

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Greater Boston

Father Vasken A. Kouzouian, Pastor

145 Brattle Street Cambridge, MA 02138 617.354.0632

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)

DIVINE LITURGY

Deacons: Gregory Krikorian, Armen Skenderian, Oscar Derderian III, Gregory Dorian, Robert Dulgarian, Stephen Hollisian, Harry Lang, Mark Torosian

Sub-Deacons: Kevork Atinizian, Edward Khachatrian

Altar Server: Arek Gulbankian

Organist: Nune Hakobyan

Choir Members and Soloists: Victoria Avetisyan, Dn. Robert Dulgarian, Ani Ross Grubb, Arpie Kouzouian, Yeghishe Manucharyan

Church Greeter: Michael Manoukian

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are requested for the protection and prosperity of our homeland the Republic of Armenia and its people, as well as our home of the United States of America.

Your prayers are also requested for

Zaven Ovian, Zarouhi Sarkisian, Joyce & John Davagian

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 invited to join us in Johnson Hall following Church Services for Fellowship Hour hosted by the Sunday School.

ALTAR CANDLES

Today's Altar candles are donated for the glory of God and the edification of our Altar:

By Kaspar Torosian in loving memory of Grace Torosian and Anoush Torosian, how sweet they were.

Amazing Grace: *How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now I am found, was blind, but now I see. How precious did that Grace appear the hour I first believed.*

'Tis Grace has brought me safe thus far and Grace will lead me home.

Readings of the Day: Rom. 1:1-7. Lk. 2:1-7

**Today's Bible reading is from the Gospel of Jesus Christ
according to St. Luke, chapter 2, vs. 1-7.**

From Today's Bible Reading

Luke 2: 1-7 Responding to an official call for a census, Joseph and the pregnant Mary, “pledged to be married to him,” leave Nazareth for Bethlehem, Joseph’s ancestral hometown. It is also the promised city of messianic origin (see Micah 5:1-2). While there, as the crowds had already taken up all accommodations for visitors, the baby Jesus was born in a stable. The Creator of the Universe chose to arrive in the humblest setting -the Messiah’s first throne room! *Reflection: What might Jesus’ humble birth convey about His relationship with humankind? In the words of the Christmas carol “Joy to the World,” have you prepared room in your heart for Him?*

Romans 1:1-7 Greeting the Christians in Rome, Paul identifies himself as “set apart” for the Gospel, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ. (Hauntingly, the first four words of the letter are “Paulos doulos Iesou Christou,” - Paul, slave of Jesus Christ.” This is far more intense a relationship than the usual translation of “servant.”) The Son of God -- promised by the prophets and empowered by the Holy Spirit -- bestows grace and apostleship to all, calling all to faith. Paul cites the Resurrection, that knowing the risen Christ is the key to his calling. *Reflection: St. Paul refers to an “obedience that comes from faith.” (v.6) How do we become more obedient to God’s will and ways with deeper faith? How is this reflected in your life?*

Tuesday, January 13: Feast of the Naming of Jesus

In Matthew 1:21 and in Luke 1:31 we hear two extraordinary messages delivered by the angel Gabriel. In Matthew, the angel appears to Joseph in a dream saying that the name of the child Mary would bear was to be Jesus. In the Gospel of Luke, the angel tells Mary that her child would be called Jesus. The name Jesus is related to both the Hebrew and Aramaic, meaning “he will save” or “savior.” His official naming (Luke 2:21) took place on the eighth day on the occasion of the circumcision, in keeping with Hebraic law, and is commemorated by the Church on January 13. (Jesus was not named Jesus Christ at the time of his birth. The word Christ is a title and means “the anointed one” or “the Messiah.”) We celebrate the naming because it heralds Jesus’ very purpose and mission as Savior and Redeemer.

Second Plate Collection Today

A second collection will be held for Youghakin.

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.

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.

GODFATHER OF THE HOLY CROSS

Michael Avakian, will have the honor to serve as Godfather of the Holy Cross during the “Blessing of the Water” Service in remembrance of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

TMU DINNER MEETING

January 12, 2026 ~ Johnson Hall



Mezze 5:45pm
Dinner 6:45pm
All Welcome

Losh Kebab or Kheyima Meal
\$25
Cash bar is available

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

◀ **SPEAKER**

Voted as one of the top 10 WWII history museums in the world by National Geographic, the American Heritage Museum in Hudson, Massachusetts is one of the nation's most extraordinary collections of military vehicles, aircraft, and artifacts chronicling America's military history from the Revolutionary War through today. Hunter Chaney, Director of Marketing, Communications and Education, will tell the colorful story of how the American Heritage Museum was created and the educational programs it currently offers.

RSVP is highly encouraged



email tmu@htaac.org (preferred)
or all the office at 617.354.0632

"A TASTE OF ARMENIAN HERITAGE"

Holy Trinity Armenian Church

Saturday, January 24, 2026 • 6 PM - 9 PM



Armenian regions share stories and food: Marash, Yerevan, Artsakh, Van, Kharpert, Sepastia, Bolis, Dickrangert, Ainteb, Berejig, Ourfa, Jerusalem, Gyumri

AN ELEGANT CULTURAL GATHERING



Slide
Presentation
& Loop on
Big Screen



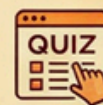
Dance
Presentation
in Taraz with
"Shourch Bar"



Art Exhibit
of Taraz
Paintings



Interactive
Map — Pin
Your Heritage



Regional
Trivia &
Factoids

TICKET INFORMATION

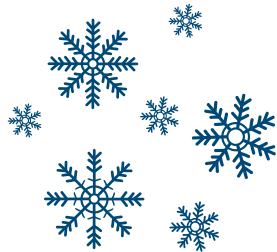
PRICE: \$50 per ticket

PAID IN ADVANCE ONLY (No tickets sold at door)

ADDRESS: 145 Brattle St, Cambridge, MA

This event is a fundraiser for the Church





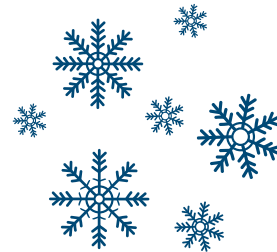
WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Blessing of the Water Holy Trinity Church Sanctuary;

Morning Service at 9am

Divine Liturgy at 10am

Blessing of the Water Service at 11:30am

Living the World- Monthly Bible discussion

“Loneliness vs. Being Alone”; Johnson Hall, 12:30pm

Mon, Jan 12

TMU Dinner Meeting with Guest Speaker,

Hunter Chaney from the American Heritage Museum

Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall,

Mezze 5:45pm and Dinner 6:45pm

Sat, Jan 24

“The Taste of Armenian Heritage”

Charles & Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall, 6pm- 9pm

Sun, Feb 8

Living the World- Monthly Bible discussion

“Seeking God in Times of Stress and Anxiety”; Johnson Hall, 12:30pm

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
 - Holy Trinity’s website, www.htaac.org
- Holy Trinity’s Facebook page, www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityArmenianChurch