

**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 Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, *Pastor*

Clergy residing within the St. John parish and community:

The Reverend Father Diran Papazian, *Pastor Emeritus*

The Reverend Father Abraham Ohanesian

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

Ms. Margaret Lafian, *Organist*



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*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.

**MARCH 29, 2015**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**CELEBRANT: REV. FR. GARABED KOCHAKIAN**

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

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

Divine Liturgy / Ս.Պատարագ .....9:45 am

Church School / Կիրակնօրեայ Վարժարան.....10:15 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: JOY CALLAN**

***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: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:30 am—5:00 pm**  
**After hours in an emergency, please contact:**  
**Pastor's Cell: 248-225-9888**  
**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 [mkafrican@sjachurch.org](mailto:mkafrican@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 2014—2015**

Karmen A. Santourian, Chairman  
Jeffrey E. Axt, Vice Chairman  
Michael Kazarian, Treasurer  
Marianne Dardarian, Secretary  
Jacqueline ElChemmas, Ass't Treasurer  
Ardis Gregory, Ass't Secretary

Dr. Mary Alani, Advisor  
George Boyagian, Advisor  
Peter S. Egigian, Advisor  
Ara Hachigian, Advisor  
Christopher Korkoian, Advisor  
John R. Kalajian, First Alternate  
Paul Andonian, Second Alternate

## **TODAY'S GOSPEL: JOHN 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!"

### **Opening of the Doors - T'RNPATSEK**

The celebration of Palm Sunday in the Armenian Church's services also includes the service called *T'rnpatzek* [The Opening of the Gates], and the beginning of Holy Week observances with the re-enactment of Jesus' entrance into the Holy City.

In many parishes this is performed at different times on the day of Palm Sunday, sometimes at the entry of the church, prior to the Divine Liturgy, or following the Badarak in front of the closed altar curtain which symbolizes a door or gate. But, most often in accordance with the traditional practice, at the door of the sanctuary. There the clergy and choir gather with people at the designated time of the sixth hour or 4 pm in the afternoon.

An evening prayer service begins and then concludes with *Trnpatzek* as the priest knocks on the doors [toor] and requesting that it be opened [patzek] and allowed him with his faithful children to enter. The ritual engages a dialogue between a priest outside and another priest or deacon from behind the door or curtain.

At the conclusion of hymns and this conversation, which opens to up the Kingdom of God once again, the pastor exclaims "*Behold me and my children want to see Christ and hear his words...Open to me O Lord the door of your mercy, ...and make us worthy to be with the saints.*"

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOSPITALIZED**

Sara Apigian	Stan Armit	Araxey Barsamian
Rose Boudakian	Pam Dayinian	George Douroujalian
Cheryl Giesa	Ruben Griffin	Frank Houhanisin
Yn. Aurora Jebejian	May Kafafian	Walter Negosian
Aida Petrosyan	Alice Prudian	Richard Santourian
Mary Sarafian		

**FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD**

We offer our prayers for the servant of God

**Hagop Gigian**

Who entered his eternal rest this past week.

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

**VISIT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE**

**NEW: Remembering the Genocide T-Shirts Youth & Adult sizes \$20.00**

**"When I Was Baptized"—Children's Board Book—\$12.00**

**"Mariam's Easter Parade" - Children's Book by Marianne Markarian HC \$16**

**The best selection of Armenian books and CDs plus many gift items: jewelry, Armenian crosses, key chains, cookbooks and many "Made in Armenia" products.**

**SPECIAL: 2-CD SET BY ROGER KRIKORIAN.**

**The Fine Arts Committee of  
St. John's Armenian Church**

***Cordially invites everyone to an exhibition entitled***

**"REBIRTH"**

***Featuring works of local young Armenian Professional Artists***

**CATHY JACOBS**

**LEVON KAFAFIAN**

**NARINE KCHIKIAN**

**MICHAEL STAMBOULIAN**

***OPENING RECEPTION-SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015***

***1:00-4:00 PM***

### **What is Canonization?**

Many have been inquiring about the forthcoming canonization of the Martyrs of the 1915 Genocide and what it means to be a saint. Here is a brief explanation.

It is the final declaration by the head of the Church, whereby the soul of a person or a group of persons are declared to be with God in heaven. After the declaration, the veneration [ which means great honor] of the person(s) sainted is not only permitted, but ordered for the entire Church. Normally, the process of canonization is conducted with the full consent of the Synod of Bishops in the Orthodox Church and the Sacred Congregation of Rites in the Roman Catholic Church. Afterwards, the final declaration is made by the Patriarch or by the Supreme Pontiff. Canonization as a formal process and declaration started in the tenth century.

In the primitive Church, martyrs and later confessors were the first to be publicly venerated/ honored...in Armenian յարգանք/ harkank or մեծարանք medzarank ...by the faithful. Until the tenth century, individuals among the faithful who had lead exemplary and "venerable" lives were accepted as "saints" անոթ/ Soorp, Holy without formal canonization by the Church.

### **Who are the Saints?**

The saints are an integral part of the Tradition of the ancient Churches. "The doctrine of the Church comes alive in the lives of the true believers, the saints. Actually Saint Paul addresses in many of his letters from the Bible, his audience as ‘the saints’ who literally share the holiness of God. *'Be holy, for I your God am holy.'* (Leviticus 11:44; 1 Peter 1:16) The lives of the saints bear witness to the authenticity and truth of the Christian gospel, the sure gift of God's holiness to men." The Armenian word for witness is վկայ/ vugah

### **When a person is canonized, certain honors are conferred upon that individual:**

The name of the saint is listed among the other saints of the church and thus included in the liturgical calendar of the Church.

In public prayers and in the Divine Liturgy, the name of a new saint is *invoked or called to* խնդրել / Khuntrel which is *request* or աղաչել/ aghachel *call for*. Even Churches are dedicated to God in a saint's name and festive days are designated to celebrate his/her memory. Pictorial or iconographical representations are painted showing the image[s] and displayed in our churches as visible reminders of the good and holy ones we love. In addition, the relics of the saint is enclosed in precious or decorated vessels and are publicly honored.

### **Sainthood in the Armenian Church and how it is declared.**

There has been no set rite in the Armenian Church by which a person is declared to be a saint. The Armenian Church has not canonized any person for the past 500 years. The last holy person who was declared a saint was St. Gregory of Tatev (1346-1410), an eminent theologian, teacher and an abbot, under whose instruction and training great leaders flourished in the Armenian Church.

Most obviously the reason for such a long period was the conquest of Constantinople by the Ottomans in 1453 and later the Genocide of 1915.

It has taken 500 years for the Armenian Church to address sainthood. And, this year 2015 on the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, decisive action by the Bishop's Synod which includes the Catholicate of the Great House of Cilicia, the Patriarchates of Istanbul and Jerusalem and the bishops of all dioceses throughout the world under the authority of the Supreme Catholicos and Patriarch of the Armenian Church, His Holiness Karekin II, they have thus taken the necessary steps and actions to declare the fallen Martyrs as ‘those who have perished in 1915 as witness to their Christian Faith and identity have now arrived at the Throne of God our Father and are declared Saints who can pray for us as we have for 100 years prayed for them. *Yeghitzee ee Hishadag ee Soorp Badarakus* aghachemk...let them hereafter Be Remembered in the Holy Liturgy now and forever.

# **PALM SUNDAY – ACYOA DAY**

Today 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 WILL GO  
TOWARDS SUPPORTING THE**



The ACYOA General Assembly & Sports Weekend of 2015 will be hosted by your own ACYOA Seniors of St. John Armenian Church.  
Thank you for your support!

**MADE IN DETROIT, WE ARE THE LEGACY**

## **LOCK DOWN PROCEDURES ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH**

The final stage of the St. John's Armenian Church Emergency Plan is now complete. Stage 1 is the Fire Drill and Emergency Evacuation Plan. Stage 2 is the Tornado Drill and Emergency Evacuation Plan. Stage 3 is the Lockdown Emergency Plan. For the convenient use of our staff, these plans are easily accessible in the red bags located in various places around the church complex. Church staff has been trained to help guide parishioners in case of emergencies. Below is the plan for a lockdown emergency **warning** and a **lockdown with an intruder** to our complex. Please take the time to review this within your families. While we don't anticipate a problem like this, we must always be prepared when it comes to the safety of our community.

TWO TYPES OF LOCK DOWN: **LOCK DOWN** with **WARNING** = Threat outside the building.

**LOCK DOWN** with **INTRUDER** = Threat or intruder inside the building.

1. **LOCK DOWN WITH WARNING:** All outer doors to the building should be locked. No one may enter or leave the building without a Parish Council member guiding the person in or out of the building. Activities within the building continue as usual. Building remains locked down until an ALL CLEAR has been given by the Pastor, Building Administrator, or Parish Council Chairman.
2. **LOCK DOWN WITH INTRUDER: OPTIONS: EVACUATE - HIDE - FIGHT**

**EVACUATE:** **IF** near an exit door and **IF** possible, a decision can be made to run out of the building and get as far away as possible. If a decision is made to run, make sure hands are raised above your head with fingers spread to show police you are not armed or dangerous.

**HIDE:** When evacuation is not possible, everyone should get out of the hallways and into **rooms that can be locked** or are out of the intruder's view. **LOCK DOORS.**

**Call 911** – give as much information as you can. Close window blinds and turn off lights. If time allows, blockade the door with heavy furniture or chairs. Silence cell phones or anything else that may make noise. Hide in the farthest corner of the room, away from hall windows and the door.

Remain calm and quiet until **POLICE** have given an ALL CLEAR to leave the room. Follow all directions of the police.

**FIGHT:** As a **LAST RESORT**, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the intruder. Act as aggressively as possible. Throw items at the intruder, yell and commit to your actions (don't be tentative).

**2015 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

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

**TODAY PALM SUNDAY**

**Morning Service-8:45 am, Opening of the Doors-9:45 am**

**Church School Procession with Palms / Divine Liturgy-10:15 am**

**The children of the Church School will gather in the Main Lobby where Father Garabed, with deacons and choir, will celebrate the traditional Opening of the Doors. Upon conclusion, all will enter the church in procession. For those attending morning service, please leave the church after morning worship is completed and join the children in the lobby as we will all enter together after this special service.**

**TODAY—ACYOA DAY**

**Fellowship tea hosted by the ACYOA and Sports Weekend Committee**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31, VESPERS SERVICE**

**Remembering the Wise and Foolish Virgins - Vespers-7:30 pm**

**Refreshments will be served and hosted by the Church School in the  
Main Lobby after the service.**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2, GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY**

**Divine Liturgy commemorating the Last Supper -**

**Fr. Abraham Ohanesian, Celebrant—10:00 am**

**Washing of the Feet-7:30 pm**

**Betrayal and Passion of Our Lord - 8:30 pm**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3, GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY**

**Order of the Crucifixion of Christ-11:30 am**

**The Entombment of Our Lord Jesus Christ-7:30 pm**



**SATURDAY, APRIL 4 - GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY**

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

**Reading of Scriptures-4:00 pm; Divine Liturgy-5:00 pm**

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

**Adults - \$18.00 RSVP (Tables Only) - Alberta Godoshian - 248.476.4638.**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5 - EASTER SUNDAY**

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

**Morning Service-9:00 am; Divine Liturgy-9:45 am**

**The Blessing of the Four Corners of the Earth – *Antasdan* – will take place  
in the sanctuary immediately after the Divine Liturgy. Then all are  
invited to Easter Tea prepared by the Women's Guild.**

***No requiems will be offered on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.***

***Holy Week Private Confessions* – Though General Form of Confession is  
done each Sunday, if there are any parishioners seeking private confes-  
sion and counsel, please call the pastor. During the Holy Paschal season of  
Easter, there are no fasting days or Saint's Day Commemorations.**

**Home Blessings – It is the custom to have one's home blessed during the  
Eastertide (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 Der Hayr will  
visit.**

In many parishes of the Armenian Orthodox Church the blessing of field/ rogation, or “*Antasdan*”, is performed several times per year –in fact some 21 times throughout the year and especially on major Tabernacle Feasts called in Armenian *Daghavar Dohner*. The priest and deacons will process to the center aisle of the church, traveling around starting at the West and ending in the South orientation chanting while the priests blesses each direction of the world. And the faithful affirm this blessing by singing Amen. Alleluia, So be it. Praise the Lord.

This particular rite in our church, like any liturgical act, was originally intended to draw us into a dialogue with God and his creation.

Also *Antasdan* as it is celebrated in its liturgical “form” is a way of expressing the church [which is us] on our mission. Traditionally, the *antasdan* should take place in the “court” of the church, that is, the large area below the dome. This area is the nave, or as we say in Armenian, *nav or adyan*. This location is perceived as the world. Hence, in changing positions within the outer chancel, we are blessing one of the four sides of the world [the sacred space both inside and outside of the church]. The people position themselves under the dome.

God our Creator established and made the world and all that is in it. And we pray Psalm 24, “***The earth is the LORD'S, and all it contains, the world, and those who dwell in it.***”

### *Holy Week Flower and Candle Donors*

*We thank the following contributors for their generosity in donating the palms and flowers for Palm Sunday and Holy Week flowers and candles*

Kazar and Marina Terterian present the palms surrounding the sanctuary today.

Judge Lisa L. Asadoorian and Garo present a gift for Palm Sunday altar flowers.

Juliette Bruck, Bianca Karibian and Gabrielle Suarez present a gift for Palm Sunday altar flowers.

Mike and Linda Tiffany present a gift for Palm Sunday altar flowers.

In memory of Matushka Melanya Svirid, Esther Rupas, Shakey Godoshian, Harry Derderian and Albert Sarkisian, Stephen & Lisa Derderian present a gift for Palm Sunday altar flowers.

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, five Easter Paschal Candles are presented by Silva Sahakian, Susan Janigian & Sally Blegvad.

The gift of an Easter Paschal Candle is presented by Thomas, Nancy, Jonathon & Amanda Banks, and John, Janet, Ani & John Armen Shekerjian.

A gift toward an Easter Paschal Candle is presented by Helen Olson in memory of beloved husband Stanton Olson and beloved parents Khoren and Almas Gocharian.

Armen and Alice Safilian present a gift toward an Easter Paschal Candle in memory of Harry Gocharian.

A gift is presented for the Easter Season in memory of Harry Carman on his name day by Rosemary, Roxan, and Stephan Carman, and Steven, Lydia, Tamara, Kyle, Anjel and Bryce Doyon.

### *Holy Week Flower and Candle Donors Continued. . .*

The Easter lilies adorning the altar are donated by Jane Hovsepian in memory of her husband, Dr. Paul N. Hovsepian.

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.

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.

On Palm Sunday all Christians celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, the week before his death and Resurrection. For Armenian Orthodox Christian churches, Palm Sunday, often referred to as *Dzaghazart* or Flower Sunday and marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.

Flowers in addition to palms are blessed, children carry them in procession and take part in the service honoring Jesus as King of Glory. In Russia and even Armenia where palms do not grow, pussy willows which are the first visible growth of flowers are blessed as well.

Also, a custom of making crosses out of palm branches and pinning them to our clothing on Palm Sunday also is part of the Armenian Christian tradition.

As we greet the King of Glory Jesus our Savior we proclaim the words from the Book of Psalms saying...

*"Lift up your heads, your gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in."*

### **Women's Guild News**

Be ready for Easter! Pick up your favorite Armenian Baked Goods. The Women's Guild will be selling delicious baked goods for you and your family to enjoy. Stop by the Women's Guild table in the Cultural Hall after services today. We will have several items for sale: large and small cheoreg, cheese beoregs, tepsee beoregs, katah, nazoog, simit, boorma, and sou beoreg.

The Women's Guild will be hosting an Easter Tea, Sunday April 5, 2015. All are welcome. We will be serving cheoreg, cheese, pita bread, grapes, desserts and Easter eggs.

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

*The Women's Guild invites you to become a member.  
For information please call Terry Palaian, 313-929-0926*

## **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.*

Տաղէ 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 յաիսեան:*

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 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.