

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

May 3, 2026
Armenian Church Year 1475

Apparition of the Holy Cross

Guest Celebrant: Very Reverend Father Zakaria Baghoumyan
Pastor: Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian
Morning Service - 9:00 a.m. | Divine Liturgy - 9:45 a.m.
Sacred Lections: Acts 17:1-15, I John 1:1-10, John 7:14-23
Fr. Zakaria will deliver the Children's Sermon
Lector: Deacon Richard Norsigian

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.

Easter Greeting

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, BLESSED IS THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST!

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KRISDOS HARYAV EE MERELTZ ORHNIAL EH HAROUTIUNUN KRISTOSI

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 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.

Midday Hymn

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

Midday Hymn for Apparition of the Holy Cross

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem.

Christ is risen from the dead, Alleluia!

Come, you peoples, sing to the Lord, Alleluia!

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

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

To Him who is risen from the dead, Alleluia!

To Him who has enlightened the world, Alleluia!

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.

Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

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

Altar Easter Lilies

On Sunday, May 3, Easter lilies that were on the altar will be available for anyone to take one home and replant it.

The lilies will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, and reservations will not be taken.

You are welcome to pick one up following the church service on Sunday, May 3, at either the lobby entrance or the office entrance. Steve or Lisa Derderian will be there to assist you.

Today's Gospel Reading

John 7:14-23

About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. The Jews marveled at it, saying, "How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?" So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me; if any man's will is to do his will, he shall know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. He who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but he who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. Did not Moses give you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill me?" The people answered, "You have a demon! Who is seeking to kill you?" Jesus answered them, "I did one deed, and you all marvel at it. Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man upon the sabbath. If on the sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because on the sabbath I made a man's whole body well?"

Tea In Honor of Lucy Ardash

The Armenian Apostolic Society executive board would like to announce that on Sunday, May 3, immediately following Divine Liturgy, they will be hosting a special tea in honor of **Mrs. Lucy Ardash** upon her official retirement as **Director of the Museum and Library**.

Gifts to Church

On the occasion of the baptism of **Josephine Frances Tafraian**, which took place on April 26, 2026, a gift has been presented to the Church by her parents, **Joseph Frank Tafraian and Katherine Monaghan**.

Veterans Building Renovation Fundraising

Our goal is to renovate our dedicated space to honor those who served and to expand our community outreach.

Renovation Goal **\$ 500,000**

Current Donations **\$ 283,821**

Funding Needed **\$ 216,179**

As of April 24, 2026.

Help us reach our goal!

Donate today by scanning the QR code.



Excludes Apostolic Society's funding \$470,647 for Foundation, Roof, and Window repairs/replacements since 2021 and Marie Vanerian's \$50,000 donation to the 2025 Detroit ACYOA Sports Weekend of which ~\$38,500 used for Gym refreshing.



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Requiem Prayers for the Souls of those asleep in Christ

MARY ANDONIAN, Mother, Grandmother

DICKRAN DICK KRALIAN, Uncle

Requested by Jeffrey and Nelly Andonian and Family

Greg Andonian

Cross and Karen Mooradian and Family

ZARMOUHI YESSAYIAN, Mother

Requested by Shirak Vartanyan and Family

DIKRAN KOLOIAN, 86th Year, Grandfather

TAKOUHI KOLOIAN, 53rd Year, Grandmother

Requested by Alice and Peter Argnian

HAGOP TOROYAN, 42nd Year, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather

ZEVART TOROYAN, 27th Year, Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother

Requested by Dr. Salpi Toroyan and Nishan

Sarkis Toroyan, Raymond, and Michaelanne

Lucine Tarman and Trey

Dr. Raffi Toroyan

Aram, Ara, and Artin Toroyan



PARISH REGISTER - APRIL, 2026

B A P T I S M

APRIL 11, 2026

ANI ENGOREN

DAUGHTER OF DAVID ENGOREN AND AUTUMN KULAGA-ENGOREN

APRIL 12, 2026

LUCY CHARLOTTE BENNETT

DAUGHTER OF BRIAN JAMES BENNETT AND JULIE ANNA AGINIAN

APRIL 19, 2026

LELAND ARMEN MIARS

SON OF GRANT MIARS AND TALIN DARIAN

APRIL 26, 2026

JOSEPHINE FRANCES TAFRALIAN

DAUGHTER OF JOSEPH FRANK TAFRALIAN AND KATHERINE MONAGHAN



PRIMATE'S PASTORAL VISIT

Over the weekend of May 28 - June 1, His Grace Bishop Mesrop Parsamyan will be visiting the St. John Armenian Church Community.

save the date
May 28 - June 1

This special weekend will include:

- Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 31
- Celebration of Fr. Garabed Kochakian's 50th Anniversary to the Sacred Priesthood with a banquet on Friday, May 29
- Acolyte and Sub-Deacon Ordinations
- Meetings with parish leadership

We look forward to welcoming His Grace that weekend.

Details to follow...

COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

Join Us on Zoom!

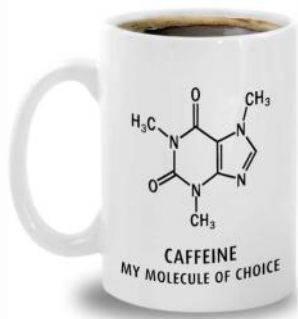
Take a break, grab your favorite cup of coffee, and log on for a half hour relaxed and meaningful conversation with Fr. Aren.

Monday, May 4, at 12:00pm

(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

SPECIAL GUEST:

VERY REV. FR. ZAKARIA BAGHOUMYAN



MAY 4, 2026

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

St. John's Community Dinner

BBQ BUFFET

Fri, May 8th, 2026 | 6PM Rec Center

Adults \$30: Chicken | Pulled Pork | Salmon Pilaf | Mac & Cheese | Green Beans | Tossed Greens | Corn Bread | Fresh Fruit | Dessert

Kids 10 & under \$15: Chicken Strips & French Fries

Contact Dan Cristiano 313-938-4215 by May 6
For Tickets & Reservations

Armenian Wine 

Hot Coffee & Lemonade Stand

 Raffle



Game Room



Music by
Erevan Ensemble
& Friends

Flyer by:
Alex Koceyan



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

ACOLYTE TRAINING

SCHEDULE

TIME: 10AM-12PM

MAY 9 & 23

Contact Deacon Rubik
rubik@sjachurch.org



ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH PRESENTS

Արուեստներ
Հայաստանէն



ARTS OF
ARMENIA

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, JULY 13 - FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH, MUSIC GUILD, &
TEKEYAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION DETROIT CHAPTER
PRESENT



PERFORMING
WORKS BY
GAZAROSSIAN
KOMITAS
SARYAN
SUNI
TOUMAJAN

VEM
ENSEMBLE
2026 TOUR
SATURDAY MAY 9
7:00PM



ST. JOHN
ARMENIAN
CHURCH
CULTURAL HALL

PROF. MOVSES POGOSSIAN, VIOLIN
ALLY CHO, VIOLIN
DAMON ZAVALA, VIOLA
NIALL TARÖ FERGUSON, CELLO

COMPLIMENTARY
LIGHT
REFRESHMENTS

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:
DIANA ALEXANIAN: 248-505-6159 | MADISEN LUNDQUIST: 503-758-8805



The Stewardship Committee wishes
our community's ladies & families

*Happy
Mother's
Day!*

Please enjoy a flower to take home
after Badarak on Sunday May 10
with our warmest regards

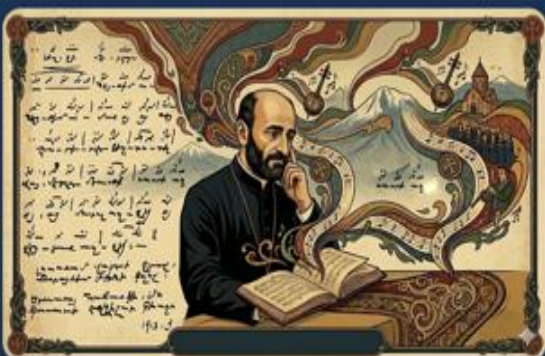


DEARBORN

ARMENIAN RESEARCH CENTER



St. John Armenian Church
Music Guild



KOMITAS AND ARMENIAN MUSIC

Interactive Workshop

TUESDAY | MAY 19 | 2026 | 7:00 PM

ST. VARTAN ROOM

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY, SOUTHFIELD, MI 48075

This interactive workshop, led by Dr. Tatevik Shakhkulyan, invites participants to experience Armenian music through the work of Komitas the famous priest, ethnomusicologist, and composer, widely regarded as the founder of the Armenian national school of music. Open to everyone—no prior musical training required—it offers a shared space for listening, singing, and discovery. The workshop focuses on process rather than performance, offering a hands-on introduction to Armenian musical traditions.



Dr. Tatevik Shakhkulyan is an ethnomusicologist specializing in Armenian musical traditions, with a focus on the legacy of Komitas. She is a Senior Researcher at the Institute of Arts of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia and teaches at the Yerevan State Conservatory. She also develops educational programs at the KAYT Cultural-Educational Hub and is the author of both scholarly and accessible works.

- +1 313-593-5181
- gottenbr@umich.edu
- www.umdearborn.edu/arc



Light refreshments will be served

ADMISSION IS FREE

The University of Michigan-Dearborn does not necessarily endorse the speaker's views

A Life of Faith and Service
50
YEARS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Celebratory Banquet

HONORING

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

50th Anniversary

OF HIS ORDINATION TO THE SACRED PRIESTHOOD

PRESIDED OVER BY
HIS GRACE, BISHOP MESROP PARSAMYAN, PRIMATE

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026 • 6:00 IN THE EVENING
\$75 PER PERSON • NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR

St. John Armenian Church
SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS
AND TO MAKE A DONATION BY FRIDAY, MAY 15.



FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE EVENT OR TICKETS:

FrGarabed50@gmail.com
Jacqueline Melkonian ElChemmas: 248.762.1312

Happy GRADUATION

**CONGRATULATIONS 2026 HIGH SCHOOL + COLLEGE GRADUATES!
WELCOME HOME COLLEGE STUDENTS!**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL BLESSING AND GATHERING
JUNE 7, 2026**

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY IN THE CULTURAL HALL

**TO HONOR YOUR GRADUATE
PLEASE SUBMIT A PHOTO OF THE GRADUATE
NAME OF SCHOOL
FUTURE PLANS**

**INFO TO:
LISA MARDIGIAN AT LMARDIGIAN@SJACHURCH.ORG**

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR GRADUATES INFORMATION BY JUNE 3.

**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, June 13, 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 DAY CAMP 2026

Monday – Thursday

Check-in: 9:00 am - 9:30 am

Dismissal: 4:00pm

Session I:

Monday, June 22 – Thursday, June 25

Session II:

Monday, July 6 – Thursday, July 9

Arts of Armenia

Separate application in conjunction with Komitas Choir
Monday, July 13 - Friday, July 17

HYE CAMP JULY 22nd -AUGUST 1st

www.diocesansummercamps.org

Session III:

Monday, August 3 – Thursday, August 6

Session IV:

Monday, August 10 – Thursday, August 13

Session V:

Monday, August 17 – Thursday, August 20

Session VI:

Monday, August 24-Thursday, August 27

Additional Information:

\$30 a day | Discount for second child | Ages 5-12 yrs.
Enrollment includes art supplies, refreshments, t-shirt,
field trips, and transportation for field trips.

Parents, please provide sack lunch & water bottles!

Lisa Mardigian

lmardigian@sjchurch.org

(586) 808 2202





HYE CAMP

where faith, fun and fellowship meet
INGLESIDE, ILLINOIS



scan to
register
online



learn



Pray



Play



and more

CIT/Staff Training: Wednesday, July 22 – Saturday, July 25
Camp Week: Saturday, July 25–Saturday, August 1

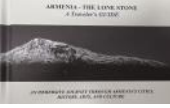
Online Registration

hyecamp.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!

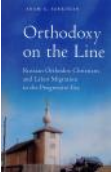
Featured Items



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



NEW, 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



Children's Book
Rose by the Sea
By Rebecca
Mooradian,



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 Hovhannisyan | (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.stjohnsarmerianchurch.org/sunday-bulletin/



- May 3 - Morning Service - 9:00am, Divine Liturgy - 9:45am
May 4 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp - 12:00pm, Via Zoom
May 4 - Bible Study - 7:00pm, Conference Room
May 5 - Tuesday Lunch, 12:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
May 8 - St. John Community Dinner - Barbecue Dinner,
6:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
May 9 - Acolyte Training - 10:00am - 12:00pm
May 9 - Tekeyan Cultural Association - Vem Ensemble, 7:00pm - St John Main Hall
May 12 - Tuesday Lunch, 12:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
May 19 - Music Guild - Komitas and Armenian Music, 7:00pm - St. Vartan Room
May 28 - June 1 - Save the Date - Primate's Pastoral Visit
May 29 - Fr. Garabed's 50th Anniversary Celebration Banquet, 6:00pm - Main Hall
June 7 - Special Gathering for High School and College Graduates
Following Divine Liturgy - St John Main Hall
June 13 - SJAC Volunteer Day at World Medical Relief
9:00am - 11:30am - 21725 Melrose Ave., Southfield, MI 48075
June 26 - St. John Community Dinner - Lamb Shank Dinner,
6:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
July 13 - July 17 - Save the Date - Arts of Armenia
July 31 - St. John Community Dinner - Lamb Chop Dinner, 6:00pm - Veterans Hall
July 25 - August 1 - Save the Date - Hye Camp

Lost and Found Notice

A set of car keys was left at the church on Friday evening, April 24. If you believe it belongs to you, please contact the church office or speak with a staff member to claim it.

Seeking Stewards Time and Talent Help

Social Media / Communications

Need volunteers or recommendations for part-time help.

Need to outreach beyond email blasts with more video clips.

Create Church Operations and Events Manual

Need 2-3 people to document the what, how & when regularly scheduled events are planned to create an operations manual.

Please contact Jim Stambouljian at Church Office.