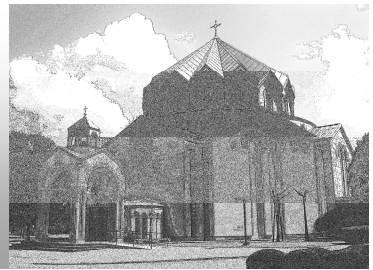


St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit

22001 Northwestern Highway • Southfield, MI 48075

248.569.3405 (phone) • 248.569.0716 (fax)

stjohnsarmenianchurch.org



The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian – *Pastor*

The Reverend Father Diran Papazian – *Pastor Emeritus*

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

Ms. Margaret Lafian - *Organist*

Sunday Bulletin ~ Կիրակնօրեայ Լրագիր

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

December 6, 2009 ~ The Armenian Year of 1458

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Յիսնակի Երրորդ Կիրակի

BAREGENDAN OF THE FAST OF ST. JAMES

ԲԱՐԵԿԵՆԴԱՆ Ա. ՅԱԿՈԲԻ ՊԱՀԲԻՆ

THE LORD'S DAY ~ SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Morning Service - 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 37:14-38, 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12, Luke 14:12-24

Next Week— Isaiah 38:1-8, Hebrews 1:1-14, Luke 17:1-10

Lector: Norman Ankers

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. Please sign the Guest Book at either of the entrances to the Sanctuary.

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.

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.'"

ALTAR FLOWERS

The floral arrangements adorning the altar today were presented in memory of Chester Ankers on the 7th anniversary of his passing, by Mrs. Charlotte Ankers and Janet and Norman Ankers.

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD

We offer prayers for the servants of God

ANGELA ANDONIAN

KASPER TOKATLIAN

who entered their eternal rest this past week. May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon their souls.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Azat Arslanian	Minas Arslanian	Mary Besh
Sylvia Artinian Bjornstad	Paul Derderian	Lucy Fundukian
Edgar Hagopian	Queenie Hazergian	William Pugh
Liz Roberts	Helen Z. Sahakian	Gloria Vartanian

Mrs. Ramela Carman requests prayers for good health for all who are ill.

BAREGENDAN OF THE FAST OF ST. JAMES OF NISIBUS
ՅՕՐՔ ԿԱԳՔ ՄՅՔՆԱ ԿԱՐԱԲԵԸ

In addition to the *Baregendan* {Good Living} Sunday that ushers in the Great Lenten period in the Armenian Church, there are other *Baregendan* Sunday observances for special feasts and saints days. This Sunday is the *Baregendan* for the feast of St. James of Nisibus which will be observed next Saturday, December 12 according to our church's calendar. Saint James [309-338 AD] was one of the great teachers and leaders in the early church. He is revered in all Orthodox and Catholic Churches, but most importantly in the Armenian and Syrian churches as he was a teacher to the famous St. Ephraim the Syrian. He took part in the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea when the Creed of the Church was written in 325 AD. Consecrated a Bishop in 320 he became Patriarch in Nisibis. To prepare for this feast, the fast begins on Monday, December 7. Foods derived from living creatures are not to be eaten until Saturday, December 12.

TODAY . . . PANCAKE BREAKFAST
ՅՔՈՆՏՕՐԵԸ ԲՅ ԴԵ ՆԵՎ ՄԵՆՆԻ ՅՔՍԵԿԵԸ
ԱԼԼ ԱՐԵ ԻՆՎԻԸ
ՖՐԵ ՎԻԼ ՕՔՐԻՆԳՅ ՎԻԼ ԲԵ ԱԿՔԵՓԸ

TRACKING OUR TREASURES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Plate Donations of the Day	\$234.00
Candle Donations of the Day	\$141.00

DAY BY DAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

Bible Study Leader: Yeretzgin Roberta

A SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION
AT ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

Sponsored by the Knights and Daughters of Vartan
December 31, 2009—8:00 pm to 1:00 am
at St. John's Grand Ballroom

Proceeds of this event will be distributed equally among
the four metro Detroit Armenian Churches.

See flyer in lobby for details & reservation information.

REQUIEM PRAYERS

Hokehankisd / requiem prayers will be offered on
December 13 and 27 January 10 and 24 February 14 and 28

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. 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 minimum donation of \$50.00, check payable to:

*St. John Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075,
no later than Monday, December 11, 2009.*

*If you wish to charge your gift, please phone the Church Office.
Thank you for your generosity.*

-Detach here-

Attention: Parish Secretary
Enclosed is my gift for: (please circle your choice)

Social Concern Fund

General Expense Fund

Please include the name(s) in the 2009 Parish Christmas Card as written below.

Donation enclosed: \$ _____

If you would like a confirmation that we received your gift, please provide us with an email address or daytime phone number. _____

*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.*

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

St. John's Women's Guild would like to start a **Moms and Tots Club** for children ages 1-5 and their moms to get together to socialize on weekdays in the nursery at St. Johns. Membership in Women's Guild is not required. Please help us get this organized by completing a short survey available in the nursery each Sunday. You may leave your response with our nursery leader, Tricia Magee.

WOMEN'S GUILD TO PUBLISH ARMENIAN COOKBOOK

The Women's Guild asks parishioners to please send their favorite recipes—ESPECIALLY ARMENIAN RECIPES—with exact measurements and step-by-step directions (including special hints) to: Pam Dayinian, 31070 River's Edge Ct., Beverly Hills, MI 48025 or email them to: wgmail@sjachurch.org . Please include name and phone number on each recipe.

THE COOKBOOK COMMITTEE NEEDS COMPUTER LITERATE PEOPLE TO WORK WITH THE COMMITTEE TYPING RECIPES ONTO AN ON-LINE WEBSITE. CONTACT PAM DAYINIAN ASAP AT 248.703.5253.

*The Women's Guild invites you to become a member.
For more information, please call Linda Assarian @
248.332.0816.*

On December 8, the following officers will be installed as the Women's Guild Executive Board for 2010:

Carol Aprahamian, Assistant Treasurer
Pam Dayinian, Advisor
Jackie ElChemmas, Treasurer
Kim Kalajian, Recording Secretary
Diane Khachaturian, Vice Chairman
Kathy Mekjian, Corresponding Secretary
Marilyn Sarkesian, Advisor-Programs
Linda Tiffany, Chairman
Cathy Zwinck, Advisor-Newsletter
Joyce Slowik, Alternate

ASK THE PASTOR...

WHY DO WE KISS THE CROSS AND THE GOSPEL?

During certain parts of the Divine Liturgy and other services, Armenian Christians, as a sign of veneration, kiss the Cross (the priest's bejeweled hand-cross or, on the Feast of the Holy Cross, a larger cross decorated with flowers and basil) and the liturgical book of the Gospels. To kiss these sacred objects is a way of expressing our faith in what they stand for. The Cross is the symbol of God's sacrificial love for us, and the Gospels book contains the Word of God, the highest authority for our lives. When you kiss the Cross you are professing its saving power over your life and showing your love for God. It is like a prayer in which you say, "Jesus, I need the protection and the life that flows from your crucifixion and resurrection. Help me to know you and to love you more deeply." When you kiss the Gospel, you are saying, "Christ, you are the meaning of my life. Help me to trust you through your Word."

Note: When you kiss the Cross, the Gospel or any other sacred object, you must cross yourself.

**THE STUDENTS AND STAFF OF OUR CHURCH SCHOOL
INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM AS THEY PRESENT
A CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IN THE SANCTUARY**

DATE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009

TIME: IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

Now that we are in the season of Advent, here is a bit of Christmas trivia...

- The Puritans in America tried to make Thanksgiving the most important annual festival instead of Christmas.

CHURCH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO ASSIST IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR CHRISTMAS

The Oakland County Habitat for Humanity and St. John's Church School will partner to reach out to families with needs.

The Middle School students will be purchasing age-specific books and pajamas for children as part of this appeal. They are asking for help from our parishioners in the form of monetary donations by **December 1** to help them reach their goal. If you wish to help, please contact Roseann Attar, 248.980.3221, or vart@comcast.net

AT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE TWO COOKBOOKS BY BARBARA GHAZARIAN

Simply Quince—All you ever wanted to know about that lovely fall fruit + old and new recipes—Softcover—\$20.00

Simply Armenian: Naturally Healthy Ethnic Cooking Made Easy—\$18.00

The Holy Bible—Armenian Church Edition— Hardcover \$15.00
Silver Crosses from Jerusalem

Books and CDs make great Christmas gifts!

COMING IN 2010 . . . MONTHLY “KEF KLUB”

Come one, come all for dinner, fellowship & fun activities!!!

At St. John's Recreation Center beginning January 15, 2010

Watch your mail for further details. Anyone interested in sponsorship or volunteering for this exciting new initiative, please contact Diane Ekizian at 248.851.4069 or Marianne Dardarian at 248.661.0617.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 8—Senior Lunch-Noon

Sunday, December 13—Fourth Sunday of Advent

Morning Payers—9:00 am

Divine Liturgy—9:45 am

Concert of Armenian songs by a group of young singers from St. Gregory of Narek Church, Cleveland, Ohio in the Sanctuary following the Divine Liturgy

ARMENIAN PROVERB OF THE WEEK

Prayer is the balsam that heals the wounds of the soul.

Աղօթքը հոգւոյն վերքերը բուժող բալասանն է:
Aghotkuh hokvooyñ verkeruh poozhogh palasann eh.

ON LEAVING THE SANCTUARY AFTER BADARAK

Q. What do I say when approaching the Holy Gospel at the end of the Divine Liturgy?

You say:

Heeshestzeh Der zamenaym Badarakus koh.

Յիշեցէ՛ Տէր վամենայն 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 gadarsestseh.

Տացէ՛ քեզ Սէր ըստ սրտի քում եւ վամենայն խորհուրդս քո ի բարիս նա կատարեցէ՛:

May the Lord grant you according to your own heart, and fulfill all your counsel. (Psalm 20:4)

Q. What do I say when I take Mahs?

The GIVER says:

Mahs yev pazheen yegheetsee kez ee Soorp Badarakes.

Մաս եւ բաժին եղիցի 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:

God is my portion 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 haydootyoonun Kreesdosee

THE PSALM OF DISMISSAL - PSALM 34

Orhnetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenyn 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.

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

After hours in an emergency, please contact:

Pastor's Cell: 248.225.9888

Parish Council Chairman's Home: 734.998.1183

Administrator's Cell: 248.802.2861