

AMERICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY RESURRECTION

11 Erwin Place  
New Britain, Connecticut

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT-1966

PRESENTED AT ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY OF JANUARY 29, 1967

1. 1966 OFFICERS

At the first Parish Council Meeting on February 15, 1966, the members of the newly formed council were elected to their respective offices, as follows:

Chairman	John Maljanian
Vice-Chairman	Peter Egazarian
Secretary	Harry Hougas
Co-Treasurers	Given Hoosigian Gregory Abrahamian
Pledge Custodian	Peter Egazarian
Asst. Pledge Custodian	Monty Bagdigian
Reporter	B. J. Hovanessian
Advisor	Harry Azarigian
Advisor	Walter Gerogosian

2. MEETINGS

Eleven regularly scheduled monthly meetings of the Parish Council were held (no meeting was held in November) to handle the routine business of the council.

Three special meetings were held in conjunction with the Hartford Church Organizations and the Ladies Aid of our Church in making preparations for the annual church picnic which was held jointly with Saint George's Church of Hartford.

The regular Special Membership Meeting was called in November (after Church services) to elect the nominating committee for the Annual Parish Assembly.

3. CHURCH ENTERPRISES

The Parish Council planned, organized and conducted the following affairs in the course of the year. Special emphasis was placed on Church enterprises in an effort to overcome the fact that the Church has been operating at a deficit for the past several years.

- a) 25th Anniversary Celebration - The Anniversary Banquet was held on Sunday, May 8th, Mothers' Day. Archbishop Sion Manogian, Primate, was present. A special booklet was prepared and distributed to the attendees. Total donations were \$1,319. The 1967 Annual Banquet has been tentatively scheduled for March 19th.
- b) Annual Church Picnic - The picnic was held jointly with Saint George's Church of Hartford on August 28th at Falcon Field in Hartford. The proceeds were split evenly between New Britain and Hartford with New Britain's share being \$678.59. The 1967 picnic will also be held at Falcon Field, with Hartford, on August 27th.
- c) Raffle - The Parish Council held a raffle. The drawing took place on Saturday night, November 5, after a Ladies Aide sponsored Bingo. The raffle profit was \$580.76.

4. MAINTENANCE

The regular minor maintenance requirements of the Church were met. In addition, the following major items are noted:

- a) Windows - Due to stone throwing by neighborhood children, four of our stained glass windows were broken. These were repaired at a cost of \$114.00. Local police were notified and they promised to patrol the area.

- b) Fence - The fence which had been neglected for many years was repaired. The gates were also repaired and locks installed to seal off the parking area when the Church was not in use. It was felt that this would also reduce the hazard of window breakage from neighborhood children throwing stones in the parking lot. The cost of fence repairs was \$75.00.
- c) Water line - It was reported by Gregory Abrahamian that the water line for the Church, which comes off North Street, was in danger of rupture. He recommended a new service be installed off Erwin Place. The Parish Council approved the new installation and Gregory Abrahamian was authorized to proceed with and have the new service installed. The installation was completed at no cost to the Church through the courtesy of B and J Construction Company who completed the job at no charge.

5. PUBLICATIONS

Circulars were mailed to keep the membership advised of all major Church activities. In addition, "Looy's" was mailed on a more regular basis to advise of community news and the goings-on in the Church groups.

The Parish Council has approved the purchase of a used Addressograph machine to be used for the addressing of Church mail. For this purpose, \$380 has been carried over and included in the proposed 1967 budget - \$300 is for the machine and \$80 is for the plates.

6. SACREMENTS

In the course of the year, the following Sacraments were performed:

Weddings	0
Baptisms	5
Funerals	2

7. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

To be a member in good standing of this Church, one must, according to our by-laws, pledge \$1.00 per week to the Church or a lesser amount with Parish Council approval under the "exception" clause in the by-laws as it applies to hardship cases.

The Church Records show the following pledges for the year 1966:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount/Wk.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount/Wk.</u>
5	\$ .25	1	\$1.50
1	.30	13	2.00
14	.50	1	2.25
1	.75	2	2.50
1	.80	4	3.00
27	1.00	1	3.25
1	1.15	1	4.00
1	1.25	1	5.00

Total pledges - 75

Total pledged income - \$5,152.

Total pledges in good standing - 32

A very large percentage of our parishoners do not meet the \$1.00/wk. minimum pledge requirement even though they can afford it. For instance, most of the \$1.00/wk pledges noted above are for families which means that the husband and wife are only pledging \$.50/wk. each.

There appears to be a great reluctance on the part of capable people to pay the minimum pledge and meet the membership requirements. Note, that if you are not paying the minimum pledge, you are not a member in good standing of your Church unless you pledge the lesser amount through the "exception" clause of the by-laws.

It is recommended that all persons not pledging the minimum, whom the Parish Council feels can afford the minimum, be contacted by the Parish Council in the coming year, and that they be advised of their status with strong urging that they raise their pledge to the minimum.

With regard to new pledges, we feel that our young people should be strongly urged to accept membership pledges at age 21 once they complete their schooling. This is something we cannot force upon them, however the parents should certainly help in this area.

The outstanding amount on past pledges at year end was \$860. We ask all those who owe back pledges to make the necessary payments to bring themselves up to date. We do not feel it is asking too much of the parishoners to meet theirs.

In the past, the Parish Council has been lenient in allowing membership status to those not paying the minimum pledge. This leniency has been granted for the last time this year. Those requesting below minimum pledges will be asked to qualify under the exception clause of the by-laws by filling out the appropriate form for Parish Council approval.

#### 8. FINANCES

The Auditor's Report covers this item in great detail. However, a net profit is shown for the year's operations.

The year 1966 was closed with all commitments paid and, in addition, the \$200 funding for the new water supply has been set aside.

#### 9. CHURCH INVENTORY

At the request of the January 1966 Parish Assembly, Father Michael chaired the committee for a complete inventory of the Church. This task has been completed and the results

were included as part of Father Michael's report.

10. 1967 BUDGET

The proposed budget for 1967 is attached for reference and discussion when it is brought up under New Business.

11. CONCLUSION

At this time, I would like to first express my personal appreciation to the members of the Parish Council for their faithful services throughout the year.

In addition, on behalf of the Council I would like to thank the Priest, Yeretgin, the Deacons, Choir Director, Choir, Organists, Sunday School Superintendent and teachers, Ladies Aide, ACYOA, Mr. and Mrs. Club, and the members of the congregation itself for their continuing help throughout the year.

We have tried to make this report as complete as possible, and hope we have not made any important omissions.

Respectfully Submitted,

*John Maljanian*  
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Chairman, Parish Council