

Today's Scripture Readings

Acts 5:34-6:7, James 3:1-12, John 1:1-17

*Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your sons within you.
He makes peace in your borders; he fills you with the finest of the wheat.
He sends forth his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. He
gives snow like wool; he scatters hoarfrost like ashes. He casts
forth his ice like morsels; who can stand before his cold? He
sends forth his word, and melts them; he makes his wind
blow, and the waters flow. He declares his word to
Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel. He
has not dealt thus with any nation; they do
not know his ordinances. Praise the Lord!*

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST **ACCORDING TO JOHN**

From the Father of Light:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Announcements

Celebrant: This morning Rev. Fr. Hrach Sargsyan is the celebrant and preacher. Please join us in worship.

Lectors: Today's Holy Scripture will be read by the following:
Epistle – Nairy Digris; Gospel – Terry McGibbon

Fellowship: Today's fellowship is sponsored by the Women's Guild. If you wish to sponsor a fellowship please use the sign-up sheet to do so.

SIGN-UP SHEET: Dear Parishioners please use the sign-up sheet for Scripture readings on Sundays.

YARD and BUILDING Notes

The building committee is planning a Spring Yard clean-up for Saturday April 17th. Time 10am - 2pm. Many hand make light work. There will be some yard tools available at the Church but feel free to bring your own. Tasks will be raking, pruning, flower bed cultivation, general debris pick-up and some major bush trimming on the west side of the building. Light refreshments will be provided.

Women's Guild: Dear Women, we are very much looking for volunteers to take responsibilities and leadership roles within the Women's Guild. There are many functions in the Women's Guild where you can have an important and helpful role. WG upcoming events:

1. April 30th – May 2nd 24th Annual Women's Guild Assembly
2. November 14th Children's Fair

For all other details and additional information, feel free to contact Dana Nyholm by email, or by phone: dana_nyholm@hotmail.com, phone: 612-816-0255.

Prayers for the sick: Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill or recovering from illness. May God strengthen their souls so that they may overcome this difficult time of their lives.

If you know anyone that needs our special prayers, please contact Rev. Fr. Hrach by Thursday so that their names are included in the bulletin the following Sunday.

Christian Studies: Every Thursday from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. join us for evening worship and Christian Studies with Fr. Hrach.

ACOM Armenian Language Classes: Eastern Armenian language classes are scheduled on the last two Sundays of every month. Classes are held upstairs after lunch, at 1:00 p.m. with Mariam Khachatryan. Any further changes regarding day and time will be announced ahead of time.

Saint Sahag School of Music: Professional instruction in piano and flute. Anyone interested in taking lessons may contact Maestro Stepan Khachatryan or the Church Office for more information.

Diocesan Programs: The Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America is offering a number of programs to the faithful in the Armenian Church. Please contact Fr. Hrach Sargsyan for more information about any of these programs.

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Fr. Hrach is available at all hours for spiritual guidance and support.

The Divine Liturgy begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Please feel free to contact Fr. Hrach Sargsyan with any additional community activities so they may be included in the calendar of events.

Sunday Bulletin

April 11, 2010

SAINT SAHAG ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



NEW SUNDAY

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Rev. Father Hrach Sargsyan, Pastor

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Calendar of Events: Please make note of the following activities and mark your calendars accordingly.

<i>April 11 Today</i>	10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy. New Sunday 12:00 noon Fellowship Hour
<i>April 15 Thursday</i>	6:30 p.m. Evening Service and Christian Studies
<i>April 17 Saturday</i>	10:00 a.m. Church garden clean up
<i>April 18 Sunday</i>	10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy: Sunday of the World Church (Green Sunday) 12:00 noon: Fellowship Hour 1:00 p.m. ACYOA meeting
<i>April 22 Thursday</i>	6:30 p.m. Evening Service and Christian Studies
<i>April 24 Saturday</i>	95 th Anniversary Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. Details to follow.
<i>April 25 Sunday</i>	10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy: Red Sunday

SAINTS AND FEASTS OF THE WEEK

April 10 - Commemoration of Beheading of St. John the Baptist
To read more visit:

<http://www.araratian-tem.am/holdetails.php?id=1817>

April 11 New Sunday; to read more visit:

<http://www.araratian-tem.am/holdetails.php?id=1821>

REFLECTION

Abba Evagrius said, "Sit in your cell, collecting your thoughts. Remembering the day of your death. See then what the death of your body will be; let your spirit be heavy, take pains, condemn the vanity of the world, so as to be able to live always in the peace you have in view without weakening. Remember also what happens in hell and think about the state of the souls down there, their painful silence, their most bitter groaning, their fear, their strife, their waiting. Think of their grief without end and the tears their souls shed eternally. "But keep the day of resurrection and of presentation to God in remembrance also. Imagine the fearful and terrible judgment. Consider the fate kept for sinners, their shame before the face of God and the angels and archangels and all men, that is to say, the punishments, the eternal fire, worms that rest not, the darkness, gnashing of teeth, fear and supplications. Consider also the good things in store for the righteous: confidence in the face of God the Father and His Son, the angels and archangels and all the people of the saints, the kingdom of heaven, and the gifts of that realm, joy and beatitude. "Keep in mind the remembrance of these two realities. Weep for the judgment of sinners, afflict yourself for fear lest you too feel those pains. But rejoice and be glad at the lot of the righteous. Strive to obtain those joys but be a stranger to those pains. Whether you be inside or outside your cell, be careful that the remembrance of these

things never leaves you, so that, thanks to their remembrance, you may at least flee wrong and harmful thoughts."

*from "The Desert Christian," by Sr. Benedicta Ward,
(New York: MacMillan Publishing Co., 1975), pp. 63-64*

EDUCATIONAL

Eastertide (Sacred Period that Follows Easter) From Easter to the Sunday of Pentecost is a 50-day period called **Eastertide (also known as Quinquagesima)**. The first 40 days of Eastertide culminate with the **Feast of the Ascension**, celebrated on the Thursday of the sixth week. This entire period is dedicated solely to the mystery of the resurrected Savior's encounters with His Apostles and followers, with the exception of four special remembrances that do not detract from the preeminence of the Resurrection. The first of these special remembrances is the **Decapitation of St. John the Baptist**, which occurs on the first Saturday of Eastertide. It is remembered by the lection (during the Morning Service) of the Gospel of St. Mark, which describes the episode.

The second is **New Sunday**, which is the first Sunday after Easter. Its purpose is to emphasize the wondrous Resurrection, with only minor variables in the hours services. The next is the **Sunday of the World Church**, which follows New Sunday and commemorates the establishment in Jerusalem of the first Christian Church. According to some, it was founded in the Chapel on Zion, where the Upper Room was and where our Lord established the Sacrament of Holy Communion. (According to others it is the Cathedral of the Holy Sepulcher.)

The last is the fifth Sunday of Quinquagesima, when the **Feast of the Apparition of the Holy Cross** over Jerusalem is celebrated. This event took place during the time of Emperor Constants of Byzantium and Patriarch Cyril of Jerusalem.

After the Feast of the Ascension, which commemorates our Lord's ascent into heaven, the ensuing nine days until Pentecost celebrate Christ's Resurrection and Ascension. The **Seventh Sunday of Eastertide**, which falls within this 10-day period, combines an ecclesiastical and national tradition, which is recalled in the *sharagan* of the day.

According to tradition, an angel visited St. Gregory the Illuminator daily during his imprisonment in Khor Virab; yet on one day the angel did not appear. On the following day when the saint asked the angel about his

absence, the angel explained that each day a rank of heavenly hosts celebrated Christ's Ascension and since it was the fourth day and he belonged to the fourth rank he took part in the celestial celebration. This Sunday is also known as the **Second Palm Sunday** because the gospel readings of Sunday recall Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem (on Palm Sunday).

The final feast of the Resurrection series is the **Advent of the Holy Spirit**, which takes place on the 50th day of Quinquagesima (a Sunday 10 days after the Ascension). It commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles in the Upper Room in tongues of fire, granting power and grace to them for the establishment of the Christian Church.

In ancient times this feast was celebrated only one day, since the next day the Fast of Elijah commenced. In the 12th century, St. Nersess the Graceful established the 7-day celebration of **Pentecost** retaining the fast.

ON THE LEAVING THE SANCTUARY AFTER BADARAK

<p><i>Q. <u>What do I say when approaching the Holy Gospel at the end of the Divine Liturgy?</u></i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>You say:</u></p> <p>Heeshestzeh Der zamenaym Badarakus koh. May the Lord remember all your offerings.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Priest answers:</u></p> <p>Datseh Der usd srdee koom yev zamenayn khorhoortus koh na gadarsestseh. May the Lord grant you according to your own heart, and fulfill all your counsel. (Psalm 20:4)</p>
<p><u>THE KISS OF PEACE</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The GIVER says:</u></p> <p>Kreesdos ee mech mer haydnetsav Christ is revealed amongst us</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The RECEIVER says:</u></p> <p>Orhnyal eh haydootyoonun Kreesdosee Blessed is the revelation of Christ</p>

THE PSALM OF DISMISSAL
PSALM 34

Orhnetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenyn
zhamorhnootyoon nora ee peran eem.

I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall
be at all times in my mouth