

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 16, 2026
Armenian Church Year 1475

Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God

Pastor: Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian

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

Sacred Lections: Isaiah 7:10-16; Galatians 3:29-4:7, Luke 2:1-7

Lector: Hermine Dervartanian

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)

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.

Gift to the Church

David and Marianne Dardarian make a donation to St. John's on the joyous occasion of the marriage of their son Daniel Dardarian to Danielle Hooks on August 7, 2026. We wish them a long and happy life together.

Guest Celebrant

Please join us for Divine Liturgy on August 23, 2026 to welcome
Very Rev. Father Aghan Gogchyan, Chancellor of the Armenian Patriarchate in
Jerusalem

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.

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

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



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



Merelotz Service, Monday, August 17, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.
After the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of God

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.



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).



**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.*

Mr. and Mrs. Vladislav Ayrapetyan

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

Anna Markarian

Karmen Santourian

Masis and Jacob Sarkisian and Tania Rais

Blessing of the Grapes

Sunday, August 16, 2026

The Armenian Church will observe one of its five major feast days,
the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God.

As is our cherished tradition, immediately following the Divine Liturgy,
the celebrant and altar servers will conduct the
Service of the Blessing of the Grapes.

Upon the conclusion of the service, the blessed grapes will
be distributed to the faithful.

On the occasion of the Blessing of the Grapes, those who wish to make
a donation in honor or memory of a loved one are invited to contact the
Church Office at (248) 569-3405 or by email at office@sjachurch.org
no later than Wednesday, August 12th.

Donations received by that date will be acknowledged in the
Sunday Bulletin on August 16th.



— ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH —

ANNUAL PICNIC

PRESENTED BY THE ACYOA SENIORS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS



MENU:
LAMB
CHICKEN
KHOROVADZ
VEGAN OPTIONS



FOOD SERVICE
UNTIL 2PM

— FEATURING: —



ARMENIAN WINES + BEER



WOMEN'S GUILD BAKE SALE



PARISH BOOKSTORE



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES



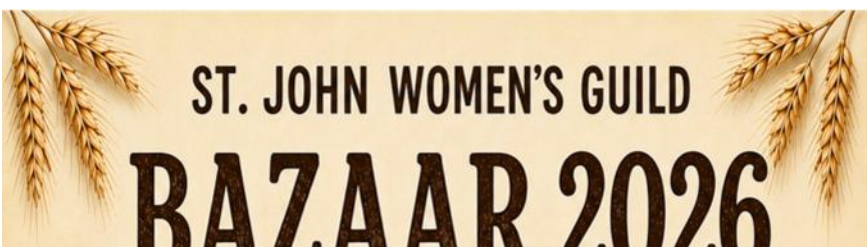
CLASSIC CAR SHOW

CLASSIC CAR SHOW!



*A day of fellowship,
food, and community—
everyone is welcome!*





ST. JOHN WOMEN'S GUILD BAZAAR 2026



We are getting ready for Bazaar 2026,
and everyone is warmly invited to help
prepare our delicious foods!

Tuesday - August 18 - Bazaar Baking: Katah 9am-12-noon

Tuesday - August 25 - Bazaar Baking: Choreg 9am-12-noon

**Monday - August 31 - Bazaar Baking: Evening Choreg
4:30pm-7:30pm**

September 1 - Bazaar Baking - 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.



COFFEE WITH HAYR SOORP

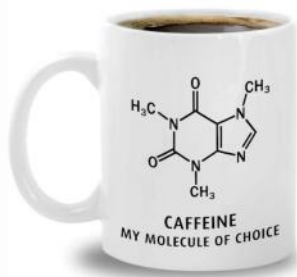
Join Us on Zoom!

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

Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 2:00 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





**A St. John Armenian Church Serving Ministry
In The Armenian American Veterans Building**

Lunch Served at 12 noon

Today's Lunch Prepared By "All Events Catered"
Proprietor & Chef Krista Tossounian

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Chicken Kabob w/ Rice Pilaf

or

Meatloaf w/ Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Lunches served with

Mezza: Hummus with Pita

Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Bread

Dessert

Homemade Brownies

Tuesday Lunch Club

\$ 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 noon 313-938-4215 / djcrist100@gmail.com

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

5/20

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



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





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 books with 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!

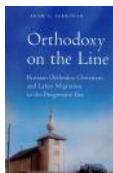
Featured Items



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 Hovhannisyanyan | (248) 569-3405 | office@sjachurch.org

In an after-hours emergency, please contact:

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

For after hour 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 16 - Morning Service 9:00am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am
August 16 - Blessing of the Grapes/Church Annual Picnic- After Divine Liturgy
August 17 - Merelotz at 11:00am in the Church Sanctuary
August 17 - 20 - Day Camp Session V
August 18 - Tuesday Lunch: 12:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
August 18 - Bazaar Baking: Katah 9am-12 noon
August 20 - Coffee with Hayr Soorp: 6:00pm Via Zoom
August 25 - Tuesday Lunch: 12:00pm - Armenian American Veterans Hall
August 25 - Bazaar Baking: Choreg 9am-12-noon
August 31 - Bazaar Baking Evening: Choreg 4:30pm-7:30pm
September 1 - Bazaar Baking: Sarma - 9:00am - 12 noon
September 13 - Khunjook Family Fun Day: Following Badarak on the Lawn
September 16 - Tourshee Party: 5:00pm - Main Kitchen
September 23 - "Church with the Golden Dome" - Sanctuary and Museum Tour
September 24 - Andiamo Showcase
October 2 - 3 - St. John Bazaar

Church Corner

Compiled 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!