

The association of particular colors with liturgical seasons and celebrations developed gradually. The association of certain colors as symbolic of certain concepts emerged quite naturally. For instance, red is associated with blood, white with purity, gold with festivity, yellow with energy, purple with dignity, green with growth, light blue with hope, dark blue and black with despair and mourning.

The introduction of colors in Christian worship has a varied history. For the first few centuries the color of vestments and altar linens was without particular significance. White was the color of preference in the church, both in Rome and later in the Byzantine Empire, and it reflected the customary pattern of the middle and upper classes. Liturgical vestments followed the pattern of civilian colors of preference. It was not until the 11th or 12th centuries that the correlation of colors with liturgical seasons and celebrations was established.

It is not surprising that Jerusalem, the historical

center of liturgical development and a leader in setting liturgical trends, led the way in the practice of liturgical colors. The following list of liturgical colors reflects the general practice in Jerusalem. It must be noted here that the use of a particular liturgical color for a specific season or celebration includes priestly vestments, the vestments of deacons and clerics, and altar linen including curtains. The practice of liturgical colors for vestments and altar linen during various liturgical seasons is not widely practiced throughout the Armenian Church in the United States. The reason for this lack is partly economical—it gets quite expensive to acquire all the colors and an adequate vestry would be needed for storage. As it is, the use of seasonal liturgical colors in the United States is limited to priestly vestments and altar linen only and over the years most parishes have managed to acquire the appropriate colors for most of the liturgical seasons. The following is a list of liturgical colors and their symbolism.

LITURGICAL SEASON/FEAST/CELEBRATION	COLOR	SYMBOLISM
Advent	Purple /Violet	Penitence/Expectation
Nativity/Epiphany	White	Purity/Joy/Truth
Lent and weeks of fasting	Purple/Violet	Penitence/Expectation
Palm Sunday	Green	Life/Nature/Palm and Olive branches
Holy Week	Purple/Violet	Penitence/Expectation
Holy Friday	Black	Mourning
Easter Eve/Easter/Eastertide	White	Purity/Joy/Truth/New life
Pentecost	Red	Holy Spirit/Fire
Feast of Holy Etchmiadzin and other feasts of the Church	Green	Life/Growth/Nature
Transfiguration	White	Purity/Joy/Truth
Assumption and other Marian Feasts	White or Light Blue	Purity/Virginity Hope
Exaltation and Feasts of the Cross	Green	Life/Growth
Saints	White	Purity/Sainthood
Martyrs	Red	Blood/Sacrifice
Virgins	White	Purity/Virginity
Apostles	Gold	Festivity/Dignity/Celebration
Baptisms	White	Purity/Cleanliness
Weddings (First Marriage)	White	Purity/Virginity
Weddings (Second Marriage)	Red	Sacrifice <i>(This is a new situation facing the Church and the choice of red is more appropriate since wearing white (symbol of purity and virginity) would be incompatible with the reality.</i>
Funerals	Black or White or Light Blue	Mourning Resurrection Hope/Eternal life



The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This not only helps in tracking expenses but also ensures compliance with tax regulations.

In the second section, the author provides a detailed breakdown of the monthly budget. It includes categories for housing, utilities, food, and entertainment. By comparing actual spending against the budgeted amounts, one can identify areas where costs are exceeding expectations and make necessary adjustments.

The third section focuses on investment strategies. It suggests diversifying one's portfolio to include a mix of stocks, bonds, and real estate. The author also highlights the importance of regular contributions to retirement accounts, such as 401(k) or IRA, to take full advantage of employer matching and tax benefits.

Finally, the document concludes with a summary of key financial goals and a call to action. It encourages readers to review their financial statements regularly and seek professional advice when needed to ensure they are on track to meet their long-term objectives.

Category	Item	Amount	Notes
Housing	Rent	\$1,200.00	Fixed monthly expense
	Property Tax	\$150.00	Quarterly payment
	Home Insurance	\$100.00	Monthly premium
	Maintenance	\$50.00	Variable expense
Utilities	Electricity	\$80.00	Monthly bill
	Water	\$40.00	Monthly bill
	Gas	\$60.00	Monthly bill
Food	Supermarket	\$200.00	Weekly grocery shopping
	Restaurant	\$100.00	Monthly dining out
	Alcohol	\$50.00	Monthly entertainment
Entertainment	Subscription Services	\$30.00	Netflix, Spotify, etc.
	Hobbies	\$70.00	Monthly leisure activities
Savings	Emergency Fund	\$200.00	Monthly contribution
	Retirement	\$150.00	401(k) contribution
Total Monthly Expenses		\$1,900.00	
Income		\$2,500.00	Net monthly income
Surplus		\$600.00	Amount available for savings