

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:
Arthur Yarumian - Gary Taraian

Schedule of Sunday Services

Matins	9:00 a.m.
Sunrise Service	9:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy (<i>Soorp Badarak</i>)	10:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 21, 2016

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Anaragi Giragi - Անառակի Կիրակի

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 54:11-55:13 (Page 731) II Corinthians 6:1-7:1 (Pg. 165)

Luke 15:1-32 (Pg. 71)

Creed: Armenian

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



Pastor's Points of Light.

The story of the Prodigal Son is one not only of repentance but of faith. Conversion is dependent on both repentance and faith which together effects regeneration and with it the new life in Christ. Repentance alone is insufficient as it comprehends not the presence and the energy of the Holy Spirit to effect a life oriented and pleasing to God. Aversion to sin must be accompanied with a desire to turn from sin and to seek the Divine Will and the power of the Holy Spirit. "Godly sorrow" (2 Cor. 7:10), is not mere regret but a desire for regeneration, flowing from faith.

In essence, the Prodigal Son could not have been redeemed from his lost state by a mere aversion to it, but with a desire for a return to his Father's home and a yearning for his forgiveness. Maybe unexpected, was the generous outpouring of love with which his father greeted him. The scriptures clearly teach that "there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance." (Luke 15:7) The joy in heaven, is expressed by the Father's welcome and the feast prepared for his returning son, who says, "For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to celebrate." (Luke 15:24)

Regeneration, is therefore not only forgiveness but a new life and the power of the Holy Spirit in transforming our will, strengthening us in our resolve and our desire to live a life of blessed comfort in the presence of God in whom we "move and have our being." (Acts 17:28)

The Lenten journey, continuing today, leads our souls along a path redeemed by Christ's life and the transforming will of the Holy Spirit.

Prayerfully, Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin



ACYOA Pilgrimage to Jerusalem: The drawing for the ACYOA pilgrimage will take place today at the beginning of the Divine Liturgy (9:45am). It is for parishioners ages 21-26 and you and / or a parent must be a dues paying member. Please have your ballot ready and with you in order to be included in the balloting.



The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke (15:1-32)

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable:

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.'

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

And he said, "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father.

But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and

sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!'

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Glory to You, O Lord our God!



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.

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:

- **BOGHOS JEHOURIAN** (7th Day of Passing)

- **SARAH DEMIRJIAN** (Two Year Memorial) **DR. MARTIN DEMIRJIAN** (41 Year Memorial); **ROBERT DEMIRJIAN**; **ANDREW KEVORKIAN**; **MARGARET YAPCHAIAN** - requested by their loving family, Susan Kingsley and Family; Gregory Demirjian, Barbra Demirjian; John & Bonica Demirjian; sister Anne Mooradian; George Yapchaian.

- **ROBERT H. YEREMIAN** (25 Year Memorial) - requested by Joyce, Robert and Gregory Yeremian; Mark, Hasmig, Alysha and Tyler Phillips; Mark, Melissa and Ryder Norigian; Mrs. Miriam Norigian; Ardashes Der Ananian; Paul, Carolyn, Paul Jr. and Nicole Der Ananian.

- **GEORGE MALIAN** - (16 Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. George & Christine Malian and Family, Michael Malian, John R. Kazarian and Richard Kazarian.

- **MARION MALIAN** (Torigian) - (8 Year Memorial) -requested by Mr. & Mrs. George & Christine Malian and Family, Michael Malian, John R. Kazarian and Richard Kazarian.

- **ARDASHES JAMGOCHIAN** (42 Year Memorial) - requested by Martha and Daniel Jamgochian.

- **JOHN F. DOMBROWSKI** (26 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Mildred Dombrowski; Mr. Gary Dombrowski; Mr. & Mrs. John W. Domrowski, Brian & Lynn; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dombrowski & Brett.

- **JOHN G. MANGASARIAN JR.** (7 Year Memorial) - requested by Gary, Robert and John W. Dombrowski;

....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 prayers.

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 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
His Eminence Abp. Yeghishe Gizirian

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

Annual Parish Assembly following church services at 12:30 p.m. There will be a light lunch provided for all members. Please pick up your Parish Assembly book if you have not already done so. Your attendance and participation in the Annual Assembly is valued and is a tangible sign of your love and stewardship of our Church.

FEBRUARY 22

Senior Citizens - come join us every Monday (at 10 a.m. weather permitting, excluding holidays). Have fun with your friends & neighbors & enjoy with us "coffee and," cards, tavloo, pinochle, etc."

FEBRUARY 24

Lenten Services "My Lenten Journey" Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. followed by Bible Study "The Prophet/King/Messiah's Journey to Jerusalem." Please bring a Bible, meeting in Hanoian Hall. (**February 24** & **March 2**, **no Bible study**, service only led by Dn. Gevork Gevorkian).

FEBRUARY 26 & 27

Nazeli Dance Group and *Arts Educational Program*: Second Semester. For information, contact Chairperson, Janna Guegamian (401-861-3573.) See Calendar of Events for times.

FEBRUARY 28

Der Shnork will be on vacation the week of February 26 to March 5. In case of emergency contact the office and/or the Parish Council Chairperson, Joyce Avedisian (401-935-1815). On Sunday, February 28, Deacon Gevork Gevorkian will preside over the Morning Service and the Service of the Liturgy of the Word. There will be no Divine Liturgy, there will be Morning Service followed by Sunrise Service and Liturgy of the Word.

MARCH 6

The *Women's Guild* cordially invites you to attend "Soupy Sunay Luncheon" on Sunday, March 6 following Badarak. All you can eat Soup and Salad - includes coffee and dessert (Apple Pie & Ice Cream). Pasta with sauce or butter for children. Donation: \$10 Adults, \$5 Children 12 and under. Everyone welcome. For reservations contact Stephanie Masoian (401-862-6325) or the Church Office (401-272-7712)

NOTICES

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

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 2016. 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, 2016.

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, 2016 to be considered. Please contact Sylvia Long at (401) 884-4343 with any questions concerning the application process.

The *Aik Otyag #10 Daughters of Vartan* are pleased to announce that applications are now available for an academic scholarship grant for a high school senior, who is of Armenian descent and is a Rhode Island resident. Application and eligibility requirements are available through the church office or on line at the church website. The completed application must be postmarked no later than May 15, 2016, submitted to the scholarship committee c/o Dorothy Martiesian. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

The *Paul O. and Mary Boghossian Memorial Trust* awards scholarships for study at institutions of higher education beyond the secondary level to RI students who demonstrate: financial need, academic capability, and potential to contribute to the US and its form of government. Scholarship awards from the Trust are limited to RI students from several groups which includes persons or descendants of persons who are Armenian by national origin or descent. Copies of the guidelines and application forms for eligible students are available in the church office (272-7712). Completed applications must be submitted by March 15 to the Paul O. and Mary Boghossian Memorial Trust (address included with the application information).

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The **2016 Sunday School Lenten Drive** is underway. Every year, the Department of Christian Education of the Eastern Diocese selects one or more charities that will receive contributions made by the various parishes across the diocese. This year the proceeds will be donated to 2 charities: FAR which is focused on child malnutrition in Armenia and Feed the Children organization which focuses on feeding children in the US. FAR provides day care centers and schools with nutritious meals, gives expectant mothers pre-natal vitamins, treats diseases of malnutrition and provides infants with infant formula. Feed the Children distributes needed food and other essentials to communities nationwide to impoverished children partnering with educators, shelters and churches. This year, two fund raising events and a 2nd plate collection in the sanctuary will contribute to this effort. The first event was the Poon Paregentan Family Celebration held on Sunday, February 7th; the second event will be a Bake Sale on Sunday, March 13th. The Second Plate collection will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 7th. Please help our Sunday School support this mission during this Lenten Season.

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, 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, 2016;** (new members must be received by June 30 to vote at Parish Assembly in February 2017.) 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.

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. 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.

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 Murgurichian (351-9276).

VETERANS LIST: We are continuing to update our Veteran’s list and will do so on an 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 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

FEBRUARY

- Today Annual Parish Assembly after services
- 22 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 23 Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
- 24 Lenten Service (service only) , 7 p.m.
- 26 Jr. Choir 6 p.m.
Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 27 Arts Education
- 29 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.

MARCH

- 2 Lenten Service (service only) 7 p.m.
- 4 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 5 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 6 Women's Guild Soup Luncheon after church
- 7 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 9 Lenten Service & Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.
- 11 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 13 Choir Rehearsal after service
- 14 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 16 Lenten Service & Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.
- 18 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 20 Palm Sunday & ACYOA Palm Sunday Dinner
- 21 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 24 Holy & Great Thursday
- 25 Holy & Great Friday
- 26 Holy & Great Saturday
- 27 Easter Sunday - Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ