



YETTEM ԵՊԵՄ

Հրատարակութիւն Եղեմի Ս. Աստուածածին Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ

A Publication of St. Mary Armenian Church Yettem, California

Rev. Fr. Mashdots Keshishian, Parish Priest

April 2024

The Resurrection Perspective on Life (New Sunday)

In the battle of Waterloo, the faith of modern Europe was being shaped. The army of the United Kingdom was facing the French army under the command of Napoleon Bonaparte. People in England were anxiously awaiting news of the outcome from the battleground. A signalman was stationed on top of the Winchester Cathedral with specific instructions to observe the sea for any approaching ship signaling the outcome of the battle. In his turn, he had to pass the message on to another man on a hill. That man had to pass it on to another, and so on. That way, the news would travel more than seventy miles to London and then all across Britain.

Finally, a ship was spotted emerging from the fog covering the horizon as far as the eye can see. The signalman on board sent the first word – Wellington, then the second word – defeated. Then the thick cloud of fog covered the ship. “Wellington defeated!” The tragic message spread all across England, the gloom of heartbreak and disappointment descended over the countryside. In a few hours, when the fog lifted from the English Channel, the messenger ship sent the message again – Wellington defeated the enemy! This time a very different type of message was being spread, one that was lifting hearts and giving hope.

The disciples and followers of our Lord experienced something very similar. After witnessing Christ being betrayed by one of his own, humiliated, tortured, and killed, they probably concluded that there was no justice in this world. They probably thought that God forgot about them and assumed all hope was gone. But then they were surprised and shocked by the unexpected news of the resurrection. Not only their friend, beloved teacher and Lord was not dead, but he defeated death and destroyed its chains of fear and darkness holding humanity captive. Their whole life was changed in a split second when they encountered and embraced the Resurrection perspective on life.

(Continued on the back page)

Parish Notes

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

THIS APRIL 2024 BULLETIN
IS SPONSORED BY

**JANICE AND RICH MCWILLIAMS
AND FAMILY**

PHYLLIS AND ALAN BORBA AND FAMILY

BECKY AND JEFF AKIN AND FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF
HARRY AND LAURA DAVIDIAN
AND
CHAD TELLIAN

BAPTISMS

February 17th

Brody Bedros Lopez

Brody is the son of Juan Jr., and Brooke (Bedrosian) Lopez. He is the grandson of George and Gail Bedrosian and Juan and Mayra Lopez.

March 16th

Juliette Azniv Skaff

Juliette is the daughter of Kevin and Lynn (Saroyan) Skaff. She is the granddaughter of Mike and Judy Skaff and John and Gladys Saroyan.

EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS

March 31st

The Menendian Family

honoring Araxie Menendian for her sixty plus years of dedication and service to St. Mary Armenian Church, especially during Easter season

ALTAR CANDLE OIL DONATIONS

**Alan and Phyllis Borba
Lucille Margosian**

BUTTER DONATION FOR WASHING OF THE FEET

Julie Poochigian

EASTER LILY FLOWER DONATIONS

**Julie Poochigian
Myron and Debbie Sheklian**

HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS

March 3rd

Karapet Garakashyan

Elmast Kyurchyan

Albert Nahapetyan

Sergey Papikyan

requested by Lilit Benjamin

March 17th

Albert Nahapetyan

forty days after his passing,

requested by Lilit Benjamin

DONATIONS

Betty Skaff Jacobo

Richard Asadoorian and Barbara Cowan
in memory of Richard's father, Kevork "George"
Asadoorian who passed in 1935

**Rose Marie Margosian, Pilavian Family,
and Peters Family**

in honor of Lucille Margosian's 92nd birthday

SOUPER SUPPER THANK YOUS

Thank you to our Souper Supper hosts...

02/28 Myron and Debbie Sheklian

02/28 Margie L. Davidian

03/06 Judy Skaff

03/13 Laurie Menendian

03/20 Linda Farsakian-Wall

THANK YOUS

Thank you to Alan Borba for re-furbishing the entry doors to the church.

Thank you to Debbie Sheklian for maintaining the north flower bed and keeping it looking beautiful.

Thank you to Myron Sheklian for cutting and placing the palms inside and outside of the church for Palm Sunday. Myron also sewed the altar curtain and repaired the altar curtain motor.

APRIL SCHEDULE

Fr. Mashdots will be in Armenia April 6th - 27th to attend his educational courses. The schedule is as follows...

Sunday, April 7th – Pilgrimage to St. Sahag-Mesrob in Reedley

Sunday, April 14th – Visiting Clergy, Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian

Sunday, April 21st – Deacon Services

Sunday, April 28th - Visiting Clergy, Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian

EASTER LUNCHEON

A big thank you to Adrienne Poochigian for coordinating a wonderful Easter luncheon for our congregation. Many thanks to those from across many organizations that contributed to the success of the day.

LADIES SOCIETY NEWS

For the first time in many years, Ladies Society sponsored the annual Palm Sunday bake sale. And what a sale we had! The tables were filled with delectable handmade delicacies. Thanks to the bakers and to the shoppers, we raised \$1,481 for the church.

May 11, we are having our annual Celebrating Women and Honoring Our Mothers' luncheon at the Vintage Press. The menu choices are curry chicken salad with fresh fruit or chicken crepes with fresh strawberries for \$45. Children's menu is chicken strips for \$21. All meals include dessert. Reservations are required. For reservations, see enclosed flier. You are encouraged to bring a framed picture of your mother and grandmothers for display.

Our next general meeting is Saturday, April 13, at the church hall. Lunch and social hour are at 11:30 and meeting is at 12:15. Sandy Kalfayan is leading us in making succulent planters. All are welcome to attend. You won't want to miss out!

Linda Farsakian-Wall, Chair

PILGRIMAGE

Since the earliest centuries of Christianity, Priests and Bishops organized pilgrimages for their faithful to follow in the steps of the Lord and the Apostles. All previous pilgrimages have proven to be beautiful opportunities to renew our faith, to learn about the sources of our Church's teachings and to enjoy fellowship with members of our community from around the world.

This year we will have our first Pilgrimage to St Sahag-Mesrob Reedley Church, **on April 7th**. We will be participating in New Sunday Badarak with the Reedley Community on that day. After church services we are invited to the hall to have a fellowship. Therefore, we will not conduct a Divine Liturgy in our church in Yetem that Sunday because Der Mashdots will be going to Armenia in April to attend his educational courses.

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

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council's next meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 9th** via Zoom at **6 PM**.

2024 DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

The **Diocesan Assembly** meetings are being held **May 2nd & 3rd** in **Scottsdale, Arizona**.

RAFFLE

Our **March, April, and May** church raffles of 2024 were held on **Palm Sunday, March 24th**.

Congratulations to the March winners...

(\$150) Geraldine Hagopian

(\$100) Suren Skaff

(\$50) Lisa Krause

Congratulations to the April winners...

(\$150) Zoie Margosian

(\$100) Gregory Krikorian

(\$50) Aron Margosian

Congratulations to the May winners...

(\$150) Lisa Krause

(\$100) Lisa Krause

(\$50) Lisa Krause

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

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

If you are interested in **sponsoring a monthly bulletin** or a **weekly bulletin**, please call the church office at (559) 528-6892. **Sponsorships are a good way to remember or honor family members or friends. Sponsorships for the weekly bulletin are \$25 or more and a \$250 minimum donation for the monthly bulletin.**

PAYPAL

You may access PayPal through the St. Mary Yetem website (www.stmaryyetem.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.

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.

Give a little luck
by donating
your four wheels

Donate Today



Every donated vehicle helps keep our doors open at St. Mary Yettem. For more information, contact Linda Farsakian-Wall at 559-786-1419.

NEW QR CODE

If you would like to donate to our St. Mary Yettem Church scan the QR code below.

Click to Donate to
St. Mary Yettem
With PayPal or Credit
Cards



ST. MARY YETTEM PARKING LOT

Your St. Mary Yettem Parish Council recently took on a project to fill the cracks and re-seal the church parking lot. The parking lot was dug out and new asphalt was installed prior to our 100th anniversary in 2011. Since then, periodic maintenance was done twice to prolong the life of the lot. With the tremendous amount of rain that we have recently received, the cracks were getting worse, and it was time to seal once again. The proceeds from the interest earned from the George and Stella Memorial Fund were used to pay for this improvement project.



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Remembrance of the dead	2	3	4	5	6 9:00 AM Making Yalanchi & Walnut Crescents for the Food Festival
7 New Sunday Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Pilgrimage to St. Sahag-Mesrob Reedley Church	8	9	10	11	12	13 The Ladies Society Lunch at 11:30 AM Meeting at 12:15 PM in the Majarian Hall
14 Sunday of the World Church (Green Sunday) Visiting Clergy – Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian Sunday School	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Red Sunday Deacon Services	22	23	24 Feast of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide	25	26	27
28 Apparition of the Holy Cross Visiting Clergy – Rev. Fr. Kevork Arakelian Sunday School Children's Sermon	29	30	31			

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

*Please Join The Yettem Ladies Society
For Our Annual Luncheon
As We Celebrate Women & Honor Our Mothers*

Saturday, May 11th. 2024 11:30 a.m.

The Vintage Press Restaurant

216 N. Willis Street, Visalia

Chicken Crepes or Curried Chicken Salad \$45.00

Chicken Strips (Children's Meal) \$21.00

Coffee or Tea & Dessert Included

Mail in Your Reservation With Your Meal Choice(s)

And Number of Guests in Your Party By May 4th.

Checks Are Payable To: St. Mary Ladies Society

P.O. Box 367 . Yettem . Ca 93670

*Please Bring a Picture of Your Mother, Grandmother or Inspirational
Woman in Your Life to Share at the Table.*

.....
Name _____

No. Of Guests _____ *(Indicate # of meal choices below)*

Chicken Crepes _____ *Curried Chicken Salad* _____

Chicken Strips _____

St. Mary Armenian Church of Yettam
Ways and Means Committee

46th ARMENIAN FOOD FESTIVAL

Don't miss the Only Food Festival offered this year!

DINE-IN -or- DRIVE THRU

Thursday, May 16, 2024

Visalia Elks Lodge

(3100 W. Main—just East of County Center Dr.)

• Menu •

Choice of Two Entrée Plates

Lulu Kebab -or- Chicken Kebab

Pilaf, Salad, Peda Bread and Dessert

Donation~\$20 per person

DINE-IN or DRIVE THRU

Lunch Served — 11:00am—1:30pm

Dinner Served — 4:30pm—7:00pm

Bake Sale

Grape Leaves • Crescent Cookies • Nazook

Kurabia • Simit • Bourma

Prepaid Tickets will be mailed in April!

...We appreciate YOUR SUPPORT...



Palm Sunday and Holy Week 2024



Easter Sunday 2024



2024 ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 | 6:30PM
FRESNO STATE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE MONUMENT

Keynote Speaker

Stefani Booroojian
KSEE24 Anchor & Reporter



ARMENIAN GENOCIDE
COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE
FRESNO

agcfresno.com
instagram.com/agccfresno
facebook.com/agcfresno



HYE CAMP 2024



Sessions:

- Week 1: July 14-20**
- Week 2: July 21-27**
- Week 3: July 28-Aug 3**
- Week 4: Aug 4-10**

Campers ages 8-17
Counselors/Staff age 18+



Camper Registration Opens on
APRIL 1st at 10:00am



Join us for Family Day
on **APRIL 27th at Hye Camp**



Hye Camp Location:
45000 E. Kings Canyon Rd
Dunlap, CA 93621

Hye Camp offers four one-week overnight summer camp sessions which provide an awesome experience for Campers and Staff to learn about their faith, culture, and Armenian community! Activities include religious and cultural classes, basketball, swimming, boating, arts & crafts, soccer, archery, volleyball, Armenian dance, campfires, stargazing and so much more!

Camper Scholarships Available!

Registration:
hyecamp.com
Questions?
info@hyecamp.com



Follow us for updates



hyecamp

(Continued from the front page)

There are points and times in our lives when we too lose our way. Times when we lose hope, get tired and exhausted from trying, praying but not hearing back from God, hoping, and dreaming for a better and brighter tomorrow but never experience our dreams come true. Such turning points in life tend to either draw us near God or repel and move us away from the faith. In such moments of life God appears distant and disconnected from everything that goes on in our lives. Like the disciples, we too might give in to fear, assume that all hope is lost, that our troubles and dreams are too small and insignificant for God to ever bother intervening, or we might embrace the Resurrection perspective on life.

The Resurrection perspective on life gives hope, strengthens us and reminds us that no matter how big and great our troubles and shortcomings might be, nothing is impossible for God. The Resurrection perspective on life unceasingly and tirelessly reminds us that where we see no solution and remedy in sight, God sees an opportunity and new beginning. The Resurrection perspective on life is an invitation for us to reflect on how we were created to live and experience joy and peace that are not of this world but found only through and within Christ. The Resurrection perspective on life is an encouragement for us to pause, notice, accept and embrace the fact that in this life or after we are not alone. We are never abandoned, not powerless, helpless, or hopeless because the life-giving Lord, who defeated death, is with us always, to whom glory and dominion now and forever, amen.

Fr. Vosgi

St. Mary Armenian Church
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Yetter, California 93670
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