Sunday, July 11, 2021 Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Greater Boston

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Celebrant: The Pastor SUNDAY BULLETIN



The CDC and the State of Massachusetts have recently communicated updated mask guidelines. Holy Trinity Church will slowly begin to adapt our practices, while facilitating a safe experience for all parishioners.

During summer hours, masks will be optional in the sanctuary and around the church complex. Those not fully vaccinated are encouraged to continue wearing masks.

Pews will remain taped off to support distancing.

As we gather more regularly, it's important to stay familiar with Holy Trinity Church's latest guidelines:

When attending services in-person, please remember:

- 'Contact-free' Kiss of Peace: We should remain 3 feet away from those around us at all times, including during the Kiss of Peace.
- Holy Communion Holy Communion is now offered weekly to our faithful following strict safety protocols.
- Hand sanitizer is always available at the entrance to the sanctuary and at each votive candle station.

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.

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, which in Hebrew is literally "a listening heart." How might such a heart help you?*

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. 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' transfiguration (see below). Reflection: Imagine Jesus sitting across from you, taking your hands in His, and asking you: Who do you say I am? How would you answer?

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. Moses and Elijah 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 (and therefore the Feast's name Vartavar; it is more formally called Aylagerbootyoon or Baydzaragerbootyoon) and spraying one another with water. Reflection: Only in Matthew, do we learn the disciples' reaction to this miracle: fear and awe, calmed by Jesus' touch. (17:6-7) Think of a time when you were afraid, anxious, or confused. Were you aware of Jesus' presence? Next time you feel this way, prayerfully dwell on the Lord's radiant transfiguration.

Today is the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

The Feast of Transfiguration is one of the five principal feasts of the Armenian Church. Although a three-day feast (an innovation of St Nersess Shnorhali), the season of Transfiguration begins on the fourteenth Sunday following Zadeeg and ends on Sunday preceding the Feast of the Assumption of the Mother of God. Jesus takes three of His disciples up a mountain, (traditionally, Mt. Tabor) to reveal to them His glory, a revelation of the Holy Trinity (the Father's voice is speaking while the Holy Spirit is present in the form of a bright cloud). A mountain is highly symbolic of God's presence and divine revelation (see Genesis 22:2, Exodus 24:13-17, Deuteronomy 18:15-18, Isaiah 2:3, Matthew 5:1-2f., John 6:3f.)

Requiem Service (Hokehankisd) will not be held.

Requests for Requiem Service will be conducted next Sunday, July 18.

Readings of the Day:

Wis 7:25-8:4. Zec 14:16-21. 1 Jn 1:1-7. Mt 16:13-17:13. Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, chapter 17, vs. 1-9 and will be read by Robert Dulgarian.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Haig Inguilizian & Raisa Gevorgyan who baptized their daughter, Nare Inguilizian, yesterday in our Church. We welcome Nare into our Christian family of the Holy Trinity Church and pray that Almighty God may keep her under His loving care.

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 **Nishan Tikijian**; and 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.

Prayers for recovery for **John Davagian II** from his family.

Prayers of thanksgiving and praise for the healing of **Ruegg Quibell**.

Der Vasken offers a weekly Hokehankisd Service.

Please note that if you would like Der 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 11:30 am on Thursday will not be printed in the Sunday Bulletin but will be read from the altar by Der Vasken.

Please alert a Parish Council member on Sunday if you requested a Hokehankisd after 11:30 am on Thursday to ensure Der Vasken has the name of your loved one.*



Fellowship Hour is Back!

You are all welcome to join us in Johnson Hall following Church Services for Fellowship Hour hosted by the Parish Council.



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.



Frozen Losh Kebab (6/bag) for \$18.00

Stock up for those Cape weekends or keep them in your freezer for something quick to throw on the grill! There is nothing tastier than Holy Trinity's Losh Kebab!

To Place Your Order:

Call or e-mail the church office at 617-354-0632 or office@htaac.org

Walk-up orders are also welcome!

Pick ups will be every Sunday after Church Services in the Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall.

Swing by, say hello and let's get ready for summer!

Credit cards accepted for pre-orders Checks only will be accepted for walk-up orders



15th ANNUAL TRINITY KIDS' PLACE PROGRAM August 9-13, 2021

Our annual summer program for children ages 3-9 is back in person this summer. TKP program staff, Der Vasken, Yn. Arpi, and Ann Danielson have been busy planning for this year's program, based on the theme: "Love One Another".

9:00 am- 1:30 pm daily with optional extended day to 3 pm.

Please direct all inquiries to youth@htaac.org.

Register online by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, July 23.

REGISTRATION LINK: http://tiny.cc/TKP2021-Register





Christ as Hope

Gain a deeper understanding of **Hope** in the tradition of the Armenian Church through Vemkar's online module!



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