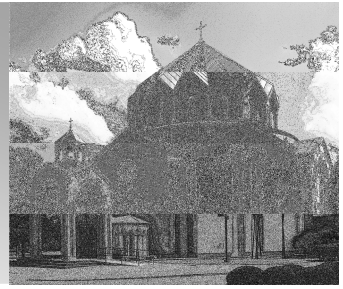


St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit

22001 Northwestern Highway • Southfield, MI 48075

248.569.3405 (phone) • 248.569.0716 (fax)

www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org



The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian – *Pastor*
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

**THE YEAR OF VOCATIONS
ENTER TO WORSHIP THE LORD
DEPART TO SERVE HIM**

Encourage our young men to serve the Lord as priests.

MARCH 20, 2011—THE ARMENIAN YEAR 1459

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON—Անարակի Կիրակի

CELEBRANT: REV. FR. ABRAHAM OHANESIAN

THE LORD'S DAY ~ SCHEDULE OF LENTEN WORSHIP

Morning Service - *Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն*9:00 am

Sunrise Service—*Արեւագալի Ժամ*10:00 am

Lenten Divine Liturgy - *Սուրբ Պատարագ*10:45 am

Wednesday Lenten Vigil—*Հսկում*.....7:00 pm

SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY

Isaiah 54:11-55:13, 2 Corinthians 6:1-7:1, Luke 15:1-32

Lector: Carol Palaian

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. And make sure 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.

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 15:1-32

And he said, "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. "Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Lisa Aglamishian
Dr. George Chatas
Edgar Hagopian
Helen Z. Sahakian

Harry Avagian
Robert Vartan Gregory
Evelyn Kaloustian
George Zallakian

Elizabeth Brocher
Agnes Hagopian
William Pugh

**WE HAVE RECEIVED A DIRECTIVE AND APPEAL FROM OUR PRIMATE,
ARCHBISHOP KHAJAG AS FOLLOWS:**

Over the past 22 years since the earthquake in Armenia, the memory of our sorrow in 1988 has been reawakened several times, when disasters have struck our fellow human beings in other corners of the world. A sense of solidarity in suffering has inspired our people to reach out both spiritually and materially to these victims of devastation.

I, therefore, appeal to all of our parishes to offer prayers for all those who are suffering from the earthquake in Japan and its aftermath.

Beginning this Sunday and for the period of Great Lent, we will be taking a second collection in all the parishes of our Diocese for earthquake relief. If you write a check you may make note that it is for Japan Earthquake Relief. There are three ways you may donate.

- One way is directly through your parish, and those funds will be forwarded to the Fund for Armenian Relief and then sent through Church World Services to be distributed.
- Also, you may donate and send a check directly to the Diocese noting Japan Earthquake Relief on your check. The address is as follows:

Diocese of the Armenian Church / FAR
630 Second Avenue
New York NY 10016

- And finally, you may donate on line at the Diocesan website—www.armenianchurch-ed.net—click on DONATE link.

100 percent of these donations collected will go to the relief efforts and sent to CWS of the National Council of the Churches of Christ USA.

Let us continue our prayers for the suffering peoples of Japan.

THE WAYS OF OUR GREAT LENTEN JOURNEY

Part I

Jesus said, “Be as perfect as your Father in Heaven in perfect.” With these words He asks us to strive to improve our failings, open our hearts and minds to enjoy the loving presence of God. During the Great Lenten season in the Armenian Church there are notable changes in the way we worship. This sacred season is for the improvement of our spiritual life, the strengthening of our faith and reconciliation with God and with each other that becomes broken by our imperfect humanity.

Throughout the year, we experience the happiness of this relationship at every Divine Liturgy, seeing the beauty of His throne and altar, hearing and singing the joyful sounds of hymns to praise Him, observing the movements in worship, our embracing, kissing, and connecting especially when receiving Holy Communion. All this takes on a different character during Great Lent because our human condition and our relationships do fail at times to please God and we know it to be so, because we are imperfect. During Lent, the dress and habits we are so accustomed to enjoy take on a different character.

THE DIVINE LITURGY IS CELEBRATED BEHIND A CLOSED CURTAIN.

While there is no canonical rule for the closed curtain, it has become a tradition nonetheless in our church, and with significance. The darkened environment in the holy temple, the separation between the brightness of the altar, the joy in song and praise tell us we need to be restored to that experience. It is done with increased personal and collective prayer, with more Christian study and reading of the Bible, and even by the deprivation of something we love, i.e. giving up in order to increase our desire for the greater glory and love of God. When we abstain from an ordinary diet, give up a food item or favorite activity, it is done to remind us that we are taking a journey to rediscover how blessed we are to enjoy life, and more importantly how loved we are by the One who gives us everything we have. The curtain remains closed for 40 days and helps us concentrate on the need to be obedient and faithful and not suffer the eternal separation from God, as did Adam and Eve.

A PROGRAM FOR CHURCH SCHOOL PARENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 10:30 AM

CHRISTIAN PARENTING WORKSHOP

PRESENTED BY MS. ELISE ANTREASSIAN

**Insightful ideas and ways for building faith at home
and in the family.**



ACYOA Juniors Lenten Fish Dinners

Wednesdays during Great Lent

March 23, 30, April 6

Fish & Lobster Dinner: April 13

Dinner served from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

**Dinners include fish entrée, vegetable,
potato, tossed salad, beverage & dessert**

Fish Dinner: \$10.00 - 12 years & older

Kids Fish Dinner: \$5.00 - 11 years & younger

Grilled Cheese Dinner: \$5.00 per person

Lobster Dinner (April 13 only): \$20.00 per person

RSVP: (248) 569-3405 omkafafian@sjachurch.org

During the Great Lenten Season

**Wednesdays at 7:00 pm, join Father Garabed and
Deacons in the sanctuary for the Lenten Vigil
to offer the Rest and Peace Services.**

DAY BY DAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

The next gathering will be on

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011, 12:00 NOON

A monthly Bible study group led by

Yn. Roberta Kochakian

Bring your Bible & your lunch;

we'll provide the coffee.

All are welcome!



***RASHDON 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.**

REVEREND FATHER PAREE METJIAN, 40th Day

Requested by Father Garabed & Yeretzgin Roberta

CELIA HANDIGIAN, 40th Day, Cousin, Friend, *Hayrenagit*

Requested by Mr. & Mrs. Ardash Apigian

Khatchig & May Kafafian

Diramayr Virginia Melkonian

Jackie & Faouzi ElChemmas & Family

VIOLET ASADOURIAN (Florida), 40th Day

ESIK LEFTY ASADOURIAN (Florida) , 2nd Year

Requested by Khatchig & May Kafafian

**MICHELLE KATHLEEN ANOUSH DANIELIAN, 1st Year, Daughter,
Sister, Friend**

Requested by Mike & Rozann Vartoogian

Christopher Danielian

Daniel Britain

Mr. & Mrs. Ardash Apigian

Joyce Obenhoff

Mike & Linda Tiffany

Kevin & Jennifer Tiffany

Sven & Kristen Gustafson

Margaret Barsamian & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Mekjian

Kathy Mekjian

Alice Mekjian

John Mekjian & Family

Johanna & Gary Novak

Edward, Yvonne, Laura & Christopher Korkoian

MARY DOUROUJALIAN, 1st Year, Wife, Mother, Grandmother

Requested by Andrew Douroujalian

Donna, Ryan & Lindsay Portrey

George, Yvette, Bryan & Blake Douroujalian

Diane, Bruce, Courtney & Kirsten Kezlarian

Rose Baise

Greg Baise & Family

**SOORAN YAVRUIAN, 2nd Year, Husband, Father, Brother, Uncle,
Cousin, Brother-in-Law, Friend**

Requested by Sona, Carol, Rick, Hunter & Alex Yavruian
Sarah & George Panzone
Anjel Yessayan & Family
John Yavruian
Arek, Diane, Lee & Mark Khachaturian
Kathryn Vartanian
Chris Vartanian
Arsen Sanjian

NADEEM JOHN BELBEISI, 3rd Year, Son, Brother, Uncle, Nephew

Requested by Haider & Lucille Belbeisi
Deema Gamal
Alia Juliette Belbeisi
Lauren Alia Gamal
Gary & Juliette Chevikian

ARAXIA GUTNERIAN, 4th Year, Mother

Requested by Ardak & Naira Gutneryan

AGNES NISHANIAN, 13th Year, Mother, Aunt

Requested by Rosemarie Nishanian
John Nishanian
Sherry Washburn

RICHARD NALBANDIAN, 15th Year, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Cousin

Requested by Mrs. Mary Nalbandian
Beverly & Mark Madden & Family
Charles Nalbandian
Anjel Yessayan & Family

SERGUEY ARAKCHYAN, 39th Year, Father

GUIMA ARAKCHYAN, 40th Day, Mother

Requested by Marina Arakchyan Papasian & Gerald Papasian
Edvard Shevalye Arakchyan
Edmond & Nora Azadian

FELLOWSHIP HOUR TODAY

Today, the Fellowship Hour is being held in memory of Michelle Kathleen Anoush Danielian on the first anniversary of her passing. The Vartoogian Family invites all parishioners to join them in this special remembrance.

St. John's Men's Society
presents its first
Wine Making Class
Our Wine Vintner ~ John Lucassian

Class One: Saturday, March 26th 10 am—a 3-hour program learning how to make wine

Class Two: Sunday, April 3rd after the Pancake Breakfast - a 30-minute program on the fermentation process (**need not attend**)

Class Three: date to be determined —30 minutes to one hour bottling and labeling the wine (**need not attend**)

Step Four: Friday, June 10th— pick up your wine at the evening 's Wine Tasting to take home

HOW IT WILL WORK

You will work in a team learning the three steps of making wine. Light mezza and beverages will be served at the first class. After bottling you will receive a bottle of Chardonnay and Merlot (included in your ticket price)

\$20.00 per person

Those purchasing tickets to this class will receive a \$5.00 discount on the June 10th Wine Tasting event.

Note: Those who are not attending the Wine Tasting may pick up their wine after June 10th. We are asking all who attend to be 21 years or older (mandatory)

**Questions? Please email John Lucassian:
hyejohn@yahoo.com**

Registration forms available in Church Lobby.

MARTYRS' DAY, MONDAY, APRIL 25TH

This year Easter falls on April 24th, therefore, the 96th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the remembrance of the Martyrs will be held on Monday, April 25th at St. John's.

Worship and Requiem in the sanctuary will begin at 7:00 pm followed by Wreath Laying at the Martyrs Monument and the traditional *Madagh* Dinner in the Cultural Hall.

After dinner, a special program will be presented which will include the screening of a 12-minute film entitled "*Hove*" ("The Wind") starring Academy Award-winning actress Olympia Dukakis and Shirleyann Kaladjian Webb, a native of Greater Detroit. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Alex Webb, award-winning New York stage and film director, writer and actor, who will talk about the film. This short but compelling story, not to be missed, is our own. Reserve this date and join us!

ACYOA National Great Lenten Retreat Lent: Let the light shine out of darkness...

March 25-27 at the Columbiere Conference Center in Clarkston

**Led by V. Rev. Fr. Daniel Findikyan
Dean of St. Nersess Armenian Seminary**

Cost: \$150 (includes program, meals, and accommodations)
Participants must be 18 years old to attend

To register, send an email message to ACYOA Executive Secretary Nancy Basmajian at acyoa@armeniandiocese.org. Please include your name, date of birth, parish affiliation, email address. Once she receives your message, she will send you a confirmation with more information.

TRACKING OUR TREASURERS—SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Plate Donations \$190.30

Candle Donations \$100.00

IMMIGRANT FAMILY NEEDS FURNITURE

A new Armenian family has moved to our area and is in need of living room and dining room furniture. If you are able to help, please contact Dyana Kezelian at the AGBU Manoogian School (248) 569-2988.

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

The Women's Guild needs your help in the church kitchen to prepare for bake sales after Church and the Palm Sunday Bake Sale. On Tuesday, March 22 at 9am we will make Cheoreg. Bake chairman for the day is Marianne Dardarian (248) 661-0617. Future bake day: March 29-Khalkha.

Sou Beoreg, Cheoreg, Spinach Beoreg, Tepsee Beoreg, Cheese Beoreg and Khalkha are available for purchase today.

Armenian Cuisine - Preserving Our Heritage

The second printing of *Armenian Cuisine—Preserving Our Heritage* is now available at the Parish Bookstore every Sunday and at the church office during business hours. Orders may also be placed on line at:

<http://stjohnsarmenianchurch.com/publicationsandinfo/armeniancuisinecookbook.html>,

or by contacting Marianne Dardarian at 248.661.0617.

Note: Revisions to the 1st printing are available in the church office or at mhdardarian@att.net

Moms and *Manoogs* play group has changed its meeting dates to the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Times vary depending on the outing, but are generally 10:30 am Some recent play dates have been at Jungle Java and the Detroit Children's Museum. We are always looking for new moms and their *manoogs* to join the fun. Please call Kristen Gustafson for further information, 248.765.0471 or send her an email: frissy10@hotmail.com

The Women's Guild invites you to become a member.

For more information, please call Linda Assarian,

248-332-0816

Finding Zabel Yessayan:

A Documentary Film by Talin Suciyan and Lara Aharonian

A 40-minute film followed by a panel discussion

Wednesday, March 23, 2011, 7:45 pm

Multipurpose Room

AGBU Alex & Marie Manoogian School

Finding Zabel Yessayan is a journey of discovery into the life and work of one of the most prominent Armenian intellectuals of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. See announcement on board and in lobby.

This event is cosponsored by the Armenian Research Center, University of Michigan-Dearborn, the AGBU Alex & Marie Manoogian School, and the Cultural Society of Armenians from Istanbul.

KEF KLUB

Friday, April 15, 2011 at 6:00 pm
St. John's Recreation Center

Tavloo, cards, board games, pickle ball

Donation: \$8 for adults, \$5 for kids under 12, 2 & under free
Reservations: [248-569-3405](tel:248-569-3405) no later than March 16, 2011.

HOME BUILDING OPPORTUNITY IN ARMENIA

Interested in participating in a Fuller home building project in Armenia this summer? Contact Jackie ElChemmas at 248.851.4018.

The Catering Selection Committee will meet on
Thursday, March 24, 2011, Nursery Room
7-8pm Closed Session

At 8pm, or shortly after, parishioners may enter the meeting,
which will conclude around 9pm.

NEW AT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE

The Melody of Faith: Theology in an Orthodox Key by Vigen Guroian

This book presents Armenian, Byzantine, Russian and Syrian iconography, and relates it to the liturgy, scripture and hymnody to captures the spirit of the Orthodox Faith and what it is to participate in it. 158 pp, SC—\$14.00

Armenian Dictionary in Transliteration by Thomas J. Samuelian

Western Pronunciation; English-Armenian; Armenian-English
This useful reference book includes useful phrases, conversation, numbers, days of the week, months, etc. 139 pp, SC—\$20.00

The Human Comedy by William Saroyan 192 pp, SC—\$8.00

The classic American novel of an unforgettable California family

Instantly Improve Your Golf Game by Edward Sarkis Balian-SC—\$15.00

Silver Jerusalem Cross with Chain—\$20.00

St. John's Parish Bookstore is the largest retailer
of Armenian books, CDs and gifts in the Midwest.
Stop by and browse!

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 during the week*
 - *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

*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 Cell: 248.688.1214
Administrator's Cell: 248.880.8391**