



Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայր. Եկեղեցի
Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

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Schedule of Sunday Services

Morning Service (*Keesherayeen & Aravodyan Jham*)

9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*)

10:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 18, 2011

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 14:3-17 (p. 693) II Corinthians 10:18-11:10(p. 168)

Mark 10:1-12 (p. 42)

Barekendan of the Fast of the Holy Cross of Varak

Բարեկենդան Պահոց Վարազայ Սրբոյ Խաչին



Next Sunday, the Church will celebrate the Feast of the Holy Cross of Varak (Varaka Khach).

Unique to the Armenian Church, this feast celebrates the burial, in the 3rd century, of an authentic relic of the cross by the nun Hripsime. Hripsime buried the relic to protect it from the soldiers of Emperor Constantine who were pursuing her.

Centuries later, a monk by the name of Todik had a dream of a church with 12 pillars on Mount Varak, in the center of which was a radiant cross. The cross then came to rest over the altar of the Monastery of Varak, where the monk Todik discovered the cross relic. When told of Todik's dream, Catholicos Nersess (the Builder) came to Varak, verified the relic's authenticity, and established a feast in honor of the discovery.

The Feast of the Holy Cross of Varak is celebrated on the nearest Sunday to Sept. 28, always two weeks after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Holy Cross is recognized as the symbol of salvation for all Christians and there are three important feast days associated with the cross. September 11, we celebrated the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Two special events are remembered during the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. One is the re-discovery of the True Cross by Queen Helena (mother of Emperor Constantine) in the 4th century. The other occurred in the early 6th century, after the True Cross had been carried

away following the Persian conquest of Jerusalem. The Persians were ultimately defeated, and the Cross was returned to the Holy City. These events took place in and near Armenia, with the full participation of Armenian soldiers.

Armenians consider themselves a khachagir (or cross-bearing) nation. Over the centuries, Armenians have borne Christ's cross with faith, hope and love, seeing it as the symbol of salvation and victory over death. It appears on the domes and walls of our churches, on our altars, in our homes—even erupting out of the Armenian landscape as stone khachkars. Imagine the impact this sign must have had on the minds of our ancestors. Everywhere they turned, the sign of the cross confronted them, a reminder of their Christian faith.

-reprinted from the website of St. Vartan Armenian Church of Mississauga, Canada
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The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Mark 10:1-12

And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again; and again, as his custom was, he taught them. And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to put her away." But Jesus said to them, "For your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.'

'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder."

And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. And he said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

Glory to You, O Lord our God!

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Welcome Cards and Sunday Fellowship

Informational cards are found in the pew racks. Visitors, please complete a card and join us for our after services coffee fellowship in the Egavian Hall. Your presence is greatly valued. Please worship with us regularly.

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The faithful says:

Յիշեաջիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գառիկն Աստուծոյ:
Hee-she-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 զառինն 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 քոմ:

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 preparing 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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Prayer of the Week

O Lord our God, listen to the voice of supplications of your servants and keep unshaken the Republic of Armenia, which you restored through the grace of your mercy. Bless, O Lord, our ancestral land, so that the site where you first established the blessed paradise would again bloom with flowers. Bless, O Lord, everything that is good in it, and especially its appellation, the name Armenia. Amen.

Reprinted from the E-Newsletter of the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern)

TODAY'S REQUIEMS (*Hokehankist*): Please see insert.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Altar Flowers are given today "as a sign of gratitude for God's steadfast love and mercy," by a faithful parishioner.

SEPTEMBER 19

Outreach- Mary House Meal Kitchen - In the spirit of Christian stewardship, part of our parish outreach effort has been to donate food to the Mary House food pantry and to volunteer several times a year at St. Patrick's meal kitchen. Monday, September 19 is our parish's next date to volunteer. We meet at St. Patrick's on Smith Street between 4:00 and 4:15 PM and begin serving at 4:30. The last meal is served by 5:30 PM when we help with clean-up. Call the Church office, Joyce Avedisian (724-3978), or Bertha Mugurdichian (351-9276) if you have any questions. Thanks to those families who participated in June. Please consider joining us in serving the needy in our community.

SEPTEMBER 19

The *Women's Guild* will have a meeting Monday, September 19 at 7:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome! Questions? Call 862-6323.

SEPTEMBER 20

Armenian School for the 2011/12 school year has begun. Classes for children and adults. Conversation, reading, writing, history, literature, music. Classes are limited. Pre-registration is recommended. For registration please contact Hagop or Marie Ghajanian tel: 401-467-2582, e-mail: h.ghajanian@hotmail.com. You may also contact the church office.

SEPTEMBER 23

Fall Bible Studies: Bible Studies under the leadership and direction of Fr. Shnork have begun and meet on Friday afternoons from 2:00pm -3:00pm. The theme of the Fall Studies will be the Gospel of St. Luke. If you are interested in attending these "Table Talks with Der Hayr" please inform the office of your attendance. Please join us when we meet on September 23.

SEPTEMBER 23

Nazeli Dance Group begins classes at 6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 25

Annual Blood Drive following Church Services from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Hanoian Hall, Sunday, Sept. 25. We hope you will join us by giving the Gift of Life - a blood donation. Visit www.ribc.org to make an appointment, sponsor code 2125. (1-800-283-8385)

SEPTEMBER 26

The *3rd Annual Golf Outing* Save the date! Monday, Sep-

tember 26 for our *Annual Golf Outing* -- 11:30 a.m. BBQ Lunch, 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start, 6:30 p.m. Dinner and Awards. Please join us for a wonderful day of golf at the Pawtucket Country Club. Your participation and sponsorship will support Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church. Forms have been mailed out, and also are available in the church office. Speak with Gary Tarajian for information.

OCTOBER 1

Arts Education Program: Programs begin on Saturday, October 1, 2011. Nazeli Dance group on Friday, September 23. Please send application to: Cultural Committee Arts Education Program, Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church, 70 Jefferson St., Providence, RI 02908. For more information or questions about the program, please contact program Chairperson Janna Guegamian (861-3573) or see <http://stсахmes.org/NewWebsite/culturalcommittee.shtml>

OCTOBER 1

The *Cultural Committee's Musical Extravaganza* will take place on Saturday October 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center. Featuring Classic Groove Band with Steven Tashjian, guest appearance by John Berberian (Oud) with Jay Baronian (Dumbeg), Kevin Magarian (Guitar) and Steven Tashjian (Clarinet), along with special performance by Opera Providence Singers Andrea Lara, Soprano & David Lara, Baritone. Refreshments. Tickets \$35 per person, will be available from the church office (272-7712), Pomegranetes (461-4774) and Sonia's Near East Market (941-9300). Limited seating. Reservation deadline September 20, 2011. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Table reservations for 8 upon receipt of payment. Save the date!

OCTOBER 3 - *Church History Class canceled this week.*

OCTOBER 10

Church History Class: Classes meet in the Church Hall on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. Call the church office for further details. No classes in September. We will meet through October on the 10th, 17th, & 24th. Please join us.

OCTOBER 14

Ladies Aid is sponsoring a trip to St. James Church Bazaar and Armenian Grocery Shopping in Watertown, MA, on Friday, October 14. Donation \$5. Bus leaves our parking lot at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Please be here at the church by 9 a.m. Let us know you are coming by Monday, October 10. Call Doris Avedisian (353-1039), Church Office (272-7712).

OCTOBER 16

Church Name Day Celebration, Sunday, October 16, 2011 following the Divine Liturgy in the Egavian Cultural Center. Honoring Parishioners of the Year, Zita Butler, Ardashes Der Ananian, Iris kalian and Leon Nahigian. Special recognition to the Church Choir. Adults \$20, Children (under 15) \$10. Reservations: Ann Ayrassian (272-4743) or the church office (272-7712). Deadline for ticket sales, October 9th. Reservations for tables of 8 will be accepted.

OCTOBER 27

Thursday, October 27, AARP will present a Safe Driving Course from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Hanoian Hall. (1/2 hour for lunch). Be here at 9:30 a.m. promptly to register (completion of AARP forms and your insurance certificate. No latecomers will be allowed). Open to anyone, seniors 55 and over may get a discount on their auto insurance for completing the program. Discounts vary with insurers. Course begins promptly at 10 a.m. Course fee is \$12 for AARP Member and \$14 for non-member, made payable to AARP and given to Ms. Hosanna Derderian, or dropped off at the church office. For more information call her at 942-3103. Bring a lunch, snack and beverage. Deadline to register is October 22, limited to 25 registrants. NO TESTS! Registration is required.

NOVEMBER 4, 5, and 6

Annual Bazaar - The Annual Bazaar is right around the corner! This year's bazaar will be a 3 day event, the weekend of November 4-6. Armenian food and delicacies! Live Armenian music! Daily Raffle, Silent Auction, Kids Games. Watch football. Friday Night Family night, and activities for children of all ages. Please see the website at www.ArmenianFoodFairRI.com.

Support for our Bazaar Resource Book - Please consider a sponsorship of our bazaar resource book. Today, following church services, Laurie Onanian will be staffing a table, ready to take your advertising or sponsorship orders and donations. Sponsor forms will be available at the table along with some information on how we plan to enhance our former "ad" book this year. Laurie looks forward to answering any questions you have and receiving your support!

Gift Certificates for our Bazaar - As one of the many enhancements of our bazaar experience, our Church is pleased to announce the introduction of gift certificates. Please consider purchasing one or more for the special people in your life! They can be written in any denomination. You may purchase today from Laurie Onanian following church services or by calling the church office or going on our website. Gift certificates are always a welcomed gift so please consider! We appreciate all your support for our bazaar.

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CELL PHONES: We ask that all cell phones be powered down. Please respect our holy sanctuary & fellow worshippers.

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NOTICES

Der Hayr's Prayer List: Please inform the office if you have friends or family who are suffering any physical or spiritual distress and are in need of prayer, and Der Hayr will add them to his prayer list where they will be remembered before the Holy and Immortal Lamb of God during the Eucharist. You may also use the prayer request cards and place them in the Gold Box available for your use.

HOME BLESSINGS - Parishioners are encouraged to have their homes blessed. Please invite Der Hayr to bless your home. Have a piece of bread, dish of salt and glass of water available for the blessing.

E-mail Addresses: In order to help us communicate with the members of the community in a more efficient and timely manner, we kindly request that you submit your e-mail addresses to the church office at your convenience or e-mail us at <office@stsahmes.org> or just go to the website and subscribe yourself.

PARISH MEMBER DUES - Following the decision of the Feb. 28, 2010 Parish Assembly, membership dues are \$175 (\$125 for seniors & full-time students). Those unable to give full dues may confidentially approach the Parish Council Chairman, Armen Janigian, to explain their situation. Parishioners are kindly asked to contribute beyond dues as part of the "*Stewardship Program.*" Existing members' dues must be received by Dec. 31, 2011; (new members must have been received by June 30) to vote at Parish Assembly in February 2012. Forms available in church office.

POOR BOX – Did you know we have poor boxes for donations to help the needy at entrances to the Sanctuary? Contributions appreciated.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR REMINDER- Remember your non-perishable food donations for Mary House food pantry. For info., contact Joyce Avedisian (724-3978) or Bertha Mugurdichian (351-9276).

** Der hayr is also seeking a few faithful and loving people to help out in an outreach mission of love and charitable works. If you have any interest and some time to give, please speak to him privately or call him at 201-306-4304*

CHURCH LIBRARY - Volunteers are needed to assist parishioners for book selections during library hours Sundays from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. & by appointment by calling the office at 272-7712 or Hosanna at 942-3103.

SENIOR CITIZENS - Come join us every Monday (weather permitting, excluding holidays). Have fun with your friends and neighbors.

COFFEE HOUR - Please consider sponsoring a **Coffee Fellowship** on the occasion of a Hokehankist (in memory of a loved one), birthday, anniversary, etc. or to provide a wonderful service for our church. Contact church office to arrange a date.

ARMENIAN RADIO HOUR - Sundays 9-10 a.m. WARL 1320 AM

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- Today* Welcome Back Family Fellowship Hosted by Parish Council
19 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Mary House Meal Kitchen, 4 p.m.
Women's Guild Meeting, 7:15 p.m.
20 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
21 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
23 Bible Study with Der Shnork 2-3:00 pm
Nazeli Dance Group, 6 p.m., Jr. Choir 7:30
25 Blood Drive 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Hanoian Hall
26 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Third Annual Golf Outing, Pawtucket Country Club
27 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
30 Bible Study with Der Shnork 2-3:00 pm
Nazeli Dance Group 6 p.m., Jr. Choir 7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 1 Arts Education Program begins, 10 a.m.
Cultural Committee's Musical Extravaganza, 7:30 p.m.
3 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m. - **NO** Church History Class tonight
4 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
7 Bible Study with Der Shnork 2-3:00pm
Nazeli Dance Group, 6 p.m., Jr. Choir 7:30 p.m.
8 Arts Education, 10 a.m.
10 Holiday, Office Closed - Church History Class, 7 p.m.
11 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
13 Women's Guild Manti Night - Demo & Dinner
14 Ladies Aid Trip to St. James Bazaar & Shopping, Watertown
Bible Study with Der Shnork 2-3:00pm
Nazeli Dance Group, 6 pm., Jr. Choir 7:30 p.m.
15 Arts Education, 10 a.m.
16 Church Name Day & Parishioner of the Year Event
17 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m. - Church History Class, 7 p.m.
18 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
19 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
21 Bible Study with Der Shnork 2-3:00pm
Nazeli Dance Group 6 p.m., Jr. Choir 7:30 p.m.
22 Arts Education, 10 a.m.
23 Nazeli Dance Group starts at 6 p.m.
24 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m. - Church History Class, 7 p.m.
25 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
27 Safe Driving Course by AARP 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
28 Bible Study with Der Shnork 2-3:00pm
Nazeli Dance Group, 6 p.m., Jr. Choir 7:30 p.m.
29 Arts Education, 10 am.
31 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.

NOVEMBER

- *** No Bible Study Nov. 4 & 11
4, 5 & 6 Annual Church Bazaar
11 Veterans Day Observance at the Veterans Cemetery, Exeter at 10 a.m.