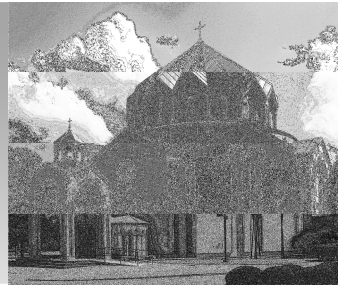


**St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit**

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248.569.3405 (phone) • 248.569.0716 (fax)

[www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org](http://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.**

**JULY 31, 2011—THE ARMENIAN YEAR 1459  
FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD  
ՏՕՆ ՄԵՐ ՏԻՐՈՋ ԱՅԼԱԿԵՐԴՈՒԴԵԱՆ—ՎԱՐՊԱՎԱՌ**

**THE LORD’S DAY—SUMMER SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Morning Service .....9:00 am  
Divine Liturgy .....9:30 am  
Requiem Prayers.....10:45 am

**SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY TODAY  
1 Zechariah 14:16-21, 1 John 1:1-17, Matthew 17:1-13**

**Lector: Peter Toukhanian**

*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: Matthew 17:1-13**

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead." And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" He replied, "Elijah does come, and he is to restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not know him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

### **FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD**

We offer prayers for the servant of God

**MICHAEL BLAKIAN**

Who entered his eternal rest this past week.

May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon his soul.

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Rev. Fr. Arsen Barsamian

Vahan Aglamishian

Rose Boudakian

Yetvart Bozajian

Dr. George Chatas

Helen Daiyan

Siranush Demirjian

Robert Vartan Gregory

Agnes Hagopian

Carl Kalayjian

Alice Prudian

William Pugh

George Zallakian

## **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS THE CHRIST**

### **In Armenian - *Aylagerbootiun/Baydzaragerbootiun***

The Transfiguration of Christ is the culminating point of His public life, as His Baptism is its starting point, and His Ascension its end. Moreover, this glorious event has been related in detail by St. Matthew (17:1-6), St. Mark (9:1-8). And St. Luke (9:28-36), while St. Peter (2 Peter 1:16-18) and St. John (1:1-14), two of the privileged witnesses, make allusion to it.

About a week after His sojourn in Caesarea Philippi, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John and led them to a high mountain apart, where He was transfigured before their ravished eyes. St. Matthew and St. Mark express this phenomenon by the word *metemorphothe*, which the Vulgate renders *transfiguratus est*. The Synoptics explain the true meaning of the word by adding "his face did shine as the sun: and his garments became white as snow," according to the Vulgate, or "as light," according to the Greek text.

This dazzling brightness which emanated from His whole Body was produced by an interior shining of His Divinity. False Judaism had rejected the Messiah, and now true Judaism, represented by Moses and Elias, the Law and the Prophets, recognized and adored Him, while for the second time God the Father proclaimed Him His only-begotten and well-loved Son. By this glorious manifestation the Divine Master, who had just foretold His Passion to the Apostles (Matthew 16:21), and who spoke with Moses and Elias and of the trials which awaited Him at Jerusalem, strengthened the faith of his three friends and prepared them for the terrible struggle of which they were to be witnesses in Gethsemani, by giving them a foretaste of the glory and heavenly delights to which we attain by suffering.

#### **TRANSFIGURATION PRAYER**

**God of life and glory,  
Your Son was revealed in splendor  
before he suffered death upon the cross;  
grant that we, beholding His majesty,  
may be strengthened to follow Him  
and be changed into His likeness from glory to glory;  
for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and for ever.**

## **The Mosaic Icon Depicting the Transfiguration**

The detailed accounts of this event in Christ's life are depicted in this image. On Mount Tabor in the presence of three apostles, Peter, James and John, Christ's earthly countenance assumed a heavenly and divine radiance beyond the comprehension of the limited human mind. Standing between the two Old Testament Prophets, Moses and Elijah, the Son of God revealed His divine nature. Jesus is the fulfillment of their prophecy and the divine law they represent. The Apostles, in varying postures at the feet of the Transfigured Lord, and the prophets Moses and Elijah show the blended accounts of the three synoptic writers. St. Mark and St. Matthew describe them as overwhelmed and amazed upon seeing Christ's shrouded body in the cloud of light and hearing the voice of His Father. St. Luke tells us that the Apostles have just awakened, accounting for one reclining figure. The darkness of the ground vividly contrasts to the *mandoria* of light which engulfs the transfigured Lord and radiates through the prophets.

### **What is *Vartavar*?**

*Vartavar* is a festival in Armenia where people of all ages douse each other with water. *Vartavar's* origins can be traced to pagan times, where it was associated with Astghik, the goddess of water, love and fertility. Before Christianity, the people of Armenia sprinkled each other with water and decorated the temple of Astghik with roses and flowers, which is why the celebration is called *Vartavar* —"decorated with roses." It is now typically celebrated about 14 weeks after Easter, and coincides with the Feast of the Transfiguration. The festival is popular among children as it is the one day when they can get away with pulling pranks and throwing water on people. It is also a welcome means of cooling off on a hot July day.

**KEF KLUB—FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 6 PM . . . BINGO!!!**

**St. John Recreation Center**

**Join us for a Fried Chicken Dinner and Games!  
Adults- \$8. 12 and under \$5. 5 and under-FREE**

**Make it a Family Reunion!**

**RSVP by August 15: Diane Ekizian 248.851.4069  
dlekizian@yahoo.com**

### **WANTED: USED ARMENIAN BOOKS**

The Parish Bookstore is accepting donations of gently used books on Armenian subjects for its Used Book Sale at this year's FESTIVAL. Drop books off at the Church Office during business hours or on Sundays.

**An Appeal from our Diocesan Primate for Helping Tornado Relief  
in Western Massachusetts**

My blessings and warm greetings to you all. I am writing to encourage you to help the members of a sister parish in our Diocese, in an effort of compassionate outreach to their neighbors and fellow citizens. On June 1 in Springfield MA, severe weather conditions resulted in multiple tornadoes which caused great damage to life and property: overturning vehicles, destroying buildings—and leaving four people dead and some 200 others injured. Governor Deval Patrick declared a state of emergency, calling up 1,000 members of the National Guard. Our Diocesan parish, the St. Mark Armenian Church, situated close by to where one of the tornadoes touched down, itself was blessed not to suffer any damage. Since that terrible day, its parishioners have been working with local churches to bring relief to those who until now have remained adversely affected by the unexpected, tumultuous weather. Through the request of St. Mark's to our Diocesan leaders, we ask for your help and encourage you to support the relief efforts organized by the Council of Churches of Greater Springfield, working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on immediate-term and long-term relief to the people of the region. Among the many families affected by the tornados were some parishioners from surrounding Armenian community who shall benefit from this effort of assistance .

With this directive, a special collection for tornado relief in Western Massachusetts is to be held on Sunday, July 31, 2011—the Feast of the Transfiguration. Individuals and parishes should make checks out to the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (please write “Springfield Tornado Relief” in the memo). All funds collected should be sent to the Diocesan Center (630 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016) no later than Friday, August 5. All of the proceeds will be used for relief efforts, to be distributed through the Council of Churches of Greater Springfield. The council's website, [www.councilofchurchesgs.org](http://www.councilofchurchesgs.org), has additional information on its tornado relief work. I encourage all our Diocesan parishes and parishioners to support the St. Mark Church in this worthwhile cause, through your prayers and any contributions you can offer.

With prayers,

*Archbishop Khajag Bazsamian, Primate*

**AUGUST 14—FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION  
OF THE HOLY MOTHER-OF-GOD**

**In accordance with the tradition of our church, grapes will be blessed and distributed to the faithful on this feast day. Parishioners who wish to sponsor or contribute toward the provision of grapes are asked to please call the Church Office by August 10th.**

## WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

**Summer Festival Preparation** – Please join us on Monday, August 1 at 9 am to prepare **Khalkha** and on Tuesday, August 2 at 9 am to prepare **Yalanchi**. You do not have to be a Women's Guild member to participate and no experience is necessary. This is a St. John's project. Come and learn from the experts to make delicious Armenian delicacies.

### **Evening Khalkha Bake**

Our next evening bake will be held Monday, August 15, 6:00-8:00 pm. All are welcome.

**Moms and Manoogs** meets once or twice a month. The days vary according to the schedules of the moms and the three new manoogs that have joined our group in the last two months. Please call Kristen Gustafson for further information, 248.765.0471 or send her an email: [frissy10@hotmail.com](mailto:frissy10@hotmail.com)

*Service to the church and community, summer outings, dinners, informative presentations, spiritual retreats, Advent by Candlelight, and making wonderful friends . . . if this sounds good to you, The Women's Guild invites you to become a member. For more information, please call Linda Assarian, 248-332-0816.*



## ST. JOHN'S SUMMER DAY CAMP—2011 SEASON IN SESSION NOW!!!

**NO CAMP AUGUST 1-5 DUE TO HYE CAMP**

**SESSION 7: AUGUST 8-12 CULTURAL WEEK**

Swim Day—Manoogian Museum

Arab American Museum—Holocaust Museum

**SESSION 8: AUGUST 15-19 SURPRISE THEME**

Swim Day-Surprise Adventure

**SCHEDULE MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



## DAY BY DAY . . . AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2011, 12:00 NOON IN THE NURSERY ROOM

Bring your Bible & your lunch; we'll provide the coffee. All are welcome!

### **SUNDAY SUMMER HOURS: JUNE 26 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4**

Morning prayers will begin at 9:00 am. the Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:30 am.

Requiem prayers, when offered, will begin at 10:45 am.

### **TRACKING OUR TREASURES—SUNDAY, JULY 24**

Plate Donations      \$251.00      Candle Donations      \$30.00

## **Photo Road Rally Scavenger Hunt**

**Next Saturday, August 6, 2011**

St. John's Men's Society invites you to a great afternoon adventure open to the first 48 adventurous souls who register! This is how it will work: at 12:00 Noon on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> participants will meet at St. John's, enjoy munchies, get the rules and the clues, and form teams of 4. At 1:00 pm it will be time for teams to hit the road with a snack bag and one digital camera per car. At 4:00 pm get your pictures developed at a CVS or wherever you like and meet back at St. John's by 5:00 pm to assemble your photos for scoring. Dinner will be at 5:30 pm and winners will be announced at 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$20.00 each plus any expenses your team has in developing the film. Flyers/registration forms are available in the church lobby. For questions, email John Lucassian at [hyejohn@yahoo.com](mailto:hyejohn@yahoo.com).

### **AT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE**

**NEW! HANDBAG HANGER WITH  
SILVER PLATE ARMENIAN STYLE CROSS & VELVETEEN POUCH—\$10.00**

**Armenian Cuisine—Preserving Our Heritage—HC—\$25.00**

**Armenian Dictionary in Transliteration  
by Thomas Samuelian-SC-\$20.00**

**New! Shirak's Dictionary of Armenian Names  
by Ohannes Hannessian-SC-\$22.00**

**Bi-lingual — makes a great baby shower gift!**

**New! Who are the Armenians? by Susan Paul Pattie  
Aimed at children aged 5-12**

**With CD of music and words—SC-\$20.00**

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE . . . SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011  
DETROIT KEF TIME**

**MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH**

**FEATURING HACHIG KAZARIAN & RICHARD HAGOPIAN  
\$65.00 PER PERSON**

**INFORMATION/RESERVATIONS: ISABELLE VAHRATIAN 248-890-2185  
SPONSORED BY THE WOMEN'S GUILD & MEN'S SOCIETY**

### **THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

*The pessimist complains about the wind;  
the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.*

## **ON LEAVING THE SANCTUARY AFTER BADARAK**

**Q. What do I say when approaching the Holy Gospel at the end of the Divine Liturgy?**

**You say:**

*Heeshetzeh Der zamenaym Badarakus koh.*

**Յիշեցէ Տէր զամենայն  
Պատարագս քո:**

May the Lord remember all your offerings.

**The Priest answers:**

*Datseh kez Der usd srdee koom yev  
zamenayn khorhoortus koh ee parees na  
gadarsestseh.*

**Տացէ քեզ Տէր ըստ սրտի քում եւ զամենայն  
խորհուրդս քո ի բարիս նա կատարեսցէ:**  
May the Lord grant you according to your  
own heart, and fulfill all your  
counsel in goodness. (Psalm 20:4)

**Q. What do I say when I take  
Mahs?**

**The GIVER says:**

*Mahs yev pazheen yegheetsee  
kez ee Soorp Badarakes.*

**Մաս եւ բաժին եղիցի քեզ ի  
Սուրբ Պատարագէս:**

May this be to you a share and  
portion of the Holy Sacrifice.

**The RECEIVER says**

*Pahjeen eem Asdvadz haveedyan.*

**Բաժին իմ Աստուած յաւիտեան:**

**God is my portion forever.**

## **THE KISS OF PEACE**

**The GIVER says:**

**Christ is revealed amongst us.**

*Kreesdos ee mech mer haydnetsav.*

**The RECEIVER says:**

**Blessed is the revelation of Christ.**

*Orhnyal eh haydnootyoonun  
Kreedosee.*

## **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**