

## Women's Guild

The **March** membership meeting was very constructive and will bring about many interesting and fun programs in the months to come. The **April** membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m. New members are welcome to join and participate in the programs and activities of the Women's Guild.

An Amtrak trip to Springfield is scheduled for Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> to visit the new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and many other sites. Flyers with detailed information are placed in the church vestibule.

It was a welcome sight to see Rose Tootooian and Nancy Weiss back with their church family after many weeks of illness. Our wishes to both members for continued good health.

## Church & Home

The Diocese has just released the final edition of the "Church and Home" Resource CD. Please, pick up a copy of this valuable CD, review it and share the various ways of how to use it in our parish. Your input will be essential to the Diocese in planning future resources.

## 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Armenian Fest

Our first meeting for the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Armenian Fest will be held on Tuesday, March 24 at 8:00 p.m. Sharp. We are confident our "fest" is going to be bigger and better than in previous years. Co-chairs, Craig Koresian and Armen Zakarian invite all parishioners to attend this meeting and to volunteer their services wherever needed.

## Sunday School

This year's Sunday School Lenten Drive will be for the benefit of two important causes:

1. **Project Smile.**
2. **Anti-Malaria Bed Nets**

A donation box and flyers giving an explanation for these two causes are placed in the church. Let us open our hearts and be generous with our Lenten gift.

## When the Need Arises - Get in Touch With the Church Office

Before making any preparations, in choosing date and time for Weddings and Baptisms, please be sure to contact *our pastor, Fr. Aren Jebejian*. All Sacraments must be arranged at least three months ahead. Other church related matters, such as hospital and home visitations and counseling, should also be made first with Fr. Aren. In order to invite clergy from other churches, arrangements must be made through the church office.

**Fr. Aren can be reached at the Church Office on Mondays from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, March 24..... First Meeting of 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Armenian Fest  
8:00 p.m. Sharp  
Thursday, March 26..... Adult Catechism – Who or What is Holy Muron?  
Friday, March 27..... Lenten Vigil Services – 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, March 29 ..... Sunday of the Advent  
Thursday, April 2 ..... Women's Guild Meeting – 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, April 3 ..... Lenten Vigil Services – 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, April 5..... PALM SUNDAY

March 15 Attendance: 55

## ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN CHURCH

6700 W. Diversey Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60707

Phone: (773) 637-1711

Fax: (773) 637-5592

[www.stgregorychicago.org](http://www.stgregorychicago.org)

## Worship Hours

Morning Service – 10:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

*For you,  
the Creator of the soul and body,*

*all is illumined,  
all is clear,  
all is written,  
all is easy,  
all is possible,  
wisdom leads,  
promises are kept,  
wishes are fulfilled.*



*-St. Gregory of Narek*

## *SUNDAY OF THE JUDGE*

*March 22, 2009*

*Guest Celebrant*

*Rev. Fr. Vahram Hazarian*

<b>Lections:</b>	<b>The Epistle Reading:</b> <i>The Letter of Paul to the Philippians 3:1- 4:9 – Pages 180-181</i> <i>The Gospel According to Luke 17:20- 18:14 – Pages 73-74</i>	
<b>Readers:</b>	Epistle: Arnold Koresian	Gospel: Michelle Babikian
<b>Greeter:</b>	Gregory Tootooian	

We bring attention to our parishioners that it is most inappropriate to enter the Sanctuary during:

- Reading of the Lections until the Creed is recited
- During Confession and Communion
- During the Sermon

**Please, wait in the vestibule until such time when it is proper to enter the Sanctuary.**

### **Welcome to Parishioners and Friends**

With joy we welcome your presence as we join together to worship the Lord in the final weeks of Lent. We have now reached the ***fifth Sunday of Lent*** leading us closer to the solemn yet joyous preparation for the glorious Feast of the Resurrection of Christ. It is most important during these final weeks of Lent that we continue to spend time putting our lives in order, working on our relationship with God and each other, and to continue our spiritual journey cheerfully with prayers, fasting, repentance, and good deeds.

We wish to thank Fr. Vahram Hazarian for celebrating the *Badarak* this morning, thus allowing Fr. Aren to spend time with the Sunday School teachers and children.

### **Lenten Sundays**

The Armenian Church takes us through each Sunday of Lent with a story which helps us to know God’s will for us. Today is the ***fifth Sunday of Lent*** and is called the ***Sunday of the Judge***. In today’s parable Jesus reminds us of the great importance of prayer, keeping the lines of communication open between God and us.. We must always pray whether it be through private prayer and in any place or through communal worship but we should never lose heart.. He (Jesus) uses as an example of an “unjust” judge who neglects the pleas of a poor widow until, tired of her persistence, he hands down a decision and sends her ways. Reflect on Luke 18:1-8

### **Altar Curtains Closed**

During Lent, the church changes its outward appearance. As we enter church the most noticeable change we see is that the sanctuary is closed with black curtains. A special Lenten altar is set up on front of the curtain. It has several steps in height and has a picture of the crucifixion. It has candles on the steps. The altar curtain being closed is symbolic of the expulsion of Adam and Eve from paradise – the Kingdom of Heaven. Sin separates us from God just like the curtain separates us from the altar. Sin is what prevents us from truly enjoying God and being in His presence.

### **Hokehankisd Requiem Service – Page 56 of the Divine Liturgy Book**

Requiem Service will be offered this morning for the repose of soul for:

- *Ashod Mardirossian, Armenia - 1<sup>st</sup> Year Anniversary requested by Alexandrale Shakhnazarova, her daughters, Ilona & Violet and son, Mike.*

Following church services, all are invited to the ***Fellowship Hour hosted by the Shakhnazarova Family in memory of Ashod Mardirossian.***

### **Prayers for the Sick (Der Voghormia) – Page 45 of the Divine Liturgy Book**

Let us remember in our prayers and ask God’s Blessings for our parishioners who are ill at home, in a hospital or nursing home. Let us continue with our prayers for:

<i>Fran Annoreno</i>	<i>Jacob Hagopian</i>	<i>Tracy Russo</i>
<i>Julie Ashikian</i>	<i>Fr. Vahram Hazarian</i>	<i>Lisa Schaffer</i>
<i>Jim Bottala</i>	<i>George Kazarian</i>	<i>Alyce Schaffer</i>
<i>Margaret Cholakian, CA</i>	<i>Grace Klujian</i>	<i>Harry Seraydarian</i>
<i>Eleanor Chavarrio</i>	<i>Benjamin Manoyan</i>	<i>Sister Janet</i>
<i>Yn. Patricia Dagley</i>	<i>Josh Najarian Mendell, CA</i>	<i>Sam Sommese</i>
<i>Agnes Eghoian</i>	<i>Virginia Nazlaian</i>	<i>Julie Tarpinian</i>
<i>Edward Fromm</i>	<i>Harry Paloian</i>	<i>Doug Zoerhoff</i>

### **Special Prayers**

Our prayers are requested for the good health of *Harry Paloian* by the *Nahabedian Family*.

We are happy to know that *Raelene Ohanessian, Chairperson of the Women’s Guild*, is recuperating at home following surgery.

Raelene Ohanesian  
606 S. Arlington Heights Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

We pray for her complete recovery.

### **Prayer Request**

For those wishing to request Requiem Service (Hokehankisd,) special prayers or to enter a loved one’s name on the prayer list, please call the church office by Thursday of that week. Requiem may take place during the entire year (including Lent) except for the 5 Tabernacle Feast Days.

### **Nicene Creed**

Together, we shall recite the Nicene Creed (The Profession of Our Faith) on **pages 18-19** of the Divine Liturgy Book found in the pews.

### **Communion Note**

Even though Holy Communion is not openly offered during Great Lent, communion may be received by making special arrangements with Fr. Aren.

### **Lenten Vigil Services**

Evening Lenten services which reflect this penitential season will be conducted on Friday nights, March 27 and April 3. During the service 24 Prayers of St. Nersess Shnorhali are recited. This is done by taking turns individually where each side of the church takes a turn reading.

### **“The Light of St. Gregory”**

Our thanks to the *Zakarian Family* for taking the responsibility for the cost of keeping the “Light of St. Gregory” illuminated for the month of ***March***.

### **Children’s Sermon**

Today is “Children’s Sermon” for Sunday School students and all children in attendance. Fr. Aren is most anxious to question “Lent” to the students which will also be of great interest to all parishioners.