

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:  
Art Yariumian - Gary Taraian

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**Schedule Sunday Service**

Morning Service (*Keesherayeen & Aravodyan Jham*) 9:00 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*) 10:00 a.m.

Blessing of the Four Corners of the World (*Antastan*)

**Easter Sunday - *Soorp Zadig* - Սուրբ Զատիկ**

**March 27, 2016**



**Scripture Readings**

Acts 1:15-26 (Pg. 108) Mark 16:2-8 (Pg. 50)

**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!**

Ծաշակեցէք եւ տեսէք զի բարոյր է Տէր:

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

**Der Shnork**

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THE EASTER MESSAGE OF ARCHBISHOP KHAJAG BARSAMIAN  
Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

**Ordinary Saints**

*Peter was sitting in the outdoor courtyard when a maid came up to him and said, "You too were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before everyone, saying, "I don't know what you mean." ... After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them: your accent betrays you." Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man!" Immediately the cock crowed—and Peter remembered the saying of Jesus: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." He went outside, and wept bitterly. (Mattnew 26:69-75)*

**EASTER IS OUR GREAT STORY OF VICTORY**, our assurance of triumph. In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God's love for mankind won the contest against man's age-old enemies, Sin and Death. The faithful are promised to share in that victory.

But to read the gospels, one is struck by the aura of failure that overhangs the figures in the resurrection story. Consider the situation of the disciple Peter. In a supreme moment of decision, he denies even knowing Jesus, the teacher he has followed for three years. It's a failure of discipleship—and worse, of friendship. Yet Peter is clearly not a venal or evil man; in many ways he merely does what anyone else would do in the same situation. Peter's failure merely proves how ordinary he is.

The all-too-ordinary disciple has plenty of company in the Easter story. Along with Peter's denial, we witness the tearful despair of Mary Magdalene outside the tomb; the discouragement of the disciples on the road

to Emmaus; the skepticism of Thomas; the terror of the main body of disciples hiding out in the upper room. We are tempted to ask: What are these stories doing in the Gospel at all?

Scripture offers no direct answer to this question; but it does lead us to an observation. The great Easter message of hope, redemption, and new life was Christ's gift to the world. But to carry it forward into the world, Jesus entrusted his gift to messengers like these: the flawed and fearful, the discouraged and doubtful. Ordinary people, whose only distinction was that they had borne witness to something beyond understanding.

How remarkable it is to realize that these were the earliest Christian saints! For eventually, Peter and the rest became martyrs for Christ. They were individuals of no special distinction. But in light of our Lord's resurrection they found the inner strength to stand with him, and not to deny him, in the end. "Saint" is the name we give to such people.

Sainthood has been a subject of renewed interest in the Armenian Church lately. In the month following Easter, we will mark the anniversary of the canonization of the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide: the first Armenian saints to have been acknowledged in hundreds of years. The canonization was a great milestone for our nation; but like all weighty moral undertakings, it did not occur without questions. Good and serious people questioned whether it was possible to acknowledge such a large company of people as saints of the church. Indeed, one can say with certainty that the vast majority of Genocide martyrs—people we now regard as saints—were flawed or otherwise unremarkable in their lives, apart from the circumstances of their sainthood.

But now, after a year of living in the consciousness of these "new" saints, and with Easter again before us, perhaps we can find guidance in the Gospel account of those who witnessed the resurrection.

The saints are indeed ordinary people. But far from being an obstacle to our understanding, the very ordinariness of the saints is what makes them examples—permits them to be aspirational figures for us. If they were superhuman beings with seamlessly virtuous lives, we might admire them; but we would have a ready excuse, an alibi, for failing to live up to their example. Realizing that they were ordinary people—men and women just like us—places the responsibility to live saintly lives directly on our shoulders.

This is surely one of the great moral revolutions Christianity brought into the world. To the imperial pagan world of Christ's time, heroes were the offspring of gods—an unattainable distinction. The spectacle of heroic suffering—tragedy—was meant to make men tremble, while encouraging them to rest satisfied that, as mortals, they were beneath the notice of the careless pagan divinities.

Contrast this with the Christian saints, who have arisen from every station of life, and often are not even recognized as special until some moment of crisis. Their stories are meant to expose the deceit and injustice underlying the world around them—and to disrupt our own self-satisfied appraisal of the world around us. Their suffering is heroic not because it defies unfeeling gods, but because it imitates the experience of God's Son—who lived, felt and suffered alongside his children, out of love for them.

The miracle of Easter is the gift that all the saints embraced. However ordinary their lives may have been, carrying Christ's resurrection in their hearts magnified them. When their moment of decision came—whether in the Apostolic Age, in 1915, or even today—they refused to deny their Lord.

It falls to us to accept our own role in this drama. As the Easter story shows, Christ entrusted his message of faith, love, and redemption to people no different from us. Carrying it forward has been the work of dozens, hundreds, millions of faithful individuals—our own ancestors among them. That gift now rests in our hands, and whether it continues to be carried forward through another century is largely up to us. Let that thought guide us this Easter, as

we greet Christ's resurrection for the first time in the company of our sainted Genocide Martyrs, and affirm with them the truth of those immortal words:

*Krisdos hanyav ee merelotz! Orhnyal eh harootiumnun Krisdosee!*

Christ is risen from the dead! Blessed is the resurrection of Christ!  
Easter 2016



## The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Mark 16:2-8

And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; -- it was very large.

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him.

But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

*Glory to You, O Lord our God!*



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

The faithful says:

**Յիշեսցիր եւ զիս առաջի անմահ գառիճն 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 գառիճն 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:

**Յիշեսցէ 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 քում:**

*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.



**REQUIEMS** (*Hokehankist*) will resume on April 3.



### **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  
Susie Bossian Rotondo

### *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

Two large *Easter Pascal Candles* have been donated in loving memory of Archdeacon Hachador Madenigian, Zartar Madenigian, and Helen and John Seplocha by Dr. Holly Seplocha; Joy & Patrick Ramsier and Children; and Joni Cochran.

Donations of *Flowers for Holy Week & Easter* - see Insert.

#### MARCH 28

*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 28 through April 11 at 7 p.m.

#### APRIL 1 & 2

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

#### APRIL 3

The installation of the *2016 Parish Council* will take place.

#### APRIL 10

*Godparent's Sunday* - April 10, celebrating Godparents and Godchildren. A service of re-dedication & renewal! Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

#### 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.

#### APRIL 17

*Nazeli Dance Group Bake Sale* after services.

#### APRIL 24

The Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Committee will sponsor the *101st Anniversary Commemoration* of the 1915 Armenian Genocide at 12:45 p.m. at the North Buriel Ground on Sunday, April 24. . All the faithful of the parish are encouraged to attend. In case of rain, it will take place in the Evagian Cultural Center at Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church.

## APTIL 30

The Cultural Committee and Armenian Evangelical Church presents "Tribute to Armenia," Armenian Youth Talent from NY & NJ, finalists of concert in Carnegie Hall, Saturday, April 30, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the Armenian Evangelical Church of RI, 180 Oaklawn Ave., Cranston.

## NOTICES

**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 Register on line at **www.diocesansummerncamps.org**. 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, 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 Mugaridchian (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 .

#### **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 be 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

### MARCH

*Today* **Easter Sunday - Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ**

- 28 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.
- 29 Parish Council, 7 p.m.

### APRIL

- 1 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 2 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 4 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.
- 8 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 9 Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 10 Godparents' Sunday during Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.
- 11 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
Armenian Chorale of RI 7 p.m.
- 15 Jr. Choir 6:30 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 16 Arts Education 10 a.m.  
Legacy of Our Martyrs Memorial Concert 7 p.m.
- 17 Nazeli Dance group Bake Sale
- 18 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 19 Armenian Youth Day 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 22 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Arts Education, 10 a.m.
- 24 Martyr's Commemoration, North Buriel Ground, 12:45 p.m.
- 25 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
- 29 Jr. Choir 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 30 Arts Education 10 a.m.  
"Tribute To Armenia" Concert at Evangelical Church,  
Cranston, 7 p.m.

### MAY

- 13 Sports Banquet