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

Sunday, April 29, 2007

Fourth Sunday of Eastertide (Red Sunday)

Scripture Readings

Acts 13:16-43 (Pg. 120) I Peter 5:1-14 (Pg. 211)

John 5:19-30 (Pg. 88)

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

This morning's gospel passage from the fifth chapter of St. John's gospel touches upon essential mysteries of our holy Christian faith.

1. We get a glimpse at the inner working of the Holy Trinity, specifically the perfect loving relationship between God the Father and God the Son. *"The Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever he does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son, and shows him all that he himself is doing; and greater works than these will he show him, that you may marvel."*

2. The scripture also testifies to the resurrection faith, which we are emphasizing during this season of Easter-tide. *"As the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. "Do not marvel at this, for the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment."*

3. The passage touches on the mystery of the Last Judgment. *"The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father who sent him..."*

4. Finally, the promise of eternal life is proclaimed: *"He who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has already passed from death to life."*

John 5 overflows with the most valuable teachings of our orthodox Christian faith. It's for this reason that the evangelist St. John has been given the title "Theologian."

The doctrines of the Holy Trinity, Resurrection of the Dead, Last Judgment and Eternal Life are at the very heart of the Christian message. Everything that we do in community as well as individual life must be grounded on these fundamental beliefs.

Even today as we conduct our solemn remembrance of the Genocide of 1915, we do well to avoid the temptation to relegate the issue simply to the political arena and to the secular understanding of justice, which is about territorial and material claims. Rather our Christian faith invites us receive the deepest comfort from the truth that all justice belongs to God and that the death of our 1.5 million martyrs was not in vain – for we are convinced of the truth of the resurrection and we strive to live the faith of the martyred - “*He who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has already passed from death to life.*”

Let us pray that our heavenly Father grant eternal life to our beloved martyrs of 1915.

With prayers,
Hayr Simeon

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեցիր եւ գիս առաջի անմահ գառինն 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 լիջիր 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:

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 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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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.

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:

- THE MARTYRS (1.5 Million) of the ARMENIAN GENOCIDE OF 1915 - 92nd Anniversary.

- **FILIP HAKOPYAN** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Roza Karapetyan; Mr. & Mrs. Gagik Saribekyan and Family; Alvard Vardanian; the Gevorkian Family.

- **HARRY NAHIGIAN** (Two Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Elizabeth Nahigian; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Nahigian; Mr. & Mrs. James Bjartmarz and Tom; Mr. & Mrs. Leon Nahigian.

- **JUDGE JOHN K. NAJARIAN** (17 Year Memorial); **MARY A. NAJARIAN** (22 Year Memorial); **KRIKOR O. NAJARIAN** (31 Year Memorial); **MARGARET K. NAJARIAN** (46 Year Memorial) - requested by their Children and Grandchildren.

- **SEROUN NAJARIAN JAMGOCHIAN** - requested by Linda, Carol, John Jr., Kenneth Najarian and Families.

- **JACOB ABAJIAN** (3 Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Alex Abajian.

- **ROSE GASPARIAN** (3 Year Memorial); **HAKOB GASPARIAN** (17 Year Memorial); **AVAK TAKELJIAN** (11 Year Memorial); **AGHAVNY TAKELJIAN** (27 Year Memorial); **MERGER TAKELJIAN** (28 Year Memorial) - requested by Sonya, Armen, Ara and Sevan Janigian.

- **SHAHIN SARKISIAN** (56 Year Memorial); **ELIZABETH SARKISIAN** (33 Year Memorial); **EVA SARKISIAN** (33 Year Memorial); **STAR SARKISIAN** (7 Year Memorial); **LILLIAN MOURACHIAN** (7 Year Memorial) requested by Shahin Sarkisian.

...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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

The *Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Committee Services* will be held at the North Burial Ground at 12:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, requiem and program will be held at the Egavian Cultural Center.

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 today 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.*

MAY 6, 2007

40th Day Requiem for Fr. Haik Donikian, followed by a Memorial Fellowship sponsored by the Women's Guild. Donations will be received to purchase a liturgical item in Der Hayr's memory.

Installation of 2007 Parish Council - Next Sunday, May 6 the service of installation for the 2007 Parish Council will be held at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

MAY 11, 2007

The *Sports Scholarship Committee's 38th Annual Sports Banquet* will take place on Friday evening, May 11, 2007. Social hour 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. Tickets \$20 per person. The Charles Yaghoobian

Jr. Memorial Award and honoring RI's Armenian Athletes of the Year. For tickets, please call Rosemary Kuzirian 421-0480 (evenings 943-3158) or Ara Boghigian 944-2211 (evenings).

MAY 12, 2007

On Saturday, May 12, 2007 our *Junior Choir* and *Nazeli Dance* Group will have a concert in the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs, Bayside, NY.

MAY 13, 2007

Guest Celebrant and Preacher - On Sunday, May 13 we will be blessed with the presence of the Reverend Father Khoren Kirakosyan from the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. Der Khoren will be traveling to the United States to take part in the Annual Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly.

MAY 15, 2007

Meeting for the 106th Diocesan Assembly Committee, 7:30 p.m.

MAY 16, 2007

Ladies Aid Society will celebrate Mother's Day with a Dinner and Program on Wednesday, May 16 at 12:30 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center. We will be honoring Mary Serabian, "*Mother of the Year.*" Donation: \$12 per person (checks payable to Ladies Aid). Dinner reservations only by May 11. Please call Sandra Pomfret (942-3913) or Fran, Church Office (272-7712).

MAY 17, 2007

The *Cultural Committee* of Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church presents *Meet With The Armenian Professionals - Questions & Answers - JOHN M. HARPOOTIAN, Esquire.* Topic: Estate Planning - Robert Janigian Sr., Moderator - Thursday, May 17, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Egavian Cultural Center, 70 Jefferson St., Providence, RI - Admission Free - All are welcome to attend!

MAY 23, 2007

Meeting for the 106th Diocesan Assembly Committee, 7:30 p.m.

JUNE 24, 2007

Save the date! June 24, 2007 for our *Annual Picnic.* Watch for future notices and information. Your support of our Leg of Lamb Drive and Raffle will be greatly appreciated!

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WISH LIST: We are seeking a donor to purchase a new safe for the church. Approximate cost is \$1500. Please call the church office 272-7712 if you are interested in contributing for this necessary item.

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>

"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. In the glass display case outside the library there are several books, tapes, shirts, emblems, etc. for sale. Stop by and take a look. **Please note that the Library will be closed on April 29.**

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.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 2007

- Today*** Martyrs' Memorial Committee Services at North Burial
Ground at 12:30 p.m. (In case of inclement weather,
services will be held in Egavian Hall.)
30 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.

MAY 2007

- 4 Junior Choir & Nazeli Dance Group, 6:30 p.m.
5 Arts Education 10:30 a.m.
7 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
8 Ladies Aid Board Meeting, 1 p.m.
Parish Council 7:30 p.m.
10 Jr. Choir & Nazeli Dance Group Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.
11 Annual Sports Banquet
12 Arts Education 10:30 a.m.
Jr. Choir & Nazeli Dance Group Trip to Bayside, NY
14 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Women's Guild Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
15 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
Meeting for 106th Diocesan Assembly, 7:30 p.m.
16 Ladies Aid Mother's Day Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.
17 Cultural Committee - Meet with Armenian Professionals -
John M. Harpootian, Esq. - Topic: Estate Planning
18 Junior Choir & Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
19 Arts Education 10:30 a.m.
20 ACYOA Jrs. Meeting, 5-8 p.m.
21 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
23 Meeting for 106th Diocesan Assembly, 7:30 p.m.
25 Junior Choir & Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
26 Arts Education 10:30 a.m.
28 Memorial Day, Office Closed

JUNE 2007

- 2 Cultural Committee Talent Show
7 Cultural Committee - Meet with Armenian Professionals -
Edward Hamanjian, 7 p.m.
9 Women's Guild Strawberry Festival 12 p.m.
10 Church School Closing Ceremonies
24 Annual Church Picnic
30 Cultural Committee - Cafe Night