



# Paros

*Saints Sahag and Mesrob Church*  
January/February/March 2022



**Քրիստոս հարեալ  
ի սեռեցոց:  
Christ is Risen from  
the Dead.**

I want you to know, while you enjoy this edition of *Paros* in the season of the glorious Resurrection of our Lord, with the proclamation that **Christ is Risen from the dead** fresh off of our lips, I wrote this piece in the cold, contemplative, penitential and waning days of Lent, preparing for Holy Week. While doing so I am reminded of how the liturgical schedule of this most important week is intended to impact the spiritual life of the faithful while honoring and reliving the blessed footsteps of our Lord’s redemptive Passion, on his way to the Cross and beyond it to his Resurrection from the dead. Holy Week is truly an endurance test for us all, spiritually and in some ways, physically and emotionally and yet, one that calls us to be vigilant, tireless and engaged in the events that changed the world and transform our lives individually and as a church. It is very much the sprint toward the home stretch that the Lenten marathon conditioned us for, the fasting and prayer and liturgical unfolding of the story of the Fall, repentance and ultimate access to God’s glorious Kingdom through God’s Son’s Victory over death and Devil.



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The connection to the event is mystically made present within the Body of Christ and is not just nostalgic or theatric but implies a deep yet true connection with the reality of the historical events and manifest through Christ’s eternal presence among us, gathered in his name, no different than when we gather to receive his living Body and Blood in Communion, or when we are essentially and characteristically transformed in baptism. Do we



## CALENDAR

- Friday May 13 – Youth Outing – “Chinese” Bowling
- Sunday May 15 - Parish Council Installation
- May 19 – Tri-Parish Dinner (Leadership)
- Saturday June 4 – 7:30 Talent Show
- Sunday June 5 – Pentecost - Sunday School Last Day
- Sunday June 12 – 1:00pm Armenian School Hantess
- Sunday June 26 – SSMAC Armenian Festival
- June 27 - July 1 VBS -Vacation Bible School
- Sunday July 10 Episcopal Badarak and ordination– Bp. DANIEL : celebrant
- Monday July 18 – Golf Outing
- Sunday July 24 – Transfiguration
- Sunday August 14 - Assumption

discern the Lord in this regular gathering or does it even really matter to us? Only you can know as you search your heart and discern your faith.<sup>1</sup>

For a more in depth reading, continue to: PART II

The Holy Week “services” which we are called to faithfully observe are not for us to pick and choose but an invitation to be fully emersed into the Life in Christ, and in particular the Passion of Holy Week, through which our ancestors understood was a crucial part of our becoming like Christ.

At no time anywhere was it considered acceptable, helpful or appropriate for a Christian to attend church only at Easter and or Christmas. Apart from the entire preparatory schedule of ancient liturgical rites, they are meaningless and in no way different from any other day. There is after all no Resurrection without the Cross. In fact, the Lord himself commands that we “do this often” and that “where two or three are gathered” implying a collective gathering in “ecclesia”. I always find humor in the fact that some people even “celebrate” Easter without actually being engaged in any regular way with the ordinary liturgical life of the church in Communion with their fellow believers and the Holy Chalice of Christ’s Blood! Easter, like Christmas, is only a “thing” in that it only makes any sense at all within its contextualization of the entire church year. This is why to a large extent, because it has been divorced from its liturgical context, it has been diabolically reduced to bunnies, Egg coloring and Family dinners. Even “Lamb” which recalls the Passover and the Sacrificial Lamb fulfilled in Christ himself the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,”<sup>2</sup> has been replaced by ham, steak tips, fish or rib eyes.

We cannot be fully Christian in solitude for as God stated at the Creation, “it is not good for man to be alone”<sup>3</sup> but within the regular and inseparable communion of “the Body of Christ” and the family of his faithful in anticipation of his return.

Easter, beloved in Christ, is therefore the summit of our communion and is cradled within and permeates through the entire church calendar where, in fact, every Sunday is a “small” Easter, and the Day of Resurrection, the Day of the Lord and a foreshadowing of his glorious return and Second Coming, “<sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: <sup>17</sup>Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together

with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”<sup>4</sup>

If the “real time” Holy Week events recalling Jesus’ Passion, which occurred some 2000 years ago in Palestine, the Triumphant Entrance into Jerusalem, the Trial, Denial, Scourging of Jesus, the Death by Crucifixion, Three Day Burial and Triumphant Resurrection on Sunday, have any real meaning for us today, then they were and continue to be a present reality! This means that our “service” TODAY is not a mere nostalgic memorialization but a real and present journey to the Cross and the Empty Tomb with and in Jesus? Simply attending Easter Badarak is at best a minimalistic adherence to ritual and deprives us of the deeper communion in the mystery of salvation and the knowledge of God in the loving sacrifice of Jesus or at worst a sense of religious “obligation” as if to say “well now, everything is ok, I had my ample dose of religion for the year.” Easter itself ought not, nor was it ever meant to, be observed as a standalone yearly call to worship as a minimal “criterion” for imaginary inclusion in the church as a “Christian” and member of his body. In fact, the church has always seen every week and every Lord’s Day, Sunday (*Giragi* Կիրակի), as the inaugurated *Eschatological*<sup>5</sup> mystery of prophetic revelation, the story of creation, redemption and final accomplishment of God’s Kingdom.

The ancients saw corporate prayer very much as the theological realization that we are truly made present with him and therefore participants in his divine and eternal life all of which is impossible without our living membership and inclusion in the Body of Christ according to his word and promise<sup>6</sup>.

How does this mystery of presence impact our lives individually and as church? Does it flow from our faith in him and in the actual events of his sacrificial offering on our behalf? Does it result in our recognition of Christ as the very center of our thoughts, activities, actions and in fact our very lives! Does it shape who and what we are, what we do and what we believe in relation to the world around us? If the recollection enacted liturgically in the church services, the celebrations of Palm Sunday, the remembrance of the Last Supper, Washing of the Feet and Darkness of Holy Thursday evening into Good Friday have any real meaning for us, wouldn’t it spring forth into ACTION and wouldn’t it therefore lead us to “consume” from Jesus’, every Word? Wouldn’t we live the “real” baptismal life where we sought “faith, hope and love,

<sup>1</sup> <sup>5</sup> Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize *this* about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5

<sup>2</sup> John 1:29

<sup>3</sup> Genesis 2:18

<sup>4</sup> 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

<sup>5</sup> relating to “the Last Things”, death, judgment, and the final destiny of the soul and of humankind and the return of Christ.

<sup>6</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them” Matthew 18:18-20

And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:20

to be cleansed from sin, freed from demons and to ‘SERVE’ God?” These are the historical events that we were actually immersed into at our Baptism, not a mere “rite” of passage but a passage from death to Life!<sup>7</sup> Acknowledge, recognize, confess, receive and be subject to his invitation to LIFE and follow him, be comprised and grafted to the source of life into his Body and like Peter the Apostle, respond “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”<sup>8</sup>

Prayerfully

Fr. Shnork Souin, Pastor

**IN A MESSAGE TO THE FAITHFUL OF  
THE ARMENIAN CHURCH,  
CATHOLICOS KAREKIN II WELCOMES  
THE BEGINNING OF GREAT LENT**



Dear Faithful People,

We are at an important milestone in the path of our spiritual life. We are entering the period of Great Lent. In this mysterious time, we repent and ask for God’s mercy in order to be worthy of the forgiveness of our sins and salvation.

Dear Beloved, fasting shows the way to universal repentance, purification and development; bestows the Grace of being the heir of the Kingdom of God; makes the mind free from anxious and hopeless thoughts; brings sanctity to the soul, and usefulness to the body. Fasting helps us to strengthen our zeal for perfection; spread love and pleasure to our relatives, establish goodness and peace in family life, in the environment and in society. Such spiritual accomplishments give us the strength to be empowered in humility and meekness (Matthew 11:29), let us refrain from arbitrariness, do the will of our Lord and Savior.

Each of us must manifest this good behavior in our service. Let us all, with the zeal of fasting, refrain from self-centered aspirations and harmful processes, and act for common prosperity. Let us make an effort to live our God-blessed lives according to the commandments of Christ, to overcome injustice, to bring consolation to the mournful, to support the needy. Fasting is a healing for the wounded souls of our people who have tasted the bitterness of war; it is a bright ray of hope, a relief of pain, as it calls us to be inspired by optimism, to be encouraged, to create a better reality, where virtue and Godly life reign instead of sin and death.



Let us pray together, that with our fasting and repentance, God will remove every imperfection and sin from us, and bring peace, solidarity and spiritual happiness to our lives. Let us ask to be worthy of the Lord’s abundant Mercy, and celebrate the Feast of the Miraculous Resurrection of the Savior with a pure heart and soul. May the love and Graces of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with us, all, today and always. Amen.

Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin  
27 February, 2022

**SAVE THE DATE**

**STS. SAHAG AND MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH**

**GOLF OUTING**

**MONDAY JULY 18, 2022**

**9:30AM TEE OFF**

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**FOR REGISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIPS  
PLEASE SEE PAGE 10\***



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<sup>7</sup> Ephesians 2

<sup>8</sup> Matthew 16:16



## HOPE FOR THE WEARY SPIRIT

### A Pastoral Message from Bishop Daniel

*What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, what no human mind has conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him—these are the things God has revealed to us through the Holy Spirit.* (1 Cor 2:9-10)



Every year, Armenian Christians are blessed to enjoy a long and joyous Christmas season. It is a feature of our spiritual life that sets us uniquely apart from others. But once that warm-hearted season ends, we are left, like everyone else, to contemplate the cold, dark days of winter. Even in “normal” times, this can be a period of low spirits. But after two years of the Covid pandemic—and the additional burdens our people have suffered during this time—we are feeling spiritually exhausted.

We are tired, depressed, lonely. I myself became sick during the holidays, and spent the period under quarantine. I know others had the same experience. And we all feel separated from loved ones—separated from *life*—while carrying heavy burdens of anxiety and grief.

But dear friends, if you are feeling spiritually exhausted in these dark days of winter—or at any time before or after—please know that you are not alone. Countless faithful people are having the same experience. More importantly, *be assured that our Savior Jesus Christ has been where you are, too*; and he overcame the worst of the world, *for your sake*.

What he gave us, out of the deepest love ever conceived in the universe, was the promise of Hope. He took all of mankind’s ills upon himself: our sins and transgressions, to be sure; but also our loneliness, our afflictions, our infirmities, our spiritual desolation. And through his suffering, death, and resurrection, he conquered them—and gave us hope to do the same, through him. He stands beside you now, ready to share his strength, consolation, and hope. You have only to pray, and ask, and these gifts will be given by our Lord, with love.

Of course, in the depths of our spiritual darkness, it is not always easy to see that Hope is so close to us. In a beautiful passage that seems to speak directly to our time, St. Paul addressed this very concern, reassuring his followers that the Lord’s presence is *real*, even though hidden from our eyes:

“We speak a message of wisdom” he wrote, “though it is not the wisdom of this age, or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God’s wisdom: a mystery that has been hidden, and that God destined for our glory before time began.... As it is written: ‘What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, what no human mind has conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him’—*these* are the things God has revealed to us through the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor 2:6-10).

We today must take these words to heart. Certainly, the world around us offers very little expectation for hope. But Hope is *here*, nonetheless—in a way the world cannot see, and refuses to acknowledge. It is perhaps natural that in the present crisis, even we who love Christ can lose sight of his presence by our side. But through prayer, we

must ask him to focus our inner vision on the blessings that “no eye has seen.” And we must also pray on behalf of the people around us—reaching out to them personally, to draw them out of their own dark isolation, and into the light of Christian Hope. We must reassert the sense of community that has been one of the worst casualties of the present age—but that has always been one of the glories of the Armenian Christian heritage.

May our merciful Lord hear our prayers, relieve our weariness with his strength, and lift our hearts with the Hope that he alone purchased for us—and he alone can bestow.

With my prayers,

Bishop DANIEL Primate

### CHAIRMAN’S CORNER



As I complete two years as the Parish Council Chairman, I must say that while it has been challenging, it has in many ways been very rewarding. The people that I have come to work closely with over these two years, I know count among my friends. The love and devotion that they show to their church on a daily basis has made an impression on me and gives me confidence that our church is in a very good place. I’m pleased to report that we increased our dues paid membership by nearly 40 people. While we welcomed many new parishioners to our church, there were also a good number of people who have returned. I want to take a moment and thank the out-going Parish Council members:

**Len Arzoomanian**

**Melanie Krikorian**

**Margaret Chevian**

**Eric Stickler**

They have brought their own unique talents to our church and have left an indelible mark on our Parish and their wisdom will be missed on the Council. At the same time, I want to welcome to the Council:

**Anthony Maldonado**

**Naomi Thovmasian-Marsh**

**Leona Bailey-Thomasian**

**Arthur Yarumian**

We look forward to working with them over the next two years. We have a busy Spring and Summer schedule ahead. Please stay tuned for the many events to come.

Sincerely,

John Megrdichian

**Congratulations to the Newly elected and approved Parish Council**

**Installation will take place on**

**Sunday May 15, 2022**

**John Megrdichian – Chairman**

**Dr. Martin Papazian – Vice-Chairman**

**Jeff Bogosian – Treasurer**

**Art Yarumian – Assistant Treasurer**

**Dorothy Martiesian – Secretary**

**Len Arzoomanian**

**Leona Bailey**

**Naomi Marsh**

**Anthony Maldonado**

**Jason Martiesian**

**Steve Megrdichian**

**Gary Nahabedian**





**Amos House Visit - Delivery of Outreach Donations**

Mayor Elorza are Bobby, Kenny and Felicia Zorabedian, whose great-grandmother Khactkatoon raised her family a few stone throws away on Camden Ave.

Kenny and Bobby run the successful United Parking Valet Service along with Peter Keshijian and Gary Nahabedian and their office is next door to Bodega.

Bodega sells hummus, Virginia and Spanish nut products and are looking to add yalanchi as a to go item, along with all the typical things you would find in a deli and small market. I had lunch there last week and was very pleased.

There are a number of Armenian owned shops all over the state. Supporting them would be a nice thing to do the next time you are looking for some comfort food.

Best of luck to the Zorabedian family who have brought honor and pride to their family name.

-Steve Elmasian



**Happy Birthday Deacon Alex**



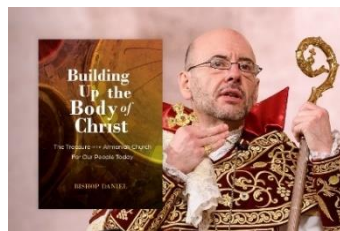
PROVIDENCE – Rhode Island College was the recipient of its largest individual gift in RIC’s history to support its nursing program, the college announced the state college was gifted \$3 million from philanthropist Edward Avedisian.

**New Armenian Business on Smith Street**

Bodega On Smith, a deli/market, had her official ribbon cutting ceremony about 45 minutes ago. It's located in the heart of Smith Hill at 373 Smith St. near the post office. Best wishes to the Zorabedians for opening this place. Pictured with



**"Building Up the Body of Christ" to Released in March!**



“We American-Armenians of the early third millennium have the rare opportunity to restore our church to its traditional stature in Armenian life,” writes Diocesan Primate Bishop Daniel, in a thoughtful consideration of the present status—and future potential—of the Eastern Diocese.

He offers his insights in a soon-to-be-released book, *Building Up the Body of Christ: The Treasure of the Armenian Church for Our People Today*. In its pages, Bishop Daniel explores the foundations of the Armenian Church, its historic glories, and its contemporary challenges. From there, he unpacks the precious insights of Scripture to describe a vision that can guide the Armenian Church’s faithful in the 21st century.

He calls that vision “Building Up the Body of Christ”: a name inspired by the Apostle Paul’s conception of the church in his Epistle to the Ephesians. It is a vision that encompasses the full spiritual richness of the Armenian Church’s mission, while giving practical guidance on questions of education, service, worship, outreach, and governance.

“We want our church to be a place of dignity, holiness and hope in a world where these virtues are in short supply,” he writes; “a community where the laurels of Armenia’s Christian past are made relevant and life-giving today. We want our church to be a portal to all that is genuinely good and just, a pathway to God and to the splendors of eternity. This is the vision of Building Up the Body of Christ.”

In *Building Up the Body of Christ: The Treasure of the Armenian Church for Our People Today*, Bishop Daniel articulates a project of ambitious scope and deep meaning for individual faithful, local parishes, and the Diocese overall.

The book will be available to the public, as a paperback volume and digital file, later this month

[ORDER HERE](#)



## SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE BODY OF CHRIST BY DN. ALEX CALIKYAN

Recently, we came across an old article in the office, entitled “Sunday School: Enemy #1?” It was authored by V. Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, now more commonly referred to as Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern). Appearing on pg. 4 of the June 17, 2000 edition of The Armenian Reporter International, this essay explains the great detriments to having Sunday School classes overlap with hours of Divine Liturgy in the church sanctuary, and proposes to resolve this conflict by offering forth a few suggestions and recommendations.

With Sunday School leadership in a period of transition at the diocesan level, I feel the time is right to revisit this dilemma, that keeps youth out of the sanctuary for all but certain parts of the Eucharist on certain weeks. I preface the following with a brief comment about the institution of Sunday School itself. This will not be an argument for the abolishing of Sunday School; many, if not all of our sister Orthodox confessions in this country have all adopted some sort of education program for their youth. Nor does it seek to denigrate the tireless efforts and dedication of our superintendents, principals, educators, support staff, students, and parents from across the diocese. Indeed, the Sunday School staff that I have become acquainted with in the last year at St. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church are some of the most devoted and hardworking individuals that I have met, who collectively do everything in their power to keep our youth coming to church on Sundays, and to engage with the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, either in the classroom, or by actively participating in the Divine Liturgy.

The crux of the issue is revealed in the previous sentence: “either...or.” For many decades, the solution to having our Sunday School students **both** receive instruction in the Armenian Apostolic faith **and** participate in the Divine Liturgy fully has eluded us, frustratingly so. And while asking parents, teachers, and students alike to come to church a second day of the week for catechesis and instruction in our Orthodox Christian faith, much less to arrive early and/or stay late on Sundays, may seem an impossible task in today’s globalized, hyper-anxious, linear-oriented world, we must at least consider what message the current system is sending to our precious youth: at best, casual participation during certain parts of the Badarak; at worst, entire summers away, with attendance only limited to “special occasions,” such as Easter, Christmas, or the anniversary of a loved one’s death.

I would like to draw a striking parallel here, between Sunday School children spending time in the church sanctuary for Divine Liturgy on a limited basis and COVID-19 removing many worshipers’ physical presence from the church entirely. I have heard many a priest now comment that COVID is truly “of the devil.” Upon reflecting on those words, I came not only to understand this phrase, but to wholeheartedly agree with it. Of course, we do not take it to mean that a menacingly grotesque creature with red skin, horns, a tail, and wielding a pitchfork decided to unleash this devastating plague upon humanity. Rather, the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic drove so many of our parishioners away from the Divine Liturgy in the church on Sundays succeeds in what Satan and His evil angels are desiring: separating ourselves from the light of the knowledge of God, which we receive every Sunday by gathering in the church to hear the Word of the Lord, and then to consume His own body and blood in holy communion. This is what I have been referring to as the Divine Liturgy, and when our youth cannot participate fully in it, even for something as noble and edifying as Sunday School, those evil forces claim victory over us, because we remain separated from God during the time that we praise and glorify Him most. Jesus says that He is in our midst “where two or three are gathered in my name.” This remains our basis for corporate worship as one eucharistic community. Whether clergy, choir, parish council, or Sunday School member, this must be the foundation for everything that we say and do when we gather on Sundays. Looking ahead to the future of our Sunday Schools, there is a great opportunity here to follow the lead that our sister Orthodox Churches have taken and incorporate our young students more fully into the sacramental and liturgical life of the church, all the while maintaining catechetical instruction of why we do



what we do. Making the worship experience more meaningful to us all, student, parent, teacher, and clergy alike, will weave us closer together as one community. This is best exemplified by referring to the title of Bishop Daniel’s newest work, “Building Up the Body of Christ.”

### **SSMAC on the ROAD!**

**Fr. Shnork and Dn. Alex visit St. Mark  
Springfield for Lenten  
Services and Lectures**





Armenian National Committee  
OF RHODE ISLAND

In commemoration of the 107th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the Armenian National Committee of Rhode Island (ANC-RI) flew the Armenian flag in every city and town of Rhode Island.

At the flag raising ceremonies on Friday, April 22nd at North Providence Town Hall, Leonard Arzoomanian and Margaret Danielian (posthumously) were honored. Then, at 6:30pm, at the Cranston City Hall, Harry Kushigian – was honored. Congratulations and thank you to the Honorees, the towns represented and the ANC for organizing this important event.

## Sunday School



The Sunday school has continued to move in a very positive direction as we head into the spring season. At the time of our last writing, we were approaching Thanksgiving. We are very pleased to report that we had an overwhelming response to our Thanksgiving outreach project and were able to assemble six enormous laundry baskets filled with foods as well as gift cards to Stop and Shop! These baskets were delivered to families in need so that they could enjoy not only a bountiful Thanksgiving meal but even more! Our most sincere thanks to our parish family and the RI Armenian community who so generously donated towards this

worthwhile project.

December was a time where we definitely felt a return to normalcy as we were once again able to have our Advent presentation. The students in Steven Zaroogian and Deborah Hazian’s class presented the Sundays of Advent on Sunday, December 12 for our school as well as parents/relatives of our students. It was a beautifully done presentation which ended with a very fun and interactive round of Jeopardy! It

bears noting that these students worked very hard on their assigned readings and all did an excellent job! The following Sunday we held our annual Christmas party and this year we embarked upon something new as we held an ornament swap among students! This was very fun and everyone thoroughly enjoyed selecting and giving their ornaments to their fellow Sunday School friends. In addition, the students all made Christmas ornaments for their families that featured their own photographs! Of course a party wouldn’t be complete without food, and we are so thankful to our families for providing many treats that were enjoyed by all.

Due to the rise in Covid cases we took an in-person break during the month of January and held our weekly classes remotely. I am very happy to report that these sessions were extremely successful and well attended. Each week’s session was led by a different teacher and it goes without saying that they were all very fun and interactive. It’s not our favorite way to teach, but we have gotten quite good at it!

Moving into the season of Lent, we were informed that a Diocesan-wide Lenten project would not be taking place this year. This did not stop our parish from creating one of our own and we embarked upon our “chocolate project”! Our Sunday School students and teachers gathered in the kitchen on Sunday, March 6 to make Chocolate crosses and bunnies which are available weekly after church. There is not a specific charge for the chocolates, any donation is welcome. The donations for these chocolates are all going towards the Fund for Armenian Relief’s specific project entitled “Setting the Table”. A bit of information on this cause, there are 10 village schools in a depressed area of





Armenia whose cafeterias don't have furniture, dishware, and/or kitchenware. Once they are equipped, the schools can begin to cook and serve healthy meals to their students. For more information on this very worthwhile cause please visit: [www.weareayo.org](http://www.weareayo.org). We are thrilled to report that already there has been a tremendous response and chocolates will continue to be sold through Easter eve.

As we continue into the home stretch of the school year we would like to express our most sincere thanks to Der Hayr, Deacon Alex, and the Parish Council for their constant support of our program. It has been a year of building, and we will continue to build as we know there are more children in our community who we are ready to welcome into our Sunday School family! As it is written in the Bible, Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14)

—Deborah A. Onanian, Superintendent



## ARMENIAN SCHOOL - ՆԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԴՊՐՈՑ

The Armenian School of Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Church was able to gather in person throughout the winter and to learn our lessons with our wonderful school, with language, history, culture and religion. Every year our Armenian school celebrates the birth of Christ with a special Armenian flavor where the children learn the meaning and the importance and the traditions of the

celebration on January 6.

We were so happy to be able to celebrate this in person with a special visit by our pastor Der Shnork Souin as well as "Dzemer Babik" (Armenian Santa) who presented gifts to all the children, even to Der Hayr! The children sang, danced around the Christmas tree and had lots of fun.

During all of our classes we always learn our language, our history as well as culture and geography. Der Hayr always encourages us with his visits and asks us to make sure we pay attention, learn our language as well as our Christian faith and to complete our homework.

We are looking forward to our celebration of Easter and Armenian Zadik as well as to solemnly celebrating the victory of our Holy Martyrs by visiting the North Burial Ground Genocide Monument on Saturday, April 23. We will also be attending and singing at the memorial monument on April 24, laying wreaths and praying for God's help for our Armenian nation and Armenian Church.





# Vacation Bible School

Sts. Sahag and Mesrob

Armenian Church

June 27 – July 1, 2022

10am – 2pm

**Join us for a fun-filled week as we  
discover...**

**God's Great BIG beautiful world**

Crafts, Music, Activities and a mid-week field trip

**Register early - space is limited.**

**<https://forms.gle/QNZiznKHWomqjTM5A>**

**For more information contact Deb Onanian**

**401.261.4914**

**REGISTER HERE:** <https://forms.gle/QNZiznKHWomqjTM5A>



# SAINTS SAHAG & MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH

Մբ. Մսհակ Եւ Ա. Մեսրոպ Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի

Sts. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Church

## 2022 Annual Golf Tournament Monday July 18,

We look forward to seeing you at the Cranston Country Club  
Registration Begins at 8:30 AM Tee-Off at 9:30AM

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
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### Golf / Dinner / and Sponsorship Packages

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,500 Tournament Golf Sponsor (4 golfers, lunches, dinners, 200 raffle tickets, and large sponsorship sign at clubhouse hill)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 Corporate Golf Sponsor (2 golfers, lunches, dinners, 100 raffle tickets, and sponsorship sign on one hole)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Lunch/Dinner Sponsor (a sponsorship sign at lunch location throughout the day)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 The Whole Hole (three sponsorship signs on one hole spanning from the tee, the 150 yard marker, all the way to the green)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 Individual Golfer Plus Raffle (golf, lunch, dinner, and 50 raffle tickets)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$165 Individual Golfer (golf, lunch, and dinner)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Hole Sponsor (sponsor sign on one hole)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 35 Dinner (dinner only)



"I would like my business/personal sign to appear as follows":

\_\_\_\_\_ **Golfer Information (Address, Phone, Email)**  
It is important we collect this information for Golfers

Golfer #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Golfer #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Golfer #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Golfer #4: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options:

By Check: Please make checks payable to: **Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church**  
Return registration form and check to: **70 Jefferson Street**  
**Providence, RI 02908**  
**(Attn: Golf Committee)**

By Credit Card: Please contact Nayiri at the Church Office at (401) 272-7712 Or Jeff 401-340-7053,  
Questions: Marc Janigian (401)523-3276, Paul Surabian (401)301-5516, or Steve Megrđichian (401-419-4392)

## Register and/or Donate Prizes!



# Annual Talent Show and Art Exhibition

Sponsored by  
Cultural Committee

Saturday June 4

7 :00 pm

Egavian Cultural Center

## THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS YOUGHAKIN OFFERINGS "FOR THE OIL LAMP"

THE ARARAT ASSOCIATION, ALAN ZARTARIAN, PRESIDENT

FR. SHNORK & YN. JULIE  
SOUIN  
CAROL A GHAZARIAN  
KAREN & WILLIAM BRANNON  
JOHN A DERDERIAN  
ROBERT S SIMONIAN  
ROBERT ZARTARIAN  
MARGARET CHEVIAN  
MELANIE KRIKORIAN  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY  
BELOVED HUSBAND GERALD,  
AND OUR PRECIOUS  
GRANDSON NICHOLAS MALL -  
BY LILLIAN NORIGIAN  
LINDA L ANGELL  
STEVEN & JOANNE ZAROOGIAN  
ARTHUR R VENTRONE  
ALLEN & LORI ANN OVAGINIAN  
ROBERT & BARBARA MUKSIAN  
JOHN & MAUREEN MELKONIAN  
MARILYN J. WOLOOHOJIAN  
JOYCE AVEDISIAN  
KENNETH & CAROL PJOJIAN  
RONALD & ROSEMARY SEPE  
JEFF & DIANNE BOGHOSSIAN  
LINDA GRANT

GRIGOR & NAYIRI  
ODABASHYAN  
FAITH DANIELIAN  
VERNON & CYNTHIA  
SAMOORIAN  
SUSAN TASHJIAN  
AURORA EMDJIAN  
GARY DOMBROSKY  
AGNES KILLABIAN  
SUE & ANN AYRASSIAN  
GREGORY YEKHTIKIAN  
MRS. MARTHA CHAKOIAN  
MANTAIAN  
MARTHA JAMGOCHIAN  
MICHAEL & BARBARA OHANIAN  
NATHALIE YAGHOOBIAN  
SYLVIA DULGARIAN  
BARBARA STONE  
AGNES TOUMASIAN  
NAOMI THOVMASIAN MARSH  
CANDACE KALOOSTIAN  
JOSEPH & SHELLEY CONTI  
SETA HANOIAN  
JEAN RICCI  
MATTHEW & ELLEN FERRARA  
EDWARD & IRENE ERANOSIAN

TERRY & DOROTHY  
MARTIESIAN  
ZITA BUTLER  
MICHELE KAZARIAN  
MARJORIE MARTIESIAN

### SPECIAL THANKS

- **SANDRA YEGHIAN** PAINTING AT ENTRANCE TO SANCTUARY-PRAYEING GRANDMOTHER
- **LAURIE ALBANESE** FOR A SPECIAL GIFT OF CANDLES FOR THE MAIN ALTAR LAMP OF THE ENLIGHTENER "GANTEGH"
- **PETER TARAIAN** FOR POLISHING AND FIXING ALL THE ALTAR CANDLES AND LITURGICAL ITEMS



## CATHOLICOS HONORS SOLDIERS WHO SACRIFICE “FOR THE SAKE OF FAITH AND THE HOMELAND”



On January 27, His Holiness Karekin II led a solemn prayer service on the eve of Armenia’s Armed Forces Day, observed every year on January 28.

The Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians presided over the service at St. Asdvadzadzin Church of the Armavir diocese, where high-ranking officers of the Republic of Armenia’s Armed Forces, members of the monastic brotherhood of the Mother See, chaplains of Armenia’s military services, and the faithful gathered to pay respectful tribute to those who have defended their homeland, and sacrificed in the cause of its independence, over the past 30 years.

In formal remarks, the Catholicos of All Armenians addressed the worshippers and the country as a whole.

“Today we are united at Holy Etchmiadzin, on the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Armenian Army,” His Holiness said, “to pray for the peace of our country, and to ask the Lord to always bless, protect, and support the Armenian Armed Forces.

“In the three decades since the independence of our homeland, our army has gone through every imaginable trial. It created glorious victories in the first Artsakh war, and lived through the bitterness and pain of the 44-day war last year. For that reason, the usual joy that attends our hearts on this anniversary is mitigated today, by the terrible knowledge of the heavy human and territorial losses we have incurred, and the unquenchable grief we feel over our martyred countrymen.

“Today, we pray once more for the immortal souls of our fallen heroes. We ask God to bestow victory, strength, and wisdom on our commanders and soldiers, who bravely fought, and continue to devote their dedicated service to the homeland.

“Our people have often found themselves in difficult geopolitical situations throughout history, when they were forced to defend their homeland and sacred places by fighting to the death, proving their godliness and patriotism. For centuries, the deep Christian conviction that ‘God is with us,’ and the inspiring slogan ‘for the sake of faith, for the sake of the homeland,’ have guided the Armenian military in its patriotic, sacred mission to defend the homeland.

“Likewise, awareness of the presence of God in our lives, and the motto ‘for the sake of faith, for the sake of the homeland,’ should be the fundamental conviction of every soldier’s life.

“The 30th anniversary of the formation of our army is an occasion to evaluate our children’s selfless service, an occasion

for serious reflection on missteps and shortcomings, so that we can face the challenges of our country and look to the future with optimism. Defeats will be irreversible, wounds incurable, if we fail to find the strength to persevere and build; if the obsession to lay blame and succumb to defeatism becomes routine; if we abandon the sincere, pure faith that places God at the center of building and strengthening the homeland. Indeed, whenever we have been faithful to this mission, our homeland has flourished, our borders have remained impregnable. But when the weeds of unfaithfulness and injustice have been allowed to overtake our fruitful land, we have suffered retreat and loss. Let us instead find assurance in the apostle’s words: ‘If God is for us, who shall be against us?’ (Rom. 8:31).

“Due to the situation around Armenia and Artsakh, it is imperative to strengthen the Armenian Armed Forces in accordance with the needs of the times, to which we must dedicate ourselves to the best of our ability. The sacred mission of our army must continue to protect the national identity of our people, the free and independent life in our historical, native cradle, where our ancestors left an indelible mark with their faith and patriotism. The clergy, too, play a strong role in the Armenian Army, my friends, in the vital commitment to peace and security of the homeland, and protection of our just rights. Let it never be said of us, as the Psalmist warned: ‘My enemy will boast, ‘I have overcome him,’ and my foes will rejoice when I fall’ (Ps 13:4). We believe that we must face trials with national unity; we must brighten our lives with new, patriotic achievements.”

Catholicos Karekin II concluded: “We send our patriarchal love and blessing to all of you on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Armenian Army. From the depths of our heart, we ask God to remember our children who gave their lives in defense of the homeland. We pray for the safe service of the command staff and soldiers of the Armenian Army; we pray for victory, peace, and the unshakeable foundation of our homeland. May the mercy of the Lord envelop the Armenian Army, our homeland, and our people all over the world—today and always. Amen.”

Following the service, a reception was held in the ceremonial hall of the Gevorgian Theological Seminary, where the Catholicos awarded honors to the military representatives present. The following day, January 28, His Holiness visited Yereblur military cemetery, to pray and pay his respects to Armenia’s fallen soldiers.



## THE “LITTLE CHURCH” IN EVERY HOME



In a typical season, clergy visit their parishioners to perform the “Home Blessing” in the period following the Feast of the Lord’s Nativity. With lingering concerns over the pandemic, this is hardly a “typical” season. But Home Blessings can still be part of spiritual life.

Our individual homes have held a special importance for us throughout the past two years—and clergy have become creative in adapting the traditional Home Blessing to the prevailing circumstances, often performing the ceremony out of doors and at a distance from the visited family. Contact your local pastor to find out what kind of Home Blessing service would be available in your local community.

### Home Blessing: An Armenian Custom

Throughout history, Armenian Christians have considered the home to be a sacred place: the tranquil sanctuary of the family, where habits of virtue, pious traditions, and life-affirming customs are passed from one generation to another. Under one roof, members of a household achieve a unity of spirit and assume responsibility for the larger life of the community. They break bread and share life’s joys and sorrows.

Above all, the home is where one’s faith in God is first kindled, and where that faith finds some of the most profound occasions for action. God’s presence makes every family home a “Little Church” (in Greek, *ecclesia*), where His love and blessings permeate every corner.

Through a special ceremony of the Armenian Church, we ask God to bless our homes on occasions like the Nativity and Resurrection of Christ, as well as on the joyous occasion of moving into a new home. It’s called the *Dounohrnek*, or Home Blessing service.

### Essential Elements

During a Home Blessing, the priest takes with him wafer and incense. He blesses bread, water, and salt: three fundamental elements essential for human life. The priest asks God not to lessen these three gifts, without which life becomes impossible or imperfect.

The bread, water, and salt are symbols of God’s infinite goodness and care. Bread, which symbolically represents the Word of God, grants life to all those who taste it.

Salt seasons our food, making it delicious and edible. Metaphorically, salt represents man in this world with his words and deeds; Christ said, “You are the salt of the

earth.” Man’s life should be seasoned with wisdom, moderation, or a sense of sufficiency.

Finally, Water, the essential element of life, represents cleanliness. Through the water of baptism we are cleansed, renewed in Christ, and united with our God.

Alongside the bread, salt, and water offered on a tray by the home-dwellers, the priest places the wafer stamped with a crucifix and designs of grapes and wheat. The wafer signifies the presence of Christ in the home. The members of the family can either distribute the wafer among themselves or keep it in a jar along with flour, salt, or rice.

During a Home Blessing, it is customary to burn incense, symbolizing the burning of our souls with our Lord’s love. In his prayer the Psalmist said: “Let my prayer be counted as incense before Thee.”

In the prayer of the Home Blessing the priest first asks for purity and abundance of the three gifts. Then he blesses the home and all its inhabitants, asks God to keep them away from visible and invisible enemies, and prays that God will protect them and grant them health of soul and body.

### Reviving a Meaningful Practice

The Home Blessing is a meaningful religious service that can bring the entire family together in holiness. Through this ceremony faith is replenished and strengthened, and the presence of our Lord is felt.

The beautiful tradition of the Home Blessing was once an annual routine for every Armenian Christian family. In modern times it had fallen into disuse, but has regained momentum in recent years, as more than ever before, families feel a need to acknowledge the presence Christ in their homes and lives.

You can contact your local pastor to schedule the service in your own home.

Prepare for the service by placing a glass of water, a small dish of salt, and a slice of bread on a tray. The priest will bring incense, charcoal, and incense burner and whatever else he needs with him.



Thank You



DIocese OF THE ARMenian CHURCH OF AMERICA (EASTERN)
ԱՊՈՍՏՈՐԳՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ ԱՐԵՒԵԼԵԱՆ ԹԵՄ

Bishop Daniel Findikyan, Primate

12/13/2021

Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church
Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin
70 Jefferson Street
Providence, RI 02908-4923

Dear Fr. Shnork:

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$400.00 dated 12/01/2021 to the Haiti-Lebanon Emergency Relief fund. We have witnessed the heartbreaking images from Haiti, which experienced a mammoth earthquake last month. As Armenians, news of this natural disaster summons up the compassionate feelings we had in the aftermath of the earthquake that rocked our homeland in 1988. Less visible in the general public sphere—but profoundly urgent to us as Armenians—is the ongoing crisis in Lebanon. More than a year after the catastrophic explosion in Beirut's harbor, the country is still burdened by the destruction and loss of life that occurred. As such our Diocese has offered support to His Holiness Aram I for our Armenian brethren in Lebanon which will be used to provide relief aid to those still afflicted by this disaster. Thank you for answering the call and helping Haiti & Lebanon and for all you do to support our Diocese! We are truly grateful. We wish you and your loved ones the very best of health and to remain safe during these challenging times.

The Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern) is dedicated to upholding our centuries-old faith and traditions. With your support, we are able to develop and implement ministries and programs to ensure that the Armenian Church remains vital in the lives of individuals, families, and communities.

Please note that no goods or services were received and that your contribution is tax-deductible (ID# 13-1628202) to the fullest extent of the law.

Thank you once again for your support.

Warm regards,

Laurie Onanian
Laurie Onanian
Development Director



February 17, 2022

Sts. Sahag Mesrob Armenian Church
Fr. Souin
70 Jefferson Street
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Fr. Souin,

We thank you for your generous gift of gloves, hats, and food, received on 2/9/22, to Amos House. In-Kind gifts help us do more on a small budget and every effort, of every size, helps us support and serve over 15,000 people each year.

Your support helps to strengthen our core mission of helping people help themselves. We operate the largest soup kitchen in Rhode Island, serving as many as 800 meals nearly every day. We offer innovative job training with our culinary and carpentry programs, providing men and women the opportunity to live stable, self-sufficient lives. Our Mother-Child Reunification Center and Fatherhood Initiative offer a second-chance for families working toward rebuilding their relationships. Your caring support is essential in continuing our outreach.

Because of your loyalty and commitment, we are able to continue our work with hope and enthusiasm. We are truly thankful to you for partnering with us to make the programs and services here at Amos House possible. On behalf of the Amos House community, thank you!

Sincerely,

Molly Smith (handwritten signature)

Molly Smith
Office Administrator and Volunteer Coordinator



Սր. Մարկոս Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի
SAINT MARK ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
2427 Wilbraham Road • Springfield, MA 01129-1833 • 413-783-5793 • www.stmarkarmenianchurch.org

Fr. Nigoghos Aznavourian, Pastor

Քահանայք թո զզեցեցին զարդարութիւն, եւ սուրբք թո ցեծալով ցեծասցեն:

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness, and let thy saints shout for joy.

Psalms 132:9

16 December 2021

Rev. Fr. Shnork Souin
Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church
70 Jefferson St.
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Fr. Shnork and Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church,

On behalf of myself and the Ordination Committee Co-Chairs — Diane Boghosian, Anna Garabedian and Donna Scagliarini — we thank all who worked and gave of their energy and talents in the planning and hosting of this memorable event. I would like to personally thank all of the parishioners of Sts. Sahag & Mesrob for supporting and encouraging my priestly vocation over the past 13 years.

We thank you for your sponsorship of \$250 in honor of and recognition of my Ordination to priesthood which meant so much to me and all of us here at St. Mark's.

The ordination on May 29, 2021 was a milestone in the history of our community as this was the first ordination to the Holy Priesthood ever to take place at St. Mark Armenian Church. Moreover, it was the first time that an American-born candidate has ever been ordained by an American-born bishop — anywhere in the world. These are both sure signs of God's continued and unending work among the Armenian people within the United States generally and especially among the Armenians residing in Western Massachusetts.

Events like these are never accomplished by one person alone. In fact, it requires the help, dedication and love of many volunteers over weeks and months. Thus, your support — the giving of time, talent and treasures — is extremely critical to the mission of St. Mark Armenian Church. Your continued prayers, presence and material investment in this new beginning for St. Mark Armenian Church will always be remembered.

With love and prayers that you and your family remain in good health and may Jesus Christ our Lord continue to bless both you and your loved ones under the shadow of his precious Cross in peace.

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Nigoghos Aznavourian (handwritten signature)
Fr. Nigoghos Aznavourian
Pastor

Co-Chairs of the Ordination Weekend:
Diane Boghosian, Anna Garabedian and Donna Scagliarini

St. Mark Armenian Church is a section 501 © (3) nonprofit organization. The value of your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your generous donation. This letter serves as your receipt.

John Stickler-Godfather of the Cross-Theophany 2022







**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release – January 6, 2022**

*THE ARARAT ASSOCIATION OF RI surpasses \$500,000 of donations to*

*the Armenian Community of Rhode Island*

*Providence, RI – January 6, 2022*

*This past August 2021, The Ararat Association of RI hosted its 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Armenian Invitation Tournament which proved to be the most successful in the organization's Tournament history.*

From its beginning in 1983, the Ararat Association's purpose was primarily social and fraternal when six native Rhode Island Armenian professionals came together to form what is now known as The Ararat Association of Rhode Island. These individuals set out to participate in their community on a non-sectarian basis by forming a non-profit entity to cultivate professional, social and cultural interaction amongst its founding members and the Rhode Island Armenian community at large.

The Ararat Association members are: Charles J. Ajootian, K. Kenneth Bogosian, Stepan P. Kanarian, Kenneth R. Minasian, H. David Papazian, Richard K. Papazian and its Chairman - Alan G. Zartarian

In early spring of 1988, the group would sponsor its inaugural golf tournament to promote sportsmanship, fellowship and social interaction within the Armenian community. These initial goals were exceeded beyond all expectations and resulted in an extremely successful community and financial event for the Association. With this financial success, the Association found their real mission...to provide all their event profits to various local Armenian organizations. Now, thirty-eight years from its founding, the Ararat Association of RI is proud to report it has provided over \$500,000 of donations to over fifty Rhode Island Armenian organizations and causes.

A partial list of recipients of The Ararat Association donations are the following:

Charles Yaghoobian Scholarship Fund, Armenian Students Association, Armenian Martyrs Committee, Martyrs Youth Day, Husenig Foundation, Armenian Chorale, Hamazkayin, Homenetmen, Knights of Vartan, Armenian Saints Softball Team, Nazali & Siroun Dance Groups, ACYOA Juniors & Seniors, AYF Juniors & Seniors, White Cross Project, Armenian Radio Hour, Armenian Historical Association of RI, Youth Soccer & Basketball, Mourad School Dance Costumes, ARS Ani Chapter, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Genocide, Women of 1915 Event, and Armenian Library & Museum.

In addition, the organizations of the Armenian Euphrates Evangelical, Sts. Sahag and Mesrob, and Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Churches include: Sunday Schools, Armenian Schools, Senior Citizens, Bible Camp, Bible Camp Scholarships, Christian Education Committee, Church Cultural Committees, Bazaars, Picnics, Christmas and Easter Donations, Christmas altar flowers and multiple Thanksgiving and Christmas Food certificates for individual parishioners.

The Ararat Association thanks all who helped us achieve this milestone and wish all a Merry Armenian Christmas and good health throughout the coming year.

Thank you and God Bless.

*Alan Zartarian - Chairman*

[az@zartarian.net](mailto:az@zartarian.net)

401.523.0618

P.O. Box 7602 • Warwick • Rhode Island • 02887

# STS. SAHAG AND MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH

70 JEFFERSON ST., PROVIDENCE, RI 02908

# ARMENIAN FESTIVAL



**Sunday, June 26, 2022**

**12:00pm – 6:00pm**

RAIN OR SHINE

“PICNIC”



**DELICIOUS FOOD • PASTRIES •  
DANCING • 50/50 RAFFLE •  
RON “THE BALLOON MAN” •  
LIVE MUSIC FEATURING:**

**The Mugrditchian Band**  
*Mark DerMugrditchian – Clarinet*  
*Greg Krikorian – Oud and Vocals*  
*Kevin Magarian – Guitar and Vocals*  
*Arthur Chingris – Dumbek*

**AND A PERFORMANCE BY THE NAZELI DANCE GROUP/JUNIOR CHOIR**



**ORDER VIA:**

- Scanning the QR Code
- Visiting <https://bit.ly/3K4QUfv>
- Calling the Church at 401-272-7712

## MENU

- Lamb Shish Kebab (w/pilaf & salad): \$19
- Losh Kebab (w/pilaf & salad): \$16
- 1/2 Chicken (w/pilaf & salad): \$16
- Kheyma (w/salad & bread): \$16
- Falafel (w/salad & bread): \$12
- Side Order Pilaf: \$3
- Side Order Salad: \$3



**PRE-PAY BY THURSDAY, JUNE 23 TO GUARANTEE MEALS**





**PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL?  
SPEAK TO FR. SHNORK – 401-272-7712**

*NEW - MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL*

**Establish Membership in the Perpetual Memory Endowment – PME**

There are many parishioners who we have lost over the years and their memory has been forgotten in the continuing life and spiritual memory of this parish and sadly there is no one to continually pray for them and for their souls to be remembered. While some are fortunate enough to have family members remember them, even yearly, there may come a time that that too will be forgotten.

There is now a wonderful and pious way to ensure that the names of loved ones will be remembered annually in the prayers of Requiem at Saints Sahag and Mesrob Church. Membership in the PME.

Have your name and the names of loved ones forever embedded into the annual prayers of memorial as a member of the new PME at Saints Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church. [Perpetual Memory Endowment Application Form](#)

**SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS**

**BAPTISMS**



1. Cameron Dudumaine (2-27-22)
2. Julian Grassini-(3-27-22)  
Parents: David and Lena Grassini  
*May these children be raised in the love and care of the Lord.*

**MARRIAGES**

1. Joseph Del Buono & Nicole Ayvazyan (10-24-21)  
*Best wishes and prayers are extended to the couple for a long and happy life together.*

**FUNERALS**



1. Peter Kaloostian (1-5-22)
2. Hermine M. Mahtesian (1-8-22)
3. Russell J. Chateaneuf (1-14-22)
4. Mary H. Boghosian (1-20-22)
5. Nishan Serabian (1-26-22)
6. Anahith Boyajian (1-29-22)
7. Surpik Ayrassian (2-7-22)
8. Eliza Suvajian (2-7-22)
9. Yughaber Lavchayan (3-7-22)
10. Lisa Stepanian (3-28-22)

*Expressions of sympathy and prayers are extended to the families that their loved ones may be at peace in the care of the Lord and their memory be eternal.*

**Marriages:** Arrangements for weddings are to be made at least eight months in advance. Marriage preparation and counseling often called Pre-Cana, is required before the celebration of the sacrament. The Best Man (Khachyeghpayr) must be a confirmed communicant of the Armenian Orthodox Church. The parish office will make all necessary arrangements for the deacon, organist and soloist. Marriages are not celebrated during Great Lent.

**Baptism and Chrismation (GNUNK):** All baptisms must be scheduled at least two months in advance. Pre-baptismal preparation for the parents and godparents is strongly encouraged. At least one of the godparents must be a member of the Armenian Orthodox Faith.

**Regulations for Sacramental Services:**

**SAINTS SAHAG AND MESROB PRAYER CARD MINISTRY  
WHY SEND A HALLMARK CARD?**

Offer instead the Card that Shares and Cares at Prayer! The church will happily send a card on your behalf, to your friend, acquaintance, colleagues, coworker or anyone else, for almost any occasion in order to show that you have requested prayers for them during our church services. What a great way to show them that you hold them in prayer! (Weddings, deaths, graduations, births, illness, well wishes etc.)

Information about the Prayer Card Ministry of Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church is available through the church office. If you would like to request a Healing Prayer Card, Memorial Prayer Card for a loved one, or some other special occasion Prayer Card, please call the office (272-7712).

The name of your loved one and the one requesting the card will be included in this bulletin on the Sunday of your request and the person will be remembered in prayer by the pastor during the Liturgy.

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Request: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Requested for: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

(Suggested Minimum \$10)



In accordance with Diocesan discipline mandated by the Primate, all sacraments, e.g., weddings, baptisms and rites of Christian burial, can only be administered in the church sanctuary which has been consecrated for the celebrations of these sacred rites.

## Membership / Stewardship

*Let's Start Building Our Future!* Become a member and/or a steward of Saints Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church of Providence, RI.

It only takes a few minutes to complete the Membership form and \$175.<sup>00</sup> (\$100.<sup>00</sup> for students and \$125.<sup>00</sup> senior citizens) to become a dues paying member of Saints Sahag and Mesrob Church of Providence.

While many churches of other faiths use the method of tithing, Saints Sahag and Mesrob Church simply asks a minimum fixed amount to be a dues paying member of the church, and that amount is \$175.00. That's only \$3.37 a week! Membership for senior citizens and students is even less: \$125.00 a year or \$2.40 per week.

GO ON-LINE or Please print and fill out the form and mail it, along with a check (unless you choose to use your credit card), to the church office:

ON-LINE OPTION IS BEST, SAFE, SECURE AND EASY  
 You can now pay Dues/Stewardship on-line at:  
 Click or go to: [Give to Saints Sahag & Mesrob](http://Give to Saints Sahag & Mesrob)

The logo depicting a stylized Armenian Cross with the threefold elements of stewardship was created by Father Shnork Souin, showing that all 3 elements are required of the life in Christ.



Membership and Stewardship of Time and Talent and Treasure, are the building blocks of your commitment to the church. By your membership you are an architect in the life and building of the church and community

Your dues are not only essential, but facilitate the realization of the day-to-day operations of the mission of Saints Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church. In conjunction with your dues, your annual stewardship pledge is a way to express support of, involvement in and concern for the welfare and growth of our church with her many ministries offered.



We kindly ask that you that you fulfill your dues and stewardship pledges now.

**Advertise in "Paros"**

Full Page	\$500/4 Issues	Half Page	\$300/4 Issues
Quarter Page	\$150/4 Issues	Business Card	\$75/4 Issues

**1100+ newsletters mailed 4 times a year**  
 Predominantly Rhode Island addresses & Armenian Subscribers  
**For information, please call the Church Office 401-272-7712**  
[office@stsahmes.org](mailto:office@stsahmes.org)  
 Subject to USPS rules

**Please Remit 2022 Membership**

If you have not paid your dues for 2022, please complete the form below and send your donation to the church office.

You can pay your membership and/or stewardship with your MasterCard or Visa ;  
**CLICK: [Give to Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church \(breezechms.com\)](http://Give to Saints Sahag & Mesrob Armenian Church (breezechms.com))**

**2022 Membership Application Saints Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church of Providence, RI**  
 I/WE would like to be year 2022 dues-paying member(s) of Saints Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church of Providence.

**\$175.<sup>00</sup> Adults;**  
**\$125.<sup>00</sup> Senior Citizens;**  
**\$100.<sup>00</sup> Students)**

**Members #1 Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Members #2 Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_

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The Church Office is open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

If you would like to contact Father Shnork, call 201-306-4304 [dershnork@gmail.com](mailto:dershnork@gmail.com). To submit items for the Sunday **Lighthouse Bulletin**, please contact the office at 401-272-7712 or [office@stsahmes.org](mailto:office@stsahmes.org). If you call after hours, please leave your requests, and the administrative assistant will be happy to process them promptly. For Emergencies, please contact the Pastor at 201-306-4304

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