

St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit

22001 Northwestern Highway | Southfield, MI 48075
248.569.3405 (phone) | 248.569.0716 (fax)
www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, *Pastor*

Clergy residing within the St. John parish and community:

The Reverend Father Diran Papazian, *Pastor Emeritus*

The Reverend Father Abraham Ohanesian

Deacon Rubik Mailian, *Director of Sacred Music and Pastoral Assistant*

Ms. Margaret Lafian, *Organist*



Sunday Bulletin

Welcome!

We welcome you to the Divine Liturgy/*Soorp Badarak* and invite all who are Baptized and Chrismated in, or are in communion with, the Armenian Church 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 lobby desk. Make certain you sign our Guest Book before you leave so we can be in touch. Enter to worship the Lord Jesus Christ who loves you and depart with His love to serve others.

DECEMBER 1, 2013—THE ARMENIAN YEAR 1462
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT — ՅԻՍՆԱԿԻ ԵՐԿՐՈՐԴԻ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ

THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Morning Service / *Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն*...9:00 am

Divine Liturgy / *Ս. Պատարագ*9:45 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

THIS WEEK: Isaiah 36:22-37:11, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-11, Luke 13:1-9

NEXT WEEK: Isaiah 37:14-38, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-12, Luke 14:12-24

LECTOR: Dr. Salpi Toroyan

Our Church and Parish is a place where . . .

- All people are welcome
- Every person is a minister
- The world is our collective responsibility
- Disciple making is our goal, and
- Worship is our duty and delight

GENERAL INFORMATION

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am—5:00 pm

After hours in an emergency, please contact:

Pastor's Cell: 248-225-9888

Administrator's Cell: 248-880-8391

Visits to the Hospitalized and Homebound Please phone the Church Office when you or someone you love is admitted to the hospital and would like a visit from the Pastor. If you have an upcoming surgery, please consider requesting your name be included in the "Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized." Those who are homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion at home should phone the Church Office.

Home Blessing If you would like the Pastor to visit your home and offer a home blessing, please contact the Church Office.

Baptism Parents may prepare for the baptism of their child before he or she is born. For more information, phone the Church Secretary.

Marriage Phone the Church Secretary at least nine months in advance of your proposed wedding date. Wedding packets are available at the Church Office.

Parish Membership If you are interested in becoming a member of the St. John parish, please speak to a Parish Council member on Sunday, or phone the Church Office.

Bulletin Requiem requests and announcements for the Sunday Bulletin are due in the Church Office by 5:00 pm on Wednesday.

Requiem Requests may be submitted to the Church Office by mail, phone, fax 248-569-0716, or email to mkafrican@sjachurch.org no later than 5:00 pm Wednesday prior to the Sunday requested. Request forms are available in the Church Lobby. Ask a Parish Council member.

PARISH COUNCIL OF ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT

Karmen A. Santourian, Chairman
Gary Hachigian, Vice Chairman
Peter S. Egigian, Treasurer
Marianne Dardarian, Secretary
Jacqueline ElChemmas, Asst Treasurer
Linda Tiffany, Asst Secretary

Dr. Mary Alani, Advisor
Jeffrey E. Axt, Advisor
George Boyagian, Advisor
Ardis Gregory, Advisor
John Yavruian, Advisor
Gloria Korkoian, First Alternate
Cathy Zwinck, Second Alternate

TODAY'S GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

There were some present at that very time who told him of the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered thus? I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, 'Lo, these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?' And he answered him, 'Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and put on manure. And if it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

ԱՅՍՕՐՈՒԱՅ ԱՒԵՏԱՐԱՆԸ—ՂՈՒԿԱՍ 13:1-9

Ոմանք այն ատեն ներկայ գըտնուելով՝ պատմեցին անոր Գալիլիացիներուն մասին, որոնց արիւնը Պիղատոս իրինց զոհերուն հետ խառնեց: Յիսուս ըսաւ անոնց. «Կը կարծէ՞ք թէ այն Գալիլիացիները բոլոր Գալիլիացիներէն աւելի մեղաւոր էին, որոնք այսպիսի բաներ քաշեցին»: Ձեզի կ'ըսեմ. 'Ոչ'. հապա եթէ չապաշխարէք, ամենքդ ալ նոյնպէս պիտի կորսուիք: Կամ թէ այն տասներուըը հոգին, որոնց վրայ Սելովամի աշտարակը ինկաւ եւ զանոնք մերցուց. Կը կարծէ՞ք թէ անոնք Երուսաղէմի մէջ բնակած բոլոր մարդոցմէ աւելի պարտաւոր էին: Ձեզի կ'ըսեմ. 'Ոչ'. հապա եթէ չապաշխարէք, ամենքդ ալ նոյնպէս պիտի կորսուիք:

Այս առակն ալ ըսաւ. «Մարդ մը իր այգիին մէջ տնկուած թզենի մը ունէր, եկաւ անկէ պտուղ քաղելու եւ չգտաւ: Ուստի ըսաւ այգեպանին. 'Ահա երեք տարի է, որ կու գամ այդ թզենիին վրայ պտուղ կը փնտռեմ ու չեմ գտներ, ա՛լ ատիկա կտրէ, ինչո՞ւ համար գետինը խափանէ': Անկա պատասխան տուաւ ու անոր ըսաւ. 'Տէ՛ր, այս տարի ալ ատիկա թող տուր, մինչեւ ատոր բոլորտիքը բրեմ ու թրիք դնեմ: Եւ եդէ պտուղ տայ՝ աղէկ, ապա թէ ոչ՝ գալ տարի կտրէ ատիկա՛»:

ALTAR FLOWERS

The floral arrangements adorning the altar table today were presented in loving memory of dear parents Nazar and Agnes Melkonian, Jack and Violet Davidson, and dear sister Alice Davidson, by Arthur and Gloria Melkonian and Mary Davidson.



BASHDON HOKEHANKSDYAN
REQUIEM SERVICE FOR THOSE WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST

Today, during the Divine Liturgy, we offer our prayers as the community of
St. John's for the souls of the departed servants of Christ.

ARMENA KACHIGIAN LIGHT, 40th Day, Mother

Requested by Dr. & Mrs. Alan Betensley

**KASPER TOKATLIAN, 4th Year, Beloved Husband, Father, Son, Brother,
Brother-in-law, Uncle**

Requested by Elizabeth Tokatlian

Jacob, Justine & Julia Tokatlian

Harry & Agnes Tokatlian

George & Mia Tokatlian

Chris Pullen

Connor Pullen

VICTORYA KALFAYAN, 6th Year, Mother, Grandmother

GARBIS KALFAYAN, 11th Year, Father, Grandfather

Requested by The Kalfayan Family

The Iskender Family

ZABEL PANOSIAN, 11th Year, Mother, Grandmother

Requested by J. R. & Alice Patrick

Gary & Donna Panosian, Lauren & Brendan

KOKO ISHKANIAN, 16th Year, Loving Brother

ISHKAN ISHKANIAN, 8th Year, Beloved Father

LINDA ISHKANIAN, 3rd Year, Loving Mother

Requested by Ida Ishkanian

WILLIAM KOLOIAN, 23rd Year, Uncle

Requested by Alice & Peter Argnian

ANGELA ANDONIAN, Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Cousin, Friend

Requested by Valrich Andonian

Paul, Kristine, Matthew, Mark, Carolyn & Kate Andonian

Sara Andonian

Stuart & Sema Shepard

Michael & Rose Karageusian

NAZAR & AGNES MELKONIAN, Dear Parents

JACK & VIOLET DAVIDSON, Dear Parents

ALICE DAVIDSON, Dear Sister

Requested by Arthur & Gloria Melkonian

Mary Davidson

ARDASH MARDIGIAN, Father, Grandfather, Great Grandfather

STEPHAN & AGAVNI MARDIGIAN, Grandparents

EDWARD & HELEN MARDIGIAN, Uncle, Aunt

Requested by Arthur & Rose Mardigian

Steven, Armen & Anoush Mardigian

James, Laura & Stephen Armen Leacock

Lisa Mardigian

Zaven, Marilyn & Zaven Charles Dadian

NOAMI PARTOGIAN, 33rd Year, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother

RADEOS PARTOGIAN, 26th Year, Father, Grandfather, Great Grandfather

Requested by the Partogian Family

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD ... We offer our prayers for the servant of God

DIRAMAYR BULBUL BARSAMIAN (Mother of our Diocesan Primate) who entered her eternal rest this past week. May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon her soul. In accordance with the wishes of the family, in-lieu-of-flowers donations to the memory of Diramayr Bulbul Barsamian may be directed to the Yerevan Children's Center of the Fund for Armenian Relief. Checks should be made out to the **Fund for Armenian Relief (Memo: Children's Center)**, and mailed to 630 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES . . .

WESTERN CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24, 2013, 10:00 PM

Lessons and Carols

All are invited to a Christmas Tea Hosted by the ACYOA Seniors

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2014 - ARMENIAN 'CHRISTMAS EVE' DAY *

Vespers and Reading of Prophecies — **10:00 am** / Divine Liturgy — **11:00 am**

A Christmas Family Luncheon will be hosted by the Church School in the Cultural Hall following worship services. Adults \$18.00; Children no charge. Please RSVP Alberta Godoshian 248.476.4638 by January 3rd for tables of 8 or more.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014 - THEOPHANY / EPIPHANY

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST Festal Divine Liturgy—**10:30 am**

Blessing of the Waters – Godfather of the Cross: Armen John Lucassian

A Christmas Luncheon will be hosted by the Women's Guild in the Cultural Hall following worship services. We suggest a free will offering. However, please RSVP by January 3rd to the Church Office at 248.569.3405.

WE BELIEVE—*HAVADAMK*—ՀԱՒԱՏԱՄԹ

The Nicene Creed sums up all our basic beliefs. We recite or chant it when we gather to celebrate the Divine Liturgy/*Soorp Badarak*, and in the sacrament services of Baptism and Marriage. The Nicene Creed, written in the city of Nicea, became part of our *Ba-darak* in the mid-Fifth Century. There are 12 verses that sum up the faith of the Church.

Verse 7: He is to come again with same body and with the glory of the Father to judge the living and the dead of His Kingdom there is no end.

Kalots eh noveen marmnovun yev parrok Hor ee tadel uzgentanees yev uzmaryalus, voro takavorootyanun voch ko vakhjan.

In Acts 1:11 St. Luke writes, that “this Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, **will come in the same way as you saw Him** go into heaven.” And, St. Matthew 16:27 in his Gospel also writes the following, “For the Son of Man is to come with the angels **in the glory of his Father...**”

As for Christ the Judge, in the letter of 1 Peter 4:5, it is clear that Jesus will account for the living and the dead . . . “ But they will give account to Him who is ready **to judge the living and the dead**”

And to conclude, St. Luke 1:33 tells us that Christ **will reign** over the house of Jacob **forever**.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOSPITALIZED

George Douroujalian
Carl Kalayjian
Sirvart Mezian

Margaret Kachigian
William Kemler

Prayer Request for Philip Keila

**Continued prayers for strength on your journey to a full recovery,
from Lorrie, David and Andrew Keila**

DAY BY DAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH, NOON-2:00 PM IN THE NURSERY ROOM
BRING YOUR LUNCH AND YOUR BIBLE — ALL ARE WELCOME!**

ASK THE PASTOR

Salt, Water and Bread

Question: During the House Blessing service offered by the priest, why are these three elements blessed?

Salt is an important, universal household staple. Salt seasons and purifies. *You shall present [rams] before the Lord, and the priests shall sprinkle salt upon them and offer them up to the Lord as a burnt offering [Ezekiel 43:24]* A new-born baby in Biblical times would be rubbed with salt. And Jesus said to his disciples and to us, "*You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again?*" So salt adds zest to life, taste and makes things clean.

Water, the symbol of chaos out of which God created the world is also essential to life. We read from the first book of the Bible, Genesis 1, that God drew forth life from the formless waters; we ourselves float in liquid in our mother's womb; without water we quickly perish from thirst; and through the sanctified waters at Baptism we become Christian, and are washed clean, born-again, and die to sin and life toward God's eternity.

Bread is blessed as a potent symbol of God's greatest gift offered back to Him in the form of a humble loaf. The staff of life is the vital spiritual food of Holy Communion, where it represents the ultimate convergence of the sacred and the profane. *This is the bread which came down from heaven...whoever eats this bread shall live forever* [John 6:58]

PLEASE NOTE . . .

**TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB (SENIOR LUNCH) WILL BE CANCELLED ON
DECEMBER 24TH AND DECEMBER 31ST
DUE TO THE HOLIDAYS.
THE REGULAR SCHEDULE WILL RESUME ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH.**

**Job Posting—St. John Armenian Church
CUSTODIAN—FULL-TIME, VARIABLE HOURS (DAYS, EVENINGS, WEEKENDS)
PLEASE SUBMIT RESUME WITH REFERENCES
to Tom Stambouljian, administrator, email: custodian@gmx.us**

St. John Armenian Church is an equal opportunity employer.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

Sun, Dec 1	DIVINE LITURGY
Mon, Dec 2	Men's Basketball, 6:30 pm, Rec Center
Tues, Dec 3	Senior Lunch, 12:00 pm, Veterans Building Girls Basketball, 7:00 pm, Gym
Wed, Dec 4	Boys Basketball, 6:30 pm, Gym
Thurs, Dec 5	Komitas Choir practice, 7:00 pm, Ararat Rm

MEN'S SOCIETY SPONSORS

MAN UP

3RD ANNUAL OVERNIGHT RETREAT

"Man Alive—But Are You Living" — Living the Gospel of Christ

January 24-25, 2014 (Friday/Saturday) - Facilitator: Fr. Tateos Abdalian

Embassy Suites, Livonia — See fliers in the church lobby.

PARISH BOOKSTORE

**Visit the Parish Bookstore today for unique handcrafted gift items
from Armenia**

Books and CDs make great gifts...

WELCOME

We **welcome** you today as you enter the Church for *Badarak*. Please respect the sanctity of our worship at all times, refraining from the use of any photographic, recording or filming equipment, cellular telephones, or any other similar devices in the sanctuary, nearby vestibules, or other adjacent areas during worship. Such activity is **strictly prohibited** without the prior consent of the Parish Priest. If you have any questions, or would like to obtain a more detailed transcript of this policy, please contact us at 248.569.3405. We thank you for your cooperation.

FOR OUR CHILDREN

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

St. John's Church School—10:15 am until 12:15 pm, children ages 5-17 receive instruction in the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox faith, Armenian church traditions, history and sacred music.

Bags of Blessings for the use of children who come to worship with their parents. If you need help keeping little ones quiet while in church, please pick up a tote bag before entering the sanctuary, and return it when you leave church.

Moms and *Manoogs* We've been busy getting our older *manoogs* off to school and are now ready to resume our playgroup. We will meet on the third Friday of the month from 10-noon and have fun things planned for the winter months, so please join us. To have your name added to the email list please contact: Kristen Gustafson (248)765-0471 or kristeng@outlook.com

CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

TODAY—No classes

Dec 8—Living the Divine Liturgy—Church School students participate in the Divine Liturgy

Dec 15—Classes in session

Dec 22—Classes in session

Dec 29—No classes

MUSIC MINISTRY IN OUR PARISH

- A new CD of **Armenian Sacred Songs** recorded by the Komitas Choir is available now at the Parish Bookstore.

Saturday, December 7th, 7:00 pm

Oakland Choral Society

Scott Hanoian, Director

Messiah - Part 1 & Hallelujah Chorus

Antonio Vivaldi - Gloria

Tickets \$20.00—May be purchased at St. John, 248-569-3405, or

248-391-0184 or visit

www.OaklandChoralSociety.org

St. John Armenian Church Parish Christmas Card



A Holiday Tradition to St. John's Support Social Concerns Fund

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 so doing support the Social Concerns Fund of our church. Your gift is a testimony of your love in Christian stewardship for the works of Christ in our spiritual home. Please complete the form below and forward to the church office by December 10th with a minimum donation of \$50.00 payable to:

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

If you wish to charge your gift, please phone the Church Office 248-569-3405.

Thank you for your generosity.

----- detach here. -----

Enclosed is my gift for the Social Concerns Fund.

Please include the following name(s) in the 2013 Parish Christmas Card as written below.

If you would like us to confirm receipt of your gift, please provide us with an email address or daytime phone number.



Christmas Poinsettias

If you wish to donate towards flowers for the altar this Christmas Season, please contact the church office 248.569.3405.

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

BAKE SALE TODAY—Delicious handmade baked goods are available for purchase after church services today in the Cultural Hall. It is a great time to prepare for the Holiday Season. You and your guests are sure to be delighted.

THE WOMEN'S GUILD INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND CHRISTMAS DINNER will be held at St. John's on Thursday, December 12th at 6:00 pm. Following the installation of our new board, there will be appetizers, dinner and entertainment by the choral group "Noteworthy." Come share the holiday spirit during this joyous season. The dinner will be \$15.00 per person. For reservations, please contact Joyce Obenhoff at 586-754-3984 or shortafoot@wowway.com.

HELP GLEANERS FOOD BANK FEED THE NEEDY—Please bring canned tuna and meats, peanut butter, canned or dry beans, rice, boxed cereal and oatmeal.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND A CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON, MONDAY, JANUARY 6TH, HOSTED BY THE WOMEN'S GUILD FOR ALL PARISHIONERS IN THE CULTURAL HALL FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY. JOIN YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS ON THIS JOYOUS OCCASION FOR A DELICIOUS LUNCH. FREE WILL OFFERING SUGGESTED. PLEASE CALL 248-569-3405 BY JANUARY 3RD FOR RESERVATIONS.

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014

POON PAREGENTAN PARTY/DINNER-DANCE

PLAN TO EAT, DANCE AND BE MERRY AS WE CELEBRATE "A DAY OF GOOD LIVING" BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF LENT. MUSIC WITH CHRIS VOSBIKIAN AND SELECT MUSICIANS FROM PHILLY AND DETROIT WILL GET THE PARTY STARTED.

*The Women's Guild invites you to become a member.
For information please call Terry Palaian, 313-929-0926*

ON LEAVING THE SANCTUARY AFTER BADARAK

When approaching the Holy Gospel at the end of the Divine Liturgy you say:

Heeshestzeh Der zamenaym Badarakus koh.

Յիշեցէ՛ Տէր զամենայն Պատարագս քո:

May the Lord remember all your offerings.

The Priest answers:

Datseh kez Der usd srdee koom yev zamenayn khorhoortus koh ee parees na gadarsestseh.

Տացէ՛ քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քում եւ զամենայն խորհուրդս քո ի բարիս նա կատարեցէ:

May the Lord grant you according to your own heart, and fulfill all your counsel in goodness.

(Psalm 20:4)

When taking *Mahs* the GIVER says:

Mahs yev pazheen yegheetseen kez ee Soorp Badarakes.

Մաս եւ բաժին եղիցին քեզ ի Սուրբ Պատարագէս:

May this be to you a share and portion of the Holy Sacrifice.

The RECEIVER says:

Pahjeen eem Asdvadz haveedyan.

Բաժին իմ Աստուած յաւիտեան:

My portion is God forever.

THE KISS OF PEACE

The GIVER says: **Christ is revealed amongst us.**

Kreesdos ee mech mer haydnetsav.

The RECEIVER says: **Blessed is the revelation of Christ.**

Orhnyal eh haydnootyoonun Kreesdosee.

THE PSALM OF DISMISSAL - PSALM 34

Orhnetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenayn zham orhnootyoon nora ee peran eem.

Օրհնեցից ըզՏէր յամենայն ժամ, յամենայն ժամ, օրհնութիւն նորա ի բերան իմ:

I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall be at all times in my mouth.