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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 (<i>Keesherajeen & Aravodyan Jham</i>)	9:10 a.m.
Divine Liturgy (<i>Soorp Badarak</i>)	10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 28, 2007

Barekendan of the Fast of Catechumens

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 61:10-62:9 (Pg. 737) II Timothy 2:15-26 (Pg. 192)

John 6:15-21 (Pg. 89)

Message of His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern), spoken during the Requiem Service for assassinated Armenian journalist Hrant Dink – January 21, 2007

We are gathered today to join the world in grieving the loss of a brave man, a talented journalist, Hrant Dink. His assassination in Istanbul represents not only a loss for the Armenian people, of whom he was a faithful son and articulate writer, but a loss for all people of the world who love truth, free speech and responsible journalism.

As the founder and editor of the weekly newspaper *Agos*, Hrant was a prominent member of the Armenian community in Istanbul. He used his position to challenge those who deny the Armenian Genocide, to shine the light of truth upon that dark chapter and educate his neighbors about a shameful past that is hidden.

For discussing the truth – the attempted extermination of the Armenians in Ottoman Turkey – he was harassed on the street, tried in court, and, ultimately, shot dead outside of his office. May God rest his soul, and may He welcome this noble champion of the Armenian people into His heavenly kingdom.

Though we live far from the scene of the shooting, Hrant Dink's death touches each Armenian home deeply – indeed – it affects every human who believes in freedom, liberty of dissent, and the intrinsic value of life. Responsible journalism rendered in the

service of truth, however, has not been extinguished as his words will live on far beyond the man.

Those of us who knew him personally, or felt a special kinship to him through reading his work, know he was a powerful and passionate journalist, wholly committed to discussing and revealing the truth.

I have been struck by the outpouring of love by those who in these past few days who, while they did not know the name Hrant Dink until his killing, imparted their condolences upon learning of the loss of this beloved man. The chasm between these feelings of love and the hatred his assassins held for him is a stark reminder of how the continued distrust, skepticism and suspicion that some in Turkey still feel towards their Armenian neighbors calls us to recommit ourselves to the path of reconciliation. Simply put, we must all come to grips with our past in order that our future might be freed from the evils that have too often resulted in the senseless loss of human life.

However, we know that for every Hrant Dink killed by extremists, others will take up the cross of truth and justice. What gives me hope, even in the face of what can only be described as an act of abject evil, is the fact that an increasing number of Turks stand with us -- indeed stand beside Hrant Dink -- in questioning the official Turkish stance on the Armenian Genocide. They have also been eloquent and vigorous voices for the administration of justice to those who took Hrant Dink's life. May God continue to give them the flame of truth so that together we might forge a better future.

I join all Armenians in prayers for Hrant Dink's family and children. Let his death not be in vain. Let all people of good will, including the Turkish people, resist letting his quest for the acknowledgement of the truth die along with him. After all, Hrant Dink's crusade to have the truths about the Armenian Genocide made known was not a crusade to cause shame, but a call for reconciliation built on trust, acknowledgment, forgiveness and, indeed, love.

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեցիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գաղիկն Աստուծոյ:
Hee-shes-cheer yev zeas 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 գաղիկն 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:

Տացէ 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 Krpar 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:*

- EVELYN J. MAZMANIAN (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Edward K. Mazmanian; Edward Z. Mazmanian and Family.

- **TAMARA BALASIANIAN** (14 Year Memorial); **KRIKOR BALASIANIAN** (12 Year Memorial); **LAURA BALASIANIAN** (25 Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Hagop & Manik Yagoobian and Family; Shake Arslanian.

- **RICHARD KOJOIAN** (6 Year Memorial); **GREGORY KOJOIAN** - requested by Mr. Arakel Kojoian; Mr. & Mrs. George Moragemos; Alice Kojoian; Mr. & Mrs. Chris Farmakis.

- **SUSAN OHANIAN** (23 Year Memorial) - requested by Aram "Ace" Ohanian; Tom & Lisa Ohanian and Eliz.

- **JUDY OVAGINIAN** (9 Year Memorial) - requested by Pizant Ovaginian; Allen Ovaginian.

- **SHAPSHAPIAN DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS** - requested by Shake Arslanian and Family.

...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.

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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.*

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Prayer of St. Ephraim

Grant me, O Lord, to do good works at all times. Remove all evil from my sinful mind and preserve me from impure and mischievous conduct and evil habits; and secure me in the fear of your commandments and in your love. Amen.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

An Altar Candle Donation has been given in loving memory of Richard Kojoian by his Father, Mr. Arakel Kojoian.

An Altar Flower Donation has been given Mr. & Mrs. John Derderian, (NY).

MARCH 10, 2007

Saintly Women's Day - On Saturday, March 10 the Women's Guilds of the New England Region will honor Queen Gardamide. This year's event will be hosted by the Armenian Church of Hye Pointe, Ward Hill, Massachusetts.

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PARISH MEMBER DUES - Following the decision of the February 19, 2006 Parish Assembly, membership dues for the year 2007 and moving forward is \$150 for general membership and \$100 for seniors and full-time students. Those unable to pay the full dues may confidentially approach Hayr Soorp to explain their situation. Parishioners are strongly encouraged to contribute beyond the minimum dues as part of the "*Stewardship Program.*"

HOME BLESSINGS - One of the major goals of this year's diocesan theme, "Church and Home: One in the Spirit" is to encourage the faithful to have their homes blessed. Please consider inviting Hayr Simeon to bless your home according to the tradition of the Armenian Church. There is no requirement to offer a meal nor present a gift to the priest. Please have a piece of bread, dish of salt and glass of water available for the blessing.

IMPORTANT REMINDER - ANNUAL REPORTS: All organizations and committee reports are due now. (Financial and Narratives) Please submit to the church office as soon as possible if you have not already done so. Thank you.

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 have paid their Annual Parish dues by December 31 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

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2007 - We have received scholarship applications from the Diocese of the Armenian Church. Scholarships are intended for needy Armenian American students attending accredited 4-year undergraduate university programs. Preference will be given to those who are active in the life of the Armenian Churches of the Eastern Diocese and are U.S. citizens. Please contact the church office for an application. Deadline for submission is June 15, 2007.

The ***SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE*** of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church is pleased to announce that applications are now available for the Charles Yaghoobian Jr. Scholarship Grants for 2007. Scholarship Grants will be awarded to qualified members of all three Armenian Churches in RI. We are currently seeking qualified candidates for consideration. For an application and a list of eligibility requirements you may contact Nathalie Yaghoobian at 353-2488. The deadline to submit application is Monday, April 2, 2007.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE'S Arts Education Program 2006-2007

Second Semester has begun. 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.

“GLORIA IN EXCELSIS” CD - Special price - 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 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*** -- ***“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.

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

- 29 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
30 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2007

- 2 Nazeli & Ballroom Dance, 6:30 p.m.
Junior Choir, 7:30 p.m.
3 Arts Education, 10:30 a.m.
11 St. Vartanantz Day Dinner (Knights of Vartan)
13 Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m.
18 Poon Parengentan Celebration after church
19 First Day of Great Lent
21 Lenten Service 7-8 p.m. - Theme: *"Our Father, who art
in Heaven"*
25 Annual Parish Assembly
28 Lenten Service 7-8 p.m. - Theme: *"Hallowed be Thy
Name"*

MARCH 2007

- 7 Lenten Service, 7-8 p.m. - Theme: *"Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven"*
8 Women's Guild "King Arthur Flour" Demonstration
10 ACYOA Jrs. Retreat in New Hampshire
Saintly Women's Day at Armenian Church at Hye Point
14 Lenten Service, 7-8 p.m. - Theme: *"Give us this day our
daily bread"*
18 ACYOA Jrs. Meeting 5-8 p.m.
21 Lenten Service, 7-8 p.m. - Theme: *"And forgive us our
trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us"*
24 Cultural Committee, Haig Yaghoobian at Music Mansion
28 Lenten Service, 7-8 p.m. - Theme: *"And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil"*