

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



Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor
70 Jefferson Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908
TEL 4 01.272.7712 | FAX 4 01.272.2832
<http://www.stsahmes.org>
e-mail: office@stsahmes.org - dershnork@gmail.com
Parish Council Members on duty today:
Joyce Avedisian - Len Arzoomanian

Schedule of Sunday Services

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

Sunday, September 11, 2016

† Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross †

Տօն Վերացման Սրբոյ Խաչին

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 49:13-23(p. 726) Galatians 6:14-18 (p. 178) John 3:13-21 (p. 86)

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

From the Pastor

I would like to welcome back our children to Sunday School and pray that they have a wonderful year where in the joy of fellowship with their church and community they learn about how much God loves them and how they are each an integral and much valued member of the church. I want to thank the CEAB and the staff along with the parents and those who support the educational ministry of our church.

Prayerfully,
Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on the Sunday closest to September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord with the manifestation of a miraculous sign.

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches

of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.

On the day of the Feast at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, a special Antasdan service is held. The Cross is placed on a tray, sprinkled with rose water, surrounded by branches of basil and is taken in solemn procession through the church to the chanting of the Hymn of the Feast. The tray is placed on a table, and the priest takes the Cross and offers petitions from each side of the table, the four directions of the compass. This represents the universal nature of the offering of Christ upon the Cross. As the people respond by chanting "Lord have mercy", the priest raises and lowers the cross, a commemoration of its finding and exaltation. At the conclusion of the service, the people come and venerate the cross and receive the blessed basil, the "herb of royalty" from the priest. The basil is used and offered, as it was the fragrant flower growing where the Cross was found.

Hymn of Exaltation

King of ages! You poured out on us a great light, Having given us the victorious Sign of Your Cross.

In it you gave to those who believe in you a mighty fortress and terrible tower against the enemy.

We beseech you Lord, keep us under the protection of your Cross.



The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John 3:13-21

No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. He who believes in him is not condemned; he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does what is true comes to the light, that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been wrought in God.

Glory to You, O Lord our God!



**Solemn 15th Anniversary Observance
of the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks on America - Sunday, September 11, 2016**

LORD JESUS CHRIST OUR GOD, fifteen years ago, in a dark hour for our beloved country of America, at a time of fear and turmoil, we turned to you for strength, understanding, and guidance. And again today, we ask you to hear our fervent prayers.

Have mercy on the souls of all the men and women who perished in the terrible calamities on September 11, 2001, in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania. Take them into the peace of your heavenly kingdom, and never cease to console their loved ones, who will always grieve for their losses.

Bless, too, those who lost their lives or their loved ones in the years since that dreadful day, in the ongoing defense of our country. Lord, bring peace and stability to our country and to our world, and restore justice among your creatures: true justice that comes only from you. By the mystery of your all-powerful and miraculous holy cross, transform the world's pain and devastation into new life and hope.

Let us not lose faith, but bring us closer to you and embolden us in the assurance of your loving care and mercy. For you are our God, the creator of heaven and earth, our hope and our refuge. And to you we give glory, honor and worship, with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Blessed be our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



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:

Տացէ 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 9/18.

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 Artsakh, Syria, Egypt and Iraq in your prayers that God Almighty will watch over them and protect them in these uncertain and dangerous times

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

A Repose Prayer Card

has been requested by Dr. & Mrs. Martin Papazian for Martin Mahdesyan.

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

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and Blessing of Basil:

- *A donation of basil* has been given by Dr. & Mrs. Edward & Sonja (Avedisian) Pollard in loving memory of the Avedisian & Marza Families.
- *A donation for basil* has been given by Boghos Gulesserian.

A donation of incense has been given in loving memory of Jack M. Halberian, on the 50th Anniversary of his passing (August 7, 1953 - September 11, 1966) by Michele, Jackie & Katie Kazarian.

Sunday School Opening Day today: Registration 9:45am to 10:15am followed by a short Parent's Orientation that will focus on new programs for the students and our church family. Time has been set aside for parents to meet with the teachers and to attend Badarak with their child and their class & teacher. There will be a welcome back American style picnic following Badarak. Please join us.

SEPTEMBER 12

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.

SEPTEMBER 12

Prof. Ara Dostourian's *Church History Class* will meet Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Church Hall. Dates in September: 9/12, 9/19, and 9/26. October classes: 10/3, 10/10 and 10/17. Please join us. Call the church office for further details.

SEPTEMBER 12

The next *Women's Guild* meeting will be Monday, September 12, at 7:15 pm at church. We will discuss final details for the 1960's Family Night as well as future events.

SEPTEMBER 13 & 17

Armenian School classes are being held on Tuesdays (9/13) at 6 p.m. and on Saturdays (9/17) at 10 a.m. Subjects to include language, history, music, religion (culture). Ages 4+ including adults. Tuition for children \$100 for 1st child, \$90 for each additional child. Adults, \$100 for parents with children registered, \$200 for adults without children registered. Contact Mariam Saribekyan (im_mariam@yaho.com), text/ phone 401-714-6327.

SEPTEMBER 16 & 17

The Cultural Committee's *Arts Educational Program:* Programs have begun and meet on Saturdays at 10 a.m. Jr. Choir meets on Fridays at 6 p.m., and Nazeli Dance group on Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Contact Chairperson, Janna Guegamian (401-861-3573.) Registration forms available through the office.

SEPTEMBER 25

Visiting Celebrant on September 25, His Eminence Abp. Vicken Srpazan Aykazian, Diocesan Legate.

SEPTEMBER 26

Mary House Outreach - Join us as a volunteer at St. Patrick's meal kitchen. **Monday, September 26** is our parish's first date to volunteer this season. (Future dates will be 9/26, 11/21, 4/10/17, and 6/26/17). We meet at St. Patrick's on Smith Street by 3:45 PM. The last meal is served by 5:15 PM when we help with clean-up. Call the Church office, Joyce Avedisian (724-3978), or Bertha Mugurdichian (351-9276) if you have any questions.

SEPTEMBER 30

Save the date for our *1960's Family Night* sponsored by the Women's Guild. Featuring Chris Jason performing a premier Sinatra tribute plus Italian dinner, games, raffles, prizes for best 60's costumes. Friday, September 30, at 6:30 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center. Donation \$20, kids \$10. Please contact Yeretzgin Julie (juliesouin@gmail.com.) (973-865-9925), or the church office at 401-272-7712

OCTOBER 16

Sunday, October 16 - *Name Day Banquet*, honoring Parishioners of the Year: Araxy Avedisian, Marjorie Martiesian, George Moorachian and Nishan Serabian. Banquet to follow Church Services Tickets \$20.00 --Reservations may be made by calling the church office, 401-272-7712 or Anahid Ayrassian at 401-272-4743.

OCTOBER 22

Save the date! Saturday, October 22, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center - *25th Anniversary of Armenia's Independence*. Special program, Guest Speaker - His excellency Zohrab Mnatsakanyan, Armenia's Ambassador to the United Nations, "Our Favorite Armenian Songs" featuring the "Bostonian's," renowned Vocal Group (premier performance in RI), sponsored by the Cultural Committee.

NOVEMBER 5 & 6

The 86th *Annual Armenian Food Fair & Bazaar* will be held on Saturday, & Sunday, November 5 & 6, 2016 in the Egavian Cultural Center, featuring authentic Armenian food & pastries, take out food booth, Armenian market with all your Armenian favorites, children's activities, etc. Come enjoy a great meal at very reasonable prices and spend time with family & friends. Cash/ Credit Card available for your convenience. For more information, contact the church office at 272-7712, e-mail us at office@stsahmes.org or visit the church web site at www.stsahmes.org or log onto armenianfoodfairri.org or armenianfoodfairri.com. Watch for the mailing with details on how to support the Sponsor Book, Wish List, etc., which will be going out soon. Your participation is needed and greatly appreciated.

NOTICES

Join us for the *Blessing of the Grapes* to benefit The Society for Orphaned Armenian Relief on October 1st, 1:30-6pm at Carolyn's Sakonnet Vineyard. Tables of 10 for \$1,000 or individual tickets for \$100 available. Family style dinner, wine tasting and silent auction, all proceeds will benefit SOAR. Special Guest Speakers Carla Garapedian and Mark Geragos. To purchase tickets and RSVP contact: Gary Grigorian at g_grigorian@cox.net or 401-353-7877

Memorial Pedestal/Book of Remembrance - Blessing/Dedication Ceremony by local Armenian clergy at North Burial Ground Cemetery (next to the Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Monument) - Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00 AM - All are welcome. On the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the Memorial Pedestal/Book of Remembrance is dedicated to the memory of the 1.5 million Armenians who were massacred at the hands of the Ottoman Turkish Empire as well as those who survived. Presented by the Armenian Martyrs' Memorial Committee of Rhode Island; pedestal donated by Knights of Vartan Arax Tahlij #11.

PART-TIME VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED BY ARMENIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION (AHARI) - Web Master & Administrative Office Manager. *Web Master:* Establish new website. Art work & site mechanics completed. Need help to load data, articles, references, images, videos & site content. Contact jmartha9@gmail.com. *Admin. Office Manager:* organize, setup & run new 3-office suite in Wayland Square, Providence. This individual, preferably of Armenian descent, should have good organizational, communication & computer skills, & be familiar with contemporary administrative office management procedures. Contact Richard K. Papazian at Richard.p@brandizing.co or 401-441-4546.

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.

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.** 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). Future Meal Kitchen dates: 9/26, 11/21, 4/10/17, and 6/26/17.. Your participation is always welcome.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- Today** **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
Regular hours resume, 9 a.m. Morning Service, 10 a.m. Badarak
Sunday School Opening Day
- 12 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class, 7 p.m., **and** Women’s Guild Meeting, 7:15 pm
- 13 Armenian School Classes begin, 6-8 p.m.
Parish Council, 7 p.m.
Junior Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 16 Arts Education, 10 a.m. **and** Armenian School 10a.m.-1p.m.
- 17 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Church History Class, 7 p.m.
- 20 Armenian School, 6-8 p.m.
- 23 Junior Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 24 Arts Education, 10 a.m., **and** Armenian School 10a.m.-1p.m.
- 25 Visiting Celebrant 9/25, His Eminence Abp. Vicken
Srpazan Aykazian, Diocesan Legate.
- 26 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
Mary House Meal Kitchen, 3:45 p.m.
Church History Class, 7 p.m.
- 27 Armenian School, 6-8 p.m.
- 30 1960’s Family Night sponsored by the Women’s Guild 6:30pm
Junior Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 1 Arts Education 10 a.m. **and** Armenian School 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 3 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.. **and** Church History Class 7 p.m.
- 4 Armenian School, 6-8 p.m. **and** Parish Council, 7 p.m.
- 7 Junior Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Arts Education, 10 a.m., Armenian School 10a.m.-1p.m.
- 10 Columbus Day Holiday, office closed,
Church History Class 7 p.m.
- 11 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m., Armenian School 6 p.m.
- 14 Junior Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Arts Education, 10 a.m., Armenian School 10a.m.-1p.m.
- 16 Church Name Day
- 17 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m., **and** Church History Class, 7 p.m.
- 18 Armenian School, 6-8 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
- 21 Junior Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Arts Education, 10 a.m., Armenian School 10a.m.-1p.m.
Gala Concert 7 p.m. (see notice)
- 24 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m., (Note: No Church History Class today)
- 25 Armenian School, 6-8 p.m.
Parish Council, 7 p.m.
- 28 Junior Choir, 6 p.m., Nazeli Dance Group 6:30 p.m.
- 29 Arts Education, 10 a.m., **and** Armenian School 10a.m.-1p.m.
- 31 Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.
(No Church History Class today)

NOVEMBER

- 5-6 Annual Church Bazaar