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## 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, November 27, 2011**

Առաջի Կիրակի Յիսնակաց

**First Sunday of Advent**

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 36:1-9 (Pg. 711) I Thessalonians 1:1-10 (Pg. 184)

Luke 12:13-31 (Pg. 68)

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### Pastor's Points of Light

#### *Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving!*

Thursday was about way more than turkey, and football. Many Americans unfortunately may not have realized it, with their spiritual eyes darkened by the pall cast by Black Friday, the high holy day Materialism. Just like Xmas has hijacked Christmas, turkey day has displaced thanksgiving. Were you conformed to the world? Did you "buy" into the seduction of consumerism or did you take the God given opportunity to pause and praise, account and adore, think and thank?

The annual celebration of Thanksgiving is a great opportunity to take into account the great harvest of blessings that God has provided and the cornucopia of gifts that He sets before His children. Christian prayer is inspired by a life that is fully absorbed into the life of Christ, moved by the assurance of His presence and His love. It begins and ends with praise, adoration and thanksgiving. Our souls immortalized by the Blood of Christ, the promise of eternal life and resurrection are the foundation of our lives on earth.

Over the past week, I have had the opportunity to pause and take into account the great gifts of God's favor in my life. I have been blessed with a loving family, a loving and supportive wife, three wonderful and blessed children, a new home and a new church family that has responded to my ministry with faith, and respect. I am truly the most blessed man in the world and offer God my praise and thanksgiving. I want to thank each of you too for your support and for your prayers. I cannot tell you how much your love has meant to us in this difficult time of transition. In 2 days we will move into our new home and will settle in as a family in Rhode Island and as part of this community. I

can think of no better time to do this than in the context of giving thanks in entering into the blessed season of Advent as we prepare to celebrate the joyous Christmas season.

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and all the blessings of God as we begin our pilgrimage to the Manger in Bethlehem together as one people and one family.

In Thanksgiving,  
*Der Shnork Souin*

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**Attention:**

Dear Faithful,

I am writing to cordially invite you to join in the dedication and kinetson Wine Blessing of the newest publication of Dn. Gevork Gevorkian, titled Comfort and Hope for Those Who Mourn and Grieve. This auspicious event will take place following the Divine Liturgy in the Egavian Hall on Sunday December 4th, 2011, following the Divine Liturgy .

The newest book by Dn. Gevork published by the Holy Translators Orthodox Press, provides answers to the most common questions regarding death and provides concrete answers found in the evangelical proclamation of consolation in the Person and Work of Jesus Christ. Please join me in congratulating Dn. Gevork and celebrating the launch of his latest work.

In Christ,  
*Fr. Shnork Souin*

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**APPEAL BY THE PASTOR ~ \$50 and \$25 for 5! ~**

Dear Faithful,

We are in the last quarter of the fiscal year and your membership is VITAL AND VALUED. We would like to ask you, if you haven't already done so, to please fulfill your membership dues and stewardship payments now or as soon as possible. If you are not a member, we encourage you to please become one as stewards and supporters of Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church. Your contributions are essential and greatly appreciated.

Dues are \$175 or \$125 for seniors and students. If you are unable for any reason to pay outright, a \$50 today and 5 more weekly payments of \$25 will fulfill your dues payment for 2011! Please write "Dues" on the note of your checks. You can also make secure dues payments on-line at [www.stsahmes.org](http://www.stsahmes.org). Not yet a member for 2011? \$50 today and \$25 for 5!

Prayerfully, *Fr. Shnork Souin*

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## The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (12:13-31)

One of the multitude said to him, "Teacher, bid my brother divide the inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or divider over you?" And he said to them, "Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this; I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat, nor about your body, what you shall put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens; they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a cubit to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of this. But if God so clothes the grass which is alive in the field today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O men of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be of anxious mind. For all the nations of the world seek these things; and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things shall be yours as well."

*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:

Յիշեսցիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գաղինն 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 գաղինն 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:

**Տաղէ 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 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**

Almighty God, doer of good, creator of all, hear the sound of my sighs of distress and my terror of imagined perils to come. Save me with your strength, ridding me of my sins. For you are capable of all things and are the key to all things with your boundless greatness and infinite wisdom.

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

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**Church Etiquette - ON ENTERING THE CHURCH**

Please let both your entrance into and exit from the church be reverent and gentle.

Please turn off any electronic devices. Do not chew gum.

Enter with reverence and be at peace in the presence of God and His your fellow worshippers.

While entering, if you find that the Bible or Gospel is being read, Havadamk (the Nicene Creed) is in progress, or the sermon is being delivered, please remain at the back of the church until the conclusion of the readings or creed.

Lighting Candles-One of the devotional practices of the Armenian Church (as of all Eastern Churches) is the beautiful custom of burning candles in front of the holy pictures. While making the sign of the cross, you say a short prayer for you and your dear ones, then take your place. Ideally, please try to arrive early so that this can be done before the

Badarak begins. If you arrive later please do this as non-obtrusively as possible and never during the bible readings, creed or sermon.

When you take your place in the pews, prepare for your participation by saying a prayer. I suggest that you reverence the space you are in, bow your head slightly, make the sign of the cross, and inaudibly say "The Our Father," and the prayer for entering the church. You are now ready to participate in the service.

Other times to wait before entering the church are:

If the choir is singing the "Sanctus" (holy holy - soorp, soorp),

If the choir is singing "One is Holy, One is Lord", (Miayn Soorp),

If the choir is singing Der Voghormia, (Lord, have Mercy).

If the Priest is saying the words of institution, "Take, eat; this is my body" (Arek, gerek, ays eh marmin eem.)

At all indicated times, please wait until the particular hymn, prayer, is completed before entering the church.

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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:*

- **RENATE "RENEE" CHAKOIAN** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz)  
- requested by Jack Chakoian; Donald Chakoian; Gary Chakoian; Mr. & Mrs. George Chakoian; Anthony Chakoian; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dulgarian; Laura Chakoian; Mr. & Mrs. Michael Alviano; Holly Nadolny, Sarah, Jake, and Joey; Joseph Johnson.

- **ANNA and ARCHIE YESSIAN; DR. JOHN AVEDISIAN** - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Palumbo.

- **PAUL GEORGE HANOIAN; MABETH (TYAS) HANOIAN; GEORGE S. HANOIAN; LUCY Z. (MOORADIAN) HANOIAN; KERRIGAN GEORGE HANOIAN; MARY and RALPH KIRKORIAN** - requested by Kerrigan Hanoian; Mrs. Paula Dozois; Mrs. June Hassett.

- **BAGHDASAR AVAKIAN** - requested by Arlene Avakian (FL); Gail Avakian VanderFeltz.

*...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

*Altar Candles* are given today in Thanksgiving to God by Seta Hanoian.

### NOVEMBER 26

The ACYOA's will sponsor the *40th Annual Christmas with Onnik Dance* on Saturday, November 26 at 8 p.m. till ??? Featuring John Berberian Ensemble. \$30 per ticket, \$20 for students. For questions or table reservations you may contact Sevan Janigian (401-533-4147), or or e-mail her at <sevanjanigian@gmail.com>

### NOVEMBER 28

*Mary House Meal Kitchen* - Monday, November 28 - our parish is scheduled to volunteer. Meet in the basement at St. Patrick's on Smith St. between 4 and 4:15 p.m., begin serving at 4:30. Last meal is served by 5:30 when we help with clean up. Please consider joining us in this effort to reach out to the needy of our community. Call the church office, or Joyce Avedisian (724-3978) or Bertha Mugurdichian (351-9276)w / questions.

### NOVEMBER 28

The *Women's Guild* will have a meeting Mon., Nov.28 at 7:15 pm

### NOVEMBER 29

Der Hayr has begun an *Acolyte Training* program for boys ages 10-17 which meets on alternating Tuesdays. Please contact him at <dershnork@gmail.com> or call him at the church office. We will meet in November on the 29th. Please meet Der Hayr in the Sunday School area under the church sanctuary.

### NOVEMBER 29

*Armenian School* - Classes for children and adults meet on Tuesdays at 6 p.m.. Conversation, reading, writing, history, literature, music, For information please contact Hagop or Marie Ghajanian tel: 401-467-2582, e-mail: h.ghajanian@verizon.net, or the church office.

### NOVEMBER 30

*Evening Vespers Services* - Beginning November 30, there will be Wednesday evening *Vespers Services* at Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church in the Sanctuary from 7-8 p.m. Deacon Gevork Gevorkian will be leading the weekly Vespers. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend this hour of prayer. "*Let my prayer be set forth as incense before You, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.*" Psalm 141:2

### DECEMBER 2

On Friday December 2, there will be a *Church Appreciation Dinner* at 6:00 pm. The dinner is free, open to all parishioners and donations will be accepted for the Nourarashen Orphanage in Armenia. Also, gifts for the Holiday Outreach Program will be accepted on that evening. Menu - Losh or Chicken Kebab, pilaf, salad and dessert. For reservations, please contact Christina Zaroogian at (401)286-0608, (401)885-2253 or czaroogian@gmail.com before November 30, 2011. Finally, if you are interested in being a sponsor for the evening, kindly contact Christina.

## DECEMBER 2

*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 again on December 2.

## DECEMBER 3

*Arts Education Programs* have begun. For information or questions about the programs, please contact program Chairperson Janna Guegamian (861-3573) or see <http://stsahmes.org/NewWebsite/culturalcommittee.shtm>

## DECEMBER 11

*Christmas Holiday Concert*, Erevan Chorale & Orchestra, composer Konstantin Petrossian, music director & conductor. Featured soloists Yeghishe Manucharian (tenor), Victoria Avetisyan (mezzo-soprano), Nouné Karapetian (soprano). Fr. Oshagan Minassian Erevan Choral Society Founder & Music Director (1965-2008). Fr. Vasken A. Kouzouian, Pastor. Sunday, December 11, at 3 p.m. Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Cambridge, MA, 145 Brattle Street, Cambridge MA. The public is warmly invited to attend this complimentary concert.

## DECEMBER 12

The Women's Guild will have their *Holiday Cookie Sale and Food Demonstration* on Monday, December 12, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. Donation \$10.00. Cynthia Samoorian will demonstrate how to make cream and nut kadayif. Take the cookie stroll past tables of holiday cookies and leave with an assortment of your favorites. Just \$8 per dozen. End the evening with kadayif, coffee, and conversation. Reservations preferred to ensure that sufficient quantities are available. All welcome. Call the church (272-7712).

## DECEMBER 28

*Annual Christmas Concert* in our Church Sanctuary, presented by the Cultural Committee, Wednesday, December 28 at 7 p.m. The special program will include performances by the Chorale of St. Ephraim's Syriac Orthodox Church, the Armenian Chorale of RI, and soloists. Free-will donations will be gratefully accepted. Refreshments. Please join us.

## NOTICES

### HOLIDAY OUTREACH -

It's time to think about our Holiday Outreach! To brighten the lives of our neighbors, the ACYOA Jrs. will be conducting an **OUTREACH PROGRAM** to benefit needy children and their families during the Christmas season. Simply bring in donated item(s) to be placed under our Egavian Hall Christmas tree. They will be delivered to a local charity before Christmas. Wrapped or unwrapped gifts will be accepted beginning November 27. Donated items for children: toys, books, games, etc.; for men & women: small gifts of toiletries, clothing, socks, tights, stationary, trinkets, etc.

Please note that our ACYOA helps both children in Armenia as well as the less fortunate here in Rhode Island. Thank you and have a very blessed Christmas. For more information, please contact: Adam Parnagian

401-942-7334 or Michael Papazian 401-545-0866, [providenceacyoa@gmail.com](mailto:providenceacyoa@gmail.com). Thank you !!

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** - Donations towards the purchase of poinsettia plants for our altar during the Christmas season will be gratefully received. Individuals who wish to make such donations are asked to contact the church office or send in a check (notation: Christmas Flowers). Forms for your use will be available soon. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

**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](mailto: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** - Several paperback and hard-cover books (English) are being offered "free" to parishioners due to the abundance of books donated to the library. Please see Hosanna when the library is open, or you may call her at 942-3103.

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

**Calendar - Please see insert.**