



# SOORP ASDVADZADZIN

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
OF WHITINSVILLE



SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH

## PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION



March 28, 2026

Morning Service 9:00  
Badarak / Divine Liturgy 10:00  
Procession w/Children 10:15  
Opening of the Gates 11:45  
Blessing of Children 12:00  
Palm Sunday Dinner 12:30

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL  
DIVINE LITURGY CELEBRATION  
THIS PALM SUNDAY

**E-Newsletter: Friday, March 27, 2026**

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK

**Open to us, O Lord, the door of your mercy, and make us worthy of your dwellings of light together with your saints. Receive us also, O Savior, into your mansions prepared for your saints, and inscribe our names in the Book of Life. O formidable judge, when you sit in the judgment seat, spare**

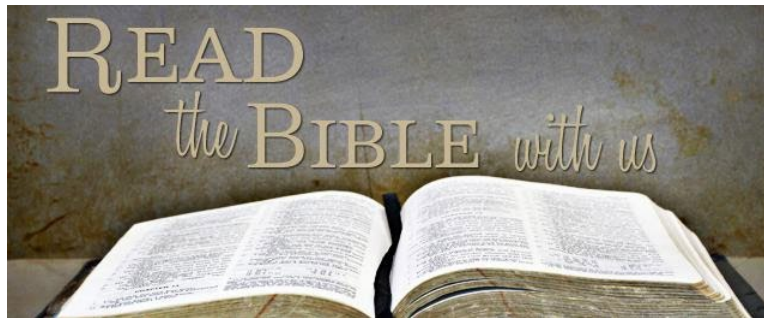
your creatures through the intercession and prayers of the  
holy ascetics.

Keep watch, Lord, over your faithful people; strengthen  
those fleeing persecution, and protect the holy soil of  
Armenia. Preserve the spirit of Artsakh in our hearts;  
console those who grieve; deliver your faithful children from  
conflict, and bestow your peace on all mankind. Amen.

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## Let's Read the Bible!

### Readings of the week



#### **Monday, March 30:**

Matthew 21:18-22:14; Genesis 1:1-3:24; Proverbs 1:1-9;  
Isaiah 40:1-8; Matthew 20:17-28

#### **Tuesday, March 31:**

##### **Remembrance of the Ten Virgins**

Mark 12:13-44; Genesis 6:9-9:17;  
Proverbs 9:1-10:6; Isaiah 40:9-17; Matthew 24:1-26:2

#### **Wednesday, April 1:**

Mark 14:1-44; Genesis 18:1-19:30; Proverbs 1:10-19;  
Zechariah 11:11-14; Matthew 26:3-16

#### **Thursday, April 2:**

### **Holy Thursday**

John 12:27-43; Jonah 2:3-10; Isaiah 60:20-22; Ezekiel 36:24-31;  
Hebrews 10:19-31; Luke 7:36-50;

**Midday Service:** Genesis 22:1-18; Isaiah 61:1-7;  
Acts 1:15-26; Mark 14:1-26;

**Divine Liturgy:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-32; Matthew 26:17-30

**Washing of the Feet:** Exodus 30:17-21; 1 Kings 7:38-40;  
Chronicles 4:2-6; Isaiah 44:2-6; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4  
1 John 4:7-21; John 13:1-11; John 13:12-15

### **Friday, April 3: Holy Friday**

#### ***Vigil of the Passion and Sufferings of Our Lord:***

John 13:16-18:1; Luke 22:1-65; Mark 14:27-72; Matthew 26:31-56;  
Matthew 26:57-75; John 18:2-27; John 18:28-19:16;

#### ***Order of the Crucifixion:*** Zechariah 11:11-14;

Galatians 6:14-18; Isaiah 3:9-15; Philippians 2:5-11; Isaiah 50:4-9;  
Romans 5:6-11; Amos 8:9-12; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31;  
Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 2:11-18; Matthew 27:1-56; Isaiah 63:1-6;  
Hebrews 9:11-28; Mark 15:1-41; Jeremiah 11:18-12:8; Hebrews 10:19-  
31;  
Luke 22:66-:23-49; Zechariah 14:5-11; 1 Timothy 6:13-16; John 19:17-  
37;

***Order of the Entombment:*** Jeremiah 11:18-12:8; Isaiah 52:13-53:12;  
Wisdom 2:1-22; Zechariah 12:8-14; 1 Peter 3:17-20; Matthew 27:57-61

### **Saturday, April 4:**

#### **Holy Saturday (Easter Eve)**

Matthew 27:62-66; Genesis 1:1-3:24; Genesis 22:1-18; Exodus 12:1-24;  
Jonah 1:1-4:11; Exodus 14:24-15:21; Isaiah 60:1-13; Job 38:1-30;  
Joshua 1:1-9; 2 Kings 2:1-22; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 37:1-14;  
Daniel 3:1-90

***First Easter Eucharist:*** 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Matthew 28:1-20

***Dismissal:*** Matthew 28:16-20

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**SUNDAY BIBLE READING**  
**Bible Readings for Sunday, March 29, 2026**

**Palm Sunday**

**PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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**THE HOLY GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO**

**MATTHEW 20:29 - 21:17**

**Jesus Heals Two Blind Men**

As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. There were two blind men sitting by the roadside. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!" The crowd sternly ordered them to be quiet; but they shouted even more loudly, "Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!" Jesus stood still and called them, saying, "What do you want me to do for you?" They said to him, "Lord, let our eyes be opened." Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him.

**The Triumphal Entry**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

### **Jesus Cleanses the Temple**

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'; but you are making it a den of robbers."

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became angry and said to him, "Do you hear what

these are saying?” Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read, ‘Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself’?”

He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

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## LITURGICAL CALENDAR AND NEWS FROM PRELACY CROSSROADS

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### CATHOLICOS ARAM I PRESIDES OVER HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATION WITH LEBANESE-ARMENIAN PARTIES



At the invitation of His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, the three Armenian political parties in Lebanon— the Social Democratic Hunchakian Party, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation, and the Armenian Democratic Liberal (Ramgavar) Party — convened at the Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia in Antelias for a high-level consultation session on Monday, March 23. The session, chaired by His Holiness, addressed the rapidly

evolving situation in Lebanon against the backdrop of the ongoing regional war.

His Holiness opened the session with a comprehensive analysis of the origins, developments, and strategic objectives of the war in the Middle East, followed by a briefing on the conditions facing Armenian communities across the Armenian Prelacy jurisdictions of the affected countries. Participants engaged in substantive discussions on the military and political dynamics shaping the region, with particular focus on Lebanon.

The assembly highlighted the civilizational and economic aspects of the regional conflict, as well as the profound humanitarian crisis it has triggered. Key concerns raised included the unprecedented surge in internal Lebanese displacement, the resulting demographic shifts, mounting domestic hardships, a deepening economic crisis, and the far-reaching consequences these developments pose for Lebanese society and its Armenian community.

Following thorough deliberations, His Holiness Catholicos Aram I issued the following directives:

The war in the Middle East — aimed at fundamentally redrawing the region's political map — is generating widespread disruption that inevitably affects local Armenian communities.

Spiritual and national leaders across each Prelacy are called to exercise heightened vigilance, avoid dangerous situations, and coordinate with their respective state authorities on emergency preparedness measures. The Armenian community in Lebanon reaffirms its steadfast commitment to the foundational principles of the Lebanese state, including sovereignty, territorial integrity, and internal security and peace.

In light of the severe hardships Lebanon continues to endure, coordinated efforts to preserve peace in Armenian-populated neighborhoods and sustain charitable activities must be maintained and strengthened.

The Lebanese-Armenian community must remain vigilant and resolute, refraining from involvement in internal Lebanese polarizations and

tensions, and upholding its longstanding tradition of pursuing solutions through dialogue.

Armenian charitable organizations are encouraged to coordinate their efforts in delivering humanitarian and social assistance to those in need. In closing, His Holiness Aram I commended the spirit of unity demonstrated through the joint session and emphasized that such consultative meetings — particularly in times of crisis — are not only valuable but essential to the cohesion and resilience of the Armenian community.

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## AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION



By this Sunday, upon the completion of the Great Lent period extending over six weeks, we have arrived at the final petition of the Lord's Prayer: "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil." I must confess in advance that this petition is the thorniest one to explain because of its diverse approaches, even in Scriptures.

Let us quote some of them. In the book of Job, when Satan questions Job's fidelity, God tells him, "All that he has is in your power, only do not

stretch out your hand against him” (Job 1:12). St. James says, “God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone. Each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed” (James 1:13-15). Saints Peter and Paul looked positively at temptation, which we will mention later.

Bearing in mind these valuable testimonies, I would like to look at this subject through the experience of the One who for our sake confronted Temptation and became the role model in all circumstances to challenge life’s temptations throughout our earthly lives.

The Evangelist has recorded that in the very beginning of His earthly mission “Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil” (Mt 4:1). On the other hand, the Sacred Lamb, before shedding His Blood on behalf of our sins, went through an agonizing experience in the garden of Gethsemane, and prayed, “Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want” (Mt 26:39).

Temptation, no matter how small or great, is present in the life of mankind from Eden to the creation of the “New heaven and the new Earth” described by St. John (Rev. 21:1), from the tiny temptation of a child disobeying his or her mother’s request not to touch the cake to committing the highest treason. Two factors are present in all cases: external and internal. The former is what the world presents, and the latter, the free will to yield or refuse the external cause. Eliminating the external factor with God’s Providential care and good will is to our advantage and defense, while yielding and being trapped by Satan paves the way to our destruction.

God does not lead us to be tempted, as St. James states. If He allows us to be tempted, it’s either to defeat Satan, as Jesus did, or like Job, who went through incredible sufferings yet stayed steadfast and was blessed all the more. Or like the Apostle Peter, who, after denying Christ, humbled himself. As the Apostle Paul testifies, “We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation” (Rom 5:3-4). And the Apostle Peter testifies: “In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven

genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise” (1 Peter 1:6-7).


Temptations are always part of our physical, mental, and spiritual warfare. We cannot avoid them. But the greatest and present temptation in all cases is the following: do we disobey God’s Will like the First Adam and because of sin be deprived of His presence, or do we obey God’s Will like the Second Adam, Jesus Christ, and enjoy his presence? In the Wilderness, the Anointed and the Beloved Son of God the Father, Jesus Christ, absolutely refuted Temptation.

In Gethsemane, our Lord and Brother in nature Jesus Christ, even though reflecting on the fragility of our human nature, as the obedient Son of God, even to the point of death, overcame the Great Temptation for the Redemption of Mankind.

After exploring the spirit of this petition, which is a sincere cry from the depth of our hearts, well knowing our vulnerability and the weakness of our nature, in fact like the Psalmist we are beseeching our heavenly Father “O my God, in you I trust, do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me” (Ps 25:2). Thus “Lead me not into temptation...” becomes more a song of assurance, of deeper Faith and Hope.

**Archbishop Anoushavan  
Prelate**

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## FEASTS OF THE WEEK

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**Saturday, March 28:** Remembrance of Christ’s Raising Lazarus.

**Sunday, March 29:** Palm Sunday.

**REMEMBRANCE OF THE RAISING OF LAZARUS**



This Saturday, March 28, we commemorate the Raising of Lazarus as told in the Gospel of John, Chapter 11. Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha were good friends of Jesus. Their home in Bethany (near Jerusalem) was Jesus' home whenever he was in Jerusalem. Lazarus' sudden death threw his sisters into deep mourning. Jesus also wept for his friend. John's gospel account emphasizes the fact that Lazarus was indeed dead by pointing out that his body was in the tomb. Jesus' raising of Lazarus convinced many people of his divine powers, and according to John, the authorities took steps to try to silence him.

Lazarus represents humankind and Bethany represents the whole world. The major themes of this day are the forthcoming victory of Christ over death, the supreme sacrifice of love, and the resurrection as the ultimate triumph of love.

The forty days of Great Lent (Medz Bahk) come to an end with Vespers on Friday prior to the commemoration of the Raising of Lazarus. A new fasting period for Holy Week begins on Monday and continues through Holy Saturday.

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## Palm Sunday

This Sunday, March 29, is Palm Sunday, which commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy Week. The Church is joyful after forty days of repentance. Christ is coming to Jerusalem. He is coming in the name of the Lord in fulfillment of the prophecy (Zechariah 9:9-16).

*Rejoice, O Jerusalem, and adorn your bridal chamber, O Sion, for behold your King Christ, seated on the new colt, shows meekness and comes to enter into your chamber. ... Cry aloud, Hosanna, blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord, who has great mercy.*

(From the Introit of Palm Sunday)



### ON PALM SUNDAY

*“The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A*

*very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road” (Matthew 21:7-8).* The triumphal entrance of Christ to Jerusalem is what we celebrate on Palm Sunday.

The Armenian name of the feast is Ծաղկազարդ (Dzaghgazart, literally “Flower Ornament”), different from other languages: Palm Sunday, Domingo de Ramos (“Branches Sunday,” in Spanish), et cetera. This shows that the Armenian name has a special meaning. Like many other feasts of our religious calendar, the advent of Christianity absorbed and adapted a pagan celebration.

Around this date, there was the celebration of the ancient feast of spring, which was also dedicated to trees and flowers, and contained the idea of the Tree of Life. It was common to decorate the trees with colorful pieces of cloth, and for this reason the feast of Dzaghgazart took the popular name of Ծառզարդար (Dzarzartar “Ornamenting of Trees”).

During Dzaghgazart, in different regions of Armenia they prepared marionettes related to rain and drought, which had different names, even though the most common one was Նուրի (Noori). Scholars have assumed that it was a representation of the water divinity Nar. The marionettes were made of brooms or wood, and their face was made with white cloth. They were also endowed with a belt made of colorful fabric, a veil with brilliant beads, and a flower crown on the head.

A procession took Noori through squares and neighborhoods. People threw pitchers of water over the procession from windows and doors, and gave little gifts to the participants.

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# SAVE THE DATE



## ST. GREGORY OF DATEV INSTITUTE



**June 28 - July 5, 2026**

The Summer Program will take place at

**Shiloh Bible Camp & Retreat Center**

753 Burnt Meadow Road

Hewitt, NJ 07421

Details to Follow!

[Click Here to Read the Prelacy's E-Newsletter "Crossroads"](#)

# SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH NEWS

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## Baking for the Spring Bake Sale Contiues!



Above and below: Dale, Christine, Amy and Ann preparing the Peanut Butter Kufta.



Karen, Marina, Zarouhi, Mary, Ann, Dona and Amy working on PB Kuftha, Yalanchi and Pakhlava!



Saturday is quickly approaching and our ladies have been amazing. You may have noticed that the women pictured in our E-Newsletter the past few weeks during the baking sessions are the same people. Whether it's choreg, lahmajoun, Kufta or pakhlava - the same women are working to make our Spring Bake Sale a reality. We are grateful for these wonderful, dedicated, and loving ladies for giving our church their all. God bless you!



Left and Above: Ladies making String Cheese. Yn. Susana and Priscilla making each.



Left and above: Christine, Karen, Dona and Betty rolling the Yalanchi (stuffed grape leaves - vegetarian).

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Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Church

# Great Lent 2026

Lenten Services Will Start at 6:30 PM  
With Dinner & Fellowship at 7:00 PM

Friday, February 20

Friday, February 27

Friday, March 6

Friday, March 13

Friday, March 20

Friday, March 27





SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH  
PALM SUNDAY  
DINNER

March 29, 2026

Following the Divine Liturgy  
in the Church Hall

Sautéed Tenderloin Tips and Mushroom w/Pilav  
Baked Stuffed Haddock with  
Roasted Rosemary Red Bliss Potatoes,  
Drinks, Coffee & Dessert

RSVP By March 22 To:

[soorpasdvadzadzin@gmail.com](mailto:soorpasdvadzadzin@gmail.com)

OR

See a Trustee for Tickets:

\$20/pp Children Under 12 Free

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**Holy Saturday Communion Breakfast**



SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH  
OF WHITINSVILLE PRESENTS



*Holy  
Communion  
Breakfast*

**& EASTER EGG HUNT**

**SAT. APRIL 4TH 9:30 AM  
CHURCH SANCTUARY**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO  
JOIN US FOR HOLY  
COMMUNION, FOLLOWED BY  
BREAKFAST AND AN EASTER  
EGG HUNT!



HOLY TRINITY  
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

*Presents*

*The Parable of the  
Ten Maidens*

*"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."  
— Matthew 25:13*

*Tuesday, March 31, 2026  
6:00 PM*

◆ *Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church  
Worcester, Massachusetts*

*Under the auspices of  
His Eminence Anoushavan Surpazan*

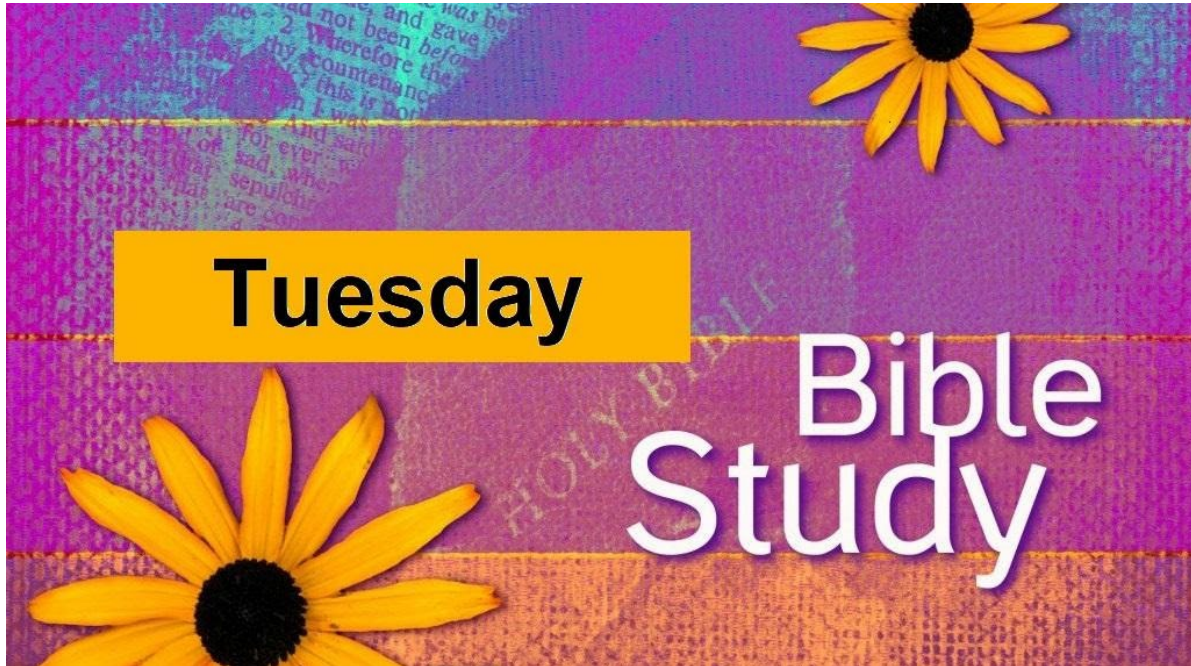
*We will be joined by  
Der Mikael Der Kosrofian  
and the parish of Soorp Asdvadzadin  
Armenian Apostolic Church of Whitinsville.*

*Join us for an evening of reflection and spiritual preparation  
as we explore this powerful Lenten parable of  
vigilance, faith, and readiness.*

*All are welcome*

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## TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY



**Bible Study - Resumes on April 7**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Join us as we study the Book of Revelation**

**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.**

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WORCESTER COUNTY  
GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION



SPECIAL JOINT PRAYER SERVICE

APRIL 24, 7PM

FOLLOWED BY COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

Armenian Church of Our Saviour  
87 Salisbury St, Worcester, MA

Armenian Church of Our Saviour,  
Holy Trinity Armenian Church,  
Soorp Asdvadzdzin Armenian Church,  
Armenian Church of the Martyrs

[www.acoos.org](http://www.acoos.org)



## “SEYFO MEN L-BAR L-GOW”: External to Internal Violence Against Assyrians from Physical to Epistemic and Existential

# 27 MARCH 2026 | 7:30PM

### St. Mary's Syriac Orthodox Church

1 Industrial Drive | Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Map of Assyria from the Paris Peace Conference (1919) and Bylaws of the precursor Assyrian American National Federation (AANF).

#### THE GENOCIDE OF ASSYRIAN COMMUNITIES IN THE

Middle East during the collapse of the Ottoman state has only recently entered scholarly discussion, and even then remains confined to a limited audience. More troubling, however, is what remains largely unexamined within this scholarship: the failure to recognize the genocide as a completed historical event has itself enabled the continuation of genocidal processes, particularly through denial and erasure. This talk traces the stages of genocide in the Assyrian case—from mass violence to post-genocidal denial—arguing that modern scholarship can function as a site of ongoing violence. It concludes by examining the existential threat posed by internalized denial, wherein the refusal or inability to affirm historical truth undermines collective survival and selfhood.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Robert Aram and Marianne Kalaosdian and Stephen and Marian Mugar Professor in Armenian Genocide Studies at Clark University

SPEAKER



**SARGON DONABED**

Professor of History, Roger Williams University. Sargon holds a Ph.D. in Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations from the University of Toronto and a MSci from Canisius University in Anthropology/Animal Studies. Among others, he is the author of *Reforging a Forgotten History: Iraq and the Assyrians in the 20th Century* (Edinburgh University Press, 2015) and co-editor and contributor to *The Assyrian Heritage: Threads of Continuity and Influence* (Uppsala University, 2012). He has been a visiting scholar at Harvard Divinity School and Brown University and lectured at various universities around the world. In addition, Donabed has been featured by major academic and cultural institutions like the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City for his expertise on the Assyrian heritage.



# 24 APRIL 2026 | 5:30PM

HIGGINS LOUNGE | DANA COMMONS

## THE DAVID ATAMIAN JOURNALS: An Unparalleled Record of the Armenian Genocide

David Atamian (1892, Behesni-1978, Arlington, Virginia) survived the Armenian Genocide and produced an unparalleled multi-volume journal of the early twentieth century. The manuscript spans more than 10,000 pages in thirteen volumes, covering his youth, the genocide, and the postwar period. He recorded arrests, deportation procedures, police corruption, disease, hunger, and daily survival strategies, often in real time. His postwar entries trace conditions and survivor networks across Aintab, Antioch, Birecik, Dörtüyl, Iskenderun, Kilis, Marash, Nizip, Musa Dag, Suruç, Urfa, and Zeytun. The journals are multilingual (Armenian, Armeno-Turkish, Ottoman Turkish, with several dozen later pages in English) and include a wealth of photographs, reports, and verse. Atamian repeatedly reflects on loneliness, uncertainty, and the urgency of writing “while I still live” through events, presenting diary-keeping as an act of resistance and testimony. Donated to the Library of Congress in 1946, the manuscript was described as “perhaps the most significant, certainly the most unusual” acquisition of the year. In this illustrated talk, Dr. Mouradian offers the first scholarly reading of the manuscript, showing how the journals deepen our understanding of the late Ottoman era and shed light on the daily emotional world of deportees.

SPEAKER



**DR. KHATCHIG MOURADIAN**  
*Lecturer in Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS) at Columbia University.*

**MODERATOR DR. ELYSE SEMERDJIAN**  
*Robert Aram and Marianne Kalaosdian and Stephen and Marian Mugar Chair of Armenian Genocide Studies; Professor, Department of History*

ZOOM REGISTRATION



[clarku.zoom.us/join/register/WN\\_09ZF7mhxQ2KUASQOan5o9w](https://clarku.zoom.us/join/register/WN_09ZF7mhxQ2KUASQOan5o9w)

**CLARK UNIVERSITY** STRASLER CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES

Sponsored by the Friends of the Robert Aram and Marianne Kalaosdian and Stephen and Marian Mugar Professor in Armenian Genocide Studies

## NEXTGEN ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

For years, Armenian families have asked for a serious academic program where high school students could explore their history, identity, and culture in depth. This summer, we're offering exactly that.

The NextGen Armenian Studies Program is a three-week program running Monday through Friday, July 13–31, at NAASR's HQ in Belmont, MA. It's open to rising high school juniors, rising seniors, and 2026 graduates. Students spend three weeks studying Armenian history, culture, identity, and language alongside faculty from Harvard, MIT, Cornell, Tufts, Columbia, and other universities. The application deadline is April 20th.

At the moment, this is the only program of its kind available to local Armenian-American high schoolers. Students will leave with work they're proud of, skills they can point to, and an experience that stands out on a college application.

# THINK DEEPER THIS SUMMER.



## NEXTGEN ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & RECENT GRADS

JULY 13-31, 2026 | BELMONT, MA

An **immersive** project-driven journey, mentored by faculty from **Harvard, MIT, Columbia, and beyond**. Designed to equip students with real skills, deeper knowledge, and work they're proud of.

- ✓ Critical thinking
- ✓ AI literacy
- ✓ Digital content creation
- ✓ Persuasive writing
- ✓ Public speaking



Scan or visit our site to apply by:  
**April 20, 2026**

**NAASR.ORG**

### WEEK 1 CIVILIZATION & CULTURE

From ancient origins to medieval manuscripts and epic poetry, students explore the long sweep of Armenian history through primary sources, archival workshops, and site visits.

### WEEK 2 DIASPORA & IDENTITY

Students trace how Armenians survived and stayed connected across empires and continents — examining communities under Ottoman, Persian, and Russian rule and visiting the offices of the century-old Armenian press.

### WEEK 3 JUSTICE & THE PRESENT

Students engage directly with genocide testimony, the loss of Artsakh, and the science of denial — then present their own social media campaigns to a live audience.

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**Church Membership**

**We wish to welcome you to join our Church family by becoming a dues-paying member. Anyone reaching the age of eighteen (18) is eligible to become a member entitling them to participate in the governing process of our Church allowing its members to vote and hold office.**

**The vitality of our church rests in your hands. Being part of our Church community offers another home - a home of worship, love, and togetherness. Therefore your active participation in the life of our Church will keep our community vibrant.**

**Your time, treasures, and talents are greatly appreciated as we strengthen our faith and dedication to the Armenian Church and its traditions. For more information on how to become a dues-paying member, please call the church office, see a member of the Board of Trustees or email [soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com](mailto:soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com)**

**Your financial support through Annual Membership Dues and Stewardship helps to provide the resources needed to maintain our facilities and grow our outreach. It is through your support that our Church is able to fulfill its mission.**

**With joy let us participate in caring for our spiritual home that is always here for us.**

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**Sunday Fellowship Hour**



**Our traditional Sunday Fellowship Hour has Changed.**

**We encourage your participation by bringing a small dish or snack to share, creating a more communal and relaxed atmosphere. We hope this new format will make it easier for all to contribute and enjoy a richer variety of food and fellowship together.**

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**Mission Work Opportunity in Armenia**

## Come Join Us!

My wife Junie and I have decided once again to return to Armenia in 2026 to help another family in need build a respectable home for themselves. We will be working under the supervision of Fuller Global Builders Armenia. The trip duration will be from 6/14 to 6/28. Our trip will consist of alternating workdays with touring days.



No particular skills are needed for the type of work we will do. No need to speak Armenian. We will have an interpreter and tour guide with us throughout the entire trip. Our team will consist of 12–14 volunteers. Next summer's AYF Interns will also join us for two days of work.

On non-working days we will visit many of the wonders Armenia has to offer. Sightseeing will consist of a tour of Yerevan, the Genocide Monument and Museum, the Geghard Monastery, the Garni Temple and Symphony of Stones, the newly renovated Etchmiadzin Cathedral, Khor Virap and Lake Sevan, to mention a few.



2024 Fuller Team with AYF Interns

There is no better way to see our Homeland while leaving a piece of yourself behind.  
Hope you choose to come along.



*If you are interested in joining us or finding out more about the trip, please contact  
John Mangassarian at 401-640-6660 or [johnmag4345@cox.net](mailto:johnmag4345@cox.net).  
Please share this solicitation with your family and friends.*

**SOORP ASDVADZADZIN CHURCH MINISTRY**

## **A New Mission of Compassion**

We're excited to share a heartfelt update about the direction of the Armenian Grocery Ministry. This new year, our ministry will embark on a new mission. Our efforts will be focused on providing care to orphans in Armenia and at the Birds' Nest Armenian Orphanage in Lebanon.

For years, the Armenian Grocery Ministry has worked diligently to serve vulnerable families across the Armenian community. Now, recognizing the urgent needs of orphaned children—many of whom face food insecurity and lack basic necessities—we are turning our attention to the most vulnerable among us.

Starting this month, donations and resources will be directed specifically toward:

- Orphans in Armenia: We will provide ongoing support for children without parents or family and who are living in an orphanage.
- Birds' Nest Orphanage, Lebanon: A historic and beloved institution that has served Armenian orphans for nearly a century, the Birds' Nest will receive ongoing support and care of the children under its protection.

This re-focus allows us to make a deeper and more lasting impact on the lives of children who need it most. With inflation, economic hardship, and regional instability, we believe this is a necessary and timely adjustment in our ministry.

We invite our supporters and community members to join us in this renewed mission. Your support can directly touch the lives of Armenian orphans and bring hope where it's most needed.

Together, we can be the hands and hearts of compassion for these children—the youngest and most vulnerable among us. Thank You!

**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 Orphan's Ministry" or "AOM" in the memo.**

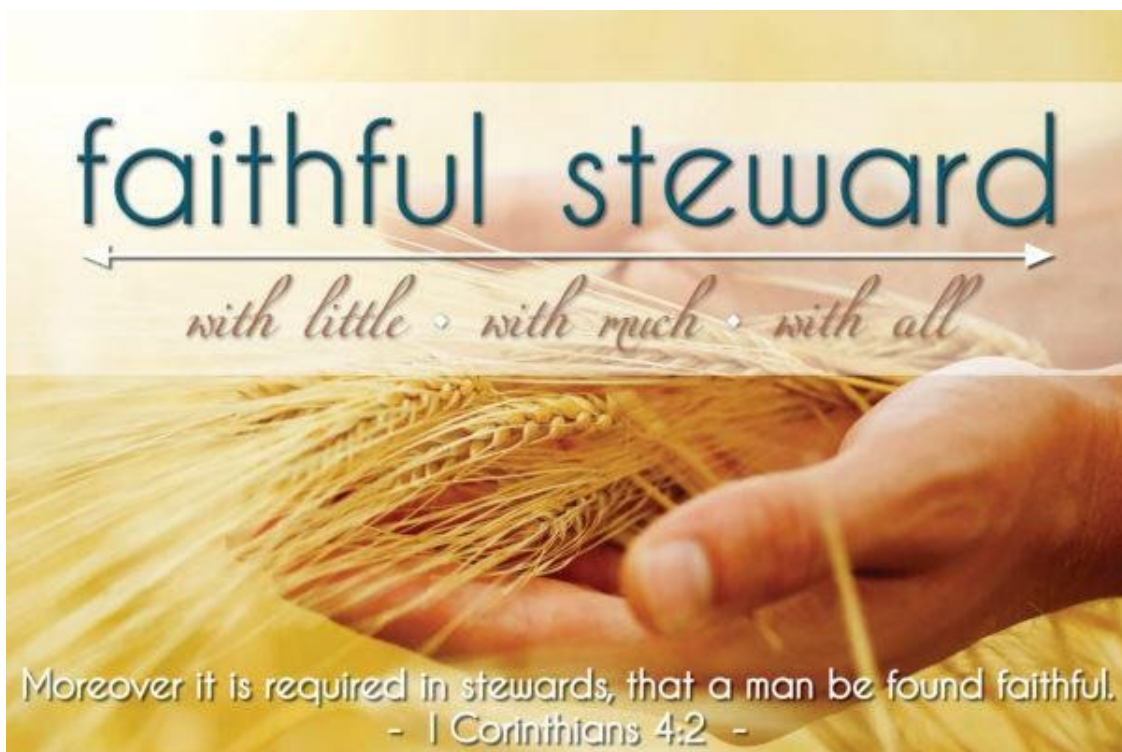
Mail to: 315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588  
or via the UniBank link at the bottom of page.

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, or by mailing a check to the church - or the best way - In Person on Sundays. Thank you!***

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

***Say it with Altar Flowers and/or Candles***



**Flowers & Candles this Month are Donated by the  
Der Kosrobian Families  
in Memory of Mikael & Mary Der Kosrobian, Diran & Verkin Minasian,  
Minas & Mary Minasian, Anahid Minasian and Levon Cholakian**

**If you would like to donate Altar Flowers/Candles During 2026**

Please contact Yeva Der Kosrofian at 508-514-863 or via email [yevaderk23@gmail.com](mailto:yevaderk23@gmail.com) or you may call the church office at 508-234-3677 or email us at [soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com](mailto: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

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## **Good Friday & Easter Flower Donations**



**If You Would Like to Make a Donation for Lilies this  
Easter Season for the Sanctuary or for the  
Flowers for the Entombment Service on Good Friday, Please  
Contact Yeva at [yevaderk23@gmail.com](mailto:yevaderk23@gmail.com) or call 508-514-8613**

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# **HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

**Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church  
315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA.**

**Holy Week and Easter Sunday Schedule**

**Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026**

Morning Service	9:00 A.M.
Divine Liturgy	10:00 A.M.
Trunpatzek – Opening of the Gates	11:30 A.M.
Blessing of the Children	12:00 P.M.
Palm Sunday Dinner	12:30 P.M.

**Great Tuesday – March 31, 2026**

Great Tuesday Vespers – Holy Trinity Church Worcester 6:30 P.M.

**Maundy Thursday – April 2, 2026**

Washing of the Feet	6:30 P.M.
Khavaroom (Betrayal of Jesus)	7:30 P.M.

**Holy Friday – April 3, 2026**

Service of Entombment of our Lord 6:30 P.M.

**Holy Saturday – April 4, 2026**

Confession and Holy Communion	9:30A.M.
Breakfast	10:00A.M.
Evening Service	5:00P.M.
Reading from the Book of Daniel	5:30P.M.
Divine Liturgy (Jurakalooys)	6:00P.M.

**Easter Sunday – April 5, 2026**

Morning Service	9:00 A.M.
Divine Liturgy	10:00 A.M.
Holy Communion	11:30 A.M.

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## 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](mailto:der.mikaeldk@gmail.com)

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## 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](mailto:soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com) or **Office:** 508-234-3677

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# + 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](mailto:der.mikaeldk@gmail.com) or [soorpasvdzadzin@gmail.com](mailto:soorpasvdzadzin@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 774-462-8041

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES...



**Holy Thursday Washing of the Feet Service - April 2015**

**Do YOU sing or play the organ? Do you know someone who does?  
Then why not contribute your talents to beautify our Sunday  
worship experience at Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church?  
Please contact Deacon Jeffrey Kalousdian at [katama@gmail.com](mailto:katama@gmail.com)**

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***Have a Blessed and Peaceful Weekend.....***



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### **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 Payments**  
**Membership**  
**Stewardship**



QR Code for Donations



QR Code for Payment Center

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## 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 27 — Lenten Service and Dinner  
March 28 — Spring Bake Sale  
March 29 — Palm Sunday Celebration and Dinner  
March 31 — Holy Tuesday Remembrance of the Ten Virgins-at Holy Trinity

April 1 — Holy Thursday - Washing of the Feet  
April 3 — Holy Friday (Good Friday).  
April 4 — Holy Saturday Communion Breakfast with Anoushavan Srpazan  
Easter Eve Badarak  
April 5 — Easter Sunday  
April 11 — Ladies Guild Meeting.  
April 24 — Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide

May 2 — Ladies Guild Meeting.  
May 10 — Mother's Day.  
May 25 — Memorial Day Service at Pine Grove Cemetery

June 6 — Church Yard Sale.  
June 21 — Father's Day.

August 3 — Annual Dave Papazian Memorial Golf Tournament.

August 16 — Annual Church Picnic.

December 24 — Christmas Eve Service

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

Please send your inquiries and comments to [soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com](mailto:soorpasdvadzadin@gmail.com)

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Soorp Asdvadzadin Armenian Apostolic Church | 508-234-3677 |  
315 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588 | [www.armenianchurchofwhit.org](http://www.armenianchurchofwhit.org)