

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



Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor  
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Parish Council Members on duty today:  
Steve Megrdechian - Ara Bohigian

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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, November 29, 2015**

Երկրորդ Կիրակի Յիսնակաց

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Scripture Readings**

Isaiah 36:22-37:11 (Pg. 712) I Thessalonians 4:1-11 (Pg. 185)

Luke 13:1-9 (Pg. 69)

Creed : English

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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!

Ճաշակեցէք եւ տեսէք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

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

Der Shnork



**Prayers of Thanks**

We convey our blessings to you on one of the most meaningful observances of the year: Thanksgiving. How wonderful it is to live in a country that sets aside this day, to express gratitude for the bounties God has given us.

The idea of giving thanks to God has deep roots in the Armenian Christian tradition. Surely this year of 2015 has given our people a special opportunity to reflect, with gratitude, on the unconquerable faith of our holy martyrs, and on the noble legacy they bequeathed to us. Now acknowledged as saints of the church, the martyrs reside in God's kingdom, receiving our humble prayers of intercession.

On Thursday, as we remembered the many good things in our lives, let us also offer thanks for the greatest blessing of all, which gives meaning and purpose to all the others. In the words of the Gospel of St. John: "God so loved the world that He gave it His only Son."

May the blessings of Thanksgiving, and the coming Advent season, be with you and your loved ones always.

With prayers,  
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian  
Primate

## What Is Advent?

**“Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”**

**(James 5:8)**

Advent means “coming”—the coming of Christ. In Armenian it is called Hisnag from the word for “fifty.” It is the 50-day period during which we prepare to celebrate the Nativity and Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is a time for us to think of the why of Christmas—why the greeting cards, the decorations, the gifts, the family gatherings? A time to look within our hearts to see if there is anything that stands between us and the Good News of Jesus’ birth.

During Advent, we can rededicate ourselves to Christ through our actions, thoughts, and prayers. This is a good time for us to improve our habits and offer them as gifts to God. Perhaps Advent can also be an occasion to discover God’s gifts all around us. We need to have an open heart to receive Christ—God’s greatest gift of all! We complain that Christmas is too “commercial,” but there is a way to live out the real “reason for the season.”

Special Feasts and Fasts During Advent: The Advent in the Armenian Church is approximately two weeks longer than it is in the Western churches, and that is why it is called Hisnag, “a 50-day period.”

Fasting During Hisnag: Hisnag is in a sense introduced by a week of fasting. The fast is officially known as “the Fast of the Beginning of Hisnag.” There is a second fast of a week’s duration following the third Sunday of Hisnag. This fast is known as “the Fast of St. James, Bishop of Nisibis.” The commemoration of the latter takes place on the following Saturday.

The third and final fast, again of a week’s duration, precedes the Feast of the Nativity and Theophany of Christ our God, and that is how it is officially recognized in the calendar. During the remaining weeks of Hisnag when there is no fasting, the Wednesdays and Fridays are regularly observed as fasting days.

Feasts During Hisnag: The Armenian Church celebrates a number of feasts and observes some important commemorations during the 50 days of Hisnag. The Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Virgin to the Temple, as it has a fixed date, is celebrated on November 21st, even if it falls within the week of the fasting. On such occasions, the feast is celebrated liturgically, but the fasting prevails in dietary matters. The same practice is also observed during the Feast of the Conception of the Holy Virgin by St. Anna, which is always celebrated on December 9th.

During the Hisnag we commemorate some of the important and major saints of the Christian Church. Among them are the 4th-century founders of Christian theology St. Gregory the Wonderworker and St. Basil of Caesarea; the Holy Apostles Thaddeus and Bartholomew, the enlighteners of Armenia; the Egyptian fathers; the early bishops of the church, such as St. Clemens, St. Ignatius, St. Polycarpus, St. Nicholas; St. James of Nisibis; and at the very end of the year, King David commemorated as a prophet; the Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord; St. Stephen the Protomartyr; the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul; the Holy Apostles James and John, both of them surnamed as Sons of Thunder.

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



## The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (13:1-9)

There were some present at that very time who told him of the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered thus? I tell you, No;

but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.”

And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Lo, these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?’ And he answered him, ‘Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and pit on manure. And if it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

*Glory to You, O Lord our God!*



**Response when Kissing the Cross (during the procession):**

The faithful says:

**Յիշեցիր 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-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:

**Յիշեցէ՛ 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:

**Տաղէ՛ քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քոյմ:**  
*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.

## CHRIST OUR GOD

You crown your saints with triumph and you do the will of all who fear you, looking after your creatures with love and kindness. Hear us from your holy and heavenly realm by the intercession of the Holy Mother of God and by the prayers of all your saints, especially the holy martyrs who gave their lives during the Armenian Genocide for faith and for the homeland, whom we commemorate today. Hear us Lord, and show us your mercy. Forgive, redeem and pardon our sins. Make us worthy thankfully to glorify you with the Father and with the Holy Spirit. Now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

### **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:*

- **ARMENUHI BRATOSIN** (40 Day Memorial - Karasoonk); **RUXANDRA BRATOSIN** (12 Year Memorial) - requested by Lucia Zbarcea and Eliza Mandel.

- **MARY ZAKARIAN SERABIAN** (4 Year Memorial); **HELEN ZAKARIAN**; **HAGOP (JAKE) ZAKARIAN**; **PAUL ZAKARIAN**; **BADASKAN ZAKARIAN**; **SARKIS ZAKARIAN**; **CHARLES ZAKARIAN** (One Year Memorial - Dareleetz) - requested by Nishan Serabian.

- **ALMAS** and **HAMPARTSOUM OHANIAN**; **MARION OHANIAN PARKS**; **JOHN OHANIAN**; **SAMUEL AHARONIAN** - requested by Ohanian, Chevian and Chateauneuf Families.

- **RENATE "RENE" CHAKOIAN** (4 Year Memorial) - requested by Jack Chakoian; Donald Chakoian; Gary Chakoian; Mr. & Mrs. George Chakoian; Anthony Chakoian; Donnie Chakoian.

- **HARRY C. DER VARTANIAN** (17 Year Memorial) - requested by Marion Der Vartanian; H. Chris Der Vartanian; Anthony, Lisa and Alexandra Lombardo; Gerald & Lillian Norigian; Dolores Norigian; Zaven & Rose Norigian; Zaven & Shawn Norigian; Gregory Norigian; Carol Norigian; Robert, Sharon, Michael, Matthew and Amara D'Antuono; Deacon Gary, Tania, Luke and David Alexander; Ardemis Hazian; Leon & Veronica Nahigian; Marilyn J. Woloohojian and Family.

- **ARDIS GARABIAN** (28 Year Memorial); **HAZEL (GARABIAN) MORROW** (15 Year Memorial) - requested by George Garabian, Galina Serobyan; David, Joshua and John Morrow.

*....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.



### **Welcome and Sunday Fellowship**

Welcome Visitors! Please 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 prayer

**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**

**Please pray for Master Sergeant Richard Moore** of the RI Air National Guard who is deployed in Kuwait. May God bless him and keep him safe throughout his service.

**Please pray for Haig Yaghoobian**, US Army Basic Training at Ft. Jackson. His mailing info.: Specialist Haig Yaghoobian, Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 4th Platoon "Ghost Riders," 5500 Marion Ave., Fort Jackson, SC 29207.

### **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 Abp Mesrob Mutafyan, Patriarch of Constantinople**  
*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>



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **TODAY**

The *United States* and *Armenian Flags* are given in loving memory of Harry C. Der Vartanian by the Der Vartanian and Lombardo Families.

#### **NOVEMBER 30**

*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."

### DECEMBER 2

On Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in Hanoian Hall - *Bible Study* with Fr. Shnork Souin, this week on 12/2, "*Krisdosee Mech- Christ Has Been Revealed.*" (No Bible Study on Dec. 9). Please feel free to bring coffee and snacks. RSVP Der Shnork at dershnork@gmail.com or 201-306-4304.

### DECEMBER 4

*Nazeli Dance Group* 6:30 p.m. & Jr. Choir 6 p.m.

### DECEMBER 5

The Cultural Committee's *Arts Educational Program*: Programs meet on Saturdays, at 10 a.m. For information, contact Chairperson, Janna Guegamian (401-861-3573).

### DECEMBER 5

The Cultural Committee presents "*Silent Night, Holy Night*", *Christmas Concert* featuring The Armenian Chorale of RI, with special performances by Joanne Mouradjian, Gohar Manjelian, Debra Pjojian and our Junior Choir - Saturday, December 5, 2015, 6:30 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. Light refreshments - Donation \$10. Those attending the Christmas Concert will receive \$10 off the admission to the ACYOA dance !!

### DECEMBER 5

*ACYOA Annual Holiday Kef*, Saturday, December 5 at 8:30 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center. Adults \$25, Students, \$15 (ID required). Mezze & Cash Bar. Featuring Mal Barsamian (Clarinet); Jason Naroian (Dumbeg), m Ken Kalajian (Guitar), Brian Ansbikian (Oud), David Hoplamazian (Violin). Reservations and information, contact Christina (401-256-2686) or Greta (401-556-0771). Don't forget, if you attend the Cultural Committee's Christmas Concert, you will receive \$10 off of the cost of the dance!

### DECEMBER 7

The *Women's Guild* will have a meeting on Monday, December 7 at 7:15 p.m. at church, to plan for Cookie Stroll & Armenian Christmas Dinner on January 10, 2016. Ladies, save the date and plan to attend.

### DECEMBER 14

*Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Women's Guild Christmas Cookie Stroll and Food Demonstration* will be held on Monday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m. Stephanie Masoian and Melanie Krikorian will demonstrate how to make boereg using phyllo dough with a variety of fillings - both sweet and savory. Take the Cookie Stroll to select your own assortment. Admission \$10 - Cookies \$7 per dozen. End the evening with coffee and...& conversation. Call (401) 272-7712 or e-mail the office for reservations to assist us in food preparation. (Reservations are not required.)

### JANUARY 19, 2016

*Women's Guild Christmas Dinner* - Tuesday, January 19. Basta Italian Restaurant, Cranston, RI. Time- 6:30 p.m. \$35 per person. Secret Santa optional. Contact Lillibeth Kooloian (emkooloian@aol.com or 401-640-2646).

### NOTICES

*SPECIAL EVENT* - On Sunday, December 6 from 3-4 p.m. at the URI Fine Arts Center, Upper College Rd., Kingston, RI the University of RI Symphonic

Wind Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Gene Pollart will be honoring Armenian Culture in its final concert of 2015. Tickets \$12 adults, \$7 students and seniors. All proceeds benefit student scholarships.

**Holida Outreach** - To brighten the lives of our neighbors, the Saint Sahag & Mesrob ACYOA Juniors is supporting its annual **Outreach Program** that will directly benefit needy children and their families during this festive time of year. Simply bring in a donated item(s) that can be placed under our Christmas tree in the Egavian Cultural Center and it will be delivered to the charity during the Christmas holiday season. The donated item(s) can be wrapped or unwrapped, and if wrapped, please indicate on a tag whether for boy, girl (& age) or adult and sizes when appropriate. Donated items for children can include toys, books, games, etc. while for men and women it can include small gifts of toiletries, clothing, socks, undergarments, tights, stationary, trinkets, etc. Gift items must be under the Christmas tree for delivery no later than Sunday, December 20, 2015. Look for the Christmas Tree the weekend of December 5-6.

**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.. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL Announcement:** Sunday School students are participating in an outreach project collecting hygiene products. The packages will be given to Mary House as well as to St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Church to distribute as needed. For the month of November we will be collecting toilet paper and Kleenex. In December we will be collecting shampoo and soap. Thank you for your support in our children's outreach efforts.

**PRAYER BOX** - There is now a new *prayer box* which replaces the "Gold Box" in the chancel. The new box is located on the table at the entrance of the Sanctuary on the elevator side. The prayer box is donated by Michele Kazarian in loving memory of her father, Michael Halberian.

**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.

**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).

**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.*

**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

**CHURCH LIBRARY** - Anyone needing assistance to donate or take out books from the Church Library should call the church office at 272-7712.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### NOVEMBER

30 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.

#### DECEMBER

- 2 Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.  
Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.  
4 Jr. Choir 6 pm, Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.  
5 Arts Education 10 a.m.  
Christmas Concert, Sanctuary, 6:30 p.m.  
ACYOA Annual Holiday Kef, 8:30 p.m.  
7 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
Women's Guild Meeting, 7:15 p.m.  
9 No Bible Study  
11 Jr. Choir 6 pm, Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.  
12 Arts Education 10 1.m.  
Saturday Evening Worship 5-6 p.m.  
14 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
Women's Guild Cookie Stroll & Food Demo. 6:30 pm  
15 Parish Council, 7 p.m.  
16 Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.  
18 Jr. Choir 6 pm, Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.  
19 Arts Education, 10 a.m.  
20 Bring gifts for ACYOA Holiday Outreach by 12/20  
21 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
24 Christmas Eve Service, 6 p.m.  
25 Christmas Day, Office Closed

#### JANUARY 2016

- 5,6 Armenian Christmas Services - TBA  
10 Women's Guild Armenian Christmas Dinner after Church  
19 Women's Guild Christmas Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Basta Restaurant