

Sunday, December 12, 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



The City of Cambridge has issued an emergency order requiring that face masks or coverings be worn in indoor public places - this includes Houses of Worship. *The order took effect at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, September 3, 2021.* Holy Trinity Church and its members and friends will be required to abide by these new safety measures.

**Masks will be required
in the sanctuary and in all church complex buildings.**

When attending services in-person, please remember:

- Safety measures that will continue
- Pews will remain taped off to support distancing
- Masks will be made available if you need one
- Our cleaning protocols will remain in place
- Hand sanitizer will continue to be made available at the entrance of church and at the side altars
- Kiss of Peace will be conducted by bowing the head toward others without approaching or touching on another
- Confession will be done in place at your pew
- Holy Communion will continue to be distributed using safe practices

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

Luke 14:12-24 While dining one Sabbath at the home of a prominent Pharisee, Jesus relates the parable of the “Great Banquet:” guests decline an invitation to a grand banquet – citing conventional life events as reasons (I just got married; I have important business to attend to). Hearing this, the host angrily sends his servant to invite the poor and the crippled and others marginalized by society. Those originally invited have forever lost their place at his table.

Reflection: The excuses given (14:18-20) by those who declined the invitation are eerily familiar: the busy stuff of life. What are the reasons you don't make time for God? At what peril?

2 Thessalonians 1:1-12 Paul lovingly declares his gratitude for a community that is exemplary in its faith and expansive love for one another. He prayerfully acknowledges their suffering - God shares in their pain and will lift them up for their worthiness at the end of time. As for those who shun the gospel of Jesus, including their persecutors, they will spend eternity away from Him. *Reflection: What is hell if not an eternity away from God's presence and glory? (v.9) Its opposite is to be in His presence day in day out (think of the older brother in the Prodigal Son). Does that describe your life?*

Isaiah 37:14-38 After Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance from the Assyrians, Isaiah conveys God's comforting response: that the planned attack on Jerusalem will fail. *Reflection: Hezekiah's prayer is essentially this: you alone are God of all, you made heaven and earth; hear my plight and deliver me. How telling that he begins by affirming who God is. Can you confidently declare the same? Begin your next prayer by telling the Lord what He means to you.*

December 18 is the Feast of St. James of Nisibis

St. James, a cousin of St. Gregory, was appointed bishop of Nisibis, Mesopotamia, in 308 A.D. Nisibis is the modern city of Nusaybin (in southwest Turkey on the border with Syria). He founded a theological school there, attended the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D., and was renowned for his pious and virtuous life. His protégé was the beloved theologian and writer, St. Ephraim.

James is perhaps best known, however, for his divine vision on Mount Ararat, where he found the sacred relic of Noah's Ark. According to tradition, while St. James preached in and around Nisibis, he heard that people doubted the story of Noah's Ark. He was determined to provide his flock with evidence, so he set out for the peak of Mount Ararat to find the remains of the ark. During his arduous journey, an angel appeared to him in a vision and brought him a piece of the wood from Noah's Ark. St. James prayed to God to produce a miracle at the place where he had the vision and immediately afterward a spring gushed forth, which exists to this day. The relic of Noah's Ark received by St. James is currently in Holy Etchmiadzin.

Reflection: Think of St. James' life of godly accomplishment. Could this perhaps have opened his heart to that divinely inspired insight on Mt. Ararat? Pray about this. What answers are you seeking?

Readings of the Day:

Is. 37:14-38. 2 Thes. 1:1-12. Lk. 14:12-24

Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to St. Luke, chapter 14, vs. 12-24 and will be read by Robert Dulgarian.

Thank You to Our Bazaar Volunteers!

Last weekend we hosted our 62nd Annual Christmas Bazaar! With pandemic restrictions still in place, we were not able to host a traditional bazaar, but the parish organized a “grab & go” option where people were able to come enjoy the beautiful Christmas decorations, and shop a few booths, all prepared by all the hardworking and dedicated volunteers. We would like to thank Gregory A. Kolligian Jr., Parish Council Chairman, who served as Chairman of our “grab & go” Bazaar, along with a small army of parishioners and our Office Staff, all volunteering their time and energy to make our annual Bazaar the successful reality it was!



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 Ara Hollisian**; 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.

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 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 am on Thursday to ensure Der Vasken has the name of your loved one.**

Fellowship Hour

You are all welcome to join us in the Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall following Church Services for Fellowship Hour hosted by the Parish Council and Diocesan Delegates.

*******There will be a choreg sale following church services at the Fellowship Hour.******

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY DRIVE

NOVEMBER 21 – DECEMBER 12



THE GIVING TREE

TO BENEFIT THE FAMILIES OF
SOLUTIONS AT WORK*

WWW.SOLUTIONSATWORK.ORG



HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. **Choose** a gift tag off of *The Giving Tree*.
2. **Purchase** a gift card in the amount of \$25
(appropriate for a teenage boy or girl age 14-16 years of age)
3. **Bring** in the gift card and **place it under The Giving Tree**
by Sunday, December 12.



GREEN STREET SHELTER

SEEKING DONATIONS OF ADULT HATS, GLOVES & SCARVES

We are also **collecting adult HATS, SCARVES & GLOVES** for the men and women
housed at the **Green Street Shelter** run by *Solutions at Work*.

Donations can be dropped off under *The Giving Tree* **by December 12.**



**Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the
families of Cambridge this Christmas season.**

*Solutions at Work, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty and homelessness by providing individuals and families with resources and opportunities to strengthen their self-confidence, achieve self-sufficiency, and participate in helping others.

To ease the burdens of the city's unhoused population, Solutions at Work manages a homeless shelter for men and women on Green Street in Cambridge and runs an evening meals program for unhoused individuals 5 days a week in Central Square.

*"Remembering
the words of the
Lord Jesus,
for He Himself said,
'It is more blessed
to give than to receive'."
Acts 20:35*

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145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 ~ www.htaac.org ~ 617.354.0632

HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH
SECOND ANNUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Christmas

**NATIVITY PAGEANT
& PARISH TREE LIGHTING**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, PAGEANT TO TAKE PLACE IN SANCTUARY

PAGEANT ~ 11:40 AM

TREE LIGHTING ~ 12:30 PM

JOIN US OUTDOORS ON HOLLISIAN PLAZA
FOR A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION TO
USHER IN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

SOCIAL DISTANCING IN EFFECT



COMPLIMENTARY EVENT FOR THE COMMUNITY
ENJOY HOT CHOCOLATE AND COOKIES

PERSONALIZE AN ORNAMENT TO PLACE ON THE PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE

Fr. Vasken Kouzouian, Pastor ~ Holy Trinity Armenian Church
145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 ~ www.htaac.org ~ 617.354.0632



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021
JOIN US IN THE SANCTUARY
MUSICAL PRELUDE- 4:30 PM
SERVICE- 5:00 PM**

**Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Greater Boston
Cambridge MA**



*We warmly invite all to
attend for prayers
and Christmas carols
in English*



Merry Christmas



First Wednesday of every month • Johnson Hall or virtual on zoom • 6:45pm - 7:45pm

Throughout the day, life hands us questions for which we seek answers. Each month, we discuss one of these life questions through the lens of our Christian Faith.

Below are the topics for this year. We warmly welcome you to join our ongoing conversation.

October 6, 2021

Imagine a world
without love

February 2, 2022

Celebrate Human Rights
Everyday

November 3, 2021

Prayer is like a knock on
the door

March 2, 2022

Is Life Unfair?

December 8, 2021*

How Can We Experience
God's Guidance?

*Second Wednesday

April 6, 2022

The Chalice of: Life, Hope of
Resurrection, & Forgiveness . . .

January 12, 2022*

The Seed That Bears Fruit

*Second Wednesday

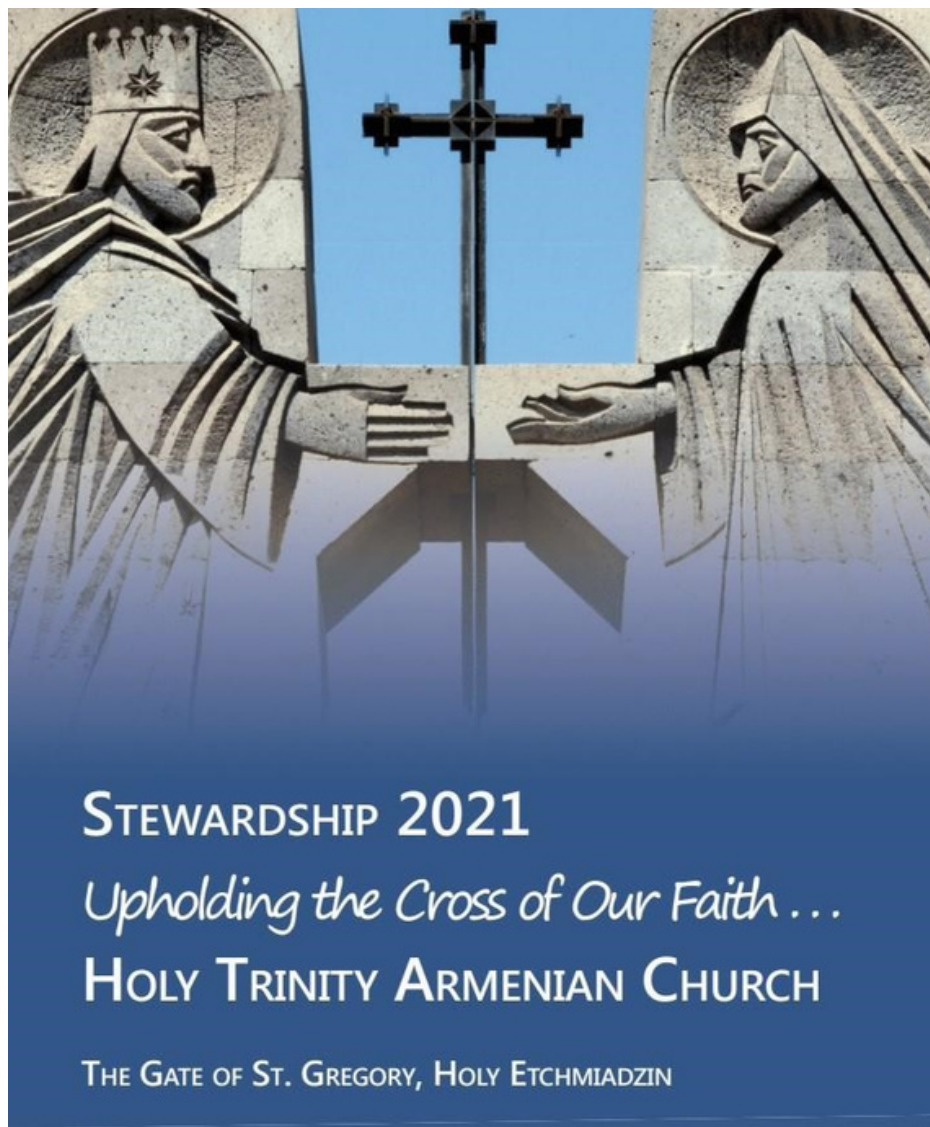
May 4, 2022

Even In the Hills & Valleys
. . .We Are Not Alone

Stewardship 2021 ~

Year End is Fast Approaching!

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 not yet paid your membership dues or made a stewardship pledge for 2021, there's still time!



2022 ST. NERSESS YOUNG ADULT WINTER CONFERENCE

Open to all young adults, ages 18 – 25.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

CONCLUDING WITH THEOPHANY BADARAK AT ST. VARTAN CATHEDRAL, NYC

What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ? What does it mean for our lives today, the mission and destiny of the Armenian Church? Come discover the bigger picture of who God created us to be!

**REGISTER BY DECEMBER 10 AS SPACE IS LIMITED!
TUITION/ROOM/BOARD: \$225**

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/SNAS2022WC>



ST. NERSESS ARMENIAN SEMINARY

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486 Bedford Road

Armonk, NY 10504

914-273-0200

The Armenian Church Endowment Fund (ACEF)
has launched on social media.

Dear Parishioners,

At a time when current global challenges have affected gifts and donations to the parishes of the Armenian Church, social media provides us with the ability to directly reach our current benefactors, as well as future donors. For this reason, we are very excited to announce the creation of ACEF social media channels on two of the most popular platforms, Facebook and LinkedIn. These channels will provide our organization with a vehicle for disseminating information and news about the fund and ACEF's activities, thereby benefitting parishes such as yours.

Our Facebook and LinkedIn channels will enable us to share written and video stories about how your partnership with ACEF has benefitted your parish. It will also provide your parish with an opportunity to contribute notable stories and news about the people who volunteer their time to benefit your parish and the Armenian Church as a whole.

In order to give our channels immediate widespread exposure, we ask that you please do the following:

LINKEDIN:

Please go to

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/armenian-church-endowment-fund-acef> and tap the “Follow” button located on the top left side of the page.

Please “Like and Comment” our posts and “Share” them to your own LinkedIn profile’s newsfeed.

Please encourage your friends and connections to also start following our page by sending the link

FACEBOOK:

Please go <https://www.facebook.com/theACEF.org>

Tap the “Follow” button located on the top left side of the page.

Please “Like and Comment” our posts and “Share” them to your LinkedIn profile’s newsfeed.

Thank you.

Melanie Dadourian Co-Chair Eric Baroyan Co-Chair

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Morning Service - 9:15 a.m.

Divine Liturgy - 10 a.m.

Services conclude - 12 Noon.

We urge our faithful to attend Church Services on time.

HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR

Wed, Dec 15 **Parish Council Meeting;** Johnson Hall, 6:30pm

Sun, Dec 19 **Christmas Nativity Pageant ;** Sanctuary, 11:40am
 & Parish Tree Lighting; 12:30pm

Fri, Dec 24 **Christmas Eve Service; Musical prelude at 4:30pm, followed by
prayers and Christmas Carols in English at 5pm;** Sanctuary.

Sat, Dec 25 **Merry Christmas!**

Mon, Dec 27 **Christmas Holiday Observed- *Office Closed***

Sat, Jan 1 **Happy New Year!!**

Sun, Jan 9 **Armenian Christmas observed- Blessing of the Water Services**

