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# Holy Cross

## Armenian Catholic Church

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Rev Fr Raphael Andonian, OMech · Pastor

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07 September 2008

The Third Sunday after the Assumption · Festival before the Holy Cross Fast

Գ. Կիւրակէ զկնի Վերափոխման: · Բարեկենդան Խաչի պահոցն:

Readings · Ընթերցուածք աձ / 1a

Prophecy · Մարգարէականն  
Isaiah 10.12–19  
Isaiah 14.01–11

Epistle · Առաքելականն  
2 Corinthians 02.12–03.03  
2 Corinthians 07.04–16

Gospel · Ս. Աւետարանն  
Mark 06.30–44  
Mark 07.31–37

08 September 2008

The Birthday of the Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God ·

Տօն Ծննդեան Սրբոյ Կուսին Մարիամու Աստուածածնի:

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14 September 2008

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross · Խաչվերաց: Տաղաւար:

Readings · Ընթերցուածք դկ / 4b

Prophecy · Մարգարէականն  
Isaiah 49.13–23

Epistle · Առաքելականն  
Galatians 06.14–18

Gospel · Ս. Աւետարանն  
John 03.13–21

Introit · Ժամամուտ

Before Your precious and all-conquering Cross we fall down in worship, and we ask for forgiveness of our transgressions, because it is by it that You lifted the condemnation of the human race. And now, through Your holy and divine sign, grant Your heavenly peace to all the world.

In the year 614 the armies of the Persian ruler Khosrov [588-628] swept westward from Damascus all the way to Egypt [619].

On their way they captured Jerusalem and removed the enshrined relics of the True Cross of our Blessed Savior to Khosrov's astrological throne room in Ktēsiphōn (Tizbon).

The seventh-century Armenian historian Sebeos tells about the taking of these relics and their recovery after the defeat of the Persian armies and the death of Khosrov:

*The first thing that [Byzantine Emperor Heraclius] requested of [the defeated Persian nobleman Khoream] was the life-giving Cross which [Khosrov] had captured at Jerusalem.*

*Then Khoream vowed to him, saying: "As soon as I reach the royal court I shall make inquiry about the Cross, and have it brought to you." ...Now Khoream took his multitude of troops and went to Ktesiphon [the Persian capital]. ...*

*Then the venerable Heraclius dispatched loyal men to Khoream concerning the Lord's Cross. [The latter] sought for it with great urgency and immediately gave it to the men who had come. They took it and departed hurriedly. [Khoream] also gave them no small amount of goods and dispatched them with great joy.*

Armenian troops were a proud part of the armies of Heraclius which defeated the Persians and restored the Holy Cross to Jerusalem.

The major feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in September highlights the importance of this restoration of a relic which St. Helena, the mother of an Emperor (Constantine) had uncovered in the fourth century. Constantine then housed the Holy Cross in a dedicated basilica in Jerusalem. Three centuries later it was brought back under the circumstances mentioned above.

According to legend, when Heraclius approached the gate of Jerusalem bearing the relics of the Cross, he found the going increasingly more difficult, until he could proceed no further, not from weight or overexertion but from some inexplicable force. The Patriarch Zakharias suggested that the worldly splendor of his secular adornments was unsuited to the humility which bearing the Cross requires, and after removing his rich imperial robes, Heraclius was able to continue.

Our parish stands protected in the shadow of Christ's all-saving Cross: May it keep us from sin. And may our now eleven-year-old church edifice in Belmont continue to serve to God's glory.  
*Փառք Աստուծոյ:*

The Parish will be holding a celebratory eleventh-anniversary dinner today after *Surp Badarak*. Please make reservations and ticket arrangements with a member of the Parish Council.

15 September 2008

Day of the dead · Ծր մեռելոց:

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21 September 2008

The Second Sunday of the Holy Cross · Բ. Կիւրակէ Խաչվերացի:

Festival before the Fasts for the Cross of Varak and for the Feast of St George

Բարեկենդան Վարագայ Ս. Խաչի և ապա պահք Ս. Գէորգայ:

Readings · Ընթերցուածք դձ / 4a

Prophecy · Մարգարէականն  
Isaiah 14.03–17

Epistle · Առաքելականն  
2 Corinthians 10.18–11.10

Gospel · Ս. Աւետարանն  
Mark 10.01–12

27 September 2008

St George, St Adoktos, and St Romanos the Melodist ·

Սրբոցն Գէորգայ զօրավարին և Ադոկտոսի և Ռոմանոսի Երգեցողին:

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28 September 2008

The Third Sunday of the Holy Cross · Գ. Կիւրակէ Խաչվերացի:

The Holy Cross of Varak · Տօն Վարագայ Սրբոյ Խաչի:

Readings · Ընթերցուածք գկ / 3b

Prophecy · Մարգարէականն  
Isaiah 49.13–23

Epistle · Առաքելականն  
Galatians 06.14–18

Gospel · Ս. Աւետարանն  
Matthew 24.30–35(–36)

04 October 2008

The Holy Seventy-Two Disciples of Christ ·

Սրբոց եօթանասուն և երկու աշակերտացն Քրիստոսի:

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