

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 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 all who are here today for the celebration of Kotz Badarak or Veiled Divine Liturgy. Communion is not openly offered during Lent. During the period of Great Lent we refrain from taking communion while we are in a state of prayer and fasting. Should anyone feel the need to receive Holy Communion, arrangements can be made with the Pastor at any time. As a reminder, during Lent, Hokehankist or Requiem can be offered and Mas is distributed.

March 20, 2016

The Armenian Church Year 1464

PALM SUNDAY

Celebrant: V. Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

The Sunrise Office / Արևադարձ ...9:00 am

Divine Liturgy / Առաքելություն ...9:45 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

SONG OF SOLOMON 1:1-2:3, ZECHARIAH 9:9-15,

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7, MATTHEW 20:29-21:17

LECTOR: DANIELLE SARAFIAN, STUDENT

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: 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 no later than 5:00 pm Wednesday preceding the Sunday requested. Request forms are available in the Church Lobby.

Today's Gospel

Matthew 20:29-21:17

And as they went out of Jericho, a great crowd followed him. And behold, two blind men sitting by the roadside, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" The crowd rebuked them, telling them to be silent; but they cried out the more, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!" and Jesus stopped and called them, saying, "What do you want me to do for you?" They said to him, "Lord, let our eyes be opened." And Jesus in pity touched their eyes, and immediately they received their sight and followed him.

And when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If any one says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee."

And Jesus entered the temple of God and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'; but you make it a den of robbers."

And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant; and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, 'Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings you have brought perfect praise'?" And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.



2016 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
THE GREAT AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY, MARCH 20-PALM SUNDAY

Morning Service-9:00 am

Church School Procession with Palms / Divine Liturgy-9:45 am

Opening of the Doors-1:00-1:20 pm (Service in English)

ACYOA DAY

Fellowship hosted by the ACYOA

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, VESPERS SERVICE

Remembering the Wise and Foolish Maidens – Vespers – 7:00 pm

(Service in English)

Refreshments will be served and hosted by the Church School

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

Divine Liturgy commemorating the Last Supper

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Celebrant -10:30 am

Tuesday Lunch Club 12:00 noon in the Cultural Hall

Washing of the Feet – 7:30 pm

Betrayal and Passion of Our Lord – 8:30 pm

7 Gospels – 7 Knots

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

Order of the Crucifixion of Christ – 11:30 am

The Entombment of Our Lord Jesus Christ – 7:30 pm



2016 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
THE GREAT AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP cont'd

SATURDAY, MARCH 26 – GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY

Divine Liturgy & Family Service, Holy Communion & Easter Eve Supper

Reading of Scriptures done by AGBU school students – 4:00 pm

Divine Liturgy – 5:00 pm

**A complimentary Easter supper will be served to all children
sponsored by the Church School.**

Adults - \$15.00 RSVP (Tables Only)

Alberta Godoshian – 248-476-4638

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 – EASTER SUNDAY

**THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD & SAVIOUR
JESUS CHRIST**

Morning Service – 9 am; Divine Liturgy – 9:45 am

**Home Blessing Service 12:00 noon in the Cultural Hall
followed by an Easter Tea prepared by the Women's Guild.**

MONDAY, MARCH 28 - MERELTZ (Remembrance of the Dead)

11 am – 11:15 am

Requiem/Hokehankist

Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Archbishop Yeghishe Gizirian
Yn. Roberta Kochakian
Araxey Barsamian
Elina Cobb
Don McCorkle

Jilber Abajian
Rose Boudakian
Cheryl Giesa
Walter Negosian

David M. Apoian
John Brycz
Ruben Griffin
Charles Sansone

Women's Guild News

BAKE SALE TODAY following Badarak

Be ready for Easter! Pick up your Favorite Armenian Baked goods. The Women's Guild will be selling delicious goods for you and your family to enjoy. Stop by the Women's Guild table in the Cultural Hall after services today.

*Please join us for our Traditional Easter Tea,
Sunday, March 27th, 2016. All are welcome.*

Knitting Group: Please contact Linda Assarian at 248.332.0816 or 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, March 23, 2016
12:00 — 2:00 pm

For more information, call Yeretzgin Roberta at 248.538.9993

Home Blessing

It is the custom to have one's home blessed during the Eastertide (40 days following Easter). Should you desire a house blessing, please call the office to schedule a visit and blessing by the pastor. After you call for a home blessing, the office will notify you when Hayr Soorp will visit.

Tuesday Lunch Club Rescheduled

The lunch on **Tuesday, March 22nd** is postponed and will take place instead on **Thursday, March 24th, at noon** in the Cultural Hall immediately following Last Supper Divine Liturgy which will begin at 10:30 am. For reservations, please call the church office at 248.569.3405.

Hosted by the St. John's Men's Society

Mother's Day Celebration

Sunday, May 8, 2016

Following *Badarak* in the Main Hall

Adults: \$25 | Children 6-12: \$10 | Children five and under: free

Assorted artesian dinner rolls, scones, cream cheese, jams and butter

Baby spinach leaves with sliced almonds, tomatoes, red onions,
Romano cheese tossed in a balsamic basil vinaigrette

A combination plate of:

Grilled chicken breast with sundried tomatoes, mushrooms
Lemon and chive encrusted salmon
Anna potatoes, sugar snap peas

For the children: Tossed greens with Italian dressing
Chicken strips, ranch dressing, served with rice pilaf

Creme Brûlée

Chocolate fountain with fresh fruit, assorted cookies, pretzels, marshmallows and assorted dipping goodies
Orange, cranberry and apple juices
Chocolate milk, regular coffee and tea

Limited seating. Table service - reservations required by May 1st.
For reservations contact: Dr. Gary Zamanigian at 248.322.9393

Women's Guild Presents

A Luncheon & Fashion Show

Dedicated to all Mothers

Saturday, May 21, 2016

10:00 am Boutiques and 12:00 pm Luncheon and fashion show

Adults: \$55 | Children 12 and under: \$20

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

For reservations and information please be in touch with
Linda Assarian by emailing her at linda.assarian@gmail.com

Tickets go on sale April 1

Flowers for Holy Week

If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of altar flowers, palms, candles, incense or charcoal for the Holy Altar during Holy Week and Easter Sunday, please contact the church office at 248-569-3405. Donors will be acknowledged in the Easter Bulletin.



Memorial Day of Easter (Merelotz - Remembrance of the Dead)

It is a centuries old tradition to remember all deceased loved ones the day after a major feast day known as *Merelotz*. Please give the full name of the person or persons you wish to have remembered on the sign-up sheet placed on the desk in the lobby or call the church office at 248-569-3405 or email at office@sjachurch.org. **A donation of \$5 for each family will be appreciated.** Hokehankist, Requiem Service, for the repose of the souls of the departed will not be offered during Holy Week or on Easter Sunday. Requests for Hokehankist during this period will be fulfilled on **Monday, March 28, 2016 at 11 am -11:15 am.**



Visit the Parish Bookstore

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

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

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

Frequently Asked Questions on the Badarak — \$12.00

Mariam's Easter Parade by Marianne Markarian (children's book) — HC \$15.00

New: The Guest Room by Chris Bohjalian — HC \$25.00

New: The Hundred Year Walk,

An Armenian Odyssey by Dawn Anahid MacKeen — HC \$24.00

New Items From Armenia

Holy Week Flower and Candle Donors

We thank the following contributors for their generosity in donating the flowers, palms, candles, incense and charcoal for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Judge Lisa L. Asadoorian and Garo present a gift for the palms and the Easter flowers surrounding the sanctuary.
Wishing God's blessings for us all.

In loving memory of Melkon & Soorpoohi Chiefgan, beloved grandparents, Nishan & Arshalous Janigian, beloved parents, Dr. Aram Janigian, beloved brother, and Sahak Roy Sahakian, beloved husband of Silva Sahakian, seven Easter Paschal Candles are presented by Silva Sahakian, Susan Janigian & Sally Blegvad.

The Easter lilies adorning the altar are presented in memory of Harry Carman on his name day by Rosemary, Roxan and Stephan Carman, Anthony, Rupina, Nayiri and Vaughn Carman, Steven, Lydia, Tamara, Kyle, Anjel and Bryce Doyon.

Masis and Alberta Godoshian present the flowers and ferns adorning the Tomb of the Christ in honor of Armenag and Satenig Ohanasian, beloved father and mother.

A gift toward flowers adorning the Tomb of the Christ is presented by Edward and Yvonne Korkoian and Family in loving memory of Rev. Fr. Haroutiun Dagley, Harry B. Dardarian, Harry A. Kezelian Sr., Harry Asadoorian, Harry Sarkisian, grandmothers and great-grandmothers Eugapere Zobian and Yougaper Dardarian, and in honor of David Harry Dardarian, Dr. Harry A. Kezelian, and Harry A. Kezelian III.

Ramela Carman presents a gift for incense.

The Kezelian family presents the Easter lilies adorning the side altars in memory of Harry Kezelian Sr., and in honor of Dr. Harry Kezelian and Harry Kezelian III on their name day.

In memory of brother, Harry Mertoian, a gift has been presented to the church by
Linda and Mike Tiffany.

In honor of the name day of their father, David Harry Dardarian; uncle, Dr. Harry Kezelian; and cousin, Harry Kezelian III and in loving memory of their grandfather, Harry Dardarian and uncle Harry Kezelian, Sr., Daniel and Karen Dardarian make a gift for altar flowers.

A New Curriculum for St. Nersess Summer Conferences

St. Nersess Armenian Seminary is pleased to announce a new four-year curriculum for its annual Summer Conferences. The curriculum will prepare Armenian students to become leaders in the Armenian Church, including future Sunday School teachers.

Participants will study such topics as early church history, the sacraments, Armenian religious art, Armenian language, and comparative Christian traditions. At the conclusion of the four-year curriculum, students will receive a certificate of completion from St. Nersess Seminary.

Below is the schedule of this year's summer conferences. For more information, visit www.stnersess.edu.

Deacons' Training Program: June 25-July 3

Directed by Fr. Daniel Findikyan

High School Summer Conference A: July 15-24

Directed by Fr. Ghevond Ajamian

High School Summer Conference B: July 29- August 7

Directed by Fr. Shnork Souin

Post-High School Summer Conference: August 9-13

Directed by Fr. Samuel Rith-Najarian

Please see Fr. Aren, Lisa Mardigian, or front office for a conference or scholarship application.



2016 Diocesan Summer Camp Programs

St. Vartan Camp

Ararat Center, Greenville, NY

Staff Training: June 22-25

Session A: June 26-July 9 | Session B: July 10-July 23 | Session C: July 24-August 6

Campers ages 8-15

CITs ages 16 and 17; Staff and volunteers ages 18+

Hye Camp

Camp Hickory, Ingleside, IL

Staff Training: July 27-30

Two Week Session: July 30-August 13

Week 1: July 30-August 6 | Week 2: August 6-13

Register online by visiting www.diocesansummercamps.org

Please see Fr. Aren or Lisa Mardigian for a scholarship application.



July 2-17, 2016

ARMENIA **service program**

Visit Armenia with the ACYOA

The annual ACYOA Armenia Service Program provides participants (ages 18 and up) the opportunity to travel, serve, and worship in their homeland. This year's ASP will run July 2-17, under the leadership of the Rev. Fr. Tadeos Barseghyan, pastor of St. Sahag Church of St. Paul, MN.

This summer, the ACYOA members will undertake some new service programs and endeavors, in partnership with the Fund for Armenian Relief. Participants will work with children at a summer camp, visit the FAR Children's Center, experience innovative programs, such as "Ayo!," and spend an unforgettable day harvesting apricots side-by-side with local villagers in the fertile Armenian heartland. The group will also visit religious and cultural sites throughout Armenia, including Yerevan, Etchmiadzin, and Sevan.

All participants will receive a \$500 scholarship from the Dadourian Foundation—bringing the cost of the trip to the lowest it has been in a decade.

The registration deadline is March 20. Click on the following links to view a flyer and to download an application form, and visit www.acyoa.org to learn more. For questions, contact Jennifer Morris, the Diocese's director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, at jenniferm@armeniandiocese.org, or (248) 648-0702.

College Scholarships for 2016

Our Diocese will be granting scholarships to undergraduate students for the academic year 2016-2017. These scholarships are earmarked for Armenian American students attending accredited 4-year undergraduate university programs. Preference will be given to those who are active in the life of the Armenian churches of the Eastern Diocese in the ACYOA, altar servers, Sunday or Armenian school teachers, choir members, etc. The scholarship program is open to U.S. Citizens only.

The application and reference forms must be submitted electronically. You will find the form on the Diocesan website at <http://www.armenianchurch-ed.net/programming/scholarships/>



National Event

Celebrating 70 Years



Did you know that on Palm Sunday, ACYOA chapters across the Diocese celebrate ACYOA Day? The purpose of ACYOA Day is to focus attention on the vitality of the organization, its members, its accomplishments, and its role in the local parish community. It is also an opportunity for the ACYOA to promote its programs and honor individuals who have made an impact on youth in the Church.

This Palm Sunday, please join us as we celebrate not only Christ's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem, but also, the incredibly dedicated and talented youth and young adults of our Holy Trinity ACYOA.



St. John Armenian Church - 22001 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI 48075

Following *Badarak*, join us in the Main Hall for tea as we celebrate the ACYOA Juniors and Seniors of St. John Armenian Church and their continued dedication to fellowship, service, and worship. Your Good Will Offering at the tea will go towards supporting our ACYOA events, retreats, and workshops.



For more information please contact Anahit Movsesyan at (248)-719-6719.
www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

Upcoming Events

Man Up

Saturday, April 9, 2016

Presented by the Men's Society of St. John Armenian Church

8:30 am - 3 pm

Breakfast and Lunch will be served

Please call Ara Belian 248-626-8374 or George Saboonjian 248-952-1903

for reservations by April 3, 2016

\$25 check payable to St. John Armenian Church



101st Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide

The Armenian Churches of Greater Detroit Genocide Commemoration Committee will host the 101st anniversary commemoration of the Armenian Genocide on April 24th at St. John Armenian Church, The Divine Liturgy and Service in Honor of the Sanctified Martyrs of the Genocide will begin at 10:00 a.m.

The Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian, pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Church, will celebrate the Holy Badarak and the Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian, Pastor of St. John Armenian Church, will deliver the homily. A reception will follow in St. John's Cultural Hall.

On Sunday, April 17th at 2:00 p.m., the Armenian Churches Committee will host a presentation on understanding the significance of the Sanctified Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide at the Armenian Congregational Church. The Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan, Director of the Krikor and Clara Zorhab Center of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church and author of FROM VICTIMS TO VICTORS, will be the presenter.

Please join us to honor our Sanctified Martyrs.

About the Home Blessing in the Armenian Tradition

The home is a sacred place where family members maintain and share many values. It is also a place where they are charged and empowered with these values to live a peaceful and God-pleasing life. It is under this roof that all collectively form oneness in spirit and assume an important responsibility in the life of the community. It is in this place where they break bread and share joys and sorrows. Here the presence of the Omnipotent is felt since every family is a miniature of a "Little Church—Ecclesia." In this "Little Church" the inexhaustible love and the very generous blessing of God permeate.

According to the sacred traditions of the Armenian Church, God's blessing is asked for homes on different occasions, like on the Nativity and the Resurrection of Christ, as well as on the joyous occasion of moving into a new home.

For Home Blessing the priest takes with him wafer and incense. He blesses the bread, the water and the salt. These three fundamental elements are essential life-giving gifts for human life. The priest asks from the Omnipotent God not to lessen these three gifts without which life becomes impossible or imperfect.

The bread, the water and the salt are symbols of God's infinite goodness and care. With the blessing of these great gifts the household is enriched spiritually and its existence perpetuated for the service of his Creator.

The bread, which symbolically represents the Word of God, grants life to all those who taste it. The salt seasons our food and makes it delicious and edible. Metaphorically salt represents man in this world with his words and deeds. Christ said, "You are the salt of the earth." Man's life should be seasoned with wisdom, moderation or sense of sufficiency. Finally, water which is the most essential element of life, figuratively represents cleanliness. It's through water that we are cleansed by baptism, renewed in Christ, and united with Him.

Along with the bread, salt, and bread offered on a tray by the dwellers, the priest places also the wafer stamped with a crucifix and designs of grapes and wheat. The wafer is the presence of Christ in the home. The members of the family can either distribute the wafer among themselves or keep it in a jar along with flour, salt, or rice.

During Home Blessing it is customary to burn incense which symbolizes the burning of our souls with our Lord's love. In his supplication the Psalmist says, "Let my prayer be counted as incense before Thee."

In the prayer of the Home Blessing the priest after asking for purity and abundance of the three gifts, he blesses the home and all its dwellers and asks God to keep them away from visible and invisible enemies and protect them under His powerful Right Hand granting them health of soul and body.

Home Blessing is a meaningful religious service that brings the entire family together in oneness and holiness, and blesses them. Through this ceremony everyone's faith is replenished and strengthened and the Lord's presence is felt.

The beautiful tradition of the Home Blessing unfortunately has been cast into oblivion. Today, more than ever, we need the presence and blessing of the Lord in our homes and lives. The revival of this centuries old custom will certainly bring us close to our Lord. Family members are encouraged to take part of the ceremony to make it more meaningful.

(This article was taken from the Diocesan website)

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*

**When taking *Mahs* the
GIVER says:**
*Mahs yev pazheen yegheet-
seen kez ee Soorp Ba-
darakes.*

**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.*

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
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.