



YETTEM ԵՊԵՄ

Հրատարակութիւն Եղեմի Ս. Աստուածածին Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ

A Publication of St. Mary Armenian Church Yettem, California

Rev. Fr. Mashdots Keshishian, Parish Priest

June 2024

Faithful Fatherhood

As we celebrate our fathers, we will reflect on the message of Ephesians 6:4, which says, “Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” Our reflection will offer some encouragement, maybe a challenge or two, and guidance for all the fathers out there. It’s a short verse but has much to say about parenting.

First, it’s a warning not to drive children to frustration and anger. It doesn’t imply that fathers should never upset their children, as that is an inescapable part of any loving relationship. Occasionally, we must say difficult things that might upset and anger them. What it warns against is creating a chronic state of frustration and resentment in children through our actions. The Apostle Paul warns that our parenting could foster deep-seated anger within our children, not merely momentary annoyance.

To prevent this, St. Paul advises, “Bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” Let’s unpack this profound piece of advice. St. Paul is guiding us toward a balance between discipline and counsel. The discipline word hints at firmness and boundary enforcement, while instruction involves reasoning and dialogue. This balance between truth and love is essential in preventing a resentful, frustrated, angry child.

Paul cautions us not to lean too heavily towards either side of this balance. An overly disciplined approach can result in unintended and harmful results because children are not animals to be simply trained and disciplined but human beings. In contrast, excessive reasoning and coaxing can also lead to frustration because it overlooks that they are not yet adults. A balance of affectionate counsel and consistent enforcement of sensible rules is key to raising a well-rounded and grounded child.

There’s a second balance that Paul hints at when he says, “Bring them up.” Here he is instructing us to balance nurturing dependence and fostering independence. The purpose of parenting is to prepare our children not to need us and to transition them from being dependent on us to be capable of making critical moral choices independently. Yet, this process must be gradual. We must not thrust our children into independence prematurely. Too quick a push can leave children feeling unsupported and abandoned, causing frustration.

(Continued on the back page)

Parish Notes

CONDOLENCES

On behalf of our St. Mary Parish family, we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Shirley Ouzounian, Craig, Annie, Audrey, and Maddy Ouzounian, and Lisa, Paul, Vaughn, and Theo Dermenjian on the recent passing of ***George Ouzounian*** on Friday, April 26th. **Funeral Services** were held at **St. Mary Yettem** on **Thursday, May 9th**. Our thoughts and prayers are with George's family.

On behalf of our St. Mary Parish family, we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Charlie Ananian, Gary, Janet, Brandon, and Kathryn Ananian, Darren, Gina, Laura, and Marley Ananian, and Audreena Ananian, and Aubrey Chavez on the passing of ***Elizabeth Ananian*** on Saturday, May 25th. A **Home Service** will be conducted at **Dopkins Funeral Chapel in Reedley** on **Monday, June 3rd at 6 PM**. **Visitation** will follow from **4 to 7 PM**. **Funeral services** will be held here at **St. Mary Yettem** on **Tuesday, June 4th at 10 AM** with burial following at **Smith Mountain Cemetery in Dinuba**. A **hokejosh** will be held at the **Majarian Hall** upon conclusion of all services. Our thoughts and prayers are with Elizabeth's family.

BAPTISM

May 18th

Peter (Bedros) Edward Babagian

Bedros is the son of Stephen and Serena Babagian. He is the grandson of Peter and Mary Babagian, Edward Bonn, and Cynthia Peeples.

ADDITIONAL EASTER YUGHAKIN DONATION

Michael and Sandra Mikaelian

ALTAR FLOWERS

May 12th

Judy Kachadoorian, Kandy Kachadoorian Basmajian, Kris and Aida Kachadoorian and family

in memory of Kaye Kachadoorian, Jr.

May 19th

***Rose Marie Margosian
Pierre and Melissa Pilavian and family
and Darrell and Tina Peters and family***
in memory of George Margosian

HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS

May 12th

All the deceased mothers

Kaye Kachadoorian, Jr.

two years after his passing,
requested by Judy Kachadoorian, Kandy Kachadoorian Basmajian, Kris and Aida Kachadoorian and family

May 19th

George Margosian

five years after his passing,
requested by
Rose Marie Margosian
Pierre and Melissa Pilavian and family
and Darrell and Tina Peters and family

Sargon Lelham

requested by Sargon and Lilit Benjamin

HOKEHANKIST DONATIONS

May 12th

For Repose of Kaye Kachadoorian, Jr.'s Soul
Judy Kachadoorian and family

May 19th

For Repose of George Margosian's Soul
***Rose Marie Margosian
John Ara and Sharon Kaprielian***

For Repose of Sargon Lelham's Soul
Sargon and Lilit Benjamin

ST. MARY YETTEM JUNE SCHEDULE

June 2nd – Archpriest Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian
June 9th - Archpriest Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian
June 16th – No Services will be held at St. Mary Yettem, but consider attending St. Sahag-Mesrob in Reedley or St. Gregory in Fowler
June 23rd - Archpriest Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian
June 30th – Rev. Fr. Mashdots Keshishian

SAVE THE DATE

Pastoral visitation of His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian to St. Mary Armenian Church in Yettem will be on **Sunday, July 14th**. (See flier)

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council's next meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 27th via Zoom at 6 PM**.

PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTING SACRAMENTS

When making baptism, funeral, or wedding arrangements, it is important to remember to first check with the church office and Fr. Mashdots Keshishian prior to scheduling. Thank you.

CHORAG MAKING

Please join us on **Saturday, June 8th**, at the **Majarian Hall** to help **make chorag** for the church camp. We will **start at 10:00 AM**. All church members and friends are welcome! For further information contact Debbie Sheklian at (559) 799-8041 or Laurie Menendian at (559) 731-7050.

FOOD FESTIVAL

On behalf of the **Ways and Means Committee** we would like to **thank everyone** for all their hard work in making our **May Food Festival** a big success. We **sold 1,319 tickets** and have a **preliminary net income of \$19,876.36**. This would not be possible without the help of so many devoted parishioners and friends of our church. Our **next fund-raising event** will be the **Golf Tournament** on **September 21, 2024**, at the **Tulare Golf Course**. (See flier)

*Your Co-Chairs,
Margie L. Davidian and Judy Skaff*

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The Ways and Means Committee next general meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 13th** via Zoom at **6:30 PM**.

RAFFLE

Our **June, July and August drawings of 2024** will be held on **Sunday, August 18, 2024**.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Sunday School had their last day on **Sunday, May 26th** (see collage). **Sunday School** will resume on **Grandparents' Day, Sunday, September 8, 2024**.

ST. MARY MEMORIAL WALL

The St. Mary Memorial Wall was started in 2001 and has been a huge success. Contact Linda Farsakian-Wall at (559) 786-1419 or email: linda.hyewall@gmail.com

SUMMER EXPENSES CONTINUE

During the summer months donations to our church typically trail off. Enclosed in this month's bulletin is an envelope where we hope you might include a donation to help with our ongoing expenses.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Our church office hours are **Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 – 2:30 PM**. The office phone number is (559) 528-6892. If you are in need of something beyond those hours, you can email fathermashdots@stmaryyettem.org or text/call (818) 293-9098 or email St. Mary Parish Council Chair Judy Skaff at judy@thebelmontgroup.com or text/call (559) 799-1198.

WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATE

If you would like to have your email address added to our weekly update email blasts, please call the church office or email sonya@stmaryyettem.org



Your vehicle running or not is eligible for donation. For more information, contact Linda Farsakian-Wall at 559-786-1419.

PAYPAL

You may access PayPal through the St. Mary Yetter website (www.stmaryyettem.org) by clicking on the "Donation" button on the bottom of the Home Page. You may donate for general donations, yughakins, hokehankists, pledges, membership dues, in lieu of flowers, or pay for altar flowers you have ordered on behalf of the church.

QR CODE BELOW



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

| JUNE 2024 | | | | | | |
|--|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | | | 1 St. Gregory the Illuminator Deliverance from the Pit The Ladies Society Family Picnic at Blain Park at 11:30 AM |
| 2 Feast of the Catholicos of Holy Etchmiadzin Archpriest Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian to be the celebrant and preacher | | | | | | 8 St. Nerses the Great |
| 9 Archpriest Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian to be the celebrant and preacher | | | | | 13 Ways and Means Committee general meeting at 6:30 PM | 15 St. Gregory the Illuminator Discovery of His Relics |
| 16 Father's Day No Services will be conducted in Yetteh | | | | | 20 Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Translators | |
| 23 Archpriest Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian to be the celebrant and preacher | | | | | 27 The Parish Council meeting via Zoom at 6 PM | 29 12 Holy Apostles of Christ & St. Paul the 13 th Apostle |
| 30 Barekendan Of the Fast of the Transfiguration | | | | | | |

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Sunday Schedule:
 Morning Service (Matins) 9:30 AM
 Divine Liturgy 10:15 AM

Office Hours
Tuesday – Friday
9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Father Mashdots can be reached at:
 559-528-6892 – Office
 559-528-6897 – FAX
 818-293-9098 - Cell

Judy Dudukian Skaff



My mom embodies the true essence of selflessness, beauty, and grace, always going above and beyond to lend a helping hand and make a positive impact. With unwavering commitment, she treats everyone with dignity, respect, kindness, and empathy, a testament to her beautiful soul. Her love for her family and her church burns with an unparalleled passion, serving as a guiding force in her life and an inspiration to me. - Adrienne Skaff Poochigian

Judy was born May 12, in Fresno, CA to Alice and Richard Dudukian. Her siblings Rick and Debby enthusiastically welcomed their baby sister, Judy. The family enjoyed playing games, especially cards, and going camping at Dinky Creek. In 1971, her life turned upside down. Moving her seventh-grade year to a new town and new school was devastating to shy Judy. She no longer had her protector Rick and companion Debby by her side. In high school she emerged from her shell to be a JV yell leader and then varsity song leader her senior year. After high school, she attended Reedley Jr. College for 2 years majoring in Fashion Merchandising.

Church is important to the Dudukian and Skaff family values. The Dudukian family attended Holy Trinity Church in Fresno. Arriving in Visalia, the family attended St. Mary Yettem. Judy fondly remembers attending Sunday school, A.C.Y.O. conventions, sports weekends, and church camp. When her children attended camp, she was an adult volunteer for 5 years! Judy has been involved and served our church continuously. She was the A.C.Y.O. advisor. She assisted Georgia Davidian to teach Sunday school. She joined Ladies Society in 1994, serving as Ladies Society corresponding secretary and then chairman. Her first stint on the Parish Council was in 2005 and she hasn't stopped since then. Currently serving as chairman, she previously served as recording secretary, advisor, and vice-chairman.

Working for apparel stores, Judy put her fashion degree to work. But fate had other plans for her. She took a job at the Visalia Medical Clinic pediatric department. It was that fateful change in careers that led her to her husband Mike Skaff. Mike's uncle, Dr. George Skaff, asked Judy for her phone number. He had a nephew who he thought was a match for Judy. Trusting the good doctor, she gave it to him. Just 3 ½ months of dating they were engaged. The couple will celebrate their 40th anniversary on June 30th.

Judy is a devoted wife, mother to Adrienne and Kevin, mother-in-law to Brian Poochigian and to Lynn Saroyan, and grandmother to Jackson, Jameson, Alice, Suren, and Juliette. Kevin writes, "A cherished memory I have of my mom is back when I was in elementary school. I was maybe 7 or 8 years old and having a hard time with something at home (typical kid stuff). I had been feeling a bit down. My mom surprised me by pulling me out of school for lunch to take me to In-N-Out. We had the best lunch hanging out - just the two of us! It really meant a lot. She always has a way of making all our anxieties and worries go away." Adrienne writes, "My mom is my partner in laughter, my confidante, and my shopping buddy. She brings a joyful and vibrant spirit into my life." Judy loves to spend time with her grandchildren. In fact, her plan this summer is to teach Jackson and Jameson how to play Rummy. On her down time, she loves to watch old westerns and the Hallmark channel with Mike, travel, sew, and garden.

Thank you, Judy, for your service to our church and community.

LILA ELISE ADAMO



Lila Elise Adamo will be graduating from La Joya Middle School in Visalia on May 31st 2024. She will go on to The University Preparatory High School in Visalia.

Lila is the granddaughter of Brenda (Shuklian) and Carlos Valdivieso.

The great granddaughter of the late Harry and Virginia Shuklian, and the daughter of Nina and Eddie Campagna.

KATHRYN ANANIAN



KINGSBURG HIGH
CLASS OF 2024



Kathryn Ananian, daughter of Gary & Janet and granddaughter of Charlie & Elizabeth, graduates from KHS on June 6, 2024. She will continue her education at Reedley College majoring in Business.





*You're
Invited!*

**His
Eminence
Archbishop
Hovnan
Derderian**

PASTORAL VISIT
To

***St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church
Yettem***

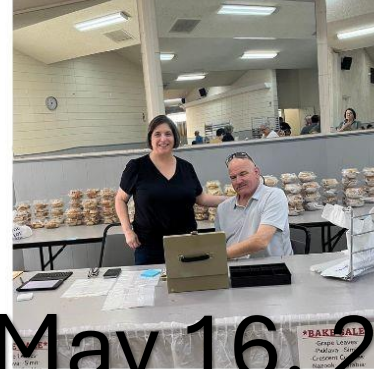
Sunday, July 14, 2024

St. Mary Parish invites all parishioners & friends to this great event!

- Bestowing of the Hye Spirit Awards to Janice McWilliams and Tina Peters
- A luncheon will be offered by the St. Mary Parish Council after church services. For reservations, please call the church office at 528-6892 or email lunches@stmaryyettem.org with your name and the number of lunches requested by July 7, 2024.



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Armenian Food Festival May 16, 2024





Sunday School Culmination May 26, 2024





*St. Mary Yettem
Armenian Church
Golf Tournament*

Saturday, September 21, 2024

Sponsorships Available!

Event Sponsor - \$3,000

Name prominently displayed on Welcome Banner
4 player entry fees – which includes lunch

Gold Sponsor - \$1,500

Name on Welcome Banner
2 player entry fees – which includes lunch

Silver Sponsor - \$500

Name on Welcome Banner
2 lunch tickets

Tee Sponsor - \$100

Name on tee sign

3-hole Tee Sponsor - \$250

Name on tee signs at three holes

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name to appear on Signage: _____

_____ check enclosed

Mail to:

St. Mary Armenian Church – Golf Tournament
P.O. Box 367
Yettem, CA 93670

_____ Zelle Payment: YettemWMC@gmail.com

(Continued from the front page)

The third vital element in Paul's advice is the 'of the Lord' part. It means, as parents, we need to tell our children about God. We should share our faith journey and how God influences our lives. While it's natural to want our children to form their own beliefs, studies have shown that providing moral instruction, even if flawed, is far better than providing none. Guiding your child towards God is not abdication, but a significant part of parental responsibility.

The three parenting strategies St. Paul invites us to reflect on and incorporate into our parenting are balancing discipline and counsel, fostering independence while providing support, and imparting our faith. In doing so, we will not exasperate our children, but rather inspire them, mold them, and lead them toward a fulfilling, godly life. Remember, being a father is not merely a role, but a divine calling that requires patience, wisdom, and an open heart ready to give and receive love.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Fr. Vosgi

Happy Father's Day

St. Mary Armenian Church
P.O. Box 367
Yetter, California 93670
Return Service Required

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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