

## **General Body Meeting**

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

presentation by

Yn. Roberta Kochakian

Easter Customs in the

Armenian Church -8:00 p.m.

## **Palm Sunday Bake Sale April 13<sup>th</sup>**

Please label your Armenian  
or other baked goods-

**Attention Women's Guild-**

Marilyn Sarkesian Terry Palaian or  
Almas Derderian

Monetary donations  
accepted!

## **Winter Baking**

Every Tuesday until Holy  
Week 9 a.m.

March 11,18,25

April 1,8

Chair: Dolly Matoian  
248-737-9055

## **Knitting**

Thurs. March 20<sup>th</sup> , April 10<sup>th</sup>

May 15<sup>th</sup> & June 19<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. -Noon

SJAC Nursery

Chair: Linda Assarian  
248-332-0816

## *A Note from Your Chairman...*

Dear Father Garabed and Ladies of the Guild,

Despite the freezing temperatures, snowstorms, and power outages the Women's Guild proved themselves fearless in carrying out their duties during the past two months. The Lord was watching over us even on the evening of Poon Paregentan when the storm came in late in the evening allowing us to carry on with our dinner-dance as expected. Even though we needed to cancel two general body meetings (rescheduling one) and a few bake days, we were able to accomplish all of our goals for the first two months of the year. We are proud of our members, their resilience, and perseverance despite all odds. When we hear the birds chirping outside our windows in the early morning we know that spring cannot be too far away. A spring which brings the promise of new beginnings, warmer weather, and more sunshine!!!

During Great Lent we reflect on our need for penance and spiritual renewal. We need to reflect on these important aspects of our Faith as we engage in all of our activities in March.

Best regards,

Linda Stamboulian

## **Poon Paregentan Dinner Dance**

Our Poon Paregentan Dinner Dance took place on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at the St. John Armenian Church Main Hall. The Chairman for the evening was Joyce Obenhoff, who along with her Committee, organized a most entertaining and spectacular evening. We extend our appreciation to Joyce and her Committee for their leadership and creativity. They were Marianne Dardarian and Debbie Zazaian - Raffle; Charlene Goshgarian - Decorations and Centerpieces; Gloria Korkoian - Booklet; Diane Khachaturian - Donations; Linda Lutz and Carol Ohanesian - Dinner Menu and Sweet Table; Nora Noraian - Publicity; Marilyn Sarkesian - Reservations; Linda Stamboulian - Advisor.

Guests were treated to a visual extravaganza as they entered the hall which was decorated in a grand Mardi Gras style with large vases filled with dazzling decorative colored bulbs and sequin studded masks. The color theme included dark purple, magenta, gold, chartreuse, and Aegean blue. Guests also enjoyed an elegant mezza of beoreg, hummus, kalamata olives, and pita.

After a welcome speech and appreciation gifts presented to Joyce Obenhoff by Women's Guild Chairman, Linda Stamboulian, Rev. Father Garabed Kochakian led us in the blessing, after which dinner was served. The delicious dinner included, tossed salad, brisket of beef, oven roasted chicken, pasta primavera, pilaf glazed carrots, bread basket, and a sweet table donated by the members of the W.G.,

and coffee and tea. Our thanks to Paul Yousoufian, our Catering Manager, and Gary Reizian our Caterer for the wonderful dinner.

Following the dinner, guests were entertained by a phenomenal group of musicians assembled by Chris Vosbikian. The band featured a group of very talented musicians from both Philadelphia and Detroit. They included: Christopher Vosbikian - Dumbeg; Michael Gostanian - Vocals; Chris Marashlian - Bass Guitar; David Hoplamazian - Violin; Michael Kazarian - Dumbeg; Greg Nigosian - Oud; George Nigosian - Clarinet & Acoustic Guitar

During the evening, raffle tickets were drawn for the exquisite prizes by Marianne Dardarian and Joyce Obenhoff. The prizes were obtained by Debbie Zazaian. A list of the raffle donors' businesses were featured in our Program Booklet. We will also have this list available at future meetings and Bake Days so that you can support these businesses in the future. We also wish to thank all of our Sponsor Donors who helped make the evening the success it was. Without their help, we would not be able to help our Church and our Guild do the myriad of activities that we do. The sponsors' names also appeared in the Program Booklet. Our thanks again to our Dinner-Dance attendees, Donor Sponsors, Raffle Sponsors, and all of those who helped in any way to make the evening successful.

### **Palm Sunday Bake Sale**

Our Winter Baking for the Palm Sunday Bake Sale under the chairmanship of Dolly Matoian is coming along very nicely. Marilyn Sarkesian, Terry Palaian, and Almas Derderian are graciously chairing the sales of our baked goods at this very important event. In addition to the baked goods we made on Tuesdays, we are in dire need of preferably Armenian baked goods to help make this event a success and serve our parishioners. If you are unable to bring Armenian baked goods for this traditional Women's Guild obligation, other baked goods and monetary donations are needed and appreciated.

### **Easter Tea**

We are fortunate that Lisa Boyadjian and Nyree Giragosian have volunteered to host the Women's Guild Easter Tea. The tea will take place after Church on April 20<sup>th</sup>. As per our long-standing W.G. Easter tradition, please bring two dozen colored eggs for the Tea. You may use colored dyes or our ancient tradition of onion skins (directions in new WG Cookbook). Pita bread and cheese will also be served at the Tea. If you are able to help in the kitchen please call Lisa at 248-661-5030 or Nyree at 248-347-6654.

### **Winter/Easter Bake**

We continue to bake every Tuesday until Holy Week. Please join us for great camaraderie and friendship. All are welcome. This includes men and other non-members of the Women's Guild. We will be making Nazoug, Bourma, Cheoreg, Katah, and Sou Beoreg in the coming weeks. For more information, contact Winter Bake Chairman Dolly Matoian at 248-737-9055 or dmatoian@att.net.

### **March 5th General Body Meeting and Saintly Women's Day Presentation.**

On Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> we enjoyed another delicious Lenten luncheon hosted by Jackie ElChemmas. At this event, a free will offering was taken for CASP (Children of Armenia Sponsorship Program) and FAR VOH (Vanadzor Old Age Home). After lunch, Charlene Goshgarian delivered an engaging and informative presentation on St. Santookht, the very first female Armenian Martyr of the Christian Church. Charlene delivered an excellent presentation.

After Charlene's inspirational presentation, Linda Stamboulian conducted our General Body Meeting. Highlights of the meeting included highlights of the very special upcoming Lenten Retreat on March 29<sup>th</sup>. This retreat will focus on how our church brings together, in the resurrection of Christ, all of our

senses including, music, visual mosaics, incense etc. This will be a retreat you do not want to miss. Along with Fr. Garabed and Dn Rubik, we will have a very special guest speaker, Dr. Vigen Guroian. Another very important topic was the upcoming April 24<sup>th</sup> Genocide commemoration at St. Sarkis Church. This will be the first year that all four Armenian churches will celebrate together and we hope it will be a success and a precedent for future commemorations. Volunteers are needed to help prepare the Madagh dinner the morning of April 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. at St. Sarkis Church. Please contact Alberta Godoshian at 248-476-4638.

### **Social Services Committee**

Under the Chairmanship of Carol Ohanesian the committee is currently taking a collection for the annual trip to Armenia led by Jackie ElChemmas to build houses for those in need. Housewarming gifts such as oblong tablecloths and new towels are requested. The group is also collecting items for girls aged 18-23 residing at Mer Doon. Items requested are hair bands and accessories, small wallets, slipper socks, new makeup, makeup bags, underwear, small size gently used or new clothing, and any other items you think young girls would appreciate. Please bring your items to the next WG meetings.

### **Knitting**

On Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Linda Assarian, Linda Lutz, Carol Ohanesian, Helen Olson and Cathy Zwinck purchased and assembled 10 fleece blanket kits for persons in need in war-torn Syria. Cathy Zwinck delivered the blankets to Fr. Hratch at St. Gregory of Narek Church in Cleveland who will see to it that the blankets are distributed. We are fortunate to have such kind and generous WG members to help those less fortunate. The Women's Guild knitting group, under the chairmanship of Linda Assarian, has been knitting for the past five years on the third Thursday of the month in the St. John Armenian Church Nursery at 9:00 a.m. Due to the third Thursday of April falling during Holy Week, the group will meet on April 10<sup>th</sup> in April. The group is currently knitting baby items for mothers in need.

### **February 7th General Body Meeting and Pie Making Presentation.**

Although we had to reschedule our February 5th meeting due to the weather conditions (again), we held a successful meeting, presentation and luncheon on Friday, February 7th. First we enjoyed lunch of quiche kindly donated by Pam Dayinian. Pam generously provided four selections of quiche including an egg white quiche and a crustless quiche. Then we eagerly listened to Sue Vian's presentation on pie making. This topic was chosen because February is National Pie Making month. Sue brought with her every ingredient and utensil needed to make several different types of pies and then proceeded to show us exactly how she puts together pies. At the end of the presentation, Sue kindly donated the apple pie that she demonstrated as well as several other fruit pies for us to enjoy along with the usual sweet donations that accompany our meetings.

### **Handbook Response:**

Earlier in the year, members were sent a W.G. Handbook for committee sign-ups. Please sign up for as many events as you wish. If you have not yet submitted your response sheet, please send it to: Joyce Obenhoff at 27062 Bonnie Drive, Warren, MI 48093 or turn it in to the Women's Guild mailbox at the Church Office.

### **Address Changes & Announcements:**

If you have any address, email and/or phone number changes please contact Dawn Aginian at 248-225-7176, [daginian@yahoo.com](mailto:daginian@yahoo.com). Address changes submitted with dues to Judy Parks, Assistant Treasurer, or communicated to Linda Stambouljian, Chairman, have already been recorded. Please contact Dawn with any other news or announcements.

Dearest Guild Sisters,

Thank you for all of your prayers, encouragement and support during my recent illness. Every card, call, e-mail, soup, ride, dinner, snack and visit helped speed along my recovery.



I am so very humbled and grateful and look forward to joining with all of you in the near future as we serve our Church.

With great affection and appreciation,

Joy Callan

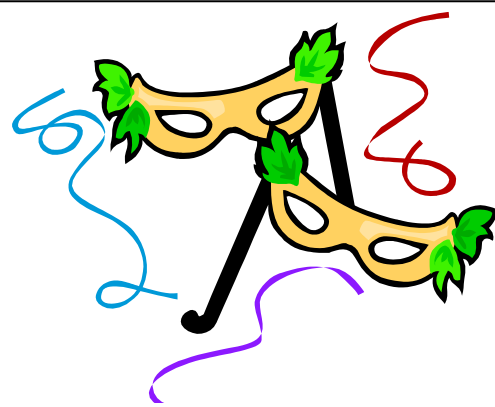
### Congratulations

on the February 6<sup>th</sup> birth of  
**Luke Bedros Goshgarian!**  
Son of Dr. Christopher and Danielle  
Goshgarian  
Grandson of Dr. Harry and Charlene Goshgarian



### Thank You to

Joyce Obenhoff and her committee for a fabulous Poon Paregentan Dinner-Dance!



**We wish to send  
Get Well wishes  
to Joy Callan &  
Pamela Dayinian.**



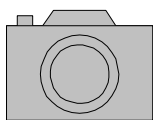
We wish them both a speedy recovery.

### Thank you to

Jackie ElChemmas for hosting  
the Lenten luncheon on March 5<sup>th</sup>!

### Volunteer Photographer Needed

for Guild events  
Please contact: Dawn  
Aginian, 248-225-7176  
daqinian@yahoo.com



### DUES

Please submit your 2014  
dues of \$20 to St. John  
Women's Guild



Judy Parks  
436 Linden Rd  
Birmingham,  
MI 48009

### Thank you

Diane Khachaturian  
for proofreading  
Women's Guild  
Correspondence!



### Congratulations

on the October 19<sup>th</sup> birth of  
**Aiden Joseph Badr!**

Grandson of Linda & Frank Houhanisin  
Great Grandson of Nina Sarkisian  
Grand Nephew of Lisa Derderian,  
Barbara Rupus & Anna Sarkisian



### We Thank

Charlene Goshgarian

for her  
Saintly  
Women's Day  
presentation  
on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

