

## HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER BOSTON

Pastor, Father Vasken A. Kouzouian

145 Brattle Street • Cambridge, MA 02138 • 617.354.0632 • [www.htaac.org](http://www.htaac.org)

**SUNDAY, JULY 8, 2018**

### FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Celebrant/Homilist: The Rev. Fr. Mampre A. Kouzouian

Morning Service: 9:00 a.m.; Divine Liturgy: 9:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Readings of the Day:

Wis. 7:25-8:4. Zec. 14:16-21. 1 Jn. 1:1-7. Mt. 16:13-17:13.

### WELCOME

We wish to welcome today's Celebrant, our former Pastor, the Rev. Fr. Mampre A. Kouzouian.

We welcome those who are visiting our Church. The Pastor and the Parish Council would like to invite you to make the Holy Trinity Church your spiritual home. You are cordially invited to take part in the Service and activities of our Church. If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, please sign our *Guest Book* located in the Vestibule.

### BIBLE READING

Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, chapter 17, vs. 1-9 [page 611], and will be read by Rose Aznavorian.

### FEAST DAYS

- Yesterday was the Remembrance of the Old Tabernacle and Feast of the Holy Church, the New Tabernacle.
- Today is the **Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord**, a major Feast Day of the Armenian Church; therefore, Requiem Service (Hokehankisd) will not be held. Requests for Requiem Service will be conducted next Sunday, July 15.
- Monday, July 9, is the Remembrance of the Dead.
- Thursday, July 12, is the Feast of St. Isaiah the Prophet.
- Saturday, July 14, is the Feast of Sts. Thaddeus, Apostle of Armenia, and Sandukht, the Virgin.

### From Today's Bible Reading

**Wisdom 7:25-8:4** Solomon extols the virtues of wisdom, having sought her from his youth: she is a powerful source of renewal, prevails against evil, and draws us to friendship with God since "God loves nothing so much as the person who loves wisdom" (v. 28). *Reflection: In 1 Kings 3: 1-*

*15, God asks Solomon what he wants most. Rather than long life or wealth, he asks for wisdom. What do you want most? How might "wisdom" be the best answer to that question?*

**Zechariah 14: 16-21** Declaring that a day is coming when the Lord will be king over the whole earth, the prophet foresees that all -- even former enemies of the faith -- will be called to Jerusalem on the Feast of the Tabernacles to celebrate and worship Him as the Lord Almighty. *Reflection: "Holy to the Lord" will be inscribed on the horses' bells and on cooking pots (v. 20) on that day of the Lord. What parts of your life do you feel are inscribed to the Lord?*

**1 John 1:1-7** John proclaims the truth of Jesus Christ based on all he has seen, heard, and touched so that others "may have fellowship with us" (v. 3) and in turn with God. God is light and walking in that light means living by the truth and loving God and one another. *Reflection: In what ways have you, like John, "seen," "heard," and "touched" Jesus?*

**Matthew 16:13-17:13** This rich account, worthy of a long summation, begins with the important conversation at Caesarea Philippi when Jesus asks "Who do people say I am?" After hearing the answers (John the Baptist, a prophet), He asks "and who do you say I am?" To which Peter famously replies "You are the Christ, the Son of God." In the next account, Jesus predicts His death and counsels that anyone who follows Him must take up His cross as well for "those who want to save their life will lose it." Finally, we read the account of Jesus' (see below). *Reflection: Jesus asked His disciples a question that was meant for all His followers and for all time: Who do you say He is? Who is He in your life?*

### Today is the Feast of the Transfiguration

The Transfiguration, one of the five major feasts of the Armenian Church, marks the extraordinary occasion Jesus took His three closest disciples, Peter, James, and John, up to Mt. Tabor where He was "transfigured," appearing radiant. The prophet Elijah and the patriarch Moses appeared at His side, symbols of the Law and Prophecy which Jesus had come to fulfill. A voice from heaven was heard saying: "This is my beloved Son."

Some customs of an ancient Armenian pagan festival for the goddess Asdghig are still associated with this feast, such as decorating the Church with roses or flowers (and therefore the Feast's name *Vartavar*; it is more formally called *Aylagerbootyoon* or *Baydzaragerbootyoon*) and spraying one another with water.

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

## CONGRATULATIONS

On the Feast of Vartavar, Transfiguration of Our Lord, we wish to congratulate all of our parishioners whose name is Vartouhi, Vartiter, Vartanoush, Vartar, or Vartenie.

## PARTICIPATION IN THE DIVINE LITURGY

Please use the Divine Liturgy books that are found in the pew racks. These books contain the Armenian text as well as the English transliteration and translation in the second section.

For your convenience, the applicable page number in the burgundy Divine Liturgy book is located above both the right and left doors by the Altar leading to the Vestry and Baptistry. When the light shows green, the congregation stands; when the light shows red, the congregation kneels; and when green and red lights are off, you may be seated. If assistance is needed, please ask a member of the Parish Council.

Parishioners are also encouraged to sing with the Choir, whose real purpose is to lead the congregation in singing the hymns. Also join in the recitation of the Creed which is found on pages 18 and 19 of the second section.

## VOGHCHOOYN - KISS OF PEACE

During the Divine Liturgy, when the Parish Council members pass the Kiss of Peace in Church, the response from the receiver should be “Orhnyal eh haidnootyunn Krisdosee” (Blessed is the revelation of Christ). When you give the Voghchooyn, please say “Krisdos e mech mer haydnetsav” (Christ is revealed amongst us).

## CONFESSION AND HOLY COMMUNION

Those faithful who feel spiritually prepared to receive our Lord in the sacrament of Holy Communion are asked **to bring their pew books with them to the General Confession and, together with the deacon, are asked to read the confession aloud.** The essence to this sacrament lies with the individual(s) offering his or her own confession through the priest to God. In addition to reading the text of the confession, each participant must recall his or her own sins, truly seek God’s forgiveness, and make a commitment to the Lord to strive not to sin anymore. The English confession may be found on page 48 in the burgundy Divine Liturgy book and on page x in the blue Divine Liturgy book found in the pew racks. We urge our parishioners to come forward for confession and Holy Communion through the center aisle.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Your prayers are requested to have mercy on our countrymen in Artsakh, to strengthen them in defense of their homeland, and to grant consolation to the suffering and grieving. Your prayers are also requested for Lucie Aghdamlian, Jean Alexander, Arthur Avakian, the Rev. Fr. Dajad Davidian, George Demirjian, Virginia Ohanian, and Queenie Samourian; for the good health of all those who suffer from illness in their own private way; and for those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

**Please note** that if you would like Fr. Vasken to offer your prayer request during his silent prayers at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy next Sunday, please fill out the **Prayer Request card** located in the pew box and place it in the offering plate as it passes.

## TODAY'S CALENDAR

### FELLOWSHIP HOUR

You are all welcome to join us in Johnson Hall following Church Services for Fellowship Hour.

## 2018 TRINITY KIDS' PLACE

Monday, August 6 to Friday, August 10

Monday, August 13 to Friday, August 17

Children, ages 3 through 9, can attend either one week or the full two weeks. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$150 per child for one week and \$250 for two weeks. An extended day option (1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m.) is available for \$10 per day per child. This year’s theme is “Celebrating the Seasons of the Armenian Church.” Daily activities include story time, visit with Der Vasken, musical expression, Armenian language and culture, an arts and crafts corner, and recreation. Brochures with application form are available in the Vestibule or online at [www.htaac.org/calendar/event/566/](http://www.htaac.org/calendar/event/566/). RSVP deadline is July 15.

## HAI GUIN SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Hai Guin Scholarships are available to students of Armenian heritage living in Massachusetts who have completed one year of college. Scholarships are for \$2,000 each. The deadline for submitting applications is October 25, 2018.

For an application, write to Hai Guin Scholarship Association, Attn: Scholarship Chairman Audrey Pilibosian, 23 Bradley Road, Arlington MA 02474.

## **STEWARDSHIP 2018**

### **IT'S MY CHURCH - COUNT ME IN!**

#### ***Have you Made Your Stewardship 2018 Pledge??***

We ask that if you consider Holy Trinity Armenian Church - Your Church - please take a few minutes to fill out the 2018 pledge card and return it to the Church Office. Pledge cards are available in the Church Vestibule.

We depend on and thank you for your participation.

### **For Your Information**

- We have available personal receivers for the hearing impaired that will enhance your hearing ability during the Badarak and sermon. For assistance, please see a Parish Council member in the Vestibule.
- A Reminder - to access our handicap Church entrance, follow the Dorian walkway from either the parking lot or to the right of the main doors of the church.
- If you know of someone ill or in need of a visit from our Pastor, please contact the Church Office, 617.354.0632 or by email, office@htaac.org.
- There are copies of The Little Golden Bible Storybook, When I Go to Church, and Bible story picture books available in the Vestibule for the youngest members of our congregation to quietly enjoy during Church Services. We kindly ask that you return them to the Vestibule at the conclusion of Church Services.

### **Community News**

- **Sunday, September 23, 5pm - Lights, Camera, Stories! An Evening with Award-Winning Filmmaker Bared Maronian;** Screening of *Women of 1915*, Exclusive footage of Armenia's *Velvet Revolution*, Reveal of Maronian's *Titanic Love*. Reception to follow; proceeds to benefit Women's Support Center (Yerevan) and Hanganak Elderly Project (Stepanakert). Organized in partnership with AIWA and AWWA. Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington; tickets \$75

## **HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR**

Sun, Jul 8	<b>Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ</b>
Mon, Jul 16	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>
Aug 6-10	<b>Trinity Kids' Place</b>
Aug 13-17	<b>Trinity Kids' Place</b>
Sun, Aug 12	<b>Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God</b>
Sun, Sep 9	<b>Trinity Family Festival</b>

### **SUMMER SCHEDULE**

WE ARE ON OUR SUMMER SCHEDULE.

MORNING SERVICE - 9:00 A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY - 9:45 A.M; SERVICES CONCLUDE - 11:30 A.M.

WE URGE OUR FAITHFUL TO ATTEND CHURCH SERVICES ON TIME.

Follow us at [www.htaac.org](http://www.htaac.org),  
[www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityArmenianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityArmenianChurch)

### **Photo Gallery Available on our Website**

Photos of Church events and activities are available online on our website at <http://htaac.smugmug.com/> (Under Quick Links, Photo Gallery). A photo collage is also available under "Parish News" with their respective articles.

Take time to look through our website ([www.htaac.org](http://www.htaac.org)) where you can also find Der Vasken's sermons, the Sunday Bulletins, copies of Dajar, and the Church calendar which keeps us abreast of upcoming activities and programs.