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Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church
THE LIGHTHOUSE

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http://www.stsahmes.org

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Parish Council Members on duty today:

John Avjian and Ken Ayrassian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

Schedule of Lenten Sunday Services

Morning Service (<i>Kesherayeen & 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 16, 2014

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Anaragi Giragi - Անառակի Կիրակի

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 54:11-55:13 (Page 731) II Corinthians 6:1-7:1 (Pg. 165)

Luke 15:1-32 (Pg. 71)

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!

Դաշակեցէք 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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The third Sunday of Lent is known as **The Sunday of the Prodigal Son**. The parable told by Jesus (Luke 15:11-32) is a familiar example of a child rebelling against its parent; but in Jesus' telling, the parent is accepting and understanding, regardless of the child's previous actions or mistakes. The two key words in this parable are "lost" and "found," and in a way, the entire Lenten period might be thought of as a search for our own lost selves. The prodigal son stands as a symbol for lost and demoralized humanity; the father figure helps us grasp the depth of God's love for mankind.

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

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The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (15:1-32)

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable:

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.'

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

And he said, "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father.

But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!'

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that

is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”

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 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: 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

Let the Lord Jesus Christ preserve and have mercy on us through the intercession of the Holy Mother-of-God, from whom the fruit of life and immortality was given to us. 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, Iris Kalian**

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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>

A **Healing Prayer Card** has been requested for Linda Minassian by the Women's Guild of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian 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:

- **BARSAM, HAIGANOUSH, BEDROS, BOGHOS and ESGOUHE TARAIAN** - requested by Mary and Teresa Taraian; Mr. & Mrs. Peter & Roberta Taraian and Family; Mr. & Mrs. Gary & Sonya Taraian, Gary Jr. and Zachary Razmig.

- **VAHRAM AZNAVOURIAN** (52 Year Memorial) - requested by William Aznavourian.

...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 17

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."

MARCH 17

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. Meeting through April 14th. Please RSVP to let us know of your participation at dershork@gmail.com (No Class on March 24)

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 18

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 19

Centennial Meeting March 19 (Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 19

Lenten Services - "Lent Through the Experience of the Church Fathers" on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. continues through Lent on March 19, 26, and April 2, 9 and 16.

MARCH 21

Bible Study - Spring Session - Gospel of John - Friday, March 21 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 22

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

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 on April 26, and Centennial Celebration Concert in June 13. Also, the Chorale invites new members. Please speak with Maestro Konstantin Petrossian (861-3573).

APRIL 12

Saintly Women's Day will be hosted this year by the Women's Guild of St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, MA on April 12 (Saturday). 10:30 a.m. Welcome/Coffee in the church hall, 11 a.m. service and 12:00 Luncheon & Program honoring St. Santoukht. \$25 per person, proceeds will be given to the Children of Armenia Sponsorship

Program (CASP) and the Vanadzor Elderly Project. Reserve by April 6 to Nancy Kassabian (781-322-0029) or Gail Boroyan (978-256-5906)

APRIL 13

ACYOA Day - Palm Sunday Celebration at 1 p.m. in Egavian Cultural Center. Presentation by Cailyne Ghazarian on her trip to Jerusalem in 2013. Chicken and Pilaf Dinner \$12 adults, \$5 kids under 10. Reservations encouraged, call Christopher Parnagian (401-489-8337), Hasmik Gevorkian (401-714-5723) or Church Office (401-272-7712)

APRIL 13 - 20

Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter - a complete schedule will be mailed out this week, and notices will be in future bulletins.

APRIL 14

Mary House Outreach - In the spirit of Christian stewardship, part of our parish outreach effort is to donate food to the Mary House food pantry and to volunteer at St. Patrick's meal kitchen. Monday, April 14, is our parish's next date to volunteer. We meet at St. Patrick's on Smith Street by 3:45 PM. The last meal is served by 5:15 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. Future date this year will be June 16. Your help is always appreciated.

APRIL 22

The *17th Annual Armenian Youth Day* sponsored by The Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 2014 in Egavian Cultural Center. This is the 99th Anniversary of the 1915 Genocide. Registration is at 8:30am with orientation at 8:50am. The program will run from 9:00am to 2:30pm. Please contact Martha Jamgochian for information (401-723-3344).

APRIL 24

Divine Liturgy 6 p.m. and Requiem on the occasion of the 99th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. A movie will be shown in Hanoian Hall following the Liturgy.

APRIL 25 & 26

Life Touch Photography sessions scheduled for April 25 and 26, please see notice elsewhere in this bulletin.

APRIL 26

Dedicated to the 99th Anniversary of the Genocide, Solemn Memorial Service and Concert performed by the Armenian Chorale of RI from 7-8 p.m. Blessing of Madagh. Genocide Art Exhibition, hosted by the Cultural Committee. Let us not forget.

APRIL 27

Divine Liturgy will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m., (no requiems at the church or fellowship hour, snacks available for the road) All the faithful are urged to attend the **COMMEMORATION** at the **NORTH BURIAL GROUND** - let's stand together on April 27th.

MAY 9

Annual Sports Scholarship Banquet- watch for details.

MAY 11

Mother's Day Cake Sale by the Women's Guild.

MAY 12

Save the date - Golf Tournament at the Cranston Country Club on Monday, May 12. More details available on the church web site, details will be published in future bulletins.

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. *So far, they have collected 6 jars.* 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) johnht@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@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 2/26/2014 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
Please see insert .