

**CORNERSTONE BLESSING AND DEDICATION BANQUET
OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS AND
COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING • FEBRUARY 27, 1966**

BLESSING OF THE CORNERSTONE

by the Primate, Archbishop Sion Manoogian

AND DEDICATION BANQUET

Sunday afternoon, February 27, 1966, 1:30 P.M.

*at the new reception hall 209-15 Horace
Harding Expressway, Bayside, New York*





HISTORICAL SKETCH OF OUR NEW BUILDING

Today, ten years since the construction of the church proper, the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs has erected its much-needed and long-awaited Church School and Community Center Building adjacent to the Church.

The new center has abundant facilities to serve the varied educational, cultural, and social needs of the growing Armenian-American community on Long Island, under the Pastorate of the Rev. Fr. Vartan Megherian.

The Building Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. George G. Bashian, has brought to reality a long-standing dream of the Armenians on Long Island; the campaign that started three years ago has borne fruit: the Holy Martyrs Church School and Community Center is a fact.

Our initial fund-raising drive

brought \$70,000 in pledges. A few months later, parishioners of the church and parents of the Sunday School children pledged \$12,000. During the course of the years, many parish auxiliary organizations participated in activities which raised funds for the new building.

The structure, designed by the noted architect, Manoug Exerjian, grew out of a desperate need for classroom facilities for the Holy Martyrs Church Sunday School, which up to now was being conducted in makeshift conditions that hampered the progress of a steadily-growing enrollment.

Ground-breaking ceremonies took place on May 24, 1964, with the Primate, Archbishop Sion Manoogian, officiating. Construction contracts were signed on May 19, 1965, with Schumacher and Forelle Inc., and the building was completed by the

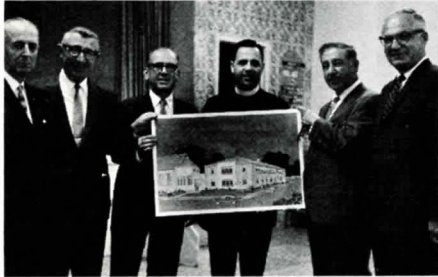
end of the year, at a cost of \$241,000, with additional expenses raising it to perhaps \$275,000, well within the authorized budget set by the Parish Assembly held in February of 1965.

Our new building conforms in general character with the existing building. It does not obstruct, disturb, or dominate, but rather emphasizes the unique charm of the church.

The Holy Martyrs Church School and Community Center will serve as an educational building, housing the students of the Sunday and Armenian Language Schools, and as a center for the youth of the ACYOA and Scouts, and for the members of the Choir, Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary, Woman's Guild, Men's League, and community organizations.



AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE ACHIEVED



After months of dedicated effort and sacrifice our beautiful new Sunday School Building is now completed and should be a source of inspiration and pride to every member of our community.

This most welcome addition to our existing Church and Church Hall will provide a happy spiritual home for our sons and daughters. Within its serene and inspiring atmosphere they will receive rich spiritual nourishment and a wealth of religious knowledge which will add meaning and substance to their lives and enable them to grow into useful men and women.

*In keeping with our beloved Armenian tradition, this sacred edifice provides facilities which will serve as a **LIVING MEMORIAL** to honor our departed loved ones.*

We urge those of you who wish to dedicate a memorial for a loved

*one to take advantage of this opportunity by subscribing to one of the memorials listed below.**

*The Auditorium — \$45,000
Recreation Room — \$10,000
Large Meeting
Room — \$10,000
Choir Room — \$ 5,000
16 Classrooms — \$ 2,000 each*

Help to lay the corner stone to our children's future by your whole-hearted support!

**All prior donations for the School Building Fund are applicable to any of the Memorials.*

A DESCRIPTION OF OUR NEW BUILDING

The new building is easily accessible to all parts of the church building and its surrounding area, with as few steps as possible. It has its own paved parking field which area serves as well for service and deliveries for both buildings.

The second floor is totally devoted for fifteen well-lighted classrooms, opening into a centre corridor and arranged so that with a number of folding partitions these rooms may be combined into larger areas. It has its own washrooms for boys and girls.

The first floor main entrance is on Horace Harding Boulevard.

It also has an all glass entrance and exit doors to an attractively landscaped and finished decorative back yard opening into a 15' x 20' reception lobby.

The Reception Hall (44' x 60') has a 37' long full height thermopane window facing the back yard separated from the service part with a decorative wall 5' high and 54' long. The fully air-conditioned and ventilated Reception Hall has been carefully decorated to create a refined atmosphere suitable for all forms of gatherings and affairs.

In addition to the Reception Hall, there is on the first floor an air-conditioned Auxiliary Hall approximately 20' x 40' in size. A completely equipped Serving Pantry 17' x 22' will (except for heavy dinners) amply provide all food and refreshment requirements.

Washrooms for men and women, as well as ladies' powder room, coat room, phone booth, all are included on this floor.

Also on the first floor is included an all-important good sized and easily accessible Choir Room.

In the basement, in addition to the heating and tool room, etc., is provided a completely finished and ventilated Recreation Room 28' x 33' in size with a 10' ceiling height, shower room and closets.