

## 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, AUGUST 18, 2019**

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD

Celebrant/Homilist: The Pastor

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

Readings of the Day:

Lk. 1:26-38. Gal. 3:29-4:7. Is. 7:10-16.

### WELCOME

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. John, chapter 15, vs. 1-8. This reading will take place during the Blessing of Grapes Service.

### FEAST DAYS

- Yesterday was the Feast of Shoghagat, according to the vision of St. Gregory the Enlightener.
- Today is the **Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God**, a major Feast Day of the Armenian Church; therefore, Requiem Service (Hokehankisd) will not be held. Requests will be conducted next Sunday, August 25. Following the Divine Liturgy, the traditional Blessing of the Grapes will take place.
- Monday, August 19, is the Feast of the Remembrance of the Dead.

### From Today's Bible Reading

**Luke 1: 26-38** The angel Gabriel visits Mary with the news of her impending role as mother of Jesus (*Asdvadzdzin*, lit. "bearer" of God). In one of the most famous encounters in the Gospels, Mary responds humbly but immediately to God's call to a miraculous service. Many consider Mary to be the first of the apostles, the first to be "called and sent out" on God's behalf. *Relection: "For nothing is impossible with God." (v.37) In what area of your life right now do you need to believe this is so? What keeps you from believing it?*

**Gal 3:29-4:7** In these verses, St. Paul declares that now that we belong to Christ, we are His rightful heirs. As children, we were once no better than the slaves, tethered to the world's ways. But "when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law..." (4:4) that we might receive the "full rights of sons."

*Reflection: "Abba" (v.6) is an intimate term for "Father" meaning we have been granted the unthinkable privilege of looking upon the Creator of the Universe as our "dad." How close is your relationship with God?*

**Isaiah 7: 10-16** God suggests that Ahaz, King of Judah (under attack from Syria and northern Israel), ask for a sign regarding his fate. Ahaz refuses, thinking this would blasphemously test God. Exasperated, Isaiah shares that very sign: that a young woman will bear a child, that He would be called Immanuel (God with us) and that even before He grew to maturity, those attacking Judah would have ceased to exist. *Reflection: Verse 14 is an unmistakable and significant prophecy for all humankind: the announcement of God's unfolding plan of salvation through the appearance in human history of Jesus, God the Son. When facing a crisis, how have you experienced Jesus as "God with us?"*

### Today is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, the Mother of God

The oldest of feasts associated with St. Mary, Assumption is celebrated on the Sunday nearest August 15, and commemorates the taking up into heaven ("assumption") of the Holy Mother at her death. Tradition relates that Mary lived another 15 years after our Lord's crucifixion. St. Bartholomew, the only apostle absent from Jerusalem when St. Mary died, asked to visit her tomb upon his return a short while after she was buried. When the tomb was unsealed, her body was gone and angels were heard singing for three days and three nights. The blessing of grapes is associated with this feast day. Grapes are the "first fruit" of the harvest, a reference to Jesus Himself and to St. Mary as the first apostle and witness to the new covenant. Grapes are also made into the wine of Communion.

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

### DONORS OF GRAPES

- The Der Ananian Family in memory of parents and grandparents, Ardashes & Mary Der Ananian, Kevork & Zarman Mouradian, and Boghos & Ann Der Ananian
- Gayane Faniants
- Armen & Susan Skenderian
- Shushan Teager and Family

## **NAME DAY CELEBRATION**

As we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, we honor those women whose names are celebrated in honor of the blessed Virgin Mary: Mariam, Mary, Marie, Mayreni, Maritza, Antaram, Azniv, Dirouhi, Diramayr, Shoghik, Arpi, Keghouhi, Hamesdouhi, Kovel, Nazeli, Aghavni, Dzagheeg, Kohar, Vosgi, Sultan, Shooshan, Papeon, Hamaspuir, Surpoohi, Sirapie, Imasdouhi, Markareet, Baydzar, Arousiag, Pergroohi, Yeranouhi, Yerchanig, Tackouhi, Isgouhi, Loosaper, Dawn, Goosine, Berjouhi, Gloria, Makrouhi, Vergin, Verkin, Verkine, Zavar and Loosine.

These names are descriptions of the blessed Mother-of-God found in the hymns and prayers of today's feast.

## **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 Baptistery. 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 haydnet sav" (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 Queenie Samourian and Martin Kalustian; 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.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations and best wishes to Brett Adam Boghigian and Colleen Marie Youngs who received the sacrament of matrimony on August 3. We pray that Almighty God may bless and keep them under the protection of the Holy Cross.

## **ASDVADZADZIN BRUNCH FOR THE PARISH**

Today, following Church Services, the Holy Trinity ACYOA Seniors will be hosting a Basturma and Eggs Brunch during the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God. The brunch is open to all with a suggested donation of \$10 per person. All proceeds will benefit the Holy Trinity ACYOA Seniors' ministry programs.

## **ST. NERSESS SUMMER CONFERENCES**

Held at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary in Armonk, NY, participants will explore their faith and heritage in a safe, fun and unique environment.

- College Winter Conference, January 2 to January 6, 2020

For more information, go to <https://www.stnersess.edu>.

## **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, 2019. For an application, write to Hai Guin Scholarship Association, Attn: Scholarship Chairperson, Barbara Ann Surabian, 4 Fieldstone Drive, Stoneham, MA 02180.

**"SAVE THE DATE" CELEBRATING HOLY TRINITY'S 58TH ANNIVERSARY AND "PARISHIONER OF THE YEAR"**

The Pastor and Parish Council of Holy Trinity Armenian Church are pleased to announce that Bruce Newell, former Parish Council Chair, Diocesan Delegate, member of the Trust Fund Board, and a devoted parishioner of Holy Trinity, will be honored as "Parishioner of the Year." The Church's 58th Anniversary Banquet will be held on Sunday, October 20, following Church Services, in the Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this special occasion!

**"THE NEW GOURMET COOKBOOK"**

We have a limited number of *"The New Gourmet Cookbook"* available for sale. This is a reprint of the Women's Guild cookbook first printed in 1982. Copies are available through the Church Office.

**TRINITY ANNUAL PICNIC**

Our Church picnic will be held on Sunday, September 15, on our Church grounds and the Charles and Nevart Cultural Hall from 12 noon- 5pm. Save the date and plan on joining us for a day of fun and fellowship and great food. Blessing of the Madagh is at 4pm. We have mailed raffle tickets to our parishioners and kindly ask you to purchase or sell them and mail the proceeds to the Church office.

**SUNDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2019**  
**12 NOON - 5 PM**  
**ON OUR CHURCH GROUNDS**



**JOIN US FOR AN  
AFTERNOON OF  
DELICIOUS ARMENIAN FOOD,  
ARMENIAN MUSIC, FUN,  
FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!**

**DELICIOUS SHISH KEBAB, LOSH KEBAB, CHICKEN KEBAB  
PAKLAVA, KHADAIF AND MORE!  
TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE**

**LOTS OF KIDS' ACTIVITIES INCLUDING A MOONWALK**

**GREG KRİKORIAN ARMENIAN ENSEMBLE - GREG KRİKORIAN, OUD & VOCALS;  
MARK DER MUGRDITCHIAN, CLARINET; KEVIN MAGARIAN, GUITAR & VOCALS;  
ARTHUR CHINGRIS, DUMBEG; STEVE SURABIAN, TAMBOURINE**

**BLESSING OF THE MADAGH AT 4 PM, FOLLOWED BY THE RAFFLE DRAWING**

**HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH**      **FR. VASKEN A. KOUZOUJIAN, PASTOR**  
**145 BRATTLE STREET • CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 • 617.354.0632 • WWW.HTAAC.ORG • OFFICE@HTAAC.ORG**

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## For Your Information

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- 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.

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## Community News

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-The Armenian Assembly of America's National Advocacy Conference and Gala will take place in Washington, D.C. on September 16 & 17, which will include the Advocacy Conference, a Gala honoring Armenian American Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill, and a Congressional Reception celebrating U.S.-Armenia relations. Special room rates available at The Wharf InterContinental Hotel.

Visit [www.aimhye.com](http://www.aimhye.com) for tickets, sponsorships, special hotel room rates, and more information.

- The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk of Life to raise funds for ABMDR and help raise awareness for leukemia and its potential care. Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, registration begins at 10:30, start time is at 11 am from the Armenian Cultural & Educational Center; 47 Nichols Avenue, Watertown MA. Finish at Saltonstall Park, Watertown. Registration Fee: \$25; \$10 for student and children. Register online at [www.abmdr.am/ne-walk](http://www.abmdr.am/ne-walk).

-2020 College Winter Conference, Thursday, January 2- Monday, January 6, 2020. Held at the St. Nersess Armenain Seminary in Armonk, NY. Tuition/Room/Board: \$250. Open to all college age and graduate students, ages 18- 25. Space is limited. For more information and to register online, go to [www.stnersess.edu](http://www.stnersess.edu). Please register by December 15.

## HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR

**Aug 18**      **Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God  
Blessing of Grapes Service**

**Asdvadzadzin Brunch**  
Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall  
following Church Services

**Aug 29**      **Parish Council Meeting**  
Parish House, 6:45 p.m.

**Friends of Holy Trinity 1000 Club Drawing**  
Parish House

**Sept 9**      **TMU and St. James Men's Club Joint Dinner Meeting**  
hosted by TMU; Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural  
Hall, 6 pm Social Hour; 7 pm Dinner

**Sept 15**      **Trinity Annual Picnic**  
Church Grounds, 12-5 p.m.

**Opening of Church Schools**  
Watch for further details

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.

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