

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 30, 2025
Armenian Church Year 1474

Sunday of the Judge

Celebrant: Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

Sunrise Service - 9:30 a.m. | Divine Liturgy - 10:00 a.m.

Isaiah 65:8-25, Philippians 3:1-4:9, Luke 17:20-18:14

Lector: Hermine Dervartanian

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 to best communicate with our community each week.

After the Divine Liturgy there will be a Garj Talk with Dr. Bogdan Pavlish of the University of Michigan in the St. Vartan Room, and the Men's Society will be selling Lenten boxed lunches in the Cultural Hall.

Plate Collection: A collection for the church will be taken during *Badarak* today. 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



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)

Midday Hymn for the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

O Christ! You left to Your church a true commandment
to pray to God Always, without thought of time in spirit and in thought.
In our nature you spent the whole night in prayer to God,
you thereby affirmed Your commandment and gave it to us as an example;
you, before whom every knee bows.
Therefore, we also turn to You with prayers, O Christ;
grant us at every hour to stand before You; with a pure prayer
like the bodiless angels in heaven.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Through the prayers of the Mother of God
Your undefiled mother; in Your mercy open the spiritual eyes of our hearts
That we might contemplate Your light, O Christ.

Daily Scripture Readings

Mon - Hebrews 1:1-14

Tue - Isaiah 7:10-8:10

Wed - Exodus 4:1-21; Joel 3:9-22

Thu - Isaiah 53:1-54:5; 1 Corinthians 15:1-28

Fri - Deuteronomy 10:1-15; Job 19:1-29; Isaiah 45:1-13

Sat - Wisdom 1:15-2:22; Micah 7:7-10; Philippians 1:12-21; Matthew 16:24-28

Holy Communion

Through the period of 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

Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 17:20-18:14

Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, he answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, 'Lo, here it is!' or 'There!' for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you."

And he said to the disciples, "The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. And they will say to you, 'Lo, there!' or 'Lo, here!' Do not go, do not follow them. For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. As it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. They ate, they drank, they married, they were given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the arch, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise as it was in the days of Lot they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built, but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom fire and sulphur rained from heaven and destroyed them all so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. On that day, let him who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away; and likewise let him who is in the field not turn back. Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to gain his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will preserve it. I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. There will be two women grinding together; one will be taken and the other left." And they said to him, "Where, Lord?" He said to them, "Where the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together."

And he told them a parable, to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man: and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Vindicate me against my adversary.' For a while he refused; but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out by her continual coming.'" And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others: "Two men went up into the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted." should rise from the dead."

Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Badrik Jooharigian	Diramayr Marmine Bagdasarian	Samvel Arakelyan
Aleksan Matossian	Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyagian	Nancy Altounian
Nadia Ayrapetyan	Haroutiun Bagdasarian	Marus Grigoryan
Anahit Matossian	Dinora Boulgarian Pitz	Nailya Sahakian
Vladimir Avetisov	Mary Helen Altounian	Ronald Seaman
Joann Mashigian	Wayne Owen Engelki	Rose Lucassian
Charles Sansone	Shoghig Terjimanian	Marge Aramian
Hrayr Mashigian	Samvel Ayrapetyan	Zaven Ovian
Nick Fernandez	Valera Ayrapetyan	Jan Paloian
Jeffrey Perna	Craig Tarpinian	Rose Baise

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 March for the homeless of Metro Detroit.

The Men's Society would like to thank

Garry and Patricia Javizian, in memory of loving son Gregory Javizian

Lorrie Melkonian Keila

Armen Oknaian

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.

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

Monday, March 31, 5pm - 8pm, Chooreg

Tuesday, April 1, 9am - noon, *Katah*

Tuesday, April 8, 9am - noon, Possible make-up day

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



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Requiem Prayers for the Souls of Those Asleep in Christ

MERCEDES OHANIAN, 40th Day, Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother

Requested by Denise and Michael Barger

Renee and Jon Crane

Jennifer, John and Olivia Kwiecien

Joseph, Emily and Hayes Barger

Stephen, Jody and Morgan Crane

Daniel and Margy Crane

Harry Najarian

David, Kim, Mara and Myles Najarian

Karen, Brian, Lia, Stefanie and Paul Toovalian

Andrea Najarian

Mike, Dawn, Michael and Jacob Ohanian

Alice Terzian and Family

MERCEDES OHANIAN, 40th Day, Sister, Sister-In-Law

Requested by Gary and Joan Seraydarian and Family

EDGAR HAGOPIAN, 14th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather

Requested by Sarah Hagopian and Family

EDUARD AYRAPETYAN

OFELIA AYRAPETYAN

BORIS AYRAPETYAN

ASYA AYRAPETYAN

ANGELA AYRAPETYAN

OLGA TUBOLCOVA

PASHA LAZARYAN

ARKADIY AYRAPETYAN

MIKHAIL BASOV

ALIEVA SHAFIKA

JORA AVETISYAN

ANGELA ASATRYAN

STELLA AYRAPETYAN

Requested by Ayrapetyan Family

OHANES YERANOSIAN, Husband

ARDASH AKSARELIAN, Father

JAYRAN AKSARELIAN, Mother

Requested by Juliet Yeranorian

Easter Schedule 2025

Great Lent (*Medz Bahk*)

Sun., March 30	Sunday of the Judge
Wed., April 2	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lenten Dinner - 5:30 pm
Sun., April 6	Sunday of the Advent
Wed., April 9	Rest Service and ACYOA Jrs. Lobster Dinner - 5:30 pm
Sun., April 13	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 - 11:30 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

The Parish Council Seeks to Fill the Following Position:

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.

Please e-mail hr.sjac@gmail.com.

Parish Organization News and Events

ST JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH 2025 PALMS, EASTER LILY PLANTS, FLOWERS AND CANDLE DONATIONS

We are offering parishioners and friends of St. John Armenian Church the opportunity to donate palms, Easter lily plants, flowers for the Tomb of Christ, and candles to beautify the Holy Altar and sanctuary for Holy Week. These items will serve as a loving memorial and tribute to those whom you wish to remember in a special way before the Lord.

If you would like to donate any of these items in honor of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, please fill out the form below providing all the information needed.

Please mail this form to the Church Office with a check made payable to St. John Armenian Church, or pay online at QR code below.



Orders must be placed by Wednesday, April 9, 2025
All donors' names will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin

Donor Name.....

In Honor/Memory of:.....

I wish to donate Palms for Palm Sunday - \$35.00 \$ _____

I wish to donate _____ Easter Lily Plants at \$35.00 each _____

I wish to donate Flowers/Plants for Good Friday Tomb of Christ - \$30.00 _____

I wish to donate Candles for the Holy Altar - \$30.00 _____

I wish to donate for all of the above - \$125.00 _____

(Easter Lily Plant, Candles for the Altar, Flowers/Plants and Palms) Total: \$ _____

For further information, please call the Church Office at 248-569-3405 or
e-mail office@sjachurch.org

St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075
www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

Join Us!
The Komitas Choir
Partnering with



The Men's Society

For a Lenten Box Lunch
Sunday, March 30, 2025 - After church

Lunch
2 Vegetarian Lahmajoon
2 Falafel
Tabouleh
Hummus and Pita
Bottled water
\$15.00

Please preorder:
call or text Dan at 313-938-4215

St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern hwy. Southfield MI 48075 / 248-569-3405 / stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

REST SERVICE &
ACYOA Jrs LENTEN DINNER

St. John Armenian Church

REST SERVICE 5:30PM
DINNER 6:00PM-7:00PM

**WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT
SENIOR CLASS MEDITATIONS**

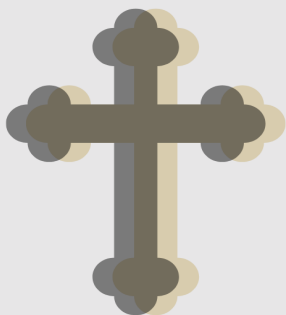
APRIL 2 STELLA BALDWIN
APRIL 9 AREG MAILIAN

**Adults \$15 (Fish or Vegan)
Children \$5**

APRIL 9 Lobster \$30

Please make your reservation beforehand!!!

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





Garj Talks

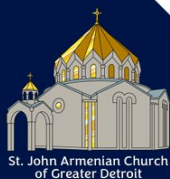
A series of brief community discussions
co-sponsored by St. John Armenian Church
and the University of Michigan
Center for Armenian Studies

Dr. Bogdan Pavlish

Ph.D., Northwestern, 2024
2024-25 Manoogian Postdoctoral
Fellow, University of Michigan

A Lost Tribe of Nairi: Armenians of Eastern Europe Between Diaspora and Assimilation

Dr. Bogdan Pavlish is a historian of modern Eastern Europe whose research focuses on the Armenians of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. His current work explores themes of distance, difference, and translation at the intersection of the early Armenian diaspora, Catholic missionization, and multicultural societies of Eastern Europe in the seventeenth century.



St. John Armenian Church
of Greater Detroit



March 30, 2025

Following the Divine Liturgy

St. Vartan Room

The Armenian American Veterans' Building Renovation Join the crowd!



Scan here to donate

St John Women's Guild

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

APRIL 13

After church, in the main hall.

**&
MANY
OTHER
DELICACIES!**

CHOEREG

KALKAH

KHATAH

CONTACT:

Dadian@comcast.net

Palm Sunday ACYOA DAY

Sunday, April 13th

**following Divine Liturgy
in the cultural hall.**

**Join us for a joyous day of faith and fellowship.
Fun food stations to benefit
2025 General Assembly and Sports Weekend
Free Will Offering**

**22001 Northwestern Hwy. | Southfield, MI 48075 |
(248) 569-3405 | stjohnsarmenianchurch.org**

Happy Easter



CHURCH SCHOOL FAMILY EASTER MID DAY SERVICE

Please be prepared to receive Holy Communion.



Saturday, April 19th
11:00am - 11:30am

Fellowship following Church services with
surprise visit from the *Easter Bunny!*

Welcome all Little Saints' Families!



CHURCH SCHOOL *Easter Supper*

BEEF TENDERLOIN DINNER

SATURDAY

19

APRIL

Jrakalooyts Divine Liturgy at 5pm
Dinner to follow in the Cultural Hall

\$30 PER PERSON

Church School Students Free

RSVP to (248) 569-3405

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 Yeretzhin 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

Armenian
Congregational Church

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



HYE CAMP

where faith, fun and fellowship meet
INGLESIDE, ILLINOIS



scan to
register
online



learn



Pray



Play



and more

CIT/Staff Training: Wednesday, July 23 – Saturday, July 26
Camp Week: Saturday, July 26–Saturday, August 2

Online Registration

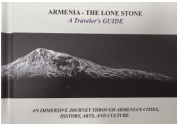
diocesansummercamps.org

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!

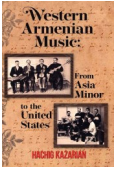
Featured Items



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



New - 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 Nabasdagu,
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**



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, 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 (*Hokehankist*): 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/

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 23 - Men's Society Sunday Soups

Lentil - Available in the Cultural Hall after Divine Liturgy

Wed., March 26 - Film Screening - "They Won Through Living"

7 p.m. - St. Vartan Room, sponsored by the Men's Society

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

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

Sun., March 30 - Men's Society Lenten Box Lunches

\$15, RSVP to Dan Cristiano, 313-938-4215

April

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

Retreat Leader: Dr. Roberta Ervine, St. Nersess Armenian Seminary

Fri., April 11 - Film Screening, "The Stateless Diplomat"

7 p.m. - St. Vartan Room, co-sponsored with the Tekeyan Cultural Association

Sun., April 13 - Women's Guild Palm Sunday Bake Sale and ACYOA Day

Following the Divine Liturgy in the Cultural Hall

Sat., April 19 - Church School Easter Supper

\$30/person (Church School Students - Free), please RSVP to the church office

Thurs., April 24 - Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide

Co-Sponsored by the Four Armenian Churches of Detroit - St. Sarkis, 7 p.m.

"I pray you, compassionate Lord, I beseech you with all of the saints, listen to my prayers now, so that they will not later be forgotten. You led me, as the Psalmist wrote, and 'restored my soul.' Relieve me, Lord, as with the Psalmist, of the doubts and perplexities that cause me fear." - St. Gregory of Narek, *Speaking with God from the Depths of the Heart* (Translation by Thomas J. Samuelian)