

St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit

22001 Northwestern Highway | Southfield, MI 48075

248.569.3405 (phone) | 248.569.0716 (fax)



The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian – *Pastor*
The Reverend Father Diran Papazian – *Pastor Emeritus*
Deacon Rubik Mailian – *Director of Sacred Music*
and *Pastoral Assistant*
Ms. Margaret Lafian – *Organist*

Sunday Bulletin

OUR CHURCH AND PARISH IS A PLACE WHERE . . .

All people are welcome . . . **Every member is a minister** . . .

The world is our collective responsibility . . .

Disciple-making is our goal . . . And worship is our duty and delight.

DECEMBER 9, 2012—THE ARMENIAN YEAR 1461
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—ՅԻՍՆԱԿԻ ԵՐՐՈՐԴ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ
FEAST OF THE CONCEPTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY
ՏՈՆ Ս. ԿՈՅՍ ՄԱՐԻԱՄԻ ՅՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ

THE LORD'S DAY—SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Morning Service / *Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն*9:00 am

Divine Liturgy/ *Ս. Պատարագ*9:45 am

Church School / *Կիրակնօրեայ Վարժարան*.....10:15 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY TODAY

THIS WEEK: Song 6:3-8, Malachi 3:1-2, Galatians 3:24-29, Luke 1:39-56

NEXT WEEK: Isaiah 38:1-8, Hebrews 1:1-14, Luke 17:1-10

Lector: Norman C. Ankers

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.

TODAY'S GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-56

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The floral arrangements adorning the altar today were presented by Janet and Norman C. Ankers, in memory of Chester Ankers on the tenth year of his passing.

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD

We offer prayers for the servants of God

MARGO MARGUERITE SHADOIAN

DR. JOHN THOMAS & CAROL PIILIGIAN

who entered their eternal rest in the past weeks.

May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon their souls.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOSPITALIZED

Gabriel Aljalian

Madeline Casey

Gayaneh Kachadourian

Harry Avagian

Ara Hachigian

Dr. Haig Tashjian

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Church Complex Closed Tuesday, December 25, 2012

Church Complex Closed Tuesday, January 1, 2013

**Senior Lunch is canceled on December 25th & January 1st
and will resume Tuesday, January 8th**

CROWN THEM O LORD!

We rejoice in celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Crowning and
have asked Christ our God to bless the marriage of

Nicholas Coral Vowell & Crystal Michelle Manoogian

*A New Version
of a familiar prayer...*

Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the Lord my soul to
keep
In restful peace my sleep
abates
At dawn I pray my soul
awakes.

The Men's Society
announces it's
Second Annual
Overnight Retreat

Save the Dates:
January 25-26, 2013

Facilitator:
Fr. Tateos Abdalian

ACYOA HELPS VICTIMS OF HURRICANE SANDY

Bring new or gently used items to church for distribution to needy families affected by Hurricane Sandy. Items are being accepted through the end of December as follows: **Winter Coats (all sizes; children's desired); Winter Hats, Sweaters (all sizes); Blankets; Rubber Boots (pair)**

OAKLAND CHORAL SOCIETY AT ST. JOHN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2012, 4:30 PM

HANDEL'S Messiah-Parts I, II, III

Tickets: \$20 . . .may be purchased through Dn. Rubik Mailian.



**BASHDON HOKEHANKSDYAN—REQUIEM SERVICE
FOR THOSE WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST**

**IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN
ARMENIA AND THE 25,000 VICTIMS WHO PERISHED IN THIS DEVASTATING
TRAGEDY**

Requested by Anahid Dilakian & Sarkis Ghazarian, Sevag & Hiyk
Dr. Joyce Yeghissian & Dn. Rubik Mailian, Sevana & Areg
Lucy Ardash & Family
Elizabeth Aprahamian
Harry & Alice Terzian & Family

**ZAVEN DILAKIAN, 24th Year, Father, Grandfather, Friend,
Victim of the 1988 Earthquake in Armenia**

Requested by Anahid Dilakian & Sarkis Ghazarian, Sevag & Hiyk
Dr. Joyce Yeghissian & Dn. Rubik Mailian, Sevana & Areg
Lucy Ardash & Family
Elizabeth Aprahamian

KASPER TOKATLIAN, 3rd Year, Son, Brother, Uncle, Friend

Requested by Agnes & Harry Tokatlian
George Tokatlian
Mia Tokatlian, Chris Pullen & Connor
Lisa & George Kurajian

DANIEL SHAHAN, 9th Year, Beloved Father, Grandfather, Friend

NEVART SHAHAN, 36th Year, Beloved Mother, Grandmother, Friend

Requested by Bob, Linda, Ryan & Michael DePietro
Chris, Claudia & Daniel Swink
Zaven Dolik

CHESTER ANKERS, 10th Year, Father, Husband

Requested by Janet & Norman C. Ankers
Mrs. Charlotte Ankers

**ROSEMARY HOPLAMAZIAN, 20th Year, Beloved Wife, Mother,
Grandmother, Sister-in-law, Godmother**

Requested by Deacon Mihran & Gayle Hoplamazian

Roy & Joy Callan & Knar

Dikran & Kelly Callan

Vahan & Eleeza Callan

Gar Hoplamazian

Brooke Hoplamazian

Marin & Garo Hoplamazian

Dr. Aris & Alice Hoplamazian, Eric & Lisa

Sona Simsarian & Children

Dolik Godchildren: Michael, Lisa & David

LEVON TARKEDJIAN, 13th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather

LEVON & MARIE KHARNOULIAN

KHARNOULIAN FAMILY MEMBERS

Requested by Ani & Tanya Tarkedjian

Mr. & Mrs. Dan & Tamar Boursalian

ARED PORTAKAL, 22nd Year, Father, Grandfather

Requested by Raffi Portakal & Family

Yervant Portakal & Family

ZAVEN OHANNES HINTIRYAN, 34th Year, Father-in-Law, Grandfather

Requested by Azniv Hintiryan

Lillian, Sevan, Alec & Arlen Calukyan

Dr. Arlet, Arthur, Sophie & Lorin Dakessian

GARABED KAYPEKIAN, Brother

KRIKOR KAYPEKIAN, Father

VERJINE KAYPEKIAN, Mother

Requested by the Kaypekian Family

And, behold, an angel of the Lord stood by, saying: Anna, Anna, the Lord hath heard thy prayer, and thou shalt conceive, and shall bring forth; and thy seed shall be spoken of in all the world. –from the Protoevangelium of St. James]

The above passage is not from the accepted Canon of the Holy Bible but from additional writings, known as *apocrypha*, describing the conception and the birth of the St. Mary destined to be the Mother of God—*Asdvadzadzin*. This feast day falls on the 9th of December in both the Armenian and Byzantine Orthodox Calendars, approximately nine months before her Nativity which is remembered in September. Each year we celebrate this feast and each year so many wonder why. That people have a yearning to learn more about this part of the Christian Mystery is, of course, encouraging; yet it does reveal that it is one of the feasts that is not as readily understood as others.

The life of the Blessed Mother Mary begins, as the *Protoevangelium* of St. James describes, with her parents Joachim and Anna. They had no children and were quite advanced in age. This was seen as a great misfortune and shame among the Jews. Joachim, a priest of the temple, was reproached by the High Priest for not having a child. Joachim fervently prayed that he and his wife Anna would conceive a child. And so it came to pass that an angel appeared simultaneously to both announcing that Anna would conceive. Their prayers answered, Anna conceived in her womb the one God had chosen to become the Mother of God. And so this aged couple was blessed with a female child named Mary, outside the laws of nature according to their age. By divine providence, God intervened and graced the birth of Mary as miraculous and exceptional in character. *Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? [Genesis 18: 14]*

Sts. Anna's and Joachim's sterility is overcome by divine intervention and God's plan to enter the world in human form is realized in Mary, bringing joy to the world by the birth of Christ, named *Son of God*. This is why the conception of the Blessed Mother has great significance. She IS the seedling of God's plan.

The Virgin Mary, a young maiden dedicated by her parents and presented to live a life under the tutelage of religious priests in the Holy Temple of Jerusalem, grew in piety, obedience and profound love for God, who finally chose her to be the earthly temple through which He would come to us. Thus she has been declared as the Mother of God, Bearer of Christ. She is the human nature used by God for His own Incarnation. This is why the highest regard for her is held and observed in our church, because the very basis of our faith is the Incarnation...God become Man.

Christmas Schedule of Worship
Տօնակարգ Ս. Ծննդեան Շրջանի

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2012 – ST. STEPHEN’S EVE

Ս. Ստեփանոսի Նախօրեակ

WESTERN CHRISTMAS EVE – Բրիսմըսի Նախօրեակ

“A Family Christmas Worship” - Carols (in English) & Scripture Readings

St. John’s Bell Choir Musicale - 5:00 pm; Yuletide Refreshments in the Main Hall - 6:00 pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2011

ST. STEPHEN THE PROTODEACON AND FIRST MARTYR

Տօն Ս. Ստեփանոս Նախասարկաւագ եւ Առաջին Մարտիրոս

Special Service for Deacons - Յատուկ Սարկաւագաց Արարողութիւն

Matins / Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն - 10:30 am

Divine Liturgy / Ս. Պատարագ - 11:00 am

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 2013 - ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS EVE / JRAKALOOYTS

Vespers and Reading of Prophecies - Ճրագալոյց / Խթման Գիշեր

Դանիէլի Սարգարէութեան Ընթերցում եւ «Երից Մանկանց» - 6:00 pm

Candlelight Divine Liturgy / Ս. Պատարագ - 7:00 pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2013

**THEOPHANY / EPIPHANY / DON ASDVADZAHAYDNOOTIAN—FEAST OF THE
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

Տօն Ս. Ծննդեան եւ Աստուածայայտնութեան

Matins / Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն - 9:00 am

Festal Divine Liturgy / Հանդիսաւոր Ս. Պատարագ - 9:45 am

Blessing of the Waters – Զրոքինէք

Godfather of the Cross: Stephen Armen Leacock

**A Christmas Family Luncheon will be hosted by the Church School following
worship services. Adults \$20.00; Children 18 and under no charge.**

RSVP Alberta Godoshian 248-476-4638 for tables of 8 or more.

Զեզ եւ Մեզ Մեծ Աւետիս - Բրիստոս Ծնաւ եւ Յայտնեցաւ

Tsez yev mez Medz Avedis - Kreesdos Dzunav yev Haydnet sav

Christ is Born and is Revealed - Blessed is the Revelation of Christ!

A JOINT EXHIBIT IS BEING PRESENTED BY

**The Armenian Research Center, University of Michigan-Dearborn
and**

The Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum, Southfield

**Celebrating the legacy of five centuries
of Armenian language book printing**

EXHIBIT

December 11, 2012—January 31, 2013

Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 am—5:00 pm or by appointment

OPENING RECEPTION AND LECTURE

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

5:30 pm—Reception / Exhibit;

**6:30 pm—Lecture “Armenian Arts and Letters:
What Are We Really Celebrating in 2012?”**

Guest Speaker: Levon Avdoyan

Armenian and Georgian Area Specialist, Library of Congress

The Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum

22001 Northwestern Highway

Southfield MI 48075

Event is open to the public.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Exhibit sponsored by the Robert Ajemian Foundation

DONATION FOR CHANCEL BOOKCASE

Storage bookcase for liturgical books used for the Divine Liturgy and morning prayers. This item will be custom fabricated and placed in the chancel. Cost - \$1,500.00. Any parishioner wishing to donate this item is asked to please contact Father Garabed.

The Nominating Committee is...

Looking for Church members who are interested in running for any of the positions below at the upcoming Annual Parish Assembly to be held on Sunday, February 24, 2013: Chairman of the Day, Secretary of the Day, Parish Council, Auditor, Nominating Committee

THE SJAC NOMINATING COMMITTEE WEBPAGE

<http://stjohnsarmenianchurch.com/parishcommittees/nominatingcommittee.html>

The Committee will have a table in the lobby today. Feel free to stop by and visit, or contact David Dardarian, 2013 Nominating Committee Chairman (248) 661-0617 if you have questions .

St. John Armenian Church Parish Christmas Card

A Holiday Tradition to Support Social Concerns

Once again, parishioners may share their Christmas and New Year greetings with St. John's members in our Parish Christmas Card, and in so doing support the Social Concerns Fund. 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**. If you wish to charge your gift, please phone the Church Office. **Thank you for your generosity.**

-----**Detach here.**-----

**Enclosed is my gift for the Social Concerns Fund.
Please include the following name(s) in the 2012 Parish Christmas Card as printed below:**

COMING EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Friday, December 14, 2012, 7:30 pm

“Extend a Helping Hand to Syrian Armenians and Raise Your Voice Against the Destruction of the Genocide Memorial Church and Museum in Der Zor, Syria”

Guest Speaker: Ara Sanjian, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Music provided by Harry Hovakimian

Hagopian World of Rugs, 850 Old Woodward, Birmingham

Reception will follow—All are welcome!

Sponsored by Greater Detroit United Committee for Syrian Armenian Relief Fund

Sunday, December 16, 2012, 12:30 pm

KNIGHTS AND DAUGHTERS OF VARTAN CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

St. Johns Armenian Church Recreation Center—All are welcome!

You must RSVP by December 12, 2012 to Gloria Korkoian at

(313) 730-6698 or gkorkoian@gmail.com

Monday, December 31, 2012, 8:00 pm

KNIGHTS AND DAUGHTERS OF VARTAN NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH CULTURAL HALL

MUSIC BY JOHN BILEZIKJIAN AND ALL STARS

RESERVATIONS: CHRIS KORKOIAN 248-217-5447

Saturday, February 2, 2013 —KEF TIME KEGHI! 6:30 PM

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH CULTURAL HALL

FEATURING THE KEGHETZI ALL-STAR ARMENIAN BAND

RESERVATIONS: BARBARA NORSIGIAN 248-661-2342

Young Professionals Events in Chicago: February 8 - 9, 2013

Friday night: AGBU Young Professionals of Chicago

Saturday night: Dinner/dance hosted by Chicago area churches

SATURDAY NIGHT: HYE CAMP ALUMNI REUNION

Calling all Campers, Staff & Board Members of Hye Camp from the 1960s to the present

For more information, please email ypchicago@agbuyp.org.

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

Knitting Club—In January join us on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 10am-Noon. Please contact Linda Assarian, 248-332-0816, if you are interested in participating.

Moms and Manoogs meet for social interaction and fun activities. Our meeting days are flexible and we'd love to have you and your *Manoogs* join our group. For more information contact Kristen Gustafson at kristeng@outlook.com or 248-765-0471.

Armenian Food For Sale Today - Stop by the Guild table in the cultural hall after *Badarak* and consider enhancing your holiday menus. We are selling some of those wonderful baked goods and food items that were featured at the Festival.

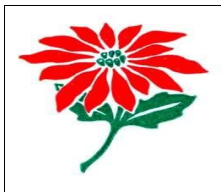
*The Women's Guild invites you to become a member.
For information please call Terry Palaian, 313-929-0926.*

END OF YEAR REMINDER

ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS PLEDGES (FOR YEARS 2012 & PRIOR) ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 31, 2012 TO AVOID BEING CONSIDERED IN ARREARS. IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR PLEDGE/STEWARDSHIP FOR 2012 YET, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BALANCE, PLEASE PHONE OUR ACCOUNTANT LILIT GRIGORYAN AT THE CHURCH OFFICE MON-FRI 248.569.3405, 8:00 AM—4:00 PM.

WITH GRATITUDE,
PARISH COUNCIL



***Christmas Poinsettias
& Paschal Candles***



***If you wish to donate toward flowers or candles
for the altar this Christmas Season,
please contact the church office.***

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 kho-rhoortus 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 yegheet-see kez ee Soorp Badarakes.

Մաս եւ բաժին եղիցի 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:

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 haydootyoonun Kreesdosee.

THE PSALM OF DISMISSAL - PSALM 34

Orhnetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenyn 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.

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

After hours in an emergency, please contact:

Pastor's Cell: 248.225.9888

Parish Council Chairman's Cell: 248.688.1214

Administrator's Cell: 248.880.8391