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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 - dershnrork@gmail.com

Parish Council Members on duty today:

Jason Martisian - John Megrđichian

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

Schedule of Lenten Sunday Services

Morning Service (<i>Keesheraheen & Aravodyan Jham</i>)	9:00 a.m.
Sunrise Service	9:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy (<i>Soorp Badarak</i>)	10:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 8, 2015

Sunday of the Steward - *Dundes* - Տնտեսի Կիրակի

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 56:1-57:21 (Page 732) Ephesians 4:17-5:14 (Pg. 176)

Luke 16:1-31 (Pg. 72)

Creed: In Armenian (Pg. 18)

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!

Ճաշակեցէք եւ տեսէք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

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

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Pastor's Points of Light

Has anyone ever said this to you? “1.2% of your week is spent in Church? You must be a religious fanatic, zealot or Christian extremist!”

The Benefits of Going to Liturgy

Maybe you've included Sunday Liturgy on your list as another thing your family has to fit into an already overloaded schedule. But what would happen if you stopped thinking of Liturgy as another hassle, and started to think of it as the one time in the week when you can connect with God in a special way?

Research studies show that children who go to church every week:

- Increase their average life expectancy by 8 years.
- Improve their odds for a “very happy” life.
- Develop a solid sense of right and wrong.
- Reduce the tendency toward rebelliousness.
- Reduce the likelihood of using alcohol, tobacco and drugs
- Improve their attitudes and increase participation at school

Liturgy/Badarak also gives you the opportunity to:

- Seek forgiveness.
 - Learn how God's word impacts your life.
 - Offer yourself and your whole heart to the Lord in thanksgiving.
 - Partake in the miracle and mystery of bread and wine changing into the Body and Blood of Christ.
 - Reach out to others with the Peace of Christ.
 - Forgive others during the Lord's Prayer.
 - Admit that you are not worthy, and then come forward to receive the body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ.
 - Receive a special blessing and go forth to make the world a better place.
- CH_ _ RCH means nothing unless U R in it.**

Prayerfully,
Fr. Shnork Souin, pastor

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The fourth Sunday of Lent,

The Sunday of the Steward, involves another parable told by Jesus (Luke 16:1-13); its great lesson is the power of salvation. We learn that we are responsible to God for all of our works and deeds-and responsible, too, to utilize the gifts He has given us. We should all be prepared, for one day we will be called to give an accounting of ourselves to God.

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

2. BADARAK 201 classes have been suspended until further notice.

3. 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.

4. 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; More info: <http://armeniangenocidedecentennial.org/>; www.genocide100.org

5. 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 Luke (16:1-31)

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a steward, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.' And the steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the stewardship away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.

I have decided what to do, so that people may receive me into their houses when I am put out of the stewardship.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'

The master commended the dishonest steward for his shrewdness; for the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous mammon, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal habitations. "He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?

No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they scoffed at him. But he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts; for what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

⁹The law and the prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and every one enters it violently. But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away, than for one dot of the law to become void.

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: 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

Look with love, O merciful Father, on the created works of your hand, and grant the camps of the angels to be guardians of our feeble persons. Deliver us from temptation, from the wandering demons of night, that by day and by night we may give you glory incessantly. 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

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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*): Please see insert.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH 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."

MARCH 9

The *Women's Guild* will have a meeting on March 9, 7:15 pm

MARCH 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

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

MARCH 11

Lenten Services take place Wednesdays during Lent at 7 p.m.

MARCH 13

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.

MARCH 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> **Saturdays:** Arts Education 10 a.m.-3 p.m..

MARCH 15

The Women's Guild will have a *Soup & Salad Luncheon* on Sunday, March 15 after church. All you can eat soup and salad dinner with a variety of soups, etc., coffee & dessert. Mac & cheese for the kids. Apple crisp for dessert. Donation, Hoodsie's for the kids. \$10 adults, children 12 and under \$5. Donations of bread, salad ingredients, and dressing would be appreciated. Please join us.

MARCH 15 & 22

There will be a second plate collection to benefit the Sunday School Lenten Drive on March 15 and a Bake Sale on March 22. (see insert)

MARCH 29

Annual ACYOA Palm Sunday Celebration, special guest speaker, Mr. Gene Valicenti "Rhode Island's Anchoraman". Sunday, March 29, 2015 at 1 p.m. in the Egavian cultural Center. Stuffed Chicken and Pilaf Dinner - \$15 adults, \$10 kids under 10. Reservations highly recommended by calling the church office (401-272-7712 or Hasmik Gevorkian 401-714-5723). Please bring your family and support our youth.

NOTICES

TEN BUSES for the *100TH Armenian Genocide Commemoration in Times Square* - Depart Warwick Mall Parking to Manhattan, New York City, Sunday, April 26, 2015. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Be at the Warwick mall parking lot by the Firestone Store by **7:00 a.m. sharp**. This is critical. Organized as to provide for a large waiting list of supporters from the general Rhode Island community. **Deadline for your FREE RESERVATION is March 15, 2015. Call the church office for your reservation/confirmation.** Keep up with ALL planned 2015 community events as they develop by visiting the website of the Armenian Martyrs Monument Committee of RI, ammri.org. Everyone is invited free of charge from the elderly to the very youngest. Make sure that you do not miss this once in a lifetime 100th Anniversary Commemoration at Times Square.

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.

HOME BLESSINGS - Parishioners are encouraged to have their homes blessed. Please invite Der Hayr to bless your home. Have a piece of bread, dish of salt, glass of water available for the blessing.

DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP 2015- information for the Diocesan Summer Camp sessions is now available, so you can start planning now (St. Vartan Camp and Hye Camp). For information, contact: The Dept. of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, Jennifer E. Morris, Director, JenniferM@armeniandiocese.org or 248-648-0702 or Lorie Odabashian, Coordinator, LorieO@armeniandiocese.org or 212-686-0710 ext. 143 You may also visit the Diocesan17thArmenian999 website at <http://www.armenianchurch-ed.net>. Scholarships will be available for St. Nersess & St. Vartan camp for children whose parents are dues paying members of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church. Please notify the office for applications.

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.

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.

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).

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.

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

MARCH

- 9 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- Women's Guild Meeting, 7:15 p.m.
- 10 Deacon Training 5:30 p.m.
- Armenian Language School 6 p.m., Armenian Chorale of RI
7 p.m., Parish Council 7 p.m.
- 11 Lenten Service 7 p.m.
- 13 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 15 2nd Plate Collection for Sunday School Lenten Drive
Women's Guild Soup & Salad Luncheon after church
- 16 Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 17 Deacon Training 5:30 p.m.
- Armenian Language School, 6 p.m.
- Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.
- 18 Lenten Service 7 p.m.
- 20 Jr. Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 21 Arts Education, 10 a.m.
- 22 Bake Sale to benefit the Sunday School Lenten Drive
- 23 Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 24 Deacon Training Class 5:30 p.m.
- NO Armenian School
Parish Council, 7 p.m.
- Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.
- 25 Lenten Service, 7 p.m.
- 27 Jr. Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group, 6:30 p.m.
- 28 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 29 ACYOA Palm Sunday Dinner after services

APRIL

- 2 Holy & Great Thursday
- 3 Holy & Great Friday
- 4 Holy and Great Saturday
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 18 Saintly Women's Day hosted by the Women's Guild