

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:

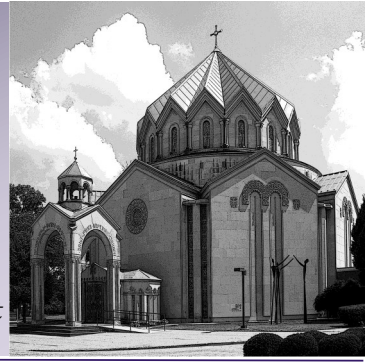
The Reverend Father Diran Papazian

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 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.

December 6, 2015

The Armenian Church Year 1464

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant: Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

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

Divine Liturgy / Ս.Պատարագ9:45 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

Isaiah 37:14-38

II Thessalonians 1:1 12

Luke 14:12-24

Lector: Dr. Salpi Toroyan

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 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

Luke 14:12-24

He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your kinsmen or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

When one of those who sat at table with him heard this, he said to him, "Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the Kingdom of God!" But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"

Day by Day Bible Study

Wednesday, December 30th, 12:00 — 2:00 pm

For more information, call Yeretzgin Roberta at 248.538.9993

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
Ruben Griffin
Richard Norsigian

Araxey Barsamian
Elina Cobb
Fr. Untzag Nalbandian
Charles Sansone

Marge Brothers
Cheryl Giesa
Walter Negosian
James Shahbazian

Women's Guild News

Get ready for Christmas!

Please stop at the Women's Guild baked goods table following *Badarak* for your last chance at purchasing delicious holiday treats!

Knitting Group: Please contact Linda Assarian at 248.332.0816 or linda.assarian@gmail.com for more details.

The Women's Guild will hold its annual Members Christmas Dinner & Installation of Officers on Monday, December 7th at 6:00 pm. Members may bring a guest to this event. For reservations, please contact Elizabeth Amboian by calling 248.346.4602 or ejamboian@gmail.com.
Donation is \$15 per person.

Take the opportunity to make new and lasting friendship while doing service for the Lord.

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

Special Meeting December 16th

The St. John's Greater Detroit Parish was established in 1931. In honor of our 85th anniversary in 2016, we plan to have a year-long celebration of special events involving all of our auxiliary groups and parishioners. We are looking for volunteers willing to work with Fr. Aren and the Parish Council to oversee the planning and coordination of these events. The first 85th anniversary committee meeting is on Wednesday, December 16th at 8:00 pm. If you would like to be involved in this very special celebration and serve on the St. John Jubilee Committee, please contact one of the Parish Council members or the church office.

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 — \$7.00

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

New Items From Armenia

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

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

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



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

MICHAEL MARKARIAN, 40th Day

Requested by Elizabeth Markarian
Edward & Vicky Baharian
Eddie & Renee Baharian Family
Robert & Rosemary Bagdasarian Family
Craig & Lisa Johnson Family
Dr. Richard & Michelle Bagdasarian Family

DANIEL SHAHAN, 12th Year, Beloved Father, Grandfather, Friend

NEVART SHAHAN, 39th Year, Beloved Mother, Grandmother, Friend

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

GARBIS KALFAYAN, 13th Year, Father, Grandfather, Great grandfather

VIKTORIYA KALFAYAN, 8th Year, Mother, Grandmother, Great grandmother

Requested by Iskender Family
Kalfayan Family

KASPER H. TOKATLIAN, 6th Year, Son, Brother

Requested by Harry Tokatlian
George Tokatlian
Mia Tokatlian

ANN BEAMISH, 10th Year, Dear Aunt

Requested by Steven, Carol, Maria, Angela, & Julia Palaian
Lisa & Christopher Michetti

HERMINE BUYIKIAN, 9th Year, Sister, Sister-in-Law, Aunt

Dn. Mihran & Gayle Hoplamazian
Roy & Yerchanig Callan
Dikran & Kelly Callan & Sosi
Vahan Callan & Eleeza Agopian
Knar & Michael Pifer
Garabed Hoplamazian
Brooke Hoplamazian
Marin & Garo Hoplamazian
Dr. Aris & Alice Hoplamazian
Eric & Lisa Hoplamazian
Sona Simsarian & Family

CLAUDE PINTARD OLIVER, 11th Year, Brother

ANDREW DERVARTANIAN, 7th Year, Brother

ELEANOR DERVARTANIAN, 6th Year, Sister

ESTHER JEANNE DERVARTANIAN OLIVER, 5th Year, Sister

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MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER ANNA DERVARTANIAN, 4th Year, Sister

ROBERT VARTAN GREGORY, 4th Year, Brother

MATTHEW DERVARTANIAN, 2nd Year, Nephew

AUSTEN BERJ BROOKS, 1st Year, Nephew

Requested by Roger & Ardis Gregory

Mary Jo Gregory

LEVON TARKEDJIAN, 16th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather

Requested by Ani & Tanya Tarkedjian

Dan & Tamar Boursalian & Family

CHARLES PALAIAN, 20th Year, Dear Father, Grandfather, Great grandfather

VICTORIA PALAIAN, 10th Year, Dear Mother, Grandmother, Great grandmother

Requested by Evie, Gary, & Ani Ezmerlian

Steven, Carol, Maria, Angela, & Julia Palaian

Chuck, Terry, Brent, & Erika Palaian

Sally Palaian & Gary Haelewyn

Keith, Laurie, & Brian Neher

Gary, Debbie, Abigail, & Simeon Ezmerlian

Autumn & Arya Ezmerlian

Phil, Taline, Collin, Ethan, & Owen Rosendall

Lisa & Christopher Michetti

Bradley, Julie, Chase, Bentley, Mackenzie, & Everleigh Neher

Sheri, Justin, Jackson, & Joel Meador

ROSEMARY HOPLAMAZIAN, 23rd Year

Dn. Mihran & Gayle Hoplamazian

Roy & Yerchanig Callan

Dikran & Kelly Callan & Sosi

Vahan Callan & Eleeza Agopian

Knar & Michael Pifer

Garabed Hoplamazian

Brooke Hoplamazian

Marin & Garo Hoplamazian

Dr. Aris & Alice Hoplamazian

Eric & Lisa Hoplamazian

Sona Simsarian & Family

Zaven Dolik & Children Michael, Lisa & David

ANITA KASPER, 41st Year, Daughter, Sister, Aunt

Requested by Arick Kasper

Michael & Darleen Kasper

David & Anita Kasper

Lisa & Kevin Rushlow

Justin & Allison Dziak

Andrew & Ethan

Madison & Kevin

...continued...

ARDASH MARDIGIAN, Father, Grandfather, Great grandfather

HARRY MARDIGIAN, Brother, Uncle

STEPHAN & AGAVNIE MARDIGIAN, Grandparents

EDWARD & HELEN MARDIGIAN, Uncle, Aunt

Requested by Arthur & Rose Mardigian

Steven, Armen, & Anoush Mardigian

James, Laura, & Stephen Armen Leacock

Lisa Mardigian

Zaven, Marilyn, & Zaven Charles Dadian

**FOR THE SOULS OF ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES WHO
HAVE MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE FOR OUR LIBERTIES**

Requested by The Armenian American Veterans of Metro Detroit

The Detroit Armenian Chorale Presents a Christmas Concert

Directed by Rubik Mailian

**Join us for a festive family
night of American and
Armenian Christmas songs**



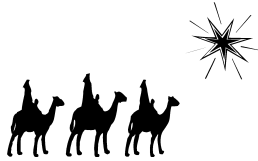
*"The Most Wonderful
Time of the Year"*



**St. John Armenian Church Hall
Friday, December 11, 2015
8:00 pm**

**Admission is Free Will Offering
Afterglow Reception**

St. John Armenian Church Parish Christmas Card



A Holiday Tradition to Support Our Church

Once again, parishioners may share their Christmas and New Year greetings with their fellow St. John's members in our Parish Christmas Card, and in so doing support a special program of your choice. All proceeds will go to the Social Concerns Fund or the General Expense Fund. Your gift is a testimony of your love and support in Christian stewardship for the works of Christ in our spiritual home.

Please complete the form below and forward to the church office with a suggested donation of \$50.00, check payable to:

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

Checks should be received no later than this Wednesday, December 9, 2015.

If you wish to charge your gift, please phone the Church Office.

Thank you for your generosity.

-----Detach Here-----

Enclosed is my gift for: (please circle your choice)
Social Concern Fund General Expense Fund

Please include the name(s) in the 2015 Parish Christmas Card as written below.

Donation enclosed: \$_____

*The Pastor and Parish Council thank you for your patronage and wish you
and your loved ones all of God's blessings for New Year and Christmas.*

What Is Advent?

"Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." (James 5:8)

Advent means "coming" — the coming of Christ. In Armenian it is called *Hisnag* from the word for "fifty." It is the 50-day period during which we prepare to celebrate the Nativity and Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is a time for us to think of the why of Christmas — why the greeting cards, the decorations, the gifts, the family gatherings? A time to look within our hearts to see if there is anything that stands between us and the Good News of Jesus' birth.

During Advent, we can rededicate ourselves to Christ through our actions, thoughts, and prayers. This is a good time for us to improve our habits and offer them as gifts to God. Perhaps Advent can also be an occasion to discover God's gifts all around us. We need to have an open heart to receive Christ—God's greatest gift of all!

We complain that Christmas is too "commercial," but there is a way to live out the real "reason for the season."

Special Feasts and Fasts During Advent

The Advent in the Armenian Church is approximately two weeks longer than it is in the Western churches, and that is why it is called *Hisnag*, "a 50-day period."

Fasting During *Hisnag*

Hisnag is in a sense introduced by a week of fasting. The fast is officially known as "the Fast of the Beginning of *Hisnag*." There is a second fast of a week's duration following the third Sunday of *Hisnag*. This fast is known as "the Fast of St. James, Bishop of Nisibis." The commemoration of the latter takes place on the following Saturday.

The third and final fast, again of a week's duration, precedes the Feast of the Nativity and Theophany of Christ our God, and that is how it is officially recognized in the calendar.

During the remaining weeks of *Hisnag* when there is no fasting, the Wednesdays and Fridays are regularly observed as fasting days.

Feasts During *Hisnag*

The Armenian Church celebrates a number of feasts and observes some important commemorations during the 50 days of *Hisnag*.

The Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Virgin to the Temple, as it has a fixed date,



is celebrated on November 21st, even if it falls within the week of the fasting. On such occasions, the feast is celebrated liturgically, but the fasting prevails in dietary matters.

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The same practice is also observed during the Feast of the Conception of the Holy Virgin by St. Anna, which is always celebrated on December 9th.

During the *Hisnag* we commemorate some of the important and major saints of the Christian Church. Among them are the 4th-century founders of Christian theology St. Gregory the Wonderworker and St. Basil of Caesarea; the Holy Apostles Thaddeus and Bartholomew, the enlighteners of Armenia; the Egyptian fathers; the early bishops of the church, such as St. Clemens, St. Ignatius, St. Polycarpus, St. Nicholas; St. James of Nisibis; and at the very end of the year, King David commemorated as a prophet; the Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord; St. Stephen the Protomartyr; the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul; the Holy Apostles James and John, both of them surnamed as Sons of Thunder.

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 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.