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Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church

The Very Rev. Father Simeon Odabashian, Pastor

70 Jefferson Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908

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Schedule of Sunday Services

Morning Service (<i>Keesharayeen & Aravodyan Jham</i>)	9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy (<i>Soorp Badarak</i>)	10:00 a.m.
Blessing of the Four Corners of the World (<i>Antasdan</i>)	11:45 a.m.

Sunday, April 8, 2007

Easter Sunday

Scripture Readings

Acts 1:15-26 (Pg. 108) Mark 16:2-8 (Pg. 50)

THE EASTER MESSAGE OF ARCHBISHOP

KHAJAG BARSAMIAN

Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship and to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all people. And the Lord added to their number daily the number being saved.” (Acts 2:42-47)

Once again we find ourselves enmeshed in the glorious season of hope and Resurrection - Easter. Wherever we look the whole Earth pays homage to Our Risen LORD as all of creation seems to herald new life. It is as if the budding trees and flowering spring bulbs join us in the praise of our Easter liturgy hymns. For more than twenty centuries after an angel delivered the news to the women at the empty tomb, the entire universe sings out like a choir exulting along with us as we continue our ancient tradition of proclaiming that powerful question and answer that gave birth to the Church, Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen.”

He has risen! These are the words of wonder that the LORD’s devoted disciples and soon hundreds and then thousands more murmured

to one another as they began to live what the LORD had once only taught. And what an eloquent instruction to us is the Book of Acts, where we witness the transformation of a valiant few into the community of believers who lived in that enviable rhythm of service, worship, and fellowship described above.

Only days after Pentecost, the Early Church, that nascent family of Christ, was itself finding the new growth of Spring. They were taking shape not only in the consecrated places of worship but continuing in fellowship and love in their own homes where families gathered to celebrate the Eucharist and proclaim that Jesus is LORD. It is worth noting how often, when speaking of the Church, the Gospel writers were careful to note how families gathered around Jesus Christ. Recall Peter and his concern for his mother in law; the Centurion who is concerned for his daughter; that Scriptures tells us that Martha and Mary, sisters, were gathered with Jesus and how, knowing that the Church and family were to be as one, he ensured that His Church and family would be as one, He spoke to his mother and His disciple John, saying, "Woman, behold Thy son; son behold thy Mother!"

In this way and in many others Jesus Christ taught us the importance of family. The Early Church knew how important this was and, amongst these families that gathered to proclaim Jesus as LORD, there was prayer, teaching, fellowship, praise, breaking of bread, gladness of heart, and everywhere - in the form of entire households being baptized and the number of believers increasing exponentially - prodigious signs of new life. For just as Our LORD rose from His tomb, nullifying death's hold on the universe, so the new community of His followers also rose up, dying to the vanity of former lives and being reborn as self-aware children of God - an Easter people. For the followers of the Resurrected Christ the church and home were inextricably bound together as the dual but singular expression of the Holy Spirit dwelling with them.

The Diocesan Year of Church and Home: One in Spirit gives us the opportunity to transverse the span of over two millennia to be united with the Early Church for whom the church and family were inseparably one. As we once again find ourselves amongst the budding trees and blossoming flowers, true signs of the Easter message of new life, I encourage us all to consider how we might transform ourselves, and our families in the image of Christ as did our brothers and sisters of the Early Church. One way to do so is to take part in the ancient Armenian tradition of a "Home Blessing" service, which is done particularly after Easter Sunday. I encourage each Armenian family to contact their local clergyman and arrange for this powerful service to be conducted in their own homes.

Take time, as our ancestors did, to gather with family, sharing the Gospel stories and the Good News of the Resurrection. Share in the breaking of bread with one another, passing on our ancient traditions

and faith as did our ancestors, being careful to add or subtract nothing. And for those of us who sometimes find ourselves experiencing feelings of loss, of family, friends, tradition and culture I encourage you to know most intimately that He is Risen and that with Him, who makes all things new, we too can have hope by sharing in the Resurrection and therein find the new life that Easter offers.

May the Resurrection of our beloved LORD, in whose presence we journey from the Cross to the Second Coming, fill our own hearts with rebirth as we joyfully exclaim:

Krisdos haryav ee merelotz! Orhnyal eh harootiunun Krisdosee!

“Christ is risen from the dead! Blessed is the resurrection of Christ!”
Let the world rejoice this Easter Sunday, when we sing those words anew.

Easter 2007

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Hayr Soorp, the Parish Council and Delegates wish you and your dear ones a Happy Easter. May the blessings of our resurrected Savior fill your hearts with joy and peace.

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեսցիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գառիճն Աստուծոյ:
Hee-shes-cheer yev zeez 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 գառիճն 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:

Տաղէ 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 of the Divine Liturgy in the books provided in the pews. 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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Easter Introit

Christ is risen from the dead! He trampled down death by death, and by his resurrection he granted life unto us. Glory unto him for all 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.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Two large *Easter Pascal Candles* have been donated in loving memory of Archdeacon Hachadoor Madenigian and Zartar Madenigian by Helen Seplocha and Family.

Easter Flowers - Bouquets of flowers will be available for purchase this morning following services, sponsored by the Women's Guild.

The *Junior Choir* will participate in the Badarak this morning.

Special Collection for Habitat for Humanity - Today a special plate collection will be taken up to benefit the 2007 Habitat for Humanity Armenia Project. Last year we successfully funded a home for the Gharabaghtsyan family. Currently there are some 40,000 families in Armenia in need of housing. Together we can help build another home for those in need in Armenia. For more info. please contact Leona Thovmasian Bailey at 467-6027.

APRIL 9, 2007

There will be a *Women's Guild Meeting*, Monday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.

APRIL 16, 2007

Habitat for Humanity Armenia Project - presents our first fundraiser, Meet the Author, Barbara Ghazarian. There will be a book signing and tasting from her Cookbook "Simply Armenian : Naturally Healthy Ethnic Cooking Made Easy," Monday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center. Come enjoy delicacies from her cookbook including her signature quince preserves. Donation \$5.00 to benefit Habitat for Humanity Armenia Project. For reservations call the Church Office (272-7712), Leona Bailey (467-6027), Stephanie Masoian (461-4774) or e-mail <Akqul1@aol.com>.

APRIL 17, 2007

Armenian Youth Day sponsored by the Martyrs' Committee will be held on Tuesday, April 17, starting at 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Egavian Auditorium. Children from 7-18 are welcome. Please RSVP Joyce (354-8770) or Sondra (781-6984).

APRIL 18, 2007

The *Senior Citizens* will sponsor a trip to Connecticut on Wednesday, April 18. For reservations, call Zabel at 861-8925.

APRIL 20, 2007

Family Night - Friday, April 20 - "Mer Doon" Restaurant night in Egavian Hall. Enjoy tasty appetizers, luleh kebab and bulgur pilaf dinner, and dessert. Also available, cash bar. DJ Gago and Bingo. Dinner will be served from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Adults \$8.00, Children \$6.00. Baby sitting services are available on a limited basis from 6-8 p.m. For reservations for party of 8 or more for 6 p.m. seating call Hermond Ghazarian (821-2549); Gary Taraian (508-761-4600); or the Church Office (272-7712).

APRIL 24, 2007

Martyrs Day - On Tuesday, April 24 we will conduct a special Requiem - Hokehankist Service for the repose of the souls of the 1.5 million victims of the Armenian Genocide of 1915. This will take place in the sanctuary from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by a Commemorative Program with the participation of the ACYOÅ Juniors from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. This will take place

in the Egavian Hall. All are strongly encouraged to take part in this solemn remembrance.

APRIL 28, 2007

A World of Contribution - Celebrate a tribute to Corinne Heditsian (1939-2005), past chair of the Armenian Historical Association of Rhode Island, with a special performance by members of the Silk Road Ensemble, featuring the music of Gomidas and artist Kevork Mourad who has developed a technique of spontaneous painting in which he shares the stage with the musicians. Saturday evening, April 28th at the Egavian Cultural Center – 7:30 p.m. Donation \$20 Students \$12. Reservations - contact Ramon Zorabedian at 884-6626.

APRIL 29, 2007

The ***Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Committee Services*** will be held at the North Burial Ground at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29.

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Love Your Neighbor

Announcing the beginning of a new outreach project in response to our Lord's command (Matthew 22:39) and our commitment to the ***"Year of Church and Home: One in the Spirit."*** Beginning Sunday, April 29 special bins will be placed at all church entrances in order to collect non-perishable food items. This will be an ongoing project. Parishioners will be encouraged to bring one or more items each Sunday or at other times of the week. This will be an excellent opportunity to put our faith into action. Food donations will be forwarded to Mary House Food Pantry, the outreach ministry of St. Patrick's Church. For more info. call Gary Nahabedian 580-8123 or Joyce Avedisian 724-3978. **** Fact - of all children in Providence under 18 years old, 43% fall below the poverty level.***

IMMACULEE ILIBAGIZA TO SPEAK - We have received word that Rwandan Genocide Survivor, Immaculee Ilibagiza, will be speaking at Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA on Sun., Apr. 22 at 4 p.m. Ms. Ilibagiza has appeared on "60 Minutes" and will be sharing her inspiring and triumphant story of survival as she and seven other women huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's house for 91 days during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. She is the author of "Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust." Hers is a captivating story of power of forgiveness. For more info. please call 617-354-0632 or visit www.htaac.org.

MEMBERSHIP/ STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE - The Parish Council is seeking individuals interested in serving on this vital committee. Please inform Hayr Simeon or Hagop Ghajanian of your interest. Please help us as we strive to bring new growth to our church community.

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.

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND - The Diocesan Department of Youth and Education and the ACYOA invite College Students (completed 2 yrs. of college), Young Adults, and Church School Teachers on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem - August 5 - 14. Cost is \$1,998 per person (double occupancy). Deadline is May 8. For information call: 212-686-0710. The pilgrimage will be led by Father Mardiros Chevian.

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>

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

CULTURAL COMMITTEE'S Arts Education Program 2006-2007 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 - Library Hours: Sundays following church services until 1:30 p.m., and by appointment only by calling the church secretary at 272-7712, who will get you in touch with a member of the Library Committee. **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. In the glass display case outside the library there are several books, tapes, shirts, emblems, etc. for sale. Stop by and take a look. **Note: The Library will be closed today.**

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).

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



Holy Week and Easter - 2007

Donations of Flowers for Holy Week and Easter have been given

- in loving memory of **George Zartarian** by Irene Zartarian
- in loving memory of **Roger Derderian** by Sue, John and Terry Derderian; Anita & Dennis Bongiaro.
- in loving memory of **Archie & Anna Yessian** by Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Palumbo Jr.
- in loving memory of **Zevart Apkarian, Anoush & Samuel Meklian, Sarah Klanian, Edward J. Curran and John T. Curran** by Karen and Elizabeth Curran.
- in loving memory of **Arthur A. Thovmasian, Jr.** by his Family.
- in loving memory of **William P. Butler** by Mrs. William Butler and Elizabeth Butler, and Dr. & Mrs. Aram Demirjian.
- in loving memory of **Arthur J. Hanoian** by Mary Hanoian.
- in loving memory of **Yevkine Azarian** by Lawrence & Karen Miller.
- in loving memory of **George R. & Eunice Gilbert** by Emily & George Gilbert.
- in loving memory of **Moushak & Haiganoush Mazgerdian** by Rose Sherestanian.
- in loving memory of **Sarkis & Armenouhi Klanian, Harry A. Garabedian and Arthur Rustigian Jr.** by Nora Garabedian, Mary Melidossian and Alice Rustigian.
- in loving memory of **Hamaig & Mary Takvorian and Paul & Hripsime Kazarian** by Harry & Adrienne Takvorian.
- in loving memory of **Anoush & Samuel Meklian** by Mary and Zabel Meklian.
- by Mr. & Mrs. James Woloohojian and Family.

- in loving memory of **Nishan Karagozian** (deceased November 3, 2004) by Charles & Susan Karagozian.

- by Anna Asdoorian.

- in loving memory of **George Kazarian** (36 years) and **Esgouhie Hazarian** (10 years) by Mrs. Mary Kazarian.

- in loving memory of **Mr. & Mrs. George Abraham, George, Harry, Roxy and Alice Abraham** by Mr. & Mrs. John Masterson.

- by Anonymous.

- in loving memory of **Melina Baborian** by Mike & Gloria Church and Family.

- in loving memory of **Harry & Mary Daniels** by Malcolm Daniels.

- in loving memory of our parents, **Garabed & Anna Toutoian** by Rose Chevian and Mary Brown.

- in loving memory of **Reverend Haik Donikian** by Susan Agnes Rotondo.

- in loving memory of **Israel, Siranoosh, Susan, Anthony Z., Mary, Harry Avedisian** and **Kazar Alamian** by Ann Avedisian.

- in loving memory of **Grace & Charles Yaghoobian** by Nathalie Yaghoobian.

- in loving memory of **Lucy Martiesian** and **Mary Martiesian** by Lazarus & Olympia Martiesian.



Donations of Butter for the Ceremony of the Washing of Feet on Holy Thursday have been given by:

- Anonymous (2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 2007

- Today** **Easter Sunday**, Morning Service 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10am
Blessing of the Four Corners of the World, 11:45 a.m.
- 9 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Women's Guild Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Nazeli & Ballroom Dance, 6:30 p.m.
Junior Choir 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Arts Education 10:30 a.m.
- 15 ACYOA Meeting, 5-8 p.m.
- 16 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Habitat Presentation 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Annual Armenian Youth Day 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- 18 Senior Citizens Trip to Connecticut
- 19 Jr. Choir & Ballroom Dance Class 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Family Night 6-8 p.m.
- 21 Arts Education 10:30 a.m.
- 23 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 24 Martyrs Day Requiem Service & Program, 6:30 p.m.
- 27 Jr. Choir & Ballroom Dance Class 6:30 p.m.
- 28 Arts Education, 10:30 a.m.
Memorial Tribute to Corinne Heditsian, 7:30 p.m.
- 29 Martyrs' Memorial Committee Services at North Burial
Ground at 12:30 p.m.
- 30 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.

MAY 2007

- 8 Ladies Aid Board Meeting, 1 p.m.
- 11 Annual Sports Banquet
- 15 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
- 16 Ladies Aid Mother's Day Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.
- 17 Cultural Committee Event - Professional's
- 20 ACYOA Jrs. Meeting, 5-8 p.m.

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.