

Women's Guild News

December 2017

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

(248) 569-3405

www.stjohnarmenianchurch.org

A message From Our Chairman...

Shnorhavor Nor Daree Yev Soorp Dznunt!!

First, I would like to say that I am humbled and honored to serve as the new Chair of the Women's Guild only to continue to carry on past traditions but also to explore new outlets for volunteerism, while strengthening our community and giving back to our membership. We can only accomplish this by working together. We need for you to get involved this year. This is your organization and only you can make it new and special. Please think about how you can be a part of our guild. Stand up and be heard!



At our Christmas dinner we introduced Standing Committees. This is your opportunity to get involved. You can choose what committee/s you would like to serve on for the year. You may serve with your friends or meet new ones. Sign-ups are available at the general meeting or by contacting Vice Chairman, Lisa Derderian. (lisader@comcast.net)

A warm thank you to Marilyn Sarkesian and Diane Nolff and the Western Christmas Dinner committee. We all spent a wonderful evening enjoying fellowship, delicious food, and festive entertainment! The evening certainly put us in the mood for celebrating a joyous Christmas season. Thank you for your support of St. John's "Toy for Tots" toy drive. We will truly make a difference in the life of a child!

Advent by Candlelight was an inspirational evening for each of us. The theme "He will bring us goodness and light" let us light the candles of Love, Hope, Peace and Joy! Thank you to Sara Andonian and her committee for kicking off the true meaning of the Christmas season.

Our New Year kicks off on Saturday, January 6th with an Armenian Christmas Luncheon and meeting. Immediately following the Badarak, all are invited for a Guild sponsored luncheon. This is a free will offering lunch. Following lunch we will have our first meeting of the year. Thanks to Jackie El Chemmas and Lisa Derderian for co-chairing the event.

Join in on Saturday, January 13th at Manoogian Manor to help the residents celebrate Armenian Christmas. Bring some sunshine into their life. We only ask for a couple hours of your time. Watch your email for information.

Palm Sunday bake will be kicking off on Tuesday mornings starting January 16th. Under Joy Callan's leadership, please enjoy the camaraderie of our membership. As Joy would say "All hands on deck"!

Your new board was installed on December 3rd in church during Badarak by Very Reverend Father Aren Jebejian. Please join me in congratulating them. Your 2018 board; Barbara Rupas-Chairman, Lisa Derderian-Vice Chairman, Cathy Zwinck-Recording Secretary, Diane Nolff-Corresponding Secretary, Sara Andonian-Treasurer, Yerchanig Joy Callan- Assistant Treasurer, Diana Vosgian- Newsletter, Sue Vian-Advisor, Barbara Haroutunian-Advisor and Denise Boyagian-1st Alternate.

One last thought "He who believes is strong; he who doubts is weak. Strong convictions precede great actions." – Louisa May Alcott. Let's work together to make the Guild strong!

Barb Rupas



OUR NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian, President
248-569-3405 Cell: 773-457-4122
fraren@sjachurch.org

Diane Nolff, Corresponding Secretary
248-714-6171 Cell: 248-909-7041
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Barbara Rupas, Chairman
248-643-7666 Cell: 248-561-1147
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Diana Vosganian, Newsletter
248-661-1875 Cell: 227-1897
pasadenapenguin@gmail.com

Lisa Derderian, Vice Chairman
248-879-7193 Cell: 248-321-3922
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Sue Vian, Advisor
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Cathy Zwinck, Recording Secretary
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Barbara Haroutunian, Advisor
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Sara Andonian, Treasurer
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Denise Boyagian, Alternate
Cell: 248-892-9739
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Yerchanig Joy Callan, Assistant Treasurer
248-254-3955 Cell: 248-533-6320
yerchanigc@gmail.com

Directory Changes:

Lillian Durham email: durhamjl86@gmail.com

Anna Baylerian email: pbayler7@gmail.com

Anoush Korian email: Ann@PKDmail.com

Rose Shahinian phone #: 248-624-3978

Please make these changes in your directory!



IMPORTANT!! **Please** send any address, email, or phone number changes to Linda Tiffany or Diana Vosganian by January 15th. We are updating our 2018 Women's Guild Directory which is scheduled to be distributed on February 1st.



The Women’s Guild sends our sincere sympathy to Debbie Krikorian on the loss of her dear sister, Charlotte Ann Hachadurian. May happy memories bring comfort and peace in midst of your sorrow.



We extend our get well wishes and prayers to Anna Sarkisian, Nancy Panaretos, and Anne Soutanian. May our warm thoughts bring comfort to you and brighten your day. We look forward to seeing you with us soon!



Linda Franquist is happy to announce the birth of her grandson, Alexander Patrick, who was born on November 29th to her son Garrett Harabedian and his wife Kate Geisler. Alexander was lovingly welcomed by his sister, Eloise.

Dr. Michael and Knar Pifer became first time parents with the birth of their daughter, Dzovig, who was born on October 9th. Happy grandparents are Dr. Jan Bedrosian and Steve Pifer, Yerchanig Joy and Roy Callan and great grandparents Deacon Mihran and Gayle Hoplamazian.



I would like to thank the Women’s Guild for all the good wishes shared with me during my recuperation this past year. The two joints are working very well with all your prayers! My best to all of you!

- Anna Sarkisian

January 6 th (Saturday)	Armenian Christmas Luncheon 12:00 p.m. after Church services.
January 13 th (Saturday)	Manoogian Manor Christmas visit 11:00 a.m.
February 7 th (Wednesday)	Guild Meeting 7:00 p.m.
February 11 th (Sunday)	Poon Pareegentan
February 25 th (Sunday)	Annual Parish Assembly
March 7 th (Wednesday)	Guild Meeting/Saintly Women’s Day 12:00 p.m. Lenten Luncheon





Alternatives For Girls

Guild Members filled over 200 bags with personal care items for young women determined to make positive life changes. Our thanks to everyone who took part in this important project and to Sue Vian for again guiding us with this inspirational project.



Jackie El Chemmas with some of the 200 bags ready for delivery.



Guild Members taking time to wave to those members who were unable to join us.

Palm Sunday Bake Schedule

Our Palm Sunday baking will soon begin! We again “NEED YOUR HELP!!” Please look at the schedule below and join us.



January 16 th (Tuesday)	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
January 23 rd (Tuesday)	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
January 30 th (Tuesday)	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
February 6 th (Tuesday)	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
February 13 th (Tuesday)	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
February 20 th (Tuesday)	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
February 27 th (Tuesday)	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Advent by Candlelight



Under the chairmanship of Sara Andonian and with her wonderful committee, over 300 women gathered for a lovely inspirational evening of Advent. It began with guests viewing the 35 individually decorated hostess tables and then returning to their tables to enjoy fellowship and dessert. After, everyone gathered in our church sanctuary to hear speakers covering the traditional themes of Love, Hope, Peace and Joy. Each

speaker shared their own heartfelt experiences as they covered their individual theme. We also enjoyed awe inspiring musical selections from Ani Patterson's beautiful voice, Lance Luce's powerful organ selections, and Nick Wilczynski's melodic saxophone renditions. The evening concluded with everyone lighting a candle and singing Hayr Mer and Silent Night. This was done in the spirit of Advent in preparation of Christmas, the coming of Christ. Everyone left for home with the true beauty of the evening and the true meaning of the Season. We wish everyone LOVE, JOY, HOPE and PEACE!



L-R: Evening speakers: Knar Pifer, Rita Avedissian, Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian, Jaclyn Assarian, and Sara Sarkisian Bell





Christmas Dinner



Many thanks to the Christmas Dinner Committee under the co-chairmanship of Diane Nolff and Marilyn Sarkesian for helping us welcome in the Season together!

The committee consisted of Pat Akkashian, Sara Andonian, Cathy Atesian, Nancy Banks, Carol Cholmakjian, Lisa Derderian, Linda DePietro, Carol Hovsepian, Denise Karakashian, Linda Lutz, Nancy Panaretos, Carol Ohanesian, Linda Stambouljian, Debbie Zazaian and Cathy Zwinck.

We would also like to thank the many donors who contributed to the evening:

Desserts: Betty Amboian, Arlene Baylerian, Diane Ekizian, and Dolly Matoian.

Cookie favors: Diane Nolff

Centerpieces & Eetch: Nancy Panaretos

Spinach Parmesan Balls: Marilyn Sarkesian

Musical Coordinator & Cheese Beoregs: Debbie Zazaian,

Wine & More: Anrae Anusbigian, Anne Dirani, Diane Ekizian, Gayle Hoplamazian, Barbara Haroutunian, Jane Hovsepian, Yvonne Korkoian, Carol Ohanesian, Rose Shahinian, and Diana Vosganian.

Co-chairs Diane Nolff and Marilyn Sarkesian also sponsored the wonderful musical entertainment for the evening presented by the West Bloomfield High School Laker Express.

It was a lovely evening of warmth and fellowship!



Thanks to the generosity of our Women's Guild members, many toys were collected at both the Advent and Guild Christmas Dinner. This was added to our church collection for "Toys for Tots." Thank you to everyone for participating in this activity which will certainly help bring many children a joyful Christmas!

If you have something you would like to include in our newsletter, please contact Diana Vosganian at (248) 661-1875 or email: pasadenapenguin@gmail.com.

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S GUILD STANDING COMMITTEES

Dear Guild Members,

The strength of our guild is our ability to give back to our church community. As we approach our 2018 Guild year, we would like to invite you to sign up for a standing committee/committees. Lists of choices are shown below. Take this opportunity to get your first choices by signing up today. If there is no interest in specific standing committee, we will consider retiring it. Thanks in advance for helping make a difference. The 2018 executive board is looking forward to a fruitful year.

**PLEASE CONTACT BARB RUPAS AT 248-643-7666 OR
LISA DERDERIAN AT lisader@comcast.net WITH YOUR CHOICE(S)**

Armenian Christmas Luncheon (January 6)

Chairs: Jackie El Chemmas and Lisa Derderian
Committee Members: (Need 4)

Manoogian Visits – Christmas (January), Easter (April) and Assumption (August)

Chair/Co-Chair: Linda Tiffany [August Chair]
Meeting Hospitality November
Committee Members: (Need attendees on date)

Poon Pareegentan (February 11th)

Chair: Heidi Aprahamian
Committee Members: (Need 10)

Lenten Luncheon Meeting (March 7) / Meeting Hospitality March

Chair/Co-Chair
Committee Members: (Need 6)

Palm Sunday Bake Sale (March 25) – Meeting Hospitality February

Chair/Co-Chair: Marilyn Sarkesian
Committee Members: (Need 6)

Easter Tea (April 1) – Meeting Hospitality October

Chair/Co-Chair:
Committee Members: (Need 10)

Saints Day Commemoration Tea (April 24)

Chair/Co-Chair:
Committee Members: (Need 4)

Mother's Day Event Fundraiser (May 19)

Chair/Co-Chair:

Committee Members: (Need 10)

Membership Dinner (June 6) - Meeting Hospitality September

Chair/Co-Chair:

Committee Members: (Need 10)

Summer Special Event Outing (July)

Chair/Co-Chair:

Committee Members (Need 2)

Church Picnic & Bake Sale (August 12) - Meeting Hospitality April

Chair/Co-Chair:

Committee Members: (Need 20)

Armenian Cooking Series (TBD)

Instructors: List your specialty

Mahs Committee

Chair: Charlene Apigian

Christmas Dinner and Program (December 5) - Meeting Hospitality May

Chair/Co-Chair:

Committee Members: (Need 10)

Devotional Readings for General Meetings

February 7, March 7, April 4, May 7, September 5, October 10, November 7)

Chair/Co-Chair: Charlene Goshgarian

Committee Member: (Need 2)

Guild Baking

Chair: Joy Callan

Committee Members: (NEED EVERYONE!)

Cooking Dates

Tuesday AM: January 16, 23, 30,

February 6, 13, 20, 27

March 6, 13

Monday PM: Dates TBD

Social Concern

Chair: Carol Ohanesian

Committee Members: (Need 10)