

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

August 23, 2026
Armenian Church Year 1475

Second Sunday after the Assumption

Guest Celebrant: Very Reverend Father Aghan Gogchyan

Pastor: Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian

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

Proverbs 11:30-12:4, Zechariah 2:10-13, II Corinthians 6:16-7:1, Luke 1:39-56

Lector: Gayle Sarkisian-Hoplamazian

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*. 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,



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)

Sunday After the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God

My soul shall magnify the Lord;

And my spirit shall rejoice in God my Saviour.

Mother-of-God, radiant cloud!

You poured out on the reasonable earth the dew of life

And extinguished the fire of debts of our first-mother;

We bless you with voice unceasing,

And magnify you in spiritual song.

Place of the uncontainable Word,

Earth limited on all sides where the Light settles,

And sunrise of the Sun of Righteousness;

We bless you with voice unceasing,

And magnify you in spiritual song.

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

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

The fiery spirits translated into the all-radiant tabernacle

You who became the fulfillment of the prophets

By your virginal birth-giving

By which the laws of nature were overcome;

We bless you with voice unceasing,

And magnify you in spiritual song.

Guest Celebrant

Today we welcome Very Reverend Father Aghan Gogchyan, Chancellor of the Armenian Patriarchate in Jerusalem. Father Aghan was born in Dilijan, Armenia and graduated with four degrees from the Armenian Theological Seminary in Jerusalem. He was ordained a celibate priest in 2014. He has since then earned degrees from Hebrew University and has received the first four ranks of Archimandrite .

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And His mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm, he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever." And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.



Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Maya Hovhannisyan
Badrik Jooharigian
Andre' J. Gregory
Vladimir Avetisov
Charles Sansone
Debbie Dakhlian
Hrayr Mashigian
Jan Paloian
Edith Baise
Rose Baise
William Terian

Diramayr Marmine
Bagdasarian
Dirahayr Mihran
Parsamyan
Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyajian
Ron and Geraldine Ware
Lara Roche Sarmanian
Mary Helen Altounian
Shoghig Terjimanian
Valera Ayrapetyan
Alaina Ameriguian Mudge

Michael Vartoogian
Samvel Arakelyan
Yelena Zakaryan
Nancy Altounian
Marus Grigoryan
Nailya Sahakian
Chris Papazian
Rose Lucassian
Marge Aramian
Zaven Ovian



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Requiem Prayers for the Souls of those asleep in Christ

AYLIN MANOOK, 40th Day, Mother

ANTRANIK OHANNESIAN, Father

MASSIS OHANNESIAN, Brother

Requested by

Setta Ohanessian

**ESTHER JERNIKIAN KULHANJIAN, 3rd Year, Wife, Mother,
Grandmother**

Requested by

Paul Kulhanjian

Laura (Kulhanjian) and Bill Conrow

Julie (Kulhanjian) and Roger Strauch

Catherine, Lauren, Paul, Nairi, and Alex

STEPHAN TOPAKBASHIAN, Father, Grandfather

VALENTINE TOPAKBASHIAN, Mother, Grandmother

KRIKOR TASHJIAN, Father, Grandfather

HAIGANOUSH TASHJIAN, Mother, Grandmother

PARSEGH TASHJIAN, Brother, Uncle

HAGOP TASHJIAN, Brother, Uncle

SARQIS TASHJIAN, Brother, Uncle

Requested by

Toros and Knar Topakbashian and Family

GIRAGOS NADJARIAN

LEVON NADJARIAN

LOUSINE NADJARIAN

ALL NADJARIAN FAMILY MEMBERS

MARIE MELKONIAN

MARIAM MELKONIAN

ALL MELKONIAN FAMILY MEMBERS

SARA SHKERDEMIAN

Requested by

Sara Nadjarian

COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

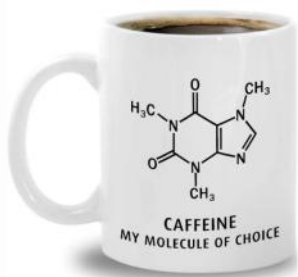
Join Us on Zoom!

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

Monday, August 24, 2026 at 3:30 pm
(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 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.

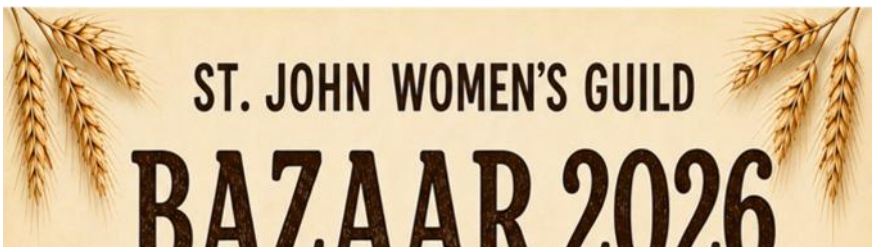
Parents, please provide sack lunch & water bottles!

Lisa Mardigian

lmardigian@sjchurch.org

(586) 808 2202





ST. JOHN WOMEN'S GUILD BAZAAR 2026



We are getting ready for Bazaar 2026,
and everyone is warmly invited to help

Tuesday - August 25 - Choreg 9am-12 noon

Monday - August 31 - Evening Choreg 4:30pm-7:30pm

Tuesday - September 1 - Katah 9:00am - 12 noon

**Thursday - September 17 - Evening Bourma and Khadaif
5:00pm - 9:00pm - Hye Doon and Everyone is Welcome**

Tuesday - September 29 - Sarma 9:00am - 12 noon

All hands are good hands!

We look forward to seeing you there
as we work together to prepare
for another successful Bazaar.



Tuesday Lunch Club

In The Armenian American Veteran's Building

Serving at 12 noon

Today's Lunch Prepared by

Proprietor and Chef Hasmik Movsesyan



Tuesday, Sept. 1st

Chicken Kebab with Rice Pilaf

or

Cod Fish with House Potatoes

Lunches Served with

fresh salad, roasted vegetables, and pita bread

Dessert: Nazuk

\$15 Lunch Includes: Salad, Bread, Entrée,
Accompaniments, Dessert, Coffee and Water
Carry outs exclude coffee and water

RESERVATIONS ONLY - No walk-ins

Text (or email / phone) your name & lunch choice
to Dan Cristiano by Friday 11am 313-938-4215 / djcrist100@gmail.com

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



St. John's Community Dinner Filet Mignon Luau!

Friday September 11 at 6PM
Veteran's Hall

**\$45 Filet Mignon or Salmon
with roasted potatoes,
vegetables, & dessert**
\$15 Kids chicken strips & fries

Armenian Wines, Music, and Games

Fun for the
whole
family!

Hawaiian shirts
& tropical-inspired attire
encouraged!

Bring your
Cards and
Board Games!

Call or Text Dan Cristiano at 313-938-4215
by Monday, September 7 for reservations

Event Chair: Hye Doon Group

Arts and Crafts

Rock & Slide Obstacle Course

Fun Castle Bounce House

Star TRAX DJ

Tin Can Raffle for Kids

Dalmation 3 in 1 Slide
& Basketball

Glitter Tattoos

Women's Guild of St. John Armenian Church
presents

Khunjook

Family Fun Day

Sunday, September 13, 2026

St. John Armenian Church
after church services on the lawn

Burgers & Hot Dogs

Veggies & Fruit Cotton Candy Ice Cream Cart

Free Will Donation

**Every registered Sunday School Student will receive
a free ticket for the Kids Tin Can Raffle!!!**

In case of rain the Khunjook will be held in the Rec Center.

Would you like to support our event?

Just click [HERE](#) or Point your camera at the QR code to learn how!



COME AND JOIN OUR
**TOURSHEE
PARTY**

Come and help us make the Tourshee
that will be sold at the Bazaar

Wednesday, September 16, 2026
5pm until done
Casual dinner provided
Main kitchen - St. John Armenian Church

Contact Ara Hachigian for more info
248-981-3093 or aramichael@mac.com

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075 • 248.569.3405

“The Church with the Golden Dome”

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

10 AM – 2 PM



**Sanctuary and Museum Tour
Traditional Armenian Buffet Luncheon**

Sanctuary Tour Presentations by:

Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian, Pastor

Reverend Father Garabed Archpriest Kochakian

- ✧ Master of Arts in Armenian Architecture and Art
- ✧ Armenian Iconographer

Deacon Rubik Mailian

- ✧ Sacred Music Director and Pastoral Assistant

Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum Tour:

Harry Kezelian III, Museum Director

- ✧ Largest Armenian Museum in North America

\$35 per person

Please register by September 8. Seating is limited.

For reservation information, please contact:

Gloria Korkoian: gkorkoian@gmail.com 248.318.5752





Save the Date
Andiamo Showcase Event
Thursday, September 24
Watch for Details



If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a vendor at the Bazaar, please fill this form out: <https://forms.gle/FHJF9GK7Q7ePKBPJ7>

Used Book Sale

The church is collecting *gently used books* for
the Bazaar book sale

Please drop books off at the church library (leave them outside the library door) no later than Thursday, October 1



THE ALEX AND MARIE MANOOGIAN MUSEUM
PRESENTS

THE MAJESTY OF ARMENIAN RUGS

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 9 at 7:00PM

Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum

Antique Rug Gallery

An interactive evening of

Armenian textile arts and art history

led by

Armenian Rug Art Historian

Arto Tavukciyan of Vancouver, Canada

Reception to follow

Seating for this memorable event will be limited,
please watch for reservation information

Church School Classroom Partners and Substitute Teachers Needed

Our Church School is seeking enthusiastic and caring individuals to serve the following positions for the 2026-2027 school year:

Positions Available

- Classroom Partner for the **5th Grade** to assist teacher Ms. Sophia Kazarian
- Classroom partner **for High School** (grades 9-12) to assist teacher Ms. Maggie Yessian
- Classroom Partner in the **Kindergarten** to assist Ms. Dawn Aginian
- Substitute Teachers for grade levels



Desired Qualities

Applicants should:

- Have a genuine appreciation and respect for children and all they bring to the learning environment.
- Be available to arrive by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings beginning September 13, 2026 through May 2027.

Application Process

All interested applicants are welcome to apply.

Please submit a brief paragraph expressing your interest and send it to:

sjachurchschool@gmail.com



ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH KOMITAS CHOIR

JOIN US FOR OUR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
OCTOBER 2027



« A LEGACY OF FAITH. | A HUNDRED YEARS OF SONG. »

Join us in singing!

Our faith. Our community. Our heritage. Our future.

More details will be announced soon

For more information contact Dn. Rubik Mailian (248) 286- 1057 or rubik@sjachurch.org.

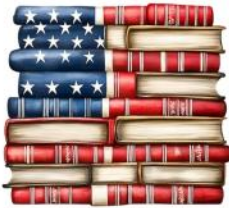
1927 - 2027



St. John Armenian Church in Partnership with the Tunnel to Towers Foundation - Book Drive

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation is collecting books
for the **Southfield Detroit Veterans Village Library**
that will support 92 veterans.

Please kindly donate new or gently used books
on the following topics.



- Military and Veteran Focused
- Mental Health and Wellness
- Personal Development
- Fiction and Classic Literature
- Biographies and Memoirs
- Hobbies and Skill Building
- Spirituality and Inspiration

There are donation boxes in the church entrances
for your convenience

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation is on a mission to
eradicate veteran homelessness.

<https://t2t.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!

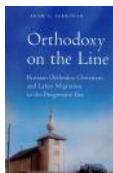
Featured Items



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,
HC \$20.00



**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 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

The Church Library and Museum are closed on Mondays

In an after-hours emergency please contact:

Fr. Aren - cell (773) 457-4122 | fraren@sjachurch.org

For after hours building and maintenance issues please call:

Gerry Kmita, Property Maintenance Manager (313) 580-5083

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/



August 23 - Morning Service 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am
August 24 - 27 - Day Camp Session VI
August 24 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp: 3:30pm Via Zoom
August 25 - Bazaar Baking: Choreg 9am-12-noon
August 25 - Tuesday Lunch: 12:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
August 31 - Bazaar Baking Evening: Choreg 4:30pm-7:30pm
September 1 - Tuesday Lunch: 12:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
September 11 - St. John's Community Dinner - 6pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
September 13 - Khunjook Family Fun Day: Following Badarak on the Lawn
September 16 - Tourshee Party: 5:00pm - Main Kitchen
September 17 - Bazaar Baking Evening: Bourma and Khadaif 5:00pm - 9:00pm
September 23 - "Church with the Golden Dome" - Sanctuary and Museum Tour
September 24 - Andiamo Showcase
September 29 - Bazaar Baking: Sarma - 9:00am - 12 noon
October 2 - 3 - St. John Bazaar
October 9 - Majesty of Armenian Rugs Interactive Lecture - 7:00pm - Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum

Church Corner

Adapted from the Vemkar Topical Series, Armenian Church Etiquette, by the Order of The Very Reverend Father Mesrop Parsamyan Primate.

Please help us reduce the noise - even while exiting the Sanctuary

We come to church to pray and to worship God above all else, and that should be our only focus. We encourage parishioners to help us maintain an atmosphere of harmony, beauty, and reverence, so that everyone can experience worship without distraction.

While in the Sanctuary we ask that noise and conversation be kept to a minimum, especially during Holy Communion and when the Gospel is being read. By all means if someone has a question about the service, please take time to *softly* explain it to them. While there is a natural temptation to talk with each other while leaving the Sanctuary, we ask that you wait until you have reached the lobby.

Fellowship and Coffee in the Church Cultural Hall is a wonderful place to catch up and we look forward to seeing you there!