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

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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**

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, April 6, 2014**

**Sixth Sunday of Great Lent - *Kalusdyan***

**Sunday of the Advent**

**Scripture Readings**

**Isaiah 66:1-24 (Pg. 741) Colossians 2:8-3:17 (Pg. 182)**

**Matthew 22:34-23:39 (Pg. 23)**

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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!**

Ծաշակեցէք 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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Please welcome the Very Rev. Fr. Simeon Odabashian

The *Sunday of Advent* is the sixth and last Sunday of Lent, when the church recalls the revelation of our Savior, who sacrificed His life for mankind. This day is devoted to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, our eternal Lord and King; as such we are reminded that, just as everything once began with God, so too will everything one day end with Him

Great Lent ends with *Lazarus Saturday*, which recalls how Jesus raised His friend from the dead (John 11:1-44). This episode foreshadows Christ's own Resurrection and serves to remind us of Christ's promise of new life to those who love Him.

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

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This Sunday, Saints Sahag and Mesrob Church, will conduct a special plate collection with proceeds to be sent to the Diocese for the Aid and Relief of Armenians displaced from Kessab Syria. Please read the Primates Message and Plea regarding the situation in the historical Armenian town of Kessab and the efforts of Turkey and known TERRORIST Cells to depopulate it of Armenians.

Prayerfully,, Fr. Shnork Souin

## **The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew (22:34-23:39)**

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put thy enemies under thy feet'? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves. "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.'

You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? And you say, 'If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.' You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel! "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You blind Pharisee! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets

and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'

Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachi'ah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar.

Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!

Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

*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.

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**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 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.

### Prayer of the Week

Let us hold the Holy Mother of God and all the saints as intercessors with the Father in Heaven, that He may be pleased to have mercy and compassion on us, His creatures, and save us. Almighty Lord, our God, save us and have mercy on 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 especially with the tragic events that are taking place now in Kessab; 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  
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:*

- **SARAH DEMIRJIAN** (40 Day Memorial - Karasoonk) - requested by her loving family, Susan Kingsley and Family; Gregory Demirjian, Barbra Demirjian; John Demirjian; and sister Anne Mooradian.

- **DIRAMAYR ZABEL ODABASHIAN** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by V. Rev. Fr. Simeon Odabashian, Marsha Odabashian, Mr. & Mrs. Barry Odabashian, Rachel and Sarah.

- **MANOOG VARTIAN** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Mrs. & Mrs. David Vartian and Family (FL); Mrs. Catherine Albanese.

- **LILLIAN RAVIELE** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Mags Topalian Griego.

- **EUGENIA PJOJIAN** (Two Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pjojian; Mr. & Mrs. Harry Yessaian; Ms. Carol Dupre; Mr. & Mr. James Stevenson; Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Pjojian; Mr. John Takian.

- **ROSE SEROPIAN** (16 Year Memorial) - requested by Edward Seropian; Kathy Seropian; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Seropian, Rachael & Erica; Bertha Scully.

- **YEVKINE AZARIAN** (17 Year Memorial) - requested by Martin Mahdesyan; Larry & Karen Miller; Linda Grant; Lindsay & Justin Aromin; Jonathan & Alisha Williams and Family; Sadie & Lucy Barran; Joseph & Debra Tramonti, Matthew & Justin; Mrs. Leo Surmeian; Mr. & Mrs. John Hamblin, James & Christopher; Mr. & Mrs. John Surmeian; Lisa & Tom Ohanian and Eliz; Mr. & Mrs. James Surmeian, Nathan & Cameron; Martin Azarian and Family.

- **KHANEM and JOHN CHELEBIAN** (30 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Leo Surmeian; Lisa & Tom Ohanian and Eliz; Rosanne & John Hamblin and Sons; John & Irene Surmeian; James & Jennifer Surmeian and Sons; Martin Azarian and Family; Sadie and Lucy Barran.

- **STEPANIAN FAMILY DECEASED MEMBERS - TEVOS, ATOM, ANAHIT, LIANA, OKSEN, RAFIK, and JHORIK** - requested by Anjel Gulesserian and Family - Boghos, Paitsar, Hampartsum and Vartanush.

*...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

Today the *Sunday School* will sponsor a *Bake Sale* during the Fellowship Hour to raise funds for their Lenten Drive. Your support & participation will be greatly appreciated. 2013 Sunday School graduates who traveled to Armenia as part of Project Graduation will make a slide presentation of their trip (including the service project in Hatsik).

*Lenten Kufta* will be available after church this morning, \$14 per dozen, \$7 for 1/2 dozen. Please see Shake to purchase.

### APRIL 7

*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."

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

The *Armenian Chorale of RI* will be rehearsing on Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. in Egavian Hall, next rehearsal April 7, 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).

**Badarak 101** - Come learn about the history, meaning, and spirituality of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian church. Instructor, Fr. Shnork Souin. Monday evening from 7-8:30 p.m. through April 14th.

The **Women's Guild** will meet on Monday, April 7 at 7:15 p.m. planning for upcoming events, we need your help !

#### APRIL 8

**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

#### APRIL 9

**Lenten Services - "Lent Through the Experience of the Church Fathers"** on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. through Lent on April 9 & 16.

#### APRIL 11

**Bible Study** - Spring Session - Gospel of John - Friday, April 4 from 12:00-1:30 p.m. Please join us. **Jr. Choir** at 6 p.m. **Nazeli Dance Group** at 6:30 p.m.

#### APRIL 12

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

#### 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 has been mailed, see dates for services in the Calendar of Events.

#### 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 will be June 16.

#### 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**

There will be a *Flag Raising* ceremony at the North Providence Town Hall on Friday, April 25 at 10 a.m.. Our own Jack Chakoian will be honored.

**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** after services - 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. Longest drive, closest to pin, hole in one, silent auction, lunch and dinner included. Individual Golfer rates \$150, sponsorships available.

**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 we have collected 43 jars.** A special collection bin is located in the Sunday School hall or you may place jars in the food pantry collection bins near the sanctuary and elevator doors. Thanks for your generosity!

**PALMS & FLOWERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER -**

Donations towards the purchase of palms for Palm Sunday and flowers for Holy Week and Easter would be greatly appreciated. Forms for this are available in the hallway by the church office, or you may send your donation to the church office (call if you would like to use a credit card). Deadline

for palm donations, April 10, for flower donations, April 17. Donations will be acknowledged in the Bulletins on 4/13 & 4/20.

**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.

**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 be 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).

**EASTER HOME BLESSINGS** - Parishioners are encouraged to have their homes blessed after Easter. 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)

**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, please see insert.**