



The LIGHT House Sunday School News

Building Up The Body of Christ – Year of the Family

December 1, 2019

Church Calendar
Second Sunday of Advent
Readings
Is 36:22-37-11, 1 Thes 4:1-11, Lk 12:2-9.

Sundays: Look Ahead Calendar of Events

Dec 8	Barekendan of the Fast of St James
Dec 15	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Dec 22	Fifth Sunday of Advent

CEAB On-Duty: Joyce Avedisian (401) 935-1815

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

Family Worship Sunday

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6



Today's Schedule

Grades PreK-10

- Students and their families attend Divine Liturgy at 10:00am
 - A copy of this month's instructional packet & pencils will be available at the church entrance
 - Please go directly to the Sanctuary and sit in the Sunday School area – upper right-hand side when facing the altar
- Following Holy Communion, an Assembly will be held in the Sunday School Hall
 - Deacon Michael will lead the assembly for all the Sunday School students – to review the packet and unpack the topic of the day
- Badarak attendance will count towards attendance-related scholarship opportunities

Save the Dates:

- Sunday, December 8th: Godparents' Day
- Sunday, December 15th: Gift Wrapping, Assembly with Student Advisory Board
- Sunday, December 22nd: Advent Presentation (4/5th grades), Christmas Carols with Lisa Z
- Tuesday, December 24th: Christmas Eve Pageant
- Sunday, January 5th: Armenian Christmas Eve Sunday School Party
- Sunday, January 12th: Family Worship Sunday
- Monday, February 17th: Armenian Youth Day 2020

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

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

From DCE:

From Today's Readings

Luke 13:1-9 Jesus refers to two disasters, one in which Pilate had a group of Galileans killed as they were making sacrifices, and another, a construction accident. He asserts that those who died were no more sinful than anyone else (countering a belief that suffering was often visited upon those who deserved it). He urges all to repent and live a good life. *Discuss/reflect: The parable of a fig tree not yet bearing fruit (vv 6-9) suggests that there might be some time to straighten ourselves out, but not much! The best time to repent and live godly lives is now. If you had a year like the fig tree to turn your life around, what would you do?*

1 Thessalonians 4:1-11 St. Paul exhorts us to live in a way that will "please God," urging believers to treat their bodies as holy, thereby honoring themselves and others. He counsels them to live quiet lives and be productively busy, relying on their work to sustain them. *Discuss/reflect: Paul asks us to love "more and more" (v. 10b). How would that translate to your life? To your relationships?*

Isaiah 36:22-37:11 Assyria continues to demand Jerusalem's surrender. Both King Hezekiah and Isaiah demonstrate their trust in the one true and beloved God over the Assyrian threat. *Discuss/reflect: What threats do you think challenge your faith today? Do you trust in God to help you meet these challenges? If not, why not?*

Saturday, December 7 is the Feast of St. Nicholas of Myra



St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra (c 270-342), was said to have been imprisoned for his faith during the persecution of Christians under Emperor Diocletian and present at the Council at Nicaea in 325. But his name is most associated with Christmas and with the boundless love he had for those in need, a love that inspired miracles.

According to tradition, when Bishop Nicholas' wealthy parents died, he sold all that he had and distributed the money to the poor. He then devoted himself to helping orphans, widows, and prisoners. One well-known legend of his charity concerned the bags of gold he secretly gifted to three very poor girls whose father was about to turn them out of the house. This led to the practice of children be given presents at Christmas in his name which itself evolved from St. Nicholas to Santa Claus. The modern day image of Santa also draws from the story of the pagan god Thor who was associated with winter and the Yule log and

rode on a chariot drawn by goats named Cracker and Gnasher. *Reflection: Santa Claus* appears each year to be seen and heard for a short time; *St. Nicholas* is part of the communion of saints, surrounding us always with prayer and example. Which gets more of *your* attention at Christmastime?

Department of Christian Education, Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern