



Blessing of Vestments

Lord God, mighty, exalted and awesome, you robed your church in the light of your glory and became for us an imperishable vestment. Receive these vestments from us as you received from the hand of Moses the fabric for the temple of witness; and from the children of the Hebrews the garments that they spread on the ground in honor of you. Bless and sanctify them as you received and blessed the linen shrouds that Joseph offered to wrap your divine body. Let these vestments be worthy of your holy church so that the parishioners of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church who gifted them may rejoice. Grant them their due. Reward them with your great and abundant mercy here and in the world to come. To you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit are due glory, dominion and honor. Now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



**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 love 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.

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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): 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.



