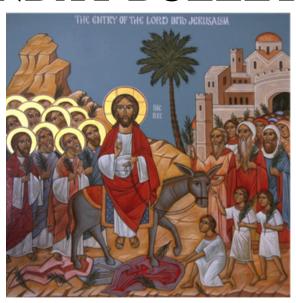
# Sunday, March 28, 2021 Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Greater Boston

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

Celebrant: The Pastor
SUNDAY BULLETIN



Today is Palm Sunday.

# **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 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:**

Song 1:1-2:3. Zec 9:9-15. Phil 4:4-7. Mt 20:29-21:17. Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, chapter 21, vs. 1-9 and will be read by Robert Dulgarian.

# **From Today's Bible Reading**

**Matthew 20:29-21:17** The healing of the two blind men is a poignant prelude to the story of Jesus' triumphal arrival in Jerusalem (see below). The two persist in loudly declaring their faith despite the crowd's rebuke. Upon being healed by their Lord, they follow Him. The passage continues with the Palm Sunday story (21:1-11) and the account of Jesus driving the moneychangers from the Temple. *Reflection: If Jesus said to you (as He did to the blind men)* "what do you want me to do for you?" how would you answer?

**Philippians 4: 4-7** In a letter overflowing with the joy of knowing Jesus, St. Paul sums it all up in these few verses: Rejoice in the Lord, know that He is near, be gentle with everyone, don't worry about a thing, pray your gratitude, and God's peace will guard your heart in Christ Jesus. *Reflection: Personalize verse 7 and memorize it: "The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guards my heart and mind in Christ Jesus." Pray this throughout the day.* 

**Zechariah 9: 9-15** Set in the context of the Jews' return from the Babylonian exile and the rebuilding of Jerusalem, Zechariah looks expectantly to when God will transform his people into a holy nation. In these verses, we see a striking prophecy of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem "gentle and riding on a donkey." *Reflection: What images of peace and restoration can you identify in verses 9-10? Why a donkey (v.9; see Matthew 21:5) and not a warhorse?* 

# **Today is Palm Sunday (Dzaghgazart)**

This day recalls Jesus'entry into Jerusalem. He is greeted by throngs of people laying their cloaks and palm branches on the road before Him as a royal carpet of welcome. Matthew understood the event as the fulfillment of specific prophecies, including Zechariah 9:9 (today's reading). Therefore, for many gathered, this was the entrance of the Messiah and conformed fully to Old Testament prophecy and Jewish expectations. Yet how poorly the crowd understood the nature of the kingdom and the king they were welcoming since not long afterwards their "Hosannas!" turned to the jeering shouts of "Crucify him!" The service of the Opening of the Doors is also held on Palm Sunday, during which the priest and people pray for entry once again into God's presence. The term Dzaghgazart ("adorned with flowers") may refer to an older pagan feast. *Reflection: In Matthew 21:10 we read that "when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked: "Who is this?" Has He entered your heart? Are you prompted to know more about who He is?* 

# March 28, 2021 Hokehankisd

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

- Linda Sarkisian, 40th Day: Requested by her loving cousins and close friends.
- Kaloust Tutundjian, 40th Day: Requested by Rita Tutundjian for husband; Harout & Amanda Tutundjian; Daron and Ara Tutundjian for father; David, Liza, Greg and Lori Dorian for uncle and great-uncle.
- Zevart Hollisian, 1st Anniversary: Requested by Ara & June Hollisian for aunt; Christopher, Stephen and Ani Hollisian, Sharis Barkhordarian for great-aunt; Caregiver, Vany Tashjian.
- Jack M. Medzorian, 1st Anniversary: Requested by Eva Medzorian for husband; David Medzorian (Valerie), Ruth Medzorian (John), John Medzorian (Karen), Mark Medzorian for father; Alexander, Jack, Eva, Kevin and Angelina for grandfather; Gladys and Anna Medzorian for cousin.
- Rose V. Kolligian, 24th Anniversary: Requested by Nancy R. and Michele M. Kolligian for mother; Lisa Kolligian & Dan Dorian for mother; Ashley & Scott Martin and Amanda, Matt, Matty and Danny Keller for grandmother and great-grandmother; Henry Gostanian for aunt; Janice Dorian and Barbara Dorian for khenamee.
- Rose V. Kolligian, 24th Anniversary: Requested by Gregory A. Kolligian, Jr. for mother; Gregory A. III & Jack Avedis Kolligian for grandmother.
- Mary Sarkisian: Requested by her loving cousins.
- Ardashes Asadourian: From the Trust Fund established by Altoon Zahigian for brother.
- Haig & Vasiliki Bessie Bedigian, Kirkor & Arousiag Bedigian, Mardiros & Martha Bedigian, and Mardiros Kasigian: From the Trust Fund established by Haig & Bessie Bedigian for parents, grandparents & uncle.

# For the glory of God and the edification of our Altar

\*Today's Palms are donated by Al Zouranjian and Family in memory of wife, mother and grandmother, Virginia Zouranjian.

\*Today's Palms are donated by Eva Medzorian and Family in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather, Jack Medzorian on the first anniversary of his passing.

\*Today's Altar Flowers are donated in loving memory of Linda Sarkisian by Gladys and Ann Medzorian and John & Ruth Medzorian-Falletti on the 40th day of her passing.

\*Today's Altar Candles are donated in loving memory of Mary Sarkisian by Gladys and Ann Medzorian and John & Ruth Medzorian-Falletti.

\*Today's Altar Flowers are donated in loving memory of Zevart Hollisian by Ara & June Hollisian and Family on the first anniversary of her passing.

# "TURNPATZEK"

Prior to the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, the "Turnpatzek" or the "Opening of the Doors" Service will be conducted in our Church. Kneeling in front of the closed veil of the Altar, the priest reads Psalms and chants hymns of supplication for the mercy of God. The mystery of the Turnpatzek Service anticipates the second coming of Christ and the final judgment. On behalf of the faithful, the priest pleads to God to reopen the doors of His Heavenly Kingdom which were closed to man through his fall and expulsion from paradise.

# **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 Rose Tikijian; 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 Santuary 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.\*



## **EASTER OFFERING - YOUGHAKIN**

In the early centuries, the Armenian Church had no annual budget to meet the expenses of parish Churches and monastic communities. The faithful of each parish contributed for the welfare of the work of the Christian community, caring for the needy, promoting the work of Christian education and worship, etc. At certain times of the year, additional contributions were offered to the parish Church to assure that the sanctuary lanterns, at that time fueled by oil, would remain continuously aflame. Thus, a special category of donations was created and called Youghakin which means "the cost of oil."

These were collected during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

As inheritors of this pious tradition, we have maintained this special offering in all Diocesan Churches in the Western Hemisphere.

Aside from your annual parish stewardship and membership donation, this special gift is sought during these holy days to meet the additional expenses needed to effectively carry out the mission of our parish; namely, worship, witness, education, service, and fellowship.

## ALTAR FLOWERS AND CANDLES

For those who wish to donate Altar Flowers and Candles for Holy Week and Easter, please call the Church office, 617.354.0632, or email office@htaac.org.

Please specify if donations are made in memory of loved ones.

# **HOLY WEEK**

The Armenian Church calls the final week of Christ's life on earth Great Week or Holy Week (Avak Shapat).

During this time, we share in His teachings, His suffering, His death and His resurrection.

Lazarus Saturday, along with Palm Sunday, ushers in Holy Week and Christ's gift of Resurrection, as we accompany Him through His Passion. Lazarus was Jesus' friend and the brother of Martha and Mary. When he became very ill, his sisters informed Jesus. But before He was able to visit him, Lazarus died. Shedding tears for His friend, Jesus hurried to his tomb and brought him to life again. This foreshadows Christ's own Resurrection and serves to remind us of the new life in Christ.

<u>Palm Sunday</u> is the feast of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Christ was hailed by the people as the Messiah and New King of Israel. Christ comes to Jerusalem in fulfillment of the prophecies and having chosen the way of the Cross, invites the faithful to witness His passion that they might share in His Resurrection.

<u>Holy Monday</u> is dedicated to the creation of the world, of Heaven and Earth, as the foundation of Christ's Second Creation.

*Holy Tuesday* recalls The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Maidens (Matthew 25:1-13). Ten maidens wait for their bridegroom. Five of them foolishly took their lamps with no extra oil and when the bridegroom was delayed, could not go out and meet him. The wise maidens went prepared and joined him in the marriage feast. Similarly, we pray and wait, spiritually prepared to receive Christ while recognizing that we are all sinners. In humility we ask that the Lord show us His compassion.

<u>Holy Wednesday</u> recalls the fallen woman who anoints Christ with costly oil and kisses His feet, in contrast to Judas who betrayed Christ for money. (Matthew 26:3-16)

*Holy Thursday*, in the morning, marks the institution of Holy Communion which Christ distributed to His twelve apostles at the Last Supper. During the Passover Meal, Christ broke and distributed unleavened bread and passed the wine; He told the apostles that this was His Body and Blood of the New Covenant. Humankind could now participate in the Kingdom of God. In the evening, the service of the Washing of the Feet takes place in memory of the Lord's example. Jesus took a towel and girded Himself and began washing His disciples' feet, setting an example of humility and love for the earliest members of the Church.

At night, an all-night vigil is kept in memory of the last sleepless night of our Lord on earth. This service is called Khavaroom (darkness). Before He was arrested, Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane and endured in solitude the agony of His impending death.

# **HOLY WEEK CONTINUED**

At the Easter Vigil of <u>Holy Saturday</u>, the mystery of salvation in the Resurrection of Christ is celebrated. The lights of the Church are dim until the reading of Isaiah 60, when they are suddenly put on. Already, in the dramatic candle lighting ceremony of Jrakalouytz, the joy of Easter Eve has begun.

**EASTER SUNDAY** celebrates the joy of the Resurrection. The Resurrection of our Lord is the promise of salvation for all humanity. The faithful exchange the Easter greeting:

# "Krisdos Haryav ee merelotz!" "Orhnyal eh Harootiunun Krisdosee!"

and share a joyous Easter feast, often including lamb and colored eggs (symbols of new life) and Easter bread (choreg). On the Monday after Easter, Armenian families in some parts of the world visit the graves of loved ones, share choreg and eggs among themselves, and whisper to their departed loved ones, "Krisdos haryav ee merelotz!". Easter Sunday is followed by a period of forty days, during which there are no saints' days or fasting days. This period is dedicated to the glory of Christ's Resurrection and to the forty days He spent on earth after His Resurrection.

The 40th day after the Resurrection is <u>Ascension Day</u>, commemorating our Lord's entry into heaven.

Fifty days after Easter is <u>Pentecost</u>, on which day the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles and gave them the power to preach in various tongues. This is marked as the birthday of the Church.





# **Holy Trinity's Calendar for Holy Week and Easter**

# Palm Sunday, March 28

Morning Services - 9:00 am

Services of Turnpatzek, Sunday School and Armenian School Students - 10:00 am
Divine Liturgy - 10:30 am

ACYOA Day Palm Sunday Banquet-To-Go - 12:30 - 2:00 pm

# Maundy Thursday, April 1

Commemoration of the Last Supper of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Divine Liturgy - 11:00 am
Ceremony of Washing of the Feet - 7:30 pm
Commemoration of the Betrayal and Passion of our Lord - 8:30 pm

# Good Friday, April 2

Order of the Crucifixion of Christ - 10:30 am Commemoration of the Burial of Our Lord Jesus Christ - 7:30 pm

# Holy Saturday, April 3

Easter Family Worship Celebration, Sunday School and Armenian School - 10:20 am

# Easter Eve

Evening Service - 7:00 pm Jurakalouytz Divine Liturgy - 7:30 pm

# Feast of the Holy Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Easter Sunday, Soorp Zadig, April 4

Morning Service - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am

Sermon - 11:45 am

ACYOA Easter Plant Sale – 12:15-1:30 p.m.

All Hokehankisd Services will be held on April 11

\*\*\*Don't forget to pick up your pre-ordered ACYOA Day Palm Sunday Banquet-To Go and Baked Goods following Church services today between 12:30 and 2:00 p.m.

Items may be picked up using the Sparks Street entrance off of the Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall. Masks covering the nose and mouth must be worn.

Thank you for supporting the ACYOA!\*\*\*





Proceeds support ACYOA Ministry Programs ACYOA will donate 20% to "Artsakh Outreach" fund

Thank you for supporting the ACYOA ~ Happy Easter!

Fr. Vasken Kouzouian, Pastor ~ Holy Trinity Armenian Church 145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 ~ www.htaac.org

# SAVE THE DATE!!!!! Monday, June 21, 2021



# **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

There are five Holy Trinity Armenian Church Scholarships available for the 2021-2022 academic year from:

The Gregory Archie and Rose Kolligian Scholarship Fund;
The Hollisian Family Scholarship Fund;
The Gertrude Nahigian Scholarship Fund;
The Alice Ohanasian Scholarship Fund;
and The Major Robert Z. Zartarian Scholarship Fund.

For further information or an application, please call the church office, 617.354.0632, or email office@htaac.org. Complete application with all required documentation must be received by Monday, May 3 for each scholarship requested. There will be no follow up on any outstanding materials due. It is the applicant's sole responsibility to insure that all required documentation is received by the deadline. If incomplete, application will not be considered.



# **Support Holy Trinity through Smile.Amazon.Com!**

Amazon donates .5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charity of your choice!

Set Holy Trinity as your peferred charity by clicking here or searching for "Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church" in the Amazon charity directory.

AmazonSmile's impact:

\*\$165.71 to Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Greater Boston\*

# General Guidelines

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.

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.

Bathroom facilities and the Sanctuary will be sanitized on a regular basis following mandated guidelines and regulations.

We ask for your patience and cooperation during this time, especially as we adapt to new procedures and guidelines.

# Arrival at Church

Please wear a facemask at all times upon arrival and throughout the service.

Please use hand sanitizer prior to entering the Sanctuary.

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.

Please enter only through the main doors. If you are in need of special assistance, the door at *Dorian Way* will be available for those with special needs.

Please follow Parish Council guidance for seating and wait to be ushered in and seated.

# **During Divine Liturgy**

You may place your offering in baskets upon arrival or exit. New offering baskets with long poles will be utilized during services.

Pew books and Bibles have been removed from the Sanctuary.

The Kiss of Peace will be conducted by bowing the head toward others, without approaching or touching one another.

Holy Communion will not be administered for the time being, Packets of *mahs* will be distributed as parishioners enter the Sanctuary. *Mahs* will be packaged and distributed by gloved hands.

Please follow Parish Council guidance for departure and wait to be ushered out of the Sanctuary after Badarak.

Please stay home if you are feeling ill or are part of our vulnerable population