



Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայր. Եկեղեցի

Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church
THE LIGHTHOUSE

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Parish Council Members on duty today:

Ken Ayrassian and Nick Durgarian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

Schedule of Sunday Services

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

9:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m.

Sunday, August 17, 2014

Feast of the Assumption of the Mother of God

Տօն Վերափոխման Սրբուհոյ Աստուածածնի

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 7:10-16 (Pg. 687) Galatians 3:29-4:7 (Pg. 172)

Luke 1:26-38 (Pg. 51)

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



The Blessing of Grapes | Khaghogh Orhnek

On the day of the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God, the blessing of grapes takes place immediately after the Divine Liturgy. The ceremony is rich in symbolism and emphasizes the important role the Virgin Mary assumed in the revelation of God.

The custom of blessing grapes, the first fruits of the harvest, can be traced back to Old Testament times, when farming was a common vocation. Of the vast variety of produce, grapes had a special place of honor and were considered the “first fruits” because they were the first produce of harvest.

Among the Israelites, as among many neighboring cultures, grapes were regarded as belonging in a special way to God since they were the first fruits. It was He who gave the gift of the whole harvest and to offer Him the first fruits was to acknowledge complete dependence on Him. Special services of thanksgiving were conducted by priests in the temple, a tradition that prevailed to the time of Christ.

With the birth of Jesus, these dedications took on a new meaning. Jesus Christ was the first born—or the first fruit—of Mary and, as such, was offered to God in the temple. (Luke 2:25-30)

Armenian Church doctrine teaches that Mary has a primary place of honor because it was of her and by the Holy Spirit that God

became incarnate (took human flesh). She is seen as the image of humanity fully obedient to God and ultimately sanctified by doing God's will. Therefore, on the feast remembering her dormition (falling asleep in Christ) and Assumption (ascending to heaven), we celebrate the blessing of grapes.

Christ gave His blood to us for eternal life, and in remembrance we bless the grapes, the fruits of the earth.

It is traditional to use seedless grapes to emphasize that this fruit came into being without seed, just as Christ became man without any human agent.

From the website of the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern)



The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"

But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.

For with God nothing will be impossible." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Glory to You, O Lord our God!



KISS OF PEACE - IT'S IN THE BIBLE!

II Cor. 13:12 & Rom. 16:16 ~ Greet one another with a holy kiss.

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 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:

Տացէ 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.

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 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, Egypt and Iraq 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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Pray for Our Christian Brethren

The persecution of Middle-Eastern Christian communities has been an ongoing concern for several years now, but it has returned to public consciousness in recent weeks.

The stories of exile and suffering are too unsettling to relate; but they are all too familiar to Armenian Christians. Indeed, our own people have been affected—as the evacuation of Armenians from Kessab earlier this year showed. It is painful to realize that the acts of persecution we still vividly remember, a century after the Genocide, are being re-enacted today, against the ancient Christian communities in the Middle East.

There is comparatively little being written and said about the plight of these Christian brothers and sisters, and the existential threat they are facing in their ancestral homelands. Let us not be the ones to forget them at this time. Rather, let us remember our brothers and sisters; reach out to them, speak up for them—and above all pray for them, for an end to their affliction, and for peace throughout the region.

From the website of the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern)

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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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REQUIEMS (Hokehankist): Will resume on August 24

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God & Blessing of Grapes. Please see insert for the list of Grape Donations.

AUGUST 18

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

AUGUST 18

Prof. Ara Dostourian's *Church History Class* 7-8:30 p.m. in the Church Hall meeting Mondays on the following dates: Aug. 18, 25. Dates in the Fall will be announced. Please join us. Call the church office for details.

AUGUST 23

The *Women's Guild* will hold a retreat at the Husenig Grove on Saturday, August 23.

AUGUST 25

Armenian School Open House for students and parents on August 25 from 6-8 p.m., registration. Advance registration is recommended. Please see notice below (9/2) for contact information.

SEPTEMBER 2

Armenian School registration and first day, Tuesday, September 2, 2014. Registration 5:30 pm to 6 pm. Classes 6 pm to 8 pm. on Tuesdays. For more information please contact Nvard Danayan tel: 401-943-4001, or e-mail: nvarddanayan@yahoo.com

SEPTEMBER 6 & 20

Arts Education Registration for 2014 - 2015 - First Semester begins on Saturday, September 6, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 11a.m. in Egavian Cultural center. Programs begin on Saturday, September 20, 2014. For application: <http://stsahmes.org/NewWebsite/culturalcommittee.shtml>. Please send application to: Cultural Committee Arts Education Program, Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church, 70 Jefferson St., Providence, RI 02908. For more information or questions about the Arts Education Program please contact Program's Chairperson Mrs. Janna Guegamian 401 861-3573, e-mail: Petroskon@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 13 & 14

Annual Church Picnic !! Come join us for 2 days of Armenian food, music, dancing and fun both days! Please visit the church website for information (www.stsahmes.org) Your support of the Lamb Drive and Raffle will be greatly appreciated. Call for Picnic Volunteers: anyone wishing to volunteer for the picnic please contact Armen Janigian, at armenjanigian@gmail.com or calling 578-5816. Help in all areas will be welcome, especially setting up early Saturday morning and breaking down late Sunday afternoon. This year Kheyma Saturday only, and featuring Sunday traditional church baked 1/2 chicken dinner.

SEPTEMBER 14

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and Blessing of Basil
(donations of sweet basil will be greatly appreciated.)

SEPTEMBER 27

The *Women's Guild* will host a *Luncheon and Fashion Show* to celebrate the contributions of the women of the church, and to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the church on Saturday, September 27, 2014 at 12 noon. Please join us for a fun filled afternoon with good food, raffles, a fashion show and more !! We are soliciting monetary donations to cover costs and gift cards for the raffle. Plan to join us !! Speak with Lillibeth Kooloian.

SEPTEMBER 29

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, September 29 is our parish's next date to volunteer. We meet at St. Patrick's on Smith Street by 4:00 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 dates: 11/24/14, 3/30/15, and 6/22/15.

OCTOBER 8

"Badarak 201" - Come learn about the history, meaning and spirituality of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Church with Der Hayr Shnork Souin on Wednesday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m. in Hanoian Hall from October 8 through November 19th. Please RSVP <dershnork@gmail.com>, or 201-306-4304. Textbook "Frequently Asked Questions on the Badarak: The Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Church" by Michael Findikyan (\$15).

OCTOBER 18

Save the date! Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church Cultural Committee and ACYOA's present *"Battle of the Bands"* with Joseph Kouyoumjian Ensemble & Sevan Band - Inspired by Dr. Herman Avazyan, on Saturday, October 18, 2014, 8:00 pm - ??? Egavian Cultural Center 70 Jefferson St. (Mesrob Mashdots Blvd.) Providence, RI 02908

NOTICES

Centennial Fund - Thanks so very much to all who have so generously donated to the fund thus far. Please know that we are still accepting donations throughout the remainder of this year and early January. We wish to give everyone the opportunity to be included in this important effort before we create a permanent plaque recognizing all our donors. Der Hayr and the Parish Council will be advising us as to both selection and placement of this plaque. We thank everyone for their support!!

Banquet Books - are available in our church office for anyone who wishes to obtain one. Please see Fran.

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 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 after Easter. Please invite Der Hayr to bless your home. Have a piece of bread, dish of salt, 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.*

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)

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

ARMENIAN RADIO HOUR - Sundays 9-10 a.m. WARL 1320 AM
ARDZAGANG - Armenian Television Program-Statewide Cable Inter-connect Channel 13 (A):broadcast Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

- 17 *Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God and the Blessing of Grapes*
18 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class, 7 p.m.
19 Parish Council, 7 p.m.
23 Women's Guild Retreat at Husenig Grove
25 Armenian School Open House 6 p.m.
25 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class, 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Labor Day Holiday, office closed
2 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Armenian School Opening Day & Registrations, 6 p.m.
6 Arts Education Registrations, 10-11 a.m.
8 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
13 & 14 Annual Church Picnic
14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
15 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
20 Arts Education Programs begin 10 a.m.
20th Anniversary of ordination for Der Shnork
21 Sunday School Opening Day
24 Armenian Martyrs Community meeting at Sts. Vartananz
Armenian Church, 402 Broadway, Providence.
25 Armenian School Open House 6-8 p.m.
27 Women's Guild Fashion Show and Luncheon
29 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.

OCTOBER

- 5 Church Name Day - Save the date
8 Badarak 201 class begins, 7-8:30 p.m. through Nov. 19
9 Men's Night - details to be announced. save the date.
18 Cultural Committee & ACYOA "Battle of the Bands" 8 p.m.
19 Annual Blood Driv
26 Spiritual Music Festival in Sanctuary, 5 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 8 & 9 Annual Church Bazaar