

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 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*



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.

FEBRUARY 22, 2015

SUNDAY OF THE EXPLUSION

CELEBRANT: REV. FR. GARABED KOCHAKIAN

THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Morning Service / Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն	8:45 am
Sunrise Service / Առեւազալի Ժամերգութիւն	9:30 am
Divine Liturgy / Մ.Պատարագ	10:30 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

ISAIAH 33:2-22, ROMANS 12:1-13:10, MATTHEW 5:17-48

LECTOR: ANNE MARIE AMERIGUIAN

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 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: MATTHEW 5:17-48

“Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

“You have heard that it was said to the men of old, ‘You shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that every one who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother shall be liable to the council, and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be liable to hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Make friends quickly with your accuser, while you are going with him to court, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison; truly, I say to you, you will never get out till you have paid the last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that every one who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that every one who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

“Again you have heard that it was said to the men of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you, Do not resist one who is evil. But if any one strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also; and if any one would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well; and if any one forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to him who begs from you, and do not refuse him who would borrow from you.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOSPITALIZED

Stan Armit

Rose Boudakian

Pam Dayinian

George Douroujalian

Cheryl Giesa

Frank Houhanisin

Walter Negosian

Aida Petrosyan

Richard Santourian

Mary Sarafian

Anita Tootikian

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2015, 9:00 am—3:30 pm

20TH ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT SEMINAR

**“VICTORS FOR CHRIST: Who is a Saint?” Guest Speaker: Dr. Roberta Ervine
TO REGISTER, CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE BY MARCH 12TH.**

***St. John Armenian Church School
Robert Ajemian Scholarship***

With pleasure, we remind our Church School families that the fourth annual Robert Ajemian Scholarship is being offered for the 2014-2015 academic year to college bound students who successfully complete and graduate from St. John Armenian Church School. Applications are available on the Church and School websites as well as in the Church School Office. The deadline for submitting applications to the Church School Office is February 28, 2015.

Should you need more information, please contact the School Principal,
Mrs. Alberta Godoshian, at 248 – 476 – 4638.

GIFT TO THE CHURCH

In memory of sister, Shakey Godoshian, Paul Godoshian presents a gift to the church.

VISIT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE

NEW: When I Was Baptized—Children’s Board Book—\$12.00

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

SPECIAL: 2-CD SET BY ROGER KRIKORIAN.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, NOON-2:00 PM

DAY BY DAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY IN THE NURSERY ROOM

BRING YOUR BIBLE AND YOUR LUNCH. ALL ARE WELCOME.

DID YOU KNOW?

All Crosses used in our Church for worship have been blessed and anointed at five points; the center and the four arms

The most common architectural layout of Armenian Churches is the 'cruciform' [cross-shaped]

Armenian crosses generally do not display the crucified body of our Lord Jesus on it, except during the Great Lenten season the focus is on His suffering

The Crosses on our holy altars and displayed throughout the church on walls, and vestments are without the body of Christ; giving the message that HE IS RISEN from the dead.

The appearance of vines as decorative motifs on the Armenian Cross symbolize the life generated from the Cross as we say 'life giving'/*gensaper(in Armenian)*

Babies are given an Armenian Cross by their Godparents at the time of their Baptism

At weddings, the Bride and Groom wear Crowns adorned with a Cross and jewels.

We tell the world who we are when we make the sign of the Cross on our bodies when the priest blesses us



BASHDON HOKEHANKUSDYAN
REQUIEM PRAYERS FOR THE SOULS WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST
While we are mourning the loss of our loved ones, we also rejoice as they meet the Lord
behind the veil in the Heavenly Jerusalem.

**IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 21 COPTIC ORTHODOX MEN WHO WERE MARTYRED FOR
THEIR CHRISTIAN FAITH BY BARBARIAN INFIDELS IN LYBIA ON FEBRUARY 13, 2015**

VICTIMS OF THE SUMGAIT-BAKU POGROMS OF 1988-1991

Requested by Pastor & Parish of St. John Armenian Church

SHAKEY GODOSHIAN, 40th Day, Sister, Friend

Requested by Paul Godoshian & Family

Alberta & Masis Godoshian

Kathy & Mark Haase

Christine & Matthew Sarafian

Komitas Choir

KRIKOR MERAMETDJIAN, 34th Year,

Requested by Merametdjian Family

BOTTLES AND CANS NEEDED

Nicole Sarkisian, an 11th grader in St. John's Church School, will participate in a Mission Trip to Armenia this summer to work in Armenian orphanages helping with education, nutrition and clothing programs of the Paros Foundation*. Between now and April, Nicole will be collecting empty pop cans and bottles to raise funds to donate to the Paros Foundation in conjunction with the service portion of her trip. Please drop off your empty cans or bottles in the container labeled "Nicole's Mission Trip" at the Museum entry from the parking lot. Thank you. However, if you wish to make a monetary donation to the Paros Foundation, you may give your check to Nicole directly.

TODAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2015—27TH REMEMBRANCE OF THE BAKU-SUMGAIT POGROMS OF 1988-1991

Revealing the Truth Behind the Baku- By Inna Mirzoyan

“The existing Armenian state was created on Azerbaijani lands.” That outlandish statement wasn’t made 100, 50, 20 or even 10 years ago but just this past summer as I was only a few weeks into my internship with the Armenian National Committee of America in Washington, DC. The man responsible for such an account of history is the autocratic leader of Azerbaijan, President Ilham Aliyev—a pernicious and prolific purveyor of anti-Armenian aggression, whose words and actions serve to undermine the fragile peace in the Caucasus.

And as we commemorate the anniversary of the tragic events that unfolded in Baku 25 years ago, we find that comments like President Aliyev’s are nothing new.

For seven decades, the people of Nagorn-Karabakh were subjected to a gradual and insidious form of economic and political oppression, designed to depopulate the historically Armenian lands of its indigenous people. For Armenians living in Azerbaijan’s capital, Baku, and larger cities like Sumgait, anti-Armenian hatred took a violent turn beginning in 1988 when Artsakh’s peaceful calls for self-determination were met with Azerbaijani aggression and war that eventually forced 300,000 Armenians to leave everything- friends, family, careers- in search of a safe haven.

It’s an all too familiar scenario – given the Armenian experience of Genocide from 1915-1923, civil wars and repression at various times in the Middle East which forced Armenian community migration and the Syrian-Armenian refugee crisis that is unfolding in front of our eyes today — but not one that is well known or often discussed.

The early attacks in Baku, Sumgait, Kirovabad, Maragha happened during Soviet times, when news of the aggression was suppressed or delayed for months at a time. A result of the Baku pogroms, credible sources report that hundreds of Armenians were killed while “Soviet authorities, who blocked journalists from the area, estimated that over 30 were killed and 200 injured.” Thomas De Waal, author of Black Garden, summarized these events as “acts of horrific savagery.”

My parents saw the tragic events unfold first hand. I sat down with them recently to understand just what happened.

Garry and Larysa Mirzoyan were born and raised in Baku, Azerbaijan. My grandparents also grew up in Baku and enjoyed their Soviet lives. Education was free and available to everyone if they worked hard and produced good scores. My parents were both highly educated lawyers. They met in college and married in the late 1980s. I asked my parents if they noticed any unfair treatment or discrimination because of their Armenian nationality while they were in the university. While my mother said she did not have any negative experiences, my father noted that he had an Azerbaijani professor who made it difficult for him to strive to the best of his capabilities. He explained that this professor told him, “You Armenians are too proud” and she made it clear that she did not like Armenians. After hearing this, I wondered if my father ended up getting a good grade. His response was that, “It was an okay grade. If it was another professor, I believe it would have been a better grade.” This all got worse in 1988.

METRO DETROIT EVENTS FOR THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE CENTENNIAL

www.armeniangenocidecentennialmi.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 7:30 PM, ISABEL BAYRAKDARIAN IN CONCERT, FORD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, DEARBORN (Tickets available at \$50, \$35, \$25 through Leslie Balian 248-303-4690). This concert will be an all-Armenian program in honor of the martyrs. Participating will be Serouj Kradjian, pianist, and Henrik Karapetyan, violinist with string quartet.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 10:30 AM –WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY, LECTURE BY KHATCHIG MOURADIAN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY. MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY NUNE MILIKIAN, SIBERIAN-BORN ARMENIAN VIOLINIST, jointly sponsored by Armenian Genocide Centennial Committee & Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at WSU

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM—HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER, FARMINGTON HILLS, LECTURE BY TANER AKCAN, KALOOSDIAN/MUGAR PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AT CLARK UNIVERSITY. TOPIC: “THE STATE OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE STUDIES: PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES”

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM WORKSHOP: “TEACHING ABOUT GENOCIDE: APPROACHES AND CHALLENGES” ORGANIZED BY MELANIE TANIELIAN, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-ANN ARBOR

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 7:00 PM – HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER, FARMINGTON HILLS – LECTURE BY KHATCHIG MOURADIAN (ON ARMENIAN GENOCIDE) AND A SECOND SPEAKER ON THE HOLOCAUST (TO BE ANNOUNCED) CO-SPONSORED BY UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN, WSU, HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 7:00 PM—ECUMENICAL SERVICE ST. MARY’S ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX BASILICA, 18100 MERRIMAN RD, LIVONIA. CLERGY FROM VARIOUS FAITHS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO TAKE PART. CHOIRS FROM ARMENIAN CHURCHES WILL SING. PRINCIPAL HOMILIST, ABP. ALLEN VIGNERON, ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT. SPONSORED BY 4 ARMENIAN CHURCHES OF DETROIT

FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 19—ST. JOHN’S KOMITAS CHOIR WILL SPONSOR A CONCERT TO CELEBRATE ARMENIAN CULTURE BY THE ARMENIAN COMMUNITY CHORALE AT THE MAX FISHER ORCHESTRA HALL, DETROIT.

NATIONAL COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE CENTENNIAL

info@armeniangenocidecentennial.org

www.armeniangenocidecentennial.org

On May 7, 8 and 9, 2015, thousands will gather in Washington, D.C. to commemorate the centennial of the Armenian Genocide. While remembering those who were lost, we will also give thanks for the creation of a new Armenia and for thriving Armenian communities around the world. Please refer to the announcement in the main lobby for details.

THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL, MAY 7, 7:00 PM

His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, and His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, will lead Armenian clergy and representatives of other faiths in an ecumenical service. Present will be Armenia's President Serge Sargsyan and other dignitaries.

THE MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE, MAY 8, 8:00 PM

The acclaimed Hover Chamber Choir of Armenia and other renowned musicians will present "A Journey Through 100 Years of Armenian Music." The program will include a range of music from the classic melodies of Komitas Vartabed to contemporary pieces composed for this centennial.

NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, MAY 9, 10:00 AM

His Holiness Karekin II and His Holiness Aram I will lead a unified celebration of the Armenian Divine Liturgy. The liturgy will be sung by a united choir from Armenian churches around the country. The 3,000-seat basilica is on the campus of Catholic University.

THE MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL, MAY 9 AT 6:00 PM

A reception and banquet offer "A Time to Give Thanks." The keynote speaker will be Dr. Vartan Gregorian, President of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Mark Giragos will host the evening of musical performances and awards.

EXHIBITIONS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, MAY 7-9

Innovative workshops, films, and exhibits will be mounted in public spaces in the nation's capital and around the Marriott Marquis. Activities will be provided for children, with entertainment and childcare available during the banquet.

**TO OBTAIN THE NCAGC SPECIAL ROOM RATE OF \$159 PER NIGHT, BOOK
THROUGH THIS LINK: resweb.passkey.com/go/441f5d02**

ARMENIAN PROGRAMMING ON DETROIT PUBLIC TELEVISION

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 8:00 PM—Armenian Culture Night on Detroit Public Television will show the film “THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE”

9:30 PM—WORLD PREMIERE OF 1-HOUR DOCUMENTARY “GUARDIANS OF MUSIC: A HISTORY OF ARMENIAN MUSIC IN DETROIT” PRODUCED BY ARA TOPOUZIAN

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, (TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED) - “VOICES FROM THE LAKE: THE SECRET GENOCIDE”
by J. Michael Hagopian

WHOSE FAULT IS IT ANYWAY?



SUNDAY THEMES

TODAY —The Expulsion: Fallout and Recovery; making chaos work for the good.

Isaiah 33:2-16, Romans 12: 1-21, St. Matthew 5:21-26

MARCH 1—The Prodigal Son: Sin, Forgiveness and Love - connecting the dots.

Making mistakes and correcting them.

Isaiah 55: 1-13, II Corinthians 6: 1-18, Luke 16: 1-9

MARCH 8—The Steward: A time to commit and care.

Isaiah 57: 14-21, Ephesians 4: 25-32, St. Luke 18: 1-18

MARCH 15—The Judge: Persistence and reward.

Isaiah 65:17-25, Ephesians 4: 4-9, St. Luke 18 1-18

MARCH 22—Advent: God makes great things happen to help us come home to Him.

Isaiah 66: 15-17. Colossians 3: 12-17, St. Matthew 23: 34-39

MARCH 29—Palm Sunday: Homecoming from earth to heaven.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GREAT LENTEN FAST

The Great Lenten fast is to prepare us for the great celebration of Easter Sunday commemorating Our Lord's Resurrection. During this season called *Medz Bahk*, we give ourselves to physical and spiritual growth to better understand why we fast and what we should do to improve the quality of our lives. This is experienced by our custom to fast from certain foods, the ordinary daily routines and pleasures in life, and to increase our spiritual life of prayer, good works and charity. Our fasting is for...

- Experiencing hunger to remind us it is Christ God who truly satisfies us
- Experiencing emptiness to remember the Lord who fully fills us in soul and body
- Experiencing deprivations to remember Our Creator who provides for all our needs
- Experiencing self-sacrifice to remember that Jesus sacrificed Himself on the Cross for us
- To think more about what is true and less about the pleasures...to remember what true treasures in life are when we gain a fuller life Christ
- Fasting and abstaining are ways of seeing people and our possession in a different way, especially the values of friendship and being blessed to have what we have, which we sometimes take for granted. In keeping the Great Fast for 40 days we may be able to see the fruits of our sacrifice and truly experience our becoming a renewed person with a Christ-like and heavenly attitude, and a new behavioral outlook on life through what we say, our charity, our discipleship, and our stewardship.

* * *

ACYOA LENTEN FISH DINNERS EVERY WEDNESDAY DURING GREAT LENT

5:30-6:30

Adults, \$10.00 - Children, \$5.00

FEBRUARY 25, MARCH 4,

MARCH 11, MARCH 18,

MARCH 25 - \$20.00 (Fish & Lobster)

***PLEASE PHONE THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR DINNER RESERVATIONS
248-569-3405***

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
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
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.