

January 27, 1976

PRIMATE'S MESSAGE

When measured against the ancient history of our Church, fifty years are hardly more than a moment of time. So vast have been the experience of our Church in the more than 1,600 years since it was established by Saint Gregory, that our life in this new world must shrink accordingly. But to us who have lived that life, who have worked in this Diocese, who have worshipped in its parishes, it is everything.

The Saint Mary Armenian Church of Livingston, New Jersey, must rejoice in the fiftieth anniversary of its organized existence as a parish, a time span that encompasses the full lives of so many of us, during which so many of our people came together in love of God and His goodness.

Beginning in Newark, then moving to Irvington, and now to a bright and beautiful place of worship in Livingston, the St. Mary Parish has been the spiritual and community center for several generations of our people, blessed with outstanding clerical and lay leadership, and blessed with parishioners who have seemed to understand the meaning of their church, and what love of it meant and means.

We rejoice with all those who have made Saint Mary's their spiritual home, and celebrate with them this special anniversary, beseeching God to continue to love us as we love Him, and grant us many more years of service in His vineyard of Saint Mary.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

PRIMATE'S MESSAGE

We wish to congratulate the Livingston parish on the happy occasion of the 60th anniversary of the consecration of St. Mary Armenian Church.

This is an important milestone in the life of our Livingston community who has been a steadfast example of the ever-renewing faith and determination of our people. It was a sad event when the old structure was destroyed by fire. The parish, with vision and purpose, rebuilt the beautiful structure that we have today in Livingston.

For sixty years, St. Mary has gathered its flock, leading them in their spiritual and cultural life. The present pastor, the Very Rev. Fr. Houssig Bagdasian, with his vigor has carried out his duties ever mindful of the importance of the church in the life of every Christian Armenian. The parish council, through the years, has been the wise steward in directing the Church's welfare and future.

Our prayers and blessings are with you, as you celebrate the anniversary of your church, and hope that you continue to lead your lives in the path of God's wisdom and inspire our youth to follow your footsteps.

May God bless you all and may His spirit shower you with the faith and love that are His alone to bestow.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

September 1986



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DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016-4885 212 686-0710

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

PRIMATE'S MESSAGE

We send you our warm congratulations on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Araratian Armenian School of St. Mary Church.

In a world where so much vies for the attention of our children and where so much succeeds in capturing it, a successful Armenian School is indeed a great achievement. The Araratian School has been able to bring Armenian children together each week to learn their beautiful ancestral language, to hear about its literature, its history, its music, and its traditions, and to make every effort to live those traditions in daily life. It has done so with great joy and enthusiasm and great success.

And it has done so for sixty years.

Such a long and multi-faceted effort depends on the devotion and skills of its leaders. We salute the School's teachers and superintendent, both those who staff it today and those who came before. For it is the contribution and talent of all of those dear people that form the story of the Araratian School. And we congratulate your pastor, Father Houssig, for his continued guidance and leadership. All must receive the heart-felt appreciation of their community on behalf of the children whose hearts they have opened and whose minds they have filled.

God bless you. And may God always inspire you to that noble task of lighting the souls of children with a knowledge of their roots and a love of their people.

Abp. Torkom Manoogian

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

November 1989