



SOORP ASDVADZADZIN

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OF WHITINSVILLE



Just days from now, the world will enter a new year, leaving behind a year of gradual rebuilding, and lingering uncertainties. We pray that 2025 will be a hopeful, peaceful time for you and your family—and also for our country, homeland, and world.

On the threshold of this New Year, we at Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church want to thank everyone who helped in 2024 to advance our mission. Your support has made a great difference and we are deeply grateful to you.



E-Newsletter December 27, 2024

**Sunday Services, December 29 2024
Join Us for Prayer & Worship**

**Morning Service: 9:00
Badarak / Divine Liturgy 10:00**

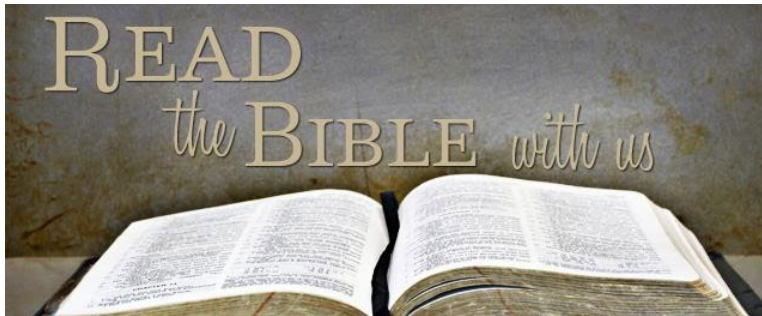
PRAYER OF THE WEEK

**Lord, please keep watch over your faithful people,
strengthen those fleeing persecution, and protect the holy
soil of Armenia—now and always. Foil every aggressor**

against our homeland. Defend the innocent and voiceless, Lord. Preserve the name and spirit of Artsakh in our hearts, forever. Console all those who grieve, and remember those who sacrificed their very lives in your Name. Deliver your faithful children from conflict, and bestow your peace on all mankind. With your peace, Christ our savior, which surpasses all understanding and speech, defend us and keep us fearless of all evil.

Make us equal to your true worshipers, who worship you in spirit and in truth; for to the most-holy Trinity is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always. Amen.

Let's Read the Bible! Readings of the week



Monday, December 30:
Hebrews 7:26 - 8:13; Luke 20:1-8

Tuesday, December 31:
Hebrews 10:1-18; Luke 20:9-18

Wednesday January 1:
New Year's Day
Hebrews 12:5-17; Luke 20:41 - 21:4

**Thursday, January 2:
Hebrews 12:25 - 13:6; Luke 21:20-33**

**Friday, January 3:
Hebrews 7:26 - 8:13; Luke 20:1-8**

**Saturday, January 4:
Hebrews 12:5-17; Luke 20:41 - 21:4**

SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS

**Bible Readings for Sunday, December 29, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Advent**

HEBREWS 7:11-25

Now if perfection had been attainable through the levitical priesthood—for the people received the law under this priesthood—what further need would there have been to speak of another priest arising according to the order of Melchizedek, rather than one according to the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. Now the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek, one who has become a priest, not through a legal requirement concerning physical descent, but through the power of an indestructible life. For it is attested of him,

‘You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’

There is, on the one hand, the abrogation of an earlier commandment because it was weak and ineffectual (for the law made nothing perfect);

there is, on the other hand, the introduction of a better hope, through which we approach God.

This was confirmed with an oath; for others who became priests took their office without an oath, but this one became a priest with an oath, because of the one who said to him,

‘The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, “You are a priest for ever” ’ — accordingly Jesus has also become the guarantee of a better covenant.

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues for ever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO

LUKE 19:12-28

So he said, ‘A nobleman went to a distant country to get royal power for himself and then return. He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them, “Do business with these until I come back.” But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, “We do not want this man to rule over us.” When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading. The first came forward and said, “Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds.” He said to him, “Well done, good slave! Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities.” Then the second came, saying, “Lord, your pound has made five pounds.” He said to him, “And you, rule over five cities.” Then the other came, saying, “Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up

in a piece of cloth, for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.” He said to him, “I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank? Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest.” He said to the bystanders, “Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds.” (And they said to him, “Lord, he has ten pounds!”) “I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and slaughter them in my presence.” ’

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR AND NEWS FROM PRELACY CROSSROADS

HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM THE PRELACY



ԱՁԳԱՅԻՆ ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴԱՐԱՆ
THE ARMENIAN PRELACY

ՇՆՈՐՀԱԴՈՐ
ՍՈՒՐԲ ԾՆՈՒՆԴ

Merry Christmas



As we approach the joyous season, we extend our heartfelt Christmas and New Year's wishes to all, most especially to those whose faith is being tried in these times of tribulations around the world. We pray for you. We warmly greet those who celebrate Christmas on December 25, while reminding our faithful that the Armenian Church observes the Nativity and Theophany of our Lord Jesus Christ on January 6. This tradition reflects the ancient Christian practice, as all churches initially celebrated Christ's birth and baptism together on January 6. It was only in the fourth century that December 25, as the date of the Saturnalia festival, became associated with the Nativity in Western traditions, while the Armenian Church preserved the original date.

With this spirit of hope and renewal, we wish you and your loved ones happy holidays, filled with health, joy, and the grace of our Lord. May 2025 be a year of growth and spiritual fulfillment for all.

PRELATE'S APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE TO ALEPPO ARMENIANS



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The new Syrian government that emerged from the coup d'état has provided certain reassurance to Christians in meetings with community leaders in Aleppo and Damascus. We hope that a relationship built on trust will become the norm in the country.

We are pleased to report that His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, has successfully transferred the assistance of the three Prelacies of North America to the Armenian community authorities, who have managed the distribution. Notwithstanding this, the economic crisis remains severe. Therefore, we ask you to continue supporting our brothers and sisters to ease their daily struggles.

Prayerfully,

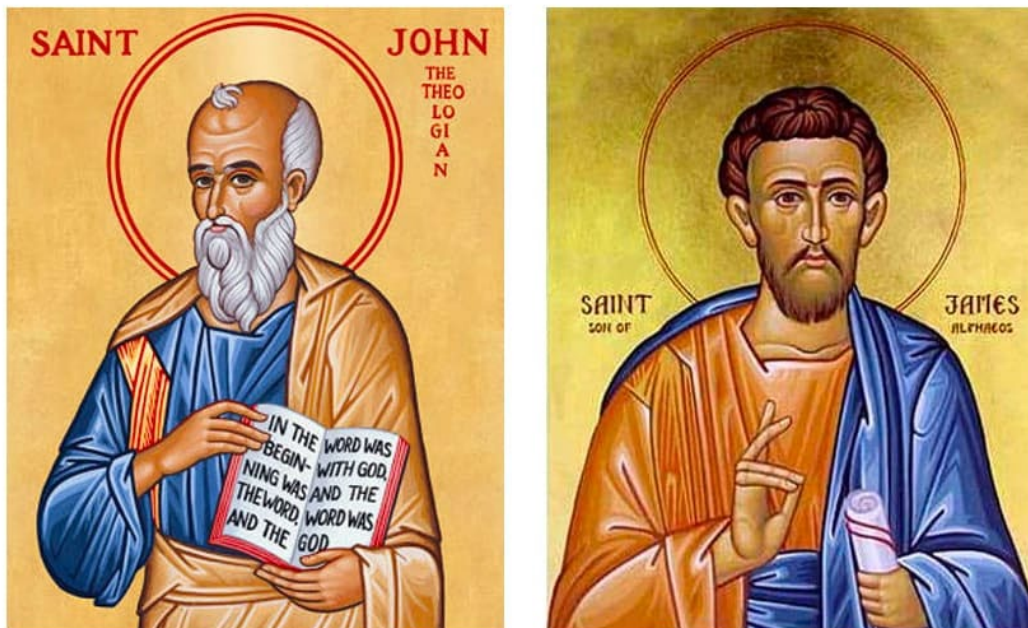
Archbishop Anoushavan
Prelate



Saturday, December 28: The Holy Apostle James and John, "Sons of Thunder".

Sunday, December 29: Eve of the Fast of the Nativity.

HOLY APOSTLE JAMES AND JOHN THE EVANGELIST



On Saturday, December 28, the Armenian Church commemorates the Holy Apostle James and John the Evangelist. Both held prominent positions among the twelve apostles, and they were called "Sons of Thunder" by Jesus (Mark 3:17) probably because they were impetuous and quick tempered as suggested in Luke 9:54 and Mark 10:35-41. James was a Galilean fisherman, who was called along with his brother John, to be two of the twelve apostles. They, together with Peter, formed the inner core among the twelve who were present at the raising of the daughter of Jarius, the Transfiguration, and the agony of Gethsemane. James was the first of the apostles to be martyred by order of Herod Agrippa (Acts 12:1-2). He is the patron saint of Spain and according to tradition his body was brought from Jerusalem to Santiago de Compostela, which became and continues to be a popular destination for

pilgrims. John is also known as “The Divine.” It was to John that Jesus on the cross entrusted the care of his mother (John 19:27).

THE SEASON OF ADVENT



ADVENT IN ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

“Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.” (James 5:8)

This Sunday, December 29, is the sixth Sunday of Advent.

Did you know that the season of Advent has been on our Church calendar for centuries? If you did not know much about this season, it is never late to learn. It is a period consisting of fifty days preceding the feast of Nativity of our Lord. It prescribes a spiritual discipline. During this time the faithful are admonished to prepare themselves worthily to celebrate the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnate love of God, and make their souls fitting abodes for him.

The Sixth Sunday's message has to do with investing our talents. Through the Parable of the Ten Minas (Luke 19:1-28) The lesson here is that faithfulness in small matters will always bring disproportionate rewards where the Lord's work is concerned. And even though the timing is the Second Coming, the lesson is universal. For example, our willingness to share the Gospel with even one person could result in a thousand souls saved over time. Just as each servant was

given the same amount of money, we've all been given the same basic truth of the gospel. By his own admission, the third servant proved he didn't know his master. His perception of the man was all wrong, and while he called himself a servant, he didn't do even the minimum that was asked of Him. He represents the "in name only" Christian who really has nothing, and will be surprised to find even that being taken away.

There are six Sundays in this season and each Sunday has a specific message:

Advent Week 1 (November 24): "Fight Against Greed" (Luke 12:13-31)

Advent Week 2 (December 1): "Repent" (Luke 13:1-9)

Advent Week 3 (December 8): "Be Charitable" (Luke 14:12-24)

Advent Week 4 (December 15): "Be Forgiving" (Luke 17:1-10)

Advent Week 5 (December 22): "Be Humble" (Luke 18:9-14)

Advent Week 6 (December 29): "Invest Your Talents." (Luke 19:12-28)

WISHING EVERYONE A BLESSED ADVENT SEASON

**TOGETHER WITH ARTSAKH ARMENIANS
PRELACY'S STEADFAST SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES IN ARMENIA**



Tens of thousands of Armenians from Artsakh have been forcibly expelled from their ancestral territory following the criminal policies of the Azerbaijani state and relocated to Armenia proper. While they are trying to solve their primary needs of housing, food, and other urgent issues, they also rely on the continuous help of the Diaspora. The Eastern Prelacy is providing monthly assistance to 30-35 families from Artsakh through the Hope and Light NGO.

You can make your donations to the Eastern Prelacy fundraiser Together with Artsakh Armenians by clicking the link below.

When donating online, please note that the company that handles the secure management of our website donations asks the donors to donate an extra amount for processing fees. This allows the Prelacy to receive the net amount of your gift without any charges. However, if the extra amount they suggest seems too high to you, please note that not only is the amount not a requirement, but there is a down arrow right next to the suggested amount. If you click on it, the drop-down menu will give you options for lesser amounts or even 0. You can always choose not to donate any extra amount.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Christmas Celebration

On Sunday, December 22, the Sunday school teachers hosted fellowship hour with a Christmas celebration. Prior to lunch, Der Hayr presented four students, Elijah, Ezekiel, Nune' and Tamar, with attendance awards.

Following lunch, we were treated to a surprise visit from Santa Claus, who brought gifts to all the girls and boys (and teachers and Der Hayr too), but that wasn't the end! The music started and everyone, including Santa, began to dance!

Thanks to Ani Nalbandian, Victoria Waterman and George Khoury a great time was had by all!











Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church
Whitinsville, MA.

Christmas Schedule of Services

January 1, 2025, 11:00 AM

New Year's Day Prayer Service

Holy Nativity and Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

January 5, 2025 - Armenian Christmas Eve - Juraklooyts

Morning Service 10:00 A.M.

Christmas Eve Vigil Readings	4:30 P.M.
Divine Liturgy	5:00 P.M.

A Christmas Performance by the Children of Holy Trinity Church
and Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church following Badarak with Fellowship & Refreshments.

January 6, 2025 - Armenian Christmas Day - Soorp Dznoont

Morning Service	9:00 A.M.
Divine Liturgy	10:00 A.M.
Blessing of the Water Service	12:00 noon
Fellowship Luncheon	12:30 P.M.

Let us celebrate & greet each other, saying:

"Krisdos Dzunav Yev Haydnetsav, Orhnyal eh Haydnootyounuhn Krisdosee!"

"Christ is Born and Revealed...Blessed is the Revelation of Christ!"

Everyone is Cordially invited to attend and participate in the Christmas Celebration.



*Happy New Year
and Merry Christmas*

*An Invitation to a Joint
Nativity Eve Service
Sunday, January 5, 2025*

Joint Badarak with Holy Trinity Church of Worcester
and Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church at
315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA


Christmas Vigil Readings at 4:30 PM
Divine Liturgy/ Badarak at 5:00 PM

Celebrant: Very Rev. Father Ardag Arabian


Christmas Performance by the Children of Holy Trinity and
Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church immediately following Badarak.

Fellowship / Refreshments in the Church Hall.

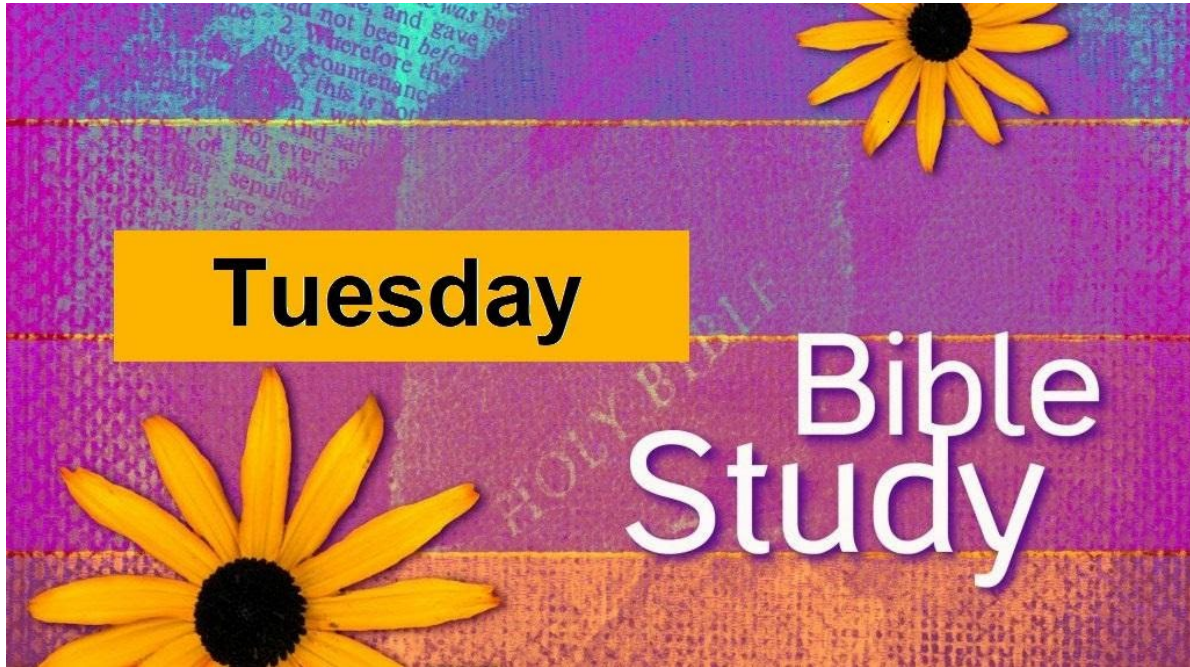
May this year bring good health
and success in every step you take
for the glory of God.



Krisdos Dznav yev Hydnet sav
Ohrnyal eh Haydnootyounn Krisdosi



TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY (AM & PM)



Bible Study - Resumes January 14, 2025

New Study Series of St. Paul

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**The Bible promotes INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT.
When we study, we learn the greatest piece of literature known to
man.**

**The Bible promotes GROWTH.
Those who desire to grow in their character must learn first of God.**

**The Bible promotes FAITH.
We learn of prayer in the Bible which counteracts unbelief.**

Bible study teaches us to fight against sin and the Word is a safeguard.

**The Bible promotes WISDOM.
Set a time for studying the Word. Be intentional. Study the Word prayerfully. Rely on the Bible's teachings and ask questions.**



If you and your family would like to host a Sunday Fellowship following Church Services, please call the Church Office at 508-234-3677 or sign up on the board downstairs.

Christmas Eve Service



Our beautiful tradition continues, as once again on Christmas Eve the Candlelight Service took place on Tuesday, December 24. It was a spiritually moving service as we joined together in singing Christmas Carols and reading Scriptures that recount the foretelling and the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.





YOU ARE INVITED TO

Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church

Christmas
LUNCHEON

JAN | 6 | 12:30

FOLLOWING BADARAK

Join us on this special day as we
celebrate the Nativity & Theophany
of Ouir Lord Jesus Christ

Let's Celebrate Together!



ARMENIANS *of* WHITINSVILLE

Going on a treasure hunt...

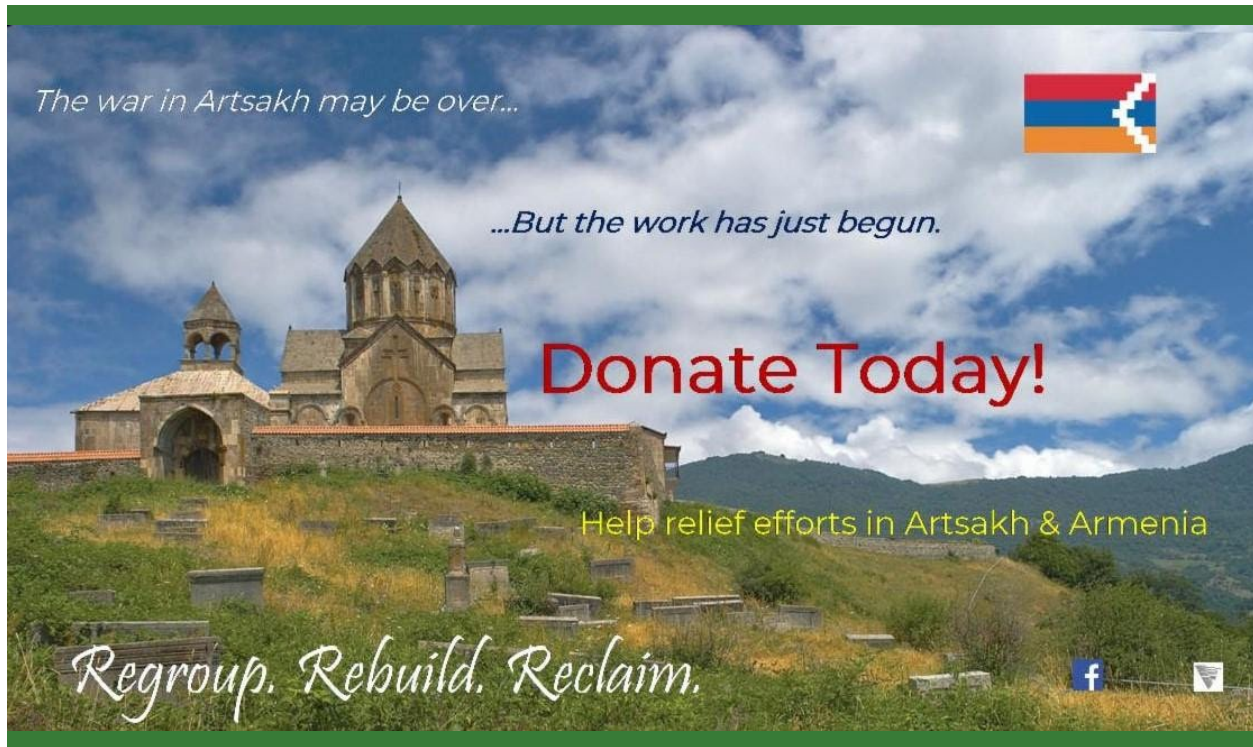
Once there was and was not a time when Armenian entrepreneurs' businesses were a ubiquitous part of our everyday lives in Whitinsville. From cutting our hair to repairing our shoes, from selling us candy and filling our cavities, these original and first-generation Armenians' stories are meant to be told – and you can help!

Look through your albums and shoeboxes, ask your friends and family members.... your photos can help our Armenians of Whitinsville website share stories about these businesses in our Community section. The following is not an exhaustive list – we welcome any photos/aneecdotes about these Armenian Whitinsville businesses and others you remember:

Archie's Shoe Repair ARF Rosdom Club on Church Street Aunt Mary's Cappy's Variety Store Chick's Barber Shop Cookie Kazarian's Grocery Store Gracie's Travel Hnchag Club on East Street Horan's Barber Shop Irene's Children's Shop Julie's Hair Salon Jundanian Law Office Kalian's Supermarket (formerly Star Market) Lilian Malkasian's Tailor Shop	Mooradian Cleaning Mose's Barber Shop Dr. Noroian Dentist, Baker Building, 2 nd floor Oscar Muradian's Dry Cleaning Phase II Art Gallery and Gift Shop Punjab's Sam and Arco-Whitinsville Public Market Sam's Shoe Repair Seropian Bowling Alley and Sanitary Barber Shop Serop's Market (Paulie's) on East Street Sippy's Eggs Varky's Dry Cleaning
--	--

If you have a photo or story to share, simply write to us at info@armeniansofwhitinsville.org. We will scan your photo and return it to you. And we continue to welcome more families to add their stories and collections to the website.

SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH MINISTRY



What Can We Do?

Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church of Whitinsville is committed to helping in any way we can. We have undertaken a new humanitarian effort to provide fresh food, groceries, and toiletries to the families who have either lost a soldier to the Artsakh war, or families who have a wounded hero who cannot work to support their family.

The program is simple. We order Groceries online from the supermarket in Armenia, which are paid for here in the United States. The groceries are delivered the next day to the families. We have "adopted" 15 families and God willing we will be adding more families as our ministry grows. Response to our AGM (Armenian Grocery Ministry) has been extremely positive and we hope to continue this work for as long as it is needed.

Der Mikael and The Board of Trustees urge you to donate generously to the following organizations.

For those who would like to mail a contribution via check, please make the check payable to Armenian Apostolic

Church with "Armenian Grocery Ministry" or "AGM" in the memo.

Mail to: [315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588](mailto:315ChurchSt@WhitinsvilleMA01588)
or via the UniBank link at the bottom of page.

Your secure donation will help to continue our humanitarian assistance in Armenia.

St. Nerses the Great Charitable Fund

On the ground in Armenia, the Eastern Prelacy sees small moments and individual stories as more than just numbers and words but knows that for each person they represent an entire world. Supporting the hope of this world are the individual sponsors who through their donation change the lives of Armenia and Artsakh's children in a dramatic and positive way.

Click Here: [Orphan's Fund - Armenian Prelacy to Donate](#)



SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH WITH WEEKLY OFFERINGS

these are challenging times for all of us. The church is committed to supporting you in your spiritual and material needs, but it is a group effort. If you are able, please consider continuing to contribute to the church so that she can continue in her mission. ***Your Sunday offerings and Stewardship can be done online by using the UniBank link at the bottom of this page, via our Facebook page or by mailing a check to the church - or the best way - In Person on Sundays. Thank you!***

***Celebrating a special occasion?
Honoring a loved one?***

Say it with Altar Flowers and/or Candles



Altar Flowers & Candles for the Christmas Season are donated by Joe & Margo Montecalvo in memory of their parents.



Almas & Archie Boghosian



Libera & Francesco Montecalvo

**If you would like to donate Altar Flowers or Candles during 2025,
Please call the church office at 508-234-3677 or email us
at soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com**

**Donations can also be mailed to:
Armenian Apostolic Church
315 Church St.
Whitinsville, MA 01588**

You may also donate using the UniBank link below:

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/CustomerInfo.aspx?Customerid=1798>

**Christmas Wreaths and plant at the Khatchkar are donated by
Jim & Priscilla Altoonian.**

**Donation for the Incense has been made by
Harry and Pamela Ohannesian
In Loving Memory of:**

Paul and Nora Ohannesian



If you would like to donate Flowers or Candles for our Altar in 2025,
Please call the church office at
508-234-3677 or email us at **soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com**
Donations can also be mailed to:
Armenian Apostolic Church
315 Church St.
Whitinsville, MA 01588

You may also donate using the UniBank link below:

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/CustomerInfo.aspx?Customerid=1798>

Monthly Donations for Altar Flowers \$125.00

Monthly Donation for Altar Candles \$75.00
Monthly Donation for Incense \$25.00

Lighting Candles and Prayer Requests

Lighting a candle is a way of extending one's prayer and showing solidarity with the person on whose behalf the prayer is offered.



If you cannot attend church but would like for Der Hayr to light a candle and offer silent prayers for you or a loved one, please email your requests to der.mikaeldk@gmail.com

Visitation & Holy Communion



If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to have a visit and receive Holy Communion, we ask that you PLEASE notify Der Hayr personally, at 774-462-8041 or through the Church Office:
Email: soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com or **Office:** 508-234-3677



+ Hospital + Visitations

If someone
you know is hospitalized, in a Nursing
Home or at home, we ask that you
PLEASE notify the Church Office.

All calls are kept confidential

Hospitals and Nursing Homes do not notify
the Church when parishioners are admitted.

Email: der.mikaeldk@gmail.com or soorpasdvardzin@gmail.com

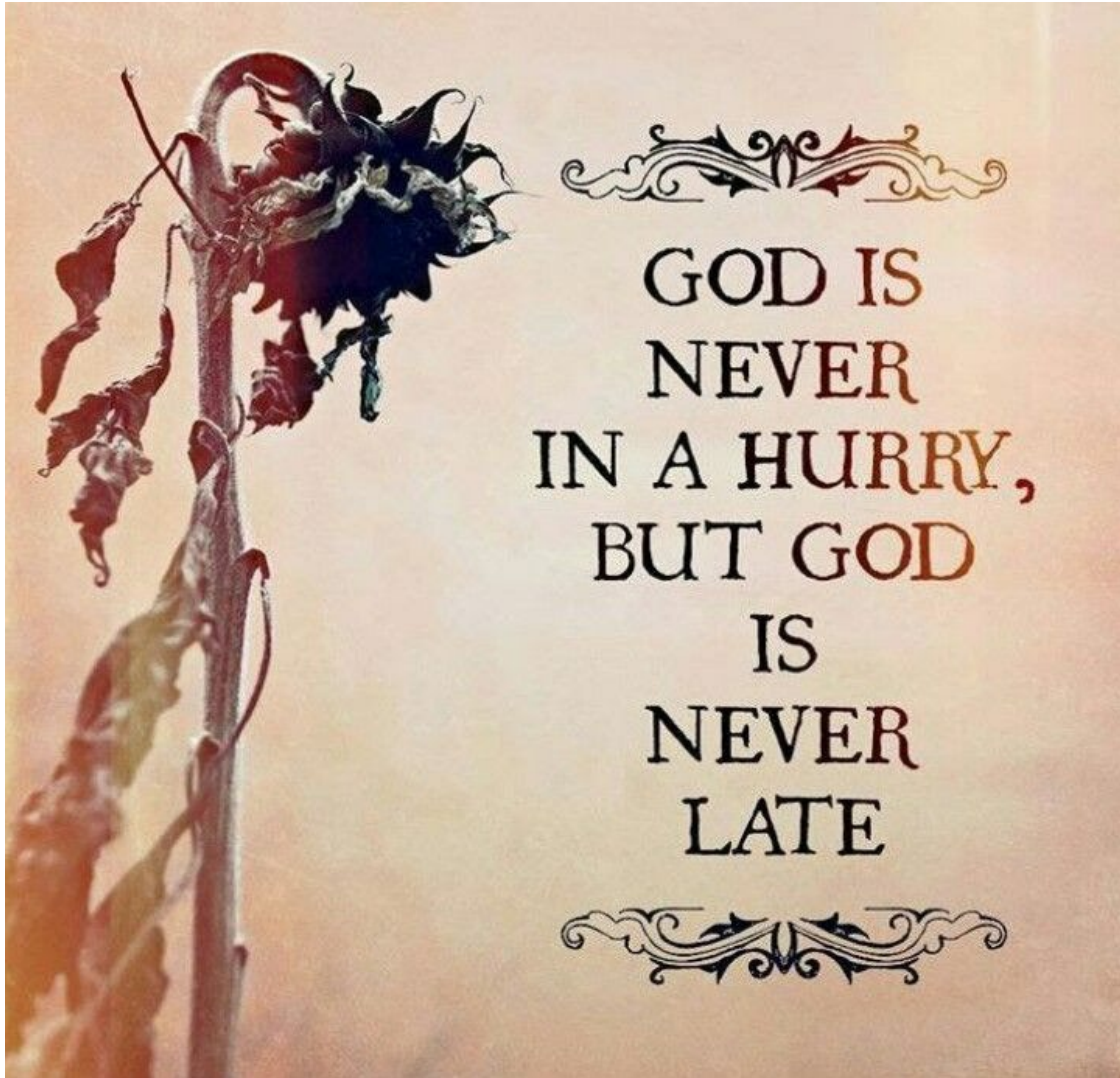
Mobile: 774-462-8041

FROM OUR ARCHIVES...



Sunday School Christmas Pageant - 2018

Words of Wisdom to Start Your Weekend.



Online Donations

For your convenience, St. Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church is now accepting online ACH/Electronic Check and Credit Card donations and payments. This is an easy and secure way to make your donations for Events, or for Stewardship, Membership and Requiem Services.

Electronic Check:

You will need to provide your bank's routing number and your bank account number to pay by this method. A helpful image is available during the payment process to assist in locating this information.

Credit Card:

We accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover.



To make a payment or a donation, please visit:

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/CustomerInfo.aspx?Customerid=1798>

OR Scan the QR Codes Below:

UNIPAY

All these Available For You Online...

Donations
Event Donations
Membership
Stewardship



QR Code for Donations



QR Code for Payment Center

**Do YOU sing or play the organ?
Do you know someone who sings or plays the organ?
Then why not contribute your talents to beautify our Sunday
worship experience at Soorp Asdvadzadin Church?
Please contact Deacon Jeffrey Kalousdian for more information
at katama@gmail.com**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Please save these dates and support our church.

2025

January 1 — New Year's Day Morning Prayer Service - 11:00 AM.
January 5 — Morning Service - 10:00 AM.
January 5 — Joint Armenian Christmas Eve Badarak w/Holy Trinity Church.
Fellowship
January 6 — Armenian Christmas Divine Liturgy and Luncheon.
January 11 — Ladies Guild Christmas Party.
January 14 — Bible Study (AM & PM).
January 21 — Bible Study (AM & PM).
January 28 — Bible Study (AM & PM).

February 1 — Ladies Guild Meeting.
February 4 — Bible Study (AM & PM).
February 11 — Bible Study (AM & PM).
February 18 — Bible Study (AM & PM).
February 23 — General Membership Meeting.
February 25 — Bible Study (AM & PM).

**ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR
E-NEWS LETTER?**

Please send your inquiries and comments to soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com

Soorp Asdvadzadin Armenian Apostolic Church | 508-234-3677 |
315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588 | www.armenianchurchofwhit.org