

Forget Me Not

The Forget Me Not (Ամսմոռուկ) flower is the symbol of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide.

It represents the tragic sufferings of 1915 and the horrific aftermath of the Genocide; unity of the Armenian people in Armenia as well the Diaspora; and most importantly, hope.

The Forget Me Not flower may also be looked at from a different perspective: as Armenian Christians, we strived to not forget the martyrs of the Genocide; today, we ask them, our saints, to intercede, pray for us, and to “Forget *Us* Not.”



The *Narod* pamphlet is published by the Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Greater Boston to provide the faithful significant information regarding the sacred traditions, rituals and services of the Armenian Apostolic Church. If you have questions regarding the topics covered in the *Narod*, please speak with our pastor, Fr. Vasken Kouzouian.

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The 100th Anniversary
of the Genocide & Me

The Armenian Church canonizes and recognizes people as saints. In other words, saints are human beings who also face physical, emotional and spiritual challenges and temptations. We honor the saints for overcoming the earthly weaknesses and desires, as they become imitators of Christ. We venerate saints for their devotion and love towards our Lord, yet we only worship God.

It is significant for us to look at the lives of the Armenian Church saints and learn from their experiences of how to be followers of Christ.

We should look upon the lifestyle of our saints to understand a life living closer to our Lord Jesus Christ as God intended. We should keep in mind that our ultimate role model is Jesus, who sacrificed Himself to restore our image as God created us.

The Armenian Church has both male and female saints, amongst them the Holy Mother of God, Virgin Mary, and Saint Gregory the Enlightener, who baptized the Armenian people in 301 CE.

The first martyr of the Church is Saint Stephen, who was stoned to death (Acts 7:54-60). He was murdered because he testified his faith in Christ and did not renounce it as he chose death instead.



The Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide died for their faith in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For the first time in over 500 years, the Armenian Church canonized saints and recognized the martyrs on April 23, 2015 in honor of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide.

The Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide

We have commemorated the Genocide for a century now. It is time to celebrate our survival, but most importantly, the lives and deaths of our saints.

With that said we will no longer have requiem services for them, instead a feast day would be dedicated to them, during which we ask of the martyrs to pray for us.

The Church (the Body of Christ), God's community, collectively recognizes and canonizes people as saints and honors them. But it is important to note that Holiness only comes from God.

Due to the fact that the martyrs were massacred anonymously, the Church perceives this event as a collective martyrdom rather than specific individual martyrdom, where each saint has his/her own feast day. In the future, there is the possibility that the martyrs may be individually canonized within the Church.

Henceforth, the men, women and children who were massacred in the name of Christ during the Armenian Genocide are saints of the Armenian Apostolic Church as "All Holy Martyrs Who Died During the Armenian Genocide."