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Հրատարակութիւն

Եղեմի Ս. Աստուծածիմ

Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցւոյ

MARCH 2018

YETTEM

A publication of St. Mary

Armenian Church

Yettem, California

Pontifical Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II On the Occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the First Republic of Armenia

KAREKIN II, SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST, BY THE MERCY OF GOD AND THE WILL OF THE NATION CHIEF BISHOP AND CATHOLICOS OF ALL ARMENIANS, SUPREME PATRIARCH OF THE PAN-NATIONAL PREEMINENT ARARATIAN SEE THE APOSTOLIC MOTHER CHURCH OF UNIVERSAL HOLY ETCHMIADZIN. CHRIST-BEQUEATHED GREETINGS OF LOVE AND PONTIFICAL BLESSINGS TO THE CATHOLICOSATE OF THE GREAT HOUSE OF CILICIA, TO THE ARMENIAN PATRIARCHATES OF HOLY JERUSALEM AND CONSTANTINOPLE, TO ARCHBISHOPS, BISHOPS, PRIESTS AND DEACONS, TO DIOCESAN ASSEMBLIES, DIOCESAN AND PAROCHIAL COUNCILS AND OFFICERS, AND TO ALL BELOVED FAITHFUL ARMENIAN PEOPLE

“This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.” (1 John 5:4)

We give thanks and praise to God, that our nation meets the 100th anniversary of the First Republic of Armenia and the heroic battles of May with restored statehood in Armenia and Artsakh and with achievements. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of these significant events, we send our Pontifical Message to our beloved people, voicing the message that “This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith”.

A century ago, our people were on the verge of life and death. Ottoman Turkey, taking advantage of the confusion of World War I, carried out its Armenian Genocide program. Western Armenia and Armenian settlements were ruined in Turkey, the Turkish troops even entered Eastern Armenia, thus threatening the existence of our people.

In this fateful hour, in the battles of Sardarapat, Aparan and Karakilisa our people, united into one will, made a stand against the enemy. The call of the Catholicos of All Armenians George V

inspired and encouraged with unity, a spirit of victory awoke in people's hearts, closing escape route. Behind us there was a small portion of our homeland, behind us there was the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, our sacred sanctuary established by Christ, the cradle of our faith and the bases for our identity. The Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians refused to leave the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin managed to unite the people for the fight, saying "I have always believed in the spirit of my people. I know the path of bitterness along which they have traversed. I am also convinced that my Armenian nation has to have the last word. And this word will be victorious."

Our whole nation that had united into one will and one soul, stood up to save the homeland, its life, its sacred places, to protect its right to live freely in the native land. Eastern Armenia was saved from the ruin and massacre, and after a long pause of five and a half centuries the Armenian statehood was restored. Thanks to God, the heroic spirit of faith, patriotism and devotion united and defended our people that in their supreme effort under the auspices of the Armenian statehood raised their lives in the homeland and the Diaspora and walked on the path of ascension.

Today, the 100th anniversary is an invitation to remain dedicated to our national awakening, to keep our homeland strong and to be consolidated in the homeland. This significant jubilee is also a new milestone for devoting ourselves to strengthening our country and national life, to continue consistent efforts for the settlement of the Artsakh issue, strengthening our army so that peace can be safeguarded within our homeland. The 100th jubilee brings a message of national unity, development of Motherland-Diaspora relations, and the re-establishment of unity in our Church.

Beloved and pious faithful, each of us in our service, throughout our lives preserving the Christian faith, must be able to avoid losses, steering the course from victory to victory, with awareness of service for the welfare of our nation and homeland. Statehood is a foundation of an organized society, the roads of progress, it is a stronghold for living by your own list of values, demonstrating your spiritual power, it is the guarantee of continuing existence as a nation. We should not forget about our sacrifices and sufferings, and supporting each other, build the bright future for all Armenians. We must remember our great ancestors who had given their lives for our Church and nation, we shall surpass ourselves in peace and the love for our homeland, so that our decisions made today will benefit to overcoming the challenges facing our national life and homeland. May our unshakable faith and love for our homeland guide us to make the idea of our homeland forever crowned by Ararat and the prosperity of the Holy See reality. "This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."

We extend Our Pontifical Message from the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin to our nation, diocesan and parish organizations of the Armenian Church, national, scientific, educational and cultural institutions, exhorting to celebrate the jubilee with multiple events, turning it into the power of patriotic spirit, civic awareness, sense of duty, unity of the Church and nation, renewal of faith and encouragement for good deeds for the welfare of Homeland and nation.

We pray that our Lord Jesus Christ keep our nation's faith pure and bless its efforts for the strengthening of our cherished Homeland, the prosperity of our Holy Church and our bright future. May the Lord grant peace to our nation, country and the whole world. Let the mercy, grace and blessings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ remain with us all, evermore. Amen

Parish Notes

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to the family of Mary Mortanian. She entered her eternal rest on January 16, 2018, and to Idalene Barsamian's family. She entered her eternal rest on February 6, 2018. Also, to Jack Ananian and Family on the recent passing of Reba Ananian. She entered her eternal rest on February 12, 2018. Our thoughts and prayers are with these families.

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

● *February 25 – Michael and Ted Tellian and Family in memory of their mother, Elizabeth Tellian*

HOKEHANKIST REQUESTS

● *February 25 – Elizabeth Tellian, two years after her passing, requested by Michael and Ted Tellian and Family*

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 10, 2018. Also, thank you to Richard Hagopian, his son, Armen Hagopian and his grandchildren for the nice music and all the people who took part in this event.

*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 7th, March 14th, and March 21st

On Sunday February 11, 2018 the Parish Assembly Meeting was held. Thank you to Chairman Myron Sheklian 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

2018 Parish Council Officers:

*Bea Soxman, Chairman
Jack Barsamian, Vice Chairman
Sarkis Enfiedjian, Rec. Secretary
Gerard Garoian, Treasurer
Judy Skaff, Advisor*

Parish Assembly Chairman

Myron Sheklian

Parish Assembly Vice Chairman

James Soxman

Parish Assembly Secretary

Laurie Menendian

2018 Diocesan Delegates

Gerard Garoian

Chuck Simonian

George Ouzounian, 1st Alternate Delegate

2018 Auditing Committee

Debra Agnew

Linda Farsakian-Wall

George Ouzounian

2018 ACYO Officers

David Safrastian, Chairman

Melina Peters, Vice-Chairman

Pete Safrastian, Rec. Secretary

Dustin Vartanian, Treasurer

2018 Faith of Zion Officers

Julie Simonian, Chairman

Adrienne Poochigian, Vice-Chairman

Lisa Lemus, Rec/Corr Secretary

Gina Ananian, Treasurer

Bea Soxman, Advisor

Margie L. Davidian, Advisor

2018 Ladies Society Officers

Judy Skaff, Chairman
Linda Farsakian-Wall, Vice-Chairman
Margie L. Davidian, Rec. Secretary
Hasmik Enfiedjian, Corr. Secretary
Julie Poochigian, Treasurer
Georgia Davidian, Advisor
Madlien Hebasha, Advisor

2018 Sunday School

Tracy Valencia, Superintendent
Debbie Sheklian, Teacher
Linda Farsakian-Wall, Pre-School Teacher

Ladies Society Lenten Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2018 in the Majarian Hall. Executive board at 11:00 a.m. and General meeting 11:30 a.m.

Faith of Zion will be sponsoring fellowship on Sunday, March 4, 2018 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall.

Faith of Zion meeting will be held on Sunday, March 4, 2018 after fellowship

The ACYO meeting will be held on Sunday, March 11, 2018 at Baskin Robbins in Downtown Visalia at 5:00 p.m.

Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15, 2018 in the Majarian Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Parish Council is sponsoring fellowship on Sunday, March 18, 2018 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall.

Ways and Means Bake Sale will be held on Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018 after Divine Liturgy. (See flyer)

ACYO Easter Luncheon will be held on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018 after Divine Liturgy in the Majarian Hall. (See flyer)

Ladies Society reminder to please bring "1" dozen colored Easter eggs to church on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018. (See flyer)

Ways and Means Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at Ryan's in Visalia at 6:00 p.m.

Ladies Society meeting will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018 in the Majarian Hall. Executive board at 11:00 a.m. and general meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Save the date for Casino Night on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at St. Mary Armenian Church in Yettum in the Majarian Hall. (See flyer)

Save the date for The 41st Annual Armenian Food Festival on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at the Visalia Elks Lodge. (See flyer)

World Day of Prayer on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church, 3673 N. First Street in Fresno.

Sunday School meets the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

COOKBOOK

By popular demand, a second edition of the "Treasured Recipes from the Garden of Eden" has been made available. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, call the church office at (559) 528-6892 or Debbie Sheklian at (559) 733-4417. The cost of the cookbook is \$30 or \$30 plus shipping if mailed.

Armenian Language classes still available for our parishioners. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office at (559) 528-6892 or Fr. Zaven at (818) 644-9398.

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)*

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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 details.

REMINDER

If you have not sent in your 2018 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.

The Parish Council has approved to have our weekly bulletin and the monthly newsletter available for sponsorships. We are not selling ads. 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.

PAYPAL

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.

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

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!

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

St. Mary Armenian Church, Yettem

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Ladies Society Lenten Meeting in Majarian Hall 11:30
4 Sunday of Steward Fellowship sponsored by Faith of Zion Faith of Zion Meeting after fellowship	5	6	7 Souper Supper & Lenten Service at 6 PM	8	9	10
11 Sunday of the Judge Sunday School Meets ACYO Meeting at Baskin Robbins Downtown at 5 PM	12	13	14 Souper Supper & Lenten Service at 6 PM	15 Parish Council Meeting at 7PM in Majarian Hall	16	17 <i>Saint Patrick's Day</i>
18 Sunday of Advent Fellowship sponsored by Parish Council	19	20	21 Souper Supper & Lenten Service at 6 PM	22	23	24
25 Palm Sunday Ways and Means Bake Sale Sunday School Meets	26	27	28	29 Great & Holy Thursday Services	30 Good Friday Great and Holy Friday	31 Holy Saturday Easter Eve Liturgy

Sunday Schedule:

Morning Service (Matins) 9:45 AM
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 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

March 25, 2018

Palm Sunday

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

will be available

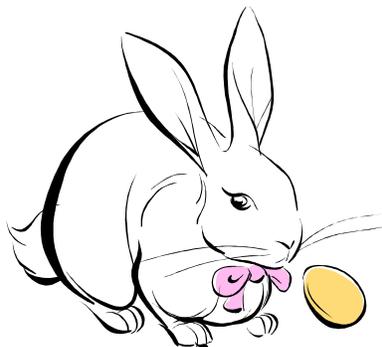
✓ *Cheoreg*

✓ *Simit*

✓ *Nazooq*

✓ *Bread Sticks*

✓ *Plus lots more*



ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH LADIES SOCIETY

REMINDER

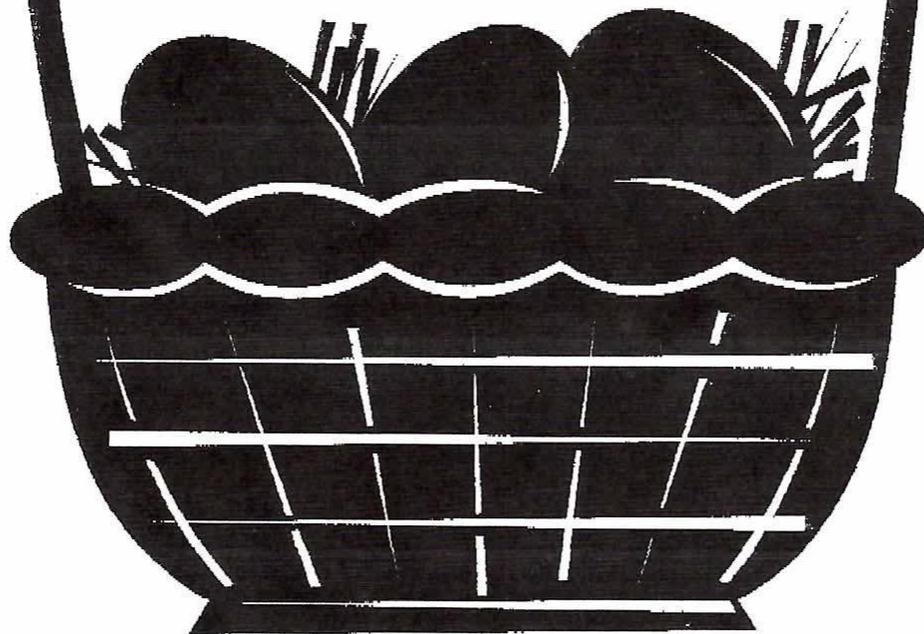
PLEASE BRING

**1 DOZEN
COLORED EASTER EGGS**

**TO CHURCH ON EASTER
SUNDAY**

Be part of this lively

***EASTER
TRADITION***





St. Mary Armenian Church ACYO

Annual Easter Luncheon

Sunday, April 1, 2018

Immediately following church services in the Majarian Hall

Delicious Beef-Kebab

Salad, Pilaf, Green Beans, Bread and Desserts

Adults: \$18 per adult

Children 10 and under: \$10 per child



Tickets will be available at the door

-OR-

Reserved Seating is available with your advance payment

Fill out the bottom portion (front and back) and

send with your Payment by Tuesday, March 27, 2018 to:

Dustin Vartanian - 6729 West Wren Avenue - Visalia, CA 93291

TRICKY TRAY Raffle and "New this Year" a 50/50 RAFFLE (see details on the back)



ACYO Easter Luncheon—Reservations with Advance Payment

NAME _____ Phone # _____

_____ Yes, I will attend the ACYO Easter Luncheon.

Adult Ticket(s): _____ @ \$18 = \$ _____

Children Ticket(s): _____ @ \$10= \$ _____

My check is enclosed Payable to St. Mary ACYO for \$ _____

A table of Eight (8) can be reserved.

Please list the people you are paying for
and/or would like to sit with on **the back of this paper.**

Tricky Tray Basket Raffle

"Fun and Useful" items
will be available to try your luck!
\$10 for 26 tickets

If you would like to donate a basket for the Tricky Tray
Please contact David Safrastian at
559-802-7593 or dsafrastian@yahoo.com

- Basket Ideas -

Movie Night	Coffee Lovers	Gardening Items
Summer Fun	Gift Cards	Bakers Delight
Princess/Barbie Items	Cars/Tractor Items	Candle/Spa Basket
Cross/Religious	Fishing/Camping	Dinner Out on the Town

AND.....NEW THIS YEAR....

50/50 Raffle... \$5 per Ticket
Split the Earnings and go home a Winner!

Easter Luncheon—Table #1.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

Easter Luncheon—Table #2.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |



SAVE-THE-DATE:

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

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 41st ANNUAL
ARMENIAN FOOD FESTIVAL**

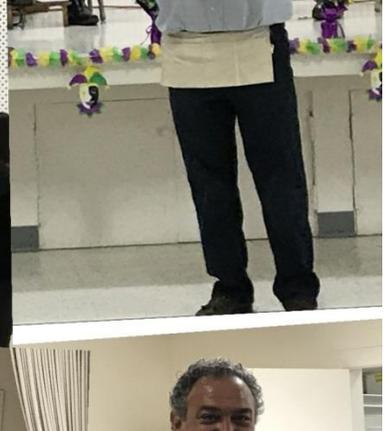
THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018

VISALIA ELKS LODGE

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

**VARTANANTZ COMMEMORATED AT ST. GREGORY ARMENIAN
CHURCH IN FOWLER
FEBRUARY 8, 2018**





St. Gregory Ladies Society

Presents

A Mother's Day Luncheon

11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 12, 2018
Pardini's Banquet Hall
2257 W. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93711

**Join Us for a Stroll Down
Memory Lane**

With

**Martin Viramontes and
"Sounds of the Legends"**

Frank Sinatra, Neil Diamond, Tom Jones, and More!

*** Mezza * Raffle * Champagne ***

Adult Menu: Chicken Lavash Wrap, Organic Greens Salad with Vinaigrette Dressing and Fresh Fruit

Children's Menu: Chicken Strips

Adults \$30.00 Children (12 and under) \$15.00

Reservations and Checks must be received by April 30, 2018

Please Note: Tickets will **NOT** be sold at the Door

DONATIONS:

DONATIONS TO ST. GREGORY LADIES SOCIETY MAY BE MADE IN MEMORY OF, OR IN HONOR OF YOUR SPECIAL MOTHER, AND, IF RECEIVED BY MAY 4, 2018, YOUR MOTHER'S NAME AND UP TO 10 WORDS TELLING US WHY SHE IS SPECIAL, WILL BE PRINTED IN OUR LUNCHEON PROGRAM BOOKLET WITH DONOR'S NAME.

NAME _____ MOTHER'S NAME _____

DISPLAY:

BRING UP TO 3 CREATIVE ITEMS, UNIQUE TO YOUR MOTHER, WITH HER NAME AND SHORT DESCRIPTION TO SHARE WITH US ON OUR DISPLAY TABLE.



RESERVATIONS:

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO ST. GREGORY LADIES SOCIETY & MAIL TO :
ST. GREGORY CHURCH, P.O. BOX 246, FOWLER, CA. 93625, BY APRIL 30, 2018.

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

PLEASE LIST NAMES OF GUESTS ON BACK OF RESERVATION SLIP.

WISH TO BE SEATED WITH _____

WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOU. TABLES OF 8 AVAILABLE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Sunday of Steward



The fourth Sunday of the period of Great Lent is called the Sunday of the Steward, and the message of the day teaches us with the parable of the unjust steward. This parable is mentioned only in the Gospel of St. Luke (Luke 16:1-13). In the parable, a wealthy man learns that the steward of his house (the supervisor of his holdings) is squandering his possessions. The rich man calls the steward, asking for an accounting, having decided to release him from employment. The steward, realizing that he may soon be without work, begins to act accordingly so that in the near future, others may accept him into their homes. The steward calls those men who have debts to his employer, and he relieves them of a portion of their debts. Following this act, the wealthy man praises the steward for his contrivance.

At first glance, it seems as though there is a great contradiction in this commendation. But the unjust steward grants back to the debtors, only that which he had added to the debt originally for his own gain. Thus, the wealthy man is not injured by the actions of his steward. The master praises the steward for resigning himself from the gains that the steward would have realized in these transactions. Thus, high praise is given to resignation, or abstinence, which is one of the foundations of Great Lent.

Lent teaches mankind about the ability we each have to resign ourselves from all forms of temptation, the beginning of which is self-control and self-denial. Christ says, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). This parable admonishes every one of us that the journey towards salvation must include self-control and resignation. The allegorical meaning of the parable is in the wealthy man symbolizing God, and the unjust steward symbolizing the sinner. For an extended period of time, the sinner carelessly wastes the graces granted by God, until God calls him for an accounting of his life. The unjust steward symbolizes all who, upon regretting their actions, forgive those who have sinned against them, and become seekers of righteousness and the just.

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

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