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Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church

THE LIGHTHOUSE



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Parish Council Members on duty today:

Gary Taraian - Len Arzoomanian

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 22, 2015

Sixth Sunday of Great Lent - *Kalusdyan*

Sunday of the Advent

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 66:1-24 (Pg. 741) Colossians 2:8-3:17 (Pg. 182)

Matthew 22:34-23:39 (Pg. 23)

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 քանզի է Տէր:

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

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Sunday of the Advent

Early in our journey through Great Lent we observed the Sunday of the Expulsion, which retold the story of mankind's first disobedience, our exile from paradise, and the beginning of humanity's long history of separation from God.

In a nice expression of symmetry and resolution, Lent concludes with the Sunday of the Advent (March 22): that is, the coming of Jesus Christ, through whom God entered human history and restored what had been lost in the exile from Eden.

The Advent calls to mind the birth and revelation of our Savior, his subsequent sacrifice for mankind, and his victory over sin and death. As the last Sunday of Lent, this day is especially devoted to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, reminding us that he is our eternal Lord and King, and that just as everything once began with God, so too will everything one day end with Him.

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

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. 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.

3. 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://armeniangenocidencentennial.org/> ; www.genocide100.org

4. 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 (22:34-23:39)

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sad'ducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put thy enemies under thy feet'? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves

will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves. “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’

You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? And you say, ‘If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel! “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You blind Pharisee! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’

Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar.

Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation. “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!

Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

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

O Lord our God, turn not your face from me. O beneficent Lord, I beseech you, be my helper. O Lord, despise me not and forsake me not, O God, my Savior. 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

TODAY

There will be a *Bake Sale* to benefit the *Sunday School Lenten Drive* today. Please support our Sunday School and see details about the Lenten drive in the bulletin insert.

MARCH 23

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 24

Deacon Training with Der Shnork, 5:30 p.m.
Armenian School 6 p.m. For more information contact Nvard Danayan tel: 401-943-4001, or: nvarddanayan@yahoo.com
Armenian Chorale of RI rehearses Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

MARCH 25

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

MARCH 27

Jr. Choir (6 p.m.) and *Nazeli Dance Group* (no charge / Nazeli Dance) (6:30 p.m.) classes take place on Fridays.

MARCH 28

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 29

Annual ACYOA Palm Sunday Celebration, special guest speaker, Mr. Gene Valicenti "Rhode Island's Anchoraman". Next 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 Gevorgian 401-714-5723). Please bring your family and support our youth.

MARCH 30-APRIL 5

Holy Week and Easter Services - please see insert.

MAY 2

100th Anniversary Concert "Legacy of Our Martyr's celebration of their Canonization, on Saturday, May 2 at 7 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center hosted by the Cultural Committee. Refreshments, concert is free and donations will be gratefully accepted.

MAY 31

A *Banquet* will be held under the auspices of His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian honoring the 20th anniversary of the ordination of Fr Shnork Souin, as well as the Presentation of the St Gregory Medal to Edward Eranosian and Steven Zaroogian and the ordination of our Subdeacons.

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.

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 Chevian 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

- Today Bake Sale to benefit the Sunday School Lenten Drive
Centennial Concert at RI College, 1 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
- 23 Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.
Mahs Prep 7 p.m. (Kitchen)
- 24 Deacon Training Class 5:30 p.m.
Armenian School, 6 p.m.
Parish Council, 7 p.m.
Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.
- 25 Lenten Service, 7 p.m.
- 26 No Church Service, Bus Trip to NY for Service & Event in NY
- 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
- 30 Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 31 Deacon Training Class 5:30 p.m.
Armenian School, 6 p.m.
Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.

APRIL

- 2-5 Holy Week & Easter (see insert)
- 2 Holy & Great Thursday
- 3 Holy & Great Friday
- 4 Holy and Great Saturday
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 6 Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 7 Armenian School, 6 p.m.
Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.
- 10 Jr. Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group, 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 12 Godparents's Day
Tribute to Survival Concert, 3 p.m. at Park Theater, Cranston
- 13 Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 14 Armenian School, 6 p.m.
Parish Council 7 p.m.
- 17 Jr. Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 Sainly Women's Day hosted by the Women's Guild
Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 22 Centennial Concert at RI College, 1 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
- 23 *The Canonization of the Martyrs of 1915 Genocide* - 7 a.m. in
the Egavian Cultural Center
- 24 Youth Day in Egavian Hall 9 a.m. - 11:45 noon, and services at
Martyrs' Monument in North Burial Grounds, Providence 12 noon
- 26 Bus Trip to NYC
- 27 Sr. Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 28 Armenian School, 6 p.m.

MAY

- 2 Legacy of our Martyr's concert - celebration of Canonization
of our Martyrs
- 15 Sports Scholarship Banquet, save the date
- 31 Primate's visit honoring Der Hayr's 20th anniversary of his
ordination immediately following Badarak. Details will follow.