#### Sunday, December 11, 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



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.

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

Is. 37:14-38. 2Thes. 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 Ann Danielson.

#### From Today's Bible Reading

**Luke 14:12-24 The** Parable of the Great Banquet is Jesus' response to the complacent faith of the lawyers and Pharisees. We learn that it is sadly foolish to be too busy for God. An egocentric faith puts us in danger of losing our place at His table. *Reflection: What excuses did those invited give for declining to attend? What are the reasons you don't make time for God?* 

**2 Thessalonians 1:1-12** Paul's greeting to the Thessalonians expresses deep gratitude for their faith. Not only did they turn from pagan idols and serve "the living and true God," but their exemplary faith- even in suffering- became an inspiring model for other believers. *Reflection: What qualities does St. Paul mention (v.3) as having inspired the Thessalonians? How are these qualities reflected in 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 delclares that other countries were laid waste along with their useless idols of wood and stone (vv. 18-19). Consider your own "idols"- those things you value highly. Do they interfere with your relationship with God, with following His way? How, specifically?* 

#### Saturday, December 17 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. 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.

#### **December 11, 2022 Hokehankisd**

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

- Rev. Fr. Nersess Jebejian, 40th Day: Requested by Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern).
- Diran A. Zahigian, 5th Anniversary & Zabelle Zahigian, 7th Anniversary: Requested by Diran, Judith Smith, Rachel, Renee and Robert Zahigian for father, mother, grandfather and grandmother.
- Dr. Robert A. Smith, Hilda Smith, David Smith and Kristine Smith: Judith Smith, Diran, Rachel, Renee and Robert Zahigian for father, mother, brother, sister in-law, grandfather, grandmother, uncle and aunt.



#### **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 The Very Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate, John Armen Demirjian, Monica Edwards, Ara Hollisian, and 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.

\*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 Parish Council and the Diocesan Delegates.

#### \*GRADUATES FOR WINTER DAJAR\*

If you know of any Holy Trinity parishioner who graduated from high school, college or graduate school in Spring or Summer 2022 or who will graduate in Winter 2022/23, please ask him/her to send a high-quality photograph and short bio (student's and parents' names, school, special achievements and honors, future plans, etc.) to Ani Ross Grubb (anirossgrubb@gmail.com) so that we can include it in the next issue of Dajar and share the news of this accomplishment with our entire Church family.

Submission deadline is December 20, 2022.

## Please join us this Evening



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY SCHOOL

# CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY DRIVE

November 20 - December 11, 2022

## THE GIVING TREE

TO BENEFIT THE FAMILIES OF **SOLUTIONS AT WORK\***www.solutionsatwork.org

#### **HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

- 1. **CHOOSE** a gift tag from *The Giving Tree* in Peter Adamian Hall
- 2. **PURCHASE** a gift card in the amount of \$25 (Please choose a store appropriate for a 14-16 year old boy or girl)
- 3. BRING IN the UNWRAPPED gift card AND tag and place it under The Giving Tree by Sunday, December 11

Those who prefer to make a donation towards the purchase of gift cards can submit donations to the Sunday School Superintendent or Church office, payable to "Holy Trinity Armenian Church".

Please reference "Sunday School Giving Tree" in the memo

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.

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



#### TMU Dinner Meeting - All welcome

### WINE TASTING

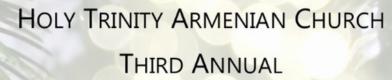
WITH SPECIAL GUEST

GERRY FINNEGAN
OF THE WASHINGTON STREET TAVERN
IN BROOKLINE

Monday, December 12 in Johnson Hall

> Mezze- 6:30pm Dinner- 7pm

Please RSVP by December 8 by calling the church office at 617-354-0632 or emailing office@htaac.org





# NATIVITY PAGEANT &

## PARISH TREE LIGHTING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022

PAGEANT WILL BE HELD INDOORS IN THE SANCTUARY

PAGEANT PRESENTATION - 11:40 AM

TREE LIGHTING - FOLLOWING PAGEANT PRESENTATION



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS COMMUNITY CELEBRATION TO USHER IN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

TREE DONATED BY RICHARD AND KAREN DIRANIAN

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



## Sunday, December 18

Holy Trinity Armenian Church

# Pre-Christmas Sarma Supper

Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall 12:30pm

A complementary sarma and bulgur pilaf meal catered by Kevork Boyajian of The Agoomp

(First come first serve)

Underwritten by Gregory A. Kolligian, Jr. & Crystal Mazza

# Join us for the Mini Bazaar!

Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall





# Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 24, 2022

Join us in the Sanctuary Musical prelude- 4:30pm Service- 5:00pm to 5:45pm



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#### **OUTREACH**

For the past two months, members of the Nominating Committee, Suzanne Ekchian, Ani Grubb, Heather Surabian, and myself, have been working on creating the ballot which will be presented at the Annual Assembly in February. We are grateful for those of you who have agreed to be candidates for Nominating Committee and Parish Council. And, we apologize to those of you who may be interested in the above positions and were not contacted...as much as we are involved with Holy Trinity, we, unfortunately, are unacquainted with many fellow members.

At this point in time, we are in the final stages of completing the above mentioned ballot, especially as it pertains to candidates for Parish Council. If you are interested in sharing your time and talents as a member of this entity, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee.

Yes, being a member of Parish Council is a commitment and responsibility. Yet, it has been my experience, in interacting with parishoners who have been, or are currently serving on PC, that the satisfaction and comradarie are much greater. As a matter of fact, those members who are incumbents, when asked if they are interested in serving for another two year term, have, most often, responded with an enthusiastic, "Of course!" Doesn't that seem to say it all?

Thank you very much for your consideration!

Sincerely, Ann M. Danielson, Chair November 20, 2022

#### CAN YOU HELP HOLY TRINITY CHURCH?

Father Vasken and the Parish Council have been alerted to a City of Cambridge road project, which has the potential to restrict parking and access to Holy Trinity and its grounds. Our current understanding is that the project's focus is on the installation of physically separated bicycle lanes on Brattle Street and Sparks Street. We will continue to learn more about the City's plans, its effects on our Church and parishioners, and our options in response.

We ask our parishioners and friends, if you know of anyone (Attorney, Law Firm, or someone who has a connection with the City Council) who may be able to help us navigate this issue, please contact Fr. Vasken, Parish Council Chairman, Gregory Kolligian, or Bill Melkonian of the Parish Council.

#### **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**

**TONIGHT** Christmas Holiday Concert;

Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 7pm

Mon, Dec 12 TMU Dinner Meeting- ALL WELCOME; Wine Tasting with

Special Guest, Gerry Finnegan from The Washington Street

Tavern. Johnson Hall, 7pm

Sat, Dec 17 10th Annual ACYOA Juniors Christmas Ball,

for all area ACYOA Juniors;

Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall, Doors open at 7:30pm

and close at 9pm, Dance held from 8pm- 10:30pm. See flyer for details.

Sun, Dec 18 Christmas Pageant Presentation; Holy Trinity Armenian Church

Christmas Tree Lighting; Hollisian Plaza, after Church Services

Pre- Christmas Sarma Supper,

Underwritten by Gregory A. Kolligian, Jr. & Crystal Mazza,

Catered by Kevork Boyajian of The Agoomp;

Johnson Hall, 12:30pm

Mini Bazaar; Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall

Sat, Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service; Holy Trinity Armenian

Church, Musical Prelude, 4:30pm- Service, 5:00pm- 5:45pm

(Prayers and Christmas Carols in English)

Sun, Dec 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Sun, Jan 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Fri, Jan 6 Armenian Christmas!