

St. John Parish Calendar

For flyers with further information on these and other parish events, scan this QR code to view our e-Bulletin.



You can also find it using your web browser at:
www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org/sunday-bulletin/

March

Sun., March 2 - Annual Parish Assembly

12 p.m. - Fuller Center Armenia fundraising lunch, \$15/person.

Mon., March 3 - Bible Study

7 p.m. - Conference Room - All ages, newcomers welcome!

Fri., March 7 - Hye Doon Karaoke Night

7 p.m. - St. Vartan Room

Sun., March 9 - Garj Talk - Dr. Kent Schull, Binghamton Univ.

12 p.m. - "The Mormon-Armenian Experience in the Late Ottoman Empire"

Sun., March 9 - Men's Society Sunday Soups

Butternut Squash - Available in the Cultural Hall after Divine Liturgy

Thurs., March 13 - Adult Catechism

7 p.m. - St. Vartan Room, Topic TBA.

Sat., March 15 - Little Saints

10 a.m. - For more information, email sjlittlesaints@gmail.com.

Sun., March 16 - Men's Society Sunday Soups

Tanabour (Madzoon) - Available in the Cultural Hall after Divine Liturgy

Sat., March 22 - Saintly Women's Day

11 a.m. - Sponsored by the Women's Guild - Details forthcoming

Sun., March 23 - Men's Society Sunday Soups

Lentil - Available in the Cultural Hall after Divine Liturgy

Sun., March 30 - Garj Talk - Dr. Bogdan Pavlish, UM-Ann Arbor

12 p.m. - "A Lost Tribe of Nairi"

April

Sat., April 5 - Rev. Fr. Diran and Yn. Rosalie Papazian Retreat

Speaker: Dr. Roberta Irvine, St. Nersess Armenian Seminary

St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit



Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian, Pastor

Clergy residing within the St. John parish and community:

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian

Reverend Father Abraham Ohanesian

Sunday Bulletin

March 2, 2025

Armenian Church Year 1474-1475

Poon Paregentan

Celebrant: Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

Morning Service - 9:00 a.m. | Divine Liturgy - 9:45 a.m.

Sacred Lections: Isaiah 58:1-14; Romans 13:11-14:25; Matthew 6:1-21

Lector: Dn. Aram Sarkisian

Welcome!

We welcome you to the Divine Liturgy (*Soorp Badarak*) and invite all who are confirmed in the Armenian Church, and also those whose churches are in communion with ours, to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are new to our parish and would like information about our many parish groups, please ask any parish council member on duty at the entrance desks. Please also fill out a contact card before you leave. Enter to worship the Lord Jesus, who loves you, and depart with His love in order to serve others.

Today at St. John

Welcome to the new look of our Sunday Bulletin! This more compact format and design is a pilot program for Lent. We welcome your feedback as we find new ways best communicate with our parish each week.

Today is our annual Parish Assembly. While only Church Stewards may vote, we invite the attendance and participation of all members of our community!

Plate Collection: A collection for the church will be taken following Holy Communion. Your donations remain an essential part of how we support our parish's mission. You can also make an online plate donation through our website, or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.





St. John Komitas Choir

Deacon Rubik Mailian, Director of Sacred Music and Pastoral Assistant
Arshaluys Gharibian, Organist

Midday Hymn

Sung during the Synaxis (at the bottom of page 12 in the Divine Liturgy book)

The First Sunday of Great Lent (Tone 8)

The Word with the Father in essence and co-existing with the Holy Spirit, fused his own image with our earthly nature.

So adorning it with glory, he placed it in the Garden of Delight.

There, delighted, he rejoiced with boundless joy, for he saw God always humbled in the Garden, from Whom he imprinted on himself rays of the Light.

Therefore, O Mother of God, Mary, petition your only-begotten Son, to grant us, like the thief, to inherit again the majesty of the Garden.

Today's Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:1-21

"Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Thus when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And in praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:

"Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

General Parish Information

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Parish Secretary: Gayane Hovhanissyan | (248) 569-3405 | office@sjachurch.org
In an after-hours emergency, please contact:

Fr. Aren - Cell: (773) 457-4122 | fraren@sjachurch.org

Parish Administrator - Cell: (248) 770-2200 | admin@sjachurch.org

Visits to the hospitalized and homebound: Please call the church office if you or someone you love has been hospitalized and would appreciate a visit from the pastor. If you have an upcoming surgery, please consider adding your name to our prayer list for the sick or hospitalized. Those who are homebound and desire to receive Holy Communion should contact the church office.

Home Blessings: If you would like the pastor to visit your home and conduct a home blessing service, please contact the church office.

Baptisms: Parents may prepare for their child's baptism before they are born. For more information, contact the church secretary. We encourage parents to baptize their children between the ages of 40 days and 3 months.

Weddings: Please contact the church office at least nine months before your anticipated wedding date. We ask that you please make sure to confirm your date with the pastor before booking a reception location.

Requiem Prayers (Hokekankist): Names may be submitted to the church office by mail, phone, or email no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday preceding the Sunday when prayers are requested. Requiem prayers may be offered any Sunday except for the five Tabernacle Feast Days.

Veils: In the Armenian Church, it is customary for women and girls to wear head coverings when attending the Divine Liturgy, and particularly when receiving Holy Communion. If you do not have a head covering, but wish to obtain one, kindly approach a parish council member.

Sunday Bulletin: Announcements for the print bulletin and e-Bulletin are due to the church office by 5 p.m. Wednesday.

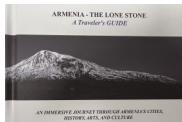
Parish Membership: If you are interested in becoming part of the St. John parish stewardship program, please speak with any parish council member, contact the church office, or visit stjohnsarmenianchurch.org/membership

Visit the St. John Parish Bookstore!

Open during Church Office hours and on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy

The best selection of Armenian books and CDs and gift items: Jewelry, Armenian crosses, key chains, cookbooks and many "Made in Armenia" products — some newly arrived!

Featured Items



Armenia: The Lone Stone
A Traveler's Guide From Ancient Stones to Modern Wonders,
by David Karamian (HC \$30)



New - Zabelle Panosian: I Am Servant of Your Voice, by Harout Arakelian, Harry Kezelian III, and Ian Nagoski (SC/CD \$15)
The story of the most popular classical female Armenian singer of the Genocide era and her efforts in the US to raise money for its survivors.



New - Western Armenian Music:
From Asia Minor to the United States,
by Hachig Kazarian (HC \$40/SC \$30)



New - Khigar Nabasdaguh,
by Michael Pifer (HC \$17)
Western Armenian children's book about a little rabbit who learns how to stand out in a big family

These and many other Michael Aram pieces now available!

Candles



White Orchid Cocktail
Napkin Holder



Noah's Ark
Nut Dish



New! - Armenian Cross
Ornament, 5"x3.5", \$50



WEDDINGS | BAPTISMS
SHOWERS | HOLIDAYS
GRADUATIONS | REUNIONS
BIRTHDAYS | BANQUETS
MEETINGS | ART SHOWS

EVENTS AT
ST JOHN
ARMENIAN CHURCH

WWW.SJACEVENTS.ORG
SCHEDULE AN
APPOINTMENT TO VIEW
OUR VENUE & ALL THE
FANTASTIC OPTIONS

CALL: 248 569.3405

EMAIL: EVENTS@SJACHURCH.ORG

Today's Gospel Reading, continued

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Badrik Jooharigian, Nadia Ayrapetyan, Joann Mashigian, Hravir Mashigian, Charles Sansone, Nick Fernandez, Craig Tarpinian, Susie Janigian, Jeffrey Perna, Haroutiun Bagdasarian, Diramayr Marmine Bagdasarian, Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyagian, Dinora Boulgarian Pitz, Mary Helen Altounian, Wayne Owen Engelki, Shoghig Terjimanian, Robert Buchanan, Marus Grigoryan, Vladimir Avetisov, Nancy Altounian, Nailya Sahakian, Ronald Seaman, Marge Aramian, Rose Lucassian, Zaven Ovian, Jan Paloian, Rose Baise.

Daily Scripture Readings for This Week

Mon	First Day of Lent - Isaiah 1:16-20
Tue	Ezekiel 18:20-23
Wed	Exodus 1:1-2:10; Joel 1:14-20
Thu	Romans 6:3-14
Fri	Deuteronomy 6:4-7:10; Job 6:2-7:13; Isaiah 40:1-8
Sat	Wisdom 8:19-9:5; Isaiah 62:6-9; Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 10:16-22

Remembering the Victims of Sumgait, Kirovabad and Baku Massacres (Weather Permitting)

Requiem prayers for the souls of the victims of the Sumgait, Kirovabad and Baku massacres, which occurred from 1988-1991, will be said during Badarak today.

A blessing will be said at the Baku-Sumgait Khatchkar as we remember the victims of the massacres immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

Daylight Savings 2025

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on next Sunday, March 9th.

Men's Society Outreach

Continuing their partnership with Motor City Mitten Mission, the Men's Society of St. John Armenian Church prepared hot lunches twice in January for the homeless of Metro Detroit.

The Men's Society would like to thank

Dr. Edward and Anna Sarkisian; Sara, Morgan, Sona and Anya Bell;

Dn. Dr. Aram Sarkisian and Dr. Diana Ohanian

In memory of dear cousin Nicholas Wassil

Vlad Ayrapetyan and Family

Edvard Shevalye and Arevik Tashchyan

for their donations to underwrite the cost of the lunches.

We are in need of volunteers to help us prepare meals twice a month in the main kitchen. If you are available and would like to help, please contact Harry Dulger at 313-333-6915.

Annual Parish Assembly Meeting

St. John Armenian Church will be holding its Annual Assembly Meeting today, in the Cultural Hall at 12:30pm. The meeting is open to all parishioners, but only Church Stewards will be able to participate in voting. A lunch will be provided prior to meeting with proceeds supporting The St. John's Fuller House Project in Armenia. Donation for the lunch is \$15 - please RSVP for lunch to Jackie El Chemmas at Jackie@stonesoap.com or call the church office at (248) 569-3405.

Women's Guild Palm Sunday Bake Sale

The Women's Guild of St John Armenian Church will once again, be preparing our World Famous Soo Boreg in time for Palm Sunday Bake Sale and for your Easter dinner. Please place your advanced, pre-paid order by contacting Joy Callan by e-mail or by text at yerchanigc@gmail.com or 248-533-6320.

Bake Dates

Tuesday, March 4, 9am - noon - Katah

Tuesday, March 11, 9am - noon - Katah

Tuesday, March 18, 9am - noon - Nazoog/Simit

Monday, March 24, 5pm - 8pm - Choreg

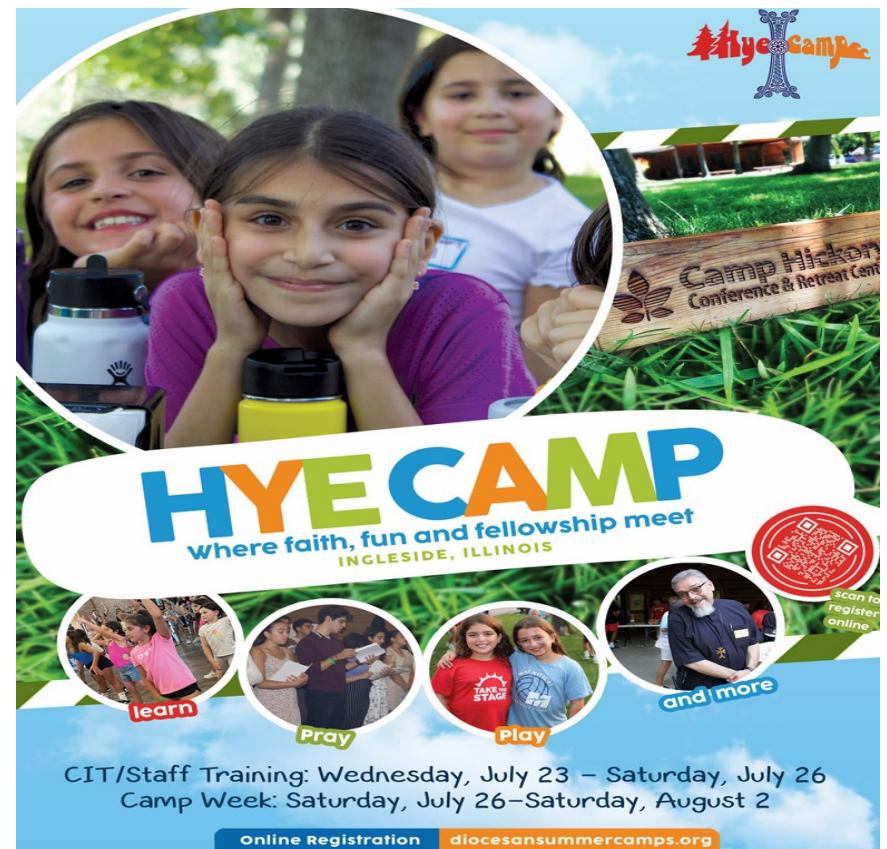
Tuesday, March 25, 9am - noon - Soo Boreg - advanced pre-paid orders only

We look forward to your participation and for a good time.

All hands are good hands!!!

The Armenian American Veterans' Building Renovation

Join the crowd!



ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH 30TH ANNUAL
REV. FR. DIRAN AND YN. ROSALIE PAPAZIAN PARISH RETREAT
OPEN TO ALL
Saturday, April 5, 2025
ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH, MAIN HALL

Registration 9:00 a.m.
Program 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

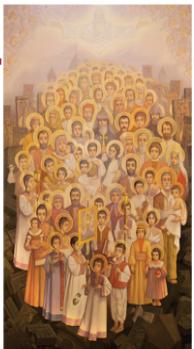
“I Am the Lord Who Heals You.”
Exodus 15:26

Guest Retreat Leader: **Roberta Ervine, PhD**
Professor of Armenian Studies
St. Nersess Seminary, NY

Guest Presenter: **Ned Rodriguez, PhD**
Psychologist, Trauma Healing
Santa Monica & Pasadena, CA

PLEASE BRING YOUR BIBLE. \$25 Donation includes: continental breakfast and lunch. To register online, go to <https://abundant.co/stjohnarmenianchurch/retreat> or contact Denise Boyagian at dboyagian@yahoo.com, or 248.892.9739. **Register by March 31st.** Make check payable to St. John Armenian Church (memo: Lenten Retreat). Mail to St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075. Invite your friends and family!

Sponsored by the Rev. Fr. Diran and Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian Endowment Fund



SAVE THE DATE

110th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Service in Honor of the Sanctified
Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide

Under the auspices of the
Armenian Churches of Greater Detroit
Genocide Commemoration Committee

St. John Armenian
Apostolic Church

St. Sarkis Armenian
Apostolic Church

St. Vartan Armenian
Catholic Church



Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church

Holy Communion

Beginning today March 2, through Great Lent, Communion will not be openly offered during Divine Liturgy. Anyone wishing to receive Communion during Great Lent may do so by making arrangements with the pastor.

Year - End Statement

Church stewards who require a tax statement itemizing 2024 donations please contact the Church Office at (248) 569-3405 or office@sjachurch.org

The Parish Council is Seeking to Fill the Following Positions:

Bookkeeper - a part-time position working under the Parish Administrator and in conjunction with the Parish Council Treasurer.

Approximately 15-20 hours per week with flexible schedule.

Event Manager, SJAC Events - SJAC Events is hiring an Event Manager for our catering operations. This full-time, salaried position reports directly to the Director of Sales and Events, and requires working closely with catering clients, chefs, servers, and facilities staff to ensure exceptional client and customer experiences for all events in our complex.

Looys Ministries

Dear St. John Faithful, in our efforts to expand our outreach to parishioners in need, the Looys Ministries team is looking to identify those who could use the “Light of Christ” in their lives. If you know of someone who could use a wellness call once in a while, a visit, a delivery, or simply a loaf of choreg, please contact our Looys Ministries Co-Chairs:

Dn. George Boyagian gboyagian@yahoo.com
or **Denise Boyagian** dboyagian@yahoo.com.

On Poon Paregentan:

“The custom of happy banqueting despite the somber church atmosphere on that Sunday, and notwithstanding the drawing of the altar veil and the penitential hymns of Lent, has been interpreted by our *vartabeds* as exemplifying ‘the felicity of paradise and the good life.’ Thus the mystery of the Great *Paregentan* Sunday symbolizes the joyful life of the forefathers of the human race.”

Abp. Malachia Ormanian, *A Dictionary of the Armenian Church* (1905)



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Requiem Prayers for the Souls of Those Asleep in Christ

NICHOLAS WASSIL, 40th Day, Dear Cousin

Requested by Dr. Edward and Anna Sarkisian
Sara, Morgan, Sona and Anya Bell
Dr. Dr. Aram Sarkisian and Dr. Diana Ohanian

JOHN TOROSIAN, Brother, 40th Day

Requested by Janice Torosian

FLORENCE E. KARAGOSIAN, 15th Year, Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother

Requested by the Karagosian Family
Robert Karagosian and Family
Tim and Robin Karagosian and Family
David and Dawn Karagosian and Family
Harry Karagosian Jr. and Family

ARET HINTIRYAN, 25th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather

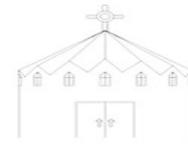
Requested by Aznif Hintiryan
Lillian and Sevan Calukyan
Alec and Eleesa Calukyan
Arlin and Viken Yeranosian
Dr. Arlet and Arthur Dakessian
Sofi and Lorin Dakessian

BERJ ADAM, 13th Year, Brother, Uncle

Requested by Aznif Hintiryan and Family

ARET HINTIRYAN, 25th Year, Brother, Uncle

Requested by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hintiryan
Mr. and Mrs. Saro and Araxie Ozdamar
Axsel and Maxim Ozdamar
Mr. Zaven Hintiryan



ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH LITTLE SAINTS

JOIN US ON THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY
MORNINGS AT 10:00 AM

JANUARY 18

FEBRUARY 15

MARCH 15



Little Saints is a parish ministry for children from birth up to age four. Please join us for monthly interactive lessons led by Fr. Aren.

For more information, email sjlittlesaints@gmail.com



“MADE IN HIS IMAGE” ACYOA JRS. LENTEN RETREAT

21st March - 22nd March, 2025

All teens of Ohio & Michigan ages 13-18 are invited to join us for a day-long **Joint Lenten Retreat** at St. John Armenian Church, reflecting on what it means to be created in God's image and how we live out our faith in today's world. The Retreat will be led by **Hayr Aren & Der Hratch**. This retreat will include:



- BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSIONS
- SMALL GROUP CONVERSATIONS
- INTERACTIVE REFLECTIONS
- PRAYER AND MORE...

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH
22001 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI 48075

FOR QUESTIONS & RSVP
Contact: lisamardigan@sjachurch.org





St. John Armenian Church

BIBLE STUDY

LED BY FR. AREN!



MARCH 3, 2025

TWICE A MONTH,
IN-PERSON
MONDAYS FROM 7:00PM - 8:30PM

March 9:

Dr. Kent Schull
Binghamton University
“The Mormon-Armenian Experience
in the Late Ottoman Empire: Conversion,
Hardship, and Persecution”

Garj Talks

A series of brief community
discussions sponsored by
St. John and the University
of Michigan Center for
Armenian Studies

March 25:

Dr. Bogdan Pavlish
The University of Michigan
“A Lost Tribe of Nairi: Armenians of Eastern
Europe Between Diaspora and Assimilation”



St. John Armenian Church



Following the Divine Liturgy
St. Vartan Room



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Requiem Prayers for the Souls of Those Asleep in Christ

JANET HAKOPIAN

PAYLAG HAKOPIAN

NOYEM KALUST

HRANT HAKOPIAN

AZNEV MARDEGIAN

ARAXE HAKOPIAN

KEVORK HAKOPIAN

Requested by Soseek and Fahi Hakopian

HRANT HAGOPIAN

NOYEM HAGOPIAN

ONEEK HAGOPIAN

YAKOOB MARASHLIAN

ANJEL MARASHLIAN

OHANNES AND VREJOUHY MARASHLIAN

ARES YARANOSYAN

ARAXY, KAYZAK AND DEERAN BAGHDASARIAN

KALOOST AND VARTANOOSH MGRDICHIAN

GEORGE AND MARKARED TERZIAN

Requested by Sarkis, Liwiza and Hagob Marashlian

GABRIEL KRIKORIAN

VARTAN AND ASMAR KASPARIAN

Requested by Selvart, Shahine and Tereza Krikorian



Our Journey to Easter - 2025

Great Lent (Medz Bahk)

Sun., March 2	Poon Paregentan
Wed., March 5	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lenten Dinner - 5:30 pm
Sun., March 9	Sunday of the Expulsion
Wed., March 12	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lenten Dinner - 5:30 pm
Sun., March 16	Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Wed., March 19	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lenten Dinner - 5:30 pm
Sun., March 23	Sunday of the Steward
Wed., March 26	Median of Great Lent (<i>Michink</i>)
Sun., March 30	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lenten Dinner - 5:30 pm
Wed., April 2	Sunday of the Judge
Sat., April 5	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lenten Dinner - 5:30 pm
Sun., April 6	Rev. Fr. Diran and Yn. Rosalie Papazian Parish Retreat
Wed., April 9	Sunday of the Advent
Sun., April 13	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lobster Dinner - 5:30 pm
	Palm Sunday and Opening of the Doors (<i>Trnpatzek</i>)

Holy Week (Avak Shapat)

April 15	Great and Holy Tuesday Vespers remembering the Wise and Foolish Maidens - 7 pm
April 16	Great and Holy Wednesday Prayers for Healing Service - 7 pm
April 17	Great and Holy Thursday Divine Liturgy - 10 am Washing of the Feet Service (<i>Vodnlvah</i>) - 7 pm Betrayal and Passion of Our Lord (<i>Khavaroom</i>) - 8:30 pm
April 18	Great and Holy Friday Order of the Crucifixion of Christ - 10:30 am Entombment of Our Lord Jesus Christ - 7 pm
April 19	Great and Holy Saturday (Easter Eve) Reading of Prophecies - 4 pm Divine Liturgy (<i>Jrakalouyts</i>) - 5 pm
April 20	Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Morning Service - 9 am Festal Divine Liturgy - 9:45 am
April 21	Remembrance of the Dead (<i>Merelotz</i>) - 11 am

Parish Organization News and Events

REST SERVICE & ACYOA Jrs LENTEN DINNER

St. John Armenian Church
REST SERVICE 5:30PM
DINNER 6:00PM-7:00PM

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

MARCH 5

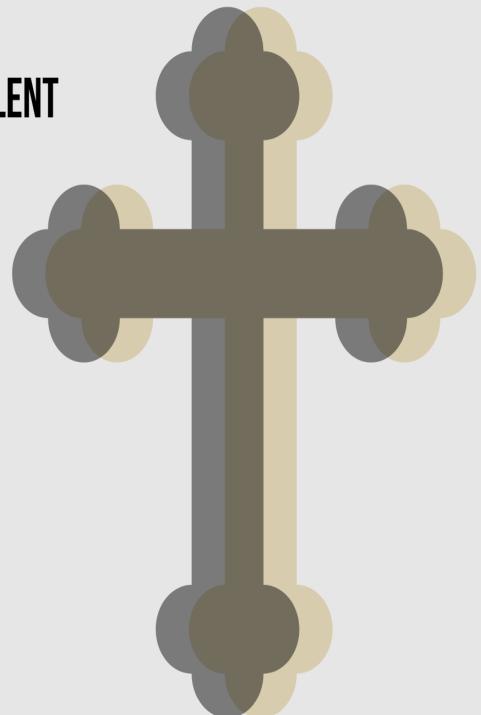
MARCH 12

MARCH 19

MARCH 26

APRIL 2

APRIL 9 - LOBSTER DINNER



Adults \$15 (fish or vegan)

Children \$5

Lobster \$25

reservations call (248) 569-3405 **or** office@sjachurch.org