

The Armenian Church & Community in Ireland warmly WELCOME you today

# **Service of Remembrance**



Years of Remembrance 1915-2017

**EARMENIAN GENOCIDE** 



Christ Church Cathedral
Christchurch Place, Dublin 8
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 @ 7:00pm

# **Guest Speakers**

**Prof. Maria Baghramian**Professor of American Philosophy @ UCD

**Barrister Sunniva McDonagh SC** 

Laying flowers after Service

#### The Armenian Church and Community

and all the Armenians who reside in the island of Ireland welcome you to our Service of **Remembrance to remember the 1915 Armenian Genocide**.

We trust that this time of reflection... remembering all our 1.5 million loved ones who perished in the Genocide... and giving thanks to our gracious Lord for the survival of our nation and race will be appreciated by all here today.

# From the rising of the sun to the going down WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM



### The Lord's Prayer

#### in Armenian

Ամեն

Հայր մեր որ լերկինս ես, սուրբ եղիցի անուն Քո։ Եկեսցէ արքայութիւն Քո։ Եղիցին կամը Քո որպէս լերկինս և լերկրի։ Չիաց մեր հանապացորդ տուր մեզ այսօր։ և թող մեց գպարտիս մեր, որպէս և մեք թողումք մերոց պարտապանաց։ և մի տանիր զմեց ի փորձութիւն։ այլ փրկեա զմեզ ի չարէն։ զի Քո է արքայություն և գորություն և փառք լավիտյանս.

#### transliterated

Hayr mer vor hergeens yes, Soorp yegheetsee anoon ko Yeghetze arkayootyoon ko Yegheetsee gamk ko Vorbes hergeens ev hergree, Z Hats mer hanabazor door mez avsor Ev togh mez zbardeez mer, Vorbes ev menk toghoonk merotz bardabanats Ev mee daneer uz mez Ee portsootyoon Ayl prgea zmeze e chare Zee ko eh arkayootyoon ev zorootyoon ev park haveedyants Amen

#### in English

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day Our daily bread; Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation. but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever Amen

#### Who are the Armenians...?



ARMENIA is located in the southern Caucasus and is the smallest of the former Soviet Republics.

The first time the word Armenia was used as a geographical entity was in the  $6^{th}$  Century BC.

Armenia was the first country to adopt Christianity as its official religion in A.D.301. Throughout the centuries the country itself has been invaded by a succession of empires and as a result the Armenians became fierce protectors of their culture, traditions and their Christian faith. After the Russo-Persian war in 1826 the areas of Armenia under Persian control were incorporated into Russia.

Those Armenians living in the west were absorbed into the Ottoman Empire and although they had some autonomy, they had few political and legal rights.

Despite this the Armenian community thrived as they tended to be better educated and wealthier than their Turkish neighbours. This gave rise to resentment and suspicion and in response to a nascent Armenian campaign to win civil rights the 1915 Armenian genocide occurred.

The year 2015 was the centennial of a great tragedy, regardless of how you name it, the Great Catastrophe, the Deportation, the Massacres...

In December 2015 we unveiled the Khachkar Memorial (Stone-Cross) in Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin in remembrance of the Armenian Genocide "MEZ YEGHERN" and in dedication to the massive destruction that took place 102 years ago.

It is not possible to bring back the massive population that vanished within a couple of months; yet we are aware that it is now our duty to keep their memories alive to maintain their legacy, their language, their culture and above all their faith.





A Khachkar, also known as a Cross-Stone is a carved, memorial stele bearing a cross. The cross is the most familiar symbol of Christianity but in the form of a cross stone it is very much part of the Armenian Christian Nation. The Khachkar assumes various functions such as gravestone, memorial stone and victory in war.

TUFF the volcanic stone from which most khachkars are fashioned is relatively workable and until today using little but chisels and hammers, master artisans like Artak Hambardzumyan create beautiful Khachkars.

The cross is a source of great national pride for the Armenians as a *Khachagir*, or "cross-bearing"-nation, for over the centuries, Armenians have borne Christ's cross with faith, hope and love. What was once an instrument of torture and death—comparable to the modern electric chair—became for us Christians the symbol of salvation and victory over death.

The Armenian Apostolic Churches are built with the cross in mind...if you look at the church architecture from above...you will notice that it is built in a cross shape with the centre dome always open to the heavens...providing the light of Christ.

Armenians have lived in the shadow of the cross and were (and still are) geographically situated on the "leading edge" of the Christian world. Having suffered for their faith in Christ, they have also shared in the passion of His crucifixion. No wonder, then, that the cross would become pre-eminent among their national emblems, appearing on the domes and walls of their churches, on altars, in homes—even erupting out of the Armenian landscape, as a stone Cross **Khachkar**.

# **Remembrance Service Programme**

#### In the Cathedral

The Very Revd. Dermot Dunne, The Dean of Christ Church Cathedral — Welcome

(minute Silence...for atrocities, disasters and the Armenian Genocide)

Anais Heghoyan (all stand) — The Lord's Prayer

Bible Reading (extracts, in English and Armenian)

Varazdat Khachatryan (Pianist) — Arno Babajanian - Prelude

Anais Heghoyan — *Groong* 

Prof. Maria Bagramian — The Denial of Genocide Perpetuates Testimonial Injustice

Varazdat Khachtryan (Pianist) — Arno Babajanian - Impromptu

Anais Heghoyan — Garoun

HR Barrister Sunniva McDonagh SC

Ms. Hayarpi Dermeyan, Consul, Embassy of Armenia in UK & Ireland

Varazdat Khachatryan — Arno Babajanian - Elegy

Anais Heghoyan — Der Voghormya

The Very Revd. Dermot Dunne, The Dean of Christ Church Cathedral

Prayers (a group of young people)

Thank YOU words

# Proceed outside – with candlelight to lay flowers at the Khachkar Memorial

#### At the Khachkar Memorial

Anais Heghoyan — Ee Verin

Artur Kuyregyan — Bible Reading from John's Gospel

Archbishop Jackson — Prayer and dismissal

#### **Performers**

#### Varazdat Khachatryan (Pianist)

Born in Armenia, Varazdat Khachatryan began his musical studies at the age of 5 in Armenia and studied at the Yerevan State Komitas Conservatory from which he graduated with distinction as a pianist and choral conductor.

He holds Masters of Music degrees in both areas and an Advanced Postgraduate degree in piano performance (Aspirantura) from Yerevan State Conservatoire; and PgDip, MMus degrees in piano performance and MMus in piano accompaniment from Birmingham Conservatoire.

His piano repertoire and recent appearances in renowned musical halls in the United Kingdom, Netherlands, Armenia, Russia, Lebanon, Syria and the Czech Republic have received the highest praise from audiences and music critics.



Varazdat currently pursues his PhD degree in Dublin Conservatory of Music and Drama, working on a thesis which re-assesses Rachmaninoff's musical legacy.

We are fortunate to have such a talented musician in our midst today.

#### Anais Heghoyan (Mezo Soprano)

Anaïs Rebecca Heghoyan studied at The Royal College of Music's International Opera School studying with Timothy Evans-Jones as the Aldama award for Opera, Derek Butler Trust and Constant and Kit Lambert Awards scholar from 2008-2010.

Some opera performances include: Ensemble in Terterian's Fire Ring Princess Tamar in Tigranian's Davit Bek, Shushan in Tchouhadjian's Garineh, Anoush and Saro's Mother's in Tigranian's Anoush all with London Armenian Opera (LAO), Ludmila in Smetana's Bartered Bride, 3rd Lady in Mozart's Die Zauberflöte, Hermia in Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream, Forrester's wife and owl in Janáček's Cunning Little



Vixen (RCM). Some concerts include: the Spring Remembrance concert at the Royal Festival Hall's Purcell Room, Alto in Kern's and Hammerstein's Show Boat Suite at the Cardiff Millennium Stadium, the soloist in Vaughan Williams's Serenade to Music at the Cadogan Hall, Sir Thomas Allen's Soirée d'Or, Vivaldi's Gloria, Bach's Ascension Oratorio at St. John's Smith Square (SJSS) and Magnificat in D, Bach's Christmas Oratorio with London Early Opera, St. John's Passion, Bach's Easter Oratorio, a concert accompanied by Levon Chilingirian's Sayat Nova Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra, Soloist at a special service at Westminster Abbey in the presence of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales and The Pope, Together for Armenia Remembrance concert at SJSS.

She completed the ENO Works program which resulted in understudying the role of Hannah in Weinberg's The Passenger, daughter number 6 in Philip Glass's Akhnaten at the ENO coliseum and covering the role of Sister and singing in the chorus of Tansy Davies's Between Worlds at the Barbican Centre.

# **Speakers**

#### Professor Maria Baghramian

Maria is Professor in the School of Philosophy at University College Dublin (UCD). Graduated from Queens University Belfast (QUB) Philosophy and Social Anthropology and then received a PhD from Trinity College Dublin (TCD) in Philosophy of Logic.

Maria taught in TCD and in UCD and since 1990. She was the Head of UCD School of Philosophy and has been the co-director of the Postgraduate Programme in Cognitive Science, UCD which Maria co-founded.

Maria has also held visiting posts in Harvard, MIT, University of Yerevan, the Department of Philosophy, Harvard Institut Jean Nicod, Ecole normale superieure, Paris and various universities in China.



Maria's main research areas are Philosophy of Language, Contemporary American Philosophy (Putnam, Davidson, Rorty and Quine), Relativism, Topics in Cognitive Science; her publications primarily focus on the topic of intractable disagreements in beliefs and values and on Neo-Pragmatism.

Maria was elected a member of the Royal Irish Academy in 2010 and was awarded a Fulbright senior scholarship in 2013. She was the Chief Editor of the International Journal of Philosophical Studies (2003-2013) and currently one of the editors of the journal Contemporary Pragmatism.

Maria currently is a Principal Investigator of a research project on the American Voice in Philosophy, funded by the Irish Research Council.

Professor Maria Baghramian is an Armenian Philosopher and was born in Iran.

### Barrister Sunniva McDonagh SC

Sunniva McDonagh is a Barrister since 1982 and Senior Counsel since 2008. Sunniva practices principally in the area of judicial review and fundamental rights, with a particular interest in fair trial rights and family rights in the context of immigration. She is an MEDR Accredited Mediator. Sunniva is currently a member of the Mental Tribunal, the Professionalism Committee of the Irish Medical Council and was previously a member of the Refugee Appeals Tribunal. Sunniva graduated from UCD with a Bachelor of Civil Law, UCD with a Diploma in European Law and from the Open University with an MA in Moral and Spiritual Development.



### **Hrant Dink Memory**

#### A Man of Peace and Reconciliation

2007 - 2017

Hrant Dink established the "Agos" newspaper, in Turkish and English, representing a symbol of hope and reconciliation in present day Turkey.

"Agos" was a voice for the voiceless... the Armenians and other minorities in Turkey.

Unfortunately Hrant Dink was assassinated in front of the Sebat Apartment Building on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007. This horrible



assassination caused mass protests as the Sebat Apartment Building became a crime scene.

This action brought memories of the past...when on 24th of April 1915 the Armenian intellectuals were rounded up, imprisoned and then hanged.

#### The Promise

"Hotel Rwanda" director Terry George returns to genocide, with Oscar Isaac and Christian Bale stuck in a love triangle during the Armenian Genocide.

The new film "The Promise", directed by Northern Irish filmmaker Terry George, who also wrote "In the Name of the Father", "Some Mother's Son" and "The Boxer", is a very powerful epic drama about the Armenian Genocide of 1915. Starring Oscar Isaac, Christian Bale and Charlotte Le Bon, "The Promise" takes your standard love triangle romance drama and sets it against the background of the Armenian genocide in the crumbling Ottoman Empire.

# The film is to be released in Irish cinemas on April 28th.

Please encourage your friends to see the movie.



# FORGET-ME-NOT FLOWER



Official emblem of the 100th Year of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide

In anticipation of the milestone year of 2015, the Republic of Armenia issued the illustration at left as the official emblem of the worldwide observance of the centennial year of the Armenian Genocide. The forget-me-not flower expresses the theme of eternal remembrance, and is also meant to symbolically evoke the past, present, and future experiences of the Armenian people. What follows is an explanation of the various components making up the emblem:



**THE PAST:** The black center represents the sufferings of 1915, and the dark aftermath of the Armenian Genocide.



**THE PRESENT:** The light purple petals represents the unity of Armenian communities across the world—all of whom stand together in this 100th year of remembrance.



**THE FUTURE:** The five petals represent the five continents where survivors of the Armenian Genocide found a new home. The dark purple color is meant to recall the priestly vestments of the Armenian Church—which has been, is, and will remain at the heart of the Armenian Christian identity.



**ETERNITY:** The twelve trapezoids represent the twelve pillars of the Dzidzernagapert Armenian Genocide memorial in Yerevan, Armenia. The yellow colour represents light, creativity, and hope.

## Thank you

from the Armenian Church and Community in Ireland

www.armenians.ie