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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 (*Kesheraheen & Aravodyan Jham*) 9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*) 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 8, 2007

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Barekendan of the Fast of Transfiguration

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 3:1-11 (Pg. 684) Romans 11:13-24 (Pg. 146)

Matthew 14:13-21 (Pg. 14)

Dear Friends,

In one week we will celebrate one of the five major feasts (*daghavar*) of the Armenian Church – the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ also known as *Vartavar*.

In preparation for this great feast the Holy Church invites us to utilize the week leading up to the feast for spiritual growth via the Lenten ascetical practices of fasting, prayer and good works. The pious reading of Holy Scripture, particularly the gospels and psalms, is also of immense spiritual benefit.

During this upcoming week as you read the daily newspaper or watch the news on television ask yourself: where does my Christian faith fit into this? How do I interpret what is happening in the world in the light of my being a child of God? Every day we hear more and more troubling news from Iraq and other areas of conflict. Increasingly we are learning more and more about natural disasters resulting from humanity's lack of stewardship with regards to God's creation.

It's very easy to become depressed with all the bad news. However, this is when our holy apostolic faith needs to kick in and form our attitudes, words and actions. We need to realize that this life and present reality are not forever. In the book of Revelations we read: *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away and the sea was no more.*

In other words all of the things that we have grown accustomed to and comfortable with are truly temporary. Thus in our spiritual calling we need to recommit ourselves to the chief precept of the gospel: *You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind; and your neighbor as yourself.*

Let us use this week of preparation for the holy feast of Transfiguration as an opportunity for growth in what really matters and is eternal: love of God and love of neighbor.

Pray the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:
*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
Where there is sadness, joy
Divine Master, grant that
I may not so much seek
To be consoled, as to console;
Not so much to be loved, as to love;
For it is in giving, that we receive;
It is in pardoning, that we are pardoned;
It is in dying that we awaken to eternal life.*

With prayers, Hayr Simeon

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեալիք եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գառիկն 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 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:

Յիշեալէ 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:

Տալէ 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 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.

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:

- **GOHAR GASPARYAN** - renowned singer from Yerevan, Armenia (May 16, 2007).

- **DAVID NAJARIAN** (8 Year Memorial) - requested by Richard, Loretta and Stephen Najarian; Paula Najarian & Matthias Wilkinson and Family; Robert & Lynn Vartanian and Family; Hovnan & Adrienne Vartanian; Lorraine Vartanian and Family; Thomas Vartanian; Vernon & Cynthia Samoorian and Family; Raffie Najarian; Askanaz Najarian and Family; Penelope Vartanian and Family.

- **WILLIAM P. BUTLER** (11 Year Memorial) - requested by Zita Butler for husband, and Elizabeth and Dr. & Mrs. Aram Demirjian for father; Nathalie Yaghoobian for brother-in-law.

- **GRACE SHAMIRIAN YAGHOOBIAN** (11 Year Memorial) - requested by her daughters, Nathalie Yaghoobian and Zita Butler, and Granddaughters Elizabeth and Alexis and her husband, Dr. Aram Demirjian; the Jizmagian Family.

- **GEORGE JIZMAGIAN** - requested by Nathalie Yaghoobian, Zita Butler, Elizabeth, & Dr. & Mrs. Aram Demirjian.

- HENRY KASAIAN (12 Year Memorial); SATENIG and GARABED KASAIAN - requested by Martha Carter, Marion Kasaian, Agnes Summerly and Families.

- HACHIG K. BOZIGIAN (41 Year Memorial); AGNES (HAIGOUHI) BOZIGIAN; JUNE (BOZIGIAN) MATRUMALO - requested by Mrs. Sherry B. Hanoian; Jane & Donald Cimini; George & Susan Hanoian, Peter, Mark and Emily.

- JOHN ASDOORIAN; ALMA ASDOORIAN; ROSE ASDOORIAN - requested by John & Mark Asdoorian; Anna Asdoorian; Mr. & Mrs. E. Shadbegian; Dolores Norigian; Mr. & Mrs. Peter Babigian.

- ZAKAR TOPALIAN (CT) (26 Year Memorial) - requested by Bill, Mags and David Griego.

...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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ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 9, 2007

Prof. Ara Dostourian's Church History Class will resume on Monday, July 9 from 7-9 p.m. in the Church Hall, and will meet Mondays through Fall. Please join us. Classes will meet in July on the 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th. Please call the church office for further details.

JULY 19, 2007

The Cultural Committee of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church presents *Meet With The Professionals - Questions & Answers - Thomas Bezigian, Financial Advisor*. Topic: Investing - Part 2 - Linda Minassian, Moderator - Thursday, July 19, 2007 at 7:00pm - Egavian Cultural Center, 70 Jefferson Street Providence, RI - Admission Free, *all are welcome to attend!*

JULY 23, 2007

There will be a trip to Francis Farm sponsored by Ladies Aid on Monday, July 23, 2007. All-You-Can-Eat Chowder and Clam Cakes, dessert and coffee. \$12.00 Per person. For additional \$5 you may have steamers, all you can eat. Reservations only. Pay-

ment due upon reservation. Bus leaves at 10 a.m. Bring your own cards/games. Air conditioned hall or enjoy the outdoor pavilion. Call the Church (272-7712) or Sandra Pomfret (942-3913)

SEPTEMBER 8 & 15, 2007

Cultural Committee Arts Education Program's registration for 2007 - 2008 First Semester is on Saturday, September 8, 2007 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Egavian Cultural Center. Programs begin on Saturday, September 15, 2007. Please send application to: Cultural Committee Arts Education Program, Saints Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church, 70 Jefferson St., Providence, RI 02908. For further information or questions please contact program Chairperson Janna Guegamian: 861-3573

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

Blood Drive - Save the Date !!!! Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church will be sponsoring a blood drive on Sunday, September 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Hanoian Hall. The entire church and community is invited to participate. You can help save up to three lives by donating blood on this day. Please join your fellow parishioners and friends at the blood drive and help give the gift of life. *Give Hope ... Give Life ... Give Blood*

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LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR - 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.*" Special bins have been placed at all church entrances in order to collect non-perishable food items. This will be an ongoing project. Parishioners are encouraged to bring one or more items each Sunday or at other times of the week. This is 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.*

BLESSING OF HOLY MURON PILGRIMAGE TO ARMENIA

- His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, will bless the Holy Muron (Chrism) in September 2008. On this blessed occasion we would like to organize a pilgrimage to Holy Etchmiadzin, Armenia. Exact dates and costs will be forthcoming. Record numbers of pilgrims are anticipated, thus plans need to be made well in advance. Parishioners interested in being part of this pilgrimage, please notify the church office.

ARARAT CENTER - 4th Annual Festival - Delicious food including chicken & luleh kebob meals and more...Enjoy and afternoon of Music by the "Philly Kef Band", children's bounce house and a variety of vendors - Saturday, July 21, noon to 5 pm at the Ararat Center in Greenville, NY. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian will bless the new pavilion. Please RSVP by calling 212-686-0710 ext. 120 or e-mail: contact@araratcenter.org. Sponsorships for the festival are greatly appreciated. Please call 856-234-7361 for more information.

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.

SUMMER YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

St. Nersess Armenian Seminary 2007 Summer Conference

Dates - 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 are available on the St. Nersess Seminary website (<http://www.stnersess.edu/index.php>)

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). Please call the church office or visit the Diocesan website for more information or an application: <http://www.armenianchurch.net/families/programs/vartancamp.html>. For local contact regarding camp information, you may call Armen Janigian at 578-5816 or e-mail at asjhye@hotmail.com

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 mem-

ber 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.

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 am. (Please note the corrected time)

Requiem – Hokehankist – Request

Offering prayers for deceased loved ones is beloved tradition in the Armenian Church. Requiem prayers are requested on the fortieth day (karasoonk) and subsequent anniversaries (dareleetz).

(Note: Requiems may not be requested on the five major feasts.)

Please use this form to make your request to the Church Office (272-7712) or to a Parish Council Member by the Thursday prior to the requested Sunday. May the Lord illumine the soul of your loved one. Thank you for your generous donation.

Name(s) of Deceased _____

Anniversary _____

Requested by _____

Sunday Requested _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2007

- 9, 16, 23, 30 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
9 Church History Class 7 p.m. (First Class)
10 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
15 **Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord** (Note: There will be no requiems July 15. Requiems will resume on July 22)
16 Church History Class, 7 p.m.
17 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
19 Meet with Armenian Professionals - Questions and Answers
Mr. Thomas Bezigian, Financial Advisor 7 p.m.
23 Trip to Francis Farm 10 a.m. (Ladies Aid)
Diocesan Assembly Meeting, 7 p.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m.
30 Church History Class 7 p.m.

AUGUST 2007

- 6, 13, 20, 27 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m. (Mondays)
7 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
14 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
20-22 Vacation Bible School

SEPTEMBER 2007

- 3 Labor Day Holiday, Office Closed
8 Cultural Committee Gala Concert
11 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
20 Women's Guild Fashion Show
25 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
30 Blood Drive, 11a.m. - 2 p.m.

OCTOBER 2007

- 6-8 Visit of His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and
Catholicos of All Armenians to New England
9 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
14 Church Name Day
23 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.
Parish Council, 7 p.m.
27 & 28 Annual Church Bazaar