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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>Keasherayeen & Aravodyan Jham</i>)	9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy (<i>Soorp Badarak</i>)	9:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 15, 2007

Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

Scripture Readings

Zechariah 14:16-21 (Pg.929) I John 1:1-7 (Pg. 214)

Matthew 16:13-17:13 (Pg. 16)

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Referred to also as *Baydzaragerbootiun*, the Feast of the Transfiguration is one of the five principal feasts of the Armenian Church, so named because of Christ's luminous appearance. In Armenia it is also known as *Vartavar* (the Festival of Roses) after the old pagan feast, which it replaced.

The feast marks Christ's appearance with a resplendent countenance to three of His disciples, Peter, John, and James, on the holy mountain of Galilee, also known as Mount Tabor.

The Bible tells us that when Jesus was considering going to Jerusalem, he spoke with his disciples of the torture that was in store for Him and of the end of His life on earth. Jesus wanted His disciples to be prepared for the coming events.

His disciples, however, did not believe that Jesus could possibly face such tribulations and Peter adamantly said none of Jesus' predictions would come true, and Jesus admonished his disciples. About a week later, Jesus had his miraculous Transfiguration.

He went up Tabor Mountain with three of His disciples -- Simon Peter, James, and John Zebedee -- to pray as the other tired disciples remained at the bottom of the mountain. It was there that Jesus began to assume a new appearance. The three disciples were amazed when they saw His new radiant being.

Though it was nighttime, the disciples saw light coming from the sun in the sky. Among the light they saw two other men -- said to be Moses and Elijah -- speaking to Jesus about His remaining time left on earth and the sacrifice He would soon make.

Then a cloud came upon the group. The voice of God was heard, saying the same phrase he said when Jesus was baptized, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to Him!" (Luke 9:35).

After the Transfiguration, Jesus asked His disciples not to talk about it until His coming Resurrection.

This scene can be found in four different places in the New Testament: Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:11-7; Luke 9:29-36; and Peter II 1:17-18.

In the Armenian calendar, the feast takes place on the 14th Sunday after Easter -- 98 days later-- so it is movable within an interval of 35 days, from June 28 to August 1. The Orthodox and Catholic churches observe the feast of Transfiguration on a fixed day, August 6.

The official observance takes three days. Sunday is the principal feast, Monday likewise is an ordained feast day and includes the commemoration of the dead, and Tuesday is a non-festal or weekday dominical.

*- from the website of the Diocese of the Armenian Church:
www.armenianchurch.net*

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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 լիցիր 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:

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:

Տագ՛տ քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քու՛մ:

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.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 16, 2007

Prof. Ara Dostourian's Church History Class has resumed and will meet Mondays at 7 p.m. in the church hall through Fall. Please join us. Classes will meet in July on the 16th, 23rd, and 30th.

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**. **Payment 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)

AUGUST 1, 2007

The *Senior Citizens* will sponsor a trip to Connecticut on Wednesday, August 1st. For reservations please call Zabel at 861-8925.

AUGUST 12, 2007

Donations of Grapes for the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God and the Blessing of Grapes would be appreciated. If you would like to contribute towards the purchase of grapes please call the church office (272-7712). Contributions will be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin.

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 is 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.

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 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 B (July 8-21), ; 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 asjhy@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 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.

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

- 15 **Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord** (Note: There will be no requiems July 15. Requiems will resume on July 22)
- 16 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
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 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Trip to Francis Farm 10 a.m. (Ladies Aid)
Diocesan Assembly Meeting, 7 p.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m.
- 30 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m.

AUGUST 2007

- 1 Senior Citizens Trip to Connecticut
- 6 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m.
- 7 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
- 12 **Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God & Blessing of Grapes**
- 13 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m.
- 14 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m.
- 20-22 Vacation Bible School
- 27 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class 7 p.m.

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.
- 16 **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
- 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