

Sunday, January 14, 2024
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



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: Lk. 4:14-30. Is. 54:1-13. 1 Tm. 1:1-11. Jn: 2:1-11.
Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to
St. John, ch. 2 vs. 1-11.

From Today's Bible Reading

John 2: 1-11 (The Miracle at Cana) Attending a wedding with His mother and disciples, Jesus performs what John describes as the first of His miraculous signs, all of which will point to deeper meanings. Turning water into wine heralds the arrival through Jesus of a new era and a new covenant. Water, symbolizing Old Testament ceremonial washings, has been changed into wine of the highest quality and surprising quantity. This “best” wine speaks of the abundant life that Jesus offers (typically, party hosts would water down the wine as the evening waned since revelers would not know the difference). *Reflection: What old ways would you ask Jesus to renew and restore? Be specific.*

1 Timothy 1: 1-11 St. Paul urges Timothy to take a strong position on the false teachings that abound in Ephesus. He reminds the young missionary that faith is not about rules and regulations but rather about the love that comes from “a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” This inner relationship of faith and life echoes the gospel charge that “by their fruits you shall know them.” (Matthew 7:20) *Reflection: Would you characterize your faith as issuing from God's command to love (v.5)? Or has it “departed from this to meaningless talk” (v.6)? Hmmm...*

Isaiah 54: 1-13 The prophet joyously proclaims God's love for His people, described as the relationship that exists between a husband and a wife. Marriage, abandonment, and restored relationship are strong Old Testament themes (see the Book of Hosea). Underlying the metaphor of marriage is the idea of covenant, a binding mutual commitment, as well as deep personal love. *Reflection: In what circumstances have you felt abandoned by God (v.7)? How might the picture of God as a husband renewing his vows (vv 5-8) reassure you?*

St. Vahan of Goghtn

Vahan was born in the eighth century of a princely family in the Goghtn region of the province of Siunik. After persecution of the Armenians by the Arabs in 707 (during which Vahan's father, Prince Khosrov, was killed), four-year-old Vahan was taken to Damascus where he was raised in the royal court as a Muslim. He was eventually appointed chancellor to the Emir. Some years later, he was allowed to go back to Armenia with the promise to eventually return. Vahan converted to Christianity, married an Armenian princess, and lived a peaceful life for about a decade. With a change of Arab rule, Vahan was sought after, so he left his home and family to escape recapture. While in exile, he became a monk. In 736, Vahan went to the new Arab Emir in uttermost misery. The Emir offered him a high position, authority, and wealth, but Vahan refused, preferring his faith in Christ to personal comfort and glory. He was martyred in 737 A.D. His last words were a bold declaration: “I chose death for the sake of Christ rather than earthly life.”

DIVINE LITURGY

Deacons: Gregory Krikorian, Armen Skenderian, George Stepaniants

Sub-Deacons: Oscar Derderian III, Gregory Dorian, Stephen Hollisian,
Edward Khachatryan, 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 Ginny Diranian in memory of her mother, Evelyn.

January 14, 2024 Hokehankisd

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

Anahid Hagopian Kouyoumdjian, 40th Day: Requested by Araxie Poladian, Maral and Mark Ayanian, Lori, Joseph, and Nayiri Shant for sister, aunt, and great-aunt

Monica Edwards, 1st Anniversary: Requested by Ty Edwards, Alison Ekizian and Eve for mother and grandmother

Agop Haygazian, 1st Anniversary: Requested by Charlotte Haygazian, Garabet & Nicole Haygazian, Nathaniel and Juliana for husband, father and grandfather

Ann Talanian, 3rd Anniversary: Requested by Nancy Talanian and Fran Fortino, Laurie & Tony Travia for mother

Daniel K. Dorian 13th Anniversary: Requested by Daniel & Lisa Dorian, Janice Dorian, Lois & Ron Malconian for mother; Ashley & Scott Martin, Amanda & Matt Keller, Sarah Malconian & Kwasi Mensah, Ron Malconian & Trisha Brandt, Danielle & Gary Dodakian for grandmother; Matty and Danny Keller, Gary C Dodakian and Theo Vartan Malconian Mensah for great-grandmother; Nancy R. Kolligian, Michele M. Kolligian & Bob Khederian, Karen & Bill Martin for khenamee

Louise Ajamain, 11th Anniversary & Haig Ajamian, 15th Anniversary: Requested by Lori Ajamian Pariury for parents

William Bacon, 20th Anniversary: Requested by Janice Bacon Zega and David Zega, William & Danielle Bacon and Family, Alexander & Katerina Bacon and Family, Sonia Zorian, Linda Bacon and Family for husband, father, grandfather, son-in-law, brother and uncle

Andrew Diranian, 29th Anniversary & Evelyn Diranian, 9th Anniversary: Requested by Ginny Diranian for parents; George W. Haroutunian for friend

Hagop (Jack) Alyanakian, Kohar Alyanakian, Arthur Alyanakian: Requested by Grace Boyajian and Family for parents and brother

Stephen & Nevart Pauline Azarian: From the Trust Fund established by Major Robert Zaven Zartarian

Azad Boghosian, Julia Boghosian & Esther McQuaid: From the Trust Fund established by Esther McQuaid and Julia Boghosian

Nuvert, Setrag, Kachig, Zaven & Arsen Daniels: From the Trust Fund established by Arsen and Zaven Daniels

Mgrdich Kolligian: From the Trust Fund established by Dr. & Mrs. Michael Kolligian, Jr

Charles & Alice Nahabedian, George & Catherine Nahabedian, Shumavon & Altoon Zahigian, and Paul & Margaret Nahabedian: From the Charles & Alice Nahabedian Trust Fund.

Alice Pakrad: Requested by Holy Trinity Church

Charles G. Sahagian, Sarkis & Araxie Sahagian, Virginia Sahagian, and Sukeaus & John Sahagian: From the Trust Fund established by Charles G. Sahagian for parents, sister & uncles

Colombe Agavni Samuelian, Sahag, Anna, Samuel, Malcolm, Madeline & Parantzig Samuelian: From the Trust Fund established by Colombe Agavni Samuelian

Major Robert Zaven Zartarian, Levon, Louise Aznev, and Virginia Louise Zartarian: From the Major Robert Zaven Zartarian and Rose M. Chacran Zartarian Trust Fund.

Today's Altar flowers and candles are donated from the Trust Fund established by Arsen and Zaven Daniels in memory of Nuvert, Setrag, Kachig, Zaven, and Arsen Daniels.

Blessing of the Water - “CHURORHNEK”



The Feast of Theophany in the Armenian Church is a celebration not only of Christ's birth, but also of His baptism.

The Blessing of Water (Churorhnek), which always follows the Divine Liturgy on this feast day, is a commemoration of that baptism. In ancient times, this ceremony was celebrated at the riverside or seashore, but for various reasons, it was later confined to the interior of the churches.

During the ceremony, a cross is dipped in water, recalling Christ's immersion in the Jordan River. Blessed oil or holy chrism (muron) is poured into the water from a dove-shaped vessel, symbolizing the appearance of the Holy Spirit at the baptism in the form of a dove and the voice of the Father proclaiming to all that Jesus is His Son. The holy chrism is prepared in Holy Etchmiadzin and is consecrated by the Catholicos.

At the end of the service, members of the congregation are given the blessed water to drink, thereby sharing in the life-giving baptismal act of Christ. As water is essential to the life of the body, drinking the blessed water is a reminder that participation in the acts of Christ's life is essential for eternal life.

Armenian Christmas Altar Flowers and Candles

*The Altar flowers and candles for Armenian Christmas
are donated for the glory of God and the edification of our Altar by:*

Altar Flowers and Candles

- Joan E. Kolligian in memory of grandfather, Bagdasar Garabedian
- Teresa Marsoobian in memory of husband, John Marsoobian, Sr.
- Sylvia Serabian Carter in memory of parents, Loris & Marguerite Serabian
- Jan Haroutunian in memory of Harry Haroutunian and Anna & Henry Haroutunian
- Charles & Hrant Johnson in memory of Charles, Bertha, Hrant and the entire Johnson Family
- Anna Glover in memory of the Seferian Family
- Henry A. Malkasian, Jr. in memory of Henry & Marilyn Malkasian and Stella Malkasian

Altar Flowers

- Karen Anderson in memory of Irene Kolligian
- Sylvia Serabian Carter in memory of parents, Loris & Marguerite Serabian
- Stephen C. Alexander in memory of Jean M. Alexander, George & Margaret Alexander

Altar Candles

- Michael & Elaine Markarian in memory of the Takvorian & Markarian Families
- Charlene Callahan in memory of Marie Delena and Esther Morooski
- Natalie Bandeian- Zoll in memory of Artemis Matteosian
- Oscar Derderian, III & Alina O. Kouzouian, in memory of great- grandfathers, Hovsep Vartanesian & Oskian Kouzouian

SECOND PLATE COLLECTION

We wish to inform our faithful that two plates will be circulated in our Church today.

The first one is the regular Church offering,
and the second plate is for your special offering (Youghakin).

In the Armenian Church, we have the beautiful custom of “Youghakin,”
“Gift Oil for the Lamp” offering to your Church.
Help our church lamps burn and never go out by making your gift.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Esther Zrike, the daughter of William & Alexis Papazian Zrike, who was baptized yesterday in our Church. We welcome Esther into our Christian family of the Holy Trinity Church and pray that Almighty God may keep her under His loving care.

The Practice of Youghakin

Twice a year parishioners receive special envelopes and are asked to donate “Youghakin,” but many know little about the practice. Youghakin is made up of two Armenian words: “yough” and “kin.” “Youghakin” literally means the price of oil or donation in lieu of oil.

In early days, prior to electricity, oil lamps and lanterns illuminated homes and worship places. Parishioners donated oil to keep the church lit. After the invention of electricity, as oil lamps were replaced with electrical lamps, the Armenian Apostolic Church continued asking members to bring symbolic contributions for the illumination of the church through the Youghakin program at Christmas and Easter.

The context of this practice is inner illumination rather than stewardship. When you send in your Youghakin envelope, you are not merely helping the church financially, but are helping centuries of Armenian faith shine. Light and faith are synonymous. According to the New Testament, whoever has faith is in light. Jesus says: “I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” [John 8:12]. Through Youghakin, you are in effect refueling the traditional symbolic lantern of faith which St. Gregory the Illuminator lit.

According to legend, St. Gregory, after building the convent of St. Garabed in Moush, hung a lantern from the ceiling of the cathedral to encourage Armenians in their faith. He indicated that as long as the lantern was lit, the light of their faith would shine.

The lantern stood as a symbol of their faith.

In the cathedral, there was believed to be a demon, tamed by the saint who punished him by forcing him to dust every day. When the saint was sleeping, the demon extinguished the lantern. The saint would awaken and light the lantern again, not knowing why the flame had died. This continued over several days. Finally, a frustrated St. Gregory took the lantern to the tomb of St. Garabed, fasted, prayed and cried for 40 days. At the end of the fasting, he found the lantern filled with his tears. He lit the lantern and hung it in its place and slept in the church. The demon was ready to blow at the wick, when suddenly the heavens rumbled. The saint awoke and caught the demon red-handed.

Crippled by the saint’s cane, the demon never again dared to approach.

From that day on, St. Gregory’s lantern has shone in our sanctuaries all over the world.

The light is perpetual, the faith everlasting.

After hearing this story, which Armenian Christian will not come forward to refuel our lantern of faith? Youghakin is not about dollars, but about participating in the enlightenment of our faith and our spiritual home.

If you need light, first give light.

Thankyou

To all who made a Youghakin donation

Vahan Mahdasian

Michele M. Kolligian

Arlene & Carmelo Terrasi

In memory of Araxie Harry - Grandmother of Arlene Terrasi and David Der Vattanian Families

James Kalustian

In memory of Martin & Mimi Kalustian

David Khachaturyan

Ann & Edmond Danielson

Robert Nahigian

Cynthia Kazanjian

Walter Vartanian

In memory of Anne R. Vartanian & Regina A. Najarian

Zella Maroogian & Ara Berj Marootian

In memory of Kevork, Nevart, Edward K Marootian

Merritt Agabian

Diane & Gerrard Coste

Sylvia Carter

John & Karen Aharonian

Nancy Moscofian

Gayle Yapchaian

Michael Yapchaian

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!



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.)

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

Holy Trinity Armenian Church CLOTHING DRIVE



3,481 Pounds of Humanitarian Aid Traveled to



Holy Trinity Armenian Church
Cambridge MA

JFK
New York

Iceland

Belgium

Armenia

Men's Coats 116

206 Women's Coats

Children's Coats 125



425+ Volunteer hours



Different Volunteers 75

(helped sort, inventory, and package clothing)

Hats, scarves, gloves & mittens



477

600

Pairs of socks



Sweaters

200+

\$32,700

Raised to help fund the shipment of items and the purchase of additional items in Armenia for the displaced families

2500+ Pieces of Additional Clothings

(tops, bottoms, PJs, sweatshirts, sweatpants)

Men's Footwear 30



51 Women's Footwear

Children's Footwear 64

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

TODAY	Blessing of the Water Service, 11:30am
Thurs, Jan 25	Learn To Make Mezze Night! Presented by the Trinity's Ladies Circle; Johnson Hall, 7pm
Wed, Feb 7	First Wednesdays, "How We Worship"; Johnson Hall or virtual on Zoom, 6:45pm- 7:45pm
Sun, March 3	Holy Trinity's Annual Assembly; Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall, following church services

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