#### Sunday, May 22, 2022 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



Masks are now optional in the sanctuary and in all church complex buildings.

Holy Communion will be distributed using enhanced safety practices.

Approach the altar, make sign of the cross, present the back of your hand,

Holy Communion will be placed on the back of your hand, consume at the altar.



The Very Reverend Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan

In the inaugural session of the 120th Assembly of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, on May 6, 2022, the clergy and delegates elected the Very Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan to the office of Diocesan Primate. Having received the confirmation of His Holiness Karekin II, the Catholicos of All Armenians,

Fr. Mesrop is now the 13th Primate of the Eastern Diocese.

A native of Yerevan, Fr. Mesrop attended Gevorgian Theological Seminary of Holy Etchmiadzin, where he received his Bachelor's degree in Theology in 2003. He was ordained into the holy priesthood that same year, and thereafter served until 2004 as the staff-bearer for His Holiness Karekin II, the Catholicos of All Armenians.

He holds a Master's degree in Theology and Religious Sciences from the University of Strasbourg, France, and studied in Dublin, Ireland, at the International Study Centre.

In 2011 he received his Archimandrite (Vardapet) rank: the Doctoral degree of the Armenian Church.

As a professor at Gevorgian Theological Seminary from 2007 to 2011, Fr. Mesrop taught Christian Ethics, and simultaneously served as deputy-chancellor of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin.

During this period, he had two pastoral stays in Brussels, Belgium, and in Nice, France.

He went on to serve the Armenian Church Diocese in Geneva, Switzerland, as its Locum Tenens Primate. He was Vicar General of the Armenian Diocese in Marseille, France, from 2012 to 2013, and the following year served in Paris as Locum Tenens Primate of the Armenian Diocese of France.

Throughout his ministry in Europe (2007-2014), Fr. Mesrop was a member of the Church and Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches.

Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan came to the United States in 2015, and took up the pastorship of Holy Virgin Mary and Shoghagat Armenian Church in Belleville, IL, for a period of two years.

In 2017 he was appointed Director of Ministries at the Diocesan Center in New York City.

He was appointed as Vicar of St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral in 2018.

In the autumn of 2019, Fr. Parsamyan answered the call of His Holiness Karekin II to return to the Mother See and take up a new role as Dean of Gevorgian Seminary. He led the seminary through Armenia's ensuing years of trial and affliction, and after completing his mission for His Holiness, he returned to the U.S. in 2021, to take up again the position of Director of Ministries of the Eastern Diocese at the request of Primate Bishop Daniel Findikyan.

On May 6, 2022, clergy and lay delegates representing the parishes of the Eastern Diocese elected Fr. Parsamyan to the office of Diocesan Primate. The meeting took place in New York City, at the St. Vartan Cathedral Complex, with delegates participating both in person and online. Some 181 delegates took part in the election.

Fr. Mesrop speaks four languages, including Armenian, English, French, Russian.

#### **Readings of the Day:**

Acts 20: 17-38. 1 Jn. 3:2-6. Jn. 9:39-10:10. Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to St. John, chapter 16, vs. 25-33.

#### From Today's Bible Reading

John 9:39-10:10 Jesus describes Himself as the Gate through which His sheep pass, following the voice of the One they know. Whoever enters by this Gate, will "find pasture...and be saved." (v.9) Reflection: Jesus describing Himself as the Gate is one of the famous "I am's" of the Gospel of John, in which Jesus provides a number of images which express His character. In verse 11, He is "the good shepherd." What do the images of "gate" and "good shepherd" tell you about Jesus? What images could you add that would describe who He is to you?

Acts 20:17-38 St. Paul touches the hearts of the church elders in Ephesus with his eloquent farewell. Predicting an uncertain fate, Paul declares his life meaningless save for the task of witnessing to God's power and grace. He asks these leaders to be good shepherds to their flock, as "wolves" will surely be on the prowl. He exhorts them to always work hard for the less fortunate. *Reflection: St. Paul asks the Ephesians to think back on his time with them as a testimony to God's grace (vv 18, 24). If someone watched you in action, what would they assume a Christian lifestyle is like? How would you like to change so they can get a better picture?* 

**1 John 3:2-6** John relates that Christians are not fully who they will become with God's grace. And yet only those who truly know Christ can come close to living a life without sin. If we continue to sin, how can we say we know Jesus? *Reflection: In what ways do you habitually "keep on sinning"* (v. 6)? Thoughtless anger? Envy? Lack of charity? Unforgiving spirit? What might these habits be saying about your walk with Jesus?

#### Thursday, May 26, is the Feast of the Ascension of Jesus

In Acts 1:1-11, we read a full account of Jesus' ascension (see Mark 16:19 and Luke 24:50-51 as well). After having appeared to the disciples frequently during a forty-day period, Jesus told them to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the gift He had promised: the Holy Spirit. When asked by His devoted followers when He would return to "restore the kingdom to Israel" (still thinking of an earthly one), Jesus told them it was not known, but that they should continue to witness to Him "in Jerusalem... and to the ends of the earth." He was then taken up before their eyes. Two angelic figures appeared nearby as they watched their Lord disappear into the clouds. They assured the disciples that He would indeed return in the very same way. *Reflection: Read Acts 1:1-11 and imagine yourself one of Jesus' followers. You have heard Him promise the power of the Holy Spirit and ask you to be His witness to the ends of the earth. Now you watch as He ascends to heaven. What are you feeling? Hoping? What are your fears?* 

#### May 22, 2022 Hokehankisd

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

- Martyrs of the Battle of Sartarabad Who Gave Their Lives in 1918 for Their Faith and the Motherland.
- Mimi and Martin Kalustian: Requested by: James Kalustian, Drs Albert & Anita Kalustian and Rosita Georgiades for parents and khnamee.
- Haiganoush Agnes Yazijian and Haig R. Yazijian: From the Trust Fund established by Haig R. Yazijian.
- Major Robert Zaven Zartarian, Levon, Louise, Aznev & Virginia Louise Zartarian: From the Major Robert Zaven Zartarian and Rose M. Charcran Zartarian Trust Fund.



Today we will witness the graduation ceremony of five Grade 11/12 Sunday School students, who have successfully completed the required course of religious education of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern). This year's graduates are: Leila Belubekian, Ariana Hovnanian, Armen Manucharyan, Alexis Rigolini and Lucinée Teager.

We congratulate the graduates and their families on achieving this inspiring milestone. May God bless the Graduating Class of 2022! We ask parishioners to please exit the Church from the front doors as there will be a private Graduates' Luncheon in Johnson Hall following the graduation ceremony.

#### **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 **Monica Edwards**, **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 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 following Church Services for Fellowship Hour hosted by the Trinity Men's Union (held outside in the courtyard under the tent).

#### **CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN!**

Renovations to the Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall and the Foyer have commenced. For the next several months, both Talanian Hall and foyer will be closed to the public while under construction. Signage has been placed throughout the complex to direct parishioners.

Please note, there will be absolutely no entry to Talanian Hall via the parking lot or Sparks Street entrance. The foyer restrooms will not be usable. The Sunday school can be accessed by the stairway behind the kitchen or through the choir room.

Johnson Hall will be accessible from downstairs or the sanctuary.

# 2022 GREGORY HINTLIAN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Registration Deadline: June 13, 2022

Sign up today: https://htaac.org

**MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2022** 

11:00 AM "SHOTGUN" START FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT THE 9TH HOLE DINNER (CASUAL DRESS) IS AT 5:00 PM

MARLBOROUGH COUNTRY CLUB

YOUR CHOICE: SCRAMBLE OR BETTER

LONGEST DRIVE

GOLFERS: MEN AND WOMEN
DIVISIONS

MAKE YOUR OWN FOURSOMES OR WE WILL PLACE YOU.



Fr. Vasken Kouzouian, Pastor ~ Holy Trinity Armenian Church145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 ~ <u>www.htaac.org</u> ~ 617.354.0632

## Holy Trinity Church Scholarships



#### **NOW ONLINE - APPLY NOW!**



Qualified candidates can apply using the link below

The deadline for applying is Friday, June 3, 2022

HTAAC.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS/

#### **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**

#### **TODAY** Sunday School Graduation;

Reception (graduates and families only), Johnson Hall

Mon, May 23 Parish Council Transition Meeting; Johnson Hall, 6pm

Sun, May 29 Memorial Day Weekend \*NO SUNDAY SCHOOL\*

Families are encouraged to attend Church services together on this day.

Mon, May 30 Memorial Day (office closed)

Sun, June 5 ACYOA Jr. General Membership Gathering; Peter Adamian Hall, 12:15pm

Sun, June 12 Sunday School/Armenian School Last Day of Classes and Year End Cookout

Mon, June 13 TMU Meeting; 6pm

Mon, June 20 The 2022 Gregory Hintlian Memorial Golf Tournament



\* Please Join Us for Next Meeting\*

**Armenian Women's Fellowship** 

First Armenian Church, Belmont MA
Friday June 10, 2022 10am-12pm
Coffee hour to follow