

Sunday School

Today is Opening Day Classes and Registration for all returning and new Sunday School Students. Sunday School Assembly will start at 10:30 a.m. and classes will begin approximately at 10:45 a.m. *Mary Kazarian, School Superintendent and her staff*, are prepared to educate our young people with Armenian religion and culture along with fun lessons for the new school year. If anyone is interested in volunteering to teach or to be a substitute teacher, please contact Mary directly.

34th Annual Armenian Fest

The wrap-up meeting on Tuesday, September 8th brought good news to all who attended. The success of the “fest” was celebrated with pizza, desserts and drinks of all kinds. If anyone has outstanding money to collect or bills that need to be paid, be sure to contact *Co-Chairs, Craig Koresian or Armen Zakarian*. Co-chairs thank all parishioners and volunteers who helped make this event as successful as it was.

Membership Dues for the Year 2009

All registered members of St. Gregory are reminded to pay their 2009 membership dues before the end of the year. Dues are \$125.00 for members 65 and under and \$75 for senior citizens and full-time college students.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

How would you like to celebrate Armenian Christmas in Jerusalem (January 18 -19 Old Calendar) and meet with *His Beatitude Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem?* It's possible with an all-inclusive Armenian Christmas Pilgrimage organized by the Diocese (Eastern) from Newark, NJ – January 15-24, 2010 – for \$2,300 per person (double occupancy). Space is limited – final registration deadline is November 5, 2009. For additional information, flyers are placed in the church vestibule.

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

- Sunday, Sept. 20 – Divine Liturgy – Guest Celebrant, Rev. Fr. Hrach Sarkisyan
Sunday, Sept. 27 – Feast of the Holy Cross of Varak
Monday, Sept. 28 – Bible Study
Sunday, Oct. 18 – 45th Anniversary of the Consecration of
St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church
Sunday, Oct. 25 – Feast of the Discovery of the Holy Cross
– 50th Anniversary of St. George Armenian Church, Waukegan, IL

Church Attendance August 30: 45

TODAY - LAST PICNIC OF SUMMER

KNIGHTS OF VARTAN
Avarayr Lodge #4 Chicago
Proesel Park, Lunt & Kostner
Lincolnwood, IL
Noon to 6:00 p.m.

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN CHURCH

6700 W. Diversey Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60707
Phone: (773) 637-1711
Fax: (773) 637-5592
www.stgregorychicago.org

Summer Worship Hours

Morning Service – 10.00a.m.
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian
Pastor
September 13, 2009

Lections:	The Epistle Reading: <i>The Second Letter of Paul to the Galatians – 6:14-18 – Page 174</i> <i>The Gospel According to John – 3:13-21 – Page 86</i>
Readers:	Epistle: Arnold Koresian Gospel: Michelle Babikian
Greeter:	Harry Paloian and 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 genuine joy, we welcome all who have come to worship our Lord as we celebrate the *Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*. Today, we join Armenian Christians throughout the world to worship and receive Holy Communion, Christ's Flesh and Blood. May the warmth of Christ's love be in all of us.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross - Khatchveratz

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the last major feast of the calendar year and the greatest of the four celebrations of the Holy Cross. Following Divine Liturgy, a procession and the Blessing of the Four Corners of the World (*Antasdan Service*) will take place with the Holy Cross decorated with fresh sweet smelling basil. Basil (*rahan*) is also blessed as basil was found growing next to the cross when the captured cross was found.

Altar Flowers

Today's altar flowers are presented to the glory of God by the Parish Council on the occasion of the Opening Day of Sunday School and in honor of our children.

Fellowship Hour

Following church services, all are cordially invited to attend the *Fellowship Hour hosted by Sunday School parents and staff.*

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 at home, in a hospital or nursing home. Let us continue with our prayers for the following:

Anthony Acquarulo

Virginia Andrews

Fran Annoreno

Julie Ashikian, CT

Jim Bottala

Margaret Cholakian, CA

Yn. Patricia Dagley, OH

Eleanor Chavarrio

Levon Demerdjian

Agnes Eghoian

Jacob Hagopian

Fr. Vahram Hazarian

Shnorik Hitik

George Kazarian

Grace Klujian

Benjamin Manoyan

Josh Najarian Mendell, CA

Virginia Nazalian

Harry Paloian

Heghna (Helen) Paloian

Marilyn Reibel

Tracy Russo

Dr. Hovhanes Sahagian

Alyce Schaffer

Lisa Schaffer

Harry Seraydarian

Sister Janet

Sam Sommese

Julie Tarpinian

Pam Vilches

Special Prayers

Let us offer our prayers for the continued good health of:

- *Shnorik Hitik* who underwent knee surgery and is recuperating at Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, Chicago, IL
- *Dorothy Koresian* who had carpal tunnel surgery.

Prayer Request

For those wishing to request special prayers or to enter a loved one's name on the prayer list, please call the church office by Thursday of that week.

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.

Kiss of Peace (Pages 26-27 of the Divine Liturgy Book)

The person giving the greeting says: The person receiving the greeting responds.

Krisdos ee mech mer haydnetzav

(Christ is revealed among us.)

Ohrnyal eh haydnootiunn Krisdosee

(Blessed is the revelation of Christ.)

Confession and Communion

For those who wish to receive Holy Communion, we ask that they remain in their pews and together read "**Confession and Absolution**" on **pages 48-49 of the Divine Liturgy Book.**

When taking communion, make the sign of the cross and say:

I have sinned against God – Ք»Օ՝Ս Դ՛իւնիւն (Megha Asdoodzo)

Ladies must have a head covering when approaching the Holy Altar.

"The Light of St. Gregory"

Our thanks to *Mary Kazarian* for taking the responsibility for the cost of keeping the "Light of St. Gregory" illuminated for the month of **September in loving memory of deceased members of the Kazarian & Arakelian Families.**

Wedding Bells

Our congratulations to *Steve Shamoon* and *Silva Seferian* who were united in marriage on Saturday, September 12, 2009 at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church. The service was officiated by Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian. Congratulations also to the parents, David and Helen Shamoon and Harout and Nver Seferian.

Special Nairi Choir Plate Collection

It has become a custom of our church to take a special plate collection for the *Nairi Choir* of our Church on major feast days. This plate collection will take place during the *Diptychs (Arakelotz....Page 36).*

Many Thanks!

Our "thanks" to *Ursula Bedrossian, Helen Kuefner and Agnes Vartabedian* for donating the basil used in today's procession celebrating the *Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*. At the end of the service, all parishioners are welcome to approach the altar and take a sprig of basil with them.

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild had a very fruitful meeting and created a schedule of many fun events for the new year. Also talked about was the Women's Guild Central Council Symposium in Philadelphia on November 6-7, 2009 which includes a tour of the Arshile Gorky Exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The next meeting will be on Friday, October 9th at 7:30pm. New members are always welcome to join and be a part of the Women's Guild.