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Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church
The Lighthouse

The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

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Parish Council Members on Duty Today:

Martin Papazian - Mher Saribekyan

Schedule of Sunday Services

Matins

9:00 a.m.

Sunrise Service

9:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy (Soorp Badarak)

10:00 a.m.

April 2, 2017

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!

Դաշակեցէք եւ տեսէք զի քաղցր է Տէր:

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

Der Shnork

Living the Legacy of the Holy Martyrs

The Fruits of the Spirit

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

Today's theme: ~ **FAITHFULNESS** ~

Pastor's Points of Light

Sunday of the Advent

The sixth Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of the Advent and is a reminder of Christ's entrances into human history. It heralds with it the glorious good news that Christ came and will come again! With the observation of Christ's Advent, Christians during this period of Lent, prepare to observe and commemorate the redemptive work of our Lord in His Passion, Death and Resurrection, realizing that He came and dwelt among us, born of the virgin Mary, in order that He might offer Himself in sacrifice on behalf of all and for all.

The First Advent was Christ's great and glorious Incarnation where He burst into human history. The Third Advent is the eschatological sign of the end of the age, Christ's glorious Return, His Second Coming in glory from the right Hand of His Father to judge the living and the dead and the consummation of mankind's' redemption in the final judgement.

The Second Advent, lies between and is the fulcrum of these two events where our Lord entered triumphantly into the sacred city of Jerusalem, in humility and with the shouts of Hosanna where the multitudes recognize and celebrate the manifestation of God's promised Messiah come in human flesh to save the world and inaugurates the Passion and Holy Week which culminates in the Resurrection.

The Sunday of Advent invites mankind to meditate on the mystery of these events and how they manifest hope in Christ's Second Coming.

On this day, we are reminded of the eschatological last day and urged in the spirit of the Lenten penitential period, to anticipate our Lord's Advent in patient humility, the fear of God and a contrite heart, striving with prayer, almsgiving and fasting for conversion and a return to God who will return to us, having gone to prepare our place, Amen.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor



**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.

Holy Communion is not distributed during Lent. For those seeking confession, please speak to the Pastor.

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:

- **THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KARABAGH** who were killed in action following the incursions of Azerbaijan (One Year Memorial - Dreleetz)

- **JULIA VARADIAN DONABEDIAN** (Two Year Memorial) requested by Mr. Serop M. Donabedian; Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Wambolt; Dr. & Mrs. David H. Donabedian and Family; and Mr. & Mrs. Gregory K. Donabedian and Family.

- **EUGENIA PJOJIAN** (5 Year Memorial) - requested by Robert & Debra Pjojian; Kenneth & Carol Pjojian; Elenor & Harry Yessaian; Carol Dupre; Margie & Jim Stevenson; and John Takian.

- **YEVKINE AZARIAN** (20 Year Memorial) - requested by Larry & Karen Miller; Linda Grant; Lindsay & Justin Aromin and Jack; Jonathan & Alisha Williams and Family; Sadie & Lucy Barran; Joseph & Debra Tramonti, Matthew and Justin.

- **LAZARUS MARTIESIAN** (Three Year Memorial); **LUCY MARTIESIAN** (11 Year Memorial) - requested by Karen & Larry Miller; Linda Grant.

...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 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
Rev. Fr. Bedros Kadehjian

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.shtm>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Choreg and *Lenten Kufta* will be available today after services.

APRIL 3

Senior Citizens - Come join us on Mondays (at 10 a.m. weather permitting, **excluding holidays**). Have fun with your friends & neighbors & enjoy with us "coffee and," cards, tavloo, pinochle, etc. **Please note:** A few ladies in our parish have expressed an interest in starting a *knitting/needlework* group to meet on Mondays at 10 a.m. If you or someone you know would like to join please call Margaret Moorachian and let her know of your interest (401-353-9109).

APRIL 5

Bible Study meets again on Wednesday, April 5 at 7 p.m.

APRIL 4 & APRIL 8

Armenian School classes are being held on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. and on Saturdays at 10 a.m. Subjects to include language, history, music, religion (culture). Ages 4+ including adults. Contact Mariam Saribekyan (phone 401-714-6327).

ARIL 7 & APRIL 8

The Cultural Committee's *Arts Educational Program* meets 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.)

APRIL 7

Friday Evenings of Great Lent, Rest/Peace Services 6:30pm - Family Night Lenten Fellowship 7:30pm April 7 (Guest * --+Speaker-Fr. Gomidas Baghsarian).

APRIL 9

Palm Sunday - *ACYOA Seniors Palm Sunday Celebration* - Special Presentation by Christina Parnagian, Greta Janigian, and Christine Surabian - "*Our Pilgrimage to Jerusalem.*" Sunday, April 9 at 1:00 p.m. Half chicken and pilaf dinner, \$15 adults, \$10 children under 12. Reservations highly recommended. Call the Church Office (401-272-7712, Christina Parnagian (401-256-2686) or Greta Janigian (401-556-0771).

APRIL 10

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, April 10, 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) if you have questions. Future date: 6/26/17

APRIL 13-16

Holy Week and Easter Services - Please see Calendar of Events insert included with this bulletin for service times, etc.

APRIL 15

Easter Eve Badarak followed by *ACYOA Annual Family Night Triple "S" Shoppe* in Egavian Hall. Great Vespers/Reading of Prophecies 5:30 p.m., Divine Liturgy of Easter Eve 6:00 p.m., **Family Night Easter Celebration** "Triple 'S' Shoppe" 7:30 p.m. Handmade grinders made to your liking, \$7 gets you a Triple 'S' sub, snack and soda (or bottle of water) & Coffee. \$5 for children. Traditional *Havgeetakhagh* - egg cracking contest, prizes for all. Choreg will be available for sale. Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome. Call the office at 401-272-7712.

APRIL 16

Easter Sunday - Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ - 9:00 a.m. Morning Service, 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 11:45 a.m. Blessing of the Four corners of the World.

APRIL 18

Armenian Youth Day, Tuesday, April 18 in Egavian Cultural Center, 8:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Activities for ages 7-14: Genocide educational, Armenian Jeopardy, tile painting, Middle Eastern Drum Circle, breakfast snack & lunch included (free). Special presentation for youth 12+ and adults from 10a.m.-12 noon: Genealogy, learn about your roots, your family etc. and how and where to search to find this invaluable information.

APRIL 23

The 102nd Commemoration of the 1915 Armenian Genocide. Services at 12:45 p.m. Sunday April 23 at the Armenian Martyr's Memorial, North Burial Ground with the three Armenian Churches and Clergy participating. All are welcome. In case of rain, will meet in the Egavian Cultural Center, Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church.

APRIL 30

Godparent's Sunday - April 30, celebrating Godparents and Godchildren. A service of re-dedication & renewal! Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

NOTICES

Campaign to Help Restore Tomb of Christ in Jerusalem

Diocesan Primate Archbishop Khajag Barsamian has announced a fund-raising campaign to help the restoration effort currently underway at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The site marks the burial place of Jesus Christ, and has long stood as one of the most precious shrines of the Christian heritage. The Armenian Church, through its Patriarchate of Jerusalem, shares joint custodial oversight of the Holy Sepulchre, and is deeply involved in the current restoration. In a letter to Diocesan leaders, the Primate announced that the Eastern Diocese aims to raise \$300,000 to contribute to this effort. A special website has been launched — www.SaveTheTomb.org — where individuals can find information on the project and make online donations. You can also make your donation by sending checks to Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church with the notation "Save the Tomb."

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, April 6, and for flower donations, April 13. Donations will be acknowledged in the bulletins on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Save the Date ...for the "*Women of Ararat*," a play by Judith Boyajian and directed by Carol Mikaelian Schlink, 2015 Rhode Island "Genocide Educator of the Year," will be performed on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 3 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Auditorium, 2115 Broad Street, Cranston, RI 02905. Flyers for this event are located in the hallway across from the church office. For further information contact Naomi Thovmasian @401 942-3886, Naomi.Marsh@verizon.net or Dorothy Martiesian @749-0269, dmartiesian@yahoo.com.

The Nazeli Dance Group and Junior Choir will visit the *Armenian Nursing Home*, Jamaica Plain, MA, May 13, 2017 - dedicated to Mothers Day for a friendly afternoon performance.

Save the Date: Monday, June 26, 2017 for the Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church Golf Tournament, Cranston Country Club ... details to be announced.

2017 St. Nersess Summer Conferences - 2017 Summer Conferences at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary - brochures with complete information for programs and signing up are available in the wall pockets near the church office.

The Genealogy Subcommittee of the Armenian Historical Association of Rhode Island (AHARI) is forming a Genealogy Club. The purpose is to assist members in tracing their ancestors and discovering the daily events that shaped their and, eventually, our lives. We want to come together to help people find information about their ancestors. Share your family's past historical and cultural artifacts thru AHARI and help perpetuate Armenia's glorious past. AHARI is a 501c non-profit organization. The AHARI office is at 245 Waterman St., Suite 204, Providence. (Telephone 401-544-5511) Please contact Margaret Chevian at margo1915@gmail.com or 401-331-3985 if you have questions.

PARISH MEMBER DUES - 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, 2017;** (new members must be received by June 30 to vote at Parish Assembly in February 2018.) 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 a *prayer box* in the chancel located on the table at the entrance of the Sanctuary on the elevator side where you may place your written prayer requests. 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). Future Meal Kitchen dates: 4/10/17, and 6/26/17. Your participation is always welcome.

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. During the month of April, we are requesting **soap** and **shampoo**. They may be placed in the bin in the Sunday School area. Thank you for your support in our children's outreach efforts.

Calendar of Events, please see insert