



The LIGHT House Sunday School News

Building Up The Body of Christ – Year of the Family

February 16, 2020

Church Calendar
Fifth Sunday after the Octave of Theophany
Readings
Is 63:18-64:12, Ti 1:1-11, Jn 7:37-52.

Sundays: Look Ahead Calendar of Events

Feb 23	Poon Paregentan
Mar 1	Sunday of the Expulsion
Mar 8	Sunday of the Prodigal Son

CEAB On-Duty: Jennifer Kevorkian (401-473-1668)

Absent Teacher On-Call: Anna Robinson (401-580-6788)

Today's Schedule **Mardi Gras Family Celebration**

Lenten Drive Event

Join us for a kid & adult friendly luncheon. Students are free, adults are \$10. Balloon-Man & Dancing for the students! Proceeds go to FAR's Food for Families in Need in Armenia & Heifer International's Gift Ark!

Grades PreK-10

- Regularly scheduled classes, 10:00am
- Mardi Gras Luncheon & Program following Badarak
 - Lunch – free for students, adults \$10

Save the dates:

- **Additional Lenten Drive Events:**
 - **Sunday, March 22th – Mid Lenten Luncheon (vegan)**
 - **Sunday, March 29th – 2nd plate collection in Sanctuary**
- **Assemblies:**
 - **Sundays, February 23rd & March 29th – Learn Armenian Hymns with Liza Z**
 - **Sunday, March 8th – Tri Church Sunday School Annual Visitation here**
 - **22nd Annual Youth Day – Monday, February 17th at 8:45am here**
 - **Theme: Vartanantz & Religious Freedom**

Visit these Websites: <https://vemkar.us/>
<http://www.stvoski.org/embed.html> <https://armenianchurch.us/>

On-Going Charitable Projects: *charitable giving includes canned goods collections, hygienic products collection, weekly plate collection, winter warmth items and the Lenten Drive – begins February 24th*

- Contribute and participate in the **quarterly Mary House Service Program**
- **Hygiene Products**
- **Keep Warm This Winter**

From DCE:

From Today's Readings

John 7: 37-52 During the important Jewish Feast of the Tabernacles, Jesus has been teaching the crowds and the Temple authorities. He speaks of the "living water" that will flow from those who believe in him (meaning that they will be filled someday with the Holy Spirit). People asked one another if he was indeed the Christ. The temple guards were too awed by His words to intervene. *Discuss/reflect: In hearing Jesus' eloquence, people differed in their opinion as to who He was – prophet? Christ? Who is Jesus to you?*

Titus 1:1-11 St. Paul advises his protégé Titus to discourage wrong teachings and to consider carefully the qualities of those appointed elders of the community. *Discuss/reflect: What are the qualities St. Paul considered important to those who lead a Christian community? (vv 6-9; note St. Paul refers to leaders as husbands and fathers since church elders then were usually married.) Why do you think these qualities are important in a leader?*

Is 63:18-64:12 Israel continues its frank admission of sinfulness and pleads for God's merciful intervention as their Father. *Discuss/reflect: "We are the clay; you are the potter. We are all the work of your hand." (64:8) What does this mean to you? What impact might (should?) this have on how you live?*

February 18 & 20: St.Ghevont and St. Vartan



The Feast of St. Vartan and the 1,036 Martyrs (*Vartanantz*) commemorates the Battle of Avarayr in 451 A.D. This was the war the Persians waged against the Armenians after attempting in vain to oppress them under Persian rule and religion. The Armenians were hugely outnumbered (60,000 Armenians against 200,000 Persians excluding the armored elephant brigade) in this first recorded battle in defense of Christianity. Under the leadership of their commander-in-chief, Vartan Mamigonian, they fought valiantly. Although the battle was lost, it paved the way for the religious freedom that was conferred not long afterwards.

Fr. Ghevont was General Vartan's advisor, serving as what might be called today the army chaplain. Before the battle, he inspired the army with a deeply moving speech and went among the soldiers and encouraged them, holding the cross of Christ in his hand and distributing Holy Communion. St. Ghevont was later taken to Persia with other clergymen and in response to his fervent evangelizing, martyred along with the other priests. His memory is celebrated two days before *Vartanantz*, on the feast day known as *Ghevontyantz*.

Department of Christian Education / Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern)