



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:

Gary Taraian - Jason Martiesian

Schedule Sunday Service

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

Sunday, September 17, 2017

† **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

—❧—

**The Glorious Exaltation of the Holy Cross,
Blessing of the Four Corners of the World at the conclusion of
Badarak and the Blessing of Basil.**

—❧—

From Symbol of Death to Promise of Life

We see it soaring atop church spires and standing solemnly over graves. It ornaments our places of worship, and dangles from the neck to rest close to the heart. It flashes through our field of vision when an ambulance speeds by on a mission of mercy, and lends a reserved dignity to the crests of great universities.

It is the sign of the Cross: the universal symbol of Christianity, which lends its eloquent simplicity of form to the distinctive virtues of our religion. Faith, hope, and charity. Righteousness, compassion, and mercy. Humble appreciation for learning, and for conveying the fruits of accumulated knowledge. Comfort in the trials of living, and the promise of life after death.

These are the impressions we take for granted after 2,000 years of Christian civilization. But it was not always this way. In ancient

times, the cross was an object of fear and loathing; and it was in this guise that the cross was made the instrument of painful death for our Lord, Jesus Christ. It was only in the light cast by his resurrection that the cross took on a new symbolic meaning.

Christ's apostle St. James was the first to perceive the cross not with fear, but with reverence and awe. In raising up the cross, and bowing before it, St. James showed the world that Christ's resurrection marked a decisive turning point in history. The old era's symbol of death would henceforth be known as the Christian era's symbol of everlasting life.

This is the story the Armenian Church will remember this Sunday, on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. It's one of the major feast days of the church calendar, and the first of several celebrations marking the season of our Lord's Cross.

-reprinted from the e-newsletter of the Diocese of the Armenian Church (Eastern)



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.



Today we pray for the safety and recovery of the victims of hurricane Harvey in the state of Texas, especially our brothers and sisters of the Saint Kevork Church. We pray also for those who are suffering loss in the communities of our Armenian Churches in Florida as a result of hurricane Irma: St. David in Boca Raton, St. Mary in Hollywood, St. Hagop in St. Petersburg, and Soorp Haroutiun Church in Orlando. May God have mercy on his people.



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!



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:

Յիշեսցիր եւ 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:

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.)

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 September 24



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

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 these are available on line at <http://www.stsahmes.org/prayercard.shtm>

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 of basil* has been given by the Ghajanian Family in loving memory of Arakel & Siranoush Ghajanian, and Bedros & Vartouhie chamelian.

A *special plate collection* will take place today to benefit flood victims of St. Kevork Armenian Church in Houston, Texas. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

SEPTEMBER 18

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.

SEPTEMBER 19 & 23

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. Complete details are on the church website (flyer and registration form). Contact Mariam Saribekyan (401-714-6327).

SEPTEMBER 23

The *Arts Education Program* 2017-2018 First Semester meets Saturdays at 10 a.m. For more information contact Janna Guegamian (401-861-3573) or e-mail Petroskon@aol.com.

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) with any questions.

OCTOBER 1

An Important Reminder

Please make plans to attend a special celebration on Sunday, October 1. Our Primate, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, will be making a visit and celebrating the church service where he will Ordain two young men, Anthony Maldonado and Aren Antranig to the Sub-Diaconate. During the service he will also unveil and dedicate to new lecterns lovingly donated to our church.

During the banquet following the service Deacon Hagop Ghajanian will be presented with the prestigious St. Vartan Award, the highest honor of our diocese.

Please call the office for reservations now. Tables of eight can also be reserved. Adults, \$18, children 12 and under \$5.

RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, Sept.26.

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. Kheyma Dinner, dancing, raffles & 50/50. We are soliciting monetary donations to cover costs for this event and to purchase gifts for our raffles. We sincerely appreciate your participation as a sponsor of this celebration. Donation (tickets): \$25 Contact the church office (401-272-7712) or Stephanie Masoian (401-862-6323).

OCTOBER 11

Cultural Committee Armenian Film Festival begins with the film "*Cultural Genocide*" on Wednesday, September 13 at 7 p.m. Donation \$10. Future dates: 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.

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

OCTOBER 29

Flu & Pneumonia Shot Clinic here at the church in the Hanoian Hall on Sunday, October 29 after church services. This walk-in clinic is sponsored by Rite Aid and our AYOAs. Must be 19 years old and a Rhode Island resident with health insurance. High dosage available for senior citizens. (If you do not have health insurance, shots are \$30 as defined by Rite Aid.) For questions call Melissa Megrđichian Pharm.D. (401) 529-7172.

NOVEMBER 4 & 5

The 87th *Annual Armenian Food Fair & Bazaar* will be held on Saturday & Sunday, November 4 & 5, 2017 in the Egavian Cultural Center, featuring authentic Armenian food & pastries, take out food booth, Armenian market with all your 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@stshmes.org or visit the church web site at www.stshmes.org or log onto armenianfoodfairri.org or armenianfoodfairri.com. A mailing with details on how to support the Sponsor Book, Wish List, etc., will be sent in the very near future. Your participation is needed and greatly appreciated. Reminder: The Bazaar Committee will be asking for parishioners to bring baked items (Armenian or American) for the pastry table Saturday and Sunday. Please help support the bazaar !!

NOTICES

RI premier of **"Women of 1915"** will be shown on Saturday, October 14 at 5:30 p.m. at RI College, Gaige Auditorium, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI. Admission \$20. Refreshments following. To reserve tickets, be a sponsor, or for info., contact p\Pauline Getzoyan (401-486-3776 or getzop@gmail.com) or Taline Mkrtschjan (401-481-4877 or haldoon@hotmail.com)

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

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 --- 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Announcement: Change to On-Going Charitable Projects: Charitable giving include canned goods collections, hygienic products collection and the yearly the Lenten Drive – the latter will begin in September

- o Contribute and participate in the quarterly Mary House Service Program.
- o Look for the hygienic product "theme" of the month starting in October.
- o Lenten Drive collections will start in September.

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

SEPTEMBER

- Today* **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
Special Plate Collection for Texas Flood Victims
- 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 Special Plate Collection for Texas Flood Victims
Bake Sale for the Nazeli Dance Group after church service
- 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.
- 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

- 1 Archbishop Khajag Barsamian Celebrating Divine Liturgy,
Ordination of Sub-Deacons - Dinner following and St.
Vartan Award to Deacon Hagop Ghajanian
- 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.
- 29 Flu & Pneumonia Shot Clinic after Church Services
Sunday School - Hayride - Husenig Grove

NOVEMBER

- 4 & 5 Annual Church Bazaar
- 15 Film - "Garni, Geghard" Egavian Hall, 7 p.m.
- 19 Sunday School - Godparent's Day
- 23 Thanksgiving Holiday, Office Closed
- 25 ACYOA Dance

DECEMBER

- 9 Christmas Concrnt
- 17 Sunday School Gift-Wrapping Christmas Party
- 24 Christmas Eve - Sunday School Christmas Pageant
- 25 Christmas Day, Office Closed