

Der Hayr, the Board of Trustees, The Ladies Guild and all affiliated bodies of the Church wish to extend their condolences to the family of **Lucy Almasian**, who passed away on August 11th. Please keep Sosie, Joe and Ani and their families, in your thoughts and prayers. Calling hours are today from 4 – 8p.m. at the Chesmore Funeral Home, 854 Washington St. Holliston, MA. Funeral tomorrow at 10 AM.

Hokehankisd (Requiem Service)

The Armenian Church instructs the faithful not to forget their loved ones who are fallen asleep in Christ. The Scripture says,
“*The memory of the righteous will be a blessing* (Proverbs 10:7) Hokehankisd is performed at the end of Badarak, during which special prayers are said on behalf of the souls who are fallen asleep in Christ Jesus. The church advises us to request Hokehankisd **seven** and **forty days** after a person is deceased and thereafter annually.

All announcements and Hokehankisd requests must be received by Thursday of each week to be included in Sunday’s Bulletin.

Please email them to armenianchurchofwhitinsville@gmail.com or call the Church office at 508-234-3677.

Thank You

Hagop, Gerry and crew for a successful 2016 Golf Tournament. God Bless you!

Annual Church Picnic - Next Sunday!

God willing our Prelate, H.E. Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan will be with us to celebrate Badarak and preside over the Blessing of the Grapes Ceremony along with the participation of the pastors of the New England area. See you then!

The Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church in Whitinsville will host a clothing swap on Saturday, September 10 from 9am to 11am. We accept gently used men's, women's and kid's clothing, shoes and accessories. No rips or stains please. Items can be dropped off the night before between 6 and 7pm or the morning of the swap. You don't have to take anything home in order to donate and you don't have to donate in order to take anything home. Use the driveway between Domino's Pizza and the law office and come in the church's back door. Everything is free and open to the public. Please email edalynne@hotmail.com or call Christine at 508-234-8131 if you need more information.

Save the Date!!!

God willing, we will be celebrating the 59th Anniversary of our Church this year. On October 30th H.E. Archbishop Oshagan will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and ordain Raffi Samkiranian to the rank of Deacon. Following the service, we will have a banquet at Pleasant Valley Country Club. Stay tuned for more details.

Red Cross Blood Drive, sponsored by the Northbridge Association of Churches, Wednesday, August 24, 1:00 - 6:00 pm, Whitinsville Knights of Columbus, 77 Prescott Road. For an appointment, call 1-800- 733-2767. All presenting donors have the chance to win 2 Boston Red Sox tickets.

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SUNDAY BULLETIN

August 14, 2016

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Celebrant Rev. Fr. Mikael Der Kosroffian

EPISTLE: Galatians 3:29-4:7

If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

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

TODAY: Is 7:10-16; Gal 3:29-4:7; Lk 2:1-7
Monday: Prv 11:30-12:4; Zec 2:10-13; 2 Cor 6:16-7:1; Lk 1:39-56
Tuesday: Song 6:3-8; Mal 3:1-2; Gal 3:24-29; Lk 2:1-7
Wednesday: Song 4:9-15, 8:14; Is 7:10-16; Gal 3:29-4:7; Lk 2:1-7
Thursday: Prv 11:30-12:4; Zec 2:10-13; 2 Cor 6:16-7:1; Lk 1:39-56
Friday: Song 6:3-8; Mal 3:1-2; Gal 3:24-29; Lk 2:1-7
Saturday: Song 4:9-15, 8:14; Is 7:10-16; Gal 3:29-4:7; Lk 2:1-7

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, please let us know or fill in the welcome cards that are in the pew racks in front of you and leave in the office or foyer.

----- **Receiving Mas**

As the faithful leave the Church, they receive **Mas** (the blessed unleavened thin bread), saying: "God is my portion forever." (Pajhin im Asdvadz Havidyan).
See page 32E in the Divine Liturgy.

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

----- **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."

Visit our website for updated Church News www.armenianchurchofwhit.org

THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

The Armenian word used for the Assumption is, "VERAPOKHOOM," which means "Transport up." This Feast is called "The Tabernacle Feast of Assumption."

After the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ, much loved disciple, the Apostle John, per our Lord's request, became the guardian and supporter of Mary. (John 19:26-27)

According to tradition, Mary lived in Jerusalem the rest of her life and she died at the age of 50.

All the apostles were present at her burial, except Bartholomew, who was in Armenia preaching the Gospel of Christ. After a short while St. Bartholomew returned to Jerusalem. When he was informed of Mary's death and burial, he insisted on going to the grave and sees her for the last time.

The apostles gathered in the cemetery, trying to satisfy Bartholomew's request. However, according to the tradition, when they opened the grave Mary's body was not there. The apostles assumed that Jesus had taken her into heaven to be with Him. Based on this event, the Church Fathers established the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is one of the five tabernacle feast days in the Armenian Church's liturgical calendar. The feast is preceded by a week (five days) of fasting and followed by a Memorial Day.

The concept of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary is old as evidenced in sacred Prose and poetry dedicated to the Holy Mother. However, it did not become a basic doctrine of the church until the ninth century and it was in the twelfth Century that the feast was called "The Assumption."

When we read the gospels, we can see that Mary's life, as the mother of our Savior was not easy. She knew what was going to happen to her Son Jesus. Some of us may remember, when Joseph and Mary brought their Baby Jesus to the temple to be presented to God and the Temple, what did Simeon say?

"THIS CHILD IS DESTINED TO CAUSE THE FALLING AND RISING OF MANY IN ISRAEL, AND TO BE A SIGN THAT WILL BE SPOKEN AGAINST. SO THAT THE THOUGHTS OF MANY HEARTS WILL BE REVEALED. AND A SWORD WILL PIERCE YOUR OWN SOUL TOO."
(Luke 2:34-35)

Mary faithfully took care of her son, Baby Jesus, followed Him wherever He went, and painfully, as the Scripture says, **"TREASURED UP ALL THESE THINGS AND PONDERED THEM IN HER HEART."** (Luke 2:19)

Today is also the name day for those named **Mariam, Maro, Mary, Mari, Makrouhi, Mayrenie, Maroush, Serpouhi, Dirouhi, Takouhi, Lousig, Lousnag, Arousiag, Arpine, Markarid, Nazig, Azniv, Seta, Dzaghig, Verjin, Arshalouys.**
