

# 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 1, 2026**  
Armenian Church Year 1475

### Third Sunday after the Octave of Theophany

Celebrant: Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian

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

Isaiah 63:7-18, 2 Timothy 3:1-12, John 6:22-38

Lector: Linda Jevahirian

### 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 յայտնուեթիւնն 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



## **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 8**

By Your boundless all-conquering power

You are king of heaven and earth, Christ God. We bless you.

Sharer in the glory of the Father! Blessed with Him by the immortal ones

You came down and put on flesh. King of glory, we bless You.

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

Now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

You mightily trampled down death.

And having risen, You have filled the Holy Church with light;

Immortal Essence, we bless You.

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

**John 6:22-38**

On the next day the people who remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. However, boats from Tiberias came near the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks. So when the people saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you; for on him has God the Father set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see, and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Lord, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me; and him who comes to me I will not cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me."

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### **Save the Date**

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

## Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Badrik Jooharigian  
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  
Mary Helen Altounian  
Shoghig Terjimanian  
Valera Ayrapetyan  
Andre' J. Gregory  
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.

### **Men's Society Outreach**

Continuing their partnership with Motor City Mitten Mission, the Men's Society of St. John Armenian Church prepared hot lunches twice in January for the homeless of Metro Detroit. The Men's Society would like to thank **Mrs. Roslyn Basherian** for her donation 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.

## **2026 Women's Guild Executive Board**

Congratulations to the elected members of the Women's Guild Executive Board. The elected members will have their installation service today before the sermon.

*Denise Boyagian and Karen Mangune, Co-Chairs*

*Nyree Giragosian, Vice Chair*

*Jackie ElChemmas, Treasurer*

*Donna Lafian - Assistant Treasurer/Membership Chair*

*Linda Jevahirian - Recording Secretary / Newsletter Editor*

*Joyce Yeghissian - Corresponding Secretary*

*Alice Mekjian - Advisor*

*Marie Seremjian - Advisor*



### **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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### **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 Sunday, 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.



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

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

Requested by the Badalyan Family

**JAMES MOUSIGIAN, Newly Deceased , Cousin**

Requested by Michael and Susan Mousigian

Nancy Walters,

Christopher, Marianne, Jacob and Julianna Jurczak

Robert, Rosemarie, and Griffin Pollum

Samuel Mousigian

Mark and Eleanor Evarian

Stephen Evarian

**LEO ARTINIAN, 40th Day, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather**

Requested by Gladys Artinian

Karen Diamond and Family

Christine and David Vavro and Family

Mark Artinian and Gina Willson and Family

**RICHARD KHEDERIAN, 1st Year**

Requested by Corinne, Henry and Victoria Khederian

**GREGORY MERTON GOULD, 2nd Year, Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather, and Son-In-Law**

Requested by Aimee V. Hachigian-Gould, M.D.

Andrew, Ashley, Clayton, and Kaycee Gould

Brandon, Katelyn, Oneida, and Quinton Gould

Garo and Louise Hachigian

**BARBARA HAROUTUNIAN, 5th Year**

Requested by Mr. and Mrs. Aram and Lindsay Sahakian, Chloe and Mason

Dr. and Mrs. Gary and Mariann Zamanigian

Mr. and Mrs. Drew and Erin Zamanigian and Leo

Mr. Thomas Sarkisian

**ERVIN VAHRATIAN, 13th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Uncle**

Requested by Donn Vahratian

Kim Vahratian Wolford

John Wolford

Erin Vahratian

Daniel Vahratian

ST. JOHN WOMENS GUILD  
VALENTINE'S DAY

College  
Care Package

SEND A WARM HUG FROM ST. JOHN'S TO  
YOUR LOVED ONES IN COLLEGE OR THE  
MILITARY

BOX WILL INCLUDE ARMENIAN & TRADITIONAL BAKED GOODS,  
SNACKS. GIFT CARD, INSPIRATIONAL GIFT AND MORE!

SUBMIT BY:  
2/2/2026

SCAN TO:  
REGISTER NAME



PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO HELP COVER  
THE EXPENSES OF THE CARE PACKAGES

SCAN TO: DONATE



HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:  
KARENKAZARIAN@YAHOO.COM

# COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

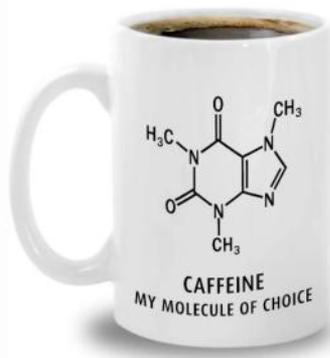
## Join Us on Zoom!

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

**Wednesday, February 4, 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



Scan QR code below for zoom link



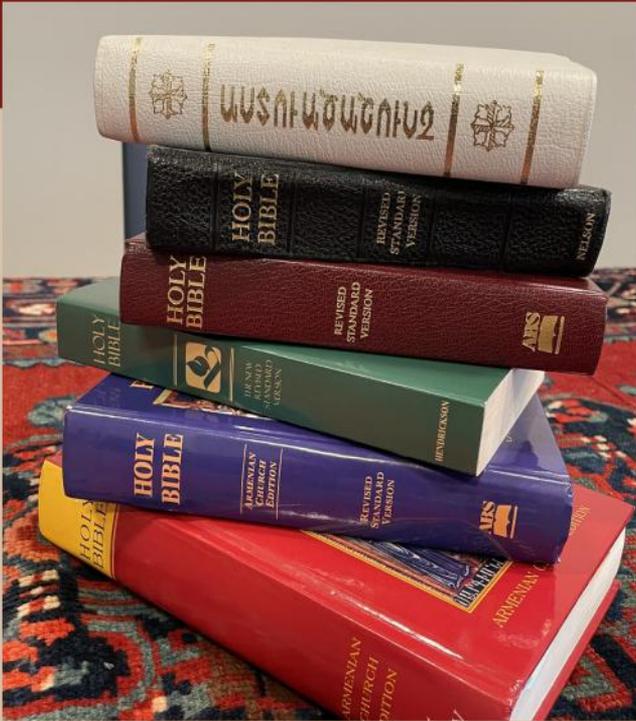
All are welcome - come as you are!



St. John Armenian Church

# BIBLE STUDY

LED BY FR. AREN



**FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

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

**St. John Armenian Church  
of Greater Detroit**

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026**

Lunch Served at 12 noon  
Armenian America Veterans Building



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

**Pork Kabob (5 pcs)**

**Or**

**Baked Breaded Chicken Breast**

**Each meal includes Rice Pilaf, Green Beans  
with Tomatoes & Pita Bread**

**Dessert**

**Lemon Cake**

**\$15 Lunch includes: Salad, Entree, Bread,  
Accompaniments, Dessert, Coffee & Water**  
Carry outs exclude coffee & water

**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 / [djcris100@gmail.com](mailto:djcrist100@gmail.com)**

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



# 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:ebaize@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)

## 2026 Stewardship Pledge

Join us in embracing a wonderful  
New Year together!

The Pastor and Parish Council  
would like to remind each of you  
to please take a moment to  
complete your 2026 Stewardship  
Pledge and if possible, your  
financial commitment.

Pledge & payment link:

[St. John Armenian Church - Stewardship Pledge Card](#)  
We would like to ensure we have your correct contact  
information on file.





**Please join Father Aren and me for a  
College outreach visit**



**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>  
@ PIZZA HOUSE  
IN EAST LANSING AT 7 PM  
COME SEE US!!!**

**Lisa Mardigian 586-808-2202**



**Please join Father Aren and me  
for a College outreach visit**



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
AT PIZZA HOUSE IN ANN ARBOR @ 7PM  
COME SEE US!!!**

**Lisa Mardigian 586-808-2202**

**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH SCHOOL**

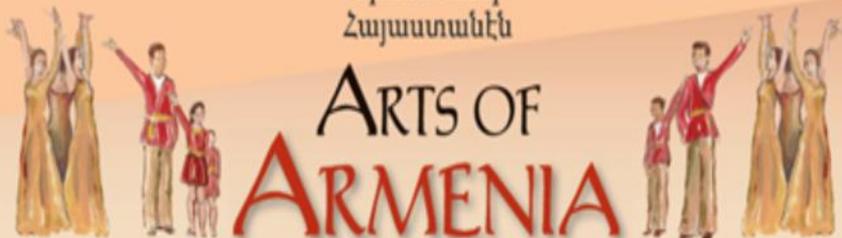
# *Poon Paregentan*

**FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

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

**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH PRESENTS**

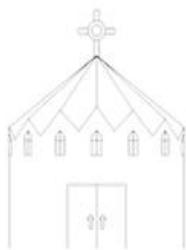
Արուեստներ  
Հայաստանէն



**ARTS OF  
ARMENIA**

**SAVE THE DATE**

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



# ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH LITTLE SAINTS

JOIN US ON THE FOLLOWING SATURDAYS AT 10:00 AM  
JANUARY 31  
FEBRUARY 21  
MARCH 21



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)

# 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!

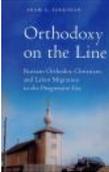
### Featured Items



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

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

**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 1 - Church Morning Service - 9:00am, Divine Liturgy - 9:45am**

**February 4 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp - 2:00pm - via zoom**

**February 9 - Bible Study - 7:00pm - Conference Room**

**February 10 - Tuesday Lunch - 12:00pm**

Armenian American Veterans' Hall

**February 11 - College Visit - Michigan State University, 7:00pm**

**February 13 - Hye Doon - Wine Tasting Masquerade**

7:00pm - Armenian American Veterans' Hall

**February 14 - Acolyte Training**

**February 14 - World Medical Relief**

9:00am, 21725 Melrose Ave, Southfield, MI, 48075

**February 15 - Poon Paregentan - Following Divine Liturgy**

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

**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

**July 13 - July 17 - Save the Date - Arts of Armenia**

## Ushers Team – Volunteers Needed

No experience required. All you need is a smile and a love for our church and parishioners. If interested please contact: Kazar Terterian.(248) 342-3555  
Kterterian@gmail.com, or Greg Baise 313-632-4962 gbaiserph@gmail.com

## 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)

## 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 & equipment to re-organize & declutter storage rooms

Contact Jim Stambouljian at Church Office