

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:  
Jason Maratiesian- John Megrđichian

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**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 28, 2016**

**Sunday of the Steward - *Dundesi* - 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: 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**



**Pastor's Points of Light**

In the Parable of the unjust Steward we are confronted by what seems like a contradiction. Jesus praises the dishonesty of the unjust steward and condones dishonesty?

Let's take a deeper look and see if the heart of Jesus and a closer view into the Kingdom of God can't be revealed in the bigger picture. Jesus commends the unjust steward not for mishandling his master's wealth, but for his shrewd provision in averting personal disaster and in securing his future livelihood. A shrewd person has foresight and seeing the bigger picture, looks beyond the moment. True wealth consists not in what we keep but in what we give away. Jesus gave up His life that we might gain eternity. My immortality is not earned, nor bought by what I pay or sacrifice, nor from my own righteousness, but given liberally at Christ's expense. He is the one who has forgiven my debt that was unpayable. Does Jesus' act seem like a just use of His divine possessions? Clearly the Pharisees of Jesus' time did not see it that way. They couldn't see past the big picture that Jesus was authoring and were blinded by the moment with their indignation. They couldn't accept that the law was made for man nor that Jesus is the fulfillment of the law.

Possessions are a great responsibility. The Lord expects us to use them honestly and responsibly and to put them at his service and the

service of others. We are God's servants and all that we have belongs to him. He expects us to make a good return on what he gives us. God loves generosity and he gives liberally to those who share his gifts with others. The Pharisees, however, had no room for God or others in their hearts. The gospel says they were lovers of money (Luke 16:14). Love of money and wealth crowd out love of God and love of neighbor. Jesus makes clear that our hearts must either be possessed by God's love or our hearts will be possessed by the love of something else. Only when we are able with enlightened hearts to turn over to the Lord what is His can we be possessed by Him and not by our earthly treasures.

*Prayer:* Lord, all that I have is a gift from you. May I love you freely and generously with all that I possess. Help me to be a wise and faithful steward of my resources, including the use of my time, talent and treasure.

Prayerfully,  
*Der Shmork*



### **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.

“The 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!*



**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.



**REQUIEMS (Hokehankist):** Will resume next week on 3/6/16



### **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**

Der Shnork will be on vacation until March 5. In case of emergency contact the office and/or the Parish Council Chairperson, Joyce Avedisian (401-935-1815). Today 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.

### **FEBRUARY 29**

*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."

### **MARCH 2**

*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. (March 2, **no Bible study**, service only led by Dn. Gevork Gevorkian).

### **MARCH 4 & 5**

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

## 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).

**DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP 2016-** 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 <http://diocesansummercamps.org/stvartancamp/> to register on the website. 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.

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 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 the needy at entrances to the Sanctuary? Contributions appreciated.

**ARMENIAN RADIO HOUR** - Sund ays 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

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 2nd Plate Collection for Sunday School Lenten Drive  
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 Sunday School Lenten Drive Bake Sale after services  
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