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Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church
THE LIGHTHOUSE BULLETIN

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Parish Council Members on duty today:

Zita Butler and John Kazarian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

Schedule of Sunday Services

Morning Service (*Keesheraeyen & Aravodyan Jham*)
Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*)

9:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 12, 2014

Monday is the Feast of the Naming of the Lord

Scripture Readings

Romans 1:1-7 (Page 137) Luke 2:1-7 (Page 53)

**Don't just attend the Badarak. See it, feel it, sing it, pray it, hear it,
smell it, touch it, and taste it and see how sweet is the Lord!**

Ճաշակեցէք եւ տեսէք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

“Taste ye, and see, for the Lord is sweet.” (Adapted from Psalm 34:8)

Der Shnork

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Pastor's Points of Light
Why We Light Candles?

The first thing anyone notices upon entering any Orthodox Church is the sandbox full of lit candles. We see people making an offering, taking the candle, lighting it, saying a prayer and placing the candle in the sand. So what is this all about?

Christ said, “I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12) Jesus Christ **IS** that light. He is the light that shines for us in the midst this world of darkness. And anyone who follows Him needs not fear that darkness because we know that Christ will always shine for us, leading us in the Way to the Father. Each time we light a candle, we are called to remember that it is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who is the True Light and that He and only He will grant us True Life.

Every candle that we light should be a time of prayer in which we reflect upon the salvation that the Lord has worked for us and also a time of recommitment, where we renew our Baptismal vow that we, as children of God, are called to “Let our light so shine before men, that they may see [our] good works and give glory to [our] Father who is in Heaven.” (Matt. 5:16)

In lighting our candles, the first thing we should do is make an offering for this candle. Everything that we have is from God and the first step is to give back to Him for all of His many blessings. The next step is to offer our prayers before the icon that guards the sandbox and lift them up to God on high, light the candle, remembering all of our loved ones who are sick or who have passed into the next life, or who we just want to pray for, and beseech God to have mercy on their souls.

Lastly, as we place the candle in the sand, we quietly say “Lord have mercy - der voghormya,” repenting for our own sinfulness while at the same time “re-igniting” our own flame and recommitting our whole life to God. Thus we begin again to live as light, helping others see the Way in a world of darkness.

The New Year and this season of Nativity is a wonderful time to get back into the habit of lighting candles and offering a portion to God as we place ourselves before His Holy Face in preparation to participate in the Holy Badarak.

Prayerfully
Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

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The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-7)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled.

This was the first enrollment, when Quirin’i-us was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Glory to You, O Lord our God!

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Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):

The faithful says:

Յիշեսցիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գառինն 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 գառինն 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 լաւտնութիւնն 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:

Ֆիշեսցէ 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 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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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 become be a regular worshipper.

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Note: Please call the office if you would like to include the name of your family member or friend who is presently in the military in our prayers.

Prayer of the Week

Look with love, O merciful Father, on the created works of your hand, and grant the camps of the angels to be guardians of our feeble persons. Deliver us from temptation, from the wandering demons of night, that by day and by night, we may give you glory incessantly.

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

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Please keep our Christian brothers and sisters in Syria, Iraq, and Egypt in your prayers that God Almighty will watch over them and protect them in these uncertain and dangerous times.

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PRAYER FOR HEALING - Armenian Book Of Hours (Sixth Hour)

Remove the pains and heal the wounds of your people, O Lord our God, and grant perfect health to us all through your all-conquering cross, through which you eliminated the weakness of the human race and condemned the enemy of our life and salvation.

You are our life and redemption, beneficent and all-merciful God, and you alone can forgive our sins, remove diseases and sicknesses from us. You know our needs, O giver of gifts; grant your abundant mercy to all your creatures, each one according to his needs. And through your gifts may we always praise the all-holy Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen

Prayers of Healing have been requested for:
**His Beatitude Archbishop Mesrob Mutafyan, Patriarch of
Constantinople, Ani Anjel Ayanyan**

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Prayer Card Ministry

Information about the *Prayer Card Ministry* of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church is available through the church office. If you would like to request a Healing Prayer Card or a Memorial Prayer Card for a loved one, please call the office (272-7712). Details for this are available on line at <http://www.stsahmes.org/prayercard.shtml>

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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:

- EDMUND HRANT and DIRAMAYR JACQUELINE SOUIN, MATEOS and ELIZABETH OUZOUNIAN; HAGOP and MARZINE SOUIN – requested by Fr. Shnork & Yn. Julie Souin, Nicholas, Conner Antranig and Elizabeth Souin.

- GEORGE JANIGIAN (19 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Theresa Janigian, Mr. & Mrs. Armen and Sonya Janigian, Ara & Sevan.

- ROBERT BARKAN SR. (5 Year Memorial) - requested by Peggy Barkan and Family.

- LEVON DOSTOURIAN (48 Year Memorial); ZEPURE (PANIKIAN) DOSTOURIAN (23 Year Memorial); ARAXIE (PANIKIAN) PAPA ZIAN (28 Year Memorial); VAHAN PAPA ZIAN (31 Year Memorial) - requested by Ara Dostourian.

- GIRAGOS TOPALIAN (NY) (36 Year Memorial) - requested by the Griego-Marottolo (CT) Families.

- AURORA SURABIAN (8 Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. Robert Surabian.

- ROSE JAMGOCHIAN (12 Year Memorial) - requested by Ronald & Rosemary Sepe; Michelle & Raymond Iasimone; Rene & Rich Toppi.

- SETA (GHAJANIAN) ARNOLD - requested by Amy Arnold; the Ghajanian Family - Hagop, Marie, Ara, Ani and Tamar.

...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

Instructional Divine Liturgy. During the celebration of the Divine Liturgy we will stop to offer explanations at critical points. To receive the full teaching it's essential that you are present from the beginning at 10:00 am., when we explain the vestments worn by the celebrant priest.

JANUARY 19

Guest Celebrant will be the Rev. Fr. Bedros Kadehjian

JANUARY 26

Sunday January 26, 2014 - *Centennial Divine Liturgy Celebration - Followed by Brunch and Program* presented by the youth of Sts. Sahag and Mesrob church: ACYOA, Armenian School, Junior Choir, Nazeli Dance Group, and Sunday School. The Inaugural Divine Liturgy at Sts. Sahag and Mesrob, was celebrated on January 18th, 1914. Watch for the flyer in the mail. The Official Photograph of the Centennial is Scheduled to be taken this day. Please plan to attend this celebration!

FEBRUARY 2

Join us on February 2 in Hanoian for Hall for a *Super Bowl Party* sponsored by the all new Armenian Men's Club of RI, here in the Hanoian Hall at 5:30 p.m. Big screen HD TV !! All you can eat wings, pizza, grinders, snacks and cash bar, 50/50 raffle, pool, tavloo and cards. (Kickoff 6:30) Advance tickets send checks to Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church, 70 Jefferson St., Providence, RI 02908, notation: Super Bowl party. \$20 Advance, \$25 at the door. Ladies welcome!!

FEBRUARY 8

Arts Education Program - Registration for 2013 - 2014 Second Semester is on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 11a.m. in Egavian Cultural Center. Programs begin on Saturday, Feb. 8, 2014.

FEBRUARY 23

Parish Assembly - Sunday February 23rd, 2014. **THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** is seeking nominees for church officers to be elected at our Annual Parish Assembly on Sunday, February 23. If you are a dues-paying member of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church and would like to be considered for election to the Parish Council, Nominating or Auditing Committees, please speak to Fr. Shnork Souin, the church office at 401-272-7712 or any member of the Nominating Committee: Zita Butler (401-728-9015), Ara Boghigian (401-944-2211),

or Dorothy Martiesian (401-272-0269). We are required to have 2 names for every position on the slate.

Chairman of the day (1 Position) - 2 to be nominated

Secretary of the day (1 Position) - 2 to be nominated

Parish Council (6 Positions) - 12 to be nominated

Auditing Committee (1 position) - 2 to be nominated

Nominating Committee (3 positions) - 6 to be nominated

NOTICES

THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church is pleased to announce that applications are now available for the Charles Yaghoobian, Jr. Scholarship Grants for 2014. Scholarship Grants will be awarded to qualified members of all three Armenian Churches in RI. Applicants must be dues paying members of their church. Scholarships are limited for up to 3 years only. We are currently seeking qualified candidates for consideration. For an application and a list of eligibility requirements you may contact: Nathalie Yaghoobian, 353-2488. The deadline to submit completed application and all documentation is April 1, 2014.

DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP 2014- information for the Diocesan Summer Camp sessions is now available, so you can start planning now (St. Vartan Camp and Hye Camp). For information, contact: The Dept. of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, Jennifer E. Morris, Director, JenniferM@armeniandiocese.org or 248-648-0702 or Lorie Odabashian, Coordinator, LorieO@armeniandiocese.org or 212-686-0710 ext. 143 You may also visit the Diocesan website at <http://www.armenianchurch-ed.net>. Scholarships will be available for St. Nersess & St. Vartan camp for children whose parents are dues paying members of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church. Please notify the office for applications.

PARISH MEMBER DUES Following the decision of the 2/28/10 Parish Assembly, membership dues are \$175 (\$125 for seniors & full-time students). Those unable to give full dues may confidentially approach the Pastor to explain their situation. Parishioners are kindly asked to contribute beyond dues as part of the *"Stewardship Program."* **Existing members' dues must have been received by Dec. 31, 2013;** (new members must be received by June 30 to vote at Parish Assembly in February 2014).

Liturgical Training, Acolyte Classes, and Deacon Training Classes - Dates will be announced soon for the schedule in 2014.

NEW OUTREACH MINISTRY - *"Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor."* Proverbs 2:9 The Government may have shut down services, but Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church is alive and well and looking to fill a great need for her community. Der Hayr is looking for a few dedicated stewards to start a new outreach ministry to provide bag lunches once a month to the most needy of our community. If you are interested in this outreach service

project please contact the church office or give your name to Der Hayr immediately. To make this work Der Hayr needs a minimum of eight people to form the team.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR REMINDER- Remember your non-perishable food donations for Mary House food pantry. Items that move very quickly and are needed the most - **tuna, peanut butter, jelly, soups and rice.** Donations of these food items will be greatly appreciated. As always thanks so much for supporting Mary House. For info., contact Joyce Avedisian (724-3978) or Bertha Mugurdichian (351-9276).

VETERANS LIST: We are continuing to update our Veteran's list and will do so on a ongoing basis. Please send an email to Gary Nahabedian at GaryNahabedian@hotmail.com. If email is unavailable please call him at 401-580-8123. Please make sure to leave the veteran's name, branch of service and living, deceased or killed in action. (Rank is optional).

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.

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.*

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

CHURCH LIBRARY - Anyone needing assistance to donate or take out books from the Church Library should call the church office at 272-7712. There are Armenian books for sale which are shown in the bookcase outside of the library including books by Dn. Gevork Gevorkian -- Contact information for his books: Deacon Gevork Gevorkian (ggevorkian@verizon.net or 401-714-9842 and 401-823-9050).

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

ANNOUNCEMENT: NEW PARISH DIRECTORY

Dear Parishioners,

We are excited to announce that, in celebration of our Centennial, we are going to create a new pictorial directory of our church family. The directory will help us to connect names with faces. It will be an ideal outreach tool and will capture the history of our church congregation.

Please participate!

All we ask is that you have your picture taken by the professional photographer at the church. For the next several weeks we will

be making appointments after church services in the Egavian Hall. Please sign up as soon as possible to get the best appointment to fit your schedule. Appointments can also be made very easily on-line.

Look for information and link on our web site coming soon - TBA! Every participating family/household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a FREE directory and a complimentary 8x10 portrait. You will come to the church only once for photography and for portrait viewing. The program is available at no cost to the church.

Along with the FREE 8x10 Portrait, you will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time. Whether you decide to dress formal or casual, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

The scheduled dates for photography and portrait viewing are:

ATTENTION: COLLEGE STUDENTS? SNOW BIRDS?

Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15, 2014

Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26, 2014.

*Friday times are from 2:30 - 9:00

*Saturday times are from 10:00 - 5:00

If you have questions, please contact Yn. Julie Souin at 973-865-9925 or Linda Salas at 401-300-6779 Again, if you have college students or are heading South after Armenian Christmas, **please sign up for session 1 sittings-January 3rd or 4th.**

We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory. Start making your appointments **TODAY** after church.

Our new pictorial directory won't be complete without you!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- 13 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 14 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
Parish Council, 7 p.m.
- 20 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 21 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
- 26 Centennial Divine Liturgy & Brunch/Program
- 27 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 28 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 2 Super Bowl Party! 5:30 p.m. in Hanoian Hall.
- 4 Parish Council 7 p.m.
- 7 Nazeli Dance Group 6 p.m. classes begin 2nd semester 6:30
- 8 Arts Education Second Semester Begins at 10 a.m.
- 18 Parish Council 7 p.m.
- 23 Parish Assembly following services.