016 in the Majarian Hall at 7:00 p.m.

ACYO Sports Weekend will be held May 27, 28 & 29, 2016 in Clovis at Buchanan High School, 1560 N. Minnewawa Ave, Clovis, CA 93619. St. Mary, Yettem ACYO will have a senior basketball team and a dodgeball team.

We have started a Monthly Movie Club. As a group we will attend a movie the last Friday of each month. Our next movie date is Friday, May 27, 2016. If you are interested please call Debbie Sheklian at 733-4417.

Sunday School Commencement and Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 12, 2016.

July 10, 2016 is the Primate's visitation at St. Mary, Yettem.

#### 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](mailto:info@hyecamp.com)

Ladies Society has "Bracelets" for sale from their 100<sup>th</sup> 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, 100<sup>th</sup> 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.

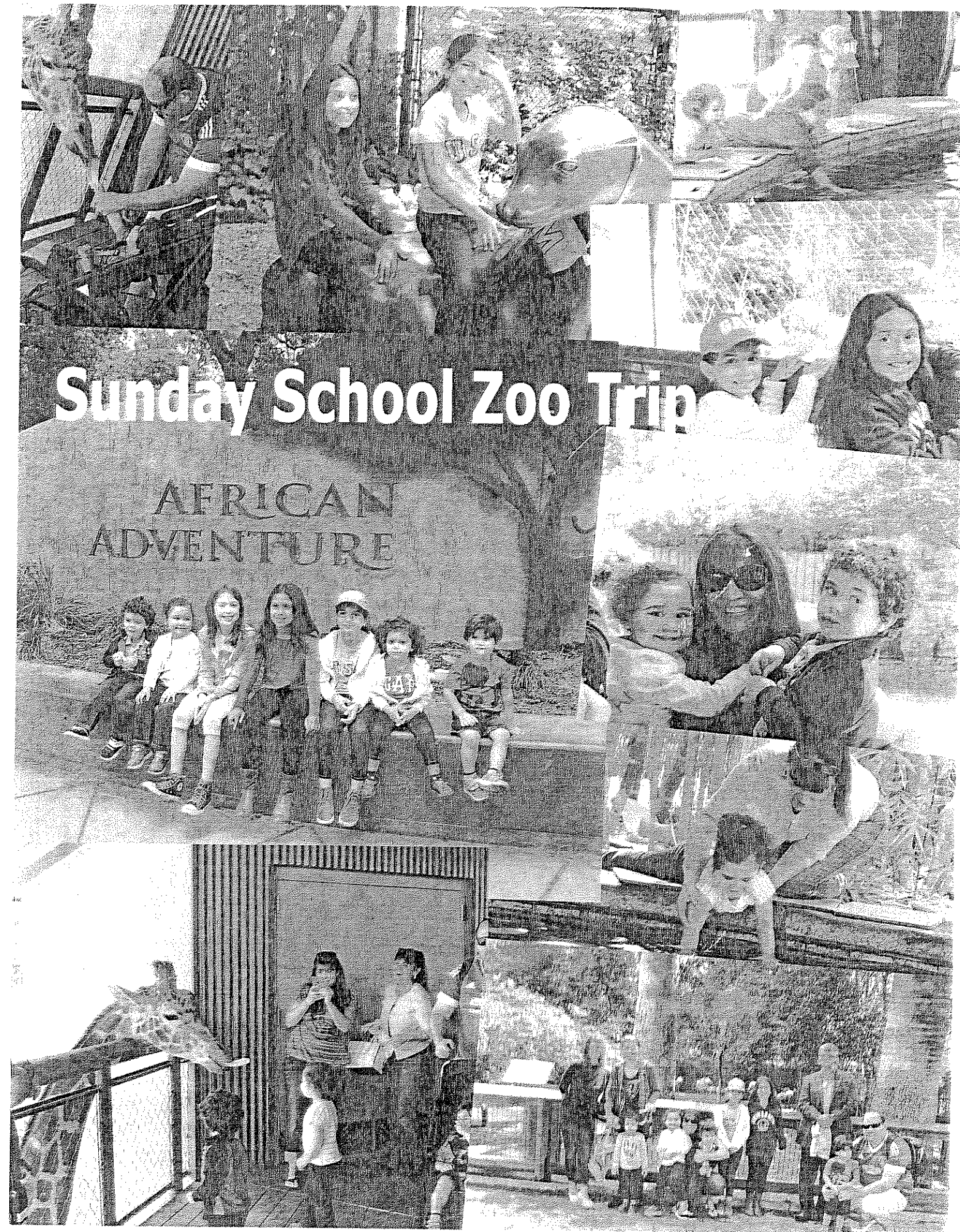
#### PAYPAL

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](http://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.



St. Mary Armenian Church of Yetteem

39th ANNUAL

# ARMENIAN FOOD FESTIVAL 2016

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016

VISALIA ELKS LODGE

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

## - MENU -

LULU KEBAB or CHICKEN KEBAB

RICE PILAF SALAD

BEVERAGE BOURMA

PEDA BREAD

**Donation \$14.00**

**Per Person**

Luncheon from 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Dinner from 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

**DINE IN or DRIVE THRU TAKE-OUT**

*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.*

*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.stmaryvettem.org](http://www.stmaryvettem.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 20<sup>th</sup> of month.**

Sunday Schedule  
 Morning Service [Matins] – 9:45 A.M.  
 Divine Liturgy – 10:30 A.M.  
 Sunday School – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 11:00 A.M.

St. Mary Armenian Church, Yettem

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

**May 2016**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Ladies Society hosting a special lunch for Deacons, Altar Servers and Choir Members after Divine Liturgy	2	3	4	5 Ascension of Christ 89 <sup>th</sup> Diocesan Assembly in the Armenian Apostolic Church in Las Vegas	6 89 <sup>th</sup> Diocesan Assembly in the Armenian Apostolic Church in Las Vegas	7 89 <sup>th</sup> Diocesan Assembly in the Armenian Apostolic Church in Las Vegas
8 Mother's Day Second Palm Sunday	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Pentacost Fellowship/Parish Council	16	17	18	19 39 <sup>th</sup> Annual Armenian Food Festival at the Visalia Elks Lodge	20	21
22 Remembrance of the Prophet Elijah	23	24	25	26 Parish Council meeting in the Majarian Hall at 7:00 p.m.	27 ACYO Sports Weekend at Buchanan High in Clovis	28 Anniversary of First Republic of Armenia ACYO Sports Weekend at Buchanan High in Clovis
29 Feast of the Catholicon of Holy Etchmiadzin ACYO Sports Weekend at Buchanan High in Clovis	30 Memorial Day	31				

*St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church*

Easter Yughakin 2016

- |                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Agajanian, Melvin and Regina       | Kizirian, Abe and Sandra         |
| Ananian, Charlie and Elizabeth     | Krause, David & Lisa             |
| Ananian, Jack and Reba             | Krikorian, Gary and Nancy        |
| Ananian, Serge and Judith          | Maranian, Carol A.               |
| Ananian, Stella                    | Margosian, George and Rose Marie |
| Crowder, Evelyn Boudakian          | Margosian, Lucille               |
| Davidian, Charlie and Christina A. | McWilliams, Richard and Janice   |
| Davidian, Edward and Georgia Ann   | Menendian, Laurie                |
| Davidian, Margie L                 | Mikaelian, Michael and Sandra    |
| Derrick, James E. and Sadie        | Mortanian, Mary                  |
| Enfiedjian, Sarkis and Hasmik      | Parsons, Margaret                |
| Enkababian, Mary                   | Parton, Blanche and Edward       |
| Farsakian, Larry R. DDS & Wendy    | Peters, Darrell and Tina         |
| Farsakian, Souren                  | Poochigian, Jerry and Julie      |
| Garoian, Gerard and Sylvia         | Safrazian, Richard and Lillian   |
| Gomes, John and Janet              | Sarabian, Charles and Lori       |
| Gregory, Jack and Hasmik           | Shapazian, Jerry                 |
| Hagopian, Richard and Geraldine    | Shapazian, Margaret              |
| Halbourian, Alice                  | Sheklian, Joann                  |
| Hampar, Arthur                     | Si's Quality Automobiles, Inc..  |
| Hebesha, Madlien N.                | Simonian, Chuck Simon            |
| Hovannisian, Marian                | Simonian, Mary Susan Kapamaci    |
| Jendian, Dr. Allan and Rosemary    | Skaff, Judy and Mike             |
| Jiggerian, Varsanig                | Soxman, James and Beatrice       |
| Kahaian, Sarah                     | Tabibian, Dr. Neshan             |
| Kalfayan, Garo and Nancy           | Wall, Mark and Linda             |
| Kaprielian, John Ara and Sharon    | Yahnian, Sark and Sylvia         |
| Kaye, Ernest and Lillian           | Zakarian, Archie and Kathy       |
| Kilijian, Michael and Sue          | Zerounian, Marilyn               |

TOTAL

\$ 4,220.00