

Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայր. Եկեղեցի

Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church

**THE LIGHTHOUSE**



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Parish Council Members on duty today:

Paul Surabian - Gary Taraian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

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### Schedule of Sunday Services

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

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

Sunday, February 8, 2015

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 63:18-64:12 (Page 739) Titus 1:1-11 (Page 194)

John 7:37-52 (Page 92)

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### The Legacy of our Martyrs 1915 - 2015

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!

Ծաշակեցեք եւ տեսեք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

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

### The Week Ahead - Preparing for Lent

Each year the period of Lent is preceded by a week of celebration and commemoration. Lent of course begins with **Poon Paregentan** which is the Sunday of "Good Living", a reminder of the good life established by God when He placed mankind in the Garden of Eden. The days before it commemorate important figures from Armenian history and conclude on Saturday with the celebration of Christ's Presentation in the Temple. This liturgical pattern was established centuries ago and has a deeply rooted piety in the practice of Armenians everywhere.

**Tuesday February 10th is the commemoration of Sts. Ghevontians** or St. Leon and his companions. Who were they? Levon was a priest and monastic abbot. With his monks, he joined the forces of the Armenian nation under St. Vartan in the Battle of Avarayr in the year 451AD. This battle against the invading Persian Empire became the first battle in defense of Christianity. St. Vartan himself and his army are likewise canonized and commemorated on Thursday February 12th. The battle was primarily a battle against oppression and tyranny and the fallen and martyred soldiers, truly freedom fighters, preserved by their sacrifices the the christian conscience, national identity and the faith of the Armenian people.

Please join me on Thursday evening for a commemoration of **Sts. Vartanantz** sponsored by the Knights of Vartan in the Egavian Hall followed by a service of prayer in the sanctuary.

Saturday the commemoration of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple is typically celebrated with the blessing of infants followed by the ritual of the Fire Jump which represents Theosis and the divination of humanity. Here Mary presents her infant Son and maybe unknowingly offers Him for the Ultimate Sacrifice. Did she know that her

offering would be at the cost of Jesus' death on the Cross for the salvation of mankind? Christ through His Incarnation "consumes" humanity and forges it with His divinity granting to those who believe in Him, eternal life.

These celebrations have sacrifice at the root of their message and help to divert our thoughts to the preparation of the Lenten season. May we together have a blessed lent and may the Holy Spirit empower us to be vigilant in our fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

**\*\*\*Next week**, I will be publishing an article about Poon Paregentan or the Sunday of Good Living. What are our lenten obligations?

**Note** also that there will be weekly Lenten Services at the church throughout Lent. Won't you join me at 7:00pm on Wednesdays?

Dear faithful,

I want to tell you about a few very important and exciting events coming up in our parish over the next couple of months. I hope and pray that you will not only support and participate in these events but encourage others to as well.

1. I have arranged for a Special Church Group Rate for *Beast on the Moon* on Friday February 13 at 8pm. and Saturday February 14 at 2:00pm. at the Casino Theater in Newport, RI. (Minimum 10 tickets sold) Tickets regularly \$15 can be purchased from the office for \$10. Please call 401-272-7712 by **TODAY** to reserve this special price for either showing otherwise tickets can be purchased from the box office. This is an important and wonderfully written play which should be seen by every American Armenian.

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide Salve Regina University Presents *Beast on the Moon* by Richard Kalinoski (Who will be present) There are other showings available at regular price of \$15.

2. The Sunday School has invited recording artist, Nvair Beylerian and Andrea Carden from New Jersey on Sunday March 1st to make a presentation of the newly recorded "We Sing Armenian Church Songs". They will present their music and lesson to the school at assembly and also make a presentation during the fellowship hour. This can and will hopefully become an integral part of our resources and tools in teaching the Badarak and inspiring faith in our children.

3. I am arranging a Trip to Armenia this summer for the Commemoration of the Centennial of the Genocide! It is part of **Project Graduation but open to the parish**. Dates are July 12-24, 2015 at the cost is \$2950 including airfare, hotel accommodations, 2 meals a day and excursions. Visit Holy Etchmiadzin, Geghart Monastery, Tsitsernagapert, Holy Etchmiadzin (an audience with His Holiness KAREKIN II), Lake Sevan and much more. Call me at 201-306-4304.

4. **BADARAK201** classes recommence on Monday evenings (please check the schedule for cancellations etc) at 7:00pm. Please if you own one, bring a badarak pew book. Copies can be made available for those who do not own one.

5. Thursday April 23 at 7:00am - Live viewing of the Canonization of the Martyrs in the Hanoian Hall.

Friday April 24th at 12:00pm. Divine liturgy at the North Burial Ground Memorial Monument.

Sunday April 26th Bus trip to NYC St. Vartan Cathedral for Badarak and Times Square for Genocide Commemorations.

6. Washington DC-National Commemoration of Genocide Centennial

May 7 at 7:00PM: Ecumenical Service at the National Cathedral

May 8 at 8:00PM: Concert at the Music Center at Strathmore

May 9 10:00AM: Divine Liturgy-Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

May 9 6:00PM: Reception and Banquet at the Marriott Marquis Hotel

May 7-9: Exhibitions and Cultural Events at the Marriott Hotel

\*\*Please visit for hotel info and reservations - [resweb.passkey.com/go/441f5d02](http://resweb.passkey.com/go/441f5d02); More info: <http://armeniangenocidecentennial.org/>; [www.genocide100.org](http://www.genocide100.org)

7. May 31 - Divine Liturgy, Ordinations and Banquet in honor of Fr. Shnork Souin's 20th Anniversary of ordination and the presentation of the St. Vartan Award to Steven Zaroogian and Ed Eranosian under the auspices of His Eminence, Abp. Khajag Barsamian.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

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**The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John 7:37-52**

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?"

So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?"

The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed."

Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee."

*Glory to You, O Lord our God!*

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**HAVE YOUR HOME BLESSED THIS NEW YEAR**

For Home Blessings please call Der Hayr directly at 201-306-4304 or the office at 272-7712. It is an ancient Armenian Tradition to have your home blessed by the priest after Christmas and Easter, to bring God's Word, Blessing and Presence into your home. When Der Hayr arrives, you should have Bread, Water and Salt ready for the blessing and encourage all family members to be home for the service.

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### 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 downstairs 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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### **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-shiyal 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 սեր 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 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**

My soul is always in your hands and I place my hope in your Holy Cross, O Heavenly King. May the multitude of your saints intercede on my behalf. You who are patient with everyone, do not neglect me who trusts in you, but keep me in peace with your precious and Holy Cross. 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.**

**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, William Aznavourian, Joan Parnagian**

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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 prayer card* for the Repose of Simon Chapkounian Jr. has been requested by Dr. & Mrs. Martin Papazian.

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**TODAY'S REQUIEMS (*Hokehankist*):** Please see insert.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY**

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

### FEBRUARY 9

*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."

### FEBRUARY 9

*Badarak 201* - Come learn about the history, meaning, and spirituality of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian church. Instructor, Fr. Shnork Souin. Monday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. Please RSVP to let us know of your participation at [dershnork@gmail.com](mailto:dershnork@gmail.com)

### FEBRUARY 9

The *Women's Guild* will meet on Monday, Feb. 9 at 7:15 p.m.

### FEBRUARY 10

*Deacon Training* with Der Shnork, 5:30 p.m.

*Armenian School* classes meet on Tuesdays, 6 pm to 8 pm.

For more information contact Nvard Danayan tel: 401-943-4001, or e-mail: [nvarddanayan@yahoo.com](mailto:nvarddanayan@yahoo.com)

*Choir Rehearsal*, 7 p.m.

### FEBRUARY 12

The Knights of Vartan with the Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Committee of RI invite you to a *Vartanantz Day Commemoration/Dinner* on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church. Church Service followed by a delicious dinner with a concluding program on the true meaning of Vartanantz Day, plus an overview on local centennial events taking place this year. \$15 For a full course meal! Net proceeds to benefit local centennial events hosted by the Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Committee of RI. For info. and reservations, please contact Joyce Yeremian (401-354-8770), Steven Zaroogian (401-226-5111) or the church office (401-272-7712). All members of our community are invited to attend.

### FEBRUARY 13

*Jr. Choir (6 p.m.) and Nazeli Dance Group* (no charge/Nazeli Dance) (6:30 p.m.) will be resuming classes on Fridays, February 13, through February on the 20th and 27th.

### FEBRUARY 12-14

From February 12-14, and at 8 p.m., and 14 & 15 at 2 p.m. Salve Regina University presents "*Beast on the Moon*" by Richard Kalinoski at the Historic Casino Theatre, 9 Freebody St., Newport, RI 02840. Please support this excellent production. Der Hayr has arranged for a special church group rate on **Friday 2/13 at 8 p.m.** Tickets regularly \$15 can be purchased from the office for \$10. Please make payment today to Der Shnork for the special price for Friday night at 8 p.m. and Saturday, 2 p.m.

### FEBRUARY 14

Saturday Arts Education classes - 2015 Semester - 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](mailto:Petroskon@aol.com)> **Saturdays:** Arts Education 10 a.m.-3 p.m..

## FEBRUARY 22

*Parish Assembly* - Sunday February 22nd, 2015. **THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** is seeking nominees for church officers to be elected at our Annual Parish Assembly. If you are a dues-paying member of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church and would like to be considered for election to the Parish Council, Nominating or Auditing Committees, please speak to Fr. Shnork Souin, the church office at 401-272-7712 or any member of the Nominating Committee: Ara Boghigian (401-944-2211), Dorothy Martiesian (401-749-0269), or Naomi Thovmasian Marsh (401-942-3886). We are required to have 2 names for every position on the slate.

**Chairman of the day (1 Position) - 2 to be nominated**  
**Secretary of the day (1 Position) - 2 to be nominated**  
**Parish Council (5 Positions) - 10 to be nominated**  
**Diocesan Delegates (4 Positions) - 8 to be nominated**  
**Auditing Committee (1 position) - 2 to be nominated**  
**Nominating Committee (3 positions) - 6 to be nominated**

## NOTICES

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 2015. 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, 2015.

**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, 2015;** (new members must be received by June 30 to vote at Parish Assembly in February 2016.) 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

**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 Chevia at margo1915@gmail.com or 401-331-3985.

**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 Murgudichian (351-9276). *Future dates for helping at the Mary House meal kitchen:* 3/30/15, and 6/22/15.

**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

*For today's requiems (Hokehankist) and calendar, please see insert.*