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**Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church**  
**THE LIGHTHOUSE**

70 Jefferson Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908

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http://www.stsahmes.org

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Parish Council Members on duty today:

Paul Surabian and Gary Taraian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

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**Schedule of Lenten Sunday Services**

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| Morning Service ( <i>Kesherayeen &amp; Aravodyan Jham</i> ) | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Sunrise Service   | 9:30 a.m.  |
| Divine Liturgy ( <i>Soorp Badarak</i> )                     | 10:00 a.m. |

**Sunday, March 9, 2014**

**Sunday of the Expulsion - *Ardaksman Giragi***

**Scripture Readings**

**Isaiah 33:2-22 (Page 709) Romans 12:1-13:10 (Pg. 147)**

**Matthew 5:17-48 (Pg. 4)**

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**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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**Date and Special Announcement**

***Lenten Services - Wednesday Evenings - 7:00pm-8:00pm***

Wednesday March 12th - Special Guest & Preacher -

Rev. Fr. Untsag Nalbandian,

Following the Evening Service, during a fellowship hour, Fr. Untsag will do a presentation and book signing of his newly published book, *Fate, Faith Fun*.

Please come and join me every Wednesday for prayers and especially join me in welcoming Fr. Untsag on March 12th.

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The second Sunday of Lent is named **The Sunday of the Expulsion**—a reference to the exile of Adam and Eve from Paradise. This day reminds us of the loss of man's happiness due to his disobedience. During this day's service the hymn of St. Nersess the Graceful, Vor Zorenes Serpoutian, describes man's Fall: how Adam and Eve experienced the bitterness of sin and death, how they first felt “fear” in their hearts, and “hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees in the garden.”

Thereafter, the re-establishment of the friendship between

God and man had to await God's entry into our lives. Through this act of grace, man is able to search his heart, perceive his condition as an exile of "Paradise lost," and see that God has given human beings the opportunity to regain their former status.

Reprinted from the website of the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern)

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### **The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew (5:17-48)**

"Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to the men of old, 'You shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that every one who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother shall be liable to the council, and whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Make friends quickly with your accuser, while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison; truly, I say to you, you will never get out till you have paid the last penny. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that every one who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that every one who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. "Again you have heard that it was said to the men of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil. "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist one

who is evil. But if any one strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also; and if any one would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well; and if any one forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to him who begs from you, and do not refuse him who would borrow from you.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

*Glory to You, O Lord our God!*

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### **Wednesday Evenings of Lent**

With the launch of Great Lent, Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church will invite the faithful to gather for prayer on Wednesdays, at 7:00 p.m. to participate in the Peace and Rest Hour Services, which feature many eloquent penitential prayers and hymns.

We encourage all the faithful to use these evenings of Lent as a way to unwind from the often stressful hustle and bustle of everyday life. By making that special effort to recharge our faith, we provide the soul an opportunity to grow in the faith of Christ.

#### **Lenten Services**

**The Peace Service, (Khaghaghagan)** performed late in the evening, contains prayers for peace, praises to God, thanks for passing this day without tribulation, and reminds us that God is always with us in the face of trial and temptation.

**The Rest Service, (Hankusdyan)** offered before retiring for the night, requests God to watch over us throughout the night. This service contains the eloquent prayer of St. Nerses the Graceful.

**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 Krparar 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:** During the Lenten period, Holy Communion will not be distributed during the Divine Liturgy and the Altar Curtain will remain closed. Those wishing to see the Pastor for private confession and/or desiring to receive Communion privately should speak to Der Hayr.

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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.

**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.

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**Prayer of the Week**

Christ, guardian of all creatures, let your right hand be a shadow over me day and night, tarrying at home and traveling, sleeping and rising, that I may never fail. Have mercy upon your creatures, and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

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.**

**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 , Very Rev. Fr. Shnork Kasparian**

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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:***

- **JOHN MASTERSON** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Marion, Wayne, and Grace; and June, Sarah and John.

- **YEVKIN STEPANIAN** (27 Year Memorial); **LT. COL. STEPHEN STEPANIAN** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Martha Stepanian.

- **ANTRANIG KRIKORIAN** (56 Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Azarig Kooloian and Family.

- **HOVHANNES GULESSERIAN** (my Father, 1888-1933); **STEPAN MOURADIAN** (my Uncle, 1889-1954); and all **GULESSERIAN FAMILY** Deceased Members; **VARTANUSH, HAMPARTSUM, ARMENAG, REBECCA,** and **VARSENIG** - requested by Boghos Gulesserian and Family.

*...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

#### MARCH 10

*Senior Citizens* 10 am- come join us every Monday (weather permitting, excluding holidays). Have fun with your friends and neighbors and enjoy with us "coffee and", cards, tavloo, pinochle, etc."

The *Women's Guild* will have a meeting on Monday, March 10 at 7:15 p.m. Ladies, please join us.

#### MARCH 10

*New!! Badarak 101* - Come learn about the history, meaning, and spirituality of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian church. Instructor, Fr. Shnork Souin. Every Monday evening from 7-8:30 p.m. Begins on March 10 through April 14th. Please RSVP to let us know of your participation at dershork@gmail.com (No Class on March 24)

#### MARCH 11

*Armenian School* - Classes meet from 6 pm to 8 pm. on Tuesdays. For more information please contact Deacon Hagop Ghajanian tel: 401-862-6815 or e-mail: h.ghajanian@verizon.net

#### MARCH 12

*Lenten Services "Lent Through the Experience of the Church Fathers"* will begin on March 5 from 7-8 p.m. continues through Lent on March 12, 19, 26, and April 2, 9 and 16. Special Guest Speaker Fr. Untzag Nalbandian, who will give a presentation of his recently published book.

#### MARCH 14

*Bible Study* - Spring Session - Gospel of John - Friday, March 14 from 12:00-1:30 p.m. Please join us. *Jr. Choir* at 6 p.m. *Nazeli Dance Group* at 6:30 p.m.

#### MARCH 15

*Arts Education Program* - meeting on Saturdays 10 a.m. in Egavian Cultural Center. Please speak with Janna Guegamian (861-3573) for information.

#### MARCH 14, 15

*Life Touch Photography* sessions scheduled for March 14 and 15, please see notice elsewhere in this bulletin.

### MARCH 17

*Deacon's Training* classes, Mondays from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. and every other week. Next class March 17

### MARCH 18

*Acolyte Training* classes meet on Tuesdays from 5 p.m.- 6 p.m. Next class March 18 and every other week thereafter. New students? Please contact Der Hayr, 272-7712.

### MARCH 24

The *Armenian Chorale of RI* will begin rehearsing on Monday, March 24 from 7 to 9 p.m. in Egavian Hall, and every Monday thereafter in preparation for our memorial concert in April 26, and Centennial celebration Concert in June 13. Also, the Chorale invite new members. Please speak with Maestro Konstantin Petrossian (861-3573).

### NOTICES

*Sunday School Lenten Food Drive* - The Diocesan-wide Lenten Drive for our Sunday School is "*feeding the hungry.*" Throughout Lent, our students will be raising funds to benefit "*Feeding America*" and the "*Berd Soup Kitchen*" in Armenia. In addition, Mrs. Dorothy Martiesian and her 8th & 9th grade students are coordinating a *Peanut Butter Drive* to support the needy closer to home. Their goal, with our Centennial Anniversary in mind, is to collect 100 jars of peanut butter for the Mary House Food Pantry. A special collection bin is located in the Sunday School hall or you place jars in the food pantry collection bins near the sanctuary and elevator doors. Thanks for your generosity!

*Special Notice* - the *Sunday School* is inviting parishioners the opportunity to fulfill our Lord's request to spread the Good News. Share your time and talent with the youth of our church. We need your support in such positions as teacher, assistant teacher, substitute teacher, assembly presenters. Please share in this service to our Lord. If interested, please speak with Der Hayr, or any CEAB member.

**Save the Date !!** Saturday, June 21, at 7 p.m. the Cultural Committee presents an *Evening of Armenian Chamber Music* in the Egavian Cultural Center.

*Note:* You may now order the new *2014 Project Graduation Calendars* in support of Project Graduation. Order on line at <http://www.stsahmes.org> & follow the links for the Project Graduation Calendar.

### *Scholarship Opportunities:*

*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.

The *Vaughn Avedisian Memorial Fund* is offering scholarships this year by the RI Community Foundation to benefit students from RI to attend a non-profit post-secondary institution that offers either a two year associate or a four year college degree. Information and applications are available by contacting the Church Office, or John Takian (401-641-5851) johnt@blissproperties.net. The deadline must arrive by April 5, 2014 to be considered. Please contact Sylvia Long at (401) 884-4343 with any questions concerning the application process.

**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@armenian-diocese.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 2/26/2014 Parish Assembly, membership dues are \$175 (\$125 for seniors). Based on a new Diocesan by-law and as this is the centennial year, dues for members age 18-24 are only \$100. 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, 2014;** (new members must be received by June 30 to vote at Parish Assembly in February 2015.) Don't forget to take advantage of the many payment options which can be made on line, by check, credit card, in full, or in part weekly, monthly or quarterly.

**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 an 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

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### **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 2 sittings-March 14 or March 15, 2014.**

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!***

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**Calendar of Events - Please see insert.**