



**Trnpatsek – Ritual of the Opening of the Doors
Conducted on Palm Sunday**

Palm Sunday marks Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem as Messiah. Sometimes Palm Sunday is referred to as Advent, in reference to Christ's coming as the Messiah to Jerusalem and to His Passion. For that reason it is connected with Christ's Second or Final Coming, and is celebrated in the Armenian Church with the special "Opening of the Doors" (Trnpatsek) ritual; a foreshadowing of the Last Judgment.

Psalm 118

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, and we bless you from the house of the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, his steadfast loves endures forever! The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

Hymn – Shnorya Mez Der – Grant us Lord

Grant us vigilance, Lord, with that of the Wise Virgins and brighten the lamps of our souls.

The priest kneeling outside the curtain of the altar shall chant lamentingly, for this service symbolizes Judgment Day.

Pats Mez Der – Open to Us Lord

Open to us, open to us, O Lord, the door of Thy mercy, we ask with a lamenting voice,

Deacon (inside): Who are these to whom I should open, for this is the Lord's door and the righteous shall enter through it.

Priest (outside): Not only can the just enter, but the sinners also may enter, having been justified by means of confession and repentance.

Deacon (inside): Be it known, that this is the door to heaven, the vale of sorrow, which God promised to Jacob, rest for the just, a place of forgiveness for sinners, the Kingdom of Christ, the residence of the angels, the place of meeting for saints, a place of refuge, and the House of God.

Priest (outside): It is worthy and true what you say about the Holy Church because she is our Immaculate Mother; and from her we are born as sons of light and of truth; she is the hope of life for us; through her we find salvation of our souls; she is the way of righteousness for us and through her we ascend to Christ, our heavenly Father.

Hymn – Imasdoon Goosankn – The Wise Virgins

The Wise Virgins, having prepared their oil-lamps, went forth to meet the heavenly Bridegroom with lighted lamps.

The priest kneeling outside the curtain of the altar shall chant lamentingly:

Pats Mez Der – Open to Us Lord

Open to us, open to us, O Lord, the door of Thy mercy, we ask with a lamenting voice,

Deacon (inside): The terrifying trumpet of God calls out with a frightful sound and says: "Behold the bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him."

Priest (outside): Behold, I and the children whom God has entrusted me. We all are here and expect to see Christ and hear His blissful voice.

Deacon (inside): The voice of God the Creator calls, saying: "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world.

Priest (outside): Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks unto the Lord.

The Curtain is opened with the Hymn – Zoghormootyan – Open to Us

Open to us the gate of thy mercy, O Lord, and make us worthy of your dwellings of light together with your saints.



HOLY WEEK 2016 – SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

MARCH 20	PALM SUNDAY
9:00 a.m.	Morning Service and Antasdan
10:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy - Service of Opening of the Gates – Trnpatsek ACYOA Palm Sunday Dinner following services
MARCH 24	HOLY AND GREAT THURSDAY –
9:30 a.m.	Institution of the Last Supper Morning and Healing Service
10:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy – Fellowship following
7:00 p.m.	Washing of Feet – Vodunluva & Vespers of the Ten Virgins
8:30 p.m.	Memorial of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ – Khavaroom
MARCH 25	HOLY AND GREAT FRIDAY
5:00 p.m.	Memorial of the Crucifixion of our Lord – Khachelootyunun Kreesdosee
6:00 p.m.	Memorial of the Burial of Our Lord – Taghoomun Kreesdosee
MARCH 26	HOLY AND GREAT SATURDAY
5:30 p.m.	Reading of Sacred Prophecies
6:00 p.m.	Easter Eve Divine Liturgy – Jrakalooys
7:30 p.m.	Family Night-TRIPLE S SHOPPE Egg Cracking Contest for children (The good old days!)
MARCH 27	EASTER SUNDAY – RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
9:00 a.m.	Morning Service
10:00 am.	Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.	Blessing of the Four Corners of the World – Antasdan

