

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

December 14, 2025

Armenian Church Year 1475

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian

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

Isaiah 38:1-8, Hebrews 1:1-14, Luke 17:1-10

Lector: Yerezgin Roberta Kochakian

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.





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)

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.

Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 17:1-10

And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come; but woe to him by whom they come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung round his neck and he were cast into the sea, than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. Take heed to yourselves; if your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him; and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, and say, 'I repent,' you must forgive him." The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" And the Lord said, "If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this sycamine tree, 'Be rooted up, and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Will any one of you, who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep, say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and gird yourself and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterward you shall eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

Thank you

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to **Anthony Carmen** for the many ways he volunteers his time and talents, over the past few years in fixing, amongst others, the kitchen door, leaky faucets, the vegetable steamer, tilt pan and many others.

He has saved us thousands of dollars in repair costs. **Vartsgut Gadar!**

Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Badrik Joocharigian	Imprisoned Bishops and	Samvel Arakelyan
Azniv-Ann Kzirian	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	Mary Helen Altounian	Rose Lucassian
Theodore Rasho	Shoghig Terjimanian	Marge Aramian
Nick Fernandez	Valera Ayrapetyan	Zaven Ovian
Sonia Kalfayan	Charles Vanerian	Jan Paloian
Edith Baise		Rose Baise

Altar Flowers “Poinsettias”

A beautiful Christmas tradition at St. John Armenian Church is the adornment of the Holy Altar and Bema, for Armenian Christmas, with poinsettia plants. If you would like to contribute towards the plants, please contact the church office at (248) 569-3405. Donors will be acknowledged in the Sunday bulletin.



Digital Advent Calendar

The Children and Family Ministry is excited to announce the start of the Advent season. The **Digital Advent Calendar**, was created by the Children and Family Ministry. We hope this calendar will make the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas more joyful and special, as each day we are filled with His light, in anticipation of celebrating the miraculous birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please use QR code on the right to view the Advent Calendar.



To access it easily and use it daily, you can save this calendar as an app on your phone or tablet's home screen with a few easy steps ([use QR code below to see directions](#)). Please note that you won't be able to open the Doors before Sunday, November 17 (no peeking).





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Requiem Prayers for the Souls of those asleep in Christ

ISABELL SINELLI, Newly Deceased, Cousin

Requested by Margie Simonian

MARVIN CHACKER, 1st Year, Cousin

Requested by Lisa and Michael Bahm and Family

Linda Kurkechian and Family

Kirk and Lucy Kuchukian and Family

ROXANNE MOZIAN VAHRATIAN, 4th Year, Mother, Grandmother, Cousin, Friend

Requested by Donn Vahratian

Kim Vahratian Wolford

John Wolford

Daniel Vahratian

Erin Vahratian

Dr. MARGARET HOGIKYAN, 36th Year, Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother

Dr. AZAD HOGIKYAN, 46th Year, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather

ELAINE KAMRADT, 2nd Year, Sister, Sister-In-Law, Aunt, Great-Aunt

Requested by the Hogikyan Families

Fallen Asleep in the Lord

We offer our prayers for the servant of God, **Albert Karibian**, who entered his eternal rest last week. His funeral was held at

St. John Armenian Church on December 8, 2025.

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

Condolences

Fr. Aren, the Parish Council and the entire St. John Family offer our deepest condolences to our Event Director, Michelle Rheubottom

on the death of her mother LaVerne Jones.

Asdvadz Hokin Loosavoreh



ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

2025 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025 - WESTERN CHRISTMAS EVE

Western Christmas Eve Service - 11:00 pm

Afterglow refreshments provided by the ACYOA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

Blessing of Pomegranates at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, January 4, 2026 - SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026 - ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS EVE / JRAKALOOYTS

Vespers and Reading of Prophecies - 4:00 p.m. | Divine Liturgy - 5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026 - ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Divine Liturgy and Blessing of the Waters/Chrorhnek - 10:00 a.m.

Godfather of the Cross - Wolfgang Axt

Christmas luncheon following the Divine Liturgy,

sponsored by the St. John Women's Guild

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026 - SECOND DAY OF THEOPHANY

Remembrance of the Dead/Merelotz/Hokehankist - 11 a.m.

*St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 569-3405*



ST. JOHN CHURCH SCHOOL

Christmas Celebration Brunch

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Following Divine Liturgy in the Cultural Hall.

Join us for a **festive Christmas Brunch** featuring
a presentation by Church School.



free will offering - suggested price \$10/person





CHRIST IS BORN GLORIFY HIM!

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS HYMNS AND CAROLS
FROM DIVERSE TRADITIONS

FEATURING THE ORTHODOX CHOIR OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT
& OTHER CHOIRS FROM AROUND METRO DETROIT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 2025 | 5PM

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
760 W. WATTLES RD, TROY, MI

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN KARMANOS COMMUNITY HALL.

A FREEWILL COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN TO
SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF FOCUS DETROIT



Serving the Needs of our Neighbors. Together!



**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH SCHOOL
ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION**



COLLECTION DATES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 THROUGH MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025

**PLEASE BRING NEW, UNWRAPPED TOYS
AND PLACE THEM IN THE COLLECTION BOXES
WHICH ARE LOCATED IN THE CHURCH LOBBY.**

CONTACT SARA ANDONIAN (248) 515-9264 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.





ST. JOHN WOMEN'S GUILD

Christmas Cookie Box

IS ON SALE NOW!

A winter-themed box filled with 2lbs. of assorted
Christmas cookies made by our members.

Perfect for gift-giving \$35

Pick up after church services

Sunday 12/21

Pre-pay only



[Click here to order](#)

www.bit.ly/4p6Hplg

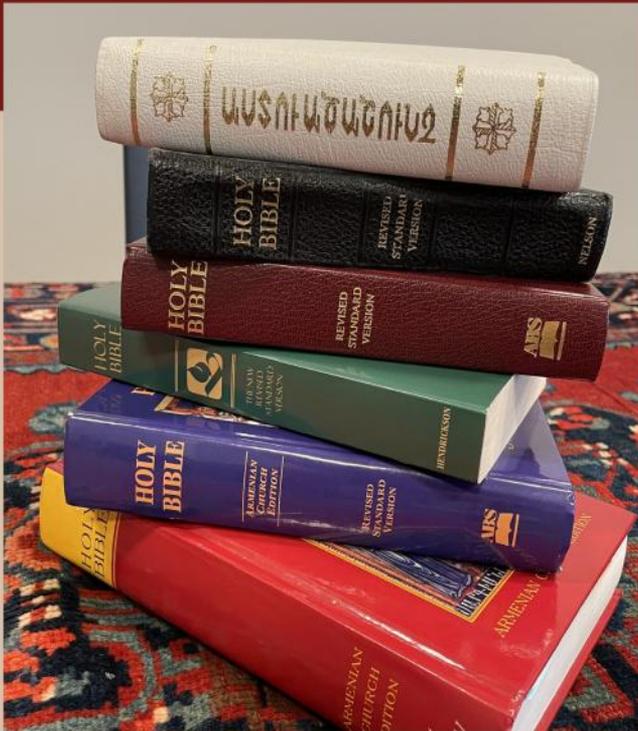




St. John Armenian Church

BIBLE STUDY

LED BY FR. AREN



DECEMBER 15, 2025

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

THE ANNUAL PARISH *Assembly*



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,

Contact:

PAUL ANDONIAN, HOWARD ATESIAN, DENISE BOYAGIAN, MARILYN DADIAN OR KIM NAJARIAN

St John Armenian Church

COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

Join Us on Zoom!

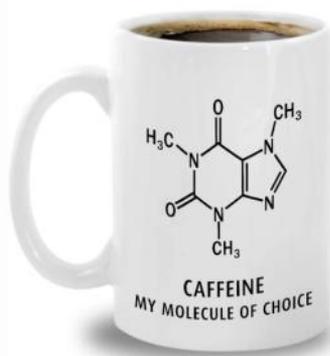
Take a break, grab your favorite cup of coffee, and log on for a half hour relaxed and meaningful conversation with Fr. Aren.

Tuesday, December 16 at 5:00pm

(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
“Church Chat”**

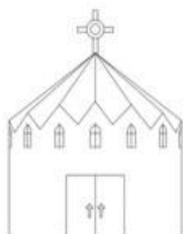
The Armenian Church and Its People

**Thursday, December 18
7:00 p.m. in the St. Vartan room**

**Led by: Fr. Aren
Special Guest: Sarah Stites,
AYO Program Director**



**Join us for an engaging conversation exploring the
life of the Armenian Church and the people
who make up its vibrant community.**



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



Sunday, December 24, 2025

11:00pm

Western Christmas Eve Service

Led by Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jեբեյան
with the participation of the Komitas Choir,
our organist and special guest musicians
under the direction of
Deacon Rubik Maillian

Refreshments provided afterwards by the ACYOA*





Armenian Christmas
Tuesday, January 6, 2026

**TRADITIONAL
LAHMAJOON
LUNCHEON**

Following Divine Liturgy
Presented by
St. John Women's Guild
Suggested donation: \$10 per person



Reservations required

Denise Boyagian; 248-892-9739
dboyagian@yahoo.com





Sunday, January 11, 2026

**Church School Christmas
Dinner**

**Following Divine Liturgy
in the Cultural Hall**

Lamb chop dinner buffet
Everyone welcome

\$30.00 Adult, Children Free

R.S.V.P. Church Office (248) 569-3405

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!

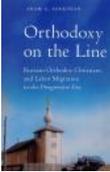
Featured Items



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! - 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

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/



December 14 - St John Church School Christmas Program and Celebration Brunch
Following Divine Liturgy

December 14 - Christ is Born, Glorify Him

5:00pm - St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 760 W Wattles Rd, Troy MI

December 15 - Bible Study

7:00pm - Conference Room

December 16- Coffee with Hayr Soorp

5:00pm - Via Zoom

December 18 - Church Chat - The Armenian Church and its people

7:00pm - St. Vartan Room

December 20 - Little Saints Program

10:00 - 11:00am - Ararat Room

December 24 - Western Christmas Eve Service

11:00pm - Sanctuary - Afterglow refreshments provided by the ACYOA

January 6 - Women's Guild - Traditional Lahmajoon Luncheon

Following Divine Liturgy

January 11 - Church School - Lamb Chop Dinner

Following Divine Liturgy

Seeking Stewards Time and Talent Help

Church office requests help with the following projects

- Social Media organization and publishing
- Storage rooms clean-up and re-organize
- Update church event manual
- Volunteers for small repair projects
- Organize tool/shop room

Contact Jim Stambouljian at Church Office

