

OUR MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS

A. TEACHING MINISTERIES

- SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our parish children, ages 3-18 are trained in their faith every Sunday by highly qualified staff. They learn about the Bible, the Armenian Church traditions and participate in certain ceremonies.

- ARMENIAN SCHOOL

On a weekly basis our children learn the basics of the Armenian language, the alphabet, reading and speaking by qualified teachers. We believe that Armenian language is important for our survival as an ethnic group.

B. OUTREACH

- SISTER CHURCH

We find the time and resources to do the work of Christ in the world. We have adopted a church in Armenia as our sister church and are helping them in their survival to the best of our ability.

- ADOPTION OF ORPHANS IN ARMENIA

- SPONSORING COLLEGE STUDENTS IN ARMENIA



A Message From Our Pastor Rev. Fr. Nerses Manoogian



Dear believers,

All Christians in this world, through their baptism, are ordained to be more than they are. They are called to form the body of Christ, the church.

We all need a church, because a church is a

spiritual home where we collectively experience the presence of our Lord, Jesus and celebrate and appropriate his glorious promise of eternal life.

Church is a piece of heaven on earth, where we bring all our life plans, ambiguities, apprehensions and uncertainties to let the Holy Spirit help us sort them out, recharge our will and instill peace in our hearts.

Long ago Jesus had extended a very direct invitation to all of us Christians:

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matt. 11:28-30)

This invitation still stands. If you want to learn more, come to us, take a seat at the table of our Lord with us at St. Gregory’s Church and harvest peace and understanding.

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

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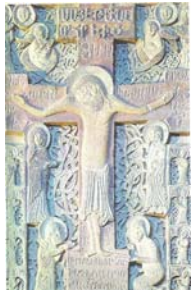


We are eternally committed to spread the good news of the Gospel to our Armenian community through our centuries old ethnic Armenian traditions.

“I am with you always”

(Matt. 28:20)

Rooted In The Apostolic Age



Our Church belongs to the family of Armenian Apostolic churches, founded by the apostles Sts. Thaddeus and Bartholomew. Our patron saint is St. Gregory the Illuminator, through whose efforts

Christianity became the state religion in Armenia in 301 A.D.

The Armenian Apostolic Church belongs to the family of Oriental Orthodox Churches and has a history of more than 1700 years.

St. Gregory Church, a vibrant parish of the Armenian Prelacy, affiliated with the Catholicosate of Cilicia, has been in existence in Philadelphia for the last eight decades and has been serving the Armenian community in good times and bad.

The church was originally located in North Philadelphia, at 16th and Oxford streets. The parish built this present facility in 1967 and has been thriving here to this date.

We are a robust community of 500 members.

Worship

The center of our spiritual life is the weekly Holy Badarak (Mass). Badarak means sacrifice, and it speaks about Jesus' sacrifice for the salvation of the world.

Badarak is a beautiful ceremony with soul-inspiring prayers and celestial hymns, which are intended to bring Christ's presence among us. At its core it is the re-enactment of the last supper when Jesus broke bread, blessed it and gave to his disciples saying; "Take, eat, this is my body," and offered the cup of wine to them saying; "This is my blood."

As a believing community, we celebrate the presence of our Lord and partake from his body and blood to nurture our souls and strengthen our ranks.



Sacraments

The Armenian Apostolic Church, like all traditional churches, has seven sacraments.

1. Baptism Չ՛ի նի՛ր ասո՛ՒՅ
2. Chrismation յ նա՛ԲՍ
3. Communion Թ՛Յ Օան՛ ասո՛ՒՅ
4. Marriage ասե՛Յ ի՛
5. Penance շ աս՛ ԲԷ՛Յ նասո՛ՒՅ
6. Ordination Օ՛ճե՛ՅՅ ի՛ նասո՛ՒՅ
7. Last Uction ի յ նո՛ՅՅ ի՛ ասո՛Ւ

Organizations

The St. Gregory Church family is proud to have the following auxiliary organizations functioning under one roof:

Ladies Guild

This organization brings the motherly flavor to our family. Its members organize annual food festivals and Sunday fellowship brunches and cook for various events.

Men's Club

Like the ladies, our men are great stewards, always providing for the church. They organize annual carnivals, the 300 club raffle and enjoy great fellowship at their monthly meetings.

Choir

Our Choir, under the able leadership of Maroush Nigon, has a valuable role in the ceremonial life of our church. Twenty dedicated men and women every Sunday resonate centuries-old hymns energizing our worship.

Altar Guild

This group has been in existence for 15 years. They keep the altar clean and supply all its needs.

WE ARE A WELCOMING AND CARING COMMUNITY.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US.