



Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայր. Եկեղեցի

**Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church**  
*The Lighthouse*

**The Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor**

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Parish Council Members on Duty Today:

Jason Martiesian - John Megrđichian

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**Schedule Sunday Service**

Morning Service (*Keesherajeen & Aravodyan Jham*)

9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*)

9:30 a.m.

**Sunday, August 13, 2017**

**Feast of the Assumption of the Mother of God**

Տօն Վերափոխման Սրբոհոյ Աստուածածնի

**Scripture Readings**

**Colossians 3:29-4:7 (Pg. 183) Luke 2:1-7 (Pg. 53)**

**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**



**The Blessing of Grapes | Khaghogh Orhnek**

On the day of the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God, the blessing of grapes takes place immediately after the Divine Liturgy. The ceremony is rich in symbolism and emphasizes the important role the Virgin Mary assumed in the revelation of God.

The custom of blessing grapes, the first fruits of the harvest, can be traced back to Old Testament times, when farming was a common vocation. Of the vast variety of produce, grapes had a special place of honor and were considered the "first fruits" because they were the first produce of harvest.

Among the Israelites, as among many neighboring cultures, grapes were regarded as belonging in a special way to God since they were the first fruits. It was He who gave the gift of the whole harvest and to offer Him the first fruits was to acknowledge complete dependence on Him. Special services of thanksgiving were conducted by priests in the temple, a tradition that prevailed to the time of Christ.

With the birth of Jesus, these dedications took on a new meaning. Jesus Christ was the first born—or the first fruit—of Mary and, as such, was offered to God in the temple. (Luke 2:25-30)

Armenian Church doctrine teaches that Mary has a primary place of honor because it was of her and by the Holy Spirit that God became incarnate (took human flesh). She is seen as the image of humanity fully

obedient to God and ultimately sanctified by doing God's will. Therefore, on the feast remembering her dormition (falling asleep in Christ) and Assumption (ascending to heaven), we celebrate the blessing of grapes.

Christ gave His blood to us for eternal life, and in remembrance we bless the grapes, the fruits of the earth.

It is traditional to use seedless grapes to emphasize that this fruit came into being without seed, just as Christ became man without any human agent.

-reprinted from the website of the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern)



**Blessed Name Day to all those who carry the name Mary or any derivative of the name.**



### **The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke 2:1-7**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirin'i-us was governor of Syria.

And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

*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.

**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.



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

The **faithful** says:

Յիշեսցիլ է զիս առաջի անմահ գառինն 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 գառինն 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:

**Յիշեցէ 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:

**Տագէ քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քում:**  
*Da-tseh kez Der usd sur-dee koom.*  
(May the Lord grant to you according to your heart.)

**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 August 20.



**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

**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**

*Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God & Blessing of Grapes.* Please see insert for the list of Grape Donations.

**AUGUST 14**

*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.

**AUGUST 14**

Prof. Ara Dostourian's *Church History Class* will meet Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Church Hall through August. Dates in the Fall will be announced. Please join us. Call the church office for further details.

**AUGUST 19**

The *Annual Church Picnic* will be held this year on August 19 starting at 12:00 noon. Food, music, and fun! Kheyma, shish-kebob, losh kebob, chicken, khorovats, Tavloo Tournament. The tents will be lit at night so stay, eat and dance all night! Support the Armenian Pastry Booth. Armenian CD's, jewelry, gifts and more by Armenian Vendor. Gallery Z Moby the Mobile Art Gallery; for the kids - Pony Rides, Ron the Balloon Man, Bounce House!!!!. Your participation and support of the picnic sponsor opportunities and raffle tickets will be greatly appreciated. *We are asking Parishioners to make pastry for the Picnic Pastry Booth* (American or Armenian). Contact Dorothy Martiesian who will be coordinating the Pastry Booth this year (401-749-0269 or [dmartiesian@yahoo.com](mailto:dmartiesian@yahoo.com)). Your donations can be dropped off at the church any time up to and during the picnic, we will need pastry all day. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at the picnic!

*(Please Note): A picnic mailing was sent and we inadvertently included only one sheet of tickets for the picnic raffle package deal instead of two. To all those who wish to participate in the raffle by responding to this mailing, please be assured that the church office will take care of adding the additional tickets with your information when your checks for the "Picnic Package Deal" are received. Please accept our apologies for this oversight!*

**AUGUST 20**

**A Special Parish Assembly will be held on August 20, 2017 immediately following Divine Liturgy at 11:45 a.m. in Hanoian Hall. The single agenda item is the acquisition of the property at 83 Jefferson Street. Dues paying members in good standing are strongly encouraged to attend.**

### AUGUST 23 - 25

*Overnight Camping* for kids ages 10-17 at Husenig Grove (2 nights!) - 3 p.m. Wednesday Aug. 23 to Friday, Aug. 25 at 3 p.m. Parents are invited to stay for dinner on Wednesday evening for khorovats BBQ! Complete details are available on the church's website on what to bring, and permission form, etc. Cost: \$40, second child \$20. This year tuition is waived for children who are in Sunday and/or Armenian School and have a parent who is a dues-paid member of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob. Contact Der Shnork at dershnork@gmail.com or call 201-306-4304. Permission forms/flyer can be obtained in the church office.

Volunteer opportunities - You can help!! Please consider helping with transportation, food prep, chaperone, and monetary contributions in support of the camp to cover materials and other sundry expenses. There is a form on the website to fill out with your preferences which can be returned to Fr. Shnork either digitally or by mailing to the church office.

### SEPTEMBER 2 & 9

The *Arts Education Program* will begin with registration for 2017-2018 First Semester on Saturday, September 2 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center. Programs begin on Saturday, September 9 at 10 a.m.. Registration for *Nazeli Dance Group* will also be on 9/2, 10-11 a.m. For more information contact Janna Guegamian (401-861-3573) or e-mail Petroskon@aol.com.

### SEPTEMBER 5

*Armenian School Open House and registrations:* Please send in your registration by mail or stop by to register in person on September 5 from 6-8 p.m. for *Open House* and refreshments! Contact Mariam Saribekyan (401-714-6327).

### SEPTEMBER 10

Regular hours resume for services on September 10 - 9 a.m. Morning Service, 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

*Sunday School Opening Day:* September 10th - Registration is scheduled from 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 his/her class and teacher. There will be a welcome back American style picnic following Badarak. Please join us.

### SEPTEMBER 12 & 16

*Armenian School* classes will begin in September, Tuesday adult classes begin on September 12 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Saturday classes begin on September 16 at 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (please note the Saturday class change in date from 9/9 to 9/16). Complete details are on the church website (flyer and registration form). Contact Mariam Saribekyan (401-714-6327).

### SEPTEMBER 13

*Cultural Committee Armenian Film Festival* begins with the film "*Cultural Genocide*" on Wednesday, September 13 at 7 p.m. Donation \$10. Future dates: Wednesday, October 11, 7 p.m., Wednesday, November 15, 7 p.m. . Films to be shown in 2018 will be on 1/24/2018, 2/21/2018, and 3/14/2018.

### SEPTEMBER 17

*Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and Blessing of Basil*  
Donations of sweet basil will be greatly appreciated (donations of basil you have grown and/or monetary donations to purchase). Please let the office know of your donations (401-272-7712) or mail to the office so they may be acknowledged in the Sunday Bulletin that day. There will be no requiems (Hokehankist) on this feast day, requiems will resume on September 24.)

### SEPTEMBER 25

In the spirit of Christian stewardship, part of our parish outreach effort is to donate food to the Mary House food pantry and to volunteer at St. Patrick's meal kitchen. Monday, September 25 is our parish's next date to volunteer. We meet at St. Patrick's on Smith Street by 3:45 p.m. The last meal is served by 5:15 p.m. when we help with clean-up. Call the Church office or Joyce Avedisian (724-3978), if you have any questions.

### OCTOBER 6

Save the date for the *Douglas Ave. Kef Time!* sponsored by the Women's Guild, Friday, October 6, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the Egavian Cultural Center. Armenian music by Gary Kashmanian and Ensemble. Kheyman Dinner, dancing, raffles & 50/50. Donation: \$25 Contact the church office (401-272-7712) or Stephanie Masoian (401-862-6323).

### OCTOBER 22

The Cultural Committee of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church and The Rhode Island Orthodox Clergy Fellowship presents *Spiritual Music Festival*, Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church 70 Jefferson Street, Providence, RI

### NOVEMBER 4 & 5

*Annual Church Bazaar* - Save the date and be making your plans to be here for our Annual Church Bazaar on November 4 & 5.

### NOTICES

Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church has been buying sanctuary candles from a company in Lowell, MA for many years. In an effort to support those in Nagorno-Karabagh (Artsakh), the Parish Council made the decision to begin purchasing our candles through the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church. The golden-colored beeswax candles we will begin lighting in our sanctuary are made in Artsakh. Know that each candle we light will directly benefit Armenians in that distressed region.

The Arts Education Program is pleased to announce the "*Saroyan Theater Company*" Theatre Club which will be meeting at a future date to be announced. Explore the world of Theatre (games, scenes, history, technique,

monologues) To join, please message Elizabeth Souin - e-mail e.souin@yahoo.com or call/text 973-349-7012. Include name & age of participant, & contact information. Or contact Janna Guegamian, Art Education Chair: 401-861-3573, petroskon@aol.com

Church Library - "*Forced into Genocide*" is a memoir of an Armenian soldier who was conscripted into the Ottoman Turkish Army on June 10, 1915. As a soldier it actually saved him from the fate of fifty-one family and relatives who were driven from their homeland of Sepastia (Sivas), Turkey. The story of Yervant Alexanian's insight to document evidence in both his journals and diaries of the cruelty that was imposed on the Armenian people until his honorable discharge on December 20, 1918 is compelling and a must-read. The book was edited by his daughter, Adrienne G. Alexanian and is available at your local library.

*The Armenian Historical Association of RI (AHARI)* is located in the Bliss Building on Providence's East Side at 245 Waterman Street, Suite 204. The current exhibit is now available for tours from Monday through Saturday by appointment. Call the AHARI museum at 401-454-5111 or email to info@armenianhistorical-ri.org --- at least one (1) week in advance.

*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 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.

**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). Next Meal Kitchen dates will be 9/25/17, 11/20/17, 3/26/18 and 6/25/18. The Sunday School outreach is collecting toilet paper & kleenex or other hygiene items and can be dropped off in the Sunday School area. Your participation is always welcome.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
**AUGUST**

- Today*     **Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God**  
14     Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
         Church History Class, 7 p.m.  
         Cultural Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 15     Parish Council, 7 p.m.  
19     Church Picnic - Save the Date !  
20     Special Parish Assembly following Church Service 11:45 a.m.  
21     Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
         Church History Class, 7 p.m.
- 23-25     Overnight Camping at Husenig Grove for Kids 10-17  
28     Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
         Church History Class, 7 p.m.
- SEPTEMBER**
- 2     Arts Education Registration 10-11 a.m. Egavian Hall  
         Nazeli Dance Group Registration 10-11 a.m., Egavian Hall
- 4     Labor Day Holiday, Office closed.  
5     Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
         Armenian School Open House 6-8 p.m. Registrations &  
         Refreshments
- 9     Arts Education Program begins, 10 a.m.  
10     Regular hours resume, 9 am Morning Service, 10 am Divine Liturgy.  
         Sunday School Opening Day & Registration
- 11     Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
12     Armenian School Adult Class, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
         Parish Council 7 p.m.  
         Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.
- 13     Film - "Cultural Genocide" Egavian Hall, 7 p.m.  
15     Jr. Choir 6 p.m. & Nazeli Dance Group, 6:30 p.m. 1st semester  
16     Armenian School Classes begin 9:30a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
         Arts Education 10 a.m.
- 17     **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**  
18     Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
19     Armenian School, 6 p.m.  
22     Jr. Choir 6 p.m. & Nazeli Dance Group, 6:30 p.m.  
23     Armenian School, 9:30 a.m., Arts Education 10 a.m.  
24     Bake Sale for the Nazeli Dance Group after church service  
25     Mary House Meal Kitchen, 3:45 p.m.  
26     Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.  
29     Jr. Choir 6 p.m. & Nazeli Dance Group, 6:30 p.m.  
30     Armenian School, 9:30 a.m., Arts Education 10 a.m.
- OCTOBER**
- 6     Women's Guild - Douglas Ave. Kef, 6 p.m.  
11     Film - "Country of Armenian Kings-1", Egavian Hall, 7 p.m.  
22     Spiritual Music Festival, 5 p.m.  
25     Senior Citizens, 10 a.m.  
         Mary House Meal Kitchen, 3:45 p.m.
- 26     Armenian School, 6 p.m., Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.
- NOVEMBER**
- 4 & 5     Annual Church Bazaar  
15     Film - "Garni, Geghard" Egavian Hall, 7 p.m.