

Women's Guild Newsletter St. John Armenian Church

22001 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 569-3405 | www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org
<https://stjohnwomensguild.square.site>



Message from the Chair ...

How was your Lent? Did you give up eating that slice of cake, chocolate, or steak? Did you read the Bible more? Attend church more often? Pray daily? I find myself thinking of these "give ups" as a prize for 40 days of abstaining or adding to my tasks for the day. As soon as I can, I go back to "my ways" before Lent. Maybe I don't pick up the Bible daily or my prayers become every-other-day as my days get busier. This year I want to continue my Lenten ways. I want to continue my daily personal prayers and my daily Bible readings. I will not be perfect, but I want to try.

If you are looking for something to fill your days, we are always looking for volunteers. We are currently looking for chairwomen for our Summer Outing and Advent by Candlelight. If that's not your "thing" and you want to help, reach out. We have lots of opportunities.

A big thank you to our Saintry Women's Day committee, our Palm Sunday bakers, our Palm Sunday Bake Sale committee, and our Easter Tea committee. These events are a huge undertaking, and these committees work so very hard to make them happen.

Last, we have a General Body Meeting on Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00 pm. Please join us.

--Sara Andonian

We would love to see you there ...



APRIL	Wednesday	April 3	General Body Meeting, 7:00pm - at the church
	Saturday	April 6	Manoogian Manor Visit, Easter Service, 11:00am
	Wednesday	April 17	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Wednesday	April 24	Armenian Martyrs' Day, Four Churches at St. John Armenian Church
MAY	Wednesday	May 1	General Body Meeting, 7:00pm
	Wednesday	May 15	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Sunday	May 19	Detroit Opera Theater Outing, 2:30pm

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is with great sorrow that we announce the death of our dear member **Louise Brocher** on February 20, 2024. A memorial service took place on March 2 at St. James Episcopal Church. We express our deepest sympathies to her children Janine and Robert and their families. In Lieu of Flowers can be sent to Open Arms Hospice.



Adsvadz Hokin Loosavoreh -- May the Lord Illuminate her Soul

Congratulations to George and Denise Boyagian on the Birth of George's Granddaughters



Mila Giselle, born February 25, 2024, to proud parents Armen and Amira Boyagian, and sister Lina.

Aria May, born March 25, 2024, to proud parents Amara and Andi Sheena.

Congratulations to Mona Kurjian and her sons!



Vartan Kurjian married Dr. Anna Kurapey on December 2, 2023.

Dr. **Alec** Kurjian is engaged to Dr. Amanda Paris; the wedding is on September 14, 2024.

Directory Updates

Susie Janigian

Manoogian Manor

Send correspondence to her niece:

Michele Margosian

5374 Echo Road

Bloomfield Hills, Mi 48302

H-248-855-3694 C- 248-515-1282

mmargosian@sbcglobal.net

Ann Marie Ameriguiian

azallakian@gmail.com

Sara Andonian

andoniansl@gmail.com



Our New Member

Jennifer (Tosoian) Rosenthal (Jonathan)

2147 Yarmouth Rd

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

(248) 408-8666 | jtosoian@gmail.com

Palm Sunday Bake Sale

The 2024 Palm Sunday Bake Sale came upon us quickly!

Planning the big sale had its logistic challenges, as this year we would be sharing the grand ballroom with ACYOA Palm Sunday Brunch (Palm Sunday is national ACYOA Day!) and St Nersess seminarians visiting St John's. The Women's Guild was given prime location along the picture windows on the north side of the hall. It was bright, spacious and easily accessible to the kitchen!! Our faithful circle and I gathered early on Palm Sunday to price, package and display the goods. Thank you to everyone who dropped off their homemade baked goods. Thank you also to the women in this Guild that gave financial donations in lieu of baking. Our baked goods were displayed along the entire wall mixing the Armenian Guild foods with the donated member items. I cannot thank the bake sale circle enough for their hours of hard work. I am so sad we did not take a guild circle photo this year! Please enjoy the photos shown here.

The bake sale was a fast and furious success! We grossed over \$10,000 which includes sales and donations.

The sale would not be possible without our baking chair, Joy Callan and her dedicated crew! The baking ladies and men produced dozens of sou boereg, choereg, khalka, katah, simit sticks and nazoug. Thank you to all volunteers for your time and talent!

We look forward to baking together again soon and often!

Marilyn Dadian



Thank You Palm Sunday Bake Sale Volunteers



Every year the calendar points us toward the most holy week of our church year. And, in conjunction with the celebrations of Easter Week, our Women's Guild (plus many friends) prepare for our much-anticipated Palm Sunday Bake Sale.

We sincerely thank our wonderful St. John Church staff who help set us up and wind us down. From making sure our machines are ready to pulling the dough late at night and ready to use each morning. From sharing the kitchen to publicizing our efforts. And so, from the office end of the building all the way to the freezer, we put our time and talents into preparing a great array of delicious baked goods and treats.

Many thanks to our Women's Guild members and our great friends of the Guild, who appear like magic, week after week. We believe that they are currently in training for our 2024 St. John Bazaar!! Take a few weeks off. And get ready!

Dawn A, Denise B, George B, Joy C, Anthony C, Marvin C, Carol C, Marilyn D, Adreana H, Denise K, Linda K, Mona K, Diane M, Annette M, Noreen M, Cross M, Johno N, Terry P, Judy P, Celine P, Viva P, Charles S, Marie S, Paulette S, Seta S and Nevart T.

--- Joy Yerchanig Callan

St. John Armenian Church Volunteer Day at World Medical Relief Saturday, April 6, 2024 - 1 pm – 3 pm



- Sort badly needed medical supplies and equipment to be used locally and around the world.
- World Medical Relief donated over \$1.5 million dollars in medical supplies to Armenia in 2021!
- Volunteers meet four times per year. Watch for future dates.

Contact:
Greg or Edith Baise
(313) 673-3325
ebaise@umich.edu

Location:
World Medical Relief
21725 Melrose Ave
Southfield, MI 48075

THE TUFENKIAN FOUNDATION

In Conjunction With:

DAUGHTERS OF VARTAN ZABELLE CHAPTER
DETROIT ARMENIAN WOMEN'S CLUB
ARMENIAN RENAISSANCE ASSOCIATION
TEKEYAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Invites you to a presentation by
ANTRANIG KASBARIAN

Tufenkian Foundation Trustee and
Development Director

ARTSAKH'S REFUGEES SITUATION • DECISIONS • AFTERMATH

FRIDAY, APRIL 5TH, 7:00PM

Admission free. Donations welcome
Proceeds to benefit Artsakh refugees

ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH
SAINT VARTAN ROOM
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW!

For reservations, please call or email:
Linda Karibian • 248.496.6292 • ldkaribian@yahoo.com



Knitting Club

The Knitting Club is making baby blankets and scarves for those in need.

They recently met with Erica of St. Joseph Oakland and dropped off their baby blankets, caps for the mothers in need, and scarves for their homeless mission.

Afterwards they enjoyed a fun lunch at the Moose Preserve.



Join them – it's simple if you're a new knitter!

Third Thursday of the Month

10 am – noon

Contact: Linda Assarian linda.assarian@gmail.com

Location: Ararat Room , St. John Armenian Church



Trinity Health Oakland Hospital
Volunteer Department

March 6, 2024

St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Hwy
Southfield, MI 48075
Attn: Women's Guild Knitting Group

Dear Ladies,

Thank you for your continual donation of beautiful blankets to help support our Mission here at Trinity Health Oakland. These beautiful blankets are such a blessing. We cannot express our gratitude for your support to the Volunteer Department & the Comfort Companion "No One Dies Alone Program" of Trinity Health Oakland Hospital (former St. Joseph Mercy Oakland).

Please know that through your generosity you will bring comfort & joy to those patients and their loved ones who will receive the blessings of these items you so lovingly made for our programs. Without donors like you, we could not make these programs possible to bring dignity and comfort to our patients and their families.

*"Don't ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers, the Titanic was built by professionals."
~ Dave Glynn ~*

Our Most Sincere Appreciation & Blessings,

Barbara J. Stephen
Trinity Health Oakland & Livonia
Volunteer Manager/Bereavement Specialist
248-858-3036

SAINTLY WOMEN'S DAY 2024

On Wednesday, March 6th, 55 Guild members and guests attended our annual Saintly Women's Day program. This year Women's Guild Central Council asked the local guilds to honor St. Hripsime.

We began the day in church with a service led by Father Aren Jebejian, assisted by Deacons Rubik Mailian and George Boyagian. Afterwards we enjoyed a delicious vegetarian luncheon prepared by Jackie & Faouzi El Chemmas. Our guest speaker was Eva Konstantakos, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. The title of Eva's presentation, "Saint Hripsime's Legacy: A Wonder Woman of Faith for our Contemporary World," brought our beloved saint into modern times by comparing her heroic life to the contemporary fictional superhero Wonder Woman.

Our lovely afternoon was thanks to the Saintly Women's Day Circle members: Carol Cholmakjian, chair; Carole Hovsepian; Jackie El Chemmas; Marianne Dardarian; and Yerchanig Callan.



Ms. Konstantakos' background in theater made for an entertaining presentation



While describing St. Hripsime's life, Eva had us consider secular identity vs. Christian identity,
When the world tells us who we should be and to give up who we truly are we must respond that, "It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me." (Galatians 2:20)

And secular service vs. Christian service,
When the world tells us that serving and loving others doesn't matter, we must remember - "Acquire the spirit of peace and a thousand souls around you will be saved." (St. Seraphim of Sarov)



We enjoyed an afternoon of spiritual reflection and fellowship



Thank you Jackie for our delicious meal!

Detroit Opera

A bittersweet fable about a clever fox cub examines our relationship with the natural world—as well as the poignant beauty to be found in the cycle of life and death.



Featuring Soprano Mane Galoyan. Ms. Galoyan holds two degrees from the Yerevan State Komitas Conservatory in Armenia and is married to the opera's music conductor, Roberto Kalb.

The Cunning Little Vixen at the Detroit Opera

Sunday, May 19, 2024 – 2:30 pm

St. John Women's Guild Members

Tickets

\$25.00 (ages 55+) - **Limited tickets available**

Please make checks out to *Diane Ekizian* and mail to:

Diane Ekizian
28137 S. Harwich Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Parking

Park for \$20 at the event; carpooling suggested

Tour and Dinner

Watch for future information about a possible tour of the theater and optional dinner after the show

Contact

Diane Ekizian
c (248) 821-4069; h (248) 851-4069 | dlekizian@yahoo.com

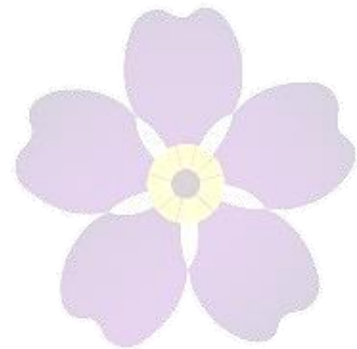
Hello from the Newsletter Editor

The deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month for publication by the 1st of the following month.

Please attach text as Word documents, and photos and flyers as jpg files.

Please email items to:
linda@legalsearchonline.net

Thank you. --- [Linda Jevahirian](#)



Armenian Martyr's Day
– April 24 –
Four Churches at
St. John Armenian Church

Women's Guild Members
It's time to pay your 2024 annual dues!

PAY BY MAIL

Please make checks of **\$25** payable to
St. John Women's Guild and send to:

Donna Lafian
11534 Plymouth Woods Dr.
Livonia, Michigan 48150

PAY ONLINE

Pay **\$26** online
<https://stjohnwomensguild.square.site>

Contact Donna Lafian
(248) 943-3150
lafiando@trinity-health.org

Please fill out and send this form with your payment

(check dues year) 2024 _____ 2025 _____

Name: _____

Husband's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Women's Guild 2024 Calendar

JANUARY	Saturday	January 6	Armenian Christmas Luncheon
	Saturday	January 13	Manoogian Manor Visit, Armenian Christmas, 11:00am
	Wednesday	January 17	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
FEBRUARY	Wednesday	February 7	General Body Meeting, 7:00pm, ZOOM
	Wednesday	February 21	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
MARCH	Wednesday	March 6	Saintly Women's Day, 11:00am
	Wednesday	March 20	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Sunday	March 24	Palm Sunday Bake Sale
	Sunday	March 31	Easter Sunday Tea
APRIL	Wednesday	April 3	General Body Meeting, 7:00pm - at the church
	Saturday	April 6	Manoogian Manor Visit, Easter Service, 11:00am
	Saturday	April 6	World Medical Relief, 1pm
	Wednesday	April 17	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Wednesday	April 24	Armenian Martyrs' Day, Four Churches at St. John Armenian Church
MAY	Wednesday	May 1	General Body Meeting, 7:00pm
	Wednesday	May 15	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Sunday	May 19	Detroit Opera Theater Outing, 2:30pm
JUNE	Sunday	June 2	Hokehankist for Women's Guild Members, Tea After Services
	Wednesday	June 5	Membership Dinner
	Wednesday	June 19	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
JULY	TBD	TBD	Summer Outing
	Saturday	July 1	Manoogian Manor Visit, Transfiguration of Our Lord, 11:00am
AUGUST	Tuesday	August 13	Four Churches, Ladies Guild evening, St. John Armenian Church
	Sunday	August 18	Church Picnic Bake Sale, After Services
	Wednesday	August 21	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Saturday	August 24	Manoogian Manor Visit, Assumption of the Holy Mother of God, 11am
SEPTEMBER	Wednesday	September 4	General Body Meeting, 7:00pm
	Sunday	September 8	Khunjook/Family Fun Day
	Wednesday	September 18	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
	Saturday	September 21	Manoogian Manor Visit, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 11:00am
OCTOBER	TBD	TBD	General Body Meeting, 7:00pm
	Friday/Saturday	October 4-5	Bazaar Bake Sale & Hot Foods Volunteers
	Wednesday	October 16	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
NOVEMBER	Wednesday	November 6	General Body Meeting, Elections & Alternatives for Girls Drop-Off
	Wednesday	November 20	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm
DECEMBER	Wednesday	December 4	Advent by Candlelight
	Wednesday	December 18	Executive Board Meeting, 7:00pm