

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 Կիրակնօրեայ Թերթիկ

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.

March 19, 2017

The Armenian Church Year 1465

SUNDAY OF THE STEWARD

Guest Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Abraham Ohanesian

Pastor: V. Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

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

Divine Liturgy / Ս.Պատարագ9:45 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

Isaiah 56:1-57:21, Ephesians 4:17-5:14, Luke 16:1-31

Lectors: LERNA LACINIAN & NAYIRI SAGHERIAN

Today, Fr. Aren will be delivering the Children's Sermon. Fr. Abraham Ohanesian is the celebrant so that Fr. Aren can spend time with the Sunday School Students.

Today's Gospel

Luke 16:1-31

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a steward, and charges were brought to him that this man was washing his goods. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.' And the steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the stewardship away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that people may receive me into their houses when I am put out of the stewardship.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest steward for his shrewdness; for the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous mammon, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal habitations.

"He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will entrust to you the true riches? and if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they scoffed at him. But he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts; for what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

"The law and the prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and every one enters it violently. But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away, than for one dot of the law to become void.

"Every one who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery.

"There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this name.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us. And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"

Prayers for the Sick and Hospitalized

James Shahbazian
Elina Cobb
Robert Missirlian

Araxey Barsamian
George Douroujalian

Charles Sansone
Ruben Griffin

On Lenten Sunday's, the plate collection will take place after the song Lord Have Mercy (Der Voghormia) while the choir sings Guardian of All (Bahaban Amenaynee).

Sermon Topics for the Sundays of Lent

March 19, 2017— How do we give as Christians

March 26, 2017— Traditions and Practices related to Funerals

April 2, 2017— To be announced (Hayr Soorp is open to suggestions)

Lenten Altar Flowers

The Flowers on the Lenten Altar have been donated in honor of the
40 Day Blessing for Grace Elizabeth Morris.

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 248-569-3405 by **Monday, April 3**. Donors will be acknowledged in the Easter Bulletin.

Sunday School Collection

This year, Church School Lenten offering is to assist the refugees from Syria who are settling in Armenia. Students will be passing a plate in church next Sunday for their participation in this project.



BASHDON HOKEHANKUSDYAN
REQUIEM PRAYERS FOR THE SOULS WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST



ARCHBISHOP YEGHISHE GIZIRIAN, 1st Year, Former Pastor

HARRY OKNAIAN, DPM, 40th Day, Husband, Father, Stepfather, Grandfather, Uncle, Brother-in-law

Requested by Seta Oknaian & Family
Cynthia Oknaian
Paul Oknaian (Peter)
Michaelene & John Torzewski
Oknayan Family
Marie Arciadiaco Shaw
Roy & Nayiri Misirliyan, Sevan, Sarine & Ani

JOHN STEPHANIAN, 2nd Year, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather

Requested by Patti, Jennifer & Grace Morris

ROBERT LEE MORRIS, 30th Year, Father, Grandfather, Friend

Requested by Jennifer and Grace Morris
Patti Morris

MATUSHKA MELANYA SVIRID, 2nd Year, Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother, Khnamee

Requested by Dr. Edward & Anna Sarkisian
Sara, Morgan, Sona & Anya Bell
Deacon Aram Sarkisian
Nina Sarkisian
Linda Houhanisin
Diana, Omar & Aiden Badr
George Houhanisin & Dr. Sarah Johnson
Peter, Barbara & Matthew Rupas
Lisa & Stephen Derderian
Allan, Rachel, Tyler & Emma Sarkisian



BASHDON HOKEHANKUSDYAN Cont'd
REQUIEM PRAYERS FOR THE SOULS WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST



GARABED & SHENOR TALASSIAN

MICHAEL SEREMJIAN

NANCY & TOM DANNA

Requested by Seremjian Families

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD

We offer our prayers for the servant of God, **Inessa Gaykazyan**,
who entered her eternal rest last week. Her funeral took place at St. John Armenian
Church on March 15, 2017.

May Christ our Lord shed His Eternal light upon her soul.



Lenten Pancake Breakfast!

Sunday, March 19, 2017

**Please join us in the Cultural Hall, immediately
following the service**

Pancakes
Spinach and Feta Omelets
Vegetables and Cheese Omelets
Eggs and Hash Browns
Seasonal Fruit
Coffee and Assorted Juices



Free will offering - recommended donation \$5.00/person
Hosted by The Saint John's Men's Society

St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit

Invites you to

BIBLE STUDY

Presenter:

Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

**Monday evenings 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
on the dates listed below:**

March 20

April 3, 17

May 8, 22

June 26

**St. John Armenian Church of
Greater Detroit**

Invites you to

Catechism

Presenter:

Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

**Thursday Evenings
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
on the dates listed below:**

April 6

May 18

June 29

**All parishioners and friends are invited to attend these informative sessions.
Admission is Free**

ACYOA JUNIORS PRESENT
LENTEN FISH DINNER

WEDNESDAYS

MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN

APRIL 5 FISH AND LOBSTER DINNER

DINNER SERVED 5:30 TO 6:30 PM

5:30
PM

DONATIONS

ADULTS \$10 CHILDREN \$5.00

LOBSTER DINNER \$20.00

VEGAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE



MARCH 1, 2017 7PM DEACON RUBIK MAILIAN
WILL EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF PSALMS,
PRAYERS & HYMNS IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL OFFICE 248. 569.3405
OR EMAIL: OFFICE@SJACHURCH.ORG

Every Wednesday, following the Lenten Fish dinner, there will be Lenten prayer service in the Sanctuary offered by a special guest

March 22 – Dn. Rubik will explain about Arevakal

March 29 – TBD

April 5 – Dn. Rubik will explain about Holy Week

New Hymns During Lent

The Komitas choir will offer the following new hymns during Lenten Sundays

Soorp Asdvadz (By Khoren Mekanejian) Holy God

Krisdos Ee Mech (Amy Apar) Christ in Our Midst

Amen Yev Unt Hokvooyt Koom (Khoren Mekanejian) Amen and With Your Spirit

Hayr Mer (Komitas) The Lord's Prayer

Hayr Soorp (Ara Barteveian) Holy God

Der Voghormia (Khoren Mekanejian) Lord Have Mercy

Bahaban Amenaynee (Alan Hovaness) Guardian of All

Translation for "Guardian of All"

Christ, Guardian of all creatures, let your right hand be a shadow over me day and night, tarrying at home and traveling, sleeping and rising, that I may never fail. Have mercy upon your creatures, and upon me, great sinner that I am.

102nd Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide

The Armenian Churches of Greater Detroit Genocide Commemoration Committee will host the 102nd anniversary commemoration of the Armenian Genocide on April 24th at St. Sarkis Armenian Church. The Divine Liturgy and Service in Honor of the Sanctified Martyrs of the Genocide will begin at 7:00 p.m. The Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian, Pastor of St. John Armenian Church, will celebrate the Holy Badarak. A reception will follow in St. Sarkis Lillian Arakelian Hall.

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Led by Very Rev. Fr. Aren Jebejian

For Boys Ages 10-16 Years Old

Saturdays 10am-12pm

March 25

April 8, 22

May 13, 27

Please call the Church office to enroll

Women's Guild

On Tuesday, March 21, from 9 a.m. until noon, the Women's Guild will be preparing Soo Boreg with Anita Arslanian for our Palm Sunday Bake Sale.

We welcome all interested Guild members and friends of the St John Guild, to come and join with us for fellowship and a chance to help make our Palm Sunday Bake Sale a much anticipated community event! All hands are good hands.

Watch for more upcoming Palm Sunday Bake Sale preparation days.

Day by Day Bible Study

Wednesday, March 22 and Wednesday, April 26, 2017

12:00 pm — 2:00 pm

For more information, call Yeretzgin Roberta at 248-538-9993

Movie "The Promise"

The Armenian Churches of Greater Detroit Genocide Commemoration Committee encourages our community and its supporters to view the upcoming film, "The Promise." This historical drama, set in Constantinople on the verge of World War I and at the time of the Armenian Genocide, centers on a love triangle between an artist from France, an American journalist played by actor Christian Bale, and an Armenian medical student who is engaged to a woman from his home village. Dates, times, and theater locations will be made public as soon as they are available.

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.

New: "Armenia, Australia and the Great War" by Vicken Babkenian and Peter Stanley — SC \$35.00

New: "Armenians and Turks: From War to Cold War to Diplomacy" by Tatul Hakobyan — SC \$30.00

New: "Avak Shapat— A Guide to the Holy Week Services of the Armenian Church" by Fr. Daniel Findikyan—SC \$15.00

New: "Forty Days of Lent—Cookbook" by Alice Antreassian—\$15.00

NEW—JUST ARRIVED

BEAUTIFUL SILVER JERUSALEM CROSSES IN VARIOUS SIZES

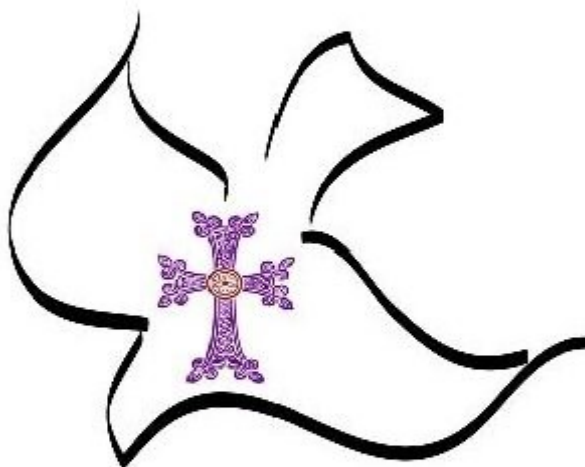
ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH 22ND ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT SEMINAR

OPEN TO ALL

Saturday, March 25, 2017
at the Veteran's Bldg. Rec. Center

Registration/Continental Breakfast 9:00 a.m.
Program 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

"The Holy Spirit: Then, Now, and Unto the Ages"



Guest Speaker: Dr. Roberta Ervine

Professor of Armenian Studies
St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, New York

Suggested Donation: \$15 includes all materials, continental breakfast, and lunch.
To register, or for further information, call Charlene Goshgarian at 248-641-7823.
Please make checks payable to St. John Armenian Church (memo: Lenten Retreat)
Mail to: St. John Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern HWY, Southfield, MI 48075

Sponsored in part by the Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian Endowment Fund

*If you know of someone who does not have email access, please pass on this information.

ACYOA SENIORS MIDWEST REGION RETREAT

APRIL 1

10am -
4:30pm



We invite the
ACYOA Seniors of
the Midwest region
to join us in a day
full of conversation
and insightful
discussions.

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

Register Here:
bit.ly/2iQ3dRo

For more information, ask your pastor, youth director or ACYOA chapter chair; or contact: Lorie Odabashian, Coordinator, Youth and Young Adult Ministries at lorieo@armeniandiocese.org

Now with these hands
I pray Lord
With these hands
For the strength Lord
With these hands
For the faith Lord
With these hands
I pray Lord
With these hands
For the strength Lord
With these hands
For the faith Lord
With these hands

Come on rise up!

Come on rise up!

~Bruce Springsteen
"My City of Ruins"



Man Up
PRESENTED BY THE MEN'S SOCIETY &
SPIRITUAL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF
ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017
8:30AM - 3PM, INCLUDES FULL BREAKFAST & LUNCH

ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH
22001 NORTHWESTERN HWY, SOUTHFIELD, MI

ALL MEN THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY ARE WELCOME

Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian is pleased to present...

"springsteen musical retreat"

It's been 20 yrs in the making blending the music, the artist,
his faith and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Join us for a day of great music, lively discussion,
reflection and a delicious meal.

Reservations required by April 2, 2017:

Ara Belian: 248-320-7529

Chris Korkoian: 248-217-5447

George Saboonjian: 248-952-1903 / 248-251-3064

\$30 check payable to: St. John's Armenian Church

Mail check to: Ara Belian, 7297 Kingswood Dr, Bloomfield 48301

Meet & Greet Dinner - Friday, April 28. Details to follow.



www.stjohnsrmenianchurch.org

Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebastia - Commemorated on March 25 *(this article was taken from the Diocesan Website)*

During the 4th century, the period when Christianity began to spread, conflicts still arose between those who boldly embraced their new faith and those pagan emperors who persecuted them. The Holy Martyrs of Sebastia, according to legend, were a group of exceptionally brave soldiers who came from families of nobility and stood firm in their Christian faith. They formed a part of the Roman army and served in the regions of Cappadocia. It is said that they came from various cities of Lesser Armenia (Pokhr Haik), and that some of them were assumed to be Armenian.

The Roman emperor during that time, Licinius, had expanded his anti-Christian crusade and demanded that any Christians in the army would have to return to the pagan faith or be killed. It was soon discovered that in Sebastia an elite military unit of soldiers were Christian. These forty youth were brought before the judge of the region and questioned. The soldiers confirmed that they were, indeed, Christians. Unafraid, they asserted that they were loyal to the emperor as evidenced by their success as soldiers, but that they also bore allegiance to their heavenly king and held fast to their Christian beliefs.

Despite attempts by Duke Liucias of Caesarea, who went personally to urge the young soldiers to abide by the king's orders, the youth refused to obey. Because his reputation and eminence were at stake, the duke was forced to impose severe punishment on the young soldiers. He ordered the stoning of the soldiers, thus silencing those who persistently defended their Christian faith. However, as the duke himself hurled the first stone, a miraculous thing happened. The stone, instead of reaching its intended target, flew in exactly the opposite direction and wounded the judge's face. When the security guards also started throwing stones, they, too, were unable to harm the young Christian soldiers. Instead, their stones struck themselves.

After this terrifying experience, the Duke ordered the death of the resistant youth in an extremely brutal manner. During a freezing winter night, he ordered the young men be taken, nude, to the lake near the city and to spend the night in the frozen waters. Only if they renounced their faith and became pagans could they be spared. One of the forty soldiers broke away and abandoned his Christian faith; the remaining 39 froze to death.

A second miraculous event occurred that night. Bright halos appeared and rested above the soldiers' heads, illuminating the area and causing great confusion among the guards. Moved by the experience, one of the guards declared himself a Christian and threw himself into the lake with the other martyred soldiers, bringing the number to 40 again. At dawn their bodies were removed from the lake and taken away to be cremated, and their ashes were thrown into the river. The Bishop of Sebastia had secretly arranged for the remains of the martyrs to be brought back to him in an effort to bring comfort and consolation to the families of the soldiers.

This significant event, which had far-reaching effects on the people of the region because of its barbarity and injustice, took place in the winter of 316 A.D. Some of the greatest figures of Christian history-Patriarch St. Basil, St. Gregory of Nyssa, St. Ephraem the Assyrian, and the Armenian priest Sisian of Sebastia-wrote panegyrics about these brave young Christians. Shortly thereafter, a magnificent church with 40 belfries was erected in memory of the soldiers. It was called the Church of the Forty Braves (Srbots Karasnits Mankants). The church was active until 1400 when the conqueror Tamerlane captured Sebastia and destroyed its 120,000 people and the church. Subsequently, the site was used as a graveyard and a chapel was built there. The chapel was later destroyed during the Great Massacres of 1915.

The memory of the Forty Saints of Sebastia is celebrated each year on the Saturday following the mid-point of Lent (Michink). A ceremonial Divine Liturgy is celebrated on the following day, Sunday. Many churches in many cities throughout the Diaspora, such as the one in Aleppo under the jurisdiction of the Great House of Cilicia and the Diocese of Beri, have been named after the courageous young saints who willingly sacrificed their lives for their faith.

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 e-mail: FrAren@sjachurch.org

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 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 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, fax 248-569-0716, 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.

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 Psalm of Dismissal - Psalm 34

**Օրհնեցից ըզՏէր յամենայն ժամ, յամենայն ժամ,
օրհնութիւն նորա ի բերան իմ:**

***Orhnetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenayn zham
orhnootyoon nora ee peran eem.***

I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall be at all times in my mouth.

