

Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայր. Եկեղեցի

Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church

THE LIGHTHOUSE

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Parish Council Members on duty today:

Steve Megrđichian - Paul Surabian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor



Schedule of Sunday Services

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

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

Sunday, December 28, 2014

Վեցերորդ Կիրակի Յիսնակաց

Sixth Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 41:4-14 (Pg. 716) Hebrews 7:11-25 (Pg. 199)

Luke 19:12-28 (Pg. 75)

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!

Դաշակեցեք եւ տեսք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

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

Der Shnork

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What It's All About

There were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. But the angel said unto them, “Fear not! For, behold—I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying; “Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace; good will toward men.”

As a very wise person once said, having quoted this passage from the gospel of Luke: “That’s what Christmas is all about.”

Today, in these hours before so much of the world celebrates the birth of Jesus, we wish our readers all the blessings of Christmas.

Some 12 days from now, faithful souls in Armenian sanctuaries across the world will be raising their voices in grateful praise of our Lord’s birth—and we encourage you to be a part of that joyous celebration in your local church.

And throughout the coming days, keep hold of what Christmas is all about: God’s love for mankind; His gifts of peace and good will—embodied in the birth of His precious son.

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

Talking During Church

Isn't it great to come to church and see friends and family members? But wait until coffee hour to say "Hi" to them. It just isn't appropriate to greet people and have a conversation with them during the services in line for Communion or even at the conclusion. Besides being disrespectful before God and the Holy Signs, it is disruptive to the priest, deacons and discourteous to your fellow worshippers who are seeking refuge and communion in God's presence and with His people.

Talk to God while in church through your prayers, offer your hymns and thanksgiving through your participation in worship. At the conclusion of the Badarak please come forward to receive the final blessing as you come and kiss the Gospel, and to your friends in the Egavian hall during fellowship hour.

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Special Request

During this blessed season of giving, I would like to ask you to kindly search your hearts and consider making a donation towards the pastors' discretionary fund. This ministry helps to provide assistance to people or families in times of need when there is no other place to turn. Recipients will receive assistance from the pastor directly and remain anonymous. Checks can be made out to SSMAC NOTE: Pastors Discretionary Fund

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The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (19:12-28)

He said therefore, "A nobleman went into a far country to receive a kingdom and then return. Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten pounds, and said to them, 'Trade with these till I come.' But his citizens hated him and sent an embassy after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.' When he returned, having received the kingdom, he commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by trading.

The first came before him, saying, 'Lord, your pound has made ten pounds more.' And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.' And the second came, saying, 'Lord, your pound has made five pounds.' And he said to him, 'And you are to be over five cities.' Then another came, saying, 'Lord, here is your pound, which I kept laid away in a napkin; for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man; you take up what you did not lay down, and reap what you did not sow.'

He said to him, 'I will condemn you out of your own mouth, you wicked servant! You knew that I was a severe man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank, and at my coming I should have collected it with interest?' And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the pound from him, and give it to him who has the ten pounds.' (And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten pounds!') 'I tell you, that to every one who has will more be given; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them before me.'" And when he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

Glory to You, O Lord our God!

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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 գառիճն 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 գառիճն 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:

Յիշեսցէ 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.

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Prayer of the Week

Son of God, true God, who descended from the bosom of the Father and took flesh of the holy Virgin Mary for our salvation, who was crucified, buried, and arose from the dead, and ascended with glory to the Father. Grant forgiveness to me a sinner, for since my birth at the holy font until this day I have sinned before your Godhead with my senses and with all the members of my body. Have mercy upon your creatures, and upon me, a great sinner.

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.

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

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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:

- NAZIK KOCHARIAN - requested by Robert Kocharian.

- MARY ZAKARIAN SERABIAN; FRANK DIPETRILLO; VICTORIA SERABIAN DIPETRILLO; MIRIAM SERABIAN; MERHAN SERABIAN; PAUL BOGHOS SERABIAN; PAUL SERABIAN JR.; MARIANNA GOUVEIA; CHRIS KAUFER; RAYMOND PANNONE; EVELYN PANNONE - requested by Nishan Serabian; Edward & Maureen DiPetrillo and Family; Nicholas & Eve (DiPetrillo) Piscione and Family; Dr. Beverly Serabian; Darryl & Linda Serabian-Arthur and Family; David & Deborah Serabian-Kaufers and Family; Malcolm & Nancy Serabian and Logan.

- **ARTHUR A. THOVMASIAN JR.** (25 Year Memorial); **ARTHUR A. THOVMASIAN SR.** (34 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Naomi Thovmasian Marsh; Leah, Alex and Ian Hill; Diana, Tim and Riley Sanginario; Arthur Thovmasian III; Mr. & Mrs. Kachadour Kojoian and Family; Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Bailey; Christopher, Meggan and Catherine Bailey; Linda Angell; Natalie Zakarian.

- **GARABED KOLLIGIAN; SURPHOUI KOLLIGIAN; ISABELLA NAJARIAN; SAMUEL NAJARIAN** - requested by Victoria Jamgochian; Gary R. Kolligian; Peter S. Jamgochian.

- **VARTOUIHIE** (Rosalie Topalian) **JONES** (WA) (5 Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Toumasian; Griego-Marottolo (CT) Families.

- **LEO SURMEIAN; MADELINE RAMOS; DR. PAUL VARUJAN MAGALIAN; HERMINE and GARABED MAJALIAN** - requested by Ben & Kim Majalian (CT).

....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.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Today's *Coffee Fellowship* is given in loving memory of Nazik Kocharian by Robert Kocharian.

DECEMBER 29

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."

JANUARY 5

Monday, January 5, *Armenian Christmas Eve*, Evening Service, 4:30 p.m., Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m. Family Christmas Fellowship following at 6:30 p.m., "Cookie Mookie Table", Caring & Sharing.

JANUARY 6

Tuesday, January 6, Armenian Christmas, *Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ*. Morning Service 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10 a.m., Blessing of Water 11 a.m. Traditional Armenian Home Blessing, 11:30 a.m.

JANUARY 11

Armenian Christmas Dinner, Sunday, January 11 after Badarak - complete dinner of stuffed chicken, pilaf, vegetable, salad and dessert, hosted by Women's Guild. Chicken tenders/fingers for children. Donation \$15, and \$5 for children 12 and under. Please call the church office with reservations.

JANUARY 13

Armenian School classes meet on Tuesdays, 6 pm to 8 pm. will resume after the holidays on January 13. For more information contact Nvard Danayan tel: 401-943-4001, or e-mail: nvarddanayan@yahoo.com

FEBRUARY 7

Saturday Arts Education classes will resume February 7, 2015 *Arts Education* 2015 Semester - Programs - 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 please contact Chairperson Janna Guegamian 401 861-3573, <Petroskon@aol.com>

Saturdays: Arts Education 10 a.m.-3 p.m.,

Nazeli Dance & Jr. Choir (Children and Youth) Dates and Times to be announced.

NOTICES

IMPORTANT - PARISH MEMBER DUES - REMINDER: If you have not submitted your dues for 2013, please plan to do so before December 31.

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.

Project Graduation Armenia Trip - With Fr. Shnork Souin - July 12-24, 2015 - Registration Deadline February 25, 2015 - Cost: \$2,950
Includes 4 Star Accommodations, Airfare, Excursions*, 2 Meals/day
Info: Call Fr. Shnork 201-306-4304

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - Donations towards the purchase of poinsettia plants for our altar during the Christmas season will be gratefully received. Individuals who wish to make such donations are asked to contact the church office or send in a check (notation: Christmas Flowers). Forms for your use will be available in the hallway by the church office. ***It's not too late to contribute toward the beautiful poinsettias that are on our altar.*** Any donations for poinsettias received after today will be acknowledged in the bulletin on Sunday, January 4. A complete and updated list of flower donations will be listed in the bulletin on that date. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

The Armenian Historical Association of RI (AHARI) is forming a sub-committee for genealogy research. Its purpose is to assist members in tracing their ancestors and discovering the daily events that shaped their

and, eventually, our lives. We hope to help people find information about their ancestors and possibly make connections with relatives living on both sides of the Atlantic.

We plan to upload databases to a website for research. We will need help with website design, database maintenance and research techniques. We would like to start meeting in January. Please contact Margaret Chevian by January 15 at margo1915@gmail.com or 401-331-3985.

WISH LIST - The church is in need of a replacement refrigerator for the kitchen in Hanoian Hall. A monetary donation or a donation of a refrigerator either new or one in good condition and working order would be greatly appreciated. Please let us know if you would be able to help. Thanks.

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 and The Stained Glas Windows Books - are available in our church office for anyone who wishes to obtain one. Please see Fran.

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. They also need personal care toiletries such as tooth paste, tooth brushes, shampoo & conditioner, deodorant etc. As always thanks so much for supporting Mary House. For info., contact Joyce Avedisian (724-3978) or Bertha Mugurdichian (351-9276). **Future dates for helping at the Mary House meal kitchen:** 3/30/15, and 6/22/15. Thanks to everyone who participated on Monday, 11/24.

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 401-871-8331. 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 Christmas. 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: 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 Interconnect Channel 13 (A):broadcast Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

29 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.

JANUARY 2015

1 New Years Day, Office Closed
5 Armenian Christmas Eve
Evening Service, 5 p.m. , Divine Liturgy 6:00 p.m.
Family Christmas Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Caring & Sharing
6 Armenian Christmas - Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord
Divine Liturgy 10 a.m., Blessing of Water, 11:30 a.m.
10 Parish Council Meeting, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
11 Traditional Armenian Home Blessing 11:30 a.m.
Armenian Christmas Luncheon after Divine Liturgy, by the
Women's Guild
12 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
13 Parish Council 7-9 p.m.
Armenian Language School resumes, 6 p.m.
Parish Council 7 p.m.
18 40 Day Memorial for Yn. Maireni Donikian
19 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
20 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
26 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
27 Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
Parish Council 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY

2 Badarak 201 Classes resume 7 p.m. (Also 2/9, 2/16, 2/23)
3 Deacon Training Class 5:30 p.m. (Also 2/10, 2/17, 2/24)
22 Annual Parish Assembly 12:30 p.m.