

# 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 8, 2026**  
Armenian Church Year 1475

### Sixth Sunday after Nativity

Celebrant: Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian

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

Lector: Isaiah 63:18-64:12, Titus 1:1-11, John 7:37-52

Lector: Christine Santourian

### 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

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### Midday Hymn

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

#### Resurrection Mode 7

Christ King

One in essence with the Father and the Spirit

For our sake You became flesh from the Holy Virgin

Glory to You, Christ, King of glory.

By Your voluntary death, You put death to death

And by Your incorrupt resurrection You have renewed the world.

Glory to You, Christ, King of glory.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

Now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

By Your life-giving blood You have enlightened the Holy Church

We sing to You with the angels.

Glory to You, Christ, King of glory.

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### Today's Gospel Reading

John 7:37-52

thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee."

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### Great Lent Begins February 16

We wish to remind our parishioners that Great Lent begins on Monday, February 16 this year. The last Sunday to receive Holy Communion will be today, February 8. The curtain will be closed for Poon Paregentan on Sunday, February 15. Should any parishioner wish to receive Holy Communion during the period of Great Lent, please make arrangements with the pastor.

## Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Badrik Jooharigian  
Andre' J. Gregory  
Vladimir Avetisov  
Joann Mashigian  
Charles Sansone  
Hrayr Mashigian  
Nick Fernandez  
Sonia Kalfayan  
Edith Baise  
Rose Baise

Imprisoned Bishops and  
Clergymen in Armenia  
Diramayr Marmine Bagdasarian  
Dirahayr Mihran Parsamyan  
Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyagian  
Lara Roche Sarmanian)  
Mary Helen Altounian  
Shoghig Terjimanian  
Valera Ayrapetyan  
Charles Vanerian

Samvel Arakelyan  
Yelena Zakaryan  
Nancy Altounian  
Marus Grigoryan  
Nailya Sahakian  
Rose Lucassian  
Marge Aramian  
Zaven Ovian  
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.

### **Gifts to Church**

On the occasion of the 40th Day Dedication of baby **Mariam Avedisian**, a gift is presented to the Church by her grandparents, **John and Terrie Karebian**.

In honor of **Fr. Aren's** birthday, **Susan Ameriguian** presents a gift to the Church.



## Home Blessing

For centuries, and even up until now, the Armenian Church has had the beautiful tradition of home blessings. Throughout the year, the priest is invited and goes from home to home bringing the Gospel message into the homes of the faithful. Traditionally, the family is asked to have prepared bread, salt, and water on a tray. The priest brings with him Nshkhar (communion wafer), charcoal and incense. Wearing liturgical vestments, the priest then proceeds to sing a hymn, chant the proper gospel reading, and sings the hymn of blessing, *Amen, Alleluia* three times blessing the bread, salt, and water. Following the home blessing, the family is asked to take the burning incense throughout the house. Everyone is welcome to attend after Divine Liturgy.

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## 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](mailto:office@sjachurch.org)

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## Save the Date

Annual Parish Assembly Meeting in the Cultural Hall on Sunday, March 1, 2026.  
Following Divine Liturgy

### Fallen Asleep in the Lord

We offer our prayers for the servant of God, **John Hagopian**, who entered his eternal rest last week. His funeral was held at St. John Armenian Church on February 2, 2025.  
May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon his soul.

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



**SJAC is selling this  
donated Black SUV  
with only 13,186  
miles.**

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



**ՊԱՇՏՕՆ ՀՈԳԵՀԱՆԳՍԵԱՆ**

**Requiem Prayers for the Souls of those asleep in Christ**

**ANNA (RAYA) SHAHRAMANYAN IVANOVNA, Newly Deceased**

Requested by the Badalyan Family

**ROZANN VARTOOGIAN, 1st Year, Dear Wife, Mother, Friend**

**KAREN PYLMAN, Dear Sister**

Requested by Michael Vartoogian

Christopher Danielian

Chookasian Family

Pylman Family

Sarkisian Family

Suzanne Nazoyan and Family

Mike and Linda Tiffany

Karen Mangune

Dennis and Nancy Kevonian

Melissa Kevonian and Ken Voakes

Kyle Kevonian

Charlene Apigian and Family

Joyce Obenhoff

**LEVON MAZMANIAN, 2nd Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather**

Requested by Galina Mazmanian and Family

**GLADYS KACHADURIAN**

**JACK (HAGOP) KACHADURIAN**

**ROSE KEVONIAN AND HENRY (HRANT) KEVONIAN**

**ROBIN CAROL TURVEY**

Requested by Dennis and Nancy Kevonian

Melissa Kevonian and Ken Voakes

Kyle Kevonian

**JANET AND PAYLAG HAKOPIAN**

**NOYEM KALUST**

**HRANT HAKOPIAN**

**AZNEV MARDEGIAN**

**NAZIG MARDEGIAN**

**ARAXE HAKOPIAN**

**KEVORK HAKOPIAN**

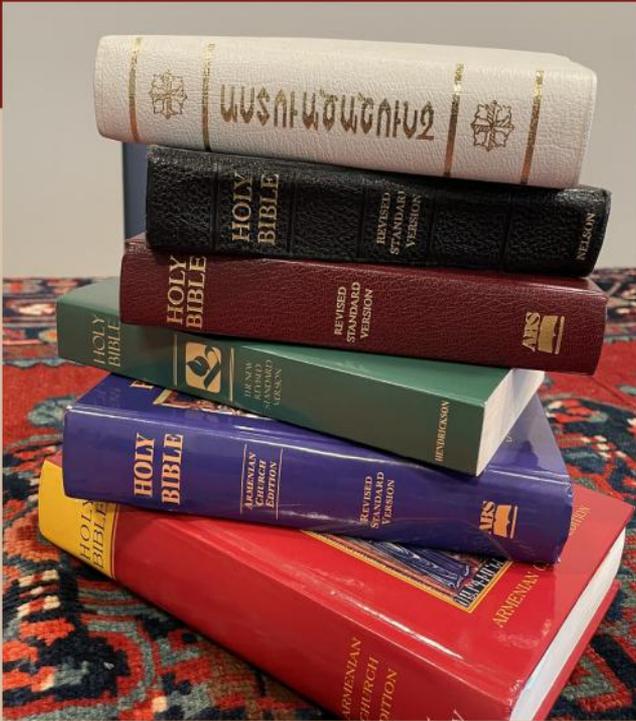
Requested by Soseek and Fahi Hakopian



St. John Armenian Church

# BIBLE STUDY

LED BY FR. AREN



**FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

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

# COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

## Join Us on Zoom!

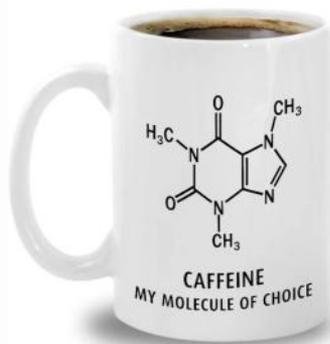
Take a break, grab your favorite cup of coffee, and log on for a half hour relaxed and meaningful conversation with Fr. Aren.

**Thursday, February 12, at 11:00am**

(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!

«ՄԱՀ ՈՉ ԻՄԱՅԵԱԼ, ՄԱՀ Է,  
ՄԱՀ ԻՄԱՅԵԱԼ, ԱՆՄԱՀՈՒԹԻՒՆ Է:»



“DEATH, UNANTICIPATED, IS DEATH;  
DEATH, ANTICIPATED, IS IMMORTALITY.”  
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF

## **SAINT VARTAN**

ON THUESRDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2026  
WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF DETROIT AREA  
ARMENIAN CHURCHES AND COMMUNITIES  
AT MOTHER OF GOD CHALDEAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

25585 Berg Road, Southfield, MI 48034

7:00 pm Holy Mass Presided by

His Exc. The Most Rev. Bishop Mikael Mouradian

8:30 pm Reception



# WINE TASTING MASQUERADE

*Enjoy wines from around Armenia,  
light bites, and live music by Erevan Ensemble  
Masks optional but encouraged! Prizes for best masks!*

*Hosted by Hye Doon*

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 13 7:00PM  
VETERANS HALL**

*Entire community 21+ invited for wine tasting  
Your kids are welcome for a movie and snacks  
\$40 Per Person*

**PLEASE EMAIL [DETROITHYEDOON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DETROITHYEDOON@GMAIL.COM) TO RESERVE**

**JOIN US AND HELP SORT BADLY NEEDED  
MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT  
TO BE USED LOCALLY AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

# **SJAC VOLUNTEER DAY AT WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF**

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**



**Saturday, February 14, 9:00am-11:30am**

**CONTACT GREG OR EDITH BAISE AT (313) 673-3325**

**OR [EBAISE@UMICH.EDU](mailto:ebaise@umich.edu)**

**21725 MELROSE AVE, SOUTHFIELD, MI, 48075**

ST JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH  
LED BY VERY REV. FR. AREN JEBEJIAN  
DN. RUBIK MAILIAN

# ACOLYTE TRAINING

## SCHEDULE

TIME: 10AM-12PM  
FEBRUARY 14 & 28  
MARCH 28  
APRIL 25  
MAY 9 & 23

Contact Deacon Rubik  
[rubik@sjachurch.org](mailto:rubik@sjachurch.org)



**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH SCHOOL**

*Poon Paregentan*

**FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICES IN CULTURAL HALL

**EVERYONE WELCOME!!**



**A St. John Armenian Church Serving Ministry  
In The Armenian American Veterans Building**

Lunch Served at 12 noon

Today's Lunch Prepared By "All Events Catered"

Proprietor & Chef Krista Tossounian

**Tuesday, February 17, 2026**

**Fettuccine Alfredo with shrimp**

**Or**

**Chicken Piccata**

**w/pasta tossed in garlic and olive oil**

**Lunches served with hummus,  
salad, bread, and green bean almondine**

**Dessert**

**Lemon Cake**

**\$ 15 Lunch Includes: Salad, Bread, Entrée,**

**Accompaniments, Dessert, Coffee and Water**

Carry outs exclude hummus, coffee and water

**RESERVATIONS ONLY - No walk-ins**

Text (or email / phone) your name & lunch choice

to Dan Cristiano by Friday noon 313-938-4215 / [djcris100@gmail.com](mailto:djcris100@gmail.com)

**Tuesday Lunch Club**

**Game Box** located in the card room with Backgammon  
Boards, Pinochle & Regular playing cards, Please return to box when

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

# REST SERVICE & ACYOA Jrs LENTEN DINNER

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

## WEDNESDAYS

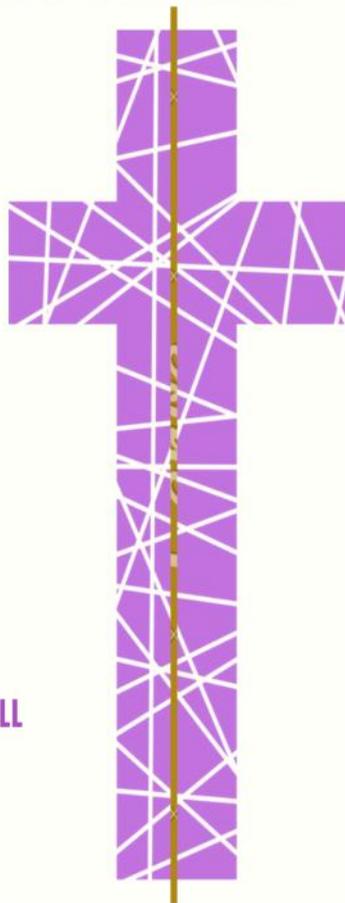
february 18th  
february 25th  
march 4th  
march 11th  
march 18th - **Fish & Chips**  
march 25th - **Lobster Dinner**

## DONATIONS

adults \$15 (fish or vegan)  
children \$5

## ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH CULTURAL HALL

22001 Northwestern Hwy.  
Southfield, Michigan

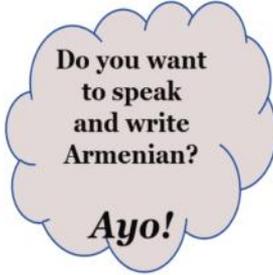


reservations call  
church office (248) 569-3405 *or*  
email [office@sjachurch.org](mailto:office@sjachurch.org)

# 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!**

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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

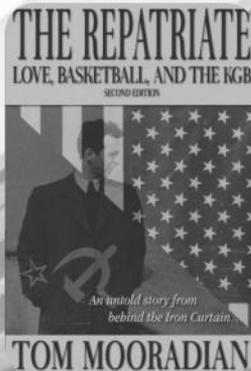
In the Vartan Room



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.



# 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 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

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



**6:00 PM:** WELCOME - CHURCH CULTURAL HALL  
BY FR. AREN JEBEJIAN

**6:30 PM:** PRESENTATION BY  
FATHER GARABED KOCHAKIAN - FORMER PASTOR

**7:00 PM:** ST. VARTAN ROOM - EXHIBIT OF ICONS  
HIS GRACE MESROP PARSAMYAN, OUR PRIMATE,  
WILL LEAD A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY.

FATHER GARABED WILL INTRODUCE ICONOGRAPHY

HOSPITALITY PROVIDED IN THE ARARAT ROOM - ACROSS FROM EXHIBITS

RSVP TO ST. JOHN BY **MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH**

248-569-3405

22001 NORTHWESTERN HWY  
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48075

[WWW.STJOHNSARMENIANCHURCH.ORG](http://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 4<sup>th</sup>:
  - online at <https://abundant.co/stjohnarmenianchurch/retreat> or
  - contact Denise Boyagian at [dboyagian@yahoo.com](mailto: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!*

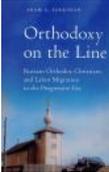
### Featured Items



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



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### New Jewelry from Armenia

Pregomesh Jewelry

Vanq Collection Silver Jewelry Celebrates Artsakh's Rich Heritage

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EVENTS AT  
ST JOHN  
ARMENIAN CHURCH

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

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

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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

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



- February 8 - Church Morning Service - 9:00am, Divine Liturgy - 9:45am**  
**February 9 - Bible Study - 7:00pm - Conference Room**  
**February 11 - College Visit - Michigan State University, 7:00pm**  
**February 12 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp - 11:00am - via zoom**  
**February 12 - Feast of Saint Vartan**  
7:00pm - 25585 Berg Road, Southfield, MI 48034  
**February 13 - Hye Doon - Wine Tasting Masquerade**  
7:00pm - Armenian American Veterans' Hall  
**February 14 - Acolyte Training - 10:00am-12:00pm**  
**February 14 - World Medical Relief**  
9:00am, 21725 Melrose Ave, Southfield, MI, 48075  
**February 15 - Poon Paregentan - Following Divine Liturgy**  
**February 17 - Tuesday Lunch - 12:00pm**  
Armenian American Veterans' Hall  
**February 18 - Rest Service - 5:00pm**  
Fish Dinner - 5:30  
**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  
**March 1 - Save the Date - Annual Parish Assembly Meeting**  
**March 13 - Save the Date**  
The Great and Holy Week: The Easter Story Through Armenian Sacred Art  
**March 14 - Save the Date**  
Rev. Fr. Diran and Yn. Rosalie Papazian Parish Retreat

**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH PRESENTS**

Արուեստներ  
Հայաստանէն



**ARTS OF  
ARMENIA**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**MONDAY, JULY 13 - FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026**