## Sunday, December 10, 2023 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 the Third Sunday of Advent.** 

The liturgical color for this third Sunday of Advent is gold, representing love.

#### **Divine Liturgy Book**

Let us recite together the Nicene Creed, The Profession of our Faith, on page 18 and 19 of the maroon book.

#### **Kiss of Peace**

The person giving the greeting says:

Krisdos ee mech mer haydnetzav

(Christ is revealed among us)

The person receiving the greeting says:

Orhnyal eh haidnootyunn Krisdosee

(Blessed is the revelation of Christ)

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 16 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.

### **DIVINE LITURGY**

**Deacons:** Gregory Krikorian, Armen Skenderian, George Stepaniants

Sub-Deacons: Oscar Derderian III, Gregory Dorian, Stephen Hollisian,

Edward Khachatrian, Kevork Atinizian, Mark Torosian

Altar Server: Arek Gulbankian

**Organist:** Nune Hakobyan

Choir Members and Soloists: Victoria Avetisyan, Sdn. Robert Dulgarian, Arpie Kouzouian,

Yeghishe Manucharyan, Ani Ross Grubb

## **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

#### Doris Najarian DiCiero, Armen Demirjian, Stella Baldwin

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.\*

#### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Morning Service - 9 a.m.

Divine Liturgy - 10 a.m.

Services conclude - 12 p.m.

We urge our faithful to attend Church Services on time.

### December 10, 2023 Hokehankisd

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

The Victims of the 1988 Earthquake in Armenia.

Edward Avedisian, 1st Anniversary: Requested by the Avedisian and Onanian Families.

**Esther Alice Fenerjian, 1st Anniversary:** Requested by Maryanne Fenerjian for mother.

Edward Seferian, 5th Anniversary: Requested by Anna Glover for brother.

**Diran A. Zahigian & Zabelle Zahigian:** Requested by Diran, Judith Smith, Rachel, Renee & Robert Zahigian for father, mother, grandfather & grandmother.

**Dr. Robert A. Smith, Hilda Smith, David Smith and Kristine Smith:** Requested by Judith Smith, Diran, Rachel, Renee and Robert Zahigian for father, mother, brother, sister in-law, grandfather, grandmother, uncle and aunt.

Albert Oskoian & Anne Oskoian: Requested by Diran, Judith Smith, Rachel, Renee & Robert Zahigian for uncle and aunt.

Charles Nahabedian & Alice Nahabedian: Requested by Diran, Judith Smith, Rachel, Renee & Robert Zahigian for uncle & aunt.

Sarkis & Nuvart Hedison: Requested by Diran, Judith Smith, Rachel, Renee & Robert Zahigian for grandfather, grandmother, great grandfather & great grandmother.

**Shumavon & Altoon Zahigian:** Requested by Diran, Judith Smith, Rachel, Renee & Robert Zahigian for grandfather, grandmother, great grandfather & great grandmother.

## **Fellowship Hour**

You are all welcome to join us in Johnson Hall following Church Services for Fellowship Hour hosted by Holy Trinity's Parish Council and Diocesan Delegates.

## **JOIN US TONIGHT!!!!**





# Guest Speaker Kristina Yee Vitullo

of Mason & Martin, LLP

https://masonmartin.com

About

Kristina manages the firm's real estate department concentrating her broad practice on residential and commercial real estate transactions. She has considerable experience representing buyers, sellers, investors, and developers in the acquisition, sale, development, and financing of residential and commercial real estate, including condominium conversions. Kristina is an approved closing attorney for some of the largest lending institutions and mortgage brokers, locally and nationwide.

TMO

December 11, 2023

Mezze: 6:30pm

Dinner: 7:00pm

Losh Kebab or Kheyma meal \$20 Cash Bar

Cash or check only. Sorry we do not have the availability to accept credit cards at our meetings.

Please RSVP by calling the office at 617.354.0632 or email tmu@htaac.org

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





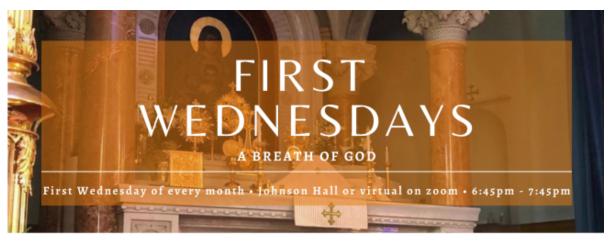
## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 24, 2023

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

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

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



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.

First Wednesday of every month in Johnson Hall or virtual on Zoom

6:45pm - 7:45pm

**February 7, 2024** 

How We Worship

**November 1, 2023** 

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

March 6, 2024

Who Can You Trust?

December 6, 2023

Why Do People Feel Lonely at Christmas?

April 3, 2024

Prayer: A Part of Life

January 3, 2024

Fear Does Not Stop Death, It Stops Life May 8, 2024\*

The Kiss of Peace – What's It All About?

\*Second Wednesday





Trinity Ladies Circle Presents

## LEARN TO MAKE MEZZE NIGHT!

## Save The Date!

Thursday, January 25th - 7pm in Johnson Hall

Join us for an evening of learning and fun!
We will make 2 delicious Armenian mezze dishes and get instruction
on how to assemble a Mediterranean style charcuterie board

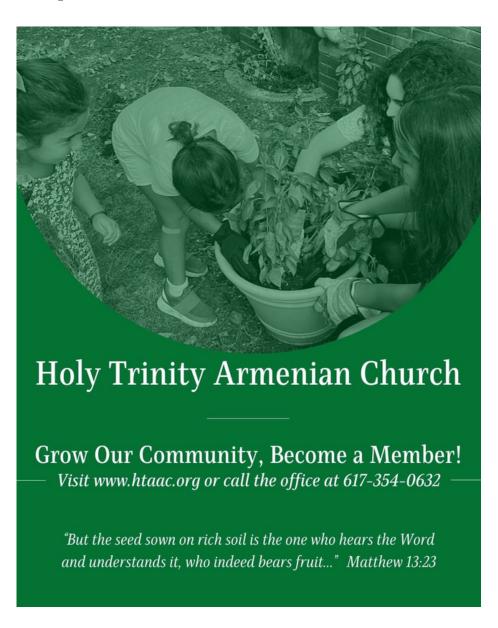
More details to follow!

If you would like to join us as a dues-paying member for 2023, you can join by calling the Church office or going to www.htaac.org/donations/membership/.

Your support, in this our 100th Anniversary year, makes a difference! Adult membership is \$200/person for the year and a young adult membership (ages 18-24) is just \$25/person.

The Holy Trinity Membership/Stewardship program provides necessary funding for our ministries. By becoming a member, you make a difference through your commitment to our shared faith, values, beliefs, and community.

If you have questions about your membership status, please contact the Church office at 617.354.0632.



## **HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR**

**TONIGHT** Erevan Choral Society's Christmas Holiday Concert;

Church Sanctuary, 7pm

Mon, Dec 11 TMU Dinner Meeting;

Johnson Hall, 6:30pm- 9:30pm

Sat, Dec 16 11th Annual ACYOA Juniors Christmas Ball;

Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall, 8pm- 10-30pm

Sun, Dec 17 Christmas Pageant Presentation; Church Sanctuary

Christmas Tree Lighting; Hollisian Plaza, after Church Services

Sun, Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service in English; Church Sanctuary,

Musical prelude begins at 4:30pm, Service begins at 5:00pm

Mon, Jan 1 Happy New Year!

Church Office is closed

Wed, Jan 3 First Wednesdays,

"Fear Does Not Stop at Death, It Stops at Life.";

Johnson Hall or virtual on Zoom, 6:45pm-7:45pm

Fri, Jan 5 Jrakalouyts - Armenian Christmas Eve!

Evening Service, 4:30pm

Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy, 5pm

Followed by Wine & Cheese Fellowship, Johnson Hall

Sat, Jan 6 Armenian Christmas! Holy Nativity and Theophany;

Morning Service, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am

Sun, Jan 7 Morning Service, 9am

Divine Liturgy, 10am

Blessing of the Water Service, 11:30am