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

Sunday, March 4, 2007

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 54:11-55:13 (Pg. 732) II Corinthians 6:1-7:1 (Pg. 165)

Luke 15:1-32 (Pg. 71)

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

"We bless You, O Father eternal of Your only begotten Son, whom You have sent for the return of the lost sheep. Turn us also from sin through the passion of Your Son." (*Sharagan* for the Third Sunday.)

The Sunday of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:1-32) gives us a Biblical case history of a proud man, who sets off blithely, taking his inheritance with him. He cannot manage on his own and ends up in poverty and desolation, envying pigs for their food. When he comes to his senses and says, "I will arise and go to my father," he sounds a Lenten rallying cry for all of us. In his shame over his sin he only expects to be received as a servant, no longer a son. But the father (Our Father) receives him with the fullness of love that only the gracious, bountiful Lord can give.

The older brother is not so gracious. He resents the young ingrate's easy reacceptance. The father reassures him that "everything I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, for your brother was dead and he come to life; he was lost and is found." Do not begrudge God's mercy to another.

The other readings call us back to our Father (Isaiah 54:11-55:13, II Corinthians 6:1-18.)

(from the website of the Diocese of the Armenian Church: www.info@armenianchurch.n)

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեսցիր 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:

Յիշեսցէ 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 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:*

- **HRANT DINK** (40 Day Memorial - Karasoonk)
- **VICTIMS OF THE MASSACRES OF ARMENIANS IN THE AZERBAIJANI CITIES OF SUMGAIT** (February 1988) and **BAKU** (December 1989-January 1990).
- **AGNES YAGOOBIAN** (40 Day Memorial - Karasoonk) - requested by Arthur & Mary Beth Hanoian and Family; Robert & Nancy Yaghjian and Family.
- **ROBERT APKARIAN** (Atlanta, GA) One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Very Rev. Fr. Shnork G. Kasparian.
- **SATENIG NORIGIAN** (4 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Harry DerVartanian; Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Norigian; Mr. & Mrs. Zaven Norigian; Carol Norigian; Mrs. Edward Norigian; H. Chris DerVartanian; Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lombardo and Alexandra; Mr. & Mrs. Robert D'Antuono; Dn. & Mrs. Gary Alexander; Zaven Norigian, Jr.; Gregory Norigian; Matthew, Michael and Amara D'Antuono; Luke and David Alexander.
- **SUSAN VARADIAN TORKOMIAN** (9 Year Memorial) - requested by the Torkomian Family; the Caracciolo Family; Dorothy Paolino and Family; Debbie & Joseph DiSanto and Family; Julia & Marcel Donabedian and Family.
- **WALTER VARTAN OHANIAN** (22 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Sally Ohanian and Family.
- **HOVHANNES GULESSERIAN** (My Father, 74 Year Memorial); all **GULESSERIAN DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS - VARTANUSH, HAMPARTSUM, ARMENAG, REPEGA, VARSENIG** - requested by Boghos Gulesserian.

...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.

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Prayer of St. Ephraim

Source of tears, turn my head, Lord, wash away the impurities of my soul, and cleanse my senses. Transform my evil deeds into contrition, so that with a warm heart and modest body I may live according to your commandments. Amen

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

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 today. 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.

Today's **Coffee Fellowship** is sponsored in loving memory of the victims of massacres against Armenians in Azerbaijan as well as on the 40th day of the death of the assassinated journalist Hrant Dink.

MARCH 5 2007

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

MARCH 7, 2007

Lenten Dinner sponsored by the Knights of Vartan, 6-7 p.m.
Peace and Rest Service, 7-8 p.m.

MARCH 8, 2007

Women's Guild King Arthur Flour Demonstration - sorry, we cannot take any more reservations.

MARCH 9-11, 2007

"If being a Christian was a crime, would you be convicted?"
an ACYOA 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 accommodations, meals and materials. For more info. call Steve Megrđichian (464-9004).

MARCH 14, 2007

Meecheenk - Median Day of Great Lent, Sunrise Service at 11:30 a.m. followed by Lenten Luncheon sponsored by Ladies Aid. Reservations are requested, please RSVP by calling the church office (272-7712) or Sandra Pomfret (942-3913) \$10 per person.

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!

MARCH 30, 2007

The ACYOA's will have a "*Night with the Providence Bruins*" on Friday, March 30 at the Dunkin' Donuts Center, 7:05 p.m. (Providence Bruins vs. Springfield Falcons). Free post-game concert with Tommy Fava & Anthony following the game. First 3,000 fans receive free P-Bruins Bandanas. Tickets are only \$10. For more information please contact Steve Megrđichian at 401-464-9004, 401-419-4392 or <spmeg77@cox.net>. Deadline for tickets is March 11.

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)

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SUNDAYS of GREAT LENT 2007

The Rhode Island Orthodox Clergy Fellowship is sponsoring a series of Lenten Services with Sermons on each of the Sundays of Great Lent. Services begin at 5 pm and are followed by lenten refreshments.

Sunday, March 4 - Holy Dormition Orthodox Church, 71 Manville Hill Rd., Cumberland

Sunday, March 11 - St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church, 249 High St., Pawtucket

Sunday, March 18 - St. John Romanian Orthodox Church, 501 E. School St., Woonsocket

Sunday, March 25 - Sts. Mary & Mena Coptic Orthodox Church, 8 Pendelton St., Cranston

MILITARY OUTREACH - The Diocese of the Armenian Church wishes to reach out to Armenians serving in the military, particularly those who are in unstable areas such as Iraq and Afghanistan; also to those who

have recently completed their active duty. Please forward the name, military addresses and e-mail address of any Armenian military whom you are aware of to: <office@stsahmes.org> or forward the information to the church office.

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.

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

MARCH 2007

- 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 Dinner (Knights of Vartan), 6-7 p.m.
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.
(For those with reservations only)
- 9 Nazeli & Ballroom Dance Classes, 6:30 p.m.
Junior Choir 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Arts Education, 10:30 a.m.
ACYOA Jrs. Retreat in New Hampshire
- 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"*
- 30 ACYOA "Night with the Providence Bruins" 7:05 p.m. at the Dunkin' Donuts Center

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.