



A Brief Directorium

with the Sunday Lections of the Midday Office

The liturgical year of the Armenian Church is divided into four periods. These are: 1. Advent, 2. Eastertide, 3. Assumption-tide., 4. Exaltation-tide. Inasmuch as most of the principal dominical feast days are made to fall on a Sunday, each of the three of the four periods (1, 3, 4) moves back and forth within a time-frame of seven days. Easter Day moves within a time-frame of thirty-five days. Consequently the dates of the Sundays and other days of each period are determined with reference to the central or anchor date of that period.

1. Advent is the period of "Fifty Days" (*Yisnak*) beginning with the Sunday nearest to the 25th of November and ending with the Saturday next after the Sunday nearest to the 6th of January, which is the anchor date, being the date of Theophany. Thus it covers a period of seven constant weeks.

2. Eastertide is the period beginning with the Sunday of Catechumens, occurring 9 weeks *before* Easter Day, and extending to the Saturday next after the Second Sunday of Transfiguration-tide, occurring 15 weeks *after* Easter Day. Thus it covers a period of twenty four constant weeks.

The date of Easter in the Armenian Church Calendar is calculated in the same manner as in Western Churches, in accordance with the Gregorian Calendar. Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the 21st of March. Accordingly, the earliest date on which Easter occurs is the 22nd of March and the latest is the 25th of April.

3. Assumption-tide is the period beginning with Assumption Day, which occurs on the Sunday nearest to the 15th of August, which is the anchor date, and ending with the Saturday next after the Sunday nearest to the 5th of September, thus covering a period of four constant weeks.

4. Exaltation-tide is the period beginning with Exaltation Day, which occurs on the Sunday nearest to the 14th of September, the anchor date, and ending with the Saturday next after the Sunday nearest to the 16th of November, thus covering a period of ten constant weeks.

Once the dates of the Sundays and other days of the constant weeks of each of the four periods are determined, totalling 45 constant Sundays, then the remaining contingent Sundays and feast days will be found assigned to the dates remaining open in between the four periods. In other words, each of the four periods will be extended by as many contingent Sundays as necessary until the constant Sunday at the beginning of the next period is reached. For example, if Easter Day occurs two weeks after the 22nd of March, and the Easter period is thus advanced by two weeks, then the preceding period of Advent will be followed by a period of two weeks in order to tie the period in with the beginning of the Easter period. Furthermore, two weeks from the end of the Eastertide will be left out, so as to tie it in with the following period of Assumptiontide.

Each of the contingent Sundays and their weekdays following, which may or may not appear in the calendar of a given year, depending on the back and forth movement of constant Sundays, has its own schedule of office (*patjên*), which is used or omitted depending on the occurrence of the day to which it belongs.

Contingent Sundays have been indicated in this Directorium by asterisks. Feasts or memorials which occur on days other than Sundays have been indicated by a dash. A Sunday of Convivium of which the schedule (*patjên*) replaces that of the Sunday preceding a feast day (to which the Convivium belongs) is indicated by a bold tilde (**~**). Conviviums which have no special schedules and are constant, are not marked.

There are in the liturgical year a number of feasts which are celebrated on *fixed* dates, irrespective of the usual occasion or nature of the day on which they fall. These are: 1. Theophany (or Nativity), extending over eight consecutive days ("Octave of Theophany"), followed by the feast of the Naming of the Lord on the ninth day, January 5-13; 2. Presentation of the Lord, Feb. 14; 3. Annunciation, Apr. 7; 4. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, Sep. 8; 5. Presentation of the Blessed Virgin, Nov. 21; 6. Conception of the Blessed Virgin, Dec. 9.

These feasts of fixed date are overlaid upon and supersede the schedule of the days to the dates of which they are assigned. The propers of their schedules have priority over the propers of the schedules they replace. The priority of the propers sometimes applies only to daily offices and sometimes to the Eucharist also.

It should be noted that the Sundays *preceding* the Sunday of Catechumens, the Sunday of Assumption and Sunday of Exaltation are the Conviviums of the weekly fasts before these feast days and each of these Conviviums has its own schedule of office which prevails over the schedule of the ordinary Sunday on which the Convivium may fall.

The Armenian Typicon (=Indicator of feasts", *Tonatsoyts*) has the form

above described, because it is arranged on the basis of a septenary system. Accordingly almost all dominical feasts are made to fall on Sundays. The feasts of the Holy Virgin, as mentioned above, have fixed dates. Notable saints' days occur on Saturdays. Other saints' days are distributed over Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Wednesdays and Fridays are fasting days except during Easter-tide.

A BRIEF DIRECTORIUM WITH THE SUNDAY LECTIONS OF THE MIDDAY OFFICE

EVE OF NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY (*Lucernarium. Jan. 5*)
Titus 2:11-15. – Matthew 2:1-12.

– NATIVITY AND THEOPHANY (*Jan. 6*)
Titus 2:11-15. – Matthew 1:18-25

– *Second Day of the Octave (Jan. 7)*
Acts 6:8-8:2. – John 12:24-26.

– *Third Day of the Octave (Jan. 8)*
Hebrews 1:1-12. – Matthew 2:13-23.

– *Fourth Day of the Octave (Jan. 9)*
Galatians 4:1-7. – Luke 1:26-38.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY (= After Advent. *Jan 10-16*)
Isaiah 54:1-13. – I Timothy 1:1-11. – John 2:1-11.

– *Fifth Day of the Octave (Jan. 10)*
Hebrews 12:17-27. – Luke 1:39-56.

– *Sixth Day of Octave (Jan. 11)*
I Thessalonians 4:12-18. – John 11:1-46.

– *Seventh Day of the Octave (Jan. 12)*
Romans 1:1-7. – Luke 2:1-7.

– NAMING OF THE LORD (*Jan. 13*)
Colossians 2:8-15. – Luke 2:21.

(If, according to the year-number, the period between the First Sunday After

Nativity (=After Advent) and the Sunday of Catechumens is more than one week, the Sundays of that period and the lections thereof are the following.)

*SECOND SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY (=After Advent. *Jan. 17-23*)
Isaiah 58:13-59:7. – I Timothy 4:12-5:10. – John 3:13-21.

*THIRD SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY (=After Advent. *Jan. 24-30*)
Isaiah 62:1-11. – II Timothy 2:15-19. – John 6:39-47.

*FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY (=After Advent. *Jan. 31-Feb. 6*)
Isaiah 3:16-4:1. – I Corinthians 1:25-30. – Matthew 18:10-14.

*FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY (=After Advent. *Feb. 7-13*)
Isaiah 5:1-10. – I Corinthians 6:18-7:11. – Matthew 19:3-12.

*SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY (=After Advent. *Feb. 14-15*)
Isaiah 5:11-24. – I Corinthians 9:24-10:11. – Mark 1:14-34.

– SUNDAY OF CONVIVIUM OF THE FAST OF CATECHUMENS
(*Jan. 11-Feb. 15*)
Isaiah 61:10-62:9. – II Timothy 2:15-26. – John 6:15-21.

– PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (*Feb. 14*)
Isaiah 24:21-25:8. – Acts 7:47-50; Galatians 4:1-7. – Luke 2:41-52.

SUNDAY OF CATECHUMENS (*Jan. 18-Feb. 22*)
Isaiah 63:7-18. – II Timothy 3:1-12. – John 6:22-38.

MEDIAN SUNDAY (*Jan. 25-Feb. 29*)
Isaiah 63:18-64:12. – Titus 1:1-11. – John 7:37-52.

– VARDANIANS, ARMY CAPTAINS (*Jan. 29-Mar. 4*)
Wisdom 3:1-8; Isaiah 49:8-9. – Hebrews 12:1-7. – Luke 6:20-26.

SUNDAY OF THE PRIMAL CONVIVIUM (First Sunday of Lent.
Feb. 1-Mar. 7)
Isaiah 58:1-14. – Romans 13:11-14:25. – Matthew 6:1-21.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (*Feb. 8-Mar. 14*)

Isaiah 33:2-22. – Romans 12:1-13:10. – Matthew 5:17-48.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (*Feb. 15-Mar. 21*)

Isaiah 54:11-55:13. – II Corinthians 6:1-18. – Luke 15:1-32.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (*Feb. 22-Mar. 28*)

Isaiah 56:1-57:21. – Ephesians 4:17-5:14. – Luke 16:1-31.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (*Feb. 29-Apr. 4*)

Isaiah 65:8-25. – Philippians 3:1-4:9. – Luke 17:20-18:14.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT (*Mar. 8-Apr. 11*)

Isaiah 66:1-24. – Colossians 2:8-3:17. – Matthew 22:34-23:39.

PALM SUNDAY (*Mar. 15-Apr. 18*)

Song 1:1-2:3; Zechariah 9:9-15. – Philippians 4:4-7. – Matthew 20:29-21:17.

– **GREAT THURSDAY** (*Maundy Thursday. Mar. 19-Apr. 22*)

I Corinthians 11:23-32. – Matthew 26:17-30.

– **EASTER EVE** (*Lucernarium. Saturday. Mar. 21-Apr. 24*)

I Corinthians 15:1-11. – Matthew 28:1-20.

EASTER (*Sunday. Mar. 22-Apr. 25*)

Acts 1:15-26. – Mark 16:2-8.

– **ANNUNCIATION OF THE HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD** (*Apr. 7*)

Song 1:1-11; Proverbs 11:30-12:4; Isaiah 52:7-10; Zechariah 2:10-13; Malachi 3:1-2. – II Corinthians 6:16-7:1. – Luke 1:26-38.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (*New Sunday. Mar. 39-May 2*)

Acts 5:34-6:7; James 3:1-12. – John 1:1-17.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (*Green Sunday. Apr. 5-May 9*)

Acts 9:23-31; I Peter 2:1-10. – John 2:23-3:12.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (*Red Sunday. Apr. 12-May 16*)

Acts 13:16-43. – Peter 5:1-14. – John 5:19-30.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (*Apparition of the Holy Cross.**Apr. 19-May 23*)

Acts 17:1-15; I John 1:1-10. – John 7:14-23.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (*Apr. 26-May 30*)

Acts 20:17-38; I John 3:2-6. – John 9:39-10:10.

– **ASCENSION OF CHRIST** (*Thursday, Apr. 30-Jun. 3*)

Acts 1:1-14. – Matthew 28:16-20.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (“*Second Palm Sunday*”.*May 3-Jun. 6*)

Acts 23:12-35; I John 5:13-21. – John 12:12-23.

PENTECOST (“*The Coming of the Spirit*”. Whitsunday. *May 10-Jun. 13*)

Acts 2:1-21. – John 14:25-31.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*of Resurrection, May 17-Jun. 20*)

I Kings 18:29-46; II Kings 2:1-15. – James 5:16-20. – Luke 4:25-30.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST of the Catholic Church of Holy Ejmiadsin (*May 24-Jun. 27*)

Proverbs 9:1-6; Zechariah 3:7-4:9. – Hebrews 9:1-10. – John 10:22-30.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*May 31-Jul. 4*)

Isaiah 1:1-15. – Romans 6:12-23. – Matthew 12:1-8.

– **ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER** (*Saturday*)

Wisdom 4:7-15; Micah 7:7-10. – Acts 20:22-32. – John 10:11-16.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Jun. 7-Jul. 11*)

Isaiah 1:21-31. – Romans 7:25-8:11. – Matthew 12:38-45.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Jun. 14-Jul. 18*)

Isaiah 2:5-11. – Romans 8:31-10:4. – Matthew 13:24-30.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Convivium of the Fast of Transfiguration, Jun. 21-Jul. 25*)

Isaiah 3:1-11. – Romans 11:13-24. – Matthew 14:13-21.

TRANSFIGURATION OF CHRIST (*Sunday of “Vardavar” = “Rose Garlands”, Jun. 28-Aug. 1*)

Wisdom 7:25-8:4; Zechariah 14:16-21. – I John 1:1-7. – Matthew 16:13-17:13.

SECOND SUNDAY OF TRANSFIGURATION-TIDE (*Jul. 5-Aug. 8*)

Isaiah 3:16-4:1. – I Corinthians 1:25-30. – Matthew 18:10-14.

(If, according to the year-number, the period between the Second Sunday of Transfiguration-tide and Assumption is more than one week, the Sundays of that period and the lections thereof shall be the following.)

*THIRD SUNDAY OF TRANSFIGURATION-TIDE (*July. 12-Aug. 11*)
Isaiah 5:1-10. – I Corinthians 6:18-7:11. – Matthew 19:3-12.

*FOURTH SUNDAY OF TRANSFIGURATION-TIDE (*July. 19-Aug. 11*)
Isaiah 54:1-13. – I Timothy 1:1-11. – John 2:1-11.

*FIFTH SUNDAY OF TRANSFIGURATION-TIDE (*Jul. 26-Aug. 11*)
Isaiah 58:13-59:7. – I Timothy 4:12-5:10. – John 3:13-21.

*SIXTH SUNDAY OF TRANSFIGURATION-TIDE (*Aug. 2-11*)
Isaiah 62:1-11. – II Timothy 2:15-19. – John 6:39-47.

*SEVENTH SUNDAY OF TRANSFIGURATION-TIDE (*Aug. 9-11*)
Isaiah 5:11-24. – I Corinthians 9:24-10:11. – Mark 1:14-34.

SUNDAY OF CONVIVIUM OF THE FAST OF ASSUMPTION (*July
12-Aug. 11*)
Isaiah 7:1-9. – I Corinthians 13:11-14:5. – Mark 2:1-12.

ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD (*Sunday.
Aug. 12-18*)
Song 4:9-15; 8:14; Isaiah 7:10-16. – Galatians 3:29-4:7. – Luke 2:1-7.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ASSUMPTION-TIDE (*Aug. 19-25*)
Proverbs 11:30-12:4; Zechariah 2:10-13. – II Corinthians 6:16-7:1. –
Luke 1:39-56.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ASSUMPTION-TIDE (*Aug. 26-Sep. 1*)
Isaiah 9:8-19. – II Corinthians 1:1-12. – Mark 4:35-40.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ASSUMPTION-TIDE (*Sep. 2-8*)
Isaiah 10:12-19. – II Corinthians 2:12-3:3. – Mark 6:30-44.

(*If, according to the year-number, there be a Fifth Sunday of Assumption-tide, the
following are the lections thereof.*)

*FIFTH SUNDAY OF ASSUMPTION-TIDE (*Sep. 9-10*)
Isaiah 14:1-11. – II Corinthians 7:4-16. – Mark 7:31-37.

~SUNDAY OF THE CONVIVIUM OF THE FAST OF EXALTATION
(*Sep. 2-10*)
Isaiah 14:1-11. – II Corinthians 7:4-16. – Mark 7:31-37.

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (*Sunday. Sep. 11-17*)

Isaiah 49:13-23. – Galatians 6:14-18. – John 3:13-21.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Sep. 18-24*)

Isaiah 14:3-17. – II Corinthians 10:18-11:10. – Mark 10:1-12.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Holy Cross of Varag. Sep. 25-Oct. 1*)

Proverbs 3:18-26; Isaiah 65:22-25. – Galatians 6:14-18. – Matthew 24:30-36.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Oct. 2-8*)

Isaiah 17:7-14. – II Corinthians 13:5-13. – Mark 11:27-33.

– **HOLY TRANSLATOR DOCTORS** (*Saturday*)

Wisdom 8:7-10; Amos 5:10-14. – I Corinthians 12:5-11. – Matthew 7:6-12.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Oct. 9-15*)

Isaiah 19:1-11. – Galatians 2:1-10. – Mark 12:35-44.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Oct. 16-22*)

Isaiah 20:2-21:6. – Galatians 4:3-18. – Luke 4:14-23.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Invention of the Holy Cross. Oct. 23-29*)

Wisdom 14:1-8; Isaiah 33:22-34:1. – I Corinthians 1:18-24. – Matthew 24:27-36.

– **ALL SAINTS** (*Saturday*)

Wisdom 3:1-8; Isaiah 33:5-8. – Hebrews 11:32-12:2. – Luke 12:4-9.

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Oct. 30-Nov. 5*)

Isaiah 22:15-25. – Ephesians 1:1-14. – Luke 8:17-21.

– **HOLY ANGELS** (*Saturday*)

Genesis 18:33-19:2; Job 38:4-7; Isaiah 6:1-7; Ezekiel 1:1-20. – Hebrews 1:6-14. – Matthew 18:10-14.

NINTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Nov. 6-12*)

Isaiah 24:1-13. – Ephesians 5:15-33. – Luke 8:49-57.

TENTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE (*Convivium of the Fast of Advent. Nov. 13-19*)

Isaiah 25:9-26:7. – Philippians 1:1-11. – Luke 9:44-50.

(If, according to the year-number, there be an Eleventh Sunday after Exaltation-Tide, then this Eleventh Sunday shall be the Convivium of the Fast of Advent, and the Feast of All Saints shall be celebrated on the Saturday before the Convivium.)

***ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF EXALTATION-TIDE** (*Convivium of the Fast of Advent. Nov. 20-21*)

Isaiah 29:11-20. — Philippians 4:8-24. — Luke 11:1-13.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*Nov. 22-28*)

Isaiah 36:1-9. — I Thessalonians 1:1-10. — Luke 12:13-31.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*Nov. 29-Dec. 5*)

Isaiah 36:22-37:11. — I Thessalonians 3:1-11. — Luke 13:1-9.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*Dec. 6-12*)

Isaiah 37:14-38. — II Thessalonians 1:1-12. — Luke 14:12-24.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*Dec. 13-19*)

Isaiah 38:1-8. — Hebrews 1:1-14. — Luke 17:1-10.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*Dec. 20-26*)

Isaiah 40:18-31. — Hebrews 4:16-5:10. — Luke 18:9-14.

— **DAVID THE PROPHET AND JAMES THE APOSTLE** (*Dec. 23-24*)

II Samuel 5:1-10; I Kings 2:1-11; Ezekiel 34:23-27. — James 1:1-12.
— Matthew 22:41-46.

— **STEPHEN THE PROTOMARTYR** (*Dec. 24-26*)

Acts 6:8-8:2. — John 12:24-26.

— **PETER AND PAUL APOSTLES** (*Dec. 26-28*)

Wisdom 9:13-10:2; Isaiah 28:16-19. — II Peter 1:12-19; II Timothy 4:1-8. — John 21:15-22.

— **JAMES THE APOSTLE AND JOHN THE EVANGELIST** (*Dec. 28-29*)

Wisdom 7:21-24; Jeremiah 16:16-21. — Acts 12:1-11; James 1:1-10; I John 1:1-7. — John 21:20-25.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*Dec. 27-Jan. 2*)

Isaiah 41:4-14. — Hebrews 7:11-25. — Luke 19:12-28.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*Jan. 3-9*)

Isaiah 51:15-52:3. — Hebrews 13:18-25. — Luke 22:24-30.

LECTIONS FOR SAINTS' DAYS

Below are some saints' and other feast days under general headings. The lections under these headings, though properly belonging to the days indicated in parentheses, may be used on other special feast days falling under the categories indicated by the headings.

Thus on the feast day of St. John Chrysostom, for example, the lections under "Patriarchs" may be read. Or on the feast day of St. George the lections under "Soldiers" may be read, and so on.

FEASTS OF THE CHURCH (*First Thursday following Exaltation.*)

Isaiah 2:1-6. – Hebrews 12:18-27. – Matthew 21:12-17.

APOSTLES (*Twelve Apostles, Saturday preceding the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost.*)

Wisdom 9:9-10:2; Exodus 15:23-27. – I Thessalonians 2:9-16.
– Matthew 9:36-10:7.

PROPHETS (*First Thursday following Transfiguration.*)

Isaiah 6:1-10. – Hebrews 11:32-40. – Luke 4:14-23.

PATRIARCHS (*Twelve Doctors. Saturday preceding the Seventh Sunday of Exaltation-tide.*)

Proverbs 11:2-11; Isaiah 61:3-7. – Hebrews 13:7-9. – John 16:33-17:8.

KINGS (*Saint Tiridates. Saturday preceding the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost.*)

Wisdom 6:2-10; Isaiah 45:1-3. – I Timothy 2:1-7. – Luke 11:14-23.

MARTYRS (*Forty Innocents. Saturday preceding the Fifth Sunday of Lent.*)

Wisdom 3:1-8; Nahum 2:1-4; Isaiah 43:1-3. – Ephesians 6:10-18.
– Matthew 13:43-52.

HERMITS (*Egyptian Fathers. Thursday following the Second Sunday of Advent.*)

Proverbs 21:15-25; Isaiah 19:19-21. – Hebrews 11:32-40. – Matthew 10:37-42.

VIRGINS (*R'ipsimians. Monday following the First Sunday after Pentecost.*)

Proverbs 31:29-31; Isaiah 61:10-62:3. – Romans 15:30-16:2. – Matthew 10:26-33.

SOLDIERS (*Saint Sargis, Army Captain. Saturday of the Fast of Catechumens.*)

Proverbs 3:13-17; Isaiah 41:1-3. – Ephesians 6:10-17. – Luke 21:10-19.

FASTS (*First Monday and First Thursday of Lent.*)

Isaiah 1:16-20. – Romans 6:3-14.