

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

Pastoral Intern Reverend Father Vazgen Andreasyan



Sunday Bulletin

August 17, 2025
Armenian Church Year 1475

Feast of The Assumption Of The Holy Mother Of God

Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Vazgen Andreasyan

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

Song of Solomon 4:9-15, Isaiah 7:10-16, Galatians 3:29-4:7, Luke 2:1-7

Lector: Lerna Lacinian

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



St. John Komitas Choir

Deacon Rubik Mailian, Director of Sacred Music and Pastoral Assistant
Arshaluys Gharibian, Organist

Midday Hymn

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

Assumption Of The Holy Mother Of God

My soul shall magnify the Lord; And my spirit shall rejoice in God my Saviour.

Unfading Flower. Purest offshoot from the root of Jesse!

Of old Isaiah called you. The dwelling place of the Spirit's seven-fold graces;

Mother-of-God and Virgin; we magnify you. Reasonable Vine of the sweetest fruit;

From which was gathered the inexhaustible Cluster.

For the joy of us drowning in sorrow. For having tasted of the tree of knowledge;

Holy and Spotless One; we all magnify you.

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

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

You lived a spotless life in the flesh;

Today the Apostles commanded from on high

Placed you in a tomb. And you ascended into the kingdom of your Son and our God

Intercessor for those who confess you; we magnify you.

Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Special Plate Collection

Today, on the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God, the St. John Komitas Choir will be taking a special plate collection during the singing of "Amen. Yev unt hokvooyt koom" (p.39 of divine liturgy book).

Altar Flowers

The beautiful flowers at the altar today are presented by

Ani Cooper and Serop Babayan on the happy occasion

of their wedding which took place at St. John Armenian Church

on Saturday, August 16, 2025.



Welcome to Our New Pastoral Intern and His Family

It is with great joy that we announce the arrival of our new pastoral intern and his family to our parish community. They have safely arrived and are now settling into their new home in Beverly Hills.

We are pleased to welcome **Fr. Vazgen Andreasyan, Yeretzgin, Tiruhi and their son Hovhannes**, and we look forward to the blessings their presence will bring to our parish life. Der Hayr will celebrate Divine Liturgy this coming Sunday, and we encourage all parishioners to warmly greet and welcome them as they begin this important journey with us.

We pray that this one-year internship will be a spiritually enriching and fruitful time for him as he prepares for ministry within the Eastern Diocese. May their time among us be filled with fellowship, growth, and mutual support.

We would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Sara Andonian and the members of the St. John Women's Guild for their generous contributions of household items, which have greatly assisted the family as they settle into their new home.

Merelotz Service

After the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of God Monday, August 18, 2025 at 11:00

It is the tradition to remember all deceased loved ones the day after a major feast day known as **Merelotz**.

If you wish to have individual names remembered at this Hokehankist service, please submit the full name of the person or persons you wish to have remembered either typed or electronically sent to office@sjachurch.org or call the church office by Sunday, August 17th. An offering from your heart would be appreciated.

Dear Families with Children interested in attending Church School on Sundays

Our St. John Church School team is preparing for fall enrollment, and Sunday school classes. We are hoping you will enroll your children and allow us to join with you in providing Christian education services during the school year. We meet on Sundays from 10:15 AM to 12 noon. Our first day is September 7, 2025. During class-time students receive lessons that are age, and developmentally appropriate for their grade. We utilize the diocese curriculum which can be found at

<https://vemkar.us/children-and-family-ministry/>

Once again this year, there is no cost to attend. We simply ask that you register using the attached link, and bring your child(ren) to church!

The attached link is for NEW children only! Returning families will receive a prefilled registration form to update in their email. Any questions, please reach out to the church office and someone will return your call.

New family/children registration form to complete and submit below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfF3KgYCRmiD2rkjX1ciFB54Dtar3ksmggfoH83v8pPeXh50g/viewform?usp=header>

Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Badrik Jooharigian	Diramayr Marmine Bagdasarian	Samvel Arakelyan
Nadia Ayrapetyan	Dirahayr Mihran Parsamyan	Nancy Altounian
Azniv-Ann Kzirian	Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyagian	Marus Grigoryan
Vladimir Avetisov	Mary Helen Altounian	Nailya Sahakian
Joann Mashigian	Wayne Owen Engelki	Rose Lucassian
Charles Sansone	Shoghig Terjimanian	Marge Aramian
Hrayr Mashigian	Valera Ayrapetyan	Zaven Ovia
Jane Toomajian	Sonia Kalfayan	Jan Paloian
Nick Fernandez	Jeffrey Perna	Rose Baise

Thank you

Thank you to **Westborn Market and the Anusbigian Family** for the generous donation of grapes on the occasion of the **Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God**.



Gifts to the Church

Special thanks to **Gregory and Sandy Jamian** for generously donating one of the new **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** to our Church.

New Automated External Defibrillators (AED) have been installed in the white cabinets at the Cultural Hall (Kitchen Entrance and Main Hall Lobby) and at the Armenian American Veterans Building Lobby. These units are fully automatic and simple to use to follow the directions. See video link for how to use the device:

<https://youtu.be/yo5jKJBKo0w?si=vSjXT0pbsvWRVov5>

Robert and Kimberly Simonian made a gift to St. John Armenian Church in honor of the baptisms of their grandchildren, **Isla Susan Grabowski and Mason Seth Gorosh**, which took place on Saturday, August 2, 2025.

Donations Needed for Men's Society Outreach

As part of its ongoing partnership with Motor City Mitten Mission, the Men's Society of St. John Armenian Church is continuing to prepare hot lunches for the homeless of Metro Detroit twice a month.

To sustain this important ministry, the Men's Society is seeking donations for meal preparations in **September, October, and November**.

Please contact the church office or use the below QR code to donate directly through the church website.

A donation of \$300 sponsors a meal for 100 individuals.

Donations in any amount will be acknowledged in a future Sunday bulletin.

We are always in need of volunteers to help prepare meals in the main kitchen.

Please contact Harry Dulger at 313-333-6915.

**We thank the following contributors
for their generous donations on the
occasion of the Blessing of the Grapes**

*Fr. Aren Jebejian in loving memory of his Grandmother,
Diramayr Mariam Jebejian, and Godmother, Marie Nersoyan.
Also, in honor of Rena Mari Megrdochian, Mari Margaret Megrdochian and
Maria Stepanian, as well as all who are named after the Holy Mother of God.*

*Dn. Rubik Mailian, Dr. Joyce Yeghissian, Sevana and Areg Mailian
in loving memory of their Grandmother and Great-Grandmother
Mary Bahadurian, and Grandmother Rose Yeghissian*

Alice and Peter Argnian in loving memory of their Mother Mary Argnian.

*Daneilian Family in honor of Maritta Daneilian and Zachary Avakian,
and in memory of Fahima Siso and Shahin Daneilian*

*Khatchig, Marcia, Emily and Christopher Hamamdjian in loving memory
of their Nephew and Cousin Ralph Daher*

Mary Keoleian and Family in loving memory of Harry Keoleian

*Edward and Yvonne Korkoian and Family in loving memory of
their Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother Mary Dardarian*

Karen Mangune in loving memory of Mangune and Messelian Families

*Nennette Merametdjian in loving memory of
Vartouhi Movsessian and Alice Merametdjian*

*Linda Lutz and Carol Ohanesian in loving memory of
James and Florence Ohanesian, Diramayr Ursula Findikyan.*

Kathryn Torigian

Parish Organization News and Events

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

ANNUAL PICNIC

PRESENTED BY THE ACYOA SENIORS

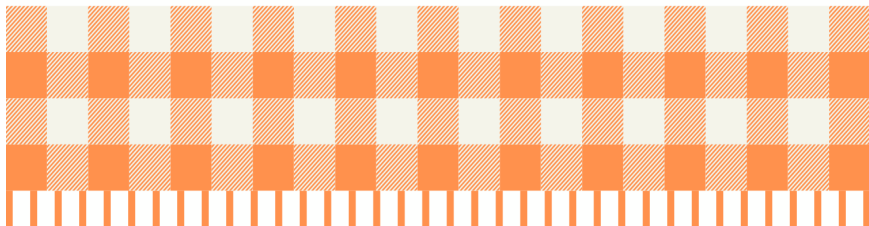
Sunday, August 17th

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS

MENU: LAMB, CHICKEN + VEGAN DINNERS
FOOD SERVICE UNTIL 2pm



FEATURING: ARMENIAN WINES + BEER, WOMEN'S GUILD
BAKE SALE, PARISH BOOKSTORE, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES +
CLASSIC CAR SHOW!



ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

DAY CAMP 2025

Monday – Thursday
Check-in: 9:00 am - 9:30 am
Dismissal: 4:00pm

Session V:
Monday, August 18 – Thursday, August 21

Session VI:
Monday, August 25-Thursday, August 28

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@sjachurch.org (586) 808 2202



Lamb Chop Community Dinner

Friday, August 22, 2025, at 6:00pm

Dinner 6:30pm, Veterans Building

Card room open for cards and board games at 6pm

Please make your reservation by Tuesday, Aug. 19th

Event Chairs:

Ed and Yvonne Korkoian

\$25 Grilled Lamb Chops (3), w/Rice Pilaf &

Peas with Tomatoes and Dill, Bowl of Bulgur Pilaf Served family style

Tossed Greens, Vinaigrette, Dinner Rolls, Dessert, Coffee & Lemonade

Salmon preorder Meal Option Available

Hot Dogs for the kids, available pre-order request \$8.00

Only 100 reservations available

Armenian Wine Available for Purchase \$5 a glass \$23 @btl

For Dinner Reservations Please Call or Text Dan Cristiano 313.938.4215

Community Dinners are made possible by the generous financial support from

Phyllis and Ed Garabedian, Solange and Norman Messelian,

Berj Manoukian, Linda & Michael Karibian, and Edward & Yvonne Korkoian

To become a sponsor for one of these dinners contact: Greg Mamassian 248-720-8924

CORRECTION DATE: THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025

PRESENTED BY:

INTERNATIONAL ARTS FUND & ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT

ArmFolk Group from Armenia

FREE WILL
DONATIONS

AN EVENING OF ARMENIAN MUSIC, DANCE & HERITAGE
LIVE CULTURAL PERFORMANCE IN DETROIT, MI



Date & Time

August 28, 2025

Thursday, 07:00 PM

DOORS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Location

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

22001 Northwestern Hwy
Southfield, MI 48075



SCAN TO DONATE

IAF International Cultural Exchange
Aug 14 – Sep 15, 2025 | East Coast Tour
DC, PA, NJ, NY, CT, MA, OH, MI, IL, MO,
TN, GA, NC, VA, MD

Featuring Armenian folk dancers, singers,
musicians (duduk, qanun, dhol) from
Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin – Hrach
and Suzanne Toufayan Youth Center.



**International
Arts Fund**



rubik@sjachurch.org



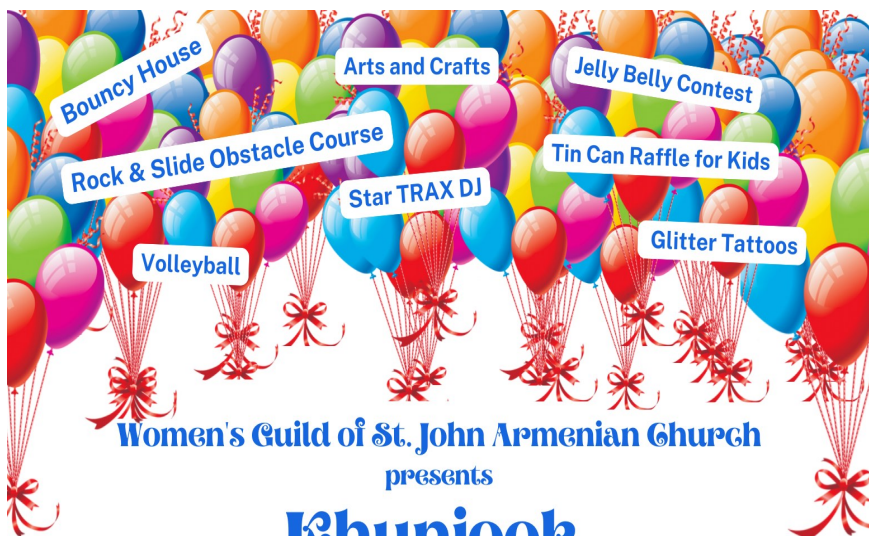
(248) 286-1057

**The Art of Armenian Letters
Painting Our Identity**

**Hye Doon Invites All Young Adults
Late Twenties Through Forties to Attend**

Saturday, September 6 from 9:30AM to 2:00PM, Saint Vartan Room
**Father Garabed Kochakian will lead an interactive workshop showcasing the
history, significance, and creation of Armenian Illuminated Manuscripts**

\$35 Per Person Includes All Supplies and Brunch
Must RSVP to detroithyedoan@gmail.com



Women's Guild of St. John Armenian Church
presents

Khunjook

Family Fun Day

Sunday, September 7, 2025

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?
Point your camera at the QR Code to learn how.**





CHEERS TO THE
2025 ST. JOHN
ARMENIAN
CHURCH BAZAAR!

CHEF'S PARTY

SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25
7PM GRAND BALLROOM

Join us to kick off Bazaar 2025
with a strolling soiree featuring
favorite local chefs & restaurants

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075 • 248.569.3405

“The Church with the Golden Dome”

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

10 AM — 2 PM



Sanctuary and Museum Tour Traditional Armenian Buffet Luncheon

Sanctuary Tour Presentations by:

- ❖ Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian, Pastor
- ❖ Deacon Rubik Mailian,
Sacred Music Director and Pastoral Assistant

Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum Tour:

- ❖ Largest Armenian Museum in North America,
Directed by Lucy Ardash

\$35 per person

Please register by September 10. Seating is limited.

For reservation information, please contact:

Gloria Korkoian: gkorkoian@gmail.com 248.318.5752

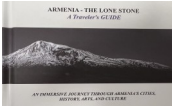


Visit the St. John Parish Bookstore!

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!

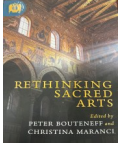
Featured Items



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



Rethinking Sacred Arts,
edited by Peter Bouteneff,
Christina Maranci, and
One Chapter is written by
Fr. Garabed Kochakian
(SC \$40)



New - Khigar Nabasdaguh,
by Michael Pifer (HC \$17)
Western Armenian children's book
about a little rabbit who learns

These and many other Michael Aram pieces now available!

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, 9 am- 4 pm

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

Parish Administrator - Cell: (248) 770-2200 | 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, contact the church secretary. We encourage parents to baptize their children between the ages of 40 days and 3 months.

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.

Please be aware that more detailed information on these sacraments and online versions of the required forms are on our website under "Liturgical Services."

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.

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 by 5 p.m. Wednesday.

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 17 - Annual Church Picnic

August 18 - Merelodz Service

11:00am

Friday Nights - Pickleball

5:00pm - 9:00pm - Armenian American Veterans' Building

August 18-21 - Day Camp

9:00am-4:00pm - Armenian American Veterans' Building

August 19 - Hye Doon - Shourch Bar Club

7:00pm - St John Cultural Hall

August 22 - Men Society Community Dinner

6:00pm, Armenian American Veterans' Building

August 28 - ArmFolk Group from Armenia

7:00pm - St John Cultural Hall

September 6 - Hye Doon - The Arts of Armenian Letters

9:30am - 2:00pm - St. Vartan Room

September 7 - Khunjook and Family Fun Day

September 25 - Sanctuary and Museum Tour

10:00am - 2:00pm

September 25 - Bazaar Kick off - Chef's Party

7:00pm - St John Cultural Hall

October 17 - Men's Society Euchre Night - Save the Date

Bazaar 2025 Is Almost Here!

October 3 and 4, 2025

You're Invited to Join Us!

Help our community prepare delicious Armenian baked goods for our

Annual Bazaar! No experience is necessary - everyone is welcome!

Wear comfortable shoes and come ready to enjoy great company and even better camaraderie.

All hands are good hands, and we truly look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any questions, please contact:

Yerchanig Callan, 248-533-6320 or yerchanigc@gmail.com

Baking Dates:

Monday, August 25, 5pm - 8pm - Choreg - with Dawn and Sara

Monday, September 15, 5pm - 8pm - Choreg - with Dawn and Sara