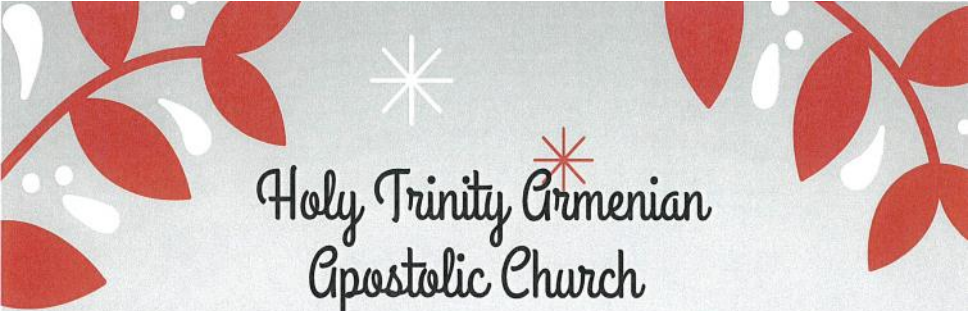


Սուրբ Երրորդութիւն Հայաստանեայց
Առաքելական Մայր Եկեղեցի
Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Mother Church
Զայն Voice

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2226 Ventura Street • Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 486-1141 Office; (559) 486-1939 Fax
www.holytrinityfresno.org



**Holy Trinity Armenian
Apostolic Church**

FOOD PICK-UP OR DELIVERY



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020

LUNCH PICK-UP: 11 AM - 1PM

DINNER PICK-UP: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

PRE-ORDER ONLY

NO ORDERS AFTER DECEMBER 7TH

CHICKEN KEBAB: \$15.00 DONATION

FILET KEBAB: \$20.00 DONATION

MENU:

CHICKEN OR FILET KEBAB

PILAF, GREEN BEANS, BREAD ROLL,

DESSERT & WATER



MINIMUM ORDER FOR DELIVERY: 6 MEALS



Call Church Office: 559-486-1141 for

Reservations or Email

Nazik@HolyTrinityFresno.org or

LBalad@gsfpi.com

«Ան որ աշխարհը կը սիրէ՝ չօր Աստուծոյ հանդէպ սէր չունի» (Ա. Յհ. 2:15)

Յովհաննէս առաքեալի ընդհանրական առաջին նամակը ուղղուած է համայն Քրիստոնէութեան: Անոր ամբողջ բովանդակութիւնը կը խօսի ապրելակերպի մը մասին, որուն կեդրոնը Աստուած ինք է եւ կը շեշտէ թէ, Աստուածակեդրոն կեանք մը վարողներն են որոնք պիտի վայելեն Աստուծոյ ներկայութիւնը, օրհնութիւնը եւ խաղաղութիւնը իրենց կեանքին մէջ:

Առաքեալը այս բառերով մեզմէ իւրաքանչիւրիս կոչ կ'ուղղէ հեռանալու աշխարհին պատկանող բոլոր տեսակի փորձութիւններէն եւ ծուղակներէն, եւ միանալու ճշմարիտին ու յաւիտենականին, մեր Տիրոջ եւ Աստուծոյն Յիսուս Քրիստոսին:

Աստուած ստեղծագործութեան իսկ օրերէն, ամէն բան մարդուն բարիքին համար գոյացուց: Ան նոյնիսկ դրախտէն վտարուած մարդուն մօտեցաւ ու անոր հետ խօսեցաւ եւ անոր երեւեցաւ, եւ այս բոլորով չի բաւարարուելով՝ «Աստուած այնքան սիրեց աշխարհը, որ նոյնիսկ իր միածին որդին տուաւ, որպէսզի անոր հաւատացողը չկորսուի, այլ յաւիտենական կեանք ունենայ» (Յհ. 3:15): Աստուած այնքան սիրեց մարդկութիւնը, որ այս կեանքը որպէս առիթ տուաւ մեզմէ իւրաքանչիւրիս, որպէսզի կարենանք որոշել մեր կեանքի ընթացքը: Աստուած մեզի տուաւ ազատութիւնը հետեւելու իր լոյսին կամ մնալու մեղքի խաւարին մէջ. մեզի ձգեց ազատութիւնը սիրելու Զինք կամ սիրելու մեղքը: Վերջապէս, Աստուած մեզի շնորհեց ազատութիւնը մեր սրտերուն մէջ ընդունելու իր բնակութիւնը եւ կամ մեր սրտեր չարին գերի դարձնելու:

Մարդ արարածը սակայն, սկիզբէն իր տկար բնութեան պատճառով մոռցաւ զԱստուած, հեռացաւ Անոր ներկայութենէն եւ սկսաւ ապրիլ կեանք մը, որուն կեդրոնը դարձաւ իր «Ես»-ը: Ան, սիրեց ժամանակաւորը քան յաւիտենականը, նախընտրեց անձեքը քան օրհնութիւնը եւ փնտռեց հաճոյքը փոխան երանութեան:

Սիրելիներ, մենք այսօր պէտք է գիտնանք թէ, սիրելով մենք կրնանք մեղանչել եւ կամ կրնանք մեղքերէ հեռու մնալ. եւ այդ մէկը կախեալ է թէ մեր սիրածէն: Եթէ զԱստուած է որ կը սիրենք, բնականաբար մեր սրտերը կը բանանք Անոր դիմաց եւ իր օրհնաբեր ներկայութիւնը կը վայելենք մեր կեանքերէն ներս: Իսկ եթէ մեղք է որ կը սիրենք, ինքնաբերաբար սիրած կ'ըլլանք աշխարհիկ եւ ժամանակաւոր բաները, որոնք մեզի միայն մեղքի կ'առաջնորդեն:

Երբեմն մեր մտքերուն մէջ կը ծագի հարց մը. մենք մեզի կը հարցնենք «Ինչպէ՞ս պիտի սիրենք մեր նմանը»: Միրելի հաւատացեալներ, այնքան ատեն որ մենք Քրիստոնէայ ենք, պարտադրուած ենք սիրել մեր նմանը այնպէս ինչպէս որ է, որովհետեւ մեր Տէրն ու Փրկիչը Յիսուս Քրիստոս այդպէս սորվեցուց մեզի: Թերեւս քիչ մը դժուար ըլլայ այդ մէկը, որովհետեւ կրնանք անձի մը մէջ բնաւորութիւն մը կամ նկարագրական գիծ մը չսիրել, բայց այդ մէկը պէտք չէ որ մեզմէ իւրաքանչիւրին արգելք ըլլայ որ մենք անձը չսիրենք: Մենք անձին արարքը կամ գործը կրնանք չսիրել, բայց մեղանշած կ'ըլլանք եթէ անձը չսիրենք: Եւ մի մտնաք որ անձը Աստուծոյ պատկերին նմանութեամբ ստեղծուած է. ուստի մարդ սիրելու համար նախ պէտք է զԱստուած սիրել: Եւ մենք զԱստուած կը սիրենք միայն այն ատեն երբ իր օրէնքներուն եւ պատուիրաններուն կը հետեւինք:



Watch the Holy Badarak on our Facebook

and YouTube pages at 10:00 am.

To watch on YouTube, search Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church

Also, please subscribe to our YouTube

«If any man love the world, the love of the father is not in him» (1st John 2:15)

The Bible teaches us about God's love towards humanity, and that is clear from the first pages of the Bible to the last. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, the plants, the animals and then the humans, because He prepared everything for the good of the human. He created the human on the likeness of His image, which means He wanted the human being to be free, loving and caring about the other creations and to prevail in God's work. But the human being, instead of cherishing God's Love and enjoying His presence, ended up disobeying His order by eating from the forbidden tree of knowledge of evil and good.

God could not forget about his love towards the fallen man. He accepted the repentance of humans and listened to their prayers. He saved Noah for his faithfulness and led Abraham to the promised lands for his righteousness. He chose Isaac for his humility and blessed Jacob for his awe. He chose the people of Israel and showed His strength to their enemies. He called the prophets to teach the people about His love and mercy, and finally He gave His Only Begotten Son, the Messiah, to the Jews. He did all these things to show his love to humanity.

After his fall, when humans started to work to gain their daily needs, they started to care about wealth. They loved their temporary wealth, because they thought that being wealthy could ensure them power and everlasting life. The silver and the gold started to blind their spiritual sight, so they could never see God in their life, in their work or in themselves, and all these happened because they used their wealth for bad. The humans also began to search for their own pleasures. In order to fulfill their pleasures, human beings started to commit faults against the human law and disobeyed God's commandments. Humans also started to be more arrogant, because they started to gain their own wealth and fulfill their own pleasures by themselves, so they started to think that there is nothing above them and they started to think that there is no power that can do anything to them or harm them.

When humans to think this way, they started to love the world more than God. When they started to act like that, the image of God started to corrupt in human life. The corruption of God's image is still going on until our days. Wars, massacres, accidents, and all tragedies are taking place because of the loss of love and Godlessness. As the Apostle John says and reminds us, "God is love" (1st John 4:8). The human, who is created in the likeness of God's image, has to do his best to act like God. In other words, we as humans must love God, have to love each other, and we have to love and protect the nature that God has given us to enjoy. We must know that God has to be our priority in everything, because when we do so, we can see the world differently, and only by doing this we can let God live in our hearts with His great love and mercy.

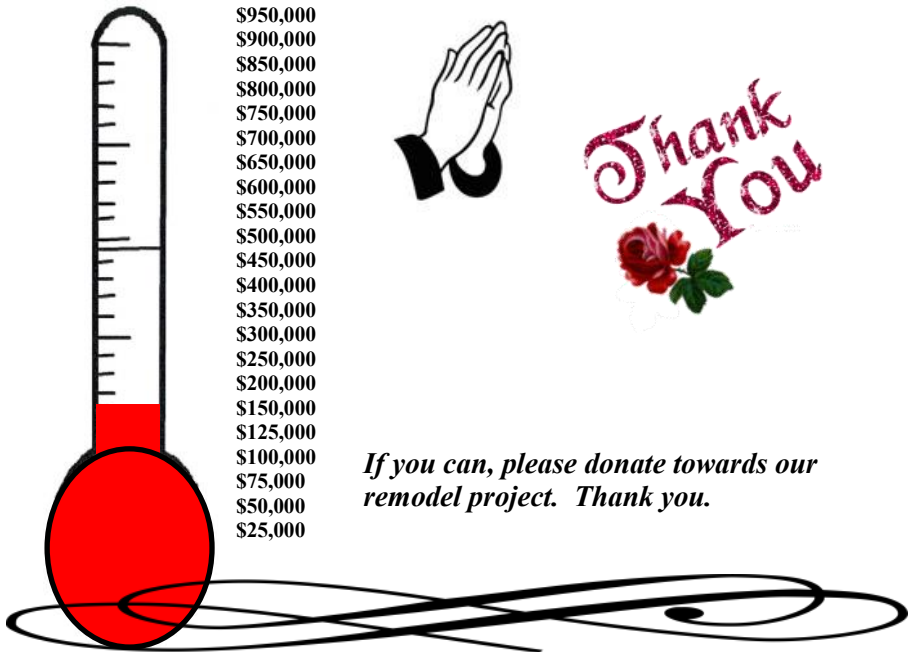
Dear Parishioners,

It's Christmastime! We all have had a difficult year, and I am hopeful that 2021 will bring our lives back to normal very soon. As we celebrate Jesus' birthday, don't forget His miraculous conception, to his birth in a manger, to his fulfillment of prophecies. It gives us great hope that we as a church family are united in our faith for what Jesus did and said.

The Board is still trying to begin the hall remodel, but we are still short on our goal to start the project. With all the turmoil, we have not been able to meet and organize a campaign to raise the funds. If you or your company has been blessed and are looking for an end-of-the-year contribution, please consider donating toward the Holy Trinity hall remodel project. We appreciate all donations big or small.

I want to thank all who have volunteered this year to keep our church operating. Thank you staff for your hard work and board members for meeting two times per month to help make the decisions for our future.

Merry Christmas to all. God bless our church



WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT



GEVORK BOYAJIAN AND GINA JELLADIAN were joined in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Officiating the ceremony was Rev. Fr. Ashod Khachadourian assisted by Deacon Mark Shirin. Best man for this joyous occasion was Menas Arisian, cousin of the groom and Matrons of Honor were Christina Buchner and Stephanie Bedrosian, sisters of the bride. We congratulate the happy couple and their parents Movses and Vart Boyajian and Dan Jelladian and Sonia Gage. *May the Lord bless and guide them as they start their new journey of life together.*

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Gerard and Taline Gulgulian on the birth of their son **JOHN GARO GULGULIAN**, born on Sunday, October 26, 2020. We also congratulate grandparents Garo & Berjouhi Gulgulian and Manoug & Maral Kasparian and big sister Lea.

Congratulations to Audra Anne Kevorkian Stockdale and Vincent Patrick Bosley on the birth of their son, **ARA PATRICK KEVORKIAN STOCKDALE HACKETT**, born on October 9, 2020. Congratulations also to big sister Avyanna, Grandmother Kathryn Kevorkian Stockdale, and many aunties, uncles and cousins.



FUNERAL SERVICES



Graveside services were held for **LAURICE B. TANELIAN** on Friday, November 6, 2020 at Masis Ararat Armenian Cemetery. Our sincere condolences to her children Ankiné and husband Hovhannes Sousani, Arpy Tanielian, Vanda and husband Armen Dakessian, Hovsep and wife Ana Tanielian, grandchildren Silva, Linda and Sarkis Dakessian, Benjamin and Danielle Tanielian, her seven great-grandchildren and her extended family and friends.

Graveside services were held for **ABRAHAM HAGOP MATOSSIAN** on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at Belmont Memorial Park. Our sincere condolences to his wife Anahid Matossian, children Salpi & husband Krikor Kassardjian and family, Nora Matossian, Lena and husband Steve McCreary and family, Hagop Matossian (deceased), Maral Matossian-Snead and husband Jack and their family, Vartan Matossian and his extended family and friends.



CONDOLENCES



We extend our sincere condolences to Nishan and Arous Derkalousdian and her family on the passing of Arous' mother, **VARTOUHI KERKEZIAN FILIAN**, who passed away on October 27, 2020.

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do. **Ephesians 2:10**

Victorious Warfare

All Christians engage in spiritual warfare. In order to come out victoriously, we need to realize that our struggle and battle is against real, unseen evil forces led by Satan and not against human force. Ephesians 6:12, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5.

Don't be deceived and underestimate the power of evil. Satan attacks in different ways and at any time, such as, after spiritual achievements, through illness, deception, discouragement, and many other methods. Also, these attacks are sudden and unexpected. Satan's main purpose is to destroy our faith, John 8:44 & 10:10, 1 Peter 5:8-11.

In Mathew 4:1-11 Jesus teaches us how to handle and win the battle when He was tempted by Satan in the wilderness. Jesus fought Satan by praying, fasting, and the only weapon He used was the word of God.

Jesus was tempted right after He was baptized and confirmed by God that He is the Son of God publicly, Matthew 3:16-17.

We can't fight Satan by ourselves. In Christ we are the conquerors and we already have victory, 1 John 4:4 & 5:4-5, Romans 8:37, Colossians 2:13-15. In Ephesians 6: 10-20, Paul tells us first, to "be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power", vs 10. Second, "put the full armor of God," vs, 11. We need to use every piece of the whole armor of God and not only a couple of them to resist the attacks. Vs. 13 says "take up." This means that God provides everything, we just need to use them.

The pieces of the armor are: **Vs.14, belt of truth & Breastplate of righteousness. Vs.15, Footwear of the readiness of the gospel. Vs.16, Shield of faith. vs17, Helmet of salvation & Sword of the Spirit. In vs18, Paul tells us to continue praying.**

No matter what you face, trust God completely, pray, memorize verses, James 4:7-8, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22.

Amen



ՀՈԳԵՀԱՆԳՍՏԵԱՆ

Պաշտոն պիտի կատարուի.....,

Դեկտեմբեր 13

ԼՈՐԻՍ ԴԱՆԻԷԼԵԱՆԻ մահուան ֆառասունքին առիթով, խնդրանո՞ք զաւակներուն Անգիլէ եւ ամուսնոյն Յովիաննէս Սուզանիներու, Արփի Դանիէլեանի, Վանտա եւ ամուսնոյն Արմէն Տափեսեաններու, Յովսէփ եւ Անա Դանիէլեաններու, թոռներուն Սիլվա, Լինտա եւ Սարգիս Տափեսեաններու, եւ Պէննամին եւ Տանիէլ Դանիէլեաններու: *Այս առիթով Ա. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

ԱԶՆԻԻ ՎԱՐԺԱՊԵՏԵԱՆ ԳԱԼԸՆԵԱՆԻ մահուան 8-րդ տարելիցին առիթով, ինչպէս նաեւ **ԼՈՒՍԻՆ ՎԱՐԺԱՊԵՏԵԱՆԻ** երկրորդ տարելիցին առիթով, ինչպէս նաեւ **ՏԻԳՐԱՆ, ՎԱՐՍՆԻԿ ԵՒ ԱՐԱՄ ԳԱԼԸՆԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ԳԵՂԱՄ ԵՒ ՄԱՐԻ ՎԱՐԺԱՊԵՏԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ՄԻՀՐԱՆ ԵՒ ԵՂԻՍԱԲԷԹ ՄԱԶՄԱՆՆԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ԵՒ ՕՀԱՆՈՒՄ ՔԱՐԱՔՈՒՍԵԱՆԻ** հոգիներուն համար, խնդրանո՞ք Ղազարոս Գալլընեանի, Քնար եւ Սարգիս Մազմանեաններու եւ իրենց զաւակին Տիգրանի, Գրիգոր Գալլընեանի: *Այս առիթով Ա. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

ԱՆՏՐՈՒ ԹՈՐՈՅԵԱՆԻ մահուան 21-րդ տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանո՞ք Կրէկ եւ Ճօյս Կրիստոսներու, Մայրլլ եւ Կէլլ Կարապետեաններու, եւ թոռնիկին՝ Անտրու Էսկէրայի:

ԱՐՄԵՆԱԿ ԵՒ ՄԱՐԻ ՍԵՒՈՆԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ՀՕՐՋ, ՄԱՐԿՕ ԵՒ ՔԷՐԻ ԼԻՆ ՍԵՒՈՆԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ՀԱՐԻ ԵՒ ՄԱՐԻԱՄ ՊԱԼԻԿԵԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ, ՀԱԳ «ՅԱԿՈՒ» ՀԱԼԷՊԵԱՆԻ, ԳՐԻՍԹԻ ԱՐԱՄԵԱՆԻ ԵՒ ՄԻՀՐԱՆ ԱՊՐԱՀԱՄԵԱՆԻ հոգիներուն համար, խնդրանո՞ք Փէթ Սեւոեանի: *Այս առիթով Ա. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

Դեկտեմբեր 27

ՊԱՊ ԳԷՈՐԳԵԱՆԻ մահուան 6-րդ տարելիցին առիթով եւ **ԷՆ ԳԷՈՐԳԵԱՆԻ** մահուան 14-րդ տարելիցին առիթով, խնդրանո՞ք դուստրերուն՝ Պարպարա Մօրթանեանի, Գէդրին Գէւորգեան Սթափալլի, եւ Քրիստին Աւետիսեանի եւ իրենց ընտանիքիներուն: *Այս առիթով Ա. Խորանին ծաղիկներ կը նուիրեն:*

HOKEHANKIST

will be said for.....

December 13

LAURICE TANELIAN, on the 40th day of her passing, requested by her children Ankiné and husband Hovhannes Sousani, Arpy Tanelian, Vanda and husband Armen Dakessian, Hovsep and wife Ana Tanelian, grandchildren Silva, Linda and Sarkis Dakessian, and Benjamin and Danielle Tanelian. *Altar flowers are donated in her memory.*

AZNIVE VARJABEDIAN KALENIAN on the 8th year of her passing, **LOUSIN VARJABEDIAN** on the 2nd year of her passing, **DIKRAN, VARSENIK & ARAM KALENIAN, KEGHAM & MARIE VARJABEDIAN, MEHRAN & YEGHSAPET MAZMANIAN, AND OHANNES KARAKOUSIAN**, as requested by Ghazaros Kalenian, Knar & Sarkis Mazmanian and their son Dikran, Krikor Kalenian. *Altar flowers are donated in their memory.*

ANDREW TOROIAN on the 21th year of his passing, requested by Greg & Joyce Grialou, Michael & Gail Garabedian, and Grandson Andrew Esguerra.

ARMENAG & MARIE SEVOIAN, GEORGE, MARGO & CAROL LYNN SEVOIAN, HARRY & MARIAM BALIGIAN, JACK "HAGOP" HALEPIAN, CHRISTY ARAMIAN AND MIHRAN APRAHAMIAN, requested by Pat Sevoian. *Altar flowers (Poinsettias) are donated in their memory.*

December 27

BOB KEVORKIAN on the 6th year of his passing and **ANNE KEVORKIAN** on the 14th year of her passing, requested by their daughters Barbara Mortanian, Kathryn Kevorkian Stockdale, and Kristine Avedisian and their families. *Altar flowers are donated in their memory.*

We hope you got to see the Facebook video presentation honoring Patty Torosian. The following article accompanied the video.



Twenty-eight miles. That’s the distance between Patty Torosian’s home in Dinuba and Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church. She knows every inch of the drive. She makes it every Sunday. And sometimes on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, too!

Her devotion to the church goes back several decades. This year marks her 37th year teaching Sunday School. “I enjoy teaching and it keeps me young,” Torosian says. “It’s awesome to see my past students as parents with children.

They have told me that I have to teach their children. That makes me feel good and tells me that I am doing a good job for our church.”

Patty was born in Dinuba. Her parents were Jack and Mary Torosian. She and her brother Peter, who passed away earlier this year, grew up creating memories in the county. “My brother and I would play with each other,” she recalls. “Many Friday or Saturday nights, we would go to the drive-in theatre two miles from our home. I had two girlfriends that we would take turns going to each other’s home to play afterschool.”

There were tough times too. Patty’s father was born in Kharpet. He came to the United States when he was 9-years-old. He witnessed his mother being stoned to death during the Armenian Genocide. Patty’s mother, Mary Mchitchian, was born in Russia and her family was sent to live in Germany. When she was 26-years-old, her family got to come to America as part of the “Displaced Persons Act.”

Peter and Mary were married at Holy Trinity, but being that they settled in Dinuba, they became active at Sts. Sahag-Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church in Reedley. That’s where Patty was baptized, attended Sunday School, sang in the choir and was active in the ACYO.



Tribute to Patty Torosian, *Continued*

“I have been attending church all my life,” she says. “My faith developed by learning about God and Jesus. I wouldn’t be where I am today without my faith. Being a Christian is my life. He is my Lord and Savior. He is with me 24/7.”

“I have taught 2nd grade except for the few years when Liz Tusan and I taught 2nd/3rd combo class,” Torosian said. “I continue to teach Sunday School because it gives me pleasure to teach our church children about God, Jesus, and our church.”

There came a time when a lot of young adults were leaving Sts. Sahag-Mesrob. That’s when Sophie Mekhitarian recruited Patty to teach Sunday School at Holy Trinity. Growing up, Patty loved school. When she was in the sixth grade she decided that she wanted to be a teacher. She spent 31 years with Fresno Unified.

“I saw the pendulum change so much,” she says. “Teaching that long, you see so much change in curriculum, parents, and students. During the last few years, I was teaching former students’ children. That was amazing that they remembered me and events from their time with me. I guess I left a good impression. I was honored that they chose me to be their child’s teacher.”

Patty’s devotion to children runs deep. She’s been a member of Holy Trinity’s Christian Education Committee since 1992. For the past 25 years, she’s chaired a yearly Roger Rocka/2nd Space fundraiser benefiting Christian Education. She’s also a regular at Vacation Bible School.

In 2001, Patty joined the Trinity Guild, now known as the Ladies’ Guild. She’s extremely active with the group. She’s chaired the Bazaar, the Merchant Luncheon and hosts a dinner every June, in memory of her parents. “It’s a great feeling to be part of the Ladies’ Guild,” she says. “It brings me pleasure. The comradery with the ladies is wonderful. We learn from each other. We have a lot of fun and enjoy each other’s company.” A lot of time is spent in the church kitchen. That’s one of Patty’s favorite places.

“I love to cook and bake,” she says. “My mother instilled that in me at a young age. I help with the catering. I was taught to run the Hobart mixer, so now I mix the dough during our baking days.” Her signature foods are: Shakar Lokhums, Diamond Cookies, Persimmon Cookies, Napoleons, Hummus, and Yalanchi. She loves a good lamb chop.

Patty also finds joy spending time with her family, especially her sister-in-law Mariam, nephew Hagop, nieces Angela, Susie and Stephanie and great-nephew Eli.

“My hope is for Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church to prosper and live on for another 100 years,” she says. “The children and the parents are the future of our church. Everyone needs to make church their number one priority.”

HOKEHANKIST DONATIONS

Are made in memory of.....

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Kathryn Kevorkian Stockdale

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HARON, VERGIN, SILVART, ANI HABRIAN, KARABET & YEGHSABET
HABRIAN, AND MARY, BANEOTY, EVELYNE & LISA DELIGEORGES**

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Wow! It's December! 2020, what a year!

While the surprise of a pandemic prevented us from accomplishing everything we had hoped to do, we have remained dedicated to serving our beloved church and cherishing one another.

Our bake sale was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who placed an order, baked, wrapped yalanchi, donated food items or helped on the pickup days. We hope you enjoyed the goodies. They were all made with love!

Our annual Ladies' Guild Christmas Luncheon is taking place Saturday, December 12 at 11:30 a.m. at Fort Washington Country Club. Tickets are \$35 and guests are welcomed. Payment and reservations must be received by December 3.

This year the Ladies' Guild voted to make our Christmas donations to the Artsakh Refugee Relief Fund. The information was included with the Christmas Luncheon mailing you should have received last week. Your tax deductible donations can be made through December 12 with checks payable to AMAA. We thank you in advance for your support!

Guests at our November Lunch Meeting enjoyed an early Thanksgiving feast, hosted by Susie Parnagian. It was truly delicious!

The Ladies' Guild wishes you a healthy and joyful Christmas Season and a Happy New Year. May 2021 bring us all many blessings!



Altar flowers are donated for Armenian Christmas in loving memory of beloved husbands, fathers and grandfathers, Arthur Vartanian, Peter Giragosian, and Charles Datian.

***“Those we have held in our arms for a little while,
we hold in our hearts forever.”***

From: The Alice Vartanian Family

Get Well Soon!

The Pastor and the Board of Trustees wish to express to all church members who are ill and not feeling well, (listed or not listed below) a speedy recovery.

Sue Kilijian

Come as You Are

I shook my head in disbelief. This couldn't be the right place. After all, I couldn't possibly be welcome here. I had been given an invitation several times, by several different people, and I had finally decided to see what this place was all about. But, this just couldn't be the right place. Quickly, I glanced down at the invitation that I clutched in my hand. I scanned past the words, "Come as you are. No jacket required," and found the location. Yes, I was at the right place.

I peered through the window again and saw a room of people whose faces seemed to glow with joy. All were neatly dressed, adorned in fine garments and appeared strangely clean as they dined at this exquisite restaurant. Ashamed, I looked down at my own tattered and torn clothing, covered in stains. I was dirty, in fact, filthy. A foul smell seemed to consume me and I couldn't shake the grime that clung to my body.

As I turned around to leave, the words from the invitation seemed to leap out at me... "Come as you are. No jacket required." I decided to give it a shot. Mustering up every bit of courage I could find, I opened the door to this restaurant and walked up to a man standing behind a podium. "Your name, sir?" he asked me with a smile. "Jimmy D. Brown," I mumbled without looking up. I thrust my hands deep into my pockets, hoping to conceal their stains. He didn't seem to notice the filth that I was covered in and he continued, "Very good, sir. A table is reserved in your name. Would you like to be seated?" I couldn't believe what I heard! A grin broke out on my face and I said, "Yes, of course!"

He led me to a table, and sure enough, there was a place-card with my name written on it in a deep, dark red. As I browsed over a menu, I saw many delightful items listed. There were things like, "peace," "joy," "blessings," "confidence," "assurance," "hope," "love," "faith," and "mercy." I realized that this was no ordinary restaurant! I flipped the menu back to the front in order to see where I was at... "God's Grace," was the name of this place.

The man returned and said, "I recommend the 'Special of the Day'. With it you are entitled to heaping portions of everything on this menu." You've got to be kidding! I thought to myself. You mean, I can have ALL of this?! "What is the 'Special of the Day'?" I asked with excitement ringing in my voice. "Salvation," was his reply. "I'll take it," I practically cried out. Then, as quickly as I made that statement, the joy left my body. A sick painful ache jerked through my stomach and tears filled my eyes. Between my sobs I said... "Mister, look at me. I'm dirty and nasty. I am unclean and unworthy of such things. I'd love to have all of this, but, I just can't afford it." Undaunted, the man smiled again. "Sir, your check has already been taken care of by that Gentleman over there," he said as he pointed to the front of the room. "His name is Jesus." Turning, I saw a man whose very presence seemed to light the room. He was almost too much to look at. I found myself walking towards Him and in a shaking voice I whispered, "Sir, I'll wash the dishes or sweep the floors or take out the trash. I'll do anything I can do to repay you for all this."

He opened His arms and said with a smile, "Son, all of this is yours if you just come unto me. Ask me to clean you up and I will. Ask me to allow you to feast at my table and you will eat. Remember, the table is reserved in your name. All you must do is accept this gift that I offer you." Astonished, I fell at his feet and said, "Please, Jesus.

Please clean up my life. Please change me and sit me at your table and give me this new life." Immediately, I heard the words, "It is finished." I looked down and white robes adorned my body. Something strange and wonderful had happened. I felt new, like a weight had been lifted and I found myself seated at His table. "The 'Special of the Day' has been served," The Lord said to me. "Salvation is yours."

We sat and talked for a great while and I so enjoyed the time that I spent with Him. He told me, me of all people, that He would like for me to come back as often as I liked for another helping from God's Grace. He made it clear that He wanted me to spend as much time with Him as possible.

As it drew near time for me to go back outside into the "real world," He whispered to me softly, "And Lo, I am with you always." And then, He said something to me that I will never forget. He said... "My child, do you see these empty tables?" "Yes, Lord. I see them. What do they mean?" I replied. "These are reserved tables... but the individuals whose names are on each place-card have not accepted their invitation yet. Would you be so kind as to hand out these invitations to those who have not joined us as yet?" Jesus asked. "Of course," I said with excitement as I picked up the invitations. "Go ye therefore into all nations." He said as I turned to leave.

I walked into God's Grace dirty and hungry. Stained in sin. My righteousness as filthy rags. And Jesus cleaned me up. I walked out a brand new man...robed in white, His righteousness. And so, I'll keep my promise to my Lord. I'll go. I'll spread the Word. I'll share the Gospel... I'll hand out the invitations. And I'll start with you. Have you been to God's Grace? There's a table reserved in your name, and here's

SATURDAY ARMENIAN SCHOOL CLASSES

By; Vartouhy Pandukht

Just to let you know that after an eight months of hibernation due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Saturday Armenian School Classes resumed as of three weeks ago, by ways of Zoom. It has been fun learning new tricks on the internet.

We would love to have anyone who is interested in learning the Armenian language join us. We do have a lot of fun learning our beautiful Hye Lezoun! Of course, we will continue by way of Zoom, until our church gives us the permission to continue in person, hopefully soon.

If anyone is interested in joining us in this endeavor, please call Vartouhy Pandukht, Adults' Instructor, at (559) 907-7729 or Michelle Shirinian at (559) 473-7896 to give them your E-mail and telephone number. They will instruct you as to the procedure of joining in our lessons by way of Zoom.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

**ԱՄԷՆՕՐԵԱՅ ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱՇՈՒՆՁԻ ԸՆԹԵՐՑՈՒՄՆԵՐ
ԴԵԿՏԵՄԲԵՐ—2020**

1. Առակաց 12:9-17; Ողբ Երեմեայ 3:22-56; Հոովմայեցիս 5:1-5; Ղուկասու 12:2-9
2. Ա. Թեսաղոնիկեցիս 5:1-11; Ղուկասու 13:10-17
3. Սրբոց հարցն եգիպտացւոց՝ Պօղոսի, Պօղայ, Մակարայ, Եւագրի, Յովհաննու Գրեցւոյն, Յովհաննու Կարճահասակին, Նեղոսի, Արսենի, Սիսիանու, Դամիէլի, Սրապիոնի, Մակարիոսի, Պիմենի եւ այլոց սրբոց հարցն:
Առակաց 21:15-25; Եսայեայ 19:19-21; Եբրայեցիս 11:32-40; Մատթէոսի 10:37-42
4. Ա. Թեսաղոնիկեցիս 5:12-28; Ղուկասու 14:1-11
5. Սրբոցն՝ Նիկողայոսի եւ Գրիգորի Սֆանչելագործ հայրապետացն եւ միւս Նիկողայոսի եւ Միլոնայ Եպիսկոպոսին:
Իմաստութեան 10:9-12; Մաղափեայ 2:5-7; Ա. Պետրոսի 5:1-7;
Յովհաննու 10:11-16
6. *Գ. Կիրակի Յիսնակի – Բարեկենդան Ս. Յակոբայ պահոց
Եսայեայ 37:14-38; Բ. Թեսաղոնիկեցիս 1:1-12; Ղուկասու 14:12-24*
7. Սրբոցն՝ Մինասայ, Երմոգինեայ, Եւգրափոսի եւ կամաւոր աղփատացն,
Յովհաննու եւ Ալէքսիանոսի
Առակաց 15:33-16:7; Եսայեայ 18:7; Փիլիպպեցիս 1:27-2:4; Մատթէոսի 10:37-42
8. Իմաստութեան 1:1-7; Երեմեայ 16:16-21; Գործք Առաքելոց 1:12-14;
Մարկոսի 6:6-13
9. Պահ: Տօն յղացման Ս. Կուսին Մարիամու յԱննայէ
Երգ Երգոց 6:3-8; Մաղափեայ 3:1-2; Գաղատացիս 3:24-29; Ղուկասու 1:39-56;
Բ. Թեսաղոնիկեցիս 2:1-16; Ղուկասու 14:25-27
10. Առակաց 1:1-9; Նաւումայ 2:1-7; Հոովմայեցիս 5:1-5; Մատթէոսի 5:1-12
11. Բ. Թեսաղոնիկեցիս 3:1-18; Ղուկասու 15:1-7
12. Սրբոցն Յակոբայ Մըծբընայ հայրապետին, Մարուգէի ճգնաւորին եւ Մելիտոսի Եպիսկոպոսին
Իմաստութեան 7:12-20; Եսայեայ 44:1-5; Եբրայեցիս 13:17-21;
Յովհաննու 9:39-10:10
13. *Դ. Կիրակի Յիսնակի
Եսայեայ 38:1-8; Եբրայեցիս 1:1-14; Ղուկասու 17:1-10*
14. Սրբոց հայրապետացն, Իգնատիոսի, Ադդէի եւ Մարութայի
Իմաստութեան 5:1-8; Երեմեայ 6:16-21; Ա. Կորնթացիս 4:9-16; Մարկոսի 9:32-36
15. Առակաց 24:1-12; Երեմեայ 15:19-20; Եբրայեցիս 12:1-7; Մատթէոսի 10:26-33
16. Եբրայեցիս 2:1-10; Ղուկասու 17:11-19
17. Իմաստութեան 3:1-8; Երեմեայ 30:18-22; Ա. Պետրոսի 4:12-19;
Յովհաննու 15:17-25
18. Եբրայեցիս 3:12-4:10; Ղուկասու 18:1-8

**ԱՄԷՆՕՐԵԱՅ ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱՇՈՒՆՁԻ ԸՆԹԵՐՑՈՒՄՆԵՐ
ԴԵԿՏԵՄԲԵՐ—2020**

19. Սրբոյն Աբգարու նախավկայ եւ անդրանիկ հաւատացեալ թագաւորին մերոյ
Իմաստութեան 6:2-10; Եսայեայ 45:1-3; Ա. Տիմոթէոս 2:1-7; Ղուկասու 7:1-10
20. **Ե. Կիրակի Յիսնակի**
Եսայեայ 40:18-31; Երբայեցիս 4:16-5:10; Ղուկասու 18:9-14
21. Իմաստութեան 5:16-18; Երեմեայ 3:22-56; Բ. Տիմոթէոս 3:10-15;
Ղուկասու 12:32-40
22. Առակաց 10:1-6; Եսայեայ 56:3-8; Բ. Տիմոթէոս 2:3-10; Մատթէոսի 10:16-22
23. Երբայեցիս 5:11-6:8; Ղուկասու 18:18-27
24. Սրբոցն՝ Դաւթի մարգարէին եւ Յակոբայ Տեառննդբայր առաքելոյն
Բ. Թագաւորաց 5:1-10; Գ. Թագաւորաց 2:1-11; Եզեկիէլի 34:20-27;
Յակոբու 1:1-12; Մատթէոսի 22:41-46
25. Երբայեցիս 6:9-7:10; Ղուկասու 19:1-10
26. Սրբոց առաքելոյն Պետրոսի եւ Պօղոսի
Գործք Առաքելոց 6:8-8:2; Յովհաննու 12:24-26
27. **Զ. Կիրակի Յիսնակի**
Եսայեայ 41:4-14; Երբայեցիս 7:11-25; Ղուկասու 19:12-28
28. Սրբոց առաքելոցն Պետրոսի եւ Պօղոսի
Իմաստութեան 9:13-10:2; Եսայեայ 28:16-19; Բ. Պետրոսի 1:12-19; Բ.
Տիմոթէոս 4:1-8; Յովհաննու 21:15-22
29. Սրբոց Որդւոցն Որոտման՝ Յակոբայ Առաքելոյն եւ Յովհաննու
աւետարանչին - Բարեկընդան Ա. Ծննդեան պահոց
Իմաստութեան 7:21-24; Երեմեայ 16:16-21; Գործք Առաքելոց 12:1-11,
Յակոբու 1:1-10; 1 Յովհաննու 1:1-7; Յովհաննու 21:20-25
30. Ա. օր պահոց Ծննդեան
Երբայեցիս 7:26-8:13; Ղուկասու 20:1-8
31. Բ. օր պահոց Ծննդեան
Երբայեցիս 10:1-18; Ղուկասու 20:9-18

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DAILY BIBLE READING

DECEMBER 2020

1. Proverbs 12:9-17; Lamentations 3:22-56; Romans 5:1-5; Luke 12:2-9
2. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Luke 13:10-17
3. Paulus, Paul, Magar, Evagrius, John (Kpetsi), John the Short, Nilus, Arsenius, Siseos, Daniel, Serapion, Macarius, Poeman, and the other Holy Fathers of Egypt
Proverbs 21:15-25; Isaiah 19:19-21; Hebrews 11:32-40; Matthew 10:37-42
4. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28; Luke 14:1-11
5. Sts. Gregory, Nicholas the Wonder-workers, Myron, and the other St. Nicholas
Wisdom 10:9-12; Malachi 2:5-7; 1 Peter 5:1-7; John 10:11-16
6. ***Third Sunday of Advent (Eve of the fast of St. Hagop)***
Isaiah 37:14-38; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12; Luke 14:12-24
7. St. Minas
Proverbs 15:33-16:7; Isaiah 18:7; Philippians 1:27-2:4; Matthew 10:37-42
8. Wisdom 1:1-7; Jeremiah 16:16-21; Acts 1:12-14; Mark 6:6-13
9. Conception of the Holy Virgin Mary
Song of Songs 6:3-8; Malachi 3:1-2; Galatians 3:24-29; Luke 1:39-56
2 Thessalonians 2:1-16; Luke 14:25-27
10. Proverbs 1:1-9; Nahum 2:1-7; Romans 5:1-5; Matthew 5:1-12
11. 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18; Luke 15:1-7
12. St. James of Nisibis (Hagop Medzpnatsi), Marouke the hermit and Melitus the Bishop
Wisdom 7:12-20; Isaiah 44:1-5; Hebrews 13:17-21; John 9:39-10:10
13. ***Fourth Sunday of Advent***
Isaiah 38:1-8; Hebrews 1:1-14; Luke 17:1-10
14. Sts. Ignatius of Antioch and Addai
Wisdom 5:1-8; Jeremiah 6:16-21; 1 Corinthians 4:9-16; Mark 9:32-36
15. Proverbs 24:1-12; Jeremiah 15:19-20; Hebrews 12:1-7; Matthew 10:26-33
16. Hebrews 2:1-10; Luke 17:11-19
17. Wisdom 3:1-8; Jeremiah 30:18-22; 1 Peter 4:12-19; John 15:17-25
18. Hebrews 3:12-4:10; Luke 18:1-8
19. King Apkar
Wisdom 6:2-10; Isaiah 45:1-3; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 7:1-10
20. ***Fifth Sunday of Advent***
Isaiah 40:18-31; Hebrews 4:16-5:10; Luke 18:9-14
21. Wisdom 5:16-18; Jeremiah 3:22-56; 2 Timothy 3:10-15; Luke 12:32-40
22. Proverbs 10:1-6; Isaiah 56:3-8; 2 Timothy 2:3-10; Matthew 10:16-22
23. Hebrews 5:11-6:8; Luke 18:18-27
24. St. David the Prophet and Holy Apostle James
2 Samuel 5:1-10; 1 Kings 2:1-11; Ezekiel 34:20-27; James 1:1-12;
Matthew 22:41-46

DAILY BIBLE READING

DECEMBER 2020

25. Hebrews 6:9-7:10; Luke 19:1-10
26. St. Stephen the Proto-Deacon and the First Martyr
Acts 6:8-8:2; John 12:24-26
27. ***Sixth Sunday of Advent***
Isaiah 41:4-14; Hebrews 7:11-25; Luke 19:12-28
28. The Holy Apostles Peter and Paul
Wisdom 9:13-10:2; Isaiah 28:16-19; 2 Peter 1:12-19; 2 Timothy 4:1-8;
John 21:15-22
29. The Holy Apostle James and John the Evangelist (Eve of the Fast of the Nativity)
Wisdom 7:21-24; Jeremiah 16:16-21; Acts 12:1-11, James 1:1-10;
1 John 1:1-7; John 21:20-25
30. First Day of the Fast of the Nativity
Hebrews 7:26-8:13; Luke 20:1-8
31. Second Day of the Fast of the Nativity





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E-Mail: moseskhachadourian@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00AM-4:00PM

Church: (559) 486-1141 - FAX: (559) 486-1939

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ADMINISTRATION

Nazik Arisian	559-486-1141W
<i>Administratrix</i>	
nazik@holytrinityfresno.org	
Lisa Der Simonian	559-486-1141W
<i>Bookkeeper</i>	
lisaterzian@gmail.com	
Diana Shirin	559-486-1141W
<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>	
rich03di@comcast.net	

Nareg Apkarian	559-486-1141W
<i>Office Assistant</i>	
nareg24@gmail.com	

CHOIR

Shoghik Papoyan Aladjian,	277-0888H
<i>Director</i>	304-0888C
Serpouhie Messerlian, <i>Chair</i>	298-0445H

ORGANIST

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