THE GREAT LENTEN SEASON

During the period of Great Lent in the Armenian Church we observe the following:

- The altar curtain is closed
- There is no Kiss of Peace during the Divine Liturgy
- Holy Communion is not offered during the Divine Liturgy
- The Holy Gospels Book is not venerated after worship
- Hymns are sung in penitential melody
- Names of saints are not remembered
- The organ is not played when you depart from the sanctuary
- All should remain silent when exiting the sanctuary after worship in respect to those who remain for devotional prayers
- Weddings and Baptisms are not celebrated

THE PSALM OF DISMISSAL - PSALM 34

Ornetseets uzDer hamenayn zham, hamenayn zham orhnootyoon nora ee peran eem.

Օրինեցից պՏէր 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: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Friday (248) 569-3405

After hours in an emergency, please contact: Pastor's Cell: (248) 225-9888 Parish Council Chairman's Cell: (248) 877-3456 Administrator's Cell: (248) 802-2861

Sunday Bulletin
Կիրակնօրեայ Լրագիր



ENTER TO WORSHIP THE LORD DEPART TO SERVE HIM

MARCH 15, 2009 - THE ARMENIAN YEAR OF 1458 **SUNDAY OF THE UNJUST STEWARD** ԱՆԱՐԴԱՐ ՏՆՏԵՍԻ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ

GUEST CELEBRANT: VERY REV. FR. VAHAN HOVHANESSIAN

THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Ժամերգութեան Ժամանակացուց

Morning Service - Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն	9:00 am
Lenten Divine Liturgy - Մուրբ Պատարագ	.10:00 am
Sunrise Service - Արեւագալի Ժամ	.11:00 am

Today - Isaiah 56:1-57:21, Ephesians 4:17-5:14, Luke 16:1-31 Next Week - Isaiah 65:8-25, Philippians 3:1-4:9, Luke 17:20-18:14

LECTOR: Dr. Badrik Jooharigian

THE NICENE CREED WILL BE RECITED IN ARMENIAN

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

Father Garabed Archpriest Kochakian, Pastor

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)

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 COMMEMORATION OF ARMENIAN MARTYRS AT ST. JOHN'S

7:00 pm Requiem Service in the Sanctuary
7:30 pm *Madagh* Dinner in the Cultural Hall
All Are Welcome
8:00 pm Presentation & Discussion of *Skylark Farm* by
Antonia Arslan in the Cultural Hall

St. John Armenian Church is honored to host Ms. Antonia Arslan, the highly acclaimed author of *Skylark Farm*, as our speaker at the *Madagh* Dinner. *Skylark Farm* is a beautifully crafted story of an Armenian family in Anatolia and their suffering at the hands of the Ottoman Turks in 1915.

In order to prepare our parish for her visit, St. John's is pleased to offer a copy of *Skylark Farm* to each interested dues-paid member/family. In offering the books it is our goal that our parishioners will read it in preparation for her visit and discussion. Books will be available on Sundays after church services, in the lobby, **through Sunday**, **March 29**. Books are limited and are will be available on a first come, first served basis. Dues paid member/families may only pick up their own personal copies.

SAVE THE DATE CHURCH SCHOOL BIKE-A-THON SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009

DAY BY DAY . . . AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY THURSDAY, MARCH 26 AT NOON

Bible Study Leader: Yeretzgin Roberta Bring your Bible and lunch, we will provide the coffee.

Tracking Our "Treasures"

Plate Donations

Candle Donations

\$239.00
\$158.00

AT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE

NEW: GATES OF CONSTANTINOPLE by Garo Lacinian Photographs of ancient Byzantine structures surrounding Constantinople with translation of Greek & Latin inscriptions - Softcover - \$65.00 Proceeds to benefit St. John's & Terchoonian Home for Orphans in Gumri, Armenia

SILVER JERUSALEM CROSSES - \$20.00

GOMIDAS SONGS by Isabel Bayrakdarian - \$20.00

WHAT WILL YOU REMEMBER? by Elise Papazian - \$20.00

MY GRANDMOTHER: A MEMOIR BY FETHIYE CETIN - \$20,00

YOUR JOURNEY INTO ARMENIA by George Mouradian - \$12.00

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, March 17 – SENIOR LUNCH - Noon
Wednesday, March 18 – ACYOA Lenten Fish Dinner-5:30 pm
Thursday, March 19 – Komitas Choir Rehearsal-7:00 pm
Sunday, March 22 – SUNDAY OF THE JUDGE
MATINS AT 9:00 am DIVINE LITURGY AT 10:00 am
SUNRISE SERVICE AT 11:00 am

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

If there be any truer measure of a person that what he/she does...it must be what he/she gives.

USHERS

Peter Argnian, Mickey Amboyan, Vince Baylerian, Mike Boucher, Paul Andonian, Jerry Dayinian

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Robert Ajemian Steven Bear (CA) Margaret Jamgochian

Valeriy Bagdasarian Gregory Derderian

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD

We offer prayers for the servants of God who entered their eternal rest this past week.

DR. SARKIS DERDERIAN DR. HAMAZASP DARIAN LUCY ARAM

May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon their souls.

TODAY'S GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-31

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a steward, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.' And the steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the stewardship away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that people may receive me into their houses when I am put out of the stewardship.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest steward for his shrewdness; for the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous mammon, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal habitations.

"He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will entrust to you the true riches? and if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?

(continued on next page)

No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they scoffed at him. But he said to them, "You are those who Justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts; for what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS & VISITORS AT TODAY'S LITURGY & WORHSIP

Before you leave our church today, please take a moment to sign the "Guest Book" located 1) in the Lobby, or 2) at the front narthex. Our Parish Council will be available to direct and help you. Having your personal contact information will help us stay connected.

EASTER FLOWERS

If you wish to remember a loved one with a donation of Easter flowers, please call the church office to make the necessary arrangements.

TODAY, THE SUNDAY OF THE UNJUST STEWARD relates how a household steward makes his master's debtors grateful to him by reducing their bills. The master praises him for looking out for himself. A strange story unless we read carefully, for we are being asked to be clever and use the things of this world not for ourselves but for God's glory.

NEXT WEEK, THE SUNDAY OF THE JUDGE, we read about a judge who will not help a poor widow until she breaks him down with her persistence. In light of this example, can we doubt that God in His infinite love for us will help us? We are asked to continue to pray and listen.

Fund Raising During the Lenten Season

"ALMSGIVING" means to do a good deed. Our children should emulate the great benefactors of our parish by offering their help in the spirit of love and compassion to those who do not enjoy the same comforts as they do. This is the *sacrifice* of Great Lent, giving up and giving over to others. This year's proceeds will go to: Anti-Malaria Bed Nets, and Project Smile (assistance to children in need of corrective surgery for hairlips). Please be generous when our Church School students ask for your donation.

WOMEN'S GUILD WILL BE SELLING KHADAYIF AND SOU BEOREG AFTER CHURCH TODAY

Attention Women's Guild members participating in "DINNER FOR EIGHT"...MEETING TODAY, after church, in the NURSERY, for our "Blind Date." At the meeting, you and your partner will meet the members of your group to set dates and times for dinner within your individual group. Please bring your calendars.

WINTER BAKING – Dolly Matoian is chairing a Cheoreg Bake on Tuesday, March 17, at 9 am. Come help and have fun as "Many hands make light work!" EVERYONE IS WELCOME! You need NOT be a Women's Guild member to participate.

Reminder to Women's Guild members... Book Club will be meeting on **Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m.** to discuss <u>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</u>, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Ann Barrows. The book is available at area libraries or may be purchased at Costco or Borders.

WOMEN'S GUILD RETREAT This year's theme is "GOD...OUR HOPE," and our featured speaker will be Yn. Valerie Goekjian Zahirsky. Our overnight retreat will be held at the St. John's Retreat Center in Plymouth, MI, from 6 pm on Friday, March 27 through 3 p.m. Saturday, March 28. This has been a highly praised event in the past, so if you are interested in attending, please contact Pam Dayinian, (248-644-8028) ASAP, for more information and to sign up. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

SAVE THE DATE – Margaret Gozmanian is chairing a Katah Bake on Tuesday, March 31 at 9 am. Please join us! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING TIME CHANGE:

The Wednesday, April 1 General Body Meeting will begin at 4 pm, just prior to the Lenten dinner.

ATTENTION STUDENTS AND PARENTS

The Church Office has information on scholarships for students of Armenian ancestry. Please contact us for details.

The Armenian Renaissance Association Sophia Chapter has released 2009 scholarship guidelines. See lobby carousel.

SPONSORING SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Because of budget reductions for 2009, the annual amount designated for fellowships which take place after the Divine Liturgy has been eliminated. This does not mean we cannot share a cup of coffee or tea; it can still take place if it is sponsored by any willing parishioner at a rate of \$25.00 per fellowship. If you wish to sponsor a fellowship and keep this tradition of hospitality alive, it is the Parish Council's pleasure to invite your participation. Should you have any question, A Parish Council member will help you.

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE FROM ST. GREGORY OF NAREK

"Our Lord came and before the uneclipsed rays of the mercy of His glory, sins melt away, the dead are born again, sadness withdraws, sighs retreat, darkness flees, fog departs, darkness lifts."

"And when our resources are exhausted, you perform the greatest of miracles."

"Even after sin, the grace of God persists."

"For even if a person is stupid, if he places his will in the hand of God, he shall not succumb as Solomon did."

EVENTS sponsored by CSAI at AGBU School

Friday, March 27, 8 pm: LECTURE on Bedros Tourian Guest Speaker Msgr. Andon Atamian

Saturday, March 28, 7:30 pm: LENTEN DINNER RSVP before March 23 to Grace Karougian (248) 661-2776

ACYOA Juniors Lenten Fish Dinners

Wednesdays during Great Lent

March 18 & 25 Lobster Dinner: April1

Dinner served from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Dinners include fish entrée, vegetable, potato & salad,
beverage & dessert -\$10.00 per person
Alternate Dinner: Grilled Cheese \$5.00

Please phone the church office EARLY to make reservations for dinner: (248) 569-3405



LENTEN VIGIL SERVICE AT 7:00 PM

PROGRAMS FOLLOWING VIGIL SERVICE

<u>MARCH 18</u> No program scheduled

MARCH 25 - FILM

THE CONTINUING MISSION OF HOLY ETCHMIADZIN SPEAKER: FR. HRACH SARGSYAN VARTAN ROOM

APRIL1 - CONCERT

KOMITAS CHOIR TO PRESENT A CONCERT OF SACRED LENTEN MUSIC IN THE SANCTUARY. SELECTIONS INCLUDE: "SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST," "OOR ES MAYR IM," GOSPEL MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN BERKOWITZ GALLERY, THIRD FLOOR OF THE MARDIGIAN LIBRARY THURSDAY, APRIL 2 in the Berkowitz Gallery, 7:00 pm Refreshments 7:30 pm Presentations & Discussion

Featured Speakers:

Samuel Totten, The University of Arkansas

"Confronting the Scourge of Genocide: From Knowledge to Action" $\,$

and

Roger Smith, College of William and Mary

"Should We Teach About Genocide? And If So, What Should We Teach?"

PLEASE RSVP BY MARCH 27, 2009 TO: 313-593-5236 or by email at: library-event-rsvp@umd.umich.edu

Sponsored by: The Voice/Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral Hisotry Archive (UM-Dearborn), The Armenian Research Center UM-Dearborn), The Armenian Studies Program (UM-Ann Arbor), The Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies (Wayne State University) and The Mardigian Library (UM-Dearborn)

IN OUR COMMUNITY... Programs Honoring Lady Caroline Cox

Recently Lady Cox was appointed to a permanent visitor professorship at Oakland University. In this capacity, she will be championing the Armenian cause through various avenues, including teaching.

To honor her humanitarian efforts for Armenia and Karabagh, Oakland University will establish a *Chair of Global Studies* and will sponsor a number of programs related to her ministry for Research and Education Advocacy for Children's Health (REACH). These programs will ultimately benefit Armenia and Karabagh.

The following programs will take place, which are open to the general public. The local Armenian community are invited to take part.

April 21	3:00-5:00 pm Reception/TEA at St. John's sponsored by
	the Daughters of Vartan
April 22	6:00-10:00 pm Institute Dinner Honoring Lady Cox at
•	Meadow Brook Hall of Oakland University
April 23	3:00-4:00 pm Public Lecture at Meadow Brook Hall

For questions, contact Dr. Robert Kachadourian (248) 310-7307.



BASHDON HOKEHANKSDYAN - REQUIEM SERVICE FOR THOSE WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST

Today during the Divine Liturgy we offer our prayers as the community of St. John's for the souls of the departed servants of Christ.

MARGE DAKESSIAN, 40th Day, Friend

Requested by Alice Mavian Mariam Kurtkjian Jane Hovsepian Rose Samarian Mr. & Mrs. Carl Banerian Mary Davidson Y. Gladys Barsamian Rose Berberian

PAUL TOOTIKIAN, 40th Day, Dear Husband, Father, Grandfather Requested by Anita Tootikian

Gary, Pat-Diane, Ara, Rachel, & Alexandra Hachigian

ANNA CHROVIAN, 4th Year, Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother

Requested by Vincent & Anna Baylerian Vinnie, Sue, Courtney & Nicholas Baylerian Rob, Cindy, Allie & Katie Amboian Mrs. Rose Assarian Michael T. Assarian Dr. Gary & Linda Assarian & Family Dietrich & Marianne Sneideraitis & Family

AGNES NISHANIAN, 11th Year, Mother

Requested by Rosemarie Nishanian John Nishanian

RICHARD NALBANDIAN, 13th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather

Requested by Mary Nalbandian Charles Nalbandian Beverly & Mark Madden & Family đб

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St. John's Armenian Church School

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May 9, 2009 Bike-A-Thon



Hines Park 20K Event

Starting at Nankin Mills Picnic Area at Hines Drive & Ann Arbor Trail Roads

Save the date ... For more information to register (Middle-High School Students, Parents & Friends <u>+</u> 11 years old), event sponsorships and or volunteer to help, please contact:

Roseann Attar at 248-980-3221 or via email - vart@comcast.net

Lisa Mardigian at 248-569-3405 or via email - lmardigian@sjachurch.org

FYI, Hines Park has "Saturday in the Park", in which a six mile section of Hines Drive is closed to automobiles from Outer Drive Rd. to Ann Arbor Trail. Every Saturday from May to September between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. St. John's staging area and parking will be at Nankin Mills Picnic Area (Hines Drive & Ann Arbor Trail).