

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

February 15, 2026
Armenian Church Year 1475

Poon Paregentan

Guest Celebrant: Reverend Father Abraham Ohanesian

Pastor: Very Reverend Father 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

Fr. Aren will deliver the Children's Sermon

Lector: Yn. Shakeh Ohanesian

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.

Plate Collection

Today's collection for the church will be taken during *Badarak*. 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 QR code below with your smartphone.





St. John Komitas Choir

Deacon Rubik Mailian, Director of Sacred Music and Pastoral Assistant

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

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. “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	Imprisoned Bishops and	Samvel Arakelyan
Andre' J. Gregory	Clergymen in Armenia	Yelena Zakaryan
Vladimir Avetisov	Diramayr Marmine Bagdasarian	Nancy Altounian
Joann Mashigian	Dirahayr Mihran Parsamyan	Marus Grigoryan
Charles Sansone	Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyagian	Nailya Sahakian
Hrayr Mashigian	Lara Roche Sarmanian)	Chris Papazian
Nick Fernandez	Mary Helen Altounian	Rose Lucassian
Sonia Kalfayan	Shoghig Terjimanian	Marge Aramian
Edith Baise	Valera Ayrapetyan	Zaven Ovian
Rose Baise	Charles Vanerian	Jan Paloian



The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord to the Temple Blessing of Unbaptized Children

February 14 is a feast day in the Armenian Church known as Dyarnuntarach (the Presentation of the Lord).

The feast is celebrated 40 days after Armenian Christmas.

In honor of this feast day, we will have a special baby blessing on February 15, 2025 at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

If you know of any family with unbaptized infants who would like to participate in this brief blessing, please share this information with them.

**2020 Chevy Trax
LS 4D SUV FWD
\$13,250**



**SJAC is selling this
donated Black SUV
with only 13,116
miles**

**Contact
Jim Stambouljian at
248-917-6645 for
details.**

SOLD



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Requiem Prayers for the Souls of those asleep in Christ

GARBIS OHANIAN, 40th Year, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather
SIRARPIE OHANIAN, 40th Day, Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother

Requested by Dr. Neshan and Deborah Ohanian
Leonard and Verjek Ohanian
Christian and Chelsea Ohanian and Family (Charlie, Oliver)
Richard and Dr. Alexandra Apkarian and Family
(Elizabeth, Kathrine, Martin)
Dn. Dr. Aram Sarkisian and Dr. Diana Ohanian
Dr. Edward and Anna Sarkisian and Family
Paulette Apkarian
Kristen, Alana and Adam Vosbikian
Adrine Ohanian
Ara and Lora Kazanjian and Family

ANNA (RAYA) SHAHRAMANYAN IVANOVNA

Requested by the Badalyan Family

GUREGH JAMES BAHAROZIAN, 22st Year, Father

IRENE BAHAROZIAN, 21th Year, Mother

Requested by Dr. and Mrs. Dwayne Baharozian and Family
Mr. and Mrs. Tyrone Baharozian and Family
Mr. and Mrs. James Messer and Family

Fallen Asleep in the Lord

We offer our prayers for the servant of God, **Harry Karagosian Jr.**, who entered his eternal rest last week. His funeral was held at St. John Armenian Church on February 10, 2026.

May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon his soul.

We offer our prayers for the servant of God, **Dr. Harry G. Goshgarian**, who entered his eternal rest last week. His funeral was held at St. John Armenian Church on February 13, 2026.

May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon his soul.

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH SCHOOL

Poon Paregentan

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

**FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICES IN CULTURAL HALL
EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

Join Us on Zoom!

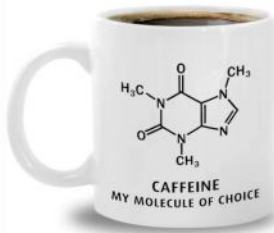
Take a break, grab your favorite cup of coffee, and log on for a half hour relaxed and meaningful conversation with Fr. Aren.

Monday, February 16, at 7:30pm

(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



Scan QR code below for zoom link



All are welcome - come as you are!

REST SERVICE & ACYOA Jr's LENTEN DINNER

rest service 5:30pm
dinner 6:00pm-7:00pm

WEDNESDAYS

february 18th

february 25th

march 4th

march 11th

march 18th - **Fish & Chips**

march 25th - **Lobster Dinner**

DONATIONS

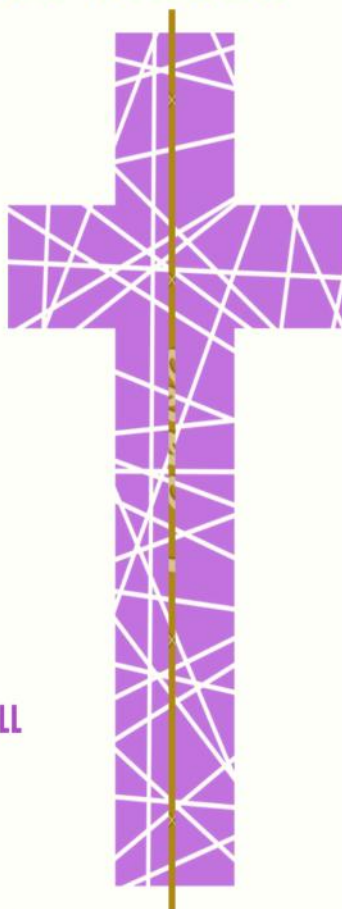
adults \$15 (fish or vegan)

children \$5

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH CULTURAL HALL

22001 Northwestern Hwy.

Southfield, Michigan



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

Come Support a Hye Camp Fund Raiser
St. John's Men's Society Invites you to a

Lenten Buffet

Sunday, February 22, 2026 All Proceeds go to Hye Camp



Assorted Fresh Fruit Table

Breakfast Breads

Chocolate Fountain

Main Buffet

Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrowns, Pancakes, Vegetarian Pasta, Falafels, Hummus

Omelet Station

Green Peppers, Green Onions, Tomatoes, Feta Cheese, Brick Cheese

Freshly Made Belgium Waffle Station

Toppings of Whip Cream, Maple Syrup, Strawberry Sauce, Bananas, Powder Sugar

Juice and Coffee Station

Orange Juice, Cranberry Juice, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Tea, Water



\$20.00 adults



\$10.00 students



6 and under Free

Reservations call or text Dan Cristiano

313-938-4215

**A St. John Armenian Church Serving Ministry
In the Armenian American Veterans Building
Lunch Served at 12 noon**

**Lunch prepared by "Lavash Grill"
Proprietor & Chef Hasmik Movsesyan**

**February 24, 2026
Pasuc Dolma (vegan)
or
Chicken Luleh Kakob**

**Each meal includes Pita Bread,
House Salad, Bulgar Pilaf, Sauteed
Eggplant, Onions, Green Peppers
and**

**Dessert
Cup Cakes**

**\$15 Lunch includes: Coffee & Water
Carry outs exclude coffee & water**

Tuesday Lunch Club

**GAME BOX located in the card room with Backgammon Boards,
Pinochle & Regular Playing Cards for your enjoyment.**

**RESERVATIONS ONLY -- No walk-ins
Text (or email / phone) your name & lunch choice to
Dan Cristiano by Friday 12 noon
313-938-4215 / djcrist100@gmail.com**

**We extend a special thank you to the Edward Mardigian family for
partially subsidizing this program !**

WESTERN ARMENIAN FOR ADULTS

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



Tuesdays, February 24 - April 28, 2026

- **Continued Beginner - 6:00-7:30pm**, Learn vocabulary and grammar, focus on basic reading and writing and daily conversations.
- **Continued Intermediate - 4:30-6:00pm**, Learn advanced vocabulary and grammar. Reading, writing, and advanced dialogues, individual and group conversation projects.
- **"A NEW BEGINNER CLASS MAY BE OPENED DEPENDING ON INTEREST."**

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

Returning/continuing students always welcome!

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

St. John Armenian Church
and the Edward and Helen Mardigian Library
present a book review of

“The Repatriate Returns”

Wednesday, February 25 at 7pm

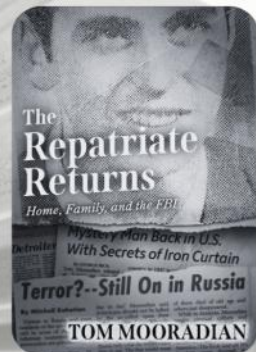
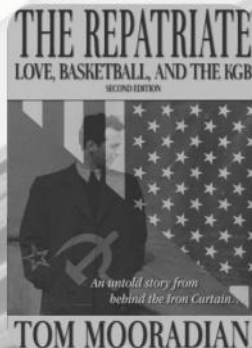
In the Vartan Room



Please join **Jan Mooradian** and **Rose Kehetian** for an evening reflecting on the lifelong friendship of their late husbands, Tom Mooradian and Mitch Kehetian - friends since childhood whose bond lasted a lifetime, despite opposing political beliefs.

One of only two memoirs in English about the 1947 Armenian Repatriation experience, Tom Mooradian's *The Repatriate: Love, Basketball, and the KGB* was first published in 2008. In response to the readers' questions about what happened when he was finally allowed to leave the USSR and return to America, Tom wrote a sequel *The Repatriate Returns: Home, Family, and the FBI*, which was published posthumously in 2025.

Books available for purchase.





**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT
ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

Join us for a meaningful gathering of our parish community at the Annual Parish Assembly. Come together to celebrate, connect, and support St. John's ongoing mission.

Sunday, March 1, 2026, 12:30 pm

St. John Cultural Hall

**Light buffet lunch served prior to the Parish Assembly
benefitting the Fuller Center for Housing Armenia**

RSVP: by Wed, Feb 25th to Jackieelch@gmail.com or text 248-762-1312

Donation: \$20.00

At the meeting, we will be holding church leadership elections for:

- ❖ Parish Council
- ❖ Auditing Committee
- ❖ Nominating Committee

All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting, but only Church Stewards are eligible to vote. If you have any question about your stewardship status or voting eligibility, please contact the church office at 248-569-3405.

THE GREAT & HOLY WEEK: THE EASTER STORY
THROUGH ARMENIAN SACRED ART

THE SAINT JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH AND THE FINE ARTS
COMMITTEE INVITE YOU TO THE OPENING OF A UNIQUE ART
EXHIBIT ON **FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH, 2026**

THE GREAT AND HOLY WEEK -
ARMENIAN ICONS PAINTED BY
FATHER GARABED KOCHAKIAN



PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 6PM; INTRODUCTION AND
PRESENTATION OF ICONOGRAPHY BY FATHER GARABED
IN THE CULTURAL HALL

FOLLOWED BY RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY LED BY OUR
PRIMATE, BISHOP MESROP PARSAMYAN AND EXHIBITION
IN THE ST. VARTAN ROOM

HOSPITALITY PROVIDED DURING EXHIBITION IN THE ARARAT
ROOM - ACROSS FROM EXHIBIT

RSVP TO ST. JOHN BY **MARCH 9TH, 2026**

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

248-569-3405
22001 NORTHWESTERN HWY
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48075

WWW.STJOHNSARMENIANCHURCH.ORG

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH 31ST ANNUAL
REV. FR. DIRAN AND YN. ROSALIE PAPAZIAN PARISH RETREAT

Saturday, March 14, 2026 † Open to All
ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH, MAIN HALL

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

'CONNECTING WITH GOD'



Guest Retreat Leader:

HIS GRACE, BISHOP MESROP PARSAMYAN
PRIMATE, EASTERN DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

††††††††

- ❖ \$25 Donation includes: continental breakfast and lunch.
- ❖ Register by March 4th:
 - online at <https://abundant.co/stjohnarmenianchurch/retreat> or
 - contact Denise Boyagian at dboyagian@yahoo.com or 248.892.9739.
- ❖ Make check payable to St. John Armenian Church (memo: Lenten Retreat) and mail to St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075.

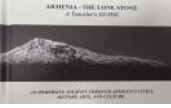
Sponsored by the Rev. Fr. Diran and Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian Endowment Fund

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!

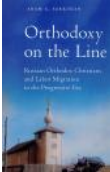
Featured Items



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, "The Repatriate
Returns" by Tom
Mooradian SC \$20.00

These and many other Michael Aram pieces now available (10% off)!

Candles



White Orchid Cocktail
Napkin Holder



Noah's Ark
Nut Dish



New Jewelry from Armenia

Pregomesh Jewelry

Vanq Collection Silver Jewelry Celebrates Artsakh's Rich Heritage



EVENTS AT
ST JOHN
ARMENIAN CHURCH

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

General Parish Information

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

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

Administrative Consultant - Cell: (248) 917-6645 | 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/

“Please remember St. John Armenian Church in your Will or Trust”

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/



February 15 - Church Morning Service - 9:00am, Divine Liturgy - 9:45am

February 15 - SJA Church School Paregentan Lunch - Following Divine Liturgy

February 16 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp - 7:30pm - via zoom

February 18 - Rest Service - 5:00pm

Fish Dinner - 5:30

February 23 - Bible Study - 7:00pm - Conference Room

February 24 - Tuesday Lunch - 12:00pm

Armenian American Veterans' Hall

February 24 - Western Armenian classes, 4:30pm - 7:30pm

February 24 - College Visit - University of Michigan, 7:00pm

February 25 - Book Presentation "The Repatriate Returns"

7:00pm - St. Vartan Room

February 28 - Acolyte Training - 10:00am-12:00pm

March 1 - Annual Parish Assembly Meeting

March 13 - The Great and Holy Week: The Easter Story Through Armenian Sacred Art

March 14 - Rev. Fr. Diran and Yn. Rosalie Papazian Parish Retreat

Year - End Statement

Church stewards who require a tax statement itemizing 2025 donations should contact the Church Office at (248) 569-3405 or office@sjachurch.org

Seeking Stewards Time and Talent Help

Church office seeking volunteers for following projects

- Supply/Inventory Management -- Seeking volunteers with supply/inventory experience to set-up simple ordering/inventory control system

- Storage Rooms -- Need help to go thru old photos, books, documents and equipment to re-organize and declutter storage rooms

Contact Jim Stambouljian at Church Office

Special thanks to the following recent volunteers

Vlad Ayrapetyan for restroom repair work.

Adam Kotlarek for installing light fixture in kitchen mechanical room.

Serena Egigian, Marilyn Boladian, Annette Mamassian and Kiana Rose for office help coverage.