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.

July 12, 2015

The Armenian Church Year 1464

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (Vartavar)

Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

THE LORD'S DAY - SUMMER SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Morning Service / Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն...9:15 am

Divine Liturgy / U. Numupuq10:15 am

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

Wisdom 7:25 8:4 Zechariah 14:16 21 I John 1:1-7 Matthew 16:13 - 17:13

LECTOR: DOLLY MATOIAN

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.

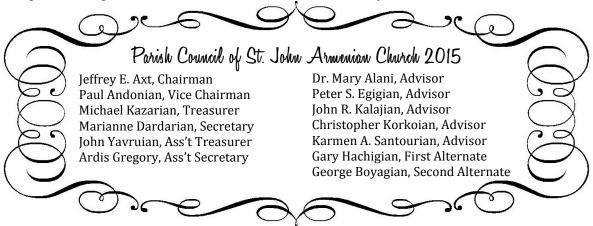
Baptism Parents may prepare for the baptism of their child before he or she is born. For more information, phone the Church Secretary.

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 *office@sjachurch.org* no later than 5:00 pm Wednesday preceding the Sunday. requested. Request forms are available in the Church Lobby.



Today's Gospel

Matthew 16:13 - 17:13

Now when Iesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets," He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay every man for what he has done. Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead." And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" He replied, "Elijah does come, and he is to restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not know him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.



Summer Hours of Worship

Morning Prayer — 9:15 am Divine Liturgy — 10:15 am



Cave the Date

Saturday, July 18th, 5 pm — 10pm Armenia Fest — Royal Oak Farmer's Market



Parish Secretary Position

We are seeking to fill the Church Secretary position with a talented individual. Qualified candidates will possess strong secretarial, general office, communication and desktop publishing skills. The position requires fluency in Armenian as well as English. Fluency in Russian is a plus. Submit resumes and inquiries to: https://example.com/hr/9/siachurch.org



Bible Study—Wednesday, July 22, 2015 12:00—2:00 pm

For more information, call Yeretzgin Roberta at 248.538.9993

Gift to the Church

On occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary today, July 12th, Dr. Edward and Anna Sarkisian present a gift to the church.



NEW: Genocide T-Shirts with "Forget-Me-Not" emblem and map on back—\$20.00 Armenian Alphabet Wooden Puzzle—\$35.00 The best selection of Armenian books and CDs plus many gift items: jewelry, Armenian crosses, key chains, cookbooks and many "Made in Armenia" products. Operation Nemesis by Eric Bogosian — \$28.00 HC Great Fire, One American's Mission to Rescue Victims of the 20th Century's First Genocide—\$28.00 HC

New Items From Armenia Variety of "FORGET-ME-NOT" pins, charms, stickers and silver jewelry.



On Monday, July 13, we will begin accepting gently used, clean items for the Festival weekend. Donate household items, small electronics, children's toys, games, puzzles, accessories, belts, purses, scarves, jewelry, books, CDs, DVDs, artwork, collectibles, picture frames, dishes, glassware, vases, etc.

NO CLOTHING OR SHOES.

Please drop off your donations at the Maintenance Office. Make sure they are properly wrapped, *especially fragile items*. Receipts available in the Church Office.

Motica

We kindly request that all parishioners please park their vehicles only in the designated marked spots in our parking lot. The Southfield Police Department does monitor the Church complex for parking violations and will ticket any vehicle illegally parked along the curb, in front of fire hydrants, or in spots marked "no parking". Please help us keep the parking lot accessible for ambulances and fire trucks in case of an emergency at our Church. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ is one of the five Tabernacle Feasts, *Daghavarner*, of the Armenian Church. This event in Christian history occurred on a high mountain where Jesus had gone to pray with three of his disciples — Peter, James, and John. As he was praying, suddenly, as the Gospel of St. Matthew describes [17:1-8], his appearance changed. His clothing turned pure, illuminating white, and in a cloud that surrounded him there appeared two figures from the Old Testament — Moses and Elijah. Through this revelation to the three chose men our Lord took with him, God the Father revealed in His Son, who Jesus Christ really was. He was God in the flesh who had come to earth to fulfill all that was written in the law of God given to Moses and proclaimed to believers by Elijah the great Prophet.

Also, the feast is known as *Vartavar*, which was a pagan feast to the goddess of love and beauty named Asdghig. It was replaced by the Transfiguration by command of St. Gregory the Illuminator when Armenia became a Christian nation. This was done to discourage people from continuing to keep this pagan belief. *Vartavar*, this old pre-Christian feast, was celebrated by decorating the statue of the goddess Asdghig with roses and flowers. The flowers at one point were set on fire thus giving the name Vart (Rose) a *var* (from the Armenian word *varel* that means to burn). At the same time the practice of sprinkling each other with water took place. This symbolized two important water related events, The Great Flood and Baptism. Water washes and gives new life as it did when the Great Flood occurred and when we became children of God through Baptism. During the Sunday worship, Rose scented water is sprinkled upon the faithful to renew our faith and commitment to Christ through our own Baptism.

There are two theological terms for the word Transfiguration in Armenian: *Baidzaragerbootiun* (meaning 'appearing brightly') and *Aylagerbootiun* (meaning 'assuming another form'). Both mean to be changed in appearance, to be exalted, and to show God's radiant glory. This event on Mount Tabor also has a meaning for each of us as well. It reveals to us God's Divine Power alive in Christ God, and how that power can be alive in our own lives. His power is with us, in us, and can help us. Also as The Transfiguration changed Jesus' appearance showing through Him the presence of God the Father and that He is the image of the Invisible God, we too have the image of God in us. And it can be particularly seen when we live the life we have been called to through Baptism, when the Holy Spirit changed us from a child of world to a Child of our Heavenly Father.

To verify this all, as Jesus' appearance in front of the holy disciples was changed, they heard God the Father speak from the cloud of light that Jesus was standing in. They heard the following: "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

We become transfigured, transformed, made bright and show God's Glory when we listen to Jesus and what He tells us to do.

Guest Archbishop to Visit St. John's in August

His Eminence Archbishop Avak Asadourian, Primate of the Armenian Church in Iraq, will journey from Baghdad to the United States in the month of August. Srpazan Hayr will celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Sunday August 9, 2015 here at St. John's. Following the Badarak, His Eminence will be honored at a special reception and tea in the Cultural Hall. He will also present a short program on the status of the Armenian Christian community, in Baghdad, Mosul, Tacit and other cities where there are faithful brothers and sisters who have been suffering the problems of persecution by ISIS, and in the crossfire of the Shiites and Sunni Muslims. The community has suffered much loss over these past few years particularly and Srpazan will give an assessment of the present and future of the Armenian Christians in Iraq. Please place this important date on your calendars and plan to attend.

Հրոր Արբեպիսկոպոս Այսելութիւն

Աւագ Արբեպիսկոպոս Ասատուրեանը Առաջնորդ Հայոց Թեմի, Իրաքի Հայ Եկեղեցւոյ պիտի այցելե Միացեալ Նահանգներու Օգոստոսի ամսուա։ Սրբազան Հայրը պիտի գտնուի մեձագոյն Տիդրոյթի եւ Սուրբ Պատարագը պիտի մատուցանե Կիրակի 9 -ին Օգոստոս 2015 թ.: Ս. Պատարագի մատուցման անմիջապես յետոյ՝ հատուկ եւ փառաւոր ընդունելոըթիւն մը տեղի պիտի ունենայ ի պատիւ Սրբազան Հօր, մեր մշակութային սրահին մեջը. : Ան նաեւ՝ կարճ զեկոյց մը պիտի ներկայեացնե մեր բարեպաշտ ժողովուրդի համար, կարգավիճակի հայոց քրիստոնեայ հաւատացեալ համայնքի Իրաքին մեջը, եւ իրենց վատ եւ ցաւալի կացութեան պարագային միջարավելգի պատերազմի պաճարաւ նաեւ հաայմքին անթիւու կորուտները վերջին մի քանի տարիններ ընթացքում։ Սիրով կը հրաւիրենքմեր հաւատացեալ ժողովուրդը ներկայ գտնուելու։

ضيف المطران لزيارة القديس يوحنا في أغسطس

، مطران الكنيسة الأرمنية في العراق، سيأتي من بغداد الى الولايات لمتحدة في أغطس Avak Asadourian نيافة المطران وقال انه سوف نحتفل المقدسة القداس الإلهي يوم الأحد 9 أغسطس 2015، هنا في سانت جون كنيسة الأرمينية. خدمة ما بعد، وقال انه سيتم تكريم واستقبال في حفل استقبال خاص الشاي في قاعة الثقافية. وقال انه أيضا توفير برنامج قصير عن حالة المجتمع المسيحي الأرمني في بغداد والموصل وتكريت وغيرها من المدن التي إخواننا وأخواتنا الذين يعانون من مشاكل الاضطهاد من قبل المسيحي الأرمني في بغداد والموصل وتكريت وغيرها من المجتمع أو الشيعة والمسلمين السنة سيتم مناقشتها. عانت الأرمينية الجماعة خسائر كبيرة خلال السنوات القليلة الماضية على ISISالمؤمنين ومشيته

Архиепископ Посетит Сент-Джонс в августе

Рады сообщить, что Его Преосвященство архиепископ Авак Асадурян, архепископ Армянской церкви в Ираке, прибывает из Багдада в США в августе этого года. Он будет проводить Святую Божественную литургию в воскресенье 9 августа 2015 в нашей церкви. После службы в его честь будет организовонно чаепитие в зале. Он также расскажет о положении армянской христианской общины в Багдаде, Мосуле, Тикрите и других городах, где наши братья и сестры страдают от преследования ISIS-а и также от шиитских и суннитских мусульман. Армянская община понесла большие потери за последние несколько лет, и Его Преосвященство даст оценку настоящему и будущему армян-христиан в Ираке. Пожалуйста, сделайте отметку этого важного события и планируйте посетить.

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.

Յիշեսցէ 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.

Տացէ քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քում եւ զամենայն խորհուրդս քո ի բարիս նա կատարեսցէ։

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.

Oրհնեցից 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.