

Ladies Guild

The next Ladies Guild meeting will be on Feb. 11th, at 9:00 in the Church Hall.

Fellowship Hour

Today is hosted by Joanne Khourey and Jamie Lehtola.

If you and your family would like to host the Sunday Fellowship following Church Services, please call the Church Office at 508-234-3677 or sign up on the board downstairs to reserve a specific Sunday in 2017, in memory of a loved one, or in celebration of a special occasion or Just Because.....

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Please mark your calendars, the annual Parish Meeting will be held on February 26th following Badarak. The agenda will be mailed out soon.

Blessing of Home Service

It is the Armenian Church custom after Christmas for Der Hayr to bless our homes. If you would like to have the traditional service of the blessing of your home, please call Der Hayr direct at (774) 462-8041.

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES

The Lenten Lecture Program Series will begin on Friday, March 3rd, and continue for five consecutive Fridays. The program is presented by our Christian Education Committee (CEC). Lenten Services will begin at 6 p.m. followed by a light dinner then the lecture. Please join us and be a part of this new and exciting experience.

"Going Deeper -- An Evening of Worship"

Concert by Tina Luce

Saturday March 4th with soup and bread at 6 p.m. Concert at 7 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church, 33 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville.

A collection will be taken for The Warming Center/ Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter of the Presbyterian Church, Whitinsville.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar either in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion, please see or call Lusiya at 508-476-2920.

NAC Food Pantry

Please bring non-perishable, unexpired food items, your donations will help serve our neighbors in need within our community. Thank you--God Bless you!

Dismissal

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, the faithful come forward towards the altar and kiss the Holy Gospel, saying:

"May the Lord be mindful of your sacrifices and accept your supplications."

The Celebrant Responds:

"May the Lord grant to you according to your heart and fulfill all your wishes."

SOORP ASDVADZADZIN ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

315 Church Street, Whitinsville, MA

Tel. /Fax: 508-234-3677

Pastor Der Kosroffian – Cellular: 774-462-8041; home: 508-234-0911

E-mail der.mikaeldk@gmail.com ~ www.armenianchurchofwhit.org



SUNDAY BULLETIN

February 5, 2017

Jesus Walk On Water

Celebrant Rev. Fr. Mikael Der Kosroffian

EPISTLE: 2 Timothy 2:20-26

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

The order of the Readings for this week is as follows:

- TODAY:** Is 61:10-62:9; 2 Tim 2:15-26; Jn 6:15-21 (pg. 1656)
- Monday:** No Lections
- Tuesday:** No Lections
- Wednesday:** No Lections
- Thursday:** No Lections
- Friday:** Jon 1:1-4:11
- Saturday:** Prv 3:13-17; Is 41:1-3; Eph 6:10-17; Lk 21:10-19

A NOTE ABOUT THE READINGS

There are no Bible readings according to the Armenian Liturgical calendar four days this week, Monday to Thursday, February 6 to 9. These four days without designated readings coincide with the Fast of the Catechumens, which begins Monday and ends on Friday. There is only one Bible reading for Friday, February 10, the entire book of Jonah. This period is traditionally a time for reflection and repentance, and a time for the clergy and laity to witness their faith to the unbaptized who are preparing for baptism. The Fast of the Catechumens, which is unique to the Armenian Church, leads to the Church's remembrance of the prophet Jonah, whose "entombment" in the belly of the whale represents the three-day burial of Jesus, and Jonah's release represents the resurrection of our Lord.

We Welcome Visitors and Hope You Enjoy Worshipping with Us. Please sign the *Guest Book* in the foyer. If there is anything we can do for you, let us know or fill in the welcome cards in the pew racks in front of you and leave in the office or foyer.

Do you want to have God pleasing faith? You cannot unless you give time to read the Bible, because "... **FAITH COMES FROM HEARING THE MESSAGE AND THE MESSAGE IS HEARD THROUGH THE WORD OF CHRIST.**" Romans 10:17

HOW TO FOLLOW THE LITURGY

We have Liturgy Books in the pew racks, take one and follow along. The page number is illuminated on the wall. This way the Liturgy will become more meaningful to you as you worship.

Jesus Walks On Water

Today's reading is from the Gospel of John 6:15-21, Jesus tells His Disciples and all of us "***It is I; don't be afraid.***"

The disciples had found themselves dealing with a strong wind, probably a cold night, obviously dark, and most likely they were wet – they were afraid and to top it off, they see someone walking on the water toward them.

They were terrified, something other than the storm was troubling them, the sight of Jesus walking on the sea. They knew they were in deep waters, they knew the storm was real and they had a problem but in the middle of all this happening the one thing that they were sure about was that it's impossible for a man to walk on water.

There was something going on right in front of them that went against every bit of human reason and human experience. They actually saw Jesus doing the impossible. And what was their reaction? They were frightened. They're frightened because they realized that there was something happening that was greater than they could imagine. They were frightened in a way that the storm could never frighten them.

The Disciples saw Jesus doing what an ordinary man couldn't do, they saw it and it filled them with fear. And It's at this point that Jesus calls to them and instructs them, not to be afraid. They saw Jesus walking on the water and, instead of seeing Him as the answer to their problems, they view Him with fear.

Aren't we the same today? Instead of seeing Jesus as the answer to our problems and turning to Him, we walk the other way making excuses instead of just asking Him to come in and let Him carry us through the storms of our lives.

Now look what happens in verse 21, "*Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.*" Once they let Jesus on the boat and they were all TOGETHER, immediately the boat arrived at their destination. **They were willing!**

What we must understand is that when storms strike, we need to invite Jesus into our "boat", and when we do this we realize that the sting of the storm isn't as painful as it could have been without Jesus. We cannot rely on our own strength, we need to rely on the One who can calm any storm.

That's why Jesus approached them by walking on water, to show them that He could and to show them that although this was impossible for man to do, with God, all things are possible.

Why do we need to know this? Because God has called each one of us to do the impossible. He has called us to live a clean life in a dirty world. He has called us to be a faithful witness of Him. He has called us to be Christ-like to the world, and He has shown us that this is possible because He is with us.

Jesus will always be with us if we are willing to take Him into our hearts.