

## St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit

22001 Northwestern Highway | Southfield, MI 48075

248.569.3405 (phone) | 248.569.0716 (fax)

[www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org)

The Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian, *Pastor*

Clergy residing within the St. John parish and community:

The Reverend Father Diran Papazian

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian

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

*January 17, 2016*

*The Armenian Church Year 1464*

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE OCTAVE OF THEOPHANY**

**Celebrant: Fr. Abraham Ohanesian**

**Children's Sermon: Fr. Aren Jebejian**



### **THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP**

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

**Divine Liturgy / Մ.Պատարագ ..... 9:45 am**

### **SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY**

Isaiah 61:10-62:9

II Timothy 2:15-26

John 6:15-21

**Lector: Spencer Keoleian**

*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**

**Pastor's Office Hours To Be Announced**

**After hours in an emergency, please contact:**

**Pastor's Cell: 773.457.4122**

**Administrator's Cell: 760.832.1142**

**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.

**Sunday Bulletin** Announcements for the Sunday Bulletin are due in the Church Office by 5:00 pm on Wednesday preceding the date of service.

**Requiem Requests** may be submitted to the Church Office by mail, phone, fax 248.569.0716, or email to [office@sjachurch.org](mailto:office@sjachurch.org) no later than 5:00 pm Wednesday preceding the Sunday requested. Request forms are available in the Church Lobby.

### *Parish Council of St. John Armenian Church 2015*

Jeffrey E. Axt, Chairman  
Paul Andonian, Vice Chairman  
Michael Kazarian, Treasurer  
Marianne Dardarian, Secretary  
John Yavruian, Ass't Treasurer  
Ardis Gregory, Ass't Secretary

Dr. Mary Alani, Advisor  
Peter S. Egigian, Advisor  
John R. Kalajian, Advisor  
Christopher Korkoian, Advisor  
Karmen A. Santourian, Advisor  
Gary Hachigian, First Alternate  
George Boyagian, Second Alternate

## *Today's Gospel*

### **John 6:15-21**

Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea rose because a strong wind was blowing. When they have rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat. They were frightened, but he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going. (6:15-21)

## *Fallen Asleep in the Lord*

We offer prayers for the servant of God, **Arax Papazian**, who entered her eternal rest this past week. May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon her soul.

## *When in the Lord's House*

Please be advised that according to the tradition of the Armenian Church, members of the congregation are strongly reminded to refrain from walking in and out of the Sanctuary while services are in progress. You are especially reminded not to do so during the Reading of Lections until the Creed is recited, the Chalice Procession, the Hymn "Der Voghormia," Singing of *Hayr Mer* – Lord's Prayer, during Confession and Communion, and during the Sermon. Please wait in the vestibule until such time when it is proper to enter the Sanctuary.

## *Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized*

Jilber Abajian  
Rose Boudakian  
Cheryl Giesa  
Fr. Untzag Nalbandian  
Charles Sansone

David M. Apoian  
Marge Brothers  
Ruben Griffin  
Walter Negosian  
James Shahbazian

Araxey Barsamian  
Elina Cobb  
Dan McCorkle  
Richard Norsigian

## *Women's Guild News*

### **Winter Bake Days**

Tuesday, January 26th, 9 am - noon: Katah led by Terry Palaian  
Monday, February 22nd, evening bake 6 - 8 pm: Choreg led by Marianne Dardarian

Everyone is welcome to join us. No experience needed!  
Come for fellowship and learn how to make your favorite Armenian delicacies.

**Knitting Group:** Please contact Linda Assarian at 248.332.0816 or  
*[linda.assarian@gmail.com](mailto:linda.assarian@gmail.com)* for more details.

The Women's Guild invites you to become a member.  
*For information please call Belinda Kabodian, 248.767.3942*

## *Day by Day Bible Study*

Wednesday, January 20th  
Wednesday, February 24th  
12:00 — 2:00 pm

*For more information, call Yeretzgin Roberta at 248.538.9993*

## *Parish Assembly Ballot*

2016 Parish Assembly Ballot: The Nominating Committee of St. John Armenian Church is currently recruiting members in good standing for positions on the 2016 Parish Assembly Ballot. The committee has recently begun the process of contacting members for positions on Parish Council, Nominating Committee, Auditor, Secretary of the Day and Chairman of the Day. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the Nominating Committee members if you are interested in filling any of these positions.

## *Visit the Parish Bookstore*

Genocide T-Shirts with "Forget-Me-Not" emblem and map on back — \$20.00

Armenian Alphabet Wooden Puzzle — \$35.00

The best selection of Armenian books and CDs plus many gift items: jewelry, Armenian crosses, key chains, cookbooks and many "Made in Armenia" products.

The Armenian Apostolic Church in Recent Times — \$20.00

Defending the Faith — \$20.00

The Lenten Journey...A Walk With God — \$10.00

The Armenian Genocide and Problems of Evil — \$20.00

Water as a Sign of Rebirth in the Armenian Church — \$20.00

The History of Armenian Monasticism and the Rank of Vartabeds — \$20.00

Guardians of Music DVD, "History of Detroit Armenian Music", as seen on PBS — \$25.00

Hand painted Forget-Me-Not Christmas ornaments — \$10.00

Armenian Genocide DVD, as seen on PBS — \$25.00

### *New Items From Armenia*

Variety of "FORGET-ME-NOT" pins, charms, stickers and silver jewelry.

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## *Youth Basketball Program 2015-2016*

St. John's Basketball begins next week! If you know of any young Armenian youth that may be interested in joining, please have them come to practice or email

Lisa Mardigian at [lmardigian@sjachurch.org](mailto:lmardigian@sjachurch.org).

### **Practice Schedule**

#### *TUESDAYS*

Biddy A (ages 11 & 12): 5:30 pm- 7:00 pm

Girls (ages 13 & up): 6:30 pm- 8:00 pm

#### *WEDNESDAYS*

Junior Boys (ages 13-15)

Intermediate Boys (ages 16-18): 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Joint Practice for conditioning!

#### *THURSDAYS*

Biddys (ages 5-8): 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Biddy B (ages 9 & 10): 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
ARMENIAN STUDENTS' CULTURAL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

## *The 2016 Hye Hop Charity Dance*

*Raising funds for the Children of Armenia Fund*

FEATURING

Dinner Buffet  
Raffle  
Cash Bar

*With musical performances by*  
Kef Tones with special guest Mark Gavoor on oud and DJ M-Kay

**Saturday, January 30, 2016**  
**8:00 pm - midnight**

Polo Fields Country Club  
5200 Polo Fields Drive  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

PRE-ORDER TICKETS

\$25 Students  
\$35 Adults

Pay for your ticket in advance by sending a check  
(made out to Armenian Students' Cultural Association) or cash to:

ASCA c/o: John Balavitch/ Mara Darian  
315 S. Division Apt 1  
Ann Arbor, MI, 48104

Tickets are also available after *Badarak*. Please look for ASCA's table in the front lobby.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please e-mail: [hyehop2016@gmail.com](mailto:hyehop2016@gmail.com)  
Visit: <https://www.coafkids.org>  
Facebook: Hye Hop 2016



**BASHDON HOKEHANKUSDYAN**  
**REQUIEM PRAYERS FOR THE SOULS WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST**  
While we are mourning the loss our loved ones, we also rejoice as they meet  
the Lord behind the veil in the Heavenly Jerusalem

**ALMA KACHIGIAN, 40th Day, Mother, Grandmother, Great-grandmother**

Requested by Karen Bullion & Mark  
Lori, David, Jacqueline & Jennifer Kontry  
Terrie, John, Tara & Nicholas Karebian  
John & Julie Kachigian  
Nicole & Allison Shepard  
Michael & Melissa Bullion

**STEVE TEBERIAN, 40th Day, Husband, Brother, Uncle, Friend**

Requested by Carolyn Tiberian  
George Tiberian & Family  
Minas Tiberian & Family

**ARZROUNI HOVSEPIAN, 5th Year, Father, Grandfather**

Requested by Jerier Hovsepien & the Hovsepien Family

**ARTHUR A. APKARIAN, 10th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Brother, Uncle**

Requested by Cynthia Apkarian  
Dawn & David Karagosian & Family  
Scott & Renee Apkarian & Family  
Lynne & Cary Kojamanian & Family  
Rick & Paulette Apkarian  
Richie, Alex, Elizabeth, & Katherine Apkarian  
Christopher, Kristen, & Alana Vosbikian

**KRIKOR & LUCINE AVAKIAN, 10th Year, Father & Mother**

**JAMIL ITA, 10th Year, Father**

Requested by the Avakian Family

**MARTIN M. MANOOGIAN, 21st Year, Husband, Father**

**PETER MANOOGIAN, 44th Year, Grandfather**

Requested by Ann Manoogian  
Roseann & Bobby Attar

**FRED HURST, Friend**

Blanche Swidersky

*...requiems continued*

**MARDIROS GHORYAN**  
**SAMEERA YOUSEF**  
**ORHA DAWOOD**  
**KURJIA ESRIEL**

Requested by Robik Ghoryian

**BEDROS AND ESTHER MERZIAN, Parents, Grandparents**  
**MARY MERZIAN, Sister-in-Law, Wife, Mother**  
**ABRAHAM MERZIAN, Uncle**  
**EDWARD ASADORIAN, Godfather, Friend, Uncle**

Requested by Lucy, Charles, Pete and Leslie, & Harry Merzian

**ALBERT SARKISIAN, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great-grandfather, Khnamee**  
**GEORGE & ARMENOUHIE DOCTORIAN, Parents, Grandparents, Great-grandparents**  
**JAMES DOCTORIAN, Uncle, Great-uncle**  
**VERY REVEREND FATHER JOHN SVIRIDOV, Father, Grandfather, Great-grandfather, Khnamee**  
**MATUSHKA MELANYA SVIRIDOV, Mother, Grandmother, Great-grandmother, Khnamee**  
**LEVON & HAIGANOUSH SARKISIAN, Parents, Grandparents, Great-grandparents, Khnamees**  
**ANTHONY & ESTHER RUPAS, Parents, Grandparents, Khnamees**

Requested by Nina Sarkisian  
Dr. Edward & Anna Sarkisian  
Sara, Morgan, Sona, & Anya Bell  
Dn. Aram Sarkisian  
Linda Houhanisin & Family  
Barbara, Peter, & Matthew Rupas  
Lisa & Stephen Derderian  
Allan, Rachel, Tyler, & Emma Sarkisian

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*Poon Paregentan - Sunday of Good Living*  
**Sunday February 7th**

Please join us immediately after church for lunch, music, dancing, and a variety of children's activities including face painting, piñata, cookie decorating, crafts and games. We look forward to celebrating with you before you head home to watch the Super Bowl.

Reservations are greatly appreciated for planning purposes. Please call Renee Baharian at 248.348.5474 to leave your family name and the number that will attend. A free will offering will be collected at the door. Please contact Kim Kalajian, Tricia Magee, or Heidi Aprahamian at 734.536.4680 with any questions.



Daughters of Vartan Presents

## *Manti & More*

A family evening filled with good food, family, friends, and lots of fun.

Please save the date and join us

**Friday, February 5, 2016 at 7:00 pm**

Adults: \$30

Children 12 and under: \$10

Casual attire

For reservations and information:

*Gloria Korkoian*

*313.730.6698 or gkorkoian@gmail.com*

*100 S. York Street, Dearborn, MI 48124*

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Women's Guild Presents

## *A Luncheon & Fashion Show*

*Dedicated to all Mothers*

**May 21, 2016**

**10:30 am, Boutiques**

**12:00 pm, Luncheon and fashion show**

Adults: \$55

Children 12 and under: \$20

St. John Armenian Church

22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075

Celebrating the 85th Anniversary of the Consecration of St. John Armenian Church

## *The Ultimate Theophany*

God's self-revelation culminates in the incarnation of Jesus, making him the ultimate theophany. Those who saw the face of Jesus saw the Father (John 14:9), experiencing a much more profound theophany than Moses did. Moses asked to see God's glory, and those who lived with Jesus received what Moses had asked for (John 1:18).

The New Testament channels all interest in the theophanies of God into the divine manifestation in Jesus Christ; the Old Testament (Septuagint) term for theophanic appearances is, in fact, used of the resurrection appearances of Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:5-8).

Jesus is also the ultimate "judgment theophany." He declares judgment on those who reject him (John 3:18) yet provides comfort and blessing for those who would come to him and receive the mercy of God. Jesus brings judgment by revealing the high demands of God's righteousness (Matt. 5:48) and the depths our desperate condition under sin; his substitutionary death reveals the weight of the curse, which could only be lifted through the death of the Son of God: "By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, [God] condemned sin in the flesh" (Rom. 8:3). This is the ultimate judgment theophany, one that leads to hope and salvation.

Again, Jesus is the ultimate "covenant theophany." Jesus, as God, ushered in the final covenant in "in his blood" (Matt 26:28), the new covenant. In Jesus, God himself looked into the eyes of his disciples and promised to be true to his word. Jesus reveals the ultimate, eternal covenant (Heb. 13:20) between God and his people.

### *Why Do Theophanies Matter?*

1. God is with us. Theophanies remind us of the famous words of Francis Schaeffer: "He is there and he is not silent." God has not and will not leave his people to suffer in isolation. He will "descend far beneath his loftiness," as John Calvin said, and reassure us that he will do as he promised. "I will be their God and they will be my people" (Jer. 24:7) summarizes the covenant promise that runs all through the Bible, and theophanies point to this comforting reality.
2. God is holy, awesome, and majestic. Theophanies should humble us. Our God is a consuming fire (Heb. 12:29). All the various pictures of Yahweh in the Old Testament highlight this truth. Theophanies, according to Walter Elwell and Barry Beitzel, "conveyed a sense of the awesome majesty and power of God who is to be approached only with reverence and humility according to divinely prescribed procedures." Ultimately, God's holiness is most clearly seen in his wrath against sin, revealed and satisfied at the cross of Jesus.

# *Attention Parents and Grandparents of Newborn Babies!*

## *Calling all newborns!*

**Father Aren will be blessing all unbaptized newly born babies at the end of Divine Liturgy - *Badarak* - on Sunday, February 14th in celebration of the Feast of the Presentation of Christ to the Temple in Jerusalem.**

This event is described in the Gospel of Luke. According to the gospel, Mary and Joseph took the Infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem forty days after his birth to perform the redemption of the firstborn son, in obedience to the several scriptures (Leviticus 12, Exodus 13:12–15, etc.). Luke explicitly says that Joseph and Mary take the option provided for poor people (those who could not afford a lamb) (Leviticus 12:8), sacrificing "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Leviticus 12:1–4 indicates that this event should take place forty days after birth for a male child, hence the Presentation is celebrated forty days after Christmas.

Upon bringing Jesus into the temple, they encountered Simeon. The Gospel records that Simeon had been promised that "he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ" (Luke 2:26). Simeon then uttered the prayer that would become known as the Canticum of Simeon, which prophesied the redemption of the world by Jesus:

LORD, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace; according to Thy word: for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people: to be a light to lighten the gentiles and to be the glory of Thy people Israel (Luke 2:29–32).

Simeon then prophesied to Mary: "Behold, this child is set for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which is spoken against. Yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34–35).

The elderly prophetess Anna was also in the Temple, and offered prayers and praise to God for Jesus, and spoke to everyone there of His importance to redemption in Jerusalem (Luke 2:36–38).

# On Leaving the Sanctuary After Badarak

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

*Heeshetzeh 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  
gadarestseh.*

**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.*

**Քրիստոս ի մէջ մեր յայտնեցաւ: / Օրհնեալ է յայտնութիւնն Քրիստոսի:**

## The Psalm of Dismissal - Psalm 34

*Orhnetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenayn zham  
ornhootyoon 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.