

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:
Paul Surabian - Nick Durgarian

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, March 13, 2016

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)

Creed: English

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!

Ծաշակեցիք եւ տեսէք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

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

Der Shnork

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The Sunday of the Advent

This Sunday is dedicated not only to the Second Coming of Christ but also to His incarnation, that is, God becoming Man, fully God and fully human. He will come again, this time not as a gentle and lowly Savior, but as a righteous judge in the glory of His Father with a retinue of angels. He will sift through the good and the evil just as a shepherd separates the sheep and the goats at day's end.

As Jesus clearly states, we will be judged for the acts of righteous goodness we have performed in response to Christ's faith. Did we feed the hungry? Console those in need of comfort, ease suffering? Heal a broken heart? Only on this unequivocal basis will we be received into eternal life.

Read: *Matthew 24:30-44* **Reflect:** *What does it mean to be ready for Jesus' return if we do not know when that will be?*

This is the last Sunday of Lent. Our forty-day journey will soon end. Next week is Palm Sunday, the day we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, a triumph that will lead us through Holy Week, the recollection of His suffering and death and then to Easter, the victory of His resurrection.

Please make every effort to attend and to participate in all of the meaningful services that reenact the Passion of our Lord during Holy Week.

(text adapted by the Department of Youth and Education, Diocese of the Armenian Church)

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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 Zechari'ah the son of Barachi'ah, 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!



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:

- **BEATRICE SPIRITO** (40 Day Memorial - Karasoonk) - requested by Robert & Ruth Mourachian; Melanie & Terry Beckemeyer; Traay Camara and Derek Weisenger; Monday Senior Citizens; Bertha Mugurdichian; Lillian Papazian; Willie Peligian & Gloria Salerno; Beverly Mourachian; Stephen & Dorothy Masoian; Gulesserian Family; Sarian Family; Papazian Family.

- **ANNA MAE MOURACHIAN** (One Year Memorial 3/19- Dareleetz)) - requested by Robert & Ruth Mourachian; Melanie & Terry Beckemeyer; John and Jack Tashjian; Traay Camara and Derek Weisenger.

- **YEVKIN STEPANIAN** (29 Year Memorial); **STEPHEN STEPANIAN** (Ret. Air Force) (3 Year Memorial) - requested by Martha Stepanian.

- **ANTRANIG KRIKORIAN** (60 Year Memorial) - requested by Mr. & Mrs. Azarig Kooloian and Family.

- **DEACON CARL AYRASSIAN** (35 Year Memorial) - requested by Mrs. Agnes Ayrassian; Robert Ayrassian; Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Ayrassian, Christopher, David and Tara.

- **VAHRAM AZNAVOURIAN** (54 Year Memorial) - requested by William Aznavourian.

...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>

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

The *Sunday School* will have a Bake Sale to benefit the *Lenten Drive* this morning after services.

MARCH 14

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."

Armenian Chorale of RI meets on Mondays, March 14 through April 11 at 7 p.m.

The *Women's Guild* will have their next meeting Monday, March 14 at 7:15 p.m. Elections will be held. Anyone interested in running, please contact Lillibeth Kooloian as soon as possible.

MARCH 16

Lenten Services "My Lenten Journey" Wednesday evening 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 18 & 19

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 20

ACYOA Palm Sunday Celebration hosted by the Providence ACYOA Senior Chapter. Guest speaker Kathryn Ashbahian, Dept. of Youth and Young Adult Ministries at the Diocese. Sunday, March 20, 1 p.m. Stuffed Chicken and Pilaf Dinner, \$15 adults/\$10 (kids under 10) Reservations highly recommended, Church office (401-272-7712), Christina Parnagian (401-256-2686), Greta Janigian (401-556-0771). Please bring your family and support our youth.

MARCH 21

Mary House Outreach - In the spirit of Christian stewardship, part of our parish outreach effort is to volunteer at St. Patrick's meal kitchen. Monday, March 21, is our parish's next date to volunteer. We meet at St. Patrick's on Smith Street by 4:00pm. The last meal is served by 5:15pm when we help with clean-up. Call Joyce Avedisian (724-3978) or Bertha Mugurdichian (351-9276) if you have questions. Future date: 6/20/16.

APRIL 16

Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide - Legacy of our Martyrs - Concert of Armenian Patriotic songs - Saturday, April 16, 7-8 p.m. - Performed by the Armenian Chorale of RI - Fellowship following concert 8-8:30 p.m.

NOTICES

PALMS & FLOWERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER -

Donations towards the purchase of palms for Palm Sunday and flowers for Holy Week and Easter would be greatly appreciated. Forms for this are available in the hallway by the church office, or you may send your donation to the church office (call if you would like to use a credit card). Deadline for palm donations, March 17, for flower donations, March 24. Donations will be acknowledged in the bulletins on March 20 and 27.

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. The next event will be a Bake Sale on Sunday, March 13th. A second plate collection will be held in the sanctuary today. 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 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 - Sunday 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 .

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 (401-272-7712), or John Takian (401-641-5851) johnt@blissproperties.net. The applications must received 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.

Diocese Opens Scholarship Application Process Each year the Eastern Diocese awards scholarships to college students throughout the Diocese. The Diocese seeks students who are active in their local parishes and have assumed leadership roles in their communities. To be eligible, applicants must be U.S. citizens enrolled in four-year undergraduate programs. The scholarship funding comes from various endowment funds, including the Adrina Movsesian Scholarship, the Armine Dikijian Journalism Scholarship, the Mabel Fenner Scholarship, and the George Holopigian Memorial Fund. The application form is available on the Diocese website at <armenianchurch-ed.net/programming/scholarships/application-form>. The application deadline is May 20, 2016. For information, contact Maria Barsoumian at mariab@armeniandiocese.org.



Calendar of Events - Please see insert.