

Սուրբ Սարգիս Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական

Եկեղեցի

Սանթա Բլարիթա

St. Sarkis Armenian Church Santa Clarita

Շաբաթաթերթիկ-Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Bible Reading

Titus 1:1-11

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ to further the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness— 2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, 3 and which now at his appointed season he has brought to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, 4 To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. 5 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint^[a] elders in every town, as I directed you. 6 An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe^[b] and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. 7 Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. 8 Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. 9 He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. 10 For there are many rebellious

people, full of meaningless talk and deception, especially those of the circumcision group. 11 They must be silenced, because they are disrupting whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach—and that for the sake of dishonest gain.

John 7:37-52

37 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”^[a] 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. 40 On hearing his words, some of the people said, “Surely this man is the Prophet.” 41 Others said, “He is the Messiah.” Still others asked, “How can the Messiah come from Galilee? 42 Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David's descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?” 43 Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. 44 Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him. 45 Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and the Pharisees, who asked them, “Why didn't you bring him in?” 46 “No one ever spoke the way this man does,” the guards replied. 47 “You mean he has deceived you also?” the Pharisees retorted. 48 “Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? 49 No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law—there is a curse on them.” 50 Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, 51 “Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?”

⁵² They replied, “Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee.”

Pastoral thoughts

In the Gospel of St. Matthew we read: “Watch and pray so that you will not enter into temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” (Matthew 26:41)

These are Jesus’ words which come to alert us about the necessity of prayer in our life. Life itself is a complicated phenomenon which consists of various events, experiences and innermost feelings. It’s our innermost feelings which make opportunities for us to think and to appreciate all events happening around us. Often people come and say they pass through lots of trials and sometimes seems are not able to bear them.

Basically, difficulties have power to shake our faith and our life in general. That’s how we lose sense of reality, and bodily weakness lead us to sin which in turn leads us to various temptations. That’s how changes in the quality of our life can bring people troubles and sorrows. But God prepared a completely different life for His believers. He didn’t leave them alone in worldly commotions. Otherwise it would be impossible for a human being to bear it. God made possible for man to be in communication with Him and prayer is the best way to share our feelings with God and to receive an answer. The only thing we need is to stay awake, to stay alert. To stay

awake means always to be with God in our mind. It will lead us toward conciliation with people where we will find God’s peace. It will melt sometimes our hardened hearts to answer evil things with goodness. And it all should be done through prayer which has a power to strengthen our bodies against temptations.

In search of truth Jesus opens our mind saying: “...For the spirit is willing.” We have the same spirit, dear faithful which strengthens exclusively through prayer.

May God bless us with wisdom always to be in prayer guiding our life toward God’s pathway.

These are simple thoughts, dear faithful that I just wanted to share with you. It’s simple but very important for one who wants to follow our Lord Jesus Christ.

With Love of Christ
Fr. Zaven Markosyan

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Join us for the Sunday School

Sunday-- February 15, 2026

The feast of St. Sarkis the Worrier and the Celebration of the Consecration
of our Church
St. Sarkis Matagh luncheon

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