

# 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

**November 23, 2025**

**Armenian Church Year 1475**

### First Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian

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

Isaiah 36:1-9, | Thessalonians 1:1-10, Luke 12:13-31

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.

### 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 յայտնուեցինն 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

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## Midday Hymn

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

### Resurrection Mode 2

God has become King over the Gentiles

And radiantly has adorned the Holy Church.

Bless Christ you peoples.

The Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength

For by his holy cross he has destroyed the sting of death

Bless Christ you peoples.

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

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

God has risen

And all the universe has been adorned in a new garment

And the children have partaken of the body and blood of the Giver of Life.

Bless Christ you peoples

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## Today's Gospel Reading

Luke 12:13-31

One of the multitude said to him, "Teacher, bid my brother divide the inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or divider over you?" And he said to them, "Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat, nor about your body, what you shall put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a cubit to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of this. But if God so clothes the grass which is alive in the field today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O men of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be of anxious mind. For all the nations of the world seek these things; and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things shall be yours as well."

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## Complex Closed

Next week is Thanksgiving week. In observation of the holiday, the church complex will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th.

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## Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

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Badrik Jooharigian	Imprisoned Bishops and	Samvel Arakelyan
Nadia Ayrapetyan	Clergyman in Armenia	Yelena Zakaryan
Azniv-Ann Kzirian	Diramayr Marmine Bagdasarian	Nancy Altounian
Vladimir Avetisov	Dirahayr Mihran Parsamyan	Marus Grigoryan
Joann Mashigian	Yeretzgin Tirouhi Boyagian	Nailya Sahakian
Charles Sansone	Mary Helen Altounian	Rose Lucassian
Hrayr Mashigian	Wayne Owen Engelki	Marge Aramian
Theodore Rasho	Shoghig Terjimanian	Zaven Oviaan
Nick Fernandez	Valera Ayrapetyan	Jan Paloian
Edith Baise	Charles Vanerian	Rose Baise
	Sonia Kalfayan	

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### Organist Position Available

St. John Armenian Church is seeking an organist/Pianist to accompany the choir during Sunday Divine Liturgies, rehearsals as well as weddings and funerals.

Compensation is provided per service.

Interested candidates are invited to contact Deacon Rubik Mailian, [rubik@sjachurch.org](mailto:rubik@sjachurch.org) or (248) 569-3405 Ext. 206 for more information.

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### St. John Women's Guild Holiday Bake sale

Your pre-orders are available to pick up on Sunday, November 23rd following the conclusion of Divine Liturgy

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### 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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### Altar Flowers "Poinsettias"

A beautiful Christmas tradition at St. John Armenian Church is the adornment of the Holy Altar and Bema 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.





**ՊԱՇՏՕՆ ՀՈԳԵՀԱՆԳՍՏԵԱՆ**

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

**JUDY CRISTIANO, 5th Year, Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Dear Friend**

Requested by Daniel Cristiano, Danielle Cristiano  
Sean and Kelly Horne  
Brady Horne  
Logan and Sophie Horne  
Yasmin Eloian  
Elise Papazian

**MYDA KALANDJIAN, 17th Year, Beloved Mother, Sister, Friend**

Requested by Taline and Bryan Meyers  
Maral, Razmig and Tamar Kalandjian  
Arax, Boris and Brandon Ryvkin  
Anahit Toumajan

**EDUARD AYRAPETYAN, 25th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather**

Requested by Firuza Ayrapetyan  
Natella Bedrossian and Family  
Ninel Zuhraab and Family

**JOHN CRISTIANO, 32nd Year, Father, Grandfather**

**MARY CRISTIANO, 9nd Year, Mother, Grandmother**

Requested by Daniel Cristiano, Danielle Cristiano

**WILLIAM KOLOIAN, 35th Year, Uncle**

Requested by Alice and Peter Argnian

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## **Special Thank You**

We extend our appreciation to **Linda Jevahirian, Serena Egigian, Ann Marie Egigian, and Mark Mardirosian** for their wonderful work in trimming and cleaning up the church hydrangeas.

Additionally, thank you Serena for arranging and donating the cost of the brush removal.

## **Parish Organization News and Events**

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### ***2025 Women's Guild Executive Board Congratulations to the elected members of the Women's Guild Executive Board:***

*Denise Boyagian - Co Chairperson*

*Karen Mangune - Co Chairperson*

*Nyree Giragosian - Vice Chairperson*

*Linda Jevahirian- Recording*

*Secretary/Newsletter*

*Joyce Yeghissian - Corresponding Secretary*

*Jacqueline El Chemmas - Treasurer*

*Donna Lafian - Assistant Treasurer/Membership*

*Marie Semarjian - Advisor*

*Alice Mekjian - Advisor*

### ***We thank our outgoing members:***

*Sara Andonian*

*Linda Karibian*

*Thank you*

**2024 & 2025 Friday Night  
Community Dinner Sponsors**

**2024 Sponsors**

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*Linda & Dr. Gary Assarian*

*Cathy & Howard Atesian*

*Diane & Ara Ekizian*

*Marcia & Dr. Khatchig Hamamdjian*

*Sandy & Greg Jamian*

*Michael, Linda and Ani Karibian*

*Dr. Joyce Yeghissian & Deacon Rubik Mailian*

*Annette & Greg Mamassian*

*Terry & Chuck Palaian*

*Diana and Marty Shoushanian*

*Mariann and Dr. Gary Zamanigian*

*Anonymous*

## **2025 Sponsors**

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*Phyllis & Ed Garabedian*

*Linda and Michael Karibian*

*Yvonne and Ed Korkoian*

*Berj Manoukian*

*Solange & Norman Messelian*

*Thank you to our Chairmen's of the day who  
planned and organized the 2025 dinners:*

*Maral & Mark Mamassian*

*Marie & Chuck Semarjian*

*Noreen & Vaughn Masropian*

*Yvonne and Ed Korkoian*

*If you are interested in sponsoring with a financial  
contribution or planning a Community Dinner  
as a Chairman of the Day for 2026,  
please call Greg Mamassian 248-720-8924.*

**FOLLOWING CHURCH TODAY!  
LIONS GAME LIVE STREAMED ON  
LARGE SCREEN!**

# THANKSGIVING DINNER

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025**

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY IN THE CULTURAL HALL

**SPONSORED BY  
OUR ST. JOHN CHURCH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL FAMILIES**

All proceeds will go to  
**Veterans' Building Renovation**

rsvp table 8 or more (248)569-3405  
donation adult \$15 child \$5

# **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

## **St. John Armenian Church Parish Christmas Card**

### **A Holiday Tradition to Support Our Church**

Once again, parishioners may share their Christmas and New Year greetings with their fellow St. John's members in our Parish Christmas Card, and in doing so support a special program. All proceeds will go to the Social Concern Fund. Your gift is a testimony of your love and support in Christian stewardship for the works of Christ in our spiritual home.

Please complete the form below and forward to the church office with a donation from the heart, check payable to:

**St. John Armenian Church  
22001 Northwestern Highway  
Southfield, MI 48075**

**Checks should be received no later than  
Friday, December 12, 2025**

If you wish to charge your gift, please go to  
**<https://abundant.co/stjohnarmenianchurch/christmascard>**  
or call the Church Office at (248) 569-3405

**Thank you for your generosity**

-----Detach Here-----

Enclosed is my gift for the Social Concern Fund

Please include the name(s) for the Parish Christmas Card as written below

Donation enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Pastors and Parish Council thank you for your patronage and wish you and your loved ones all of God's blessings for Christmas and New Year.

# COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

## Join Us on Zoom!

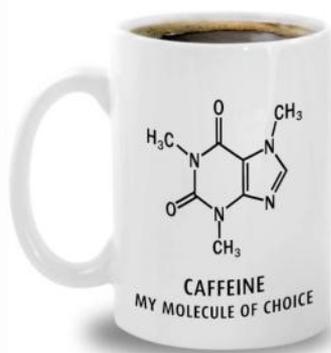
Take a break, grab your favorite cup of coffee, and log on for a half hour relaxed and meaningful conversation with Fr. Aren.

**Tuesday, November 25 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!

# 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, MARILYN DADIAN, KIM NAJARIAN OR JIM STAMBOULIAN**

St John Armenian Church

**Children of all ages, please save the date**  
**Tuesday, November 25, 2025**  
**Time: 6:30pm**

A special time to talk via Zoom with  
Father Aren and all interested children

**Topic:**  
**Let's focus on what we're Thankful for**

Scan QR code below for zoom link



Father Aren looks forward to your participation in this special event that is an outcome from his time with your parents in September. Everyone is welcome to zoom in, and the focus of the conversation will be the conversation with the students

**The zoom call will end with a goodnight prayer and message**

ACYOA

# NOVEMBER DANCE

*Open Bar  
All Night Long*



11.29.25  
DOORS OPEN  
@ 8:30PM

## SHANT MASSOYAN & DJ SAVIO

JOIN US FOR FOOD & DRINK, ENTERTAINMENT, AND DANCE  
ALL NIGHT LONG

AGES 18+  
16 & 17 ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

St. John Armenian Church

**\$50**  
**Donation**



**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.**

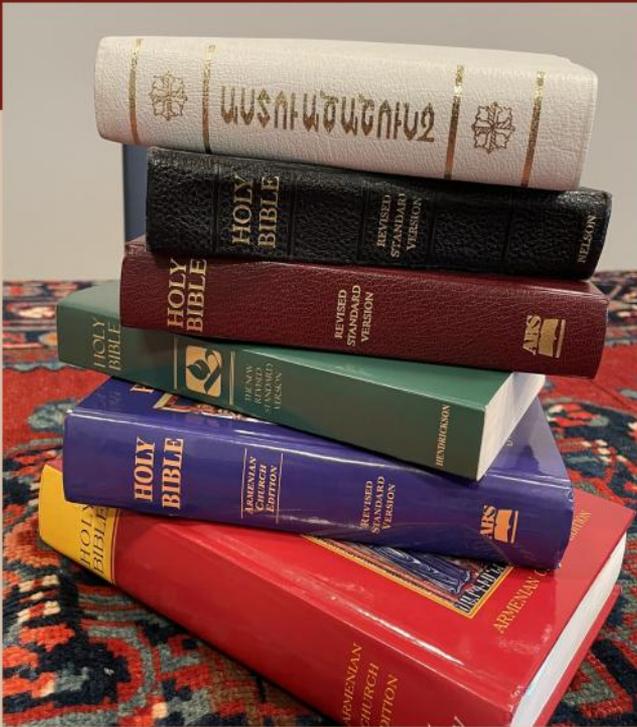




St. John Armenian Church

# BIBLE STUDY

LED BY FR. AREN



**DECEMBER 1, 2025**

TWICE A MONTH,  
IN-PERSON  
MONDAYS FROM 7.00PM - 8.30PM



Thursday, December 4 at 7PM  
Veterans Hall Card Room \$15 Light Dinner

Young Adults Late Twenties Through Forties  
Your Kids are Welcome Too!



Christmas Games and Karaoke  
Wear your Christmas Pajamas or Ugly SwEaTeR!





# Coffee, Cookies & Compassion

Sunday, December 7, 2025  
immediately following  
Divine Liturgy

Please bring a bag  
of non-perishable food items  
to be donated to a local food pantry.  
The need is great!  
Please do your part!



*This Fellowship is sponsored by  
Der Garabed and Yerezgin Roberta Kochakian*

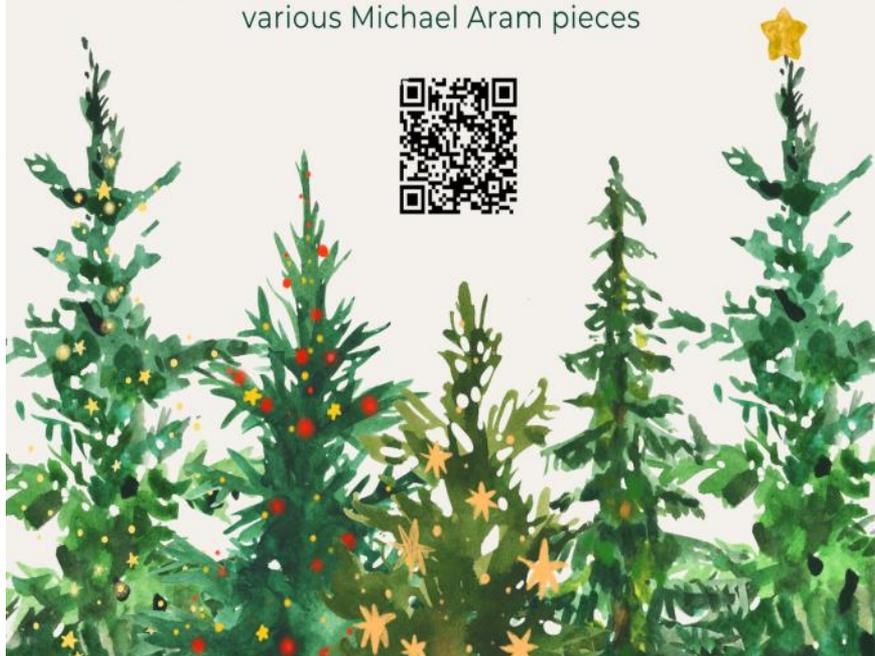


**ACYOA JUNIORS**  
**WINTER**  
**WONDERLAND** *Sale*

**Sunday, December 7th**

*FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY*

Wreathes, Christmas Gifts + a selection of  
various Michael Aram pieces



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



## **DATE CORRECTION**

**Saturday, December 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 CHURCH SCHOOL

# Christmas Celebration Brunch

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14**

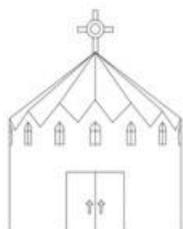
Following Divine Liturgy in the Cultural Hall.

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



free will offering - suggested price \$10/person





# 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](mailto:sj littlesaints@gmail.com)**

## 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!*

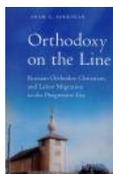
### Featured Items



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!*

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](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/)

# 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/)



## **November 23 - Thanksgiving Dinner**

Following Divine Liturgy - Main Hall

## **November 25 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp**

2:00pm - Via Zoom

## **November 25 - Western Armenian Classes (Intermediate/Beginner)**

4:30pm - 7:30pm - Conference Room

## **November 25 - Church School: A special time with Fr. Aren (for children of all ages)**

6:30pm - Via Zoom

## **November 29 - November Dance**

8:00pm - Main Hall

## **December 1 - Bible Study**

7:00pm - Conference Room

## **December 4 - Hye Doon - Christmas Party**

7:00pm - Veterans' Hall Card Room

## **December 6 - Acolyte Training**

9:00am - 11:00am - Sanctuary

## **December 7 - Coffee Hour**

Following Divine Liturgy

## **December 7 - ACYOA Junior Winter Wonderland**

Following Divine Liturgy

## **December 13 - World Medical Relief/Date Correction**

9:00am - 11:30am - 21725 Melrose Ave., Southfield, MI 48075

## **December 14 - St John Church School - Christmas Celebration Brunch**

Following Divine Liturgy

## **December 20 - Little Saints Program**

10:00 - 11:00am - Ararat Room

## **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 Stamboulian at Church Office