

ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH

666 Richmond Road
Cleveland, Ohio
44143. U.S.A.

Area Code 216—Tel. 381-6590

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December 15, 1978

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence:

During the past six months, Father Diran and the Cleveland parish council have worked very hard together to strengthen various areas in the operation of our parish to better serve our church, parishoners, and the Armenian community. We have concentrated on visitations, increased involvement with all of the church organizations, sermons, and church attendance.

Our two December parish council meeting were devoted to examining the fruits of our hard work. I am pleased to report we have made excellant progress. At our December 4th meeting the parish council after reviewing the previous six months, unanimously gave Father Diran a "WELL DONE" vote. Also, the parish council looking to the future endorsed and supported Father Diran's activities for the coming year (1979), realizing that at the end of each fiscal year it was beneficial to review the previous years' activities for both our pastor and parish council to recognize the gains and areas which should be strengthened, thru mutual cooperation. Father Diran and the parish council also agreed to increase Father Diran's working schedule to include every other Monday to allow him additional time for his responsibilities.

At its December 11th meeting the parish council presented its estimated budget for 1979 in preparation for the annual Parish Assembly on Sunday, Feb. 4.

When the subject of Father Diran's stipend was arrived at, our estimate was for \$11,500 as against \$9,850 for 1978. We immediately came to the impasse of "part time-full time priest" over which we have spent so many hours in the past. Father Diran is firm in his position that he is "full time" because of the number of hours and days he spends here and that this entitles him to a minimum of \$13,305 (\$8,806 basic salary and 7 longevity increments). Also

REV. FR. DIRAN PAPAIZIAN · PASTOR

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he has made himself available for emergencies when away from the parish. However, some of the parish council members feel that since neither his home nor his family membership are part of the Cleveland parish we are not having the benefit of a full time pastor.

We feel that we have come to a point where we need your firm restatement of his status as a part time priest or your written instructions otherwise before Feb. 4, our Annual Assembly date.

Also, we would like to remind you that we continue to look forward to the day that we may have a priest who can reside in our parish full time and the parish council has suggested that you consider our request as your parish assignments permit.

Very Respectfully,



Father Diran Papazian
Pastor



Florence Goekjian
Corresponding Secretary



Jack Hacherian
Parish Council Chairman