



Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայր. Եկեղեցի

Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church

The Very Rev. Father Simeon Odabashian, Pastor

70 Jefferson Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908

TEL (401) 272-7712 J FAX (401) 272-2832

<http://www.stsahmes.org>

e-mail: office@stsahmes.org

Schedule of Sunday Services

Morning Service (<i>Keesherajeen & Aravodyan Jham</i>)	9:00 a.m.
Sunrise Service (<i>Arevakal</i>)	10:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy (<i>Soorp Badarak</i>)	10:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 25, 2007

Sunday of the Expulsion

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 33:2-22 (Pg. 709) Romans 12:1-13:10 (Pg. 147)

Matthew 5:17-48 (Pg. 4)

The Meaning of Lent

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry.” (Matthew 4:12.)

This is the Biblical basis of the period called Lent, given to us to prepare for the Feast of Feasts, the Resurrection. Just as we need time to prepare for any great event in life, we need time to make ourselves ready to participate in the blessed and wondrous event commemorated by Easter.

Lent gives us the opportunity to:

- Renew our commitment to God
- Reflect on our lives and let them be directed by God
- Respond to Jesus' call for love and mercy toward all of God's children

Lent is a special time in the year when we guard against worldly distractions and make room for the Holy Spirit to fill us. During Lent we go into our own inner wilderness --caused by sins, spiritual laziness, and empty vanity. There we confront the devil. Through prayer, fasting, Bible reading, and self-examination we gain the strength to work at being more loving, humble, and gentle.

After a successful Lenten journey, we should each be able to say “Be gone, Satan.” We also will find ourselves hungry after this long effort; hungry for the only thing that can truly fill the place we have worked hard to clear: the beautiful fruit of the Resurrection, which

is Life Everlasting with Christ our Lord.

The heart of Lent is inner penitence and reconciliation with God. Begin with self-examination and inner healing. Set aside this period to examine and evaluate your life as a Christian. Spiritual renewal is possible only if you're willing to repent for your sins and change your life for God.

Uniting with God involves:

- **Sorrow for Sins**--Changing your life begins when you admit that Christ suffered and died for your sins.
- **Spiritual Growth**--Christian maturity begins when you acknowledge dependence on God. Resolve to accept and carry out His will.
- **Commitment**--Realize that commitment to God is more than just going to church. It involves carrying out God's will daily, whatever the circumstances.
- **Perseverance**--Keep your hope and faith in Easter's promises alive all year long, every year. Realize that Christians of every age have experienced times of testing and have overcome temptation and despair.

(from the website of the Diocese of the Armenia Church: www.info@armenianchurch.net)

+ + + + +

Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեաջիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գառինն 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 լիշիր առաջի անմահ գառինն 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՛ թեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի թում:

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.

+ + + + +

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:

- **BEATRICE AZNAVOURIAN** (16 Year Memorial) - requested by William Aznavourian.

- **JOHN F. DOMBROWSKI** (17 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Mildred Dombrowski; Mr. Gary Dombrowski; Mr. & Mrs. John W. Dombrowski, Brian and Lynn; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dombrowski and Brett.

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

- **ROBERT H. YEREMIAN** (16 Year Memorial) - requested by Joyce, Robert and Gregory.

...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.

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.

+ + + + +

Prayer of St. Ephraim

Open, O Lord, the closed door of my heart and shine upon me the light of the rays of your righteousness. Cleanse me from the filth of sin and heal the wounds of my soul.

Fortify me with your fear and strengthen me, so that I may do righteousness at all times. Amen.

+ + + + +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Following the Divine Liturgy, the annual *Parish Assembly* will be held. All are encouraged to attend. A list of eligible voters and eligible candidates will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Sunday School classrooms. A light lunch will be offered before the meeting.

FEBRUARY 27, 2007

Peanut Butter Kufra will be available for sale for \$10.00 a dozen, on Tuesday, February 27 after 2:00 p.m. by Senior Citizens. You may order by calling the office (272-7712).

MARCH 4, 2007

Commemoration of Sumgait and Baku Massacres – 40th Day Requiem for Assassinated Journalist Hrant Dink - On Sunday, March 4 we will commemorate the massacres against Armenians in Sumgait and Baku, Azerbaijan as well as the Karasoonk for Hrant Dink. There will be a short program following services.

Hrant Dink Fund - The Diocese has launched a fund to provide support for the wife and family of Hrant Dink, the brave Armenian-Turkish journalist who was slain in front of his newspaper offices in Istanbul. A special collection will be taken up during the holy Badarak on Sunday, March 4. Checks may be made out either to Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church or the Diocese of the Armenian Church. All funds collected here will be forwarded to the Diocese.

MARCH 5 2007

Women's Guild Meeting, Monday, March 5, 2007, 7:30 p.m. Election of Officers.

MARCH 8, 2007

Women's Guild - Thursday, March 8, 7:30 p.m. *King Arthur Flour Baking class/demonstration*. Recipes, tips and technique tricks that home bakers can use. Paula Gray, a representative of the King Arthur Flour Company, will be our instructor. Free admission. Contact the Church Office at 272-7712 or Nathalie Yaghoobian 353-2488 for reservations.

MARCH 9-11, 2007

"If being a Christian was a crime, would you be convicted?" an ACYOJ Juniors retreat for New England Armenian youth (ages 13-18). Friday evening - Sunday afternoon at the Metropolis of Boston Camp & Retreat Center, 329 Camp Merrimack Rd, Contoocook, NH. \$100 includes accomodations, meals and materials. Register by February 26. For more info. call Steve Megrdichian (464-9004).

MARCH 10, 2007

Saintly Women's Day - This year the Women's Guilds of the New England Region will honor Queen Gadramide. Event to take place Saturday, March 10 at Holy Cross Armenian Church, 54 East Haverhill St., Lawrence, MA. Registration & coffee at 10:00 a.m., Service at 11:00 a.m. followed by a luncheon and program. Menu: baked haddock and price: \$30 per person. A bus will be departing at 8:30 a.m. Please make your reservation by calling the church office (272-7712) or Zita Butler (728-8015).

MARCH 24, 2007

The Cultural Committee proudly presents its annual *Music Appreciation Series Concert "Sounds of Spring"* Featuring: *Haig Yaghoobian*, piano. Works range from classical to romantic periods and include works of Mozart and Chopin. Concert date is Saturday, March 24, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. at the Music Mansion, 88 Meeting Street, Providence, RI. Reception following the concert. Seating is very limited. Tickets: \$25.00 For tickets call the church office (401)272-7712 or Delicacies (401) 461-4774. No tickets will be sold at the door!

APRIL 14, 2007

Garoun Dance, sponsored by the Junior Choir, 8 p.m. Details to follow. (Note: This date has been changed from April 28)

+ + + + +

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. Call 272-7712 to schedule a visit.

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** 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.

COOKBOOKS AVAILABLE - please call or visit the church office to purchase - "The 40 Days of Lent" with recipies specifically for Lenten dishes, \$15.00.

SUMMER YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Conferences at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary: 2007 Summer Conference Dates - Post High School A: June 11-16; Deacons' Training and Liturgical Music: June 25 - July 3; High School A: July 6-14; High School B: July 17-25; High School C: July 28 - August 5; Junior High School: August 7-11; Post High School B: August 13-19. Applications will be available on the St. Nersess Seminary website in the near future. (<http://www.stnersess.edu/index.php>)

At the Ararat Center: St. Vartan Camp - Session A (June 24-July 7), Session A1 (June 24-30); Session B (July 8-21), Session B1 (July 8-14); Session C (July 22-Aug 4), Session C1 (July 22-28), Session C2 (July 29-August 4). For more information, please call the Church Office. Scholarships are available. There are a number of paid camp staff positions available at this time. Please call the church office or visit their website for more information or an application: <http://www.armenianchurch.net/families/programs/vartancamp.html>

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

FEBRUARY 2007

- Today Annual Parish Assembly
26 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
28 Lenten Service 7-8 p.m. - Theme: *"Hallowed be Thy Name"*

MARCH 2007

- 2 Ballroom & Nazeli Dance Classes, 6:30 p.m.
Junior Choir, 7:30 p.m.
3 Arts Education, 10:30 a.m.
5 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Women's Guild, 7:30 p.m.
6 Ladies Aid Board Meeting, 1 p.m.
Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
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" Demo 7:30 p.m.
10 ACYOA Jrs. Retreat in New Hampshire
Saintly Women's Day at Armenian Church at Hye Point
14 Michink Sunrise Service, 11:30 a.m.
Ladies Aid Luncheon 12:30 p.m.
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"*

APRIL 2007

- 1 Palm Sunday - ACYOA Palm Sunday Dinner
3 Holy Tuesday - Vesper Service, 7:30 p.m.
5 Holy Thursday - Divine Liturgy, 10:30 a.m.
Ladies Aid Luncheon 12:30 p.m.
Washing of the Feet Service, 7:00 p.m.
Memorial of the Passion, 8:00 p.m.
6 Holy & Great Friday
Memorial of the Crucifixion 12:00 noon
Memorial of the Burial of Our Lord, 7:00 p.m.
7 Holy & Great Saturday
Children's Communion Breakfast & Service 11 a.m.
Reading of Sacred Prophecies 6:30 p.m.
Easter Eve Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
8 Easter Sunday, Morning Service 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10am
Blessing of the Four Corners of the World, 11:45 a.m.
14 Garoun Dance, 8 p.m.