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## Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church

The Very Rev. Father Simeon Odabashian, Pastor

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### Schedule of Sunday Services

Morning Service (*Keesherajeen & Aravodyan Jham*) 9:10 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*) 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 31, 2006

Sixth Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 51:15-52:3 (p. 728)

Hebrews 13:18-25 (p. 205) Luke 22:24-30 (p. 79)

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### Happy New Year !

On the occasion of the New Year 2007 the Pastor, Parish Council and Delegates of Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church extend their prayers and best wishes to the entire parish family.

### A Catechism of Christian Instruction

By the Most Reverend Archbishop Khoren Narbey

Lesson XIV - Second Article of the Creed

Christ God's Son, Prophecies of the Messiah

#### 7. Is Christ Creator as God?

Yes, as St. John writes, "All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made and the world was made by Him. (John 1:3,10)

#### 8. Is Christ to be worshipped as God?

Yes, because Christ Himself said that "All men should honor the Son even as they honor the Father." (John 5:23) And the Apostle says, "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, things in heaven and things in earth and things under earth." (Philippians 2:10)

#### 9. What follows from these truths?

A. Christ is true and perfect God; B. Only through Him and through His name can we obtain salvation and attain true happiness.

#### 10. Can anyone who does not believe in Christ be saved?

Those who have heard the doctrines of Christ and obstinately refuse to believe, will not be saved; but those to whom the Holy Gospel is

not preached, God will treat them with mercy, if they live in the fear of God and according to the laws of righteousness. (Acts 10:30,31)

**11. Will God punish those who reject Christ?**

God will punish those 1. who lightly reject Christ and are careless about the truth; 2. who deny the doctrines of Christ in order to follow their evil passions with unrestrained license; 3. who deny Christ knowingly and who willfully substitute falsehood for the truth.

**12. What outward evidences are there that Christ is the Son of God?**

There are seven proofs that Christ is the Son of God and perfect God.

**13. What are the first three proofs?**

1. Several Old Testaments prophecies are fulfilled in Christ; 2. the holiness and perfection of His life; 3. the incomparable excellence of His teaching.

**14. What are the other four proofs?**

4. the miracles of Christ; 5. His prophecies; 6. His death, resurrection and ascension; 7. the establishment and propagation of His religion throughout the world.

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**Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):**

The faithful says:

**Յիշեցիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գառիկն Աստուծոյ:**  
*Hee-shes-cheer yev zees a-rra-chee an-mah ka-rinn As-doo-dzo.*  
(Remember me before the immortal Lamb of God.)

The priest says:

**Յիշեալ լիջիր առաջի անմահ գառիկն Աստուծոյ:**  
*Hee-shyal lee-cheer a-rra-chee an-mah ka-rinn As-doo-dzo.*  
(You shall be remembered before the immortal Lamb of God.)

**Response for the Kiss of Peace:**

The giver says:

**Քրիստոս ի մէջ մեր յայտնեցաւ:**  
*Krees-dos ee mech mer hayd-ne-tsav.*  
(Christ is revealed in our midst.)

The receiver says:

**Օրհնեալ է յայտնութիւնն Քրիստոսի:**  
*Orh-nyal eh hayd-noo-tyoo-nun Krees-do-see.*  
(Blessed is the revelation of Christ.)

**Response when Kissing the Gospel (after the Divine Liturgy):**

The faithful says:

**Յիշեցէ Տէր զամենայն պատարագս քո:**  
*Hee-shes-tseh Der za-me-nayn ba-da-ra-kus ko.*  
(May the Lord remember all your sacrifices.)

The priest says:

**Տագ՛ր քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քում:**

*Da-tseh kez Der usd sur-dee koom.*

(May the Lord grant to you according to your heart.)

**Participating in the Divine Liturgy:** Please follow the prayers and hymns in the Divine Liturgy pew books. The front section contains the Armenian Krapar text and modern Armenian translation, while the latter part gives the English transliteration and translation. Page numbers are illuminated at the upper left and right sides of the main altar. Please sing along with any of the hymns which the choir is singing.

**Confession and Holy Communion:** Those who are prepared to receive Holy Communion may kneel in the center aisle or remain standing at their pew for the group recitation of the confession (p. 48-49). After the absolution please proceed via the central aisle towards the altar in an orderly manner. Two Parish Council members will be present to assist. Please return to your pew via the side aisles.

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**TODAY'S REQUIEMS (Hokehankist):**

*Requiem Prayer*

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

*O Christ, Son of God, forbearing and compassionate, have compassion, in your love as our creator, upon the souls of your servants who are at rest, especially upon the souls of your servants and maidservants:*

- **SAMUEL NAJARIAN** (40 Day Memorial - Karasoonk) - requested by Askanaz & Anna Najarian and Mark; Raffie Najarian; Gary R. Kolligian; Richard & Loretta Najarian and Family; Paula Najarian & Matt Wilkinson and Family; Cynthia & Vernon Samoorian and Family; Janice & Andy Kavjian and Family; Peter & Victoria Jamgochian; Peter S. Jamgochian.

- **ARDIS GARABIAN** (20 Year Memorial); **HAZEL GARABIAN MORROW** (7 Year Memorial) - requested by George Garabian; David, Joshua and John Morrow.

*...for whom we are offering these prayers. Be mindful of them in the great day of the coming of your kingdom. Make them worthy of mercy, of expiation and forgiveness of sins. Glorify them and reckon them with the company of your saints at your right hand. For you are Lord and creator of all, judge of the living and of the dead. And to you is befitting glory, dominion and honor, now and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

## **Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian**

O beneficent and man-loving Lord, without suffering and patience how can I possibly be freed from the multitude of my sins? For I am physically weak and spiritually in darkness. Have mercy, Lord and help me according to your will. Amen.

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***CELL PHONES:*** We kindly ask that all cell phones be turned off prior to entering the church. Please show your respect to our holy sanctuary and to your fellow worshippers.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **TODAY**

Today's *Coffee Fellowship* will take place in the Church Hall (Church School Area) under the church.

### **JANUARY 5, 2007**

*Armenian Christmas Eve*, Evening Service 6:00 p.m., Divine Liturgy 6:30 p.m.

### **JANUARY 6, 2007**

*Armenian Christmas* - Festival Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Water - Saturday, January 6, Morning Service 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m., Blessing of Water, 11:30 a.m., Blessing of Families & Inauguration of Year of Church and Home.

*Armenian Christmas Luncheon* sponsored by *Ladies Aid* following services, 12:30 p.m. Adults, \$10, Children under 12 \$5. Dinner reservations requested on or before January 1, 2007. Please call Roxie Kuzirian (944-4801); Lucy Muradian (353-6365), Church Office (272-7712)

### **JANUARY 12, 2007**

*Family Night* - Save the Date! - Mer Doon Restaurant - January 12, 2007 - Fun, Food & Entertainment - Chicken & Pilaf Dinner, Adults \$8, Children \$6. Reservations available. Please call Gary Taraian (508-761-4600), Hermond Ghazarian (821-2549), or Gary Nahabedian (580-8123).

**JANUARY 20, 2007**

Cultural Committee's *Arts Education Program 2006-2007* Second Semester begins on Saturday, January 20. Program offers art & cultural instruction in the following areas for a very modest fee. *In which classes would your child (children) be interested?* Ages 7-16: Drawing & Sculpture, Piano, Violin, Ballroom Dancing (ages 8 – 16 ), Nazeli Dance Group (ages 9-16), Voice training, Clarinet, Saxophone, Guitar, Kanon, Kemancha. Ages 16 & up: Piano, Guitar, Kanon, Kamancha, Voice training, Ballroom Dancing. For registration form: <http://www.stsahmes.org/Education/artsartsReg.html>, or call to Church office 272 7712. For information or questions please contact Program Chairperson Janna Guegamian: Tel. 861-3573

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***Holy Christmas - Feast of the Birth and Baptism of Christ our God - "Year of Church and Home: One in the Spirit"***

This is a remainder that we will be celebrating Christmas at Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church beginning on Friday, January 5 (Vespers at 6 pm & Divine Liturgy at 6:30 pm). The main celebration will take place on Saturday, January 6 (Morning Service at 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am). The January 6 Divine Liturgy will conclude with the Blessing of the Water and a Special Prayer of Blessing over Families, indicating the beginning of the "Year of Church and Home: One in the Spirit."

Together with Holy Water we will be distributing an Icon of the Holy Family and a Family Prayer Guide. We are encouraging all of our families to attend the Holy Badarak on Saturday, January 6.

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***Additional donations towards the purchase of Christmas Poinsettias for our altar have been given:***

- in loving memory Araxie, Misock and Richard Setian by Steven & Gregory Suvajian Family; and Virginia Setian Higgins.
- in loving memory of Jack M. Halberian by Michele, Jackie and Katie Kazarian.

**THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** is seeking nominees for church officers to be elected at our Annual Parish Assembly, which will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2007. If you are a dues-paying member of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church and would like to be considered for election to the Parish Council,

Nominating or Auditing Committees, please call the church office at 401-272-7712 or speak with any member of the nominating committee: Greg Ayrassian (946-9000), Peter Tarian (245-1963) or Nathalie Yaghoobian (353-2488)

***IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CHURCH MEMBERSHIP DUES AND THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY.***

Again this year, according to the new Diocesan bylaws, dues-paid members of a parish must pay their Annual Parish dues by December 31, 2006 of a given year in order to be able to vote at the Annual Parish Assembly. Please mark your calendars - this year's Parish Assembly will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2007

***CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS*** - Donations towards the purchase of poinsettia plants for our altar during the Christmas season are gratefully received. You may still give donations for our Poinsettias for Armenian Christmas. Individuals wishing to donate are asked to contact the church office. Thank you.

***GODFATHER OF THE CROSS*** - On the feast of the Birth & Baptism of Christ, January 6, the Blessing of Water is conducted. According to custom a young boy is chosen as "Godfather" for the blessing. Please notify Hayr Simeon (272-7712) if you wish your son or grandson to have this honor.

***NEWSLETTER EDITOR:*** Hagop Ghajanian is stepping down from his position as editor of our newsletter. He has done an exemplary job over the last few years. Please speak to Hayr Soorp if you (or someone you know) might be interested in serving as editor of this vital publication. The newsletter not only educates parishioners in the teachings of the Armenian Church and culture, but it also serves to promote the activities of our parish organizations.

***"GLORIA IN EXCELSIS" CD*** - The perfect Christmas gift! Special price for Christmas - only \$10. Our Junior Choir & the Narek Bell Choir of St. Mary Church, Washington, D.C. joined forces for this unforgettable recording of Armenian spiritual music. Songs on the CD are performed by the combined choir, as well as some unique features by the ringing sound of the Narek Bell Choir. You may purchase the CD during fellowship the next few Sundays or weekdays from the Church office, 272-7712. Please support our Junior Choir.

**CHURCH LIBRARY** - Parishioners are encouraged to visit and make use of our newly organized Library. Library Hours: Sundays 12:30-1:30 p.m., and Mondays 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. **BOOK SALE** -- An ideal gift for the holidays! "*Colors and Words From Armenia and Beyond*" by Haroutune Armenian is a unique publication of different horizons from the Armenian highlands and the Mediterranean to the many corners of the Western world. Cost is only \$10.00. The book can be purchased during library hours on Sundays and on Mondays through December.

**CHILDREN'S & JUNIOR CHOIRS** - We invite your children and grandchildren to learn how to read music, religious hymns, popular Armenian Songs, participate in Divine Liturgy first Sunday of each month. Open for all ages 6 through 16, rehearsals at the Egavian Cultural Center. Please call the Church Office (272-7712) or Maestro Petrossian at 861-3573 to sign up your child.

**SENIOR CITIZENS** - Come join us every Monday (weather permitting, excluding Holidays). Have fun with your friends and neighbors, and enjoy with us "coffee and...."

**COFFEE HOUR** - Please consider sponsoring a **Coffee Fellowship** on the occasion of a Hokehankist (in memory of a loved one), a happy occasion (birthday, anniversary, etc.) or to provide a wonderful service for our church. Contact Fran, the church secretary, to arrange a date (272-7712).

**ARDZAGANG (Echo)** - Armenian Television Program - Statewide Cable Interconnect Channel 13 (A): is broadcast on Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

**ARMENIAN RADIO HOUR** - Now heard on Sundays at 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. on WARL 1320 AM.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY 2007

- 1 Office Closed New Year's Day
- 2 Senior Citizens 10 am.
- 3 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
- 5 Armenian Christmas Eve, Evening Service 6:00 p.m.  
Divine Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
- 6 Armenian Christmas , Morning Service 9:00 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy 10 a.m., Blessing of Water 11:30 a.m.  
Blessing of Families, Inauguration of Year of Church  
and Home  
Ladies Aid Luncheon following services
- 8 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 12 Family Night
- 15 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 20 Cultural Committee Arts Education - 2nd Semester  
begins, 10 a.m.
- 22 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 27 ACYOA Seniors Wine/Cheese Fundraiser

### FEBRUARY 2007

- 4 ACYOA Superbowl Party
- 25 Annual Parish Assembly