

Save the Date!!!

God willing, we will be celebrating the 59th Anniversary of our Church this month. 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. For details, please see Alice or Joanne.

5th Annual Benefit Dance

Saturday, October 29th from 7pm – Midnight. See Flyer for more Info.

Annual Church Bazaar

Saturday, December 3, 10am-4:30 p.m. Pleasant Street Christian Reform Church Hall, 25 Cross Street, Whitinsville; dinners served at 11:30.

The Ladies Guild is helping the Department of Children & Family Services again after collecting and donating 50 backpacks and supplies for children! Since winter is right around the corner, the Ladies Guild will be collecting pajamas until Sunday November 27th. Pajamas are needed for boys and girls, sizes infant to middle school age. Any questions, please contact Susan Baghdasarian at susanbaghdasarian@yahoo.com or 508-409-8350.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

If you would like to have the name(s) of your loved one(s) engraved on a brass plaque to be displayed on our Memorial Board in the foyer, Please call the Church office at 508-234-3677 or speak with a Board member.

Bible Study

Every Monday from 6 – 7 p.m. “Sermon Discussion Session”. It’s a question and discussion oriented chat group based on Sundays sermon and beyond. Together we share and learn how to apply Christian principles to our everyday lives. If you have questions or would like to discuss the sermon or just sit in, please join us.

THE NORTH POLE POST OFFICE

Will open for business again this year at the Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church Bazaar Sat. December 3rd... We have to be ready!!! From now until Sunday November 22nd. Donations will be collected from the congregation, the community, your families, friends and businesses (hairdressers, gift cards, etc.)

Items should be for women or house and home. The donated items should be a minimum value of \$5.00. One or more items of higher value would be fantastic. Do not wrap items, we will take care of that to hide the value of each item. If it would be easier for you to give a donation -- cash or check – we will take care of the shopping for the items. Thank you in advance for your help, watch the bulletin and church email for updates.

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 memory of a loved one, or in celebration of a special occasion or Just Because.....

SOORP ASDVADZADZIN ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

315 Church Street, Whitinsville, MA

Tel: 508-234-3677 - Fax: 508-234-4333

Pastor Der Kosroffian – Cellular: 774-462-8041; home: 508-234-0911
E-mail der.mikaeldk@gmail.com ~ www.armenianchurchofwhit.org



SUNDAY BULLETIN

October 16, 2016

CHRIST REJECTED

Celebrant Rev. Fr. Mikael Der Kosroffian

EPISTLE: Galatians 4:3-18

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.

Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? You are observing special days and months and seasons and years! I fear for you, that somehow I have wasted my efforts on you.

I plead with you, brothers and sisters, become like me, for I became like you. You did me no wrong. As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you, and even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself. Where, then, is your blessing of me now? I can testify that, if you could have done so, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me. Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth?

Those people are zealous to win you over, but for no good. What they want is to alienate you from us, so that you may have zeal for them. It is fine to be zealous, provided the purpose is good, and to be so always, not just when I am with you. to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.

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

TODAY: Is 20:2-21:6; Gal 4:3-18; Lk 4:14-23 (pg. 1596)
Monday: Prv 15:27-32; J1 2:12-13; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Mt 27:50-61
Tuesday: Wis 1:11-15; Lam 3:22-56; 1 Tm 5:17-21; Mt 10:26-33
Wednesday: Gal 4:19-5:1; Lk 4:31-41
Thursday: Wis 3:11-17; Is 51:22-52:3; 1 Thes 2:13-16; Jn 15:11-16
Friday: Gal 5:2-15; Lk 5:17-26
Saturday: Prv 11:2-11; Is 61:3-7; Heb 13:7-9; Jn 16:33-17:8

We Welcome Visitors and Hope You Enjoy Worshiping 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.

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

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

CHRIST REJECTED

Today's reading is from the Gospel of Luke 4:14-23. Isn't it amazing in Verse 15 we learn that as Jesus taught in the synagogues, everyone praised Him, then in Verse 22, we're told that "All spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at the words that came out of His lips." But all of a sudden things change in Verse 28 they were all furious and they were ready to throw Jesus off of the cliff.

One minute He's doing great and the next they're ready to kill Him. He went from Hero to zero in no time. Why? Because when people like what they hear, it's great but when we are faced with the truth, things aren't so great.

But those people in the synagogues were "religious" people so why would they be against what Jesus, their messiah, said?

There's the magic word. *Religious*, being religious or Christian doesn't guarantee that we will accept Jesus Christ. People who profess to be Christians but who do not possess the presence of God within them, are socially religious practitioners, we fail to meet the biblical description of a person who is a biblical Christian.

There is a big difference between professing and possessing. And this is what Jesus said in Matthew chapter 7, *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."*

So we can all say that we are good Christians, but do we possess, do we have the presence of God? Do we live according to the will of God? Or do we just accept Jesus on a superficial level?

It's easy to accept Jesus on a superficial level. We hear that God loves us and that Jesus cares for all our needs, and that's true. So, we welcome Him into our lives. But at some point we begin to get a bit uncomfortable as we realize that what Jesus is teaching confronts our pride and self-righteousness. He begins shining the light of His holiness into the dark, hidden parts of our soul and we begin to see the truth. We begin to see ourselves as sinners, even though we don't want to admit it.

Jesus was sent to free the prisoners, give sight to the blind and for the poor. We may think that we're none of the above but think again. The truth is that we are prisoners of this world and we are blind and poor – spiritually. But all that can change, just as it did for the thief who was on the cross next to Jesus. He was broke in every way and all he had to offer was his heart. Jesus accepted.

Give yourself to Him, not superficially but truly give yourself to Him – and you will see how easily you are able to break free from the things that are keeping you away from God, away from His Church.

God gave us His best, His all. God offers freely to forgive all our sins through Jesus and that's the greatest news in the whole world! If we reject Jesus today, we may not get the opportunity to receive Him tomorrow.