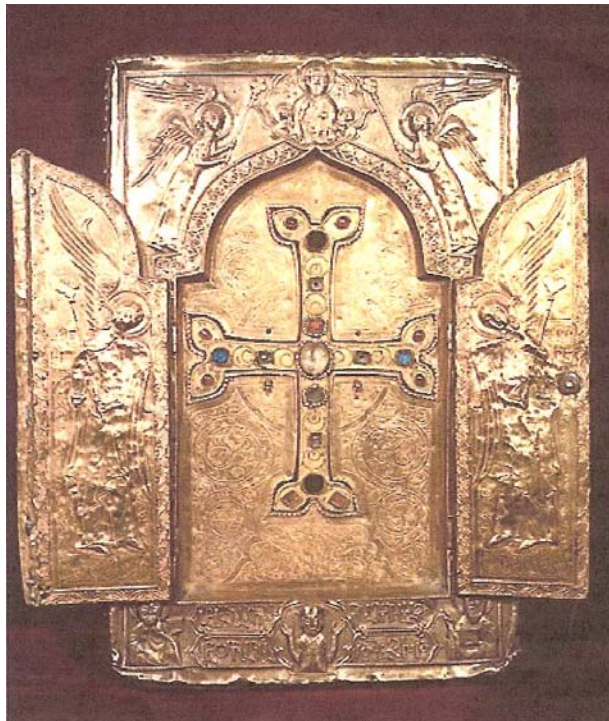


FIRST SUNDAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pray for and with the Children

**SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FEAST
OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY
CROSS OF OUR LORD
GOD AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2007



HOLY TRINITY
ARMEIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OLD ARMENIAN TOWN
FRESNO CALIFORNIA
Pastor: Rv. Fr. Vahan Gosdanian

WELCOME

The Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church
Family Welcomes you!

Welcome to you, to all the family and to all your friends and neighbors. Welcome to Holy Trinity! Built by Armenians to be a House of Prayer for all peoples. Welcome to the beauty of Holiness and the biblical and the historical vision of heavenly worship. Welcome to our ongoing Song of Faith and of Love and of hope and almost two thousand years of uninterrupted Christian witness and service. Come and stay with us in the eternal celebration of the Mystery that is God and the Gospel Good News of God's love and grace; given by God and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit to the Holy Apostles and to the Church

Please silence all pagers and cell phones.

*In preparation to meet the sacred
with the heart -body, mind and spirit*

*This Sunday Hand Out Is your guide to today's
worship; in addition you will find the books in
front of you that provide all you need to join in
our earthly and heavenly worship.*

*The cover is a picture is of an Armenian reliquary that holds a "Masonk" "Small Portion", "A sliver" of the true cross of Jesus Christ.

The Armenian Church has several reliquaries of the true cross. Other reliquaries have disappeared or have been destroyed during the genocide in the attempt to obliterate the Christian presence in Asia Minor.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE HEAVENLY LITURGY

Celebrating the mystery of life in union with God.
JESUS CHRIST THE ETERNAL WORD OF GOD
High Priest and Liturgist-
Shepherd and King-Prophet and Teacher



You have come to Mont Zion and to the city of the living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem and to innumerable angels in a festival gathering and to the assembly of the first born who are enrolled in heaven and to God the judge of all and to the spirits of the saintly righteous made perfect and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant.....Let us continue in mutual love..." Hebrews 12:23—24 Let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe...Hb. 12:28 -29; Let things be done decently and in order 1 Cor 14:40

HOLY BADARAK

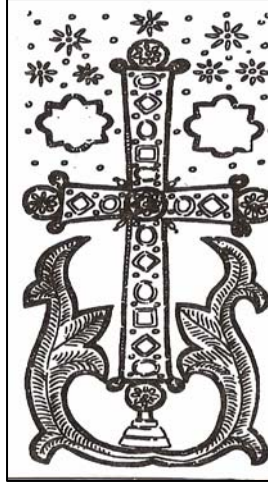
Proclaiming and celebrating the mystery of God's love and the new covenant and the new spiritual sacrifice of thanksgiving and of praise before the Holy Table of the Lord at the Feast in the Kingdom of God.

Christ our Passover -(Zadig) has been sacrificed -(Badarak) for us therefore let us keep the feast 1 Cor Through Jesus...let us continually offer up to God the sacrifice of praise, that is the tribute of lips which acknowledges his name and never forget to show kindness and to share what you have with others; for such are the sacrifices which God approves" Hb. 13:15- 16

LITURGY OF PREPARATION

*Preparing to celebrate in love, Spirit and Truth Jn 4:24
Come to the Feast, all things are ready. Mt 22; Celebrating in
robes of gladness, clothes and garments declaring salvation,
Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit; and Love and praise; Is 61:10-
11; Ps 104:1-6; Gal 3:27; Col 3:14; Pt 5:5. We have confi-
dence to enter the Holy Place....He opened for us through the
curtain-veil....since we have a great High Priest over the
House of God. Hb 10:19-25*

MEDITATION FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS



This is the day of the anniversary of the exaltation
of the great radiant sign of our Lord God,
during the inaugurations in Jerusalem,
O you people, joyfully praise Christ!

The Cross appeared in primeval times;
blooming in the Garden of Paradise planted by God;
which was a presage to father Adam and a comfort to Seth

We hold on to that Wood
to which our Lord Jesus was nailed and with humility
we adore God in the presence of this God held Holy Sign.

LITURGY OF CENSING

Celebrating the glory of God's presence and our victory in Christ
But thanks be to God! For in union with Christ we are always led by God in a triumphant procession. God uses us to make the knowledge about Christ spread every where like a sweet fragrance. For we are like sweet smelling incense offered by Christ to God, which spread among those who are being saved and those who are being lost...but for those who are being saved, it is a fragrance that brings life. 2 Cor 2:15...Offer incense...where I present and reveal myself to you and meet with you...Exodus 29:42-30:1 The court was filled the cloud and full of the brightness of the glory of the Lord. Ezekial 10:1. "Incense which is the prayer of the Saints" Rev 5:8 &8:4 "Prayer set before you as incense" Psalm 141:

PROCESSIONAL HYMN OF CENSING FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

Lo, the power of Your holy cross, O Christ, which You have set up,
for the salvation of the world;

May this holy sign preserve us from all temptation.

For You were lifted up O God and on it You did shed Your precious
blood;

May this holy sign preserve us from all temptation.

And Your second coming you have presaged to the world, by the
sign of Your cross;

May this holy sign preserve us from all temptation.

By the stretching out of You immaculate arms upon the cross, O
Christ our God, You did give unto us a sign of victory;
preserve our lives.

By the world redeeming extension of Your arms upon the cross, O
Christ our , You did give unto us a staff of power; preserve our
lives.

By means of that life giving wood, You did bring to life Him who
had died through the mortal taste of the wood,
preserve our lives.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

JASHOU

Celebrating a spiritual feast of Holy Scripture

I bow down worshiping God with my person, proclaiming the Gospel of His Son” Romans 1:9 “My priestly service is the announcing of the good news of God” Romans 15:16 He, who hears my word and believes Him Who sent Me, has eternal life John 5:24 Eat these written words, that I give you and be filled. I heard it and I tasted it as sweet honey. Ezk 2:1-3:3 If any one hears Me, I will eat with Him Rv. 3:20-22 He explained Himself in all the scriptures Luk Let me with ears to hear, Listen! Mark 4:9 I recite your marvels one by one, I rejoice and exult in you I sing praise to your name most high Psalm 9:1

ENTRANCE HYMN

FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

In the presence of Your precious and victorious cross we fall down in worship and pray that You grant us forgiveness of our sins, because through Your cross You did remove the condemnation of humanity and now for the sake of Your divine and holy sign grant unto this world Your heavenly peace.

JASHOU HYMN

FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

O faithful people, let us incessantly send up a new and triumphant song of praise to Christ the King. To Him Who came to illuminate His chosen holy church, and crowned her with the holy cross, let us sing praises. This day we celebrate the holy cross and offer unto the Redeemer glory and honor forever.

JASHOU PSALM

FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

Psalm 4

Response 4:6B-7

Who will give us sight of good?! Let the light of your face shine on us O Lord! You have put gladness in my heart more than when than grain and wine abound.

**TODAYS LITURGY OF THE WORD
JASHOU**

Celebrating a spiritual feast of Holy Scripture

THE OLD TESTAMENT

This course is from the prophet Isaiah 49:13-23

THE LORD'S MERCY. Tell the heavens and the earth to celebrate and sing; command every mountain to join in the song. The LORD'S people have suffered, but he has shown mercy and given them comfort. The people of Zion said, "The LORD has turned away and forgotten us." The LORD answered, "Could a mother forget a child who nurses at her breast? Could she fail to love an infant who came from her own body? Even if a mother could forget, I will never forget you.. A picture of your city is on my hand. You are always in my thoughts! Your city will be built faster than it was destroyed those who attacked it will retreat and leave. Look around! You will see your people coming home. As surely as I live, I, the LORD promise that your city with its people will be as lovely as a bride wearing her jewelry."

JERUSALEM'S BRIGHT FUTURE. Jerusalem is now in ruins! Nothing is left of the city. But it will be rebuilt and soon overcrowded; its cruel enemies will be gone far away. Jerusalem is a woman whose children were born while she was in deep sorrow over the loss of her husband. Now those children will come and seek room in the crowded city. And Jerusalem will ask, "Am I really their mother? How could I have given birth when I was still mourning in a foreign land? Who raised these children? Where have they come from?" The LORD GOD says: "I will soon give a sign for the nations to return your sons and your daughters to the arms of Jerusalem. The kings and queens of those nations where they were raised will come and bow down. They will take care of you just like a slave taking care of a child. Then you will know that I am the LORD. You won't be disappointed if you trust me."

NEW TESTAMENT

This course is the letter to the Galatians (6:14-18)
from the apostle Paul.

I will never exalt about anything except the cross of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. Because of his cross, the world is dead as far as I am concerned, and I am dead as far as the world is concerned. It doesn't matter if you are circumcised or not. All that matters is that you are a new person. If you follow this rule, you will belong to GOD'S true people. GOD will treat you with underserved kindness and will bless you with peace. On my own body are scars that prove I belong to CHRIST JESUS. So I don't want anyone to bother me anymore. My friends, I pray that the LORD JESUS CHRIST will be kind to you! Amen.

TODAYS LITURGY OF THE WORD

JASHOU

Celebrating a spiritual feast of Holy Scripture

ALLELUIA PSALM

PSALM 86:16B-17A

Alleluia. Alleluia.

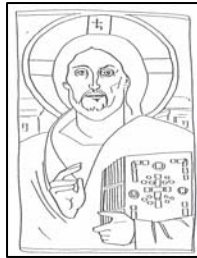
I serve you, LORD, and I am the child of one of your servants.

Look on me with kindness. Make me strong and save me.

Show me a sign of your love for me!

Then my hateful enemies will feel like fools,
because you have helped and comforted me.

Alleluia.



THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

ACCORDING TO JOHN

JOHN 3:13-21

JESUS AND NICODEMUS

No one has gone up to heaven except the Son of Man, who came down from there. 14. And the Son of Man must be lifted up just as that metal snake was lifted up by Moses in the desert. 15. Then everyone who has faith in the Son of Man will have eternal life. 16. GOD loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die. 17. GOD did not send his Son into the world to condemn its people. He sent him save them! 18. No one who has faith in GOD'S Son will be condemned. But everyone who doesn't have faith in him has already been condemned for not having faith in GOD'S only Son. 19. The light has come into the world, and people who do evil things are judged guilty because they love the dark more than the light. 20. People who do evil hate the light and won't come to the light, because it clearly shows what they have done. 21. But everyone who lives by the truth will come to the light, because they want others to know that GOD is really the one doing what they do.

LITURGY OF THE HOLY BADARAK

Celebrating the new Covenant and eternal spiritual Sacrifice of Thanksgiving and Praise and Glory and Heavenly Worship at the Feast of the Kingdom God

Because of God's great mercy...offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, this is your authentic spiritual worship of mind and heart. Romans 12:1

THE APOSTOLIC KISS OF PEACE

Greet each other with a holy kiss. Romans 16:16; 1 Cor 16:20; 2 Cor 13:12; 1 Thes 5:26. When you present your gift at the altar, if there you remember that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift before the altar and first go and be reconciled with your brother and then offer your gift, Matt 5:23-24.

Greet each other with a kiss of love. 1 Peter 5:14.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord because the Lord is good; The Lords love is eternal...

...Let them offer thanks to the Lord, for the Lord's constant love; For the wonderful things the Lord did for them. Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, And proclaim God's wonderful work with joy. Psalm 107:1 &21-22

HYMN FOR THE PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRITUAL SACRIFICE OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

Who is like the Lord our God? Who, having been crucified for us, was buried and rose again and was believed on in the world and ascended up with glory. Let us then O people, sing praises unto Him with the angels, saying: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord our God.

HOLY COMMUNION

I Am the Bread that came down from heaven ... whoever eats this bread, will live forever ...has eternal life and I will raise them up on the last day...they will live in me, and I in them...John 6:51-55; Blessed are they who eat Bread in Kingdom of God, Luke 14:15; ...That you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, Luke 22:36 , Taste and see the sweet goodness of the lord Ps 34:8.



INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

In holiness, let us taste of the Holy, Holy and precious body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Who having come down from heaven, is now dispensed among us.

This is life, Hope of Resurrection, Expiation and Forgiveness of Sins.

UNDERSTANDING OUR FAITH

"In Christ are hid all the treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge"

Colossians 2:3

THE BIBLE AND THE HOLY CROSS

OLD TESTAMENT

The Holy Cross is prefigured in the Old Testament

Seal of Salvation; Ezk 17:11 & 12.

Four ends of the Altar; Ps 117:27

Arms or wings of Protection Ps 17:8; 36:7; 57:1; 91:4.

Sign of the Banners of Gods Love and victory; Song 2:4; Is 49:22;

62:10; Ps 20:5;

Tree of Life in the Old Testament; Gen 3:22;; Prv 3:18; 11:30; 13:12.

NEW TESTAMENT

In the New testament, the Holy cross is an instrument of death & of life.

Jesus crucified on a Cross; Mat 27:32; Mk 15:21; Lk 23:26; Cor 1:23;

2:2; 8; Eph 2:16; 5:2; Ph 2:8; Col 1:20; 2:14; Heb 12;2

Sign of power and life. 1 Co 1:17 & 18

The Cross is the Sign and seal of Jesus-The Son of Man, 1 Cor 1:18;

Matt 24:30 & 31; Rv 7:3; Ezk 9:1-11; Ex 12:7-14; Rv 22:4; 2 Cor 1:22;

Eph 1:13; 4:30; Eph 3:18.

Sign of Glory and Exaltation Gal 6:14

Sign of Discipleship and followers of Christ

Mt 10:38; 16:24; Mk 8:34; 10:21; Lk 9:23; 27.

Sign of the Seal of the Holy Spirit for the People of God

Eph 1:13; 2 Cor 1:22;

Sign of the New Testament Seal of Salvation Rv 7:2; 9:4

Tree of Death

Act 5:30; 10:39; 13:29; Gal 3:13; 1 Pet 2:24

Tree of Life in the New Testament Rev 2:7; 22:2; 14; 19.

Sign of the Revelation of the Mystery of God Eph 3:3-5, 18

Sign of those who witness and confess Christ Matt 10:32 & 33

Enemies who deny the Cross Ph 3:18

OUR ANCIENT CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

Our Inheritance is in Christ

Hebrews 1:10-12

CHURCH HISTORY AND THE HOLY CROSS

110 AD *Saint Ignatius, Patriarch of Antioch*

Love is the road which leads you up to God. You are the living stones, building the temple of the Father, It is Jesus Christ who hoists you up to place you in the heights, His crane is the Holy Cross; The Holy Spirit is the rope, your faith pulls you up.

150 AD *Saint Polycarp Martyr*

Whoever shall not confess the testimony of the Cross is the devil

223AD *Saint Clement of Alexandria, Patriarch*

He has changed sunset into sunrise and through the Cross brought death to Life

253 AD *Origen*

A Christian signing one self with the sign of the Cross, fulfills biblical prophecies. Ezek 9:4; Rev 7:3

265 AD *Saint Cyprian The Martyr*

The newly baptized...receives the Holy Spirit through our prayer and the imposition of our hand and is perfected by means of the Lord's Sign of the Cross.

285 *Saint Gregory the Illuminator, Patriarch.*

"The Lord our God appeared to us, make festivals of joy right early unto the corners of the altar" (Ps 117:27). And what are the corners of the altar except an indication of the cross which shows four corners?...He planted one corner in the earth to show the placing of the Lord's feet on the earth, in order that on the firm rock, He might build and place the depth of the foundation of the church (Ps 26:5, 39:3; 117:22)...For the cross which is raised up shows the Victor and the bottom corner show the victory.

328 *Saint Alexander of Alexandria, Patriarch*

They hanged upon a tree of the Cross, Him Who stretches out the earth; They transfixed with nails, Him Who laid firm the foundation of the world; They circumscribed, Him Who circumscribed the Heavens; They bound, Him Who set sinners free.

Early fourth century. *Baptismal Prayer of Chrismation/Confirmation*

Sweet ointment (Holy Myron of the Holy Spirit) in the name of Jesus Christ is poured upon you as a Seal /*Troshm* (Marked by the sign of the Holy Cross) of incorruptible heavenly gifts. Eph 4:25-32

SCHEDULE AT HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY

*The New testament Lord's Day; Day One of the Week-
Miashapat*

ORDER OF SUNDAY CELEBRATION

- 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
10:00 AM Liturgy of Preparation
10:15 AM Jashou-Liturgy of Holy Scripture
10:30 AM Celebrating the liturgy of the Mystery of the Holy
Badaak– Spiritual Sacrifice of Thanksgiving and Praise
at the Feast of the Kingdom of God
11:10AM Holy Communion
(Upon request) *Hokehankist Prayers for family and
friends who have departed before us and are asleep,
resting in the peace of Heaven, and will rise up to
eternal life, at the Second Coming of Christ, to live
together again, in the love of God, forever.*

TUESDAYS

7:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study (*Armenian*)

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 PM Christian Education Study (*English*)

THURSDAYS

12:00 PM Women's Noon Bible Study (*English*) (*Call for dates*)

CELEBRATING THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE AND OCCASIONAL SERVICES

Please contact the office or Priest for *Baptisms, Weddings, Blessing of
children, Communion outside of Holy Badarak, Home blessings,
Prayers for the Sick, Hospital visits, Funeral Liturgies*

DEACONS, CHOIR AND ACOLYTES:

Inquires are welcome

YOUTH:

Every Sunday 5:00 PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 AM

LADIES AUXILIARY & SERVICE

Meets : first Thursday, alternate months

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE:

Trinity Guild, meets first Monday of each month.

MENS FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE:

Men's Society, meets second Wednesday, each month