



Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայր. Եկեղեցի  
**Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church**  
**THE LIGHTHOUSE**

70 Jefferson Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908

TEL 4 01.272.7712 | FAX 4 01.272.2832

<http://www.stsahmes.org>

e-mail: [office@stsahmes.org](mailto:office@stsahmes.org) - [dershork@gmail.com](mailto:dershork@gmail.com)

Parish Council Members on duty today:

Len Arzoomanian - Joyce Avedisian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

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**Schedule of Sunday Services**

Morning Service (*Keesheryeen & Aravodyan Jham*)

9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*)

10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, February 15, 2015**

**Great Barekandan**

**Scripture Readings**

**Isaiah 58:1-14 (Pg. 733) Romans 13:11-14:25 (Pg. 148)**

**Matthew 6:1-21 (Pg. 4)**

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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 տեսէք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

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

**Preparing for Lent**

The first Sunday of Lent is called Poon Paregentan or The Sunday of Good Living. It is the day before the 40-day period of abstinence and fasting begins. On the Eve of Lent, a black curtain closes off the altars of Armenian churches: the first visual appearance of Lent in the church. This the last opportunity for the faithful to eat and drink abundantly, which symbolizes the spirit of innocent joyfulness during man's days in Eden. Paregentan festivities on this day, with food, dancing and drinking, are common among Armenians.

**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 an 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. 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.

2. 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.

3. BADARAK 201 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. (NOTE: Every Monday of this session has been cancelled due to weather.-You can start next Monday without ever having missed a class!)

4. Thursday April 23 at 7:00am - Live viewing of the Canonization of the Martyrs in the Hanoopian 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.

5. 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)

6. 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 Matthew (6:1-21)**

"Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven."

"Thus, when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

"And in praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this

day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

“And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

*Glory to You, O Lord our God!*  
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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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**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:** There is no Communion offered during Lent. Those wishing to make their Confession can do so at 6:00pm on Wednesdays by appointment. Please contact 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.

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**Prayer of the Week**

Jesus, Wisdom of the Father, grant me wisdom, that I may, at all times, think, speak, and do before you that which is good in your sight. And save me from evil thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. 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>

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**TODAY'S REQUIEMS (*Hokehankist*):** There are no requiems this week.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY**

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

**FEBRUARY 16**

*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 16**

*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 16**

The *Women's Guild* will meet on Monday, Feb. 16 at 7:15 p.m.

## **FEBRUARY 17**

*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 Note there WILL be class this week.

*Armenian Chorale of RI* rehearses at 7 p.m.

## **FEBRUARY 18**

Lenten Services begin this week, taking place Wednesdays during Lent at 7 p.m.

## **FEBRUARY 20**

**Jr. Choir (6 p.m.) and Nazeli Dance Group** (no charge/Nazeli Dance) **(6:30 p.m.)** have resumed classes on Fridays through February on the 20th and 27th.

## **FEBRUARY 21**

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> **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.

## **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.

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) johnt@blissproperties.net. The

deadline must arrive by April 4, 2015 to be considered. Please contact Sylvia Long at (401) 884-4343 with any questions concerning the application process.

**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. Please contact Margaret Cheviaan 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

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS FEBRUARY

- 15     **Great Barekendan**
- 16     Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.  
Badarak 201, 7 p.m.
- 17     Deacon Training, 5:30 p.m.  
NO Armenian School  
Parish Council 7 p.m.  
Armenian Chorale of RI Rehearsal, 7-9 p.m.
- 18     Lenten Service, 7 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal
- 19     Armenian Martyr's Committee Community Meeting 7 pm
- 20     Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 21     Arts Education, 10 a.m.
- 22     Annual Parish Assembly 12:30 p.m.
- 23     Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.  
Badarak 201, 7 p.m.
- 24     Deacon Training, 5:30 p.m.  
Armenian Language School 6 p.m.  
Armenian Chorale of RI Rehearsal, 7-9 p.m.
- 25     Lenten Service, 7 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
- 27     Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 28     Arts Education, 10 a.m.

### MARCH

- 1     Sunday School presentation, assembly & workshop  
presenting Nvair Beylerian and Andrea Carden

**Note:** Please see Der Shnork's message at the beginning of the bulletin for details on upcoming events & services.

## *Sunday School Lenten Drive*

This year's Lenten Drive will benefit two (2) charities: FAR's Helping Children Out of Poverty Project and United to End Genocide. On March 15th, a second plate will be passed for contributions and on March 22nd a bake sale will be held. Last year we raised approximately \$1200. This year our goal is \$1500. Please note that all of the Eastern Diocese Sunday Schools participate in this effort. The monies are pooled together by the Diocese, divided in half and then contributed on behalf of our collaborative efforts.

### *Helping Children Out of Poverty Project:*

The overall mission of FAR's outreach to children in Armenia is to provide them and their families with tangible support programs that would empower them to meet critical challenges, stay intact, and thrive. Child poverty (single-parent households, unemployed parents, children with disabilities) is an acute problem in Armenia, especially in the Ararat region. According to official government data, 26% of Armenia's population is considered poor. Unfortunately, the real numbers may be much higher than the official data. In addition, the geographic coverage of services offered to children is not spread evenly throughout the country. This new project will assist 150-200 families. The Sunday School drive will support direct humanitarian needs: food and clothing.

### *United to End Genocide:*

Beginning in 1915, ethnic Armenians living in the Ottoman Empire were rounded up, deported and executed on orders of the government. Including the Armenian Genocide, tens of millions of men, women and children have lost their lives in genocide or mass atrocities in the past 150 years. Millions have been brutalized and forced from their homes. Building on the proud legacy of the Save Darfur Coalition, Genocide Intervention Network, STAND and the Sudan Divestment Task Force, United to End Genocide, an American organization, is dedicated to preventing and ending genocide and mass atrocities worldwide by building a powerful, lasting movement of community activists, faith leaders, students, artists, investors and genocide survivors.