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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 (*Keasherayeen & Aravodyan Jham*) 9:10 a.m.

Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*) 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 9, 2007

Fifth Sunday after Assumption

Barekendan of the Fast of Exaltation

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 13:1-11 (Pg. 692) II Corinthians 7:4-16 (Pg. 166)

Mark 7:31-37 (Pg.39)

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Next Sunday is the great feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, one of the five major feasts of the church year. In spiritual preparation for this holiday, our church fathers have appointed a week-long (Monday – Friday) Lenten fast.

Today's gospel passage from the seventh chapter of St. Mark's gospel presents yet another of the many miracles that make up our blessed Lord's healing ministry. From the text it's obvious that news of Jesus' healing abilities had spread throughout the region.

We are told that some people, having heard the good news of Jesus, were eagerly seeking him out so that he would lay his hands upon a man, who was deaf and had a speech impediment. The Lord took the man aside, put his fingers into his ears, spat and touched his tongue; and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, "*Ephphatha*," which means, "Be opened."

Immediately the man's ears were opened and he could now speak plainly. Those who witnessed the event were astonished and said, "He has done all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."

Interestingly, Jesus charges the witnesses to tell no one about the miracle. However, the people proclaim the miracle all the more zealously. In the gospel of Mark, a number of times Jesus asks the people to keep the miracles to themselves. Commentaries offer that the purpose of this prohibition was Mark's insistence that Jesus is more than a healer and that his full identity would be revealed only in the cross and resurrection.

Friends, as we ready ourselves for the great day of the Holy

Cross let us pray that the Lord open our spiritual ears so that the teachings and commandments of our blessed Lord penetrate our hearts; and that He inspire our tongues to proclaim the message of salvation, which comes through faith in His blessed crucifixion and resurrection.

With prayers,
Hayr Simeon

The Ten Commandments (abridged)

(Exodus 20:2-17 and Deuteronomy 5:6-21)

1. *Worship no God but me.*
2. *Do not build idols or worship them.*
3. *Do not use my name in vain or for evil purposes.*
4. *Observe the Sabbath and keep it holy because God created everything in six days and on the seventh day he rested.*
5. *Respect your father and your mother.*
6. *Do not commit murder.*
7. *Do not commit adultery.*
8. *Do not steal.*
9. *Do not accuse anyone falsely.*
10. *Do not desire another man's wife or anything else that he owns.*

Do You Want to be Admired?

Do you want to be admired and loved as a saint?
Stay humble like the soil that stays underfoot.
Iron is strong, but melts in the fire.

By Hovhannes Erzenzatsi Blouze (1230 – 1293)

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեաջիր 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:

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:

Տագէ 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.*

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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:

- **HRACH KAZARIAN** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - Requested by Mrs. Sue Ayrassian and Family; Mr. & Mrs. Konstantin Petrossian; the Cultural Committee of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church; the Church Choir of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church.

- **ZAROOHE KOSHGARIAN** (3 Year Memorial); **NISHON KOSHGARIAN**; **MUGURDICH** and **AGHAVNIE KOSHGARIAN**; **CHARLES** and **ANN KANARIAN**; **MIRIDJAN** and **YEGHISAPET MOURADJIAN**; **SANDRA MOURADJIAN** - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Koshgarian and Family; Mr. & Mrs. Aram Mouradjian.

- **ARMENIAN VICTIMS OF THE 9/11 WORLD TRADE CENTER - ALYSIA BARSAMIAN** (age 23); **CARL BEDIGIAN** (age 35); **ARAM ISKENDERIAN** (age 41); **PETER MARDIKIAN** (age 29); **GARO VOSKERIJIAN** (age 43); **JOHN ISKYAN** (age 41) and all other Victims - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Aram Mouradjian.

- **GAYTHORNE ANGELL SR.** (29 Year Memorial); **VICTORIA ANGELL** (3 Year Memorial) - requested by Gaythorne Angell Jr.; Linda Angell; Mr. & Mrs. Richard Angell and Family; Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Savickas and Family; Michael Angell and Samantha; Debbie Charron; Claire Shippee; Kathy Maine; Joe & Maryann Osediacz; Dorothy Goorigian; Beverly Williams; Mrs. Gladys Thovmasian; Kachadour & Marilyn Kojoian and Family; Naomi Thovmasian-Marsh and Family; Leona, Wayne, and Chris Bailey.

- **HELEN ROBINSON** (5 Year Memorial) - requested by her Family.

- **MARGARET JIZMAGIAN** (6 Year Memorial) - requested by the Jizmagian Family; William Aznavourian; Mrs. Zita Butler and Elizabeth; Nathalie Yaghoobian.

- **MIHRAN KUZIRIAN** (13 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Roxie Kuzirian and Family.

- **DAVID PAPAZIAN; MARY NEGOSHIAN; SUSAN OHANIAN; GEORGE MASOIAN; AURORA SURABIAN** - requested by Lillian Papazian; Peter Papazian.

- **HARRY JAMES WOLOOHOJIAN JR.** (18 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Harry J. Woloohojian and Family.

- **DR. JOHN P. GOOLGASIAN** (18 Year Memorial) - requested by his Son, David L. Goolgasian.

....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

Tickets for the September 16 Dinner in honor of Fr. Shnork Kasparian will be available for purchase this morning after services in the Egavian Hall. Please see Ed Eranosian.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2007

Cultural Committee Arts Education 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 13, 2007

The Cultural Committee presents *Meet With The Professionals* -- Questions & Answers - Ernest Shaghalian, Jr, CPCU, AAI The topic will be Personal Insurance, Home, Auto & Umbrella - What you need to know. Ara Boghigian, Moderator Thursday, September 13, 2007 at 7:00pm, Egavian Cultural Center, 70 Jefferson Street Providence, RI. Admission FREE.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2007

On the *Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross* the Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian will celebrate the holy Badarak. Following services a dinner will take place in honor of Hayr Shnork, on the occasion of his relocation to Montreal. Tickets for this luncheon are \$15 (\$8 for children 12 and younger). Since tickets will not be sold at the door, they must be purchased from the Church Office no later than Wednesday, September 12. **Tickets will be available for purchase in the Egavian Hall.**

Donations of sweet basil to decorate the Holy Cross (or donations of funds to purchase) would be appreciated. There will be no requiems (Hokehankist) on this feast day. Requiems will resume on September 23.

SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2007

The Second Annual Father & Son Weekend, co-sponsored by St. Nersess Armenian Seminary and the Ararat Center, will be held September 14-16, 2007, at the Ararat Center in Greenville, NY. This is a unique weekend for fathers of all ages to spend with their sons, ages 12 and older. One- or two-night package plans are available. For further information, visit www.araratcenter.org.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

Women's Guild Fashion Show - "Fall into Fashion with Coldwater Creek" will be held on Thursday, September 20 at 7 p.m. at the Egavian Cultural Center. Donation, \$10. For reservations call Ann Ayrassian (272-4743) or Fran at the Church Office (272-7712).

SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

The *Senior Citizens* will sponsor a trip to Connecticut on Wednesday, September 26. For reservations, please call Zabel at 861-8925.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

SAVE THE DATE!!! *Family Night* - Friday, September 28 - "Mer Doon" Restaurant night in Egavian Hall. Enjoy tasty appetizers, Losh kebab and pilaf dinner, and dessert. Also available, cash bar. DJ and Bingo. Dinner will be served from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. 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).

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*

OCTOBER 7, 2007

Pontifical Divine Liturgy to be celebrated by His Holiness KAREKIN II, Catholicos of All Armenians, at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA. The Divine Liturgy will begin at 10:00 am. A bus is being reserved to depart from Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church at 8:00 am. Please call the church office to reserve a spot on the bus. There will be a nominal charge of \$5 per person for the bus trip, payable when you make your reservation.

OCTOBER 14, 2007

Church Name Day Celebration - Banquet to follow Church Services in the Egavian Cultural Auditorium. Parishioners of the year: Ara Boghigian and Sue Ayrassian. Special recognition of outgoing Parish Council Members and Diocesan Delegates for their dedicated service to the parish. Admission \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children under 12 years old. For tickets or table of 8 reservations contact church office at 272-7712 or Ann Ayrassian at 272-4743.

OCTOBER 19, 2007

The Cultural Committee and Junior Choir presents Benefit Concert - "*Junior Choir and Nazeli Dance Group*" - Friday, October 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center.

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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.

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT SUNDAY - Sunday, September 30 at 5:00 pm at St. Gregory the Theologian Greek Orthodox Church, 1007 West Street, Mansfield, MA. Prayer service and lecture by Rev. Fr. Eugen Pentiuic on "Adam as Steward of Creation." Refreshments after the observance. Sponsored by the Rhode Island Orthodox Clergy Fellowship.

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.

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.

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. The Library will gladly accept any paperback or hard cover books that parishioners would like to donate.

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).

IMPORTANT NOTE ON CHARITABLE GIVING - In order to comply with the new 2007 federal income tax code, parishioners who contribute in cash and itemize their deduction **MUST HAVE RECEIPTS** to substantiate their donation. Upon request, receipts will be issued at the Parish Council desk on the Sunday a cash donation is made. Cancelled checks, bank statements, and/or credit card statements are still acceptable by the Internal Revenue Service for documentation. Parishioners may place a check instead of cash in the collection plate on Sundays. Please note that charitable contributions to the Church may now be made via VISA /MasterCard at the office during the week. *For more information, kindly contact the Parish Council Treasurer, Steven Zaroogian at 885-2253.*

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 a 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

SEPTEMBER 2007

- 9 Church Services - Regular Hours Resume, 9:10 am. & 10 am
10 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Diocesan Assembly Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
11 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
13 Meet the Armenian Professionals with Ernest Shaghalian, Jr.
CPCU, AAI, 7:00 p.m.
14-16 Second Annual Father & Son Weekend at Ararat Center,
Greenville, NY
15 ACYOA Yard Sale 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Cultural Committee Arts Education Programs Begin 10am
16 **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
Luncheon in Honor of Very Rev. Fr. Shnork Kasparian
Opening Day for Church School - Registrations 10 a.m.
17 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
20 Women's Guild Fashion Show 7 p.m.
21 Nazeli & Ballroom Dance Groups, 6:30 p.m.
22 Arts Education, 10 a.m.
24 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
25 Ladies Aid Board Meeting, 1 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
26 Senior Citizens Trip to Connecticut
28 Family Night, 6 p.m.
Nazeli & Ballroom Dance, 6:30 p.m.
29 Arts Education, 10 a.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
8 Church Office Closed, Columbus Day Holiday
9 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
14 Church Name Day Celebration
17 Ladies Aid Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.
19 Benefit Concert, Junior Choir & Nazeli Dance Group, 7:00 pm
21 Presentation of Maestro Konstantin Petrossian's CD
23 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.
Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.
27 ACYOA Wine Tasting

NOVEMBER

- 3&4 Annual Church Bazaar
18 Women's Guild Thanksgiving Dinner after Church
22 Thanksgiving Day
27 Parish Council, 7:30 p.m.