

Sunday, December 31, 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



ՆՈՐ ՏԱՐՈՒԱՆ ՇՆՈՐՀԱՒՈՐԱԿԱՆ

Նոր տարուան առթիւ, Եկեղեցւոյս Հոգեւոր Հովին ու Ծխական Խորհուրդը իրենց սրտագին շնորհատրութիւնները եւ լաւագոյն մատթանքները կը յայտնեն մեր բոլոր ծխականներուն:

Թող նոր տարին, Աստուածային առատահոս շնորհները հեղու մեր բոլորին վրայ:

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: Isaiah 51:15-52:3. Heb. 13:18-25. Lk. 22:24-30.

**Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to
St. Luke, chapter 22, vs. 24-30**

From Today's Bible Reading

Luke 22:24-30 At the Last Supper - the eve of Jesus' death (!) - the disciples argue over who will be considered the greatest. Jesus turns their thinking upside down by saying that it will be the one who serves most humbly -- in imitation of Him -- who will be exalted. *Reflection: Is being a servant of Christ just signing up for a job at church or is it a mindset, where each day you make yourself available to Christ and ask Him to use you in His service in whatever way He chooses? Prayerfully imagine how this might play out in your life.*

Hebrews 13:18-25 The writer ends his epistle with a benediction, praying that God "equip them with everything good for doing His will, and work in them what is pleasing to Him." (v.21) *Reflection: What a beautiful and timeless prayer! In what areas of your life do you need special help from God so that you may indeed (in the words of St. Nersess Shnorhali) "think, speak and do that which pleases" Him?*

Isaiah 51:15-52:3 God's anger will be turned to Jerusalem's enemies and He will redeem Israel. The words "awake, awake" are repeated, calling Israel to rouse herself from hopelessness and defeat. *Reflection: In vv 52:1-2, God calls upon Jerusalem and its citizens to "awake, clothe yourself with strength, put on garments of splendor, shake off your dust, rise up, sit enthroned, and free the chains from your neck." How might these reflect your own spiritual state and what you might need to do (think of each command as it applies to your life)?*

The Feast of Theophany: Sunday, January 7

While much of the Christian world celebrates the birth of Christ on December 25, the Armenian Church celebrates the birth and baptism of Christ on the feast of Asdvadzahaydnootyoon on January 6. Surprisingly to us today, the birth of Jesus was of little interest to the Early Church. The nativity of Christ was not viewed as the "birthday" of Jesus Christ the same way we tend to view birthdays; rather, the reverent emphasis was on Christ's death and resurrection (beautifully demonstrated in Armenian miniatures where the baby Jesus is always shown with a cross embedded in His halo). Yet looking back at His birth from the perspective of His death, the nativity takes on deeper meaning, not as the birthday of a person, but as the coming of salvation into this world in Jesus Christ. *Reflection: Think back on Advent and your Christmas preparations. Were you once again caught up in the extraneous secular hubbub? Make concrete plans to do things differently next year, focusing more on prayer, service, Scripture reading, and simpler living (less spending and more charity).*

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.

Fellowship Hour

You are all welcome to join us following Church Services for Fellowship Hour hosted by the Parish Council and the Diocesan Delegates.

December 31, 2023 Hokehankisd

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

Samuel O. & Elsie V. Minassian: Requested by Catherine Minassian, David Minassian, Diana & Gerald Stulc, Richard & Tricia Minassian; Alexan & Evan Stulc, Micaela, Jacob, and Jarod Minassian for parents and grandparents

Yeretzgin Nuvart Kouzouian, Oskian & Ovsanna Kouzouian, Teshkho Kouzouian, Sarkis Kouzouian, Areknaz Parikian, Asadour, Baritza & Shake Parikian, Azniv & Khajag Baladouni, and Hovsep & Hripsime Vartanesian: From the Trust Fund established by Fr. Mampre & Yn. Nuvart Kouzouian

Alice Pakrad: Requested by Holy Trinity Church

Please Note:

According to the traditions of the Armenian Church, Hokehankisd will not be held next Sunday January 7th as we are celebrating Armenian Christmas.

Hokehankisd services will resume on January 14th.

CANDLES AND FLOWERS

with the occasion of armenian Christmas approaching those wishing to donate candles and/or flowers for the Holy Altars may call the Church Office, 617.354.0632.

A prayer from the Morning Service of the Armenian Church:

“Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, only-begotten Son of God, our Peace & Our Life, Who was sent from the Father -- Give me your Peace, which You granted to Your holy Apostles by breathing into them Your life-giving & all-powerful Holy Spirit. So that having calmed down from all worldly anxiety, like the Apostles, I also may become a temple & a Home for Your Divine Grace. And giving thanks, I will glorify You, together with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, O Christ our God, now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.”




***The Pastor and Parish Council wish all our parishioners a
Happy New Year filled with the Grace of God.
May the New Year bring Divine Blessings on our community.***

IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

If severe inclement weather affects Sunday School and Armenian School classes, Church Services, Sunday activities or activities and programs during the week, this information will appear in the following media:

- On TV Channels 4 (WBZ) and CBSBoston.com, Channel 5 (WCVB) and TheBostonChannel.com, Channels 7 and 56, as well as their websites
- Church's answering machine at 617.354.0632
- An Email "Alert" sent to parishioners through the Constant Contact software program
 - Holy Trinity's website, www.htaac.org
 - Holy Trinity's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityArmenianChurch
- A Text "Alert" sent to parishioners that are signed up for our Constant Contact texting program



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**HOLY NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

Jrakalouyts - Christmas Eve

Friday, January 5, 2024

Evening Service	4:30 pm
Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy	5:00 pm
Followed by Wine & Cheese Fellowship	

**Holy Nativity and Theophany Armenian Christmas
Saturday, January 6, 2024**

Morning Service	9:00 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Morning Service	9:00 am
Divine Liturgy	10:00 am
Blessing of the Water Service	11:30 am

*All Requests for Hokehankisd will be conducted on
Sunday, January 14.*

Gifts of flowers for the Altar will be appreciated.





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

TMU
Trinity Men's Union

All Welcome!

January 8, 2024

Mezze: 6:30pm
Dinner: 7:00pm

Strategies For College Services

- ✓ Standardized Test Preparation:
semi-private with 3 students or less
- ✓ Summer College Essay Writing
Workshop
- ✓ Preparing For Life After College:
Professional Job Search Program
- ✓ Resume building, social media,
interview prep, job search, etc.

**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**

Strategies
For
College

Guest Speaker
Todd Weaver

President of Strategies For College, Inc.

He will be speaking about how his company helps college bound students navigate the maze of readying and applying to colleges.

Todd Weaver is an Independent Educational Counselor who specializes in integrating the college selection process within cost management parameters for the families he works with. Todd received his B.A. in Political Science from Vanderbilt University in 1990 and his M.B.A. from Northeastern University in 1997, where he worked in the Financial Aid department.



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TLC



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, **Today is the deadline!**
You can join by seeing a Parish Council member after church services.

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.



Holy Trinity Armenian Church

Grow Our Community, Become a Member!

— Visit www.htaac.org or call the office at 617-354-0632 —

*"But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the Word
and understands it, who indeed bears fruit..." Matthew 13:23*

St. Nersess Armenian Seminary

St. Nersess Seminary provides free resources to anyone with access to a computer or smartphone!

A few simple clicks through the seminary website will reveal educational recorded lectures and other resources of interest.

Stay up-to-date with the latest seminary announcements by adding your name to receive newsletters by email.

Donations to their Christmas Appeal will also be appreciated.



HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH
ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Sunday
March 3, 2024

The Pastor and Parish Council cordially invite all dues-paying members of the Holy Trinity Church to its Annual Parish Assembly. The Assembly will take place in the Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall immediately following church services. A light lunch will be available.

(Invitations and Sample Ballots will be mailed. Annual Reports will be made available a week prior to the assembly. Please ask a Parish Council member.)

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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.

HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR

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

Mon, Jan 8

TMU Dinner Meeting - Guest Speaker: Todd Weaver

Johnson Hall, Mezze at 6:30pm Dinner at 7pm

Thurs, Jan 25

Learn To Make Mezze Night!

Presented by the Trinity's Ladies Circle; Johnson Hall, 7pm