# Women's Guild News

June 2015

St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075 www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org

# A Message From Our Chairman...

Our annual summer Membership Dinner was truly a wonderful evening of celebration. Many of our members were recognized for their years of dedication and service. And, we were very fortunate to have so many recipients present. Your Women's Guild board was honored to prepare a dinner that allowed everyone a chance to sit together and enjoy one another's company.

We also celebrated the life of a modern woman; Helen Mekjian. Our dear Helen may not have realized it at the time but she was as contemporary as they come. A 70 year marriage, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, full time employment, volunteerism and a never ending supply of her beautiful hand work that graces so many of our homes. And, never thinking or believing that any of this was extraordinary. Helen has set a very high bar. She did it all and she had it all! We also remembered May Kafafian, our newest member for whom we all, in unison, recited the Women's Guild Pledge. She was our member in so many ways long before she filled out a membership application. In her own quiet way, she gave our Guild all she had, for which we are so very grateful.

And, now we mourn another extraordinary friend and mentor, our own Pam Dayinian. Our dear friend, member, past chairman and so much more, is now with the Lord, as Der Garabed said of all of our recently departed members. She has left a legacy of family devotion and a true life in Christ.

Each of these special women left their indelible marks in their own unique and valuable ways. They will be with us in ways that we cannot yet see. Helen, May and Pam were each an integral part of our church community without reservation. Our Guild is as strong as these remarkable women and as we go forward, we are honored to carry forth, their very generous and loving legacy.

Have a wonderful summer, drinking in all you can of your family, friends and loved ones. And, remember, even though we may think of summer as vacation time, you will be happy to know that the church is still open!

# Y. Joy Callan

### Summer Bake Schedule

Our summer baking has begun!! We again "NEED YOUR HELP"!! Please look at the schedules below and join us for a morning or evening working with friends, (as well as making new friends) as we prepare for our September Church Festival.



Upcoming Day Bake Dates:		
Tuesday June 23	Kufteh filling	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Monday June 29	Kufteh Outer Shell	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday June 30	Kufteh Outer Shell	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Monday July 6	Choreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tueday July 7	Sou Beoreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Monday July 13	Choreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday July 14	Sou Beoreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Monday July 20	Choreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday July 21	Sou Beoreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Monday July 27	Choreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday July 28	Sou Beoreg	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Any questions, please contact coordinator and leader Dolly Matoian at (248) 737-9055 or email her at dmatoian@att.net or to Sou Beoreg chairman Anita Arslanian at (248) 980-3198

# Upcoming Evening Bake Dates:

Monday June 22	Choreg	6:00 p.m 8:30 p.m.
Monday July 20	Choreg	6:00 p.m 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 22	Spinach Beoreg	6:00 p.m 8:30 p.m.
Monday August 17	Choreg	6:00 p.m 8:30 p.m.
Monday September 14	Choreg	6:00 p.m 8:30 p.m.

## For any questions contact:

Choreg chairman: Marianne Dardarian (248) 661-0617 mhdardarian@att.net Spinach Beoreg chairman: Linda Tiffany (248) 549-7106 anytiff@comcast.net

# Directory Change:

Margaret Dayinian cell: (313) 258-4129 (Home phone number no longer unlisted)





Our deepest sympathy to Anna Sarkisian on the loss of her dear mother Matushka Melanya Svirid and to Nina Sarkisian and her family on the loss of their khnamee.

We send sincere sympathy to Karmen Santourian on the passing of her beloved husband Richard and to daughter Christine on the loss of her dear father.

Our condolences to Kathy and Alice Mekjian on the loss of their dear mother and 60 year Guild member, Helen Mekjian and to her sister-in-law Virginia Mekjian.

The Guild sends heartfelt sympathy to the families of our dear members Sirvart Mezian and Pam Dayinian, sister-in-law of Margaret Dayinian. Both Sirvart and Pam continually displayed their faithful devotion to our church in so many ways.

We send our get-well wishes to Susan Janigian, who is recuperating at home after falling and injuring herself. We hope she makes a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing her soon.



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Congratulations to Sara Sarkisian Bell and Morgan Bell on the birth of their daughter Anya Rose on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Happy grandparents are Edward and Anna Sarkisian and great grandmother Nina Sarkisian. Also welcoming Anya to the family is big sister Sona and aunts Linda Houhanisin, Barbara Rupas, and Lisa Derderian.

A special note of appreciation to members Nora Norian, Diane Aginian and Terrie Palaian, who stepped in to help the board with the June Membership Dinner. And to the donors for the evening, Alice Argnian, Jane Hovsepian, Esther Kulhanjian, Linda Lutz, Dolly Matoian, Carol Ohanesian, Jean Sarkesian, Sue Tafralian and Marianne Zaminigan.

### Grape Leaves Needed for Yalanchi Sarma

Now is the perfect time to pick grape leaves. It's easy, goes very quickly, and will help a great deal when it comes time for our rolling the yahlanchi for our church festival. Members



need only to pick them, place in freezer bags and freeze them. Bring them any time you come to help with baking to be collected in the freezer. The grape leaves will be blanched by us before using, but if you would like to blanch them in boiling water, then place them on towels to dry before freezing. This will release any dirt from the leaves. (Directions are in our WG cookbook under "This & That"). Your donations would be greatly appreciated. Contact Dawn Aginian at (248) 225-7176 with any questions.



August 16th - Church Picnic September 25, 26, and  $27^{th}$  - Church Festival October 17th - Heritage Collection

Women's Guild Delegates White House Visit During Historic Assembly in Washington D.C.

L-R: Jackie El Chemmas, Nora Noraian, Joy Callan, Lauren Sarkesian (White House staff member and daughter of Marilyn Sarkesian), Marianne Dardarian, Marilyn Sarkesian



# May Kafafian's Memorial Tea





May's husband, Khatchig Kafafian and Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian sharing May's favorite dessert, apricot ice cream

# Guild Membership Dinner



Initiation of new member Helen Derderian with Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian



25 Year Honoree Joyce Obenhoff with Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

# Ten Year Honorees



L-R: Diane Aginian, Kim Kalajian, Rozann Vartoogian, Marilyn Sarkesian, Joyce Yeghissian, Nyree Geragosian, Anne Marie Ameriguian and Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

# 60 Year Honorees



L-R: Nancy Panaretos excepting for mother Nevart Godoshian, Nina Sarkisian, Agnes Hovsepian, Margaret Benian, Angela Banerian, and Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

# 90 Year Birthday Honoree



Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian with 92 year-old Birthday Honoree Mary Seremjian

#### **Honorees Not Present:**

### 10 Year:

Correne Akarakcian Seta Akarackcian Patrica Ann Akkashian Rene Apkarian Denise Pochas Karmen Santourian

### 25 Year:

Nan Boqosian Cynthia Jamian Susan Janiqian Anna Karakashian

#### 60 Year:

Nevart Godoshian Helen Mekijan Anne Tashjian

## June Membership Dinner

The Guild Membership Dinner was held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The meal was prepared by the Executive Board under the chairmanship of Joy Callan, with Khadayif dessert provided by Sue Ameriguian and Belinda Kabodian. After the invocation by Rev. Fr. Kochakian, the program began with the initiation of new member Helen Derderian and in memoriam, May Kafafian. All of the quests stood and recited the Women's Guild Pledge in unison. Awards were given to 10 year, 25 year, and 60 year members as well as the 90 year birthday honoree. Special honor and recognition was given to Pamela Dayinian for her extraordinary 45 years of dedicated service. In closing, a final message and benediction was given by Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian.

If you have something you would like to include in our newsletter, please contact Diana Vosganian at (248) 661-1875 or email: pasadenapenquin@gmail.com.