

Sunday Bulletin

Կիրակնօրեայ Լրագիր



***ENTER TO WORSHIP THE LORD
DEPART TO SERVE HIM***

DECEMBER 28, 2008

THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YEAR OF 1457

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – ՅԻՍՆԱԿԻ ՎԵՅԵՐՈՐԴ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ
FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN PROTODEACON & FIRST MARTYR
Ս. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՈՍ ՆԱԽԱՍԱՐԿԱԻՍԳ ԵՒ ԱՌԱՋԻՆ ՄԱՐՏԻՐՈՍ**

THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Matins - *Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն*.....9:00 am
Divine Liturgy - *Սուրբ Պատարագ*9:45 am
Church School - *Կիրակնօրեայ Դպրոց*.....10:15 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

Today – Isaiah 41:4-14, Hebrews 7:11-25, Luke 19:12-28
Next Week –

LECTOR: Dr. Neshan Ohanian

THE NICENE CREED WILL BE RECITED IN ARMENIAN

**OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday – Friday
(248) 569-3405**

After hours in an emergency, please contact:

Pastor's Cell: (248) 225-9888

Administrator's Cell: (248) 802-2861

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH
Father Garabed Archpriest Kochakian, Pastor

DAY BY DAY . . . AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 AT NOON

Bible Study Leader: Yeretgjin Roberta

Bring your Bible and a meal to share, we will provide the coffee.

Tracking Our "Treasures"

Sunday, December 21

Plate Donations

\$354.00

Candle Donations

\$116.00

AT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE

**NEW DVD: EVERYONE PRAYS AT HOLY ETCHMIADZIN -
\$20.00**

NEW CD: GOMIDAS SONGS

Nominated for Grammy Award

By Isabel Bayrakdarian - \$20.00

NEW: WHAT WILL YOU REMEMBER?

By Elise Papazian – Softcover - \$20.00

NEW: MY GRANDMOTHER: A MEMOIR BY FETHIYE

CETIN - HARDCOVER – \$20.00

500 PRESENTS FOR PENELOPE POTTS

A Christmas story for children by Lisa Yaldezian - \$20.00

“ARMENIAN MUSIC OF GRIKOR MIRZAIAN SUNI”

Featuring Deacon Rubik Mailian & Maro Partamian

Recorded live at The Armenian Congregational Church

DVD - \$30.00 CD - \$20.00

GADOO: THE CAT, AN ARMENIAN FOLK TALE

By Susan Kadian Gopigian - \$17.00

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 30 – SENIOR LUNCH – Noon

Thursday, January 1 – New Year’s Day - Complex Closed

Sunday, January 4 –Morning Service & Divine Liturgy

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

**We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing...
while others judge us by what we have already done.**

SPECIAL HYMNS FOR TODAY

Megheti (Melody) – Donemk

Tapor (Processional) – Parekhosootyamp

Jamamood (Intriot) - Miadzin Vorti

Jashou Sharagan (Mid-day Hymn) – Uztakavorn Parats

Jashou Alleluia – Too Harootsyal...

Der Voghormia (Lord Have Mercy) - Barteveian

THE KOMITAS CHOIR UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

Deacon Rubik Mailian, Director of Sacred Music

Margaret Lafian, Organist

USHERS: Berj Kurkechian, George Elian, Roger Gregory, Stephen Derderian, Richard Santourian, Artemis Gregory

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Christmas poinsettias adorning the altar today and for the remainder of the Christmas season were presented by Mrs. Susan Kapagian in loving memory of her brother, Al Kapak.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

Thank you to Mike & Dolly Matoian for donating the porcelain nativity set on display in the lobby for the Christmas season.

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD

We offer prayers for the servant of God

DR. ARMEN SHEKERJIAN

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Yeretgjin Patricia Dagley

Robert Ajemian

Harry Avagian

Valeriy Bagdasarian

Steven Bear (CA)

Harry Carman

Gregory Derderian

Edgar Hagopian

Judy Hovnan

Margaret Jamgochian

Marybeth Sutton

Lucy Torigian

Christine Danielian Vaughn

Winter Advisory

During the winter months when severe weather may impact our Sunday Liturgy, listen to Radio WWJ 950 AM for church closing information.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 19:12-28

He said therefore, "A nobleman went into a far country to receive kingly power and then return. Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten pounds, and said to them, Trade with these till I come/ But his citizens hated him and sent an embassy after him, saying, "We do not want this man to reign over us/ When he returned, having received the kingly power, he commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by trading. The first came before him, saying, "Lord, your pound has made ten pounds more.' And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.' And the second came, saying, Tord, your pound has made five pounds.' And he said to him, "And you are to be over five cities.' Then another came, saying, "Lord, here is your pound, which I kept laid away in a napkin; for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man; you take up what you did not lay down, and reap what you did not sow.' He said to him, "I will condemn you out of your own mouth, you wicked servant! You knew that I was a severe man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank, and at my coming I should have collected it with interest?' And he said to those who stood by, Take the pound from him, and give it to him who has the ten pounds.' (And they said to him, "Lord, he has ten pounds!)" "I tell you, that to everyone who has will more be given; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them before me.'" And when he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

ACYOA SENIORS FOOD DRIVE

Help the needy in our community during this holiday season by bringing to church any dry packaged or canned foods. Labeled containers for donated food will be at lobby entrances of church. Thanks for your help.

ARMENIAN HERITAGE & CULTURE LYCEUM BEGINS SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

There is still time to register students from 6-14 years old to participate in this wonderful program of language and enrichment in Armenian culture. Classes are from 10:30am-1:30pm and will continue through June 13, 2009. Contact Dn. Rubik Mailian if interested.

NEW SIGNS GUIDE WORSHIPPERS ON WHEN THEY MAY AND MAY NOT ENTER THE SANCTUARY DURING SUNDAY BADARAK

COMING EVENTS

Monday, January 5, 2009

Armenian Christmas Eve

Readings, 6:30 pm; Divine Liturgy, 7 pm

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Armenian Christmas Divine Liturgy, 10 am

Women's Guild Luncheon to follow with

**Film presentation "The Consecration of the
Cathedral of St. Vartan"**

Friday, January 9, 2009

Komitas Choir Piano Recital

(see inside back cover)

Saturday, January 10, 2009

Armenian Heritage & Culture Lyceum opens

All classes in session

Sunday, January 11, 2009

"Living the Divine Liturgy"

Christmas Morning Service, 9:00 am

Festive Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Water, 10 am

Armenian Christmas Family Luncheon

To make reservations, call 248.569.3405

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Monday, January 12, 2009

Town Hall Meeting, 7:30pm

SPECIAL MUSIC EVENT: Concert of Armenian Music of Grikor Mirzaian Suni - 7pm, Friday, January 2, 2009, Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave, Ann Arbor, presented by a chamber ensemble of musicians including Grikor Suni's great granddaughters violinists Sevan Suni, and Anoush Suni (who will also play oud), their mother pianist Armena Marderosian, tenor Rubik Mailian, and soprano Anahit Toumajan.

ABOUT OUR DIVINE LITURGY

The Holy Sacrifice – The Eucharist (continued)

After the Sanctus, the celebrant repeats our Lord's words, reminding us that our Lord commanded that we offer the liturgy... On the night before his death, Jesus joined his disciples in a final evening meal, during which he took plain bread and wine, blessed them and gave thanks; and giving them to his disciples to eat, he proclaimed them to be his own Body and Blood, a gesture of loving self-sacrifice and communion. He commanded that we should repeat this ritual in commemoration of him: "Do this in remembrance of me..." (1 Cor 11:24-25, Luke 22:19). The communion of Christ's Body and Blood is therefore the heart of our worship, and of our commemoration of Jesus Christ in the Divine Liturgy.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW ACYOA SENIORS EXECUTIVE BODY

On Saturday evening, December 20 the ACYOA Seniors held a progressive supper with over 25 members, many home from college for Christmas, renewing ties and friendships. Hosting mezza and dinner were the Dardarian and Karakashian families and everyone enjoyed hot fudge sundaes for dessert at the Church. A general body meeting was held which included board elections for 2009.

ACYOA SENIORS 2009 BOARD

Chairman	Karen Dardarian
Vice-Chairman	Taline Kalandjian
Treasurer	Kelly Callan
Secretary	Raffi El Chemmas
Advisor	Daniel Dardarian

St. John's New Website

We have launched a new and expanded website for our parish and the world! There are many new additions to keep you informed on what is going on in our community. Visit soon and submit your comments and suggestions to the webmaster.

Stjohndarmenianchurch.org

or

Stjohnsarmenianchurch.com



BASHDON HOKEHANKSDYAN - REQUIEM SERVICE FOR THOSE WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST We offer our prayers as the community of St. John's for the souls of the departed servants of Christ.

MYDA MARIETTA KALANDJIAN, 40th Day, Loving Mother, Daughter, Sister, Friend

Requested by Taline, Maral, Razmig and Tamar Kalandjian
Nennette Merametdjian
Sevahn Merian
Araz, Boris & Brandon Ryvkin
Krikor Merametdjian
Edward, Yvonne, Laura & Christopher Korkoian
David, Marianne, Danny & Karen Dardarian
Rafi & Seran Tcholakian & Family
Dickran, Anahit & Ani Toumajan
The Komitas Choir

BARTEV TOUMAJAN, 40th Day, Brother, Uncle

Requested by Dickran & Anahit Toumajan, Mihran & Talin, Armen, & Ani

DAVID DARAKJIAN, 40th Day

Requested by Michael & Jill Dolik

ROSINE MKSIAN-GULESSERIAN (Los Angeles), 40th Day, Aunt, Great-Aunt

TRVANDA KALAYDJIAN, 40th Year, Grandmother, Great- Grandmother

YEGHSABET SAGHERIAN, 27th Year, Mother, Grandmother

MIHRAN MKSIAN, 25th Year, Father, Grandfather

VARTIVAR SAGHERIAN, 23RD Year, Father, Grandfather

AZNIV MKSIAN, 21st Year, Mother Grandmother

Requested by Garo, Maida, Vartivar, Nareg & Laurie Sagherian

V. REV. FR. JOHN SVIRIDOV, Husband, Father, Grandfather

Requested by Matushka Melanya Sviridov
Dr. Edward, Anna & Subdeacon Aram Sarkisian
Sara & Morgan Bell

RICHARD VAHRATIAN, 13th Year, Husband, Father

Requested by Isabel Vahratian
Dr. Anjel Vahratian

Honoring our Deacons and Subdeacons

During the season of Western Christmas it is a unique time for the Armenian Church in our preparations for the Christmas liturgical celebration that will take place on January 5th and 6th. On the actual day of Western Christmas, the Armenian Church calendar remembers an important servant of the Church who is Saint Stephen (*Soorp Stepanos*).

Yes, on December 25th this saint is honored for his courage, witness, and service in the Lord to the followers of Christ, particularly for his unwavering and unrelenting faith at the risk of persecution and death. St. Stephen, along with six other 'men of good reputation and full of the Holy Spirit,' were chosen, ordained and commissioned by the twelve Apostles to serve the Christian community just beginning to grow. The other Deacons names were Philip, Pochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nikolas. You can read about St. Stephen in the Acts of the Apostles, chapters 6-8.

In the Armenian Church, remembering St. Stephen's witness to Christ until his last breath, we honor all Deacons who serve the community and Church in a number of ways: through their witness, wisdom, preaching, teaching, and for their care and preservation of the holy sanctuary in the love of Christ's Holy Church. Today we follow this tradition in the presence of our faithful and in the context of the *Soorb Badarak*. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy this morning we give thanks to God for the service and ministry of our Deacons.

Deacon Mihran, the sage of our Deacons and the most senior in age and wisdom, is always present to serve, honor, guide and teach for the future.

Deacon Onnig, for his never ending oversight of the sanctuary and dutiful and faithful participation at worship, is a keeper of the Armenian tradition of worship.

Deacon Shahin has shown us that age is no limit to learning the ways to service and placing his talents in the good keeping of the Lord's holy garments.

Deacon Rubik serves with his gifts of music and skill by lifting our hearts as he sings to and for the Lord and in training choristers, deacons and acolytes in the proper and melodious intonations that lift the worshippers' souls.

Deacon Steven, celebrating his name day today, has given guidance, sound instruction and fatherly oversight to the youth who have learned the faith by his diligent teaching, and honors the Lord in the Orthodox Faith by serving at worship with dignity.

Deacon Richard, as a servant of both Altar and community, witnesses his faith through his voice of wisdom and truth and skill of leadership both on the Diocesan level and within our own family.

Subdeacon Ghazaros, in his piety, wisdom, knowledge of the faith and skill in teaching and sharing the faith, serves as an example of humility in service.

Subdeacon Aram, whose flame of faith as a young adult moves him to service with dignity to honor Christ, serves as an example to other youth who hold this possibility and position before them.

Subdeacon David Aprahamian is our newest Subdeacon, and following the tradition of clergy in his family, has inherited the loving spirit of service and devotion to the Armenian Church.

Our students in the field:

Subdeacon Nicholas Mangigian, from a line of Deacons in this family – grandfather and father – continues the legacy of service to our Church. He also serves the Holy Altar at the St. Sahag Armenian Church of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Subdeacons Jeffrey Movsesian, Jordan Norsigian and Stepan Terjimanian are away at school and continue to keep alive the torch of faith by serving the Holy *Badarak* when they are at home during breaks.

We are grateful to God for these servants who are indeed men of 'good reputation' and full of the Holy Spirit's energy and wisdom.

WELCOME . . . We welcome our visitors who are attending the Divine Liturgy at St. John's parish, and we pray that your participation has been enriched through word and worship. We invite those visitors who are baptized and/or confirmed in the Armenian Church or are members of a church which is in communion with the Armenian Church to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are a member of the Armenian Church and a newcomer to our community and would like information about our Christian Education program or any of our parish auxiliary groups, please call our office and we will be happy to respond to your questions. The Lord Jesus Christ loves you and desires that you share His love with others, making this holy community your spiritual home.

MARRIAGES

Arrangements for weddings in our holy sanctuary are to be made at least eight months in advance. Marriage preparation and counseling are required before the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Marriages are NOT celebrated during the season of Great Lent according to Armenian Church Canon Law.

BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS

All Baptisms must be scheduled no less than two months in advance. At least one of the godparents must be a member of the Armenian Church, i.e. baptized in the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox faith. Baptisms are NOT celebrated during the season of Great Lent according to Armenian Church Canon Law.

CHURCH AND HOME...ONE IN SPIRIT

*If a people progresses, it takes its first step from the family home;
If illuminated, its light derives from the family lamp;
If united, its spirit and bond is the family;
If empowered, its strength and arm is the family;
If it prospers, its treasury and treasurer is the family;
If a people wants to inherit heaven after earth by
Keeping its religion, faith and church, then, yes,
The altar that maintains these holy
Traditions incorruptible and whole is the family.*

Khrimian Hayrig (1820-1907)

PIANO RECITAL

***ACYOA SENIORS FOOD DRIVE
FOR THE NEEDY***

From December 14 to January 11 please bring to church any dry or canned foods. There will be labeled containers at the lobby entrance of the church. Please help the less fortunate during this holiday season.

**NEW SIGNS TO GUIDE OUR WORSHIPPERS
AT FRONT ENTRY AND LOBBY ENTRANCE**
In an effort to help the faithful better understand why there are times during the Holy Badarak the entrance to the sanctuary is suspended, new signs will be posted by the ushers to clearly describe why the faithful should wait courteously until it is time to enter.

***ARMENIAN HERITAGE & CULTURE LYCEUM
TO BEGIN CLASSES SATURDAY, JANUARY 10***

There is still time to register students for this wonderful language and enrichment program in Armenian culture being held on our campus on alternate Saturdays, from 10:00 am – 1:30 pm. Students must be at least 6 years of age and no older than 14 years. The curriculum includes Armenian language and history, Armenian music and art, Armenian cooking, and Armenian dance. Classes will continue through June 13, 2009. For more information, please contact Deacon Rubik at 248.569.3405 or via email at rubik@sjachurch.org.

*Give the gift of heritage to a child...
they will remember it for a lifetime!*