

Sunday, February 14, 2021  
**Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Greater Boston**

**Father Vasken A. Kouzouian, Pastor**  
145 Brattle Street Cambridge, MA 02138 617.354.0632

**Celebrant: The Pastor**

## **SUNDAY BULLETIN**



**Today is Poon Paregentan.**



**Please Note:**

Due to the resurgence of positive COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts, the Pastor and Parish Council of Holy Trinity issue the following for immediate implementation: From the moment one enters the Vestibule, and throughout the celebration of the Badarak, Masks covering the Mouth and Nose are to be worn and not removed until one has left the Church Complex.

This is for the safety of all our parishioners.

Please see the last page of this Sunday Bulletin for further requirements.

Please feel free to contact our office at 617.354.0632 if you have any questions or concerns.

**\*We are grateful for your trust and loyalty to our Holy Trinity community.\***

## Readings of the Day:

Is. 24:21- 25:8. Acts. 7:47-50. Gal. 4:1-7. Lk. 2:41-52.

Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to St. Luke, chapter 2, vs. 41-52 and will be read by Ann Danielson.

### From Today's Bible Reading

**Luke 2: 41-52** During a family pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover, the 12-year-old Jesus wanders off to the Temple where his parents find him debating with the teachers. Understandably worried, they chastise their son; to their puzzlement, he reassures them that he is simply in his "Father's house." *Reflection: How much does Jesus seem to know about his mission? How much do his parents know? His mother "treasured all these things in her heart."*(v 51) *What about your faith do you treasure in your heart?*

**Galatians 4:1-7** Before Christ called us to him, we were just children, slaves "under the basic principles of the world."(v.3) But with him, we came of age in God, self-aware, true heirs at last. St. Paul describes this process as an ecstatic invasion: God sends the Spirit into our hearts and we are inspired to call out "Father!"--acknowledging this new relationship. (v.6) *Reflection: Where are you in your relationship with God? What do you need to do to "grow up?"*

**Acts 7:47-50** Stephen is delivering the impassioned witness that will lead to his stoning. Alluding to the Temple, he assures his listeners that God is not bound by any man-made dwelling and that they should not - as their forebears did in shunning prophets and executing the Righteous One, Jesus - "resist the Holy Spirit." *Reflection: In what ways might you be resisting the Holy Spirit?*

**Isaiah 24:21-25:8** With apocalyptic themes of judgment, devastation, and the defeat of death, Isaiah describes the ultimate victory of a God who has "done wonderful things...a refuge for the needy...a shelter from the storm." *Reflection: Verse 6 pictures a banquet of the best food and drink prepared by God himself and served to all nations – a true eschatological (look it up!) vision and a great hope to harbor in these troubled times. Meditate prayerfully on 25:1-8.*

### Today is The Presentation of the Lord and Poon Paregentan

#### Tomorrow, February 15, is the first day of Great Lent

As was the custom, Joseph and Mary took the infant Jesus to Jerusalem to be presented at the Temple. For the full story, read **Luke 2:22-40** (this Sunday morning Matins Gospel). An early Armenian custom associated with this feast combines Christian and pagan themes. Worshippers would light candles during the evening church service, carrying the flame out into the darkness (symbolically bringing light into the void). They would then take it home to light lamps or light a bonfire in the church courtyard. The festivities included dancing around and leaping over the fire. Newlywed women would step over it to scorch their skirts (a symbolic appeal for fertility) Poon Paregentan does not actually fall in Great Lent. However, it is traditionally counted as the first step on the Lenten journey. Poon means 'real' or 'true.' Since every fasting period begins with a festival day or paregentan, this one is marked as the 'true' one, the most important. Great Lent begins in the Armenian Church on Monday, the day after Poon Paregentan.


## **February 14, 2021 Hokehankisd**

*We have all been asked to pray during the Divine Liturgy for the souls of:*

- **Karlo Ashchian, 4th Anniversary:** Requested by Malkasian Family, Suzanne & Mark Sheridan for uncle and great-uncle.
- **Sarah Goolkasian, 34th Anniversary:** Requested by Goolkasian, Yacubian, Kalajian & Ellakkis Families for mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.
- **Sahag & Hermine Kavlakian:** Requested by Alexan Kavlakian for parents.
- **Grace & Ozzie Nanian:** Requested by Karen & William Martin, Denise & Harry Boghigian, Jeffrey, Nina & Amelia Martin, Scott, Ashley & Josephine Martin, Brett & Colleen Boghigian & Todd Boghigan for parents, grandparents & great-grandparents.
- **Victoria & Setrack Talanian, Stella Talanian & Helen Talanian Kaloostian:** requested by Karen & William Martin and Family and Denise & Harry Boghigian and Family for grandparents & aunts.
- **Walter Sarges and Heinz Rothland:** Requested by Armine Sarges for husband and friend.
- **Avedis, Paris, Alice, and Catherine (Zakarian) & Niyam Mano:** From the Trust Fund established by Alice & Niyam Mano for parents and sister-in-law and wife.

\*Today's Altar Flowers are in memory of past Sunday School Superintendent,  
Sarah Goolkasian.\*

### **Duduk Performances at Holy Trinity Today, February 14 after Church Service.**



Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic  
Church of Greater Boston  
Presents  
Tranquil Echos - Nurwind Duduk



Join us every other  
Sunday after Badarak

Featuring:  
Mher Mnatsakanyan, Duduk  
Nune Hakobyan, Organ

# REQUIRED

## **Holy Trinity Divine Liturgy Reservation Form**

The Governor has revised social distancing guidelines, calling for a maximum 40% capacity in houses of worship. Although this expands our ability to seat the faithful, we want to ensure your comfort and safety during Badarak.

**Attendance will continue to be by reservation only.**

**\*To make a reservation, please register online or contact the Church Office at 617.354.0632 by Friday at noon.\***

### **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 Martin Kalustian and Richard Kratljan; for the good health of all those who suffer from illness in their own private way; and for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

**\*Der Vasken offers a weekly Hokehankisd Service.\***

**\*Please note that if you would like Father Vasken to offer your prayer request during his silent prayers at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, please fill out the Prayer Request cards that have been removed from the pews when the pandemic restrictions began, and are located on the table in the Narthex (the Church Sanctuary lobby).\***

Please contact the church office with any questions.

**\*Requests submitted after noon on Thursday will not be printed in the Sunday Bulletin but will be read from the altar by Der Vasken on Sunday.\***

# GREAT LENT

Great Lent which begins Monday, February 15, and ends on Friday, March 26, is the 40-day period of spiritual preparation that leads to the greatest feast of the Church - Easter. It is a time for focused spiritual disciplines, prayer, reading the Bible, service, giving, fasting and living a simpler life.

## Throughout Lent

- We do not receive or pass the Voghchooyn (Kiss of Peace).
- Holy Communion is not administered. Those in need of Holy Communion may see the Celebrant following the Badarak.
  - Mahs is distributed to the faithful regularly.
- We do not approach the Celebrant at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy to kiss the Gospel.



## Upcoming Sunday Feast Days

*Today, February 14 - Great Baregentan/ Presentation of our Lord to the Temple*

**February 21** – Sunday of Expulsion

**February 28** – Sunday of the Prodigal Son

**March 7** – Sunday of the Steward

**March 14** – Sunday of the Judge

**March 21** - Sunday of the Advent

**March 28** – Palm Sunday

**April 4** – Easter Sunday

# **Stewardship 2021**

**Annual Membership and Stewardship packets have been mailed!**

The image on the Membership and Stewardship packet for 2021 is of the arched Gate of St. Gregory in Holy Etchmiadzin.

This gate depicts St. Gregory the Illuminator and Armenia's King Drtad standing together holding up the Cross of our Faith, and through that, the Nation of Armenia, our history and the dreams of our grandparents.

Over the years, each Holy Trinity generation has helped us hold up the Cross of our Faith, affirming the idea that the Church is first and foremost, the People. Your ongoing Stewardship enables our ministry to expand and our outreach to draw new members, thereby extending our reach and offering a spiritual home for us all.

\*If you have questions about becoming a Member or Steward, please call the office at 617.354.0632\*



## **Holy Trinity Employment Opportunity**

Holy Trinity Armenian Church is looking for interested candidates for the position of Office Associate. Log onto <https://www.htaac.org/jobs/> for detailed job descriptions.

Please submit cover letter and resume to Alison Ekizian at [executivedirector@htaac.org](mailto:executivedirector@htaac.org).

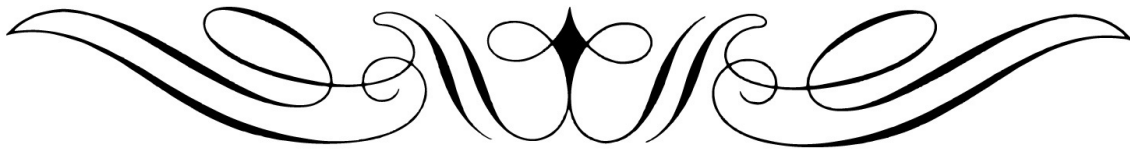




**Don't forget to Pick-up your Valentine's Day Dinner To-Go after Church Services today, February 14, from 12pm-2pm!**

**Walk up orders are welcome!**

*Please pick-up your meals by the back door of the parking lot.*



## **A Weekly Lenten Reflection**

Great Lent which begins Monday, February 15, and ends on Friday, March 26, is the 40-day period of spiritual preparation that leads to the greatest feast of the Church - Easter.

This past year has been a time to look at practically everything differently. Isn't it time we looked at Lent a little differently too? If you've always thought of Lent only as a time for giving up chocolate or coffee, it's time to change that. Let's look at Lent as a time away from routines and do what God calls us to do all year: pray and share our blessings with others. A time to cast off what is physically and spiritually unhealthy. A time to look differently at the world and become more attuned to God's presence. A time to rethink what it means for us to hope. It is a time for focused spiritual disciplines, prayer, reading the Bible, service, giving, fasting and living a simpler life.

Each week, you'll find a verse and a short reflection here. We invite you to take the time to read and reflect, whether alone or with your family. This time is meant to deepen your experience of Lent so that you can experience Easter with more joy, peace and hope.

# Our Sanctuary Doors are Open on Sunday!

General Guidelines	Arrival at Church	During Divine Liturgy
<p>Livestreams will continue every Sunday beginning at 10:00 AM. We encourage parishioners to utilize this option, especially during the summer when wearing a mask in Church may be uncomfortable.</p> <p>Please do not congregate before or after Church services. Upon arrival, please proceed to be seated and on departure please proceed directly to your car.</p> <p>Bathroom facilities and the Sanctuary will be sanitized on a regular basis following mandated guidelines and regulations.</p> <p>We ask for your patience and cooperation during this time, especially as we adapt to new procedures and guidelines.</p>	<p>Please wear a facemask at all times upon arrival and throughout the service.</p> <p>Please use hand sanitizer prior to entering the Sanctuary.</p> <p>Seating in the Sanctuary will be limited in order to adhere to social distancing directives from local, state and diocesan sources. Please be flexible as you are ushered to your seat; you may not be able sit in your usual pew.</p> <p>Please enter only through the main doors. If you are in need of special assistance, the door at <i>Dorian Way</i> will be available for those with special needs.</p> <p>Please follow Parish Council guidance for seating and wait to be ushered in and seated.</p>	<p>You may place your offering in baskets upon arrival or exit. New offering baskets with long poles will be utilized during services.</p> <p>Pew books and Bibles have been removed from the Sanctuary.</p> <p>The Kiss of Peace will be conducted by bowing the head toward others, without approaching or touching one another.</p> <p>Holy Communion will not be administered for the time being. Packets of <i>mahs</i> will be distributed as parishioners enter the Sanctuary. <i>Mahs</i> will be packaged and distributed by gloved hands.</p> <p>Please follow Parish Council guidance for departure and wait to be ushered out of the Sanctuary after Badarak.</p>
Please stay home if you are feeling ill or are part of our vulnerable population		