

# 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

Pastoral Intern Reverend Father Vazgen Andreasyan



## Sunday Bulletin

**September 14, 2025**

**Armenian Church Year 1475**

## Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Celebrant: Reverend Father Vazgen Andreasyan

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

Isaiah 49:13-23, Galatians 6:14-18, John 3:13-21

Lector: Gayle 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.

### The Kiss of Peace

The GIVER says:

*Kreesdos ee mech mer haydnetsav.*

*Քրիստոս ի մէջ մեր յայտնեցաւ:*

Christ is revealed amongst us.

The RECEIVER says:

*Orhnyal eh haydnootyoonun Kreesdosee.*

*Օրհնեալ է յայտնութիւնն Քրիստոսի:*

Blessed is the revelation of Christ.

**Plate Collection:** Today's collection for the church will be taken during *Badarak* immediately following 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.



22001 Northwestern Hwy. | Southfield, MI 48075 | (248) 569-3405 | [stjohnsarmenianchurch.org](http://stjohnsarmenianchurch.org)





## **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)

#### **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

You faithful people,  
Let us always sing victorious and new praise in the highest  
To Christ the King.  
He came to enlighten His chosen Holy Church,  
And to crown it with the brilliant Cross;  
Let us sing glory to Him.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
Now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.  
Today we also celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross,  
And we render glory and honor to the Saviour forever.

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### **Today's Gospel Reading**

**John 3:13-21**

"No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just 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, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have 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 people loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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### **Merelotz Service**

#### **After Feast of The Exaltation of The Holy Cross**

It is the tradition to remember all deceased loved ones the day after a major feast day known as Merelotz.

**Monday, September 15, 2024 at 11:00**

If you wish to have individual names remembered at this Hokehankist service, please submit the full name of the person or persons you wish to have remembered either typed or electronically sent to [office@sjachurch.org](mailto:office@sjachurch.org) or call the church office by Monday, September 15 at 10:00 am.



## Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

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Badrik Jooharigian	Diramayr Marmine Bagdasarian	Samvel Arakelyan
Nadia Ayrapetyan	Dirahayr Mihran Parsamyan	Nancy Altounian
Azniv-Ann Kzirian	Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyagian	Marus Grigoryan
Vladimir Avetisov	Mary Helen Altounian	Nailya Sahakian
Joann Mashigian	Wayne Owen Engelki	Rose Lucassian
Charles Sansone	Shoghig Terjimanian	Marge Aramian
Hrayr Mashigian	Valera Ayrapetyan	Zaven Ovian
Nick Fernandez	Jeffrey Perna	Jan Paloian
Sonia Kalfayan		Rose Baise

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### Blessing of Unblessed Crosses

Today is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, a Tabernacle Feast in the Armenian Church. On this occasion, it is the custom to bless unblessed crosses. Please bring your unblessed crosses to the church on Sunday, September 14th.

It is preferable that the crosses be put in plastic Ziploc bags with your names written on them.

All crosses will be placed upon the Holy Altar during Divine Liturgy and blessed at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy.

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### Special Plate Collection

Today, on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the St. John Komitas Choir will be taking a special plate collection during the singing of "Amen, Yev unt hovkvooyt koom" (p.39 of divine liturgy book).

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### Thank You

We thank the following contributors for their generosity in donating the basil for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

**Sara Andonian**

**Irene Dabanian**

**David and Marianne Dardarian**

**Linda Kemian-Franquist**

**Mark and Elaine Mardirosian**

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On the occasion of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we would like to thank the **Attar Family and "Golden Gifts Jewelry"** for their continuous donation of silver crosses that are given during the sacrament of Baptism as a gift to the newly baptized child.



## Gift to Church

Ed and Gerri Parks have made a gift to St John Armenian Church on the occasion of Terry Parks's 70th birthday.

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## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is seeking dedicated and enthusiastic stewards to run for election for Parish Council, Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee at the 2026 Annual Parish Assembly! This is a wonderful opportunity to take an active role in the leadership of SJAC, guiding the direction of our parish. If you would like to volunteer, or would like to nominate someone, please contact:

**Paul Andonian, Howard Atesian, Marilyn Dadian, Kim Najarian**  
or **Jim Stambouliau**

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## Dear Families with Children interested in attending Church School on Sundays

We are hoping you will enroll your children and allow us to join with you in providing Christian education services during the school year. We meet on Sundays from 10:15 AM to 12 noon. We utilize the diocese curriculum which can be found at

<https://vemkar.us/children-and-family-ministry/>

Once again this year, there is no cost to attend. We simply ask that you register using the attached link, and bring your child(ren) to church!

**The attached link is for NEW children only! Returning families should have received a prefilled registration form to update in their email.** Any questions, please reach out to the church office and someone will return your call.

**New family/children registration form to complete and submit below:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfF3KgYCRmiD2rkjX1ciFB54Dtar3ksmggfoH83v8pPeXh50g/viewform?usp=header>

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## Donations Needed for Men's Society Outreach

As part of its ongoing partnership with Motor City Mitten Mission, the Men's Society of St. John Armenian Church is continuing to prepare hot lunches for the homeless of Metro Detroit twice a month.

To sustain this important ministry, the Men's Society is seeking donations for meal preparations in **October, November and December**.

To make a donation, please contact the church office or donate directly through the church website: <https://abundant.co/stjohnarmenianchurch/mcmm>

A donation of \$300 sponsors a meal for 100 individuals.

Donations in any amount will be acknowledged in a future Sunday bulletin.

We are always in need of volunteers to help prepare meals in the main kitchen.

Please contact Harry Dulger at 313-333-6915.



# Parish Organization News and Events

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## COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

### Join Us on Zoom!

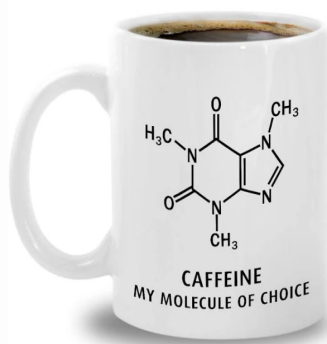
Take a break, grab your favorite cup of coffee, and log on for a half hour relaxed and meaningful conversation with Fr. Aren.

**Tuesday, September 16, at 2:00pm**

(Day, date, and time will change week to week)

This is a chance to:

- Connect with fellow parishioners
- Ask questions or share thoughts
- Hear reflections from Fr. Aren
- Simply enjoy each other's company



### See below for zoom link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88638564559?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88638564559?pwd=aUqGxxbGuUW2nQfg7Gu8CXm38qOq1x.1)  
pwd=aUqGxxbGuUW2nQfg7Gu8CXm38qOq1x.1  
Meeting ID: 886 3856 4559  
Passcode: 720263

**All are welcome - come as you are!**





COME AND JOIN OUR

# TOURSHEE PARTY

Come and help us make the Tourshee  
that will be sold at the Bazaar

**Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

**5pm until done**

**Casual dinner provided**

**Main kitchen - St. John Armenian Church**

**Contact Ara Hachigian for more info  
248-981-3093 or [aramichael@mac.com](mailto:aramichael@mac.com)**





St. John Armenian Church  
Women's Guild and Men's  
Society Present:

# TAVLOU AND OTHER GAMES NIGHT

Friday, September 19, 2025 from 6PM -10PM

Come enjoy the night with old friends and  
new friends, Join them in Tavlou, Cards  
or even bring your own fun games to try!

Where we meet:

St. John Armenian Church (In the Veteran's Building)  
25050 Northwestern Highway  
Southfield, MI 48075

Pizza and a fresh Salad will  
be served in addition to other  
delectable munchies so  
please come and bring your  
appetite!

**DONATION  
ONLY: \$10 PER  
PERSON**

To Reserve Your Spot please call Edith Baise at  
(313) 673-3325 or email her at [ebaise@umich.edu](mailto:ebaise@umich.edu)



# SUNDAES ON SUNDAY



After  
Church  
Service



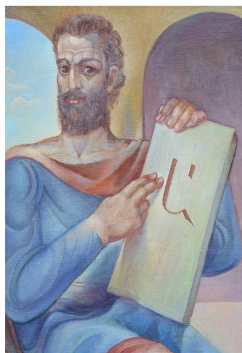
21  
Sept

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**



# WESTERN ARMENIAN FOR ADULTS

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH IS OFFERING TWO  
10-WEEK WESTERN ARMENIAN LANGUAGE COURSES



**Tuesdays, Sep. 23 - Dec. 2, at St. John Conference Room**

- **Beginner - 6:00-7:30pm**, Learn vocabulary and grammar, focus on basic reading and writing and daily conversations.
- **Intermediate - 4:30-6:00pm**, Learn advanced vocabulary and grammar. Reading, writing, and advanced dialogues, individual and group conversation projects.

Instructor: Hermine Dervartanian, an experienced Armenian language instructor who has worked as a translator in Lebanon and the United States.

**Returning/continuing students always welcome!**  
**A second Beginner's session may be opened pending interest.**

Please send your registration form and a check  
made out to St. John Armenian Church  
to the church office:

22001 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI 48075

Questions: (248) 569-3405

Registration fee: \$125/Class materials: \$20



## REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

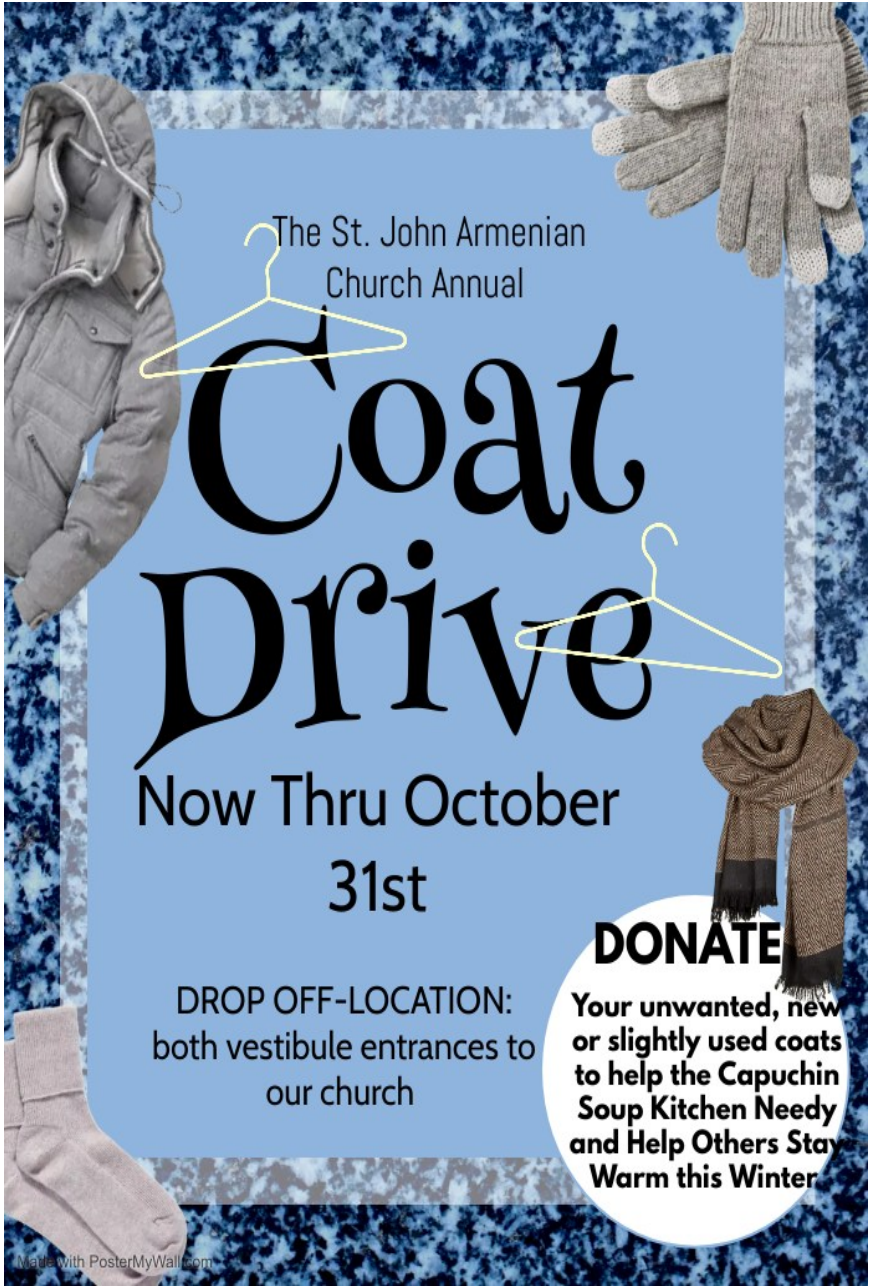
PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

BEST TIME TO CONTACT YOU: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

LANGUAGE LEVEL (CHECK ONE): ☐ BEGINNER ☐ INTERMEDIATE





The St. John Armenian  
Church Annual

# Coat Drive

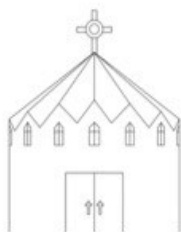
Now Thru October  
31st

DROP OFF-LOCATION:  
both vestibule entrances to  
our church

**DONATE**

Your unwanted, new  
or slightly used coats  
to help the Capuchin  
Soup Kitchen Needy  
and Help Others Stay  
Warm this Winter





# **ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH LITTLE SAINTS**

**JOIN US SATURDAYS AT 10:00 AM**

**SEPTEMBER 27**

**OCTOBER 18**

**NOVEMBER 15**

**DECEMBER 20**



**Little Saints is a parish ministry for children from birth up to age four with monthly lessons led by Fr. Aren.**

**The Little Saints Nursery is open Sunday mornings during Church School from 10:15 AM to 12:00 PM.**

**For more information, email [sjlittlesaints@gmail.com](mailto:sjlittlesaints@gmail.com)**



# SJAC



## Outdoor Campus Clean-up. We Need Your Help!



Saturday, September 27  
9:00AM - 1:00PM



Coffee-Bagels-Doughnuts-Water-Pop  
Bring Your Friends and Have Some FUN

### PLEASE BRING YOUR:

Gloves, Shovels, Saws, Tree Trimmers, Branch  
Loppers, Pole Saws, Rakes, Safety Glasses,  
Leaf Blowers, Chainsaws, Wheelbarrows,  
Sledge Hammers, Axes, Gas Power-Washers,  
Rope, Weed-whips, Sawzalls, Hoses, Hoes and  
Power Edgers.

Please RSVP to Gayane: 248.569.3405  
Gary Gozmanian: 248.225.9868



16<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Fair and Blood Drive  
St John Armenian Church  
22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield Mi 48075  
Saturday October 4, 2025



**Annual Immunization Clinic with free Flu Shots:** In the Tahlij Room directly off the Church front lobby Time: 11:00 AM-2:00PM

- Courtesy of Merriman Drugs, Livonia, presented by owner, Pharmacist Hanadi Thomas and her staff all generously donating their time.
- **Covid and Shingle RSV Shots:** Available by appointment only. So please bring your Medicare or Prescription Insurance Cards.  
**For appointments or questions call: Hanadi Thomas at (734) 427-3430**

**Wayne Health Mobile Unit from Wayne State University:** In the Parking Lot 1 PM-3PM

Presented by World Medical Relief in partnership with the Wayne State University, Emergency Medicine Research Program

We are thrilled that this partnership with World Medical Relief will allow us to offer FREE health services to anyone in our community who wants and needs them.

The following services will be offered:

- Pulse Ox
- Weight
- Temperature
- Lipid Panel Testing (Cholesterol)
- Kidney Function Testing
- HbA1C Testing (Diabetics)
- High Blood Pressure screening
- Vitals Screening

All services are FREE. No insurance or ID required. The Wayne Health workers do ask that those seeking services do provide some contact method, preferably a cell/mobile phone number, so that results and/or reminders can be provided for follow-up. For more information about any of these services, please contact Edith Baise at (313) 673-3325

**Annual Versiti Blood Drive:** In the Veterans Building Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**Annual Versiti Blood Drive:** The need for blood donations has never been greater so, as always. St. John Armenian Church Community lets show our support and donate blood! Contact Chairperson, Edith Baise to set up your appointment or questions in general. **Please contact Edith at (313) 673-3325 or by email at [ebaise@umich.edu](mailto:ebaise@umich.edu)**





ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

# BAZAAR

OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>

Live Armenian Music & Dancing / Armenian Baked Goods

Country Store / Tin Can / Fine Arts Sale / \$100 Raffle

Vendors / Snack Bar / Bookstore / Hye Bar

## Saturday Kids Zone

Southfield Fire Dept - Pony Rides - Pumpkin Decorating







## 2025 BAZAAR Raffle

Raffle License #R82821

Only 250 tickets available  
\$100 per ticket

Up to \$10,000 in total payouts

- 1st Prize = 25% of ticket sales
- 2nd Prize = 10% of ticket sales
- 3rd Prize = 5% of ticket sales

If all 250 tickets are sold, payouts will be

**\$6250 for 1<sup>st</sup>, \$2500 for 2<sup>nd</sup> or \$1250 for 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Guaranteed payouts of \$2500, \$1000 & \$500 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes

Winners announced after Church on Sunday,  
October 5

You do not have to be present to win.

1. Contact Andi Sheena for available tickets (1-250)
2. Make online payments to the Church via Abundant  
<https://abundant.co/stjohnarmenianchurch/raffle>
3. Select Fund using the drop down menu choice "Bazaar Raffle" in the message box from your cell phone (links you directly to the site).

Contact Andi Sheena for ticket numbers  
586-914-1342 / [andisheena@gmail.com](mailto:andisheena@gmail.com)



# **EUCHRE @ ST JOHN'S!**

**St John Armenian Church - Men's Society  
Welcomes Everyone to Another**

## **EUCHRE NIGHT!!**

**Friday, October 17, 2025**

**\$25 per Person \$30 after Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>**

**6-7pm Registration & Dinner**

**Tour The Manoogian Museum 5:45-6:45**

**7:00pm Games Begin**

Reservations: Call / Text: Michael Toomajian at 248-303-9744  
or Email: [michaeltoomajian@gmail.com](mailto:michaeltoomajian@gmail.com)

Cash Prizes, Door Prizes, 50/50 Raffle, Cash Bar

(Must be 18 yrs. old to win)

St. John Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield Mi 48075





www.EO.travel/mytrip Tour = HL26 Date = 011526 Code = X ID = 43749



## The Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Led by: His Grace Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate

Assisted by: Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian

**January 15-26, 2026**

ALL INCLUSIVE

**\$3,198**

PER PERSON NON-STOP FROM NEWARK  
OR NEW YORK JFK\*

*A 3.5% surcharge will be added to credit card transactions*

For more information about travel and  
accommodations, contact  
Claudia at 800-247-0017, 338

For more information about the  
itinerary & program, contact Fr. Mardiros  
dean@stnersess.edu • 917-273-8239

Deadline for registration is  
November 1, 2025



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[www.EO.travel](http://www.EO.travel)

Scan to  
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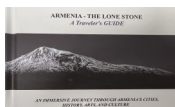


## Visit the St. John Parish Bookstore!

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!*

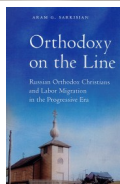
### Featured Items



Armenia: The Lone Stone  
A Traveler's Guide From Ancient  
Stones to Modern Wonders,  
by David Karamian (HC \$25)



NEW, Armenia-The Lone Stone  
by David Karamian (HC \$70)  
Hardcover coffee table book  
documenting history of cultural  
landmarks



Orthodoxy on the Line by  
Aram G. Sarkisian,  
HC \$50.00



New - Khigar Nabasdaguh,  
by Michael Pifer (HC \$17)  
Western Armenian children's book  
about a little rabbit who learns

*These and many other Michael Aram pieces now available!*

Candles



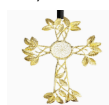
White Orchid Cocktail  
Napkin Holder



Noah's Ark  
Nut Dish



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



### New Jewelry from Armenia

Pregomesh Jewelry

Vanq Collection Silver Jewelry Celebrates Artsakh's Rich Heritage



EVENTS AT  
ST JOHN  
ARMENIAN CHURCH

[WWW.SJACEVENTS.ORG](http://WWW.SJACEVENTS.ORG)

SCHEDULE AN  
APPOINTMENT TO VIEW  
OUR VENUE & ALL THE  
FANTASTIC OPTIONS

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

CALL: 248.569.3405

EMAIL: [EVENTS@SJACHURCH.ORG](mailto:EVENTS@SJACHURCH.ORG)



# General Parish Information

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**Church Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 9am - 4pm

**Parish Secretary:** Gayane Hovhanissyan | (248) 569-3405 | [office@sjachurch.org](mailto:office@sjachurch.org)

**In an after-hours emergency, please contact:**

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

Administrative Consultant - Cell: (248) 917-6645 | [admin@sjachurch.org](mailto: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, proceed to our website for Baptismal guidelines and application: [Baptism Guidelines – St. John Armenian Church](#)

**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.

For more information, proceed to our website for Wedding guidelines and application: [Wedding Guidelines – St. John Armenian Church](#)

**Requiem Prayers (*Hokehankist*):** Names may be submitted to the church office by mail, phone, email, or via the church website **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. To submit an online request, proceed to our website [Requiem Service \(\*Hokihankist\*\) – St. John Armenian Church](#)

**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 **no later than 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/](http://stjohnsarmenianchurch.org/membership/)



# 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/](http://www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org/sunday-bulletin/)



**September 14 - Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Khachveratz)**

**September 16 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp**

2:00pm, Zoom

**September 17 - Tourshee Party**

5:00pm - St. John Main Kitchen

**September 19 - Tavlou and Other Games Night**

6:00pm - 10:00pm, Armenian American Veterans' Building

**September 21 - Ice Cream Social - After Badarak**

**September 22 - Bible Study**

7:00pm - 8:30pm - Conference Room

**September 23 - Western Armenian Classes (Intermediate/Beginner)**

4:30pm - 7:30pm - Conference Room

**September 25 - Sanctuary and Museum Tour / SOLD OUT**

10:00am - 2:00pm

**September 27 - Little Saints Program**

10:00am - 11:00am - St. Ararat Room

**September 27 - Outdoor Campus Clean - up**

9:00am - 1:00pm

**October 3 and 4 - Bazaar 2025 / \$100 Raffle / Fine Arts Sale, etc.**

**October 4 - The 16th Annual Health Fair and Blood Drive**

12:00pm - 4:00pm - Armenian American Veterans' Building

**October 17 - Men's Society Euchre Night - Save the Date**

## **Bazaar 2025 Is Almost Here!**

### **October 3 and 4, 2025**

**You're Invited to Join Us!**

Help our community prepare delicious Armenian baked goods for our

**Annual Bazaar!** No experience is necessary - everyone is welcome!

Wear comfortable shoes and come ready to enjoy great company and even better camaraderie.

**All hands are good hands**, and we truly look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any questions, please contact:

**Yerchanig Callan, 248-533-6320 or [yerchanig@gmail.com](mailto:yerchanig@gmail.com)**

#### **Baking Dates:**

Monday, September 15, 5pm - 8pm - Choreg - with Dawn and Sara

Tuesday, September 16, 9am until noon - Meat Boreg