

**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*  
The Reverend Father Armash Bagdasarian, *Assistant Pastor*

Clergy residing within the St. John parish and community:

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian

The Reverend Father Abraham Ohanesian

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



## 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 fill out a contact card 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.

Following Primate Bishop Daniel's directive related to protecting our clergy and parishioners during the COVID-19 pandemic, no one except clergy and very limited choir members are permitted to enter the church during services this week. We respectfully ask our parishioners to stay home and prayerfully join us via the live streaming of the services which can be seen on the St. John Armenian Church public Facebook page.

## March 29, 2020

The Armenian Church Year 1469

### SUNDAY OF THE ADVENT

**Celebrant: V. Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian**

**Assistant Pastor: Rev. Fr. Armash Bagdasarian**

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

**The Sunrise Office - 9:30 a.m.**

**Divine Liturgy - 10:00 a.m.**

### SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

**Is 66:1-24. Col 2:8-3:17. Mt 22:34-23:39.**

## Today's Gospel

### Mt 22:34-23:39.

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put your enemies under your feet? If David thus calls him Lord, How is he his son?' And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, Hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.' You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred?

And you say, 'If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.' You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

**Continued...**

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You blind Pharisees! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation.

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

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## **Position Opening – Parish Secretary**

As many of your know, Tamara Martirosyan, our parish secretary, and her husband are expecting their third child this summer. Tamara has indicated her intention to step down from her position at the end of May. Consequently, the Parish Council is actively recruiting a full-time replacement and asks that anyone interested in applying for the position submit their qualifications, with cover letter, to the Parish Council Chairman directly or via email to [hr.sjac@gmail.com](mailto:hr.sjac@gmail.com), no later than April 1, 2020.

Please contact the Church Office directly for detailed job description.

# Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

Emma Betrosian  
Elina Cobb  
John Brycz  
Margaret Chubukchian  
Vartkes Chubukchian  
Rose Baise

Araxey Barsamian  
George Douroujalian  
Darlene Lane  
Stepan Telebzdza  
John Avedisian  
Dr. Badrik Joocharigian

Charles Sansone  
Doris Carter  
Elizabeth Shehigian  
Anna-Maria Grigorian  
Susie Janigian

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## Seerov Jash

In this time of difficulty and uncertainty, our loving and Christian spirit is called upon to pull together to help others, primarily the elderly, the sick, single parents, recent immigrants and others in our parish and our community that needs support. Last week, staff and volunteers of our newly formed outreach program, *Seerov Jash* -- meals made with love from the St. John's kitchen – prepared over 130 meals which were either picked up at the church or delivered to those not able to leave the home during this virus pandemic. Next week, we will continue preparing *Seerov Jash* meals for pickup or delivery on Tuesday and Friday. If you would like a meal, or know someone who does, please call Lisa Mardigian at 586-808-2202 or e-mail her at [sjacoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:sjacoutreach@gmail.com).

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## Church Office

In light of Michigan's Stay Home Stay Safe executive order, most of the staff in the Church Office will be working from home until April 13<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to check our emails and voice-mail messages, so please feel free to reach out to us when necessary. If it is an emergency, please contact the Pastor or Parish Administrator at the mobile phone number on the back page of the Sunday Bulletin.

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## Fallen Asleep in the Lord

We offer our prayers for the servant of God, **Dr. Hagop Sarkis Pambookian**, who entered his eternal rest last week. His funeral took place at St. John Armenian Church on March 19, 2020. May Christ our Lord shed His Eternal light upon his soul.

We offer our prayers for the servant of God, **John Nagohosian**, who entered his eternal rest last week. His funeral took place at St. John Armenian Church on March 23, 2020. May Christ our Lord shed His Eternal light upon his soul.



**BASHDON HOKEHANKUSDYAN**  
**REQUIEM PRAYERS FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO ARE ASLEEP IN CHRIST**



**RICHARD APKARIAN, 2nd Year, Dearest Husband, Father, Grandfather**

Requested by Paulette Apkarian  
Kristen, Alana, and Adam Vosbikian  
Richie, Alex, Elizabeth, Katherine, and Marty Apkarian

**DR. ARA YARJANIAN, 3rd Year, Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather**

Requested by Mrs. Laurie Yarjanian  
Dr. Daron Yarjanian  
Dr. John Yarjanian, Linda Yarjanian, and Adam Yarjanian

**GEORGE M. KURAJIAN, 5th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather,  
Brother-in-law**

Requested by Vicki Kurajian  
George, Matt and Mary  
Lisa, Phil, Scott, Karen and Olivia  
Evelyn  
Aram Ohanesian

**KASPER OHANNASIAN, JR. 5th Year, Beloved Father, Grandfather, Brother, Uncle, Friend**

Requested by Cheryl & Keith Messisco & Family  
Kasper A. Ohannasian & Family  
Nancy Altounian & Family

**ANTRANIG MIGIRDICHIAN**

**ARUSYAK MIGIRDICHIAN**

**GARABET TOKLAR**

**FRANSUHI TOKLAR**

**GARBIS OOSAK**

**ZEPUR OOSAK**

Requested by Mr. & Mrs. Edmond Megerian

**ST. JOHN HOLY WEEK OPPORTUNITIES**

**2020 PALMS, EASTER LILY PLANTS, FLOWERS  
AND CANDLE DONATIONS**

We are offering parishioners and friends of St. John Armenian Church the opportunity to donate palms, Easter Lily plants, flowers for the Tomb of Christ and candles to beautify the Holy Altar and sanctuary for Holy Week. These items will serve as a loving memorial and tribute to those whom you wish to remember in a special way before the Lord.

If you would like to donate any of these items in honor of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, please fill out the form below providing all the information needed. You may take a Lily plant home following Divine Liturgy on Easter Sunday as a remembrance of this Holy occasion.

Please mail this form to the Church Office or drop it in the mailbox just outside the church office with a check made payable to St. John Armenian Church.

**Orders must be placed by April 1, 2020**

All donors' names will be printed in the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Bulletin

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**Donor Name**.....

**In Honor/Memory of:** .....

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- I wish to donate Palms for Palm Sunday - \$30.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to donate \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily Plants at \$30.00 each \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to donate Flowers/Plants for Good Friday Tomb of Christ - \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to donate Candles for the Holy Altar - \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to donate for all of the above - \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- (Easter Lily Plant, Candles for the Altar, Flowers/Plants and Palms)
- Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**For further information, please call the Church Office at 248-569-3405 or  
e-mail Tamara at [Tamara@sjachurch.org](mailto:Tamara@sjachurch.org)**

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# General Information

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

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

**Pastor's Mobile: (773) 457-4122 e-mail: FrAren@sjachurch.org**

**Fr. Armash's email: FrArmash@sjachurch.org**

**Parish Administrator's Mobile: (586) 817-2974**

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**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 to be included in the "Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized" list. 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. We encourage parents to baptize their children between 40 days and 3 months.

**Marriage** Please make sure to confirm your wedding date with the Pastor before booking your reception hall. Phone the Church Secretary at least nine months in advance of your proposed wedding date.

**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 or email to Tamara@sjachurch.org no later than 5:00 pm Wednesday preceding the Sunday. Request forms are available in the Church Lobby. Requiem may be offered every Sunday of the year except for the five Tabernacle Feast Days.

