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ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

ASSEMBLY

1956

WASHINGTON, D.C.



H.N.



HIS HOLINESS VASKEN I
CATHOLICOS-PATRIARCH OF ALL ARMENIANS

With Best Wishes

Rev. and Mrs. Boghos Manoukian

THE ARMENIAN CHURCH ... AND ... ETCHMIADZIN CATHEDRAL

Armenia was one of the first countries where Christianity was introduced by the Apostles. The Church of Armenia was established through direct apostolic preaching by St. Thaddeus and St. Bartholomew who are called the First Enlighteners of Armenia.

St. Thaddeus spent eight years (35-43 A. D.) and St. Bartholomew sixteen years (44-60 A. D.) in Armenia, during which time they converted many to the Christian faith. These Apostles were martyred in Armenia and their graves were venerated in two Armenian shrines.

In 287 A. D. King Tiridates III of Armenia was converted by St. Gregory the Enlightener and became renowned as the first Christian king in history.

With the help of the King, St. Gregory converted Armenia to Christianity and in 301 A. D. Christianity was proclaimed the official religion of Armenia.

While Christianity was a persecuted religion everywhere Armenia had made it her state religion and she became the torchbearer of Christianity in the East.

In 301 A. D. St. Gregory built the Cathedral of Etchmiadzin in Vagharshapat at the foot of Mount Ararat. The plan for this church was revealed to St. Gregory in a vision wherein Christ appeared before him and said: "You will build a Cathedral for God upon this land".

The king and his court helped St. Gregory to carry stones to build this Cathedral which was dedicated to the Holy Virgin Mary. But in memory of this vision it is generally called Etchmiadzin, meaning the place where the Only Begotten Son of God descended.

Etchmiadzin is the Holy See of the Armenian Church and the residence of the Catholicos, i. e. the Supreme Pontiff.

With Best Wishes

Mr. and Mrs. Francis G. Avedikian
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Babashanian
Mr. and Mrs. Aram K. Jerrehian
Mr. and Mrs. Khosrof Khosrofian



HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MAMPRE CALFAYAN
Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church and
President of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

With Best Wishes

Mr. and Mrs. Nishan Hintlian

Message of The Primate

To our dear sons and daughters of the ACYOA:

A period of ten years in the life of an organization should be measured both in terms of its objectives and the degree of progress towards their attainment. From its very inception ten years ago, the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America has served as an important medium for perpetuating in this country the noblest expression of the spiritual and moral values of the Armenian people — the Armenian Church. It has been instrumental in bringing together a group of our younger generation and has instilled in them a keen consciousness of all those finer qualities which have characterized the spiritual and cultural aspirations of our people. It has imbued them with a sense of belonging to a common heritage — both spiritual and cultural.

Those of you who have grown with the Organization since its first days, and those of you who joined in later years, can look back at its growth and development with a sense of satisfaction and pride; and those of us who have followed with keen interest its steady progress and achievements are equally proud of a fine record. The Organization has fully justified its *raison d'être*, since all its endeavors to attain lofty ideals have been crowned with success.

This achievement, which has been real and impressive, will, I am sure, not lead you to complacency, but rather it will provide a strong inducement for greater achievements. Dedication to the sustenance of spiritual nourishment is the lifeblood of an organization devoted to the glory of the Almighty and to the welfare of the Armenian people. The human soul would be meaningless without the continuous flow of spiritual inspiration which only the Church can provide. I am confident that you will be guided by a full realization of this fundamental truth, and with renewed vigor, determination and vigilance will achieve new and greater triumphs.

With my paternal blessings for your continued success,

Prayerfully yours,

ARCHBISHOP MAMPRE CALFAYAN

*Primate, Diocese of the
Armenian Church of North America*



HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MAMPRE CALFAYAN
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With my paternal blessings for your continued success,

Prayerfully yours,

ARCHBISHOP MAMPRE CALFAYAN

*Primate, Diocese of the
Armenian Church of North America*



HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP TIRAN

With Best Wishes
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Manoogian

Message From His Eminence Archbishop Tiran

*To the beloved members of the Armenian Church Youth
Organization of America, affectionate paternal greetings!*

Since I left the United States and took my residence in the Holy City of Jerusalem, I have been following with great interest, through the *Armenian Guardian* and through personal correspondence, the direction of your progress and I am glad to say that I am gratified with your steady pace forward and upward.

When I was the president of your Organization, I constantly urged you to be conscious of the fact that a heavy responsibility rests upon the shoulders of the young people of our church in America. This is because they happen to have matured in a critical period of transition in which our people are passing from a community composed of foreign born American-Armenians to a community of native born Armenian-Americans. You are, therefore, now living and working at a time when the character and the outlook of our community in America is rapidly changing. It is changing from a political-linguistic-racial community into a religious-cultural-church community. This change is inevitable. And it is taking place in you and through you.

Now, it is vitally important that this change should take place in the right direction. You must see your way clearly and proceed on it resolutely. Because when you know where you are going, you will not be lost. You will not waste your time in blind alleys. You will not be frustrated in aimless wanderings.

"How can a young man keep his way pure?" — queries the Psalmist in his address to God. Then he gives the significant answer: "By guarding it according to Thy Word". (Ps. 119:9).

Be therefore diligent in learning and heeding God's Word, spoken to you through the Scriptures and through your forefathers in the Church throughout the length and the breadth of the history of our people. Keep up the good work you have been called upon to do. Find your spiritual home in the Church of your ancestors, who have bequeathed a glorious heritage for us. Make that heritage live, both for your own benefit and for the benefit of those coming after you. Be activists and at the same time visionaries. Realize the prediction of the Prophet, renewed by the Apostle, speaking in God's name:

"... and your young men shall see visions" (Acts I:17).

May your visions never get marred or dimmed, but may they be noble and bright always!

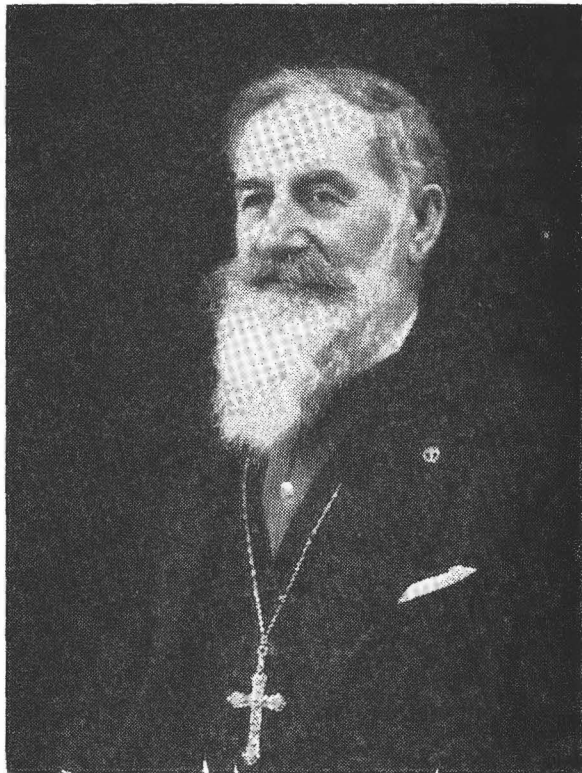
I remain yours with my prayers and blessings.

TIRAN, ARCHBISHOP

Jerusalem — 19 July, 1956

In Memoriam

«Տէր ընկալցի գիողի պաշտօնէի
եկեղեցւոյս ի լոյս երեսաց իւրոց»:



His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre
April 21, 1867 — March 29, 1956

Mr. and Mrs. Mesrob Avakian

His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre

His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre, son of Hovsep and Vartouhi Ter Hovhannessian, and descendant of the ancient Princes of Garabagh, was born in Norshen, Province of Artzakh in Armenia, on April 21, 1867, and was christened Tigran.

He entered the Kevorkian Seminary of Etchmiadzin and was ordained to the celibate priesthood in 1894 and renamed Tirayre Abegha.

He studied in the universities of St. Petersburg, Paris, Brussels, and London.

In 1917 the Very Rev. Tirayre Vardapet was consecrated Bishop and appointed Chancellor of the Ho'y See, and held this office until his election in 1921 to the Primacy of America, which at that time covered all of the United States, Canada, Central and South America.

His Eminence arrived in the United States in March, 1921 and served as Primate until September 1928. For His Eminence the Canons of the Church were sacred and he expected absolute compliance and strict discipline.

During his primacy the Diocese was transferred from Worcester, Mass., to New York City, in 1927.

In seven years Archbishop Tirayre consecrated ten churches, namely in Los Angeles, Boston, New Britain, Troy, Philadelphia, Chicago, Racine, and South Milwaukee. He also ordained several deacons to the priesthood, including Rev. Father Arsen Torosian and Rev. Father Khachik Krouzian.

His Eminence had been instrumental in establishing Sunday Schools, Youth Groups, and Ladies Auxiliaries throughout the Diocese.

Since 1927 Archbishop Tirayre had made his home in Upper Manhattan, where he devoted much of his time to writing. For the past ten years he had been compiling a Dictionary of Regional Armenian.

His 756-page volume on Frik, which was published in New York in 1952, is a fine example of his scholarship.

Archbishop Tirayre has ten published and thirty-nine unpublished works on various subjects.

His Eminence was not only a distinguished prelate but also a renowned bibliophile. He was the owner of a magnificent library of some 5,000 volumes. A discriminating collector, His Eminence specialized in first and limited editions, rare bindings, and rare illustrations.

Archbishop Tirayre, the noble prince, prelate and scholar, passed to his eternal rest on Holy Thursday, March 29, 1956, at the age of 89.

He was the last survivor of the four great men who had been classmates in Etchmiadzin, His Holiness Catholicos Georg VI., His Holiness Catholicos Garegin I. of Cilicia, and the immortal Komitas Vardapet.

Srpouhie A. Essefian

Washington, D. C., August, 1956

The Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Jr.



Photo by Harris & Ewing
Washington, D.C.

Dean of Washington Cathedral

With Best Wishes

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Babigan
Mr. and Mrs. Souren Hanessian
Mr. and Mrs. George Kevorkian
Dr. and Mrs. Edward Ohaneson

Hope

The "Chief Mission Church of the Diocese"—this is the phrase used in diocesan annals to describe the purpose of the Washington Cathedral. It is a mission church whose task, like every mission, is to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Unlike others, it performs this function without a local congregation or many of the accustomed parish organizations and activities.

A Cathedral's calling is to clothe God's Word in the grandeur of everlasting majesty for all the world to behold.

Through a half century the Cathedral in the Capital City has come to be recognized as the symbol of a nation under God. The voice of the Cathedral and its ministry speaks with directness to the men and the issues of our day. To those who live in Washington and to the many who come from far and near, the worship of the Cathedral speaks of Power and Providence and of the family of God whose house it is.

Here is offered not only a challenge but a unique opportunity to friends, old and new, to join in fellowship as builders and keepers of a national center of Christian inspiration—THE WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL.

FRANCIS B. SAYRE, JR.

WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL

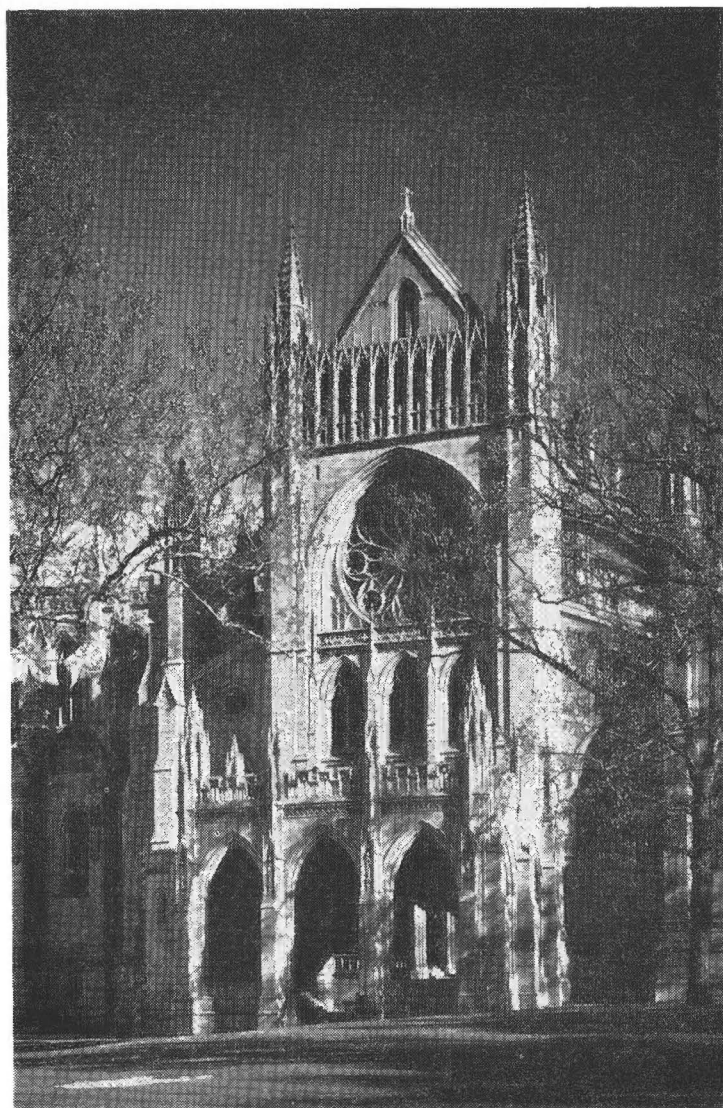


Photo by C. H. Severance

The North Transept

With Best Wishes

Mr. and Mrs. Hrandt Norair

Washington Cathedral Crowns Highest Point in Capital

High above the historic Potomac River, WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL occupies a commanding position on the skyline of the Nation's Capital. Designed in the purest Gothic tradition, when completed it will rank among the six greatest Cathedrals in the world.

Visitors have the unique experience of seeing how a Cathedral of the middle ages must have looked under construction. Yet it is not a copy of an old world structure but an expression of the finest in Gothic architecture and symbolism, rising on American soil to serve Americans as their Cathedral in the heart of the nation.

Cruciform in design, the North and South Transepts forming the arms of the cross, its foundations measure one-tenth of a mile from the exterior of the Apse to the West Portal. Its Gloria in Excelsis tower will rise 125 feet above the Washington Monument. The total area will be 75,000 square feet.

Americans everywhere consider it "Our Cathedral". Thousands have shared in building it through their contributions toward its construction and maintenance. Their gifts, many in the form of memorial and thanksgiving stones costing from \$10 up, are incorporated into its walls.

More than 250,000 annually come to visit and worship here. Students of architecture and art, of organ and choral music, of history and liturgics, study and observe. Photographers constantly record its rare and beautiful features. The Library collections are widely used.

Nearly half-way toward completion, WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL is already close to fulfilling its destiny as a "house of prayer for all people". As people everywhere help to build its South Transept, Nave and central tower, this Cathedral in the Capital City is a witness to the power of the Christian faith - symbol of a free church in a free state - an inspiring instrument for the furtherance of God's Kingdom on Earth.

**Bronze Plaque Dedicated To
THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER**



Bas-relief of Plaque by
Lieut. Hovak Najarian, USNR

In Memory of The Unknown Soldier

*Who Made The
Supreme Sacrifice
For the Preservation of the
Basic Freedoms that are Essential
For Human Existence
In a Free World*

Presented September 2, 1956 by
The Armenian Church Youth Organization of America
Founded – Providence, Rhode Island 1946

Albert Der Tatevasian, — Srpouhie A. Essefian
Hon. and Mrs. Dickran Hovsepian, — Lieut. Hovak Najarian, USNR



**THE EMBLEM OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH
YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA AND
ITS SYMBOLIC MEANING**

The emblem of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America, adopted at its inception, is to be interpreted as follows:

The radiations from the center of the cross symbolize the truths of the Christian religion that shine forth through the centuries.

The symbols under the horizontal bar of the cross are:

- a) (right hand side) The double peaks of Mount Ararat, representing the Armenian people and its destiny. Ararat has been the silent witness of the victories as well as the defeats of the Armenians through their existence as a people and a nation. Its representation on the A. C. Y. O. A. emblem means that the members of the Organization make the pledge of standing for the ideals for which the Armenian nation has stood always.
- b) (left hand side) The United States eagle with its wings wide-spread and star above each wing. The eagle looks proudly into far distances and holds, as usual, a batch of arrows. The eagle represents the United States. Its presence on the A. C. Y. O. A. emblem symbolizes the loyalty of the members of the A. C. Y. O. A. to the Constitution of the United States and to its principles of democracy and freedom.

The chain that encircles the cross on the emblem represents solidarity among the members of the A. C. Y. O. A. in their service to God and to people.

These symbols are designed on a shield which stands for the determination with which the objects of the A. C. Y. O. A. are to be carried out. The shield also stands for defense against dangerous encroachments.

It will be noted that the dominating feature of the emblem is the cross. This indicates the fact that Christ is our Lord and that to Him we owe obedience above all.

With Best Wishes

Obie Bagdasarian
Mr. and Mrs. James Barouyrian
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kalayjian, Rockville, Md.
Mr. and Mrs. Dikran Nalbandian



Ralph A. Yagjian
Chairman Central Council

Past Central Council Chairmen

- Zaven Hovsepian
- Manoog Heditsian
- Matthew Matteosian
- M. Casey Kazanjian
- Ralph A. Yagjian

MEMBERS OF PAST CENTRAL COUNCILS

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Gerald Aharonian | M. Casey Kazanjian |
| Leo Bakalian | Avedis Kevorkian |
| Lee Bedigian | Harold Manoogian |
| Acabe Boornazian | Gertrude Nahigian |
| Alex Dadourian | Paul Najarian |
| Arshag Gechijian | Arax Selvinazian |
| Shockey Gengozian | Haig Serabian |
| Manoog Heditsian | Mary Shalakian |
| Emma Hovsepian | Armen Shekerjian |
| Paul Hovsepian | John Soursourian |
| Zaven Hovsepian | Arthur Yagjian |
| Jack Kazanjian | Grayce Hadrian Yeramian |

Mary Azarian Zotian

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

1955-1956

- RALPH A. YAGJIAN**
Chairman
- MATTHEW MATTEOSIAN**
Vice Chairman
- ROSE BANNAIAN**
Recording Secretary
- ARPENA TAVITIAN**
Corresponding Secretary
- ELIZABETH EKMANIAN**
Acting Treasurer
- NUBAR M. DORIAN**
Educational Director
- DENNIS R. PAPA ZIAN**
Junior Group Director
- HARRY SARKISSIAN**
Publicity Director
- NISHAN ESKI JIAN**
Youth Camp and Seminary Fund

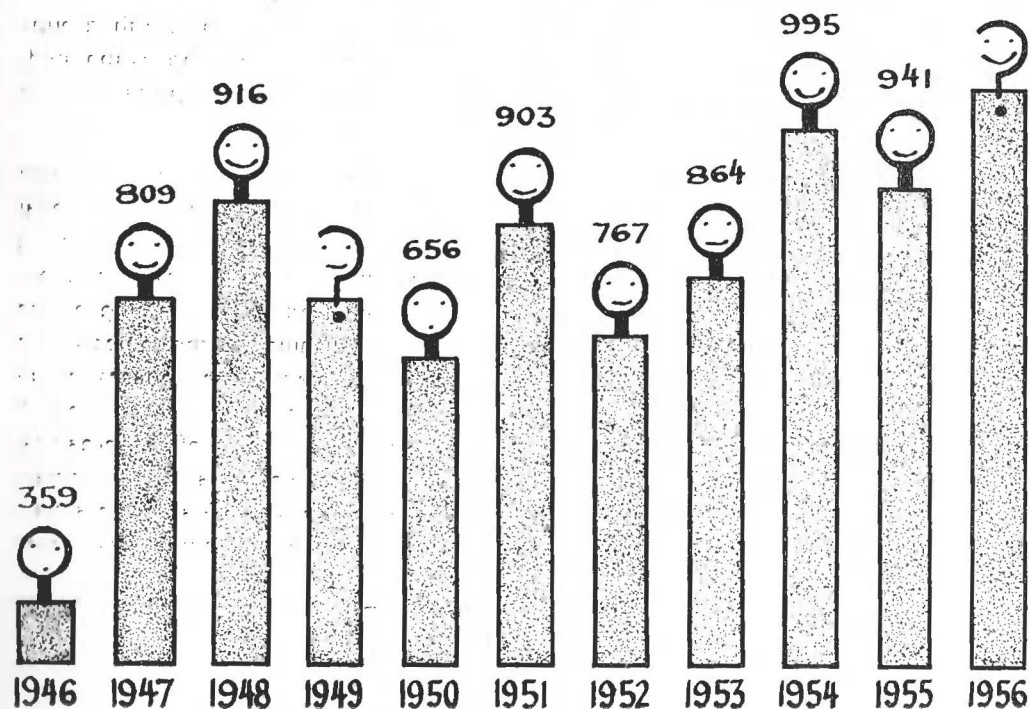
Host Chapters

- 1946 — Providence, R. I.
- 1947 — Philadelphia, Pa.
- 1948 — Detroit, Mich.
- 1949 — New Britain, Conn.
- 1950 — Evanston, Ill.
- 1951 — Watertown, Mass.
- 1952 — Worcester, Mass.
- 1953 — Cleveland, Ohio.
- 1954 — Troy, N. Y.
- 1955 — Racine, Wis.

**CHAPTERS OF
THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA**

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOSTON, Mass. | * NORTH PHILADELPHIA, Pa. |
| BRIDGEPORT, Conn. | * PATERSON, N. J. |
| CHICAGO, Ill. | PROVIDENCE, R. I. |
| CLEVELAND, Ohio. | RACINE, Wis. |
| DETROIT, Mich. | SOUTH MILWAUKEE, Wis. |
| EVANSTON, Ill. | * TORONTO, Ont., Canada. |
| HARTFORD, Conn. | TROY, N. Y. |
| HAVERHILL, Mass. | UNION CITY, N. J. |
| LAWRENCE, Mass. | WASHINGTON, D. C. |
| LOWELL, Mass. | WATERTOWN, Mass. |
| NEWARK, N. J. | WEST PHILADELPHIA, Pa. |
| NEW YORK (Holy Cross) | * WEST PULLMAN, Ill. |
| NEW YORK (St. Gregory) | WORCESTER, Mass. |

and a welcome to New Chapters
 * NEW BRITAIN, Conn.
 * MONTREAL, Que., Canada.
 * NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.
 (*) Chapters not represented in Tenth Anniversary Booklet.



On Its Tenth Anniversary

HISTORY OF ACYOA

Before World War II the younger generation of the Armenian Church had groups of young people organized on a local parish basis. These groups came about in order to offer the young people of the parishes an opportunity to take an active part in the church life of their community. Eventually the need was felt for a national Church Youth Organization and so during his tenure of office as Primate in the United States His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian strived to bring this about. But World War II interrupted the activities of these local groups, some of which were completely dissolved, while others were simply inactive during the war years.

The end of the War and the return from service of our young men and women renewed the necessity of reorganizing the church youth groups. This task fell to His Grace Bishop Tiran Nersoyan, the newly-elected Primate of North America. With his untiring and selfless effort Bishop Tiran traveled throughout America and carried the challenge directly to the youth, shaping and forming the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. In all active Armenian communities he organized the local youth groups or reorganized those from which the initiative and interest had evaporated. To all these groups he passed on the informing spark, so important to the creating and carrying on of the activities of this organization.

The culmination of this effort was the formation of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America on January 12, 1946, at the Constitutional Assembly held in Providence, R. I. In this Assembly gathered young Armenian men and women from the many church communities throughout the Eastern Diocese. The two-day meeting resulted in the framing of the Constitution of the A. C. Y. O. A., the establishing of the objects, the policies, the activities, the administration and many other phases of an organization. The delegates to this Assembly elected a Central Council from among their members to carry on the administration of the organization. The members of the first Central Council were: Zaven Hovsepian, John Soursourian, Arthur Yagjian, Matthew Matteosian, Grayce Yeramian, Jack Kazanjian, and Mary Shalakian. A constitutional committee was chosen

With Best Wishes

Mr. and Mrs. Krikor Avedikian
Mr. and Mrs. George Baldadian

to prepare the Constitution in its final form and present it for ratification. A national Church Youth Organization functioning under the supervision of the Primate and the Diocesan Council of the Armenian Church of North America was now a reality.

Then the chapters, with a semblance of a Constitution to guide them, immediately went into action. Membership drives, social, cultural and educational programs were sponsored under the A. C. Y. O. A. banner.

The first Constitution was ratified in July 1946 by the Primate and the Diocesan Council. From these humble beginnings the A. C. Y. O. A. has gone ahead in the ensuing years to become the largest Armenian-American youth organization in the United States, preparing its youth to become good Christians and active participants in the work of their beloved Church.

During the past ten years assemblies have been held in Philadelphia, Boston, Worcester, New Britain, Troy, Cleveland, Detroit, Evanston, Racine and on this, the Tenth Anniversary of the Organization, the biggest assembly is held in the nation's capital, Washington, D. C.

The Organization has grown to thirty chapters with a membership of over one thousand, having a monthly magazine, the ARMENIAN GUARDIAN, and the project it has undertaken have been many and varied. Some of the projects it has undertaken have been many and varied. Some of contributing yearly to the Seminary Fund with the intent to step up this area of interest, the establishing of a Youth Camp for the Diocese, the Jerusalem Pilgrimage, Church School Teachers' Conferences, publishing a Prayer Manual and Catechism, and above all the helping of the Church in its work. The work of the A. C. Y. O. A. and its development is one constant work of an upward and enlightened journey to God.

With Best Wishes

Mr. and Mrs. Barkev Kurk
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Nakkashian

HOST



WASHINGTON CHAPTER

Senior Members

Anne Andonian
Elizabeth Andonian
John Balian
Shahan Balian
Mary Basdekian
Naomi Basdekian
John Barouyrian
Albert Der Tatevasian
Srpouhie A. Essefian
Armen Garabedian
Michael M. Hachigian

Rose Jaboolian
Rita Jerrehian
Louise Garabedian
Pauline Garabedian
Alice Hintlian
George Khosrofian
Harry Khosrofian
Joyce Khosrofian
Lucy Nalbandian
Dick Tossounian
Myron Vartabedian

Junior Members

Margaret Arablan
Anne Manoukian

Haig Manoukian
Marlam Manoukian

MESSAGE FROM

THE REV. FATHER LEVON ARAKELIAN

The Armenian Church Youth Organization of America has come a long way since its inception early in 1946. The Organization's very existence has proven beneficial to the Armenian community at large and to the younger generation in particular.

It is not a mere coincidence that the ACYOA is celebrating its Tenth Birthday in the Capital of our nation because the objects of this brotherhood basically parallel those of the Constitution of the United States. Article 11, par. 3 of the ACYOA Constitution is quoted herewith for ready reference:

"To deepen and strengthen among its members the knowledge of and loyalty to the principles of the Constitution of the United States. To uphold the spirit of human freedom, universal justice, brotherhood of men and devotion to duty as good citizens, dedicated to the service of their God and country".

The ACYOA, comparable to the constituents of our country, is one of many components of a large integrated group, the Armenian Church. This is an outstanding milestone for the members of the ACYOA.

By appraising our shortcomings and achievements of the past ten years we should gain a better perspective in looking forward to the ten years ahead.

When the number of ACYOA members of this community is compared with that of larger cities it will be found that individual effort per capita is exceptionally high.

We sincerely congratulate this community and its ACYOA Chapter for their achievements.

I fervently pray God to bless the work of this Organization. May its accomplishments prove fruitful and an inspiration to our youth.

Prayerfully,

Rev. Fr. Levon Arakelian

Pastor, SS. Sahag and Mesrob
Armenian Church of
West Philadelphia, Pa.

Tenth Anniversary Assembly

August 31 to September 3, 1956

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY — AUGUST 31st

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Swimming Party Hotel Pool
 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Registration of Delegates Hotel Lobby
 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Mixer Party and
 Variety Show Continental Room

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Registration of Delegates Hotel Lobby
 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon First Session Continental Room
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sightseeing Tour
 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Second Session Continental Room
 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Banquet Sheraton Hall
 9:30 p.m. Films of A.C.Y.O.A.
 Jerusalem Pilgrimage Caribar Room
 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Tenth Anniversary Ball Sheraton Hall

SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER 2nd

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Third Session Continental Room
 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy Washington Cathedral
 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Dedication of Plaque
 To Unknown Soldier Arlington National
 and Laying of Wreath Cemetery
 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Delegates' Dinner
 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Hye Kisher Burgundy Room

MONDAY — SEPTEMBER 3rd

9:00 a.m. Fourth Session Continental Room
 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Picnic I.C.E. Club, Suitland Maryland

TENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Albert Der Tatevasian
Chairman

Shahan Balian
Vice-Chairman

Joyce Khosrofian
Secretary

John Barouyrian
Harry Khosrofian

Treasurers

REGISTRATIONS AND RESERVATIONS HOSPITALITY AND RECEPTION

Rita Jerrehian, *Chairman*
Elizabeth Andonian, *Vice-Chairman*

Pauline Garabedian, *Chairman*
Louise Garabedian, *Vice-Chairman*

PUBLICITY

Hovak Najarian, *Chairman*
Joyce Khosrofian, *Vice-Chairman*

FRIDAY NIGHT MIXER PARTY

Armen Garabedian, *Chairman*
Anne Manoukian, *Vice-Chairman*

SATURDAY NIGHT BALL

Lucy Nalbandian, *Chairman*
Alice Hintlian, *Vice-Chairman*

SATURDAY TOUR

John Barouyrian, *Chairman*
Mary Basdekian, *Vice-Chairman*

SUNDAY HYE KISHER

Naomi Bastekian, *Chairman*
Anne Manoukian, *Vice-Chairman*

SATURDAY BANQUET

Elizabeth Andonian, *Chairman*
Marguerite Sekonian, *Vice-Chairman*

MONDAY PICNIC

Shahan Balian, *Chairman*
Lucy Nalbandian, *Vice-Chairman*

TENTH ANNIVERSARY BOOKLET

Srpouhie A. Essefian, *Booklet Editor*

Hovak Najarian, *Art Director*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

The Washington Chapter of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America, which has the pleasure and privilege of being host to its members and guests on this Tenth Anniversary Assembly, welcomes everyone to the beautiful capital of our nation.

We take this opportunity to express our thanks to President Dwight D. Eisenhower; to the Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre Jr., Dean of Washington Cathedral for permitting us the use of the Cathedral; to our Primate His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan; to our Founder, His Eminence Archbishop Tiran; to our Clergy, our Central Council, and our Chapters for their valuable cooperation.

We also express our thanks to all those who have helped us in the preparation of our Tenth Anniversary Booklet; to the Rev. Father Arten Ashjian, whose book "History of the Armenian Diocese" served as source material in preparing the biographies of the churches in our Diocese; to Mr. Samuel H. Toumayan of New York for making available to us cuts of the Clergy, to Mr. Paul Chaputian of New York and Mr. Walter Vartan of Evanston, Illinois, for donating many of the cuts in this Booklet; to our Patrons, Patronesses, and Boosters whose warm-hearted contributions are deeply appreciated.

To each and everyone we reiterate our sincere gratitude.

Srpouhie A. Essefian, Booklet Editor

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Washington Chapter

TENTH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

... *Menu* ...

G R A C E

CONSCIENCE CLEAR

KINDNESS

GOOD CHEER

TENDER MEMORIES

CHARITY SERVED WITH DISCRETION

P E A C E

L O V E

T R U T H

LONG LIFE STUFFED WITH USEFULNESS

HEART FOND AND TRUE

A LARGE PORTION

A F F E C T I O N

H A P P I N E S S

SWEET THOUGHTS

BEST WISHES FOR ABSENT FRIENDS

Feldman Insurance Company
Garvin Grill

PRIMATES OF THE DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

from 1898 to 1956

His Grace Bishop Hovsep Sarajian
1898 to 1906

His Eminence Archbishop Yeznik Abahouni
1908 (September-October)

Very Rev. Arsen Vardapet Vehouni
September 1913 to November 1917

His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre Ter Hovhannesian
March 1921 to September 1928

His Eminence Archbishop Leon Tourian
May 1931 to December 1933

His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian
June 1939 to November 1944

His Eminence Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan
November 1944 to May 1954

His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan
November 1954

NOTE:— From 1906 to 1908 there was a locum tenens.

From November 1908 to July 1913 the situation of the Primacy was a confusing one.

The Very Rev. Shahe Vardapet Kasparian served as locum tenens from 1917 to 1920.

In 1920 His Eminence Archbishop Khoren Mouradpekian (later His Holiness Catholicos Khoren I) was sent to the United States as Legate of the Holy See.

His Grace Bishop Papken Gulesserian (later Catholicos Papken of Cilicia) was the next locum tenens, serving from 1920 to 1921.

Rev. Serovpe Archpriest Nerhabouh was locum tenens from October 1928 to July 1930; and Rev. Haroutune Archpriest Sarkisian from August 1930 to December 1930.

From December 1930 to May 1931 the Primacy was vacant.

From December 1933 to June 1939 the Very Rev. Mampre Vardapet Calfayan served as locum tenens.

His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan served as locum tenens from May 1954 to November 1954 when he was elected Primate.

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MAMPRE CALFAYAN

Primate of the Eastern Diocese of North America

630 Second Avenue — New York 16, N. Y.



His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan was born in Smyrna, Asia Minor, in 1873, and christened Aram.

He received his early education in Smyrna. During World War I he lived in Egypt where he was associated with a French bank. He also served in the French Foreign Legion.

In 1920 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem and was ordained archdeacon in 1921. Subsequently he was ordained a celibate priest by His Beatitude Patriarch Elysee Tourian and renamed Mampre Abegha.

Father Mampre served in the Armenian Monastery of Jaffa until 1925 when he was appointed pastor of the Armenian Church in Marseilles.

His Grace Bishop Krikoris Balakian, Legate of the Holy See to Europe, conferred upon Mampre Abegha the doctoral degree of Vardapet.

In 1927 the Very Rev. Mampre Vardapet came to the United States and became pastor of the Holy Cross Church in Union City, New Jersey.

In 1934 Father Mampre was elected locum tenens of this Diocese and served in that capacity until June, 1939.

1935 Father Mampre was consecrated bishop by His Holiness Catholicos Khoren I.

From 1942 to 1946 His Grace, now Archbishop Mampre, served as Primate of the Armenian Diocese of California.

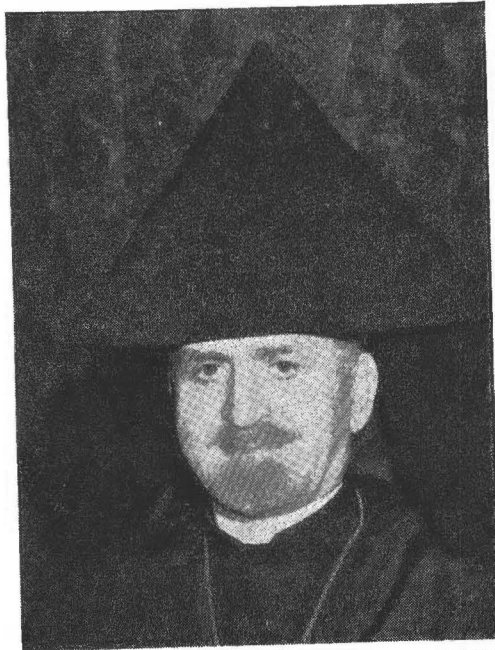
Returning to the Eastern Diocese, his Eminence served as temporary pastor of Armenian churches in Hartford, New Britain, and Paterson.

His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan was elected locum tenens on May 4, 1954, and Primate on November 27, 1954.

**THE VERY REV.
VAHRAM DZ. VARDAPET NAZARETIAN**

Pastor — St. John the Baptist Church

Miami, Florida



The Very Rev. Vahram Dz. Vardapet Nazaretian was born in Nicomedia, Asia Minor, in 1886, and christened Vahram.

He received his primary education in the local Armenian school and later entered the Theological Seminary of Ar-mash, in Asia Minor, where he was ordained archdeacon.

In 1910 Deacon Vahram was ordained a celibate priest by His Grace Archbishop Stephanos Hovaguimian, Primate of Nico-media, and appointed pastor of St. James Church in Psamatia, a suburb of Constantinople.

The Very Rev. Vahram Var-dapet came to the United States

in 1914 and a year later became pastor of the Armenian Church in Wor-
cester, Mass.

Subsequently he was transferred to Chicago, Ill.

From 1919 to 1943 he served in churches in New Jersey, Michigan, and Pennsylvania.

In 1943 Father Vahram returned to St. Gregory's Church in Chicago where he remained for about nine years.

Because of failing health he was transferred to Miami, Florida, in 1954 where he has been pastor of St. John's Church ever since.

**THE VERY REV.
ELISHA VARDAPET SIMONIAN**

Pastor — Holy Cross Church

New York, N. Y.

The Very Rev. Elisha Vardapet Simonian was born in Kasaba, Smyrna, Asia Minor, in 1900 and christened Hovhannes.

He received his primary education in Armenian and American schools in Smyrna.

In 1913 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate in Jeru-salem and after his graduation returned to Smyrna.

He came to the United States in 1924.

He was ordained archdeacon by His Eminence Archbishop Karekin Khatchadourian, Primate of the California Diocese, (now Patriarch of Constantinople).

In 1932 he was ordained a celibate priest by His Eminence Archbishop Leon Tourian, and renamed Elisha Abegha.

On January 22, 1933, Archbishop Tourian conferred upon Elisha Abegha the doctoral degree of Vardapet.

The Very Rev. Elisha Vardapet has also studied at the Hartford Theo-logical Seminary and is a graduate of Brown University and holds a Master of Arts degree from the latter.

He first served as pastor of Holy Ascension Church in Bridgeport, Conn. and was transferred to New York to become Assistant Pastor of Holy Cross Church.

On March 3, 1934, the Very Rev. Elisha Vardapet was elected Full Pastor of Holy Cross Church and has been serving in that capacity for the past twenty-two years.

**THE VERY REV.
MURON VARDAPET GOURDJIKIAN**

**Pastor — St. George's Church — Hartford,
Holy Resurrection Church, New Britain, Conn.**



The Very Rev. Muron Vardapet Gourdjikian was born in Constantinople in 1912 and christened Garbis. He received his primary education in Greece.

In 1927 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate in Jerusalem and in 1930 was ordained archdeacon by His Eminence Archbishop Mesrop Nisnanian, locum-tenens of the patriarchate.

After studying four more years at the seminary he was ordained in 1934 to the celibate priesthood by His Beatitude Patriarch Torkom Koushagian, who renamed him Muron Abegha.

In 1935 Patriarch Torkom conferred upon him the doctoral degree of Vardapet and in 1940 he was granted permission to wear the pectoral cross and, in 1946, the purple phelonion.

From 1936 to 1948 the Very Rev. Muron Vardapet served as pastor of the Armenian community of Jaffa, as instructor at the Seminary, as Supervisor of the Armenian rights in the Basilica of the Nativity, as member of the Synod of the Patriarchate, and also as director of the Gulbenkian Library of the Patriarchate.

Muron Vardapet was chairman of the Armenian Relief Committee which was established by His Beatitude Patriarch Guregh in 1948 to take care of the refugees of the Palestine war, which post he held until 1950.

The Very Rev. Muron Vardapet came to the United States in September, 1954. He is pastor of two churches in Connecticut: St. George's in Hartford, and Holy Resurrection in New Britain.

**THE VERY REV.
MESROB VARDAPET SEMERJIAN**

Worcester, Mass.



The Very Rev. Mesrob Vardapet Semerjian was born in Aleppo, Syria, in 1915, and christened Vahan.

He was brought to the United States at the age of four and received his primary education in the public schools of Lowell, Mass.

In 1932, while still a youngster, he was given the rank of stole-bearer by His Eminence Archbishop Leon Tourian.

The following year he was graduated from Lowell High school and served as instructor in the Armenian School of Lowell.

In 1935 he went to Jerusalem and entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate. The following year he was ordained archdeacon by His Beatitude Patriarch Torkom Koushagian, and in 1939 he was graduated from the Seminary.

Deacon Vahan returned to the United States in 1940 and was ordained to the celibate priesthood and renamed Mesrob Abegha by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian.

Mesrob Abegha continued his theological studies at the Hartford Seminary Foundation and received degrees in Bachelor of Religious Education and Master of Arts.

In 1942 Archbishop Garegin conferred upon him the doctoral degree of Vardapet.

The Very Rev. Mesrob Vardapet has held pastorates in several parishes in Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts.

From 1953 to April, 1956, he was pastor of the Church of the Holy Saviour in Worcester, Mass. Last Easter he led the ACYOA Pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

The Very Rev. Mesrob V. Semerjian is a frequent contributor to the ARMENIAN GUARDIAN as well as the HAYASTANYAITZ YEGEHETZI.

**THE VERY REV.
SOUKIAS VARDAPET KALFAYAN**

**Pastor — St. Mesrob, Racine, — St. Haroutune, South
Milwaukee, — St. John, West Allis, Wisconsin**



The Very Rev. Soukias Vardapet Kalfayan was born on April 7, 1891, in Fenesse, Caesaria, Asia Minor, and christened Apik.

He received his early education at the local Roubinian School. After his graduation from the local school he became a teacher in that school while also serving as a choir director.

In religion and scientific subjects he was privately tutored by the Very Rev. Mesrob Vardapet Yeretzian.

He was ordained archdeacon by His Grace Archbishop Terdat Balian, Primate of Caesaria.

He received his higher education in Constantinople, where he was a law student at the University of Constantinople. His studies were interrupted during World War I but after his military service he completed law school and was admitted to the Bar Association in 1923.

In May 1924 Deacon Apik came to the United States with his wife and son and established a home and a printing press in Detroit.

For twenty years he served as secretary of the Parish Council of St. John's Armenian Church in Detroit.

His wife died in 1939 and on September 16, 1943, he was ordained to the celibate priesthood by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian and renamed Soukias Abegha. He was appointed to serve the three Armenian churches in Wisconsin, namely Racine, South Milwaukee, and West Allis, where he has served as pastor ever since he was received into Holy Orders.

In December 1948 his Grace Bishop Sion Manoogian conferred upon Soukias Abegha the doctoral degree of Vardapet.

**THE VERY REV.
ALAN VARDAPET POTOOKIAN**

Pastor — St. Gregory's Church, New York, N. Y.



The Very Rev. Alan Vardapet Potookian was born in Jerusalem in 1925 and christened Garabed.

He received his primary education in the Armenian School of the Holy Translators in Jerusalem and continued his studies at the Terra Sancta College there. Before his graduation, however, he entered the civil service of the Palestine Government.

In 1947 he entered the Armenian Seminary of Antelias, Lebanon, and was ordained archdeacon in 1948.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, Deacon Potookian came to the United States in 1951 and entered Berkeley Episcopal Seminary in New Haven, Conn.

In 1952 Deacon Garabed Potookian was ordained to the celibate priesthood by Archbishop Tiran and renamed Alan Abegha.

Soon after his ordination Father Alan was appointed pastor of the Holy Resurrection Church in New Britain, Conn.

In 1954 His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Kalfayan conferred upon Alan Abegha the doctoral degree of Vardapet.

The Very Rev. Alan Vardapet has been serving as Assistant Pastor of St. Gregory's in New York.

Father Alan is on the editorial staff of HAYASTANYAITZ YEGEHETZI and a contributor to the ARMENIAN GUARDIAN.

**THE VERY REV.
YEGHISHE ABEGHA GIZIRIAN**

Pastor — St. Mary's Church, Newark, N. J.



The Very Rev. Yeghishe Abegha Gizirian was born in Damascus, Syria, in 1926 and christened Zaven.

He received his elementary education in local Armenian schools. In 1940 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate of Antelias, Lebanon.

Four years later His Eminence Archbishop Yeprem Dohmouni ordained him an archdeacon and on May 25, 1947 Deacon Zaven was ordained to the celibate priesthood by His Grace Bishop Terenig Po'adian, who renamed him Yeghishe Abegha.

Following his ordination, the Very Rev. Yeghishe Abegha taught at the Seminary for four years while at the same time serving as Managing Editor of "Hask", official organ of the Catholicate of Antelias.

In addition, Father Yeghishe was Custodian of the Monastery's properties.

In 1951 the Very Rev. Yeghishe Abegha came to the United States to continue his theological studies and serve in the North American Diocese.

His first assignment was the Assistant Pastorship of Holy Cross Church in New York City. Later he served for one year as temporary pastor of St. John's Church in Miami, Florida.

Father Yeghishe has been Pastor of St. Mary's Church in Newark, New Jersey, for the past two years.

**THE VERY REV.
HRANT ABEGHA KHACHADOURIAN**

Pastor — St. Gregory the Illuminator, Haverhill, Mass.



The Very Rev. Hrant Abegha Khachadourian was born in Aleppo, Syria, on May 18, 1926, and christened Haroutune.

He received his primary education at the Haigazian School and was graduated in 1940.

The same year he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate in Antelias, Lebanon, and was later ordained archdeacon by His Eminence Archbishop Yeprem Dohmouni. Deacon Haroutune was the Assistant Choirmaster of the Seminary.

In 1947 he left the Seminary and went to Amman, Jordan, as an instructor at the Hetoumian School in that city. In the meantime he served as Choirmaster of the Armenian Church in Amman. He also organized a choral group there and gave a concert in May, 1947.

Deacon Haroutune returned to Antelias in 1948 and was ordained a celibate priest on June 6, 1948, by His Eminence Archbishop Khat, who renamed him Hrant Abegha.

From 1948 to 1951 Father Hrant was music instructor to a special class of priests at the Seminary in Antelias and was himself studying music at the American University and the Academy of Fine Arts in Beirut.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, the Very Rev. Hrant Abegha came to the United States, arriving in New York on March 21, 1952.

On April 4, 1952, he was appointed pastor of St. Gregory the Illuminator in Haverhill, Mass., where he has been serving since then.

**THE VERY REV.
OSHAGAN ABEGHA MINASSIAN**

Pastor — Holy Cross Church, Lawrence, Mass.



The Very Rev. Oshagan Abegha Minassian was born in Aleppo, Syria, on August 22, 1930.

He received his elementary education at the Haygazian School in Aleppo and was graduated on June 15, 1944.

That same year he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate of Antelias, Lebanon, and in May of 1948 was ordained a deacon by His Grace Bishop Terenig Poladian.

Two years later he left the Seminary for a year and took special courses in the American College of Aleppo.

In 1951 Deacon Minassian entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem where he completed his theological studies and was ordained a celibate priest by His Grace Bishop Khoren Paroian, Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Lebanon.

While in Jerusalem he taught in the Seminary of St. James and organized a choral group in Jerusalem.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, the Very Rev. Oshagan Abegha came to the United States in September, 1953, and was assigned to the pastorate of the Holy Cross Armenian Church in Lawrence, Mass.

Aside from his pastoral duties Father Oshagan organized a choral group and gave his first annual concert on May 1, 1955.

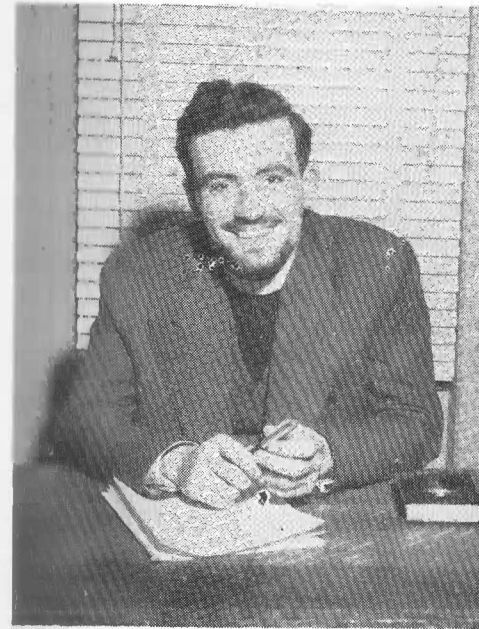
On July 17, 1955, Father Oshagan was injured in a diving accident at Salisbury Beach, Mass., and has since then been undergoing intensive medical treatment. He is improving steadily under expert medical and therapeutical care.

Meanwhile Father Hrant Khachadourian of Haverhill and Father Garen Gdanian of Lowell are taking turns ministering to Father Oshagan's parish.

All the members of the Armenian Church and his many other friends everywhere join in fervent prayers for the recovery of Father Oshagan.

**THE VERY REV.
VATCHE ABEGHA HOVSEPIAN**

Pastor — Holy Cross Church, Union City, N. J.



The Very Rev. Vatche Abegha Hovsepian was born in Beirut, Lebanon, on June 11, 1930, and christened Hovsep.

He received his preliminary education at the Mesrobian National School in Beirut.

In 1944 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate of Cilicia, in Antelias, Lebanon and four years later was ordained archdeacon by His Grace Bishop Terenig Poladian.

In 1951 Deacon Hovsep was ordained a celibate priest by His Grace Bishop Terenig Poladian and renamed Vatche Abegha.

After his ordination Father Vatche was appointed instructor

at the Seminary of Antelias and held that post for one year.

From 1953 to 1956 the Very Rev. Vatche Abegha continued his theological studies at the College of the Resurrection near Manchester, England, and at the University of Edinburgh.

During these three years Father Vatche visited a number of Armenian communities in Europe, where he celebrated the Divine Liturgy in local churches and ministered to the spiritual needs of the Armenians.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan, the Very Rev. Vatche Abegha Hovsepian came to the United States on May 25, 1956, and was appointed Pastor of Holy Cross Church in Union City, N. J.

**THE VERY REV.
OSHIN ABEGHA NICOLIAN**

Assistant Pastor — Holy Cross Church, New York



The Very Rev. Oshin Abegha Nicolian was born in Constantinople on February 5, 1920, and christened Vagharshag.

He received his elementary education at the local Dadian School, the Bezazian High School and continued at the Lycee Francaise, both in Constantinople.

He went to France and entered the College de France in Paris where he studied social sciences, literature, and majored in philosophy.

Mr. Nicolian came to the United States from Switzerland on March 6, 1956, in order to

be received into the Priesthood.

On March 22nd Mr. Nicolian was ordained archdeacon by His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan.

At the Holy Cross Church in New York, on Sunday May 20, 1956, Deacon Vagharshag was ordained a celibate priest by Archbishop Mampre, who renamed him Oshin Abegha.

The newly ordained Very Rev. Oshin Abegha Nicolian was appointed Assistant Pastor of the Holy Cross Church in New York City.

**THE VERY REV.
VASKEN ABEGHA TATOYAN**

Pastor — St. Sarkis Church, Niagara Falls, N. Y.



The Very Rev. Vasken Abegha Tatoyan was born in Niagara Falls, N. Y., on July 15, 1931, and christened Gregory.

He received his elementary education in the local public school and was graduated from High School there.

He went abroad in 1950 and entered the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate in Antelias, Lebanon, where he studied for four years.

Returning to the United States in 1954 he was ordained archdeacon by His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan, at St. Sarkis Church in Niagara Falls, on February 12, 1955.

Deacon Gregory held services every Sunday and preached in his church where he also established a choir and ACYOA Chapter.

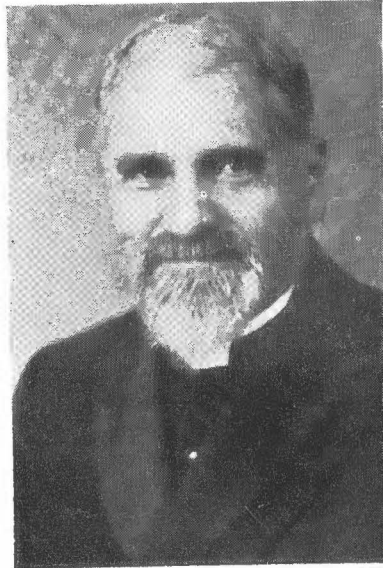
At the Holy Cross Church in New York City on May 20, 1956, Deacon Gregory was ordained a celibate priest by Archbishop Mampre, who renamed him Vasken Abegha.

The Very Rev. Vasken Abegha Tatoyan is now Pastor of St. Sarkis Church in Niagara Falls, N. Y.

He will also be Visiting Pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Toronto, St. Gregory's Church in St. Catharines, Ontario, and of the community of Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

THE REV. FATHER HAROUTUNE TOUMAYAN

Pastor Emeritus of Holy Trinity Church, Boston, Mass.



The Rev. Father Haroutune Toumayan was born in Zeytoun, Cilicia, in 1879 and christened Nazareth.

He received his early education in local schools and entered Central College in Zeytoun. After his graduation he taught Armenian history.

He married Miss Takouhi Fundukian and in 1912 was ordained to the priesthood by His Grace Bishop Nerses Danielian, Primate of Antioch, who renamed him Father Haroutune.

After suffering many vicissitudes during World War I and having barely escaped alive,

Father Haroutune was appointed to the pastorate of Mersin, Cilicia, in 1918.

In 1921 Father Haroutune supervised the evacuation of thousands of Armenians from Cilicia while he himself was the last one to leave.

For seven years he served in the Armenian Church in Nicosia, Cyprus, and came to the United States in 1930.

Before his assignment as Pastor of Holy Trinity Armenian Church in Boston, Father Haroutune served briefly in the parishes of Binghamton, N. Y., and Worcester, Mass.

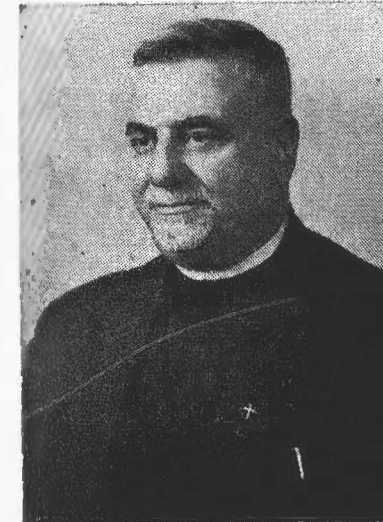
Rev. Father Toumayan served the Boston parish for twenty-two years.

He was accorded the rank of Archpriest. Catholicos Sahag II and Catholicos Khoren I each awarded him a pectoral cross. He has been honored with the privilege of using a pastoral staff - a privilege rarely accorded to the lay clergy.

Rev. Father Toumayan is also the recipient of the Order of St. Gregory the Enlightener for his services to the Church and people in times of extreme distress.

THE REV. FATHER KHOREN MAMIGONIAN

Pastor — Holy Ascension Church, Bridgeport, Conn.



The Rev. Father Khoren Mamigonian was born on March 6, 1881, in Moosh, Anatolia, and christened Sisak.

He received his early education in local schools and from his mother, who was a university graduate.

At the age of 17 he entered the army and took part in several battles, and was wounded a number of times.

He was active in the field of education and served both as instructor and director of several Armenian schools and orphanages in Constantinople.

In 1918 he was instrumental in organizing the Regional Association of Taron and the following year he was first appointed Director of the Armenian Union and later Secretary General of thirty-nine different regional associations.

He married in 1920 and came to the United States.

In 1935 Mr. Mamigonian was ordained a priest by His Grace Bishop Mampre Calfayan, who renamed him Father Khoren.

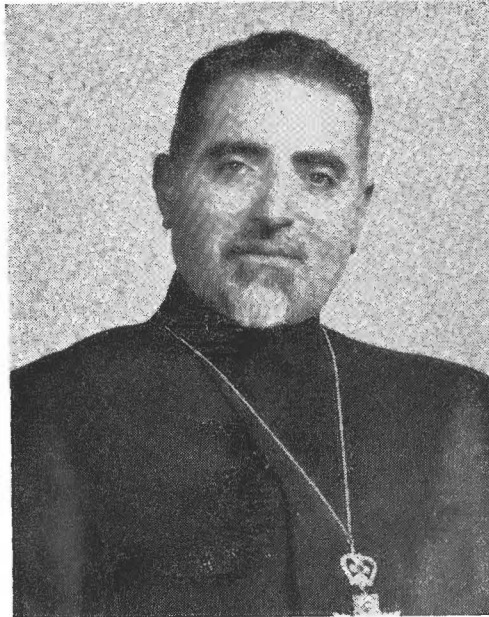
Since then the Rev. Father Khoren Mamigonian has served as pastor in churches in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Wisconsin, and in Canada.

In recognition of his services Father Khoren has been accorded the privilege of wearing the black and purple brocaded phelonion.

Since 1955 he has been pastor of the Church of the Holy Ascension in Bridgeport, Conn.

THE REV. FATHER VERTANES PAPA ZIAN

Pastor — St. Gregory the Illuminator's Church, New York, N. Y.



The Rev. Father Vertanes Papazian, son of the late Father Hovhannes Papazian, Vicar-General of Nicomedia, Asia Minor, was born in Nicomedia in 1895, and christened Vahe.

He received his primary education in local Armenian schools and later attended college in Constantinople.

During the 1915 massacres he and his family were exiled to the deserts of Syria. Eventually they fled to Damascus where the future priest served as sub-deacon under his father.

In 1918 the family returned to Constantinople where his father was pastor of one of the

local Armenian churches.

He married in 1927 and was ordained deacon in the same year.

In 1928 Deacon Vahe was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Stephanos Hovaguimian, who renamed him Father Vertanes.

His Holiness Catholicos Georg V conferred upon him the privilege of wearing the pectoral cross and for his services in the Armenian Diocese of Bulgaria, Archbishop Stephanos granted him the privilege of wearing the brocaded phelonion.

In 1934 the Bulgarian Ministry of Education appointed Father Vertanes teacher of the Armenian students in the Bulgarian state colleges.

Soon after his elevation to the rank of Archpriest, in 1947, Father Vertanes came to the United States and was appointed temporary pastor of St. Gregory's in New York. The following year the Parish Council unanimously elected him Pastor of that church and he has been serving in that capacity for the past nine years.

THE REV. FATHER VARTAN MEGHERIAN

Pastor — Long Island Church and Vicar-General of the Diocese



The Rev. Father Vartan Megherian was born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1921 and christened Garabed.

He received his preliminary education in Armenian schools in Aleppo, Syria, and in 1936 entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

In 1940 he was ordained archdeacon by His Beatitude Patriarch Mesrob Nishanian.

Having completed his studies, Deacon Garabed returned to Aleppo in 1943 and became an instructor in local Armenian schools.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran he came to the United States in 1947 to continue his studies at the Seabury - Western Episcopal Seminary and Northwestern University. He was graduated in 1952 and received a Master of Arts degree.

In November 1947 Deacon Garabed married Miss Yevkin Der Bedrosian of Troy, N. Y. They have two daughters, Zarmine, Lori, and a son Narek.

On February 29, 1948, Archdeacon Garabed was ordained a priest by Archbishop Tiran and renamed Father Vartan.

He was appointed pastor of St. James Church in Evanston, Illinois, where he served for eight years.

In December 1955 Father Vartan was designated pastor of the Armenian Church in Long Island, N. Y. (now under construction).

Since September 1955 Father Vartan has been the Vicar-General of this Diocese. Recently His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan granted Father Vartan the privilege of wearing a purple brocaded phelonion.

THE REV. FATHER ARTEN ASHJIAN

Pastor — St. James Church, Watertown, Mass.



The Rev. Father Artén Ashjian was born in Aleppo, Syria, on November 21, 1919, and christened Antranik.

He attended Armenian parochial schools for two years and attended the High School of the American College in Aleppo.

In 1934 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem and in 1938 was ordained deacon by His Beatitude Patriarch Torkom Koushagian.

Deacon Antranik continued his post-graduate studies in theological and philosophical subjects for three years and left the Monastery in 1941 to return to

Aleppo, where he taught elementary school for five years.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, Deacon Antranik came to the United States in March 1947 and enrolled at the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, from which he was graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree.

On March 14, 1948 Deacon Antranik was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Tiran and was renamed Father Artén.

Rev. Father Artén Ashjian's first assignment was the Assistant Pastorship of Holy Cross Church in New York. He has also served as temporary pastor of the Armenian churches of Paterson, N. J. and North Philadelphia Pa.

In 1950 he married Miss Mary Harootian of Fresno, California.

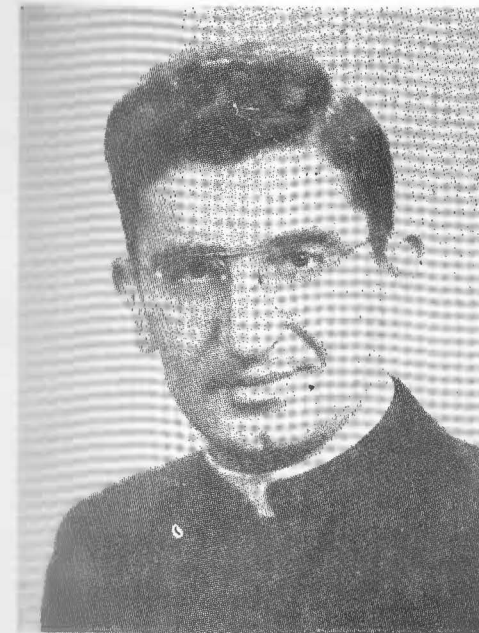
Since February 1955 he has been Pastor of St. James Church, in Watertown, Mass.

Father Artén, who has been on the Faculty of the Choir Association's Seminars since 1952, was the Dean in 1956.

From 1947 to 1948 Father Artén served as Editor of HAYASTANYAITZ YÉGEHETZY and is now on the Editorial Staff of the ARMENIAN GUARDIAN.

THE REV. FATHER ARNAK KASPARIAN

Pastor — St. John's Church, Detroit, Michigan



The Rev. Father Arnak Kasparian was born in Marash, Asia Minor, on February 27, 1922 and christened Minas.

He received his preliminary education in local Armenian schools.

In 1936 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem and was ordained archdeacon by His Beatitude Patriarch Mesrob Nishanian, in 1940.

Deacon Minas went to Aleppo, Syria in 1944 and taught in an Armenian school in that city for two years.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, Deacon Minas Kasparian came to the United States in 1947 and entered the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York City. He also took courses at St. Vladimir's Russian Orthodox Seminary.

In 1949 Deacon Minas was graduated from General Theological Seminary with a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree.

Deacon Minas Kasparian was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Tiran on April 4, 1948, and renamed Father Arnak.

In 1951 he married Miss Violet Aslanian of Evanston, Illinois. Rev. and Mrs. Kasparian have four children.

The Rev. Father Arnak also studied at the Hartford Seminary from where he holds a Master's degree in Religious Education. At present he is taking special courses at the University of Detroit.

Since 1951 Father Arnak has been Pastor of St. John's Church in Detroit, Michigan.

The Rev. Father Arnak Kasparian is a member of the Detroit Pastor's Union, the Detroit Council of Churches, and the Detroit Orthodox Clergymen's Association.

THE REV. FATHER SHAHE ALTOUNIAN

Pastor — SS. Sahag and Mesrob Church, Providence, Rhode Island



The Rev. Father Shahe Altounian was born in Nicosia, Cyprus, in 1922, and christened Levon.

He received his preliminary education in Nicosia and in 1938 entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

After studying in Jerusalem for six years he returned to Cyprus and by arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, Mr. Altounian came to the United States in 1945 and entered the Episcopal Theological school in Cambridge, Mass.

While a student at this Theological School he served as choirmaster of the Holy Trinity Church in Boston.

In 1948 Mr. Altounian was ordained archdeacon and on April 11, 1948 Archbishop Tiran ordained him to the priesthood and renamed Deacon Altounian Father Shahe.

After completing his studies at the Episcopal Theological School The Rev. Father Shahe Altounian was appointed Pastor of SS. Sahag and Mesrob Church in Providence, Rhode Island. He has served in this church since 1950. In the same year Father Shahe married Miss Mary P. Israelian of Los Angeles, California. They have one daughter, Lucine.

THE REV. FATHER GAREN GDANIAN

Pastor — St. Vartanantz Church, Lowell, Mass.



The Rev. Father Garen Gdanian was born in Aleppo, Syria, in 1925, and christened Sarkis.

He received his primary education in the Armenian schools in Aleppo.

In 1938 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate in Jerusalem and was graduated in 1944. After his graduation he taught in an Armenian school in Aleppo for one year.

In 1945 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate of Antelias and was graduated two years later.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran he came to the United States in 1947 and entered the Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, Mass.

In 1948 he was ordained archdeacon by Archbishop Tiran and was sent to serve in the Church of St. Vartanantz as Deacon.

On December 19, 1948 Deacon Sarkis Gdanian was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Tiran, who renamed him Father Garen.

After his ordination Father Garen became Pastor of St. Vartanantz, where he has served continuously since then.

In 1950 Father Garen was graduated from the Episcopal Theological School, from which he received a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

From 1950 to 1951 Father Garen attended Harvard Divinity School as a full-time special student.

Father Garen married Miss Zabelle Kludjian of Lowell, Mass., on August 27, 1952. Rev. and Mrs. Gdanian have a daughter, Arpy.

THE REV. FATHER PAPKEN MAKSODIAN

Pastor — Holy Trinity Church, Boston, Mass.



The Rev. Father Papken Maksoudian was born in Adana, Cilicia, in 1909, and christened Maksoud.

His family moved to Aleppo, Syria, in 1915. He returned to his birthplace in 1919 and studied at St. Paul's Jesuit College.

In 1921 he went to Cyprus and continued his studies there.

From 1925 to 1928 he worked as a printer. Five years later he went to the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate of Antelias, Lebanon, where he set up the Printing Press of the Catholicate. He also worked in the Printing

Press of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

On May 10, 1935 Mr. Maksoudian married Miss Azadouhie Kasabian.

Mr. Maksoudian returned to Antelias in 1949 and entered the Seminary. On December 4, 1949 he was ordained to the priesthood by His Grace Bishop Khoren Paroian and renamed Father Papken.

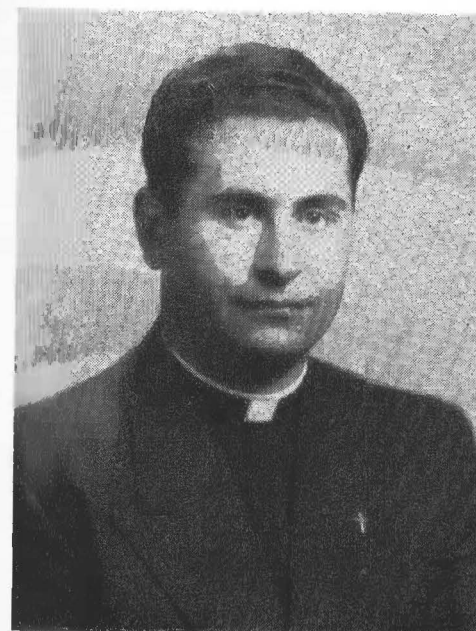
Father Papken Maksoudian served as Pastor of St. Mary's Church in Beirut, Lebanon. He also taught in a number of Armenian schools and was particularly active in Sunday School work.

The Rev. Father Papken Maksoudian came to the United States in 1951 and became Assistant Pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Boston, and upon the retirement of the Rev. Father Haroutune Toumayan, Father Papken succeeded him as full Pastor of this church where he has been serving since his arrival in the United States. In recognition of his services to the parish, His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan bestowed upon Father Papken, on May 31, 1956, the privilege of wearing the purple brocaded phelonion.

The Rev. and Mrs. Maksoudian have a son Krikor and a daughter Arpi.

THE REV. FATHER LEVON ARAKELIAN

Pastor — SS. Sahag and Mesrob Church, West Philadelphia, Pa.



The Rev. Father Levon Arakelian was born in Baghdad, Iraq, on July 4, 1919, and christened Hrand.

He received his Primary education at the local Armenian School and was graduated in 1931.

From 1931 to 1937 he studied at the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate in Jerusalem and was ordained archdeacon by His Beatitude Patriarch Torkom Koushagian, after which he attended the School of Theology for one year.

He returned to Iraq and continued his studies, majoring in

Civil Engineering. Meanwhile he served as deacon in the Holy Trinity Church in Baghdad and as athletic director, teacher of art, music and English in the local Armenian school.

Until 1948 Mr. Arakelian held important positions with the Irrigation Department of the Iraq Government, in the Chief Engineer's Office of the Iraq State Railways, and the Rafidain Oil Company.

By arrangement of His Eminence Archbishop Tiran he came to the United States in 1949 and entered Temple University's School of Theology and was graduated on June 18, 1953, receiving a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree.

Meanwhile he assisted the Pastor of the Holy Trinity Church in North Philadelphia and organized a Bible Class for adults.

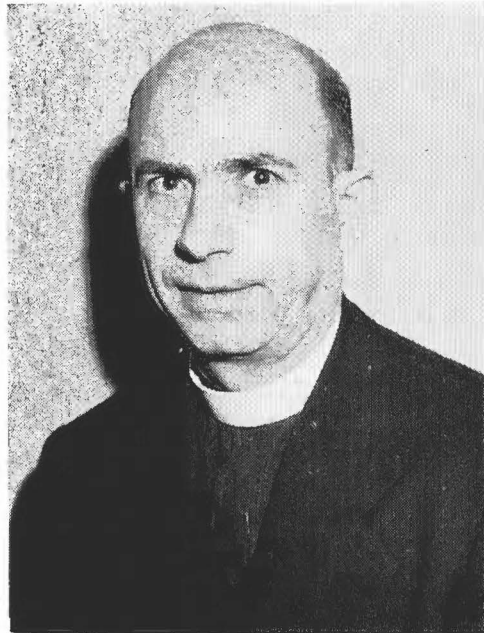
On April 23, 1950 Mr. Arakelian married Miss Grace Meshejian of Philadelphia. They have a son Hrand and a daughter Melina.

On September 10, 1950 Deacon Hrand was ordained to the priesthood by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, who renamed him Father Levon and appointed him temporary Pastor of SS. Sahag and Mesrob Church of West Philadelphia.

In 1951 the Parish Assembly unanimously elected Father Levon pastor of this church where he has been serving since his ordination.

THE REV. FATHIER VARTAN DER ASSADOURIAN

Pastor — St. Leonce Church, Paterson, New Jersey



The Rev. Father Vartan Der Assadourian was born in Cilicia, in 1910, and christened Aram. He was the son of the Rev. Father Assadour, who was one of the many clergymen massacred by the Turks.

The future priest attended primary schools in his native country. From 1926 to 1930 he worked for the British and Foreign Bible Society in Jerusalem.

In 1930 he entered the Seminary of the Armenian Catholicate in Antelias, Lebanon. After two years of study he left the Seminary and entered the service of the Iraq Petroleum Company Ltd., of Haifa, Palestine. Meanwhile he taught in the local Armenian school.

In 1949 he returned to the Seminary of Antelias and was ordained to the priesthood, in 1951, by His Grace Bishop Terenig Poladian, who renamed the newly ordained priest Father Vartan.

Soon after his ordination Father Vartan was sent to Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia, where he served as Armenian pastor until 1953.

He came to the United States in 1954 and was appointed Pastor of St. Leonce's Church in Paterson, New Jersey, where he has been serving since his arrival in this country.

The Diocesan Assembly of 1954 elected the Rev. Father Levon Arakelian member of the Diocesan Council where he is now serving as the Vice-Chairman.

In recognition of Father Levon's achievements in the six years of his priesthood both in his parish and the Diocese, His Eminence Archbishop Mampre bestowed upon Father Levon, on March 28, 1956, the privilege of wearing the purple brocaded phelonion.

THE REV. FATHER DICRAN KHOYAN

Pastor — St. Gregory the Illuminator's Church, Chicago, Illinois



The Rev. Father Dicran Khoyan was born in Trebizond, in 1895, and christened Dicran. As an infant he was brought to Constantinople, by his mother to join his father, the Rev. Vahan Khoyan.

First he went to the Armenian School of Proti, in Constantinople, and was later graduated from the Central College of Constantinople with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

He became an instructor in preparatory school of Berberian College where he taught history, geography, and classical Armenian.

At the end of World War I Mr. Khoyan and a few friends organized the Armenian General Athletic Union to help develop the Armenian Boy Scout movement.

Mr. Khoyan studied music under two eminent teachers, K. Chilingirian and Komitas Vardapet.

The Republic of Armenia called upon the Armenian General Athletic Union to send experts to Armenia to direct the Boy Scout Organization there. Mr. Khoyan was sent to Yerevan with two colleagues. But after the fall of the Republic of Armenia in 1920 he immigrated to the United States.

In 1926 he was graduated from the YMCA Training College with a Bachelor of Physical Education degree. He and other A. G. A. U. members organized a series of olympic games which continue to this day.

In 1932 Mr. Khoyan married the former Miss Sirarpie Isbecherian. They have two daughters and a son.

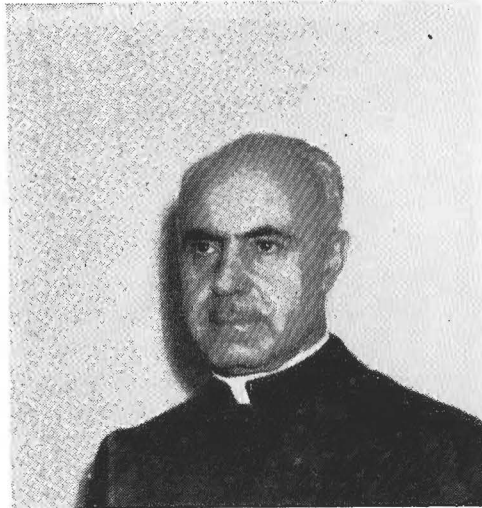
Mr. Khoyan and his family moved to Miami in 1940 where he served as choirmaster of the local parish.

On February 7, 1953 — on the occasion of the consecration of the Armenian Church in Miami — His Eminence Archbishop Tiran ordained Mr. Khoyan archdeacon, and on August 13, 1955, His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan ordained him to the priesthood.

Since his ordination the Rev. Father Dicran Khoyan has been Pastor of St. Gregory the Illuminator's Church in Chicago, Illinois.

THE REV. FATHER BOGHOS MANOUKIAN

Pastor — Holy Trinity Church, North Philadelphia, Pa.



The Rev. Father Boghos Manoukian was born in Amasia, Armenia on May 5, 1901, and christened Bedros.

He studied for the priesthood at the Armenian Seminary of Armash, near Constantinople, and had as instructors three eminent Prelates, namely Archbishops Malachia Ormanian, Mesrob Naroyan, Elysee Tourian, of these the first two later became Patriarchs of Constantinople, and the third became Patriarch of Jerusalem.

The outbreak of World War I and the forcible closing of the Seminary of Armash put an abrupt end to his theological studies.

After the armistice he went to France and studied architecture.

Mr. Manoukian came to the United States in 1929 and for a time worked as an architect. In 1936 he entered the service of the United States Government and for a number of years was associated with the Public Building Administration.

In 1938 he married Miss Araxy Seferian of Washington, D. C. They have three children, Mariam, Haig and Perouz.

He was very active in the Armenian communities in New York and in Washington. He served on the Parish Council of the Washington Armenian Church, first as chairman and then as secretary, from which latter post he resigned to enter Holy Orders.

On February 11, 1956 Mr. Manoukian was ordained archdeacon by His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan, and on the following day he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Mampre, who renamed him Father Boghos.

Since his ordination the Rev. Father Boghos Manoukian has been serving as Pastor of Holy Trinity Armenian Church in North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

CHAPTERS OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



BOSTON CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Boston, Massachusetts



BRIDGEPORT CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Bridgeport, Connecticut



CHICAGO CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Chicago, Illinois



CLEVELAND CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Cleveland, Ohio



DETROIT CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Detroit, Michigan



EVANSTON CHAPTER

**THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA**
Evanston, Illinois



HARTFORD CHAPTER

**ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA**
Hartford, Connecticut



HVERHILL CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Haverhill, Massachusetts



LAWRENCE CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Lawrence, Massachusetts



LOWELL CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Lowell, Massachusetts



NEWARK CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Newark, New Jersey



NEW YORK – HOLY CROSS – CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
New York, N. Y.



NEW YORK – ST. GREGORY'S – CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
New York, N. Y.



PROVIDENCE CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Providence, Rhode Island



RACINE CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Racine, Wisconsin



SOUTH MILWAUKEE CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
 ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
 South Milwaukee, Wisconsin

UNION CITY CHAPTER

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Virginia Alipounarian | Zarouhi Kapeghian |
| Kohar Arpiarian | Peter Kapusuzian |
| Philip Arpiarian | Rose Kapusuzian |
| Shacky Arpiarian | Satenig Kargosian |
| Edward Arzoomanian | Edward Kassabian |
| Angele Bozoian | Charles Mason |
| Ann Dadaian | Peter Mason |
| Lucille Deradorian | Florence Menasian |
| Elizabeth Der Matleosian | Martin Nalbandian |
| Harry Der Matleosian | Rose Norian |
| Nubar Dorian | Antranig Ouzoonian |
| Sirapy Dorian | Violet Ouzoonian |
| Charlotte Ermoian | Rona'd V. Poosikian |
| Nishan Eskigian | Harry Sarkisian |
| Stepan Goomrigian | Helen Sarkissian |
| Caire Hovsepian | Arpəna Tavitian |
| Zaven Hovsepian | Evelyn Tomasian |
| Armen Kalbian | Barbara Voskian |
| Mali'de Kalbian | Marion Zavattjian |
| John Kapeghian | |

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
 ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
 Union City, New Jersey



TROY CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Troy, New York



WATERTOWN CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Watertown, Massachusetts



WEST PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



WORCESTER CHAPTER

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Worcester, Massachusetts

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Եկեղեցին Հայկական՝ ծննդավայրն է հոգւոյս,
Ինչպէս քարայր մ'ընդարձակ, պարզ ու խորունկ, մութ եւ լոյս —
Իր գաւիթով հիւրընկալ, իր լայն բեմով, ու հեռուն
Կանգնած իր լուս խորանով՝ որ կարծես նաև մ'է ծրփում . . . :

Եկեղեցին Հայկական՝ ես աչքս գոց կը տեսնեմ,
Ես կը շնչեմ, կը լսեմ իր Յիսուսին մանկադէմ
Իր սեղանէն մըխացող քուրջ—քուրջ խունկերով,
Եւ իր պատերը ցնցող աղօթքներով պեխով . . . :

Եկեղեցին Հայկական՝ բարձր բերդն է հաւատքին
Իմ պապերո՛ւս, որ հողէն գայն քար ու քար հանեցին,
Եւ երկինքէն իջուցին գայն ցօղ առ ցօղ, ամպ առ ամպ,
Ու քաղաքեցա՛ն անը մէջ հանդարտութեամբ, հեգուքեամբ . . . :

Եկեղեցին Հայկական՝ մեծ վարագոյր մ'է բանուած,
Որուն ետեւ քակիտին մէջ կ'իջնէ ինքը Աստուած,
Որուն առջեւ գլխահակ կուգայ իմ ազգս ամբողջ
Հաղորդրիլ անցեալին հաց ու ջինով կենսատոյջ . . . :

Եկեղեցին Հայկական՝ ծովուն դիմաց պեկած՝
Նախահանգիստ մ'է խաղաղ: Յուրտ գիշերին՝ հուր եւ բոց,
Ու տօբակէզ ցորեկին՝ անաստ մըն է բստուերտ,
Ուր շուշաններ կը ծաղկին Շարականի գետին մօտ . . . :

Եկեղեցին Հայկական՝ մէն մի քարին սակ գետնի,
Կէպի երկինք ընթացող զաղտնի նամբայ մը ունի . . . :

Եկեղեցին Հայկական՝ հայ հոգիին եւ մարմնոյն
Զքրահանդերձն է փայլուն, մինչ իր խաչերն եւ դաշոյն,
Եւ զանգակներն են բամբիսն, եւ երգն է մի՛շտ Յաղթարթին . . . :

Վ.Ա.ՀԱՆ ԹԵՔԵՅԱՆ

1924

With Best Wishes

Mr. David Atamian

THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

The Armenian Church is the birthplace of my soul,
Like a vast grotto it is simple and profound, dark and light—
With its hospitable court, ample tribune, and hushed altar
Standing in the distance, as though it were a ship afloat . . .

The Armenian Church I see with my eyes closed,
I breathe and hear it through the clouds of incense
Which rise towards the feet of the Infant Jesus,
And through the fervent prayers vibrating its walls . . .

The Armenian Church is the mighty fortress of my forefathers' faith,
Raised by them from the earth stone by stone,
And brought down by them from heaven, one dewdrop and one cloud at a time,
And in which they enfolded themselves peacefully and humbly . . .

The Armenian Church is a great embroidered tapestry,
Behind which the Lord descends into the chalice, and
Before which all my people stand with bowed heads,
To commune with the past through the life-giving bread and wine . . .

The Armenian Church is a peaceful haven across the turbulent seas,
It is fire and light in the cold of the night;
It is a shady forest in the scorching midday sun
Where lilies bloom by the River of Hymns . . .

The Armenian Church beneath every stone in its floor
Holds a secret passage leading up to Heaven . . .

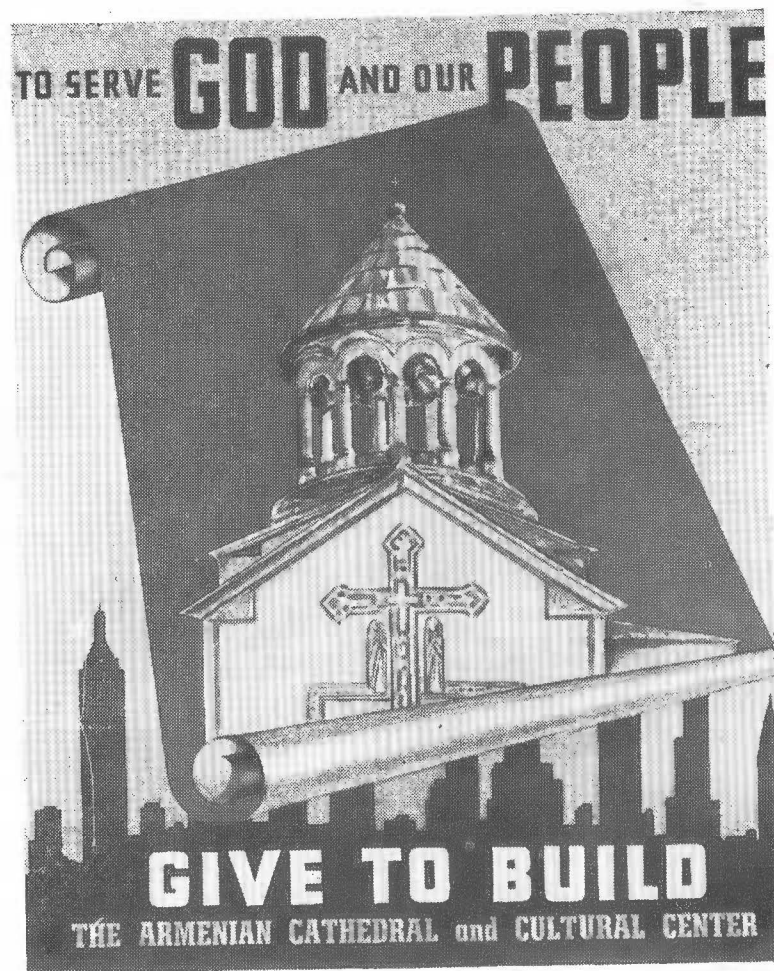
The Armenian Church is the shining armor of the Armenians' soul and body,

In it her crosses are as a dagger;
Her bell rings forth and her song is always Victory . . .

1924

—VAHAN TEKEYAN

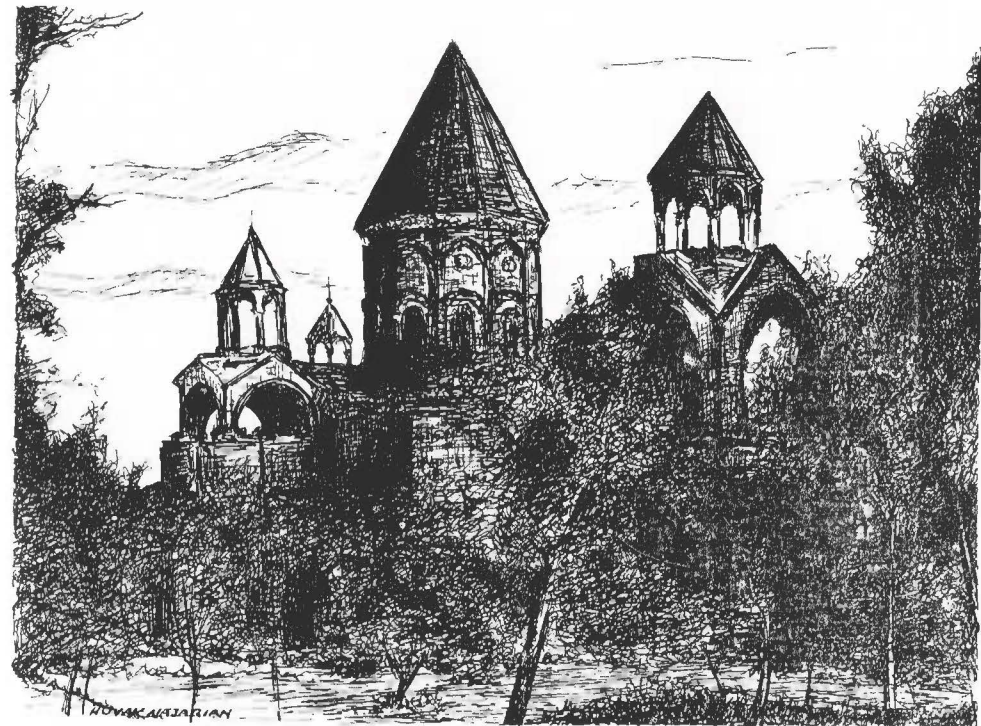
Translated by Srpouhie A. Essefian



"A Cathedral's calling is to clothe God's Word in the grandeur of everlasting majesty for all the world to behold".

The Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Jr.

Sponsored by the
 Armenian Cathedral and Cultural Center Project
 630 Second Avenue
 New York 16, N. Y.



HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

401 Shawmut Avenue
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

- 1890-95—The first Parish Council was organized, and the first Pastor was the Very Rev. Khat Vardapet Markarian, who served from July 1897 to April 1898.
- 1912—A choir was organized.
- 1918-21—The Very Rev. Shahe Vardapet Kasparian reorganized the Boston community.
- 1921—A church was purchased for \$27,000 and remodeled at a cost of \$35,000.
- 1923—November 11, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre.
- 1924—The Sunday School was established.
- 1947—The Cultural Hall was purchased and dedicated. It was named Shahe Hall in honor of Archbishop Shahe Kasparian.
- 1952—January, the Rev. Father Papken Maksoudian was appointed Pastor.
- 1953—May 10, the church commemorated its 30th Anniversary with his Eminence Archbishop Tiran presiding.

1953—November 29, a portion of the Divine Liturgy was televised over station WBZ-TV, with Father Papken Maksoudian and the choir, under the direction of Mr. Diran Dinjian, participating.

1954—December 31, a 2-acre plot of land with two buildings on it was purchased in Cambridge, near the Harvard University campus, for \$80,000. One 18-room mansion contains the Pastor's offices, the staff rooms, conference rooms, and the Regional Office of the Armenian General Benevolent Union. The other building is used for lectures, meetings, and for the library.

The parish, which has now risen to a membership of 600, is planning to build a large church, with a seating capacity of 1000. General Sarkis Zartarian is Chairman of the Church Building Committee.

The Ladies Auxiliary, which has a membership of 250, has donated \$20,000 towards the building of the new church.

The Young Women's Group, with 100 members, has donated \$5,000.

The ACYOA has pledged \$1,000 and so has the choir.

The choir has 30 members and seven deacons.

1956—January 22, the new Parish House was inaugurated and dedicated. All the church groups, led by the Pastor, marched in a solemn procession around the building.

The Hon. Edward Sullivan, Mayor of Cambridge, attended the dedication ceremonies and offered every possible aid in building the new church.

ASBURY PARK, N. J.

This is a newly organized parish.

1955—The Purchasing Committee, headed by Mr. Dadour Dadourian, bought a three-story seaside building for \$14,000.

This building will have a church, a community hall, and thirteen rooms available for vacationing clergy.

1956—June 24, His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan celebrated the first Divine Liturgy in this half-completed church and preached the sermon.

A banquet followed the church service for the purpose of raising funds for the new church, and a sum of \$4,120 was collected that day.

The Chairman of the new Parish Council is:
Mr. George Kazanjian.

ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER

17 Corbett Avenue
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

1923—The First Parish Council was organized, the parish consists of about 200 persons.

1924—The Ladies Auxiliary was established.

1928—A Church building, with a seating capacity of 250, was purchased for \$6,300. Remodeling and repairs cost about \$3,500.

1930—April 6, The Church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre.

The first pastor of this church was the Rev. Father Haroutune Toumayan.

The church has now a small choir of 12 members.

The Ladies Auxiliary is carrying on its duties.

There is no ACYOA Chapter.

This church has no permanent pastor, visiting clergymen minister to the spiritual needs of this community.

During 1954 the Divine Liturgy was celebrated three times.

HOLY ASCENSION CHURCH

1241 Barnum Avenue
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

1926—The first regular parish was organized, services were held in local Episcopal churches.

1928—The first Parish Council pro-tempore was set up.

1929—The first regular Parish Council was organized.

1929—The church building was purchased.

1929—Ladies Auxiliary was established.

1930—Blessing of the cornerstone took place.

1931—June - The Church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Leon Tourian.

1933—The first permanent pastor was the Very Rev. Elisha Vardapet Simonian, who served until 1934.

1947—The church was completely renovated. It has now a seating capacity of 300.

1955—June 12, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the consecration was celebrated.

This church has an ACYOA Chapter.

The present pastor is the Rev. Father Khoren Mamigonian.

ROCKTON, MASS.

Brockton has a community but no church as yet.

1953—The newly organized community purchased a building with a 4-acre plot for \$7,000.

As of 1955 the community had 58 dues-paying members.

It also has a Ladies Auxiliary.

A bulletin is published entitled "Letter from Brockton".

1956—June 3, His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan visited this community and celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the Greek Church.

A reception followed the church service where the members decided to renovate the building purchased in 1953 and convert it into a church with a seating capacity of 200. This is expected to cost about \$40,000, of which \$20,000 were collected that same evening.

There is no ACYOA Chapter as yet.

The community has no pastor.

The Chairman of the Parish Council is:

Mr. Ara Manoogian
475 Plymouth Street
Whitman, Mass.

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR

1000 N. Hoyne Avenue
CHICAGO 22, ILLINOIS

1915—The church community was established through the efforts of the Very Rev. Vahram Vardapet Nazaretian, who held monthly services in a local Episcopal church for about ten years. He was recalled to this community in 1943 and served for several more years.

1925—September, a church with a seating capacity of 500 persons was purchased and remodeled.

1926—The church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre.

1947—The church was partially destroyed by fire and was restored.

The church has a choir, a Ladies Auxiliary, and **an ACYOA Chapter.**

The present pastor is the Rev. Father Dicran Khoyan.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Cleveland has a community but no church as yet.

1911—Community was first organized, it is now estimated to include some 1200 persons.

The community has a Church Building Committee, a Chior, and **an ACYOA Chapter.**

1950—The community purchased a plot of land for \$3,200, and the Church Building Fund has a sum of approximately \$25,000.

1951—April 8, His Eminence Archbishop Tiran celebrated the Divine Liturgy at a local Baptist church and on this-the 1500th anniversary of Vardanantz - His Eminence spoke to the community about the significance of the Battle of Avarayr and the Vardanians.

1953—A memorable event in the annals of this community was the Seventh Annual Assembly of the ACYOA, to which the Cleveland Chapter was host. The local radio and television stations broadcast and televised the Divine Services on this occasion and interviewed the Primate and members of the clergy.

1955—The community brought its active participation to the Cathedral Project's "Buy a Brick Campaign" and bought subscriptions amounting to \$800.

The Chairman of the Parish Council is:

Mr. M. Chakemian
1862 Marloes Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio.

ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH

1335 Oakman Boulevard
DETROIT 38, MICHIGAN

- 1909—1910—The first community was organized.
- 1912—The first Parish Council established.
- 1913—The first Pastor of this parish was the Very Rev. Sahag Dz. Vardapet Nazaretian, who served from 1913 to 1922.
- 1921—The choir was founded.
- 1921—A Senior Women's Auxiliary was set up, which bought a plot of land. This group has now a membership of 225.
- 1927—The choir was reorganized and named Komitas Choir by Archdeacon Harry Ekizian, the present Choir Director.
- 1931—With the aid of the Building Committee, the Women's Auxiliary, the Komitas Choir, and Young Women's group, a church was built at a cost of \$44,000.
- 1931—November 22, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Leon Tourian.
- 1938—The Young Women's Guild was founded. It has now a membership of 110.
- 1947—The ACYOA was organized.**
- 1947—The Cultural Center was built at a cost of \$200,000.
- 1947—Sunday School was set up. It has now an enrollment of 376 students. Sunday School Director is Archdeacon Levon Zenian, who has a staff of 43 teachers.
- The Armenian school has sixty pupils.
- 1948—May 28-30—The ACYOA held its Second Annual Assembly in the newly dedicated Cultural Center with His Eminence Archbishop Tiran presiding.**
- The community is planning to build a new church, community center, and a school on a 16-acre site which has been purchased already. The project when completed will cost approximately one million dollars.
- 1956—November 25, the church will celebrate its 25th anniversary. This parish has about 10,000 Armenians affiliated with the Church. The present pastor is the Rev. Father Arnak Kasparian who has served this parish since 1951.

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- 1911—Community was first organized, it is now estimated to include some 1200 persons.
The community has a Church Building Committee, a Chior, and **an ACYOA Chapter.**
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- 1956—November 25, the church will celebrate its 25th anniversary. This parish has about 10,000 Armenians affiliated with the Church. The present pastor is the Rev. Father Arnak Kasparian who has served this parish since 1951.

ST. JAMES CHURCH

816 Clark Street
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

- 1944—January, The community purchased a church for \$8,750 and remodeled it. The seating capacity of this church is about 120.
- 1945—February 26, the church was consecrated by the Very Rev. Tiran Dz.
- 1945—February 26, the church was consecrated by the Very Rev. Tiran Dz. Vardapet Nersoyan (now Archbishop Tiran).
- 1945—The Ladies Auxiliary was organized.
- 1946—The Sunday School was established.
- 1948—The first pastor, the Rev. Father Vartan Megherian, who was ordained to the priesthood by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, for this parish, served here until 1955, when he was transferred to New York and became the Vicar General.
- 1953—A drive was begun to raise \$300,000 for the construction of a new church.
- 1955—February 27, the Tenth Anniversary of the consecration of St. James Church was commemorated.
- At present the church has only a visiting pastor.
- This church has an ACYOA Chapter, which was host to the Fourth Annual Assembly in 1950.**
- The Chairman of the Parish Council is:
- Mr. Walter Vartan
160 East Illinois
Chicago, Illinois

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

Corner Broad and White Streets
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

- 1897—The first Parish Council was established by a small community.
- 1935—A Ladies Auxiliary was organized.
- For a number of years this community was served by visiting clergymen.
- 1950—A plot of land was purchased.
- 1951—May, a fund-raising rally was held for building a church.
- 1952—June 29, Ground-breaking ceremonies were held and the cornerstone was blessed. In a year and a half the church was completed at an approximate cost of \$30,000.
- 1953—November 15, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran. The sponsor was Mr. John Chooljian. A banquet was held the same day attended by many notables, including the Hon. Joseph V. Cronin, Mayor of Hartford.
- This church has an ACYOA Chapter.**
- The present Pastor is the Very Rev. Muron Vardapet Gourdjikian who is also pastor of Holy Resurrection Church in New Britain.

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR

Main Street
HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS

- 1890—The community began to take shape.
- 1923—The first Parish Council was set up.
- 1939—The Ladies Auxiliary was established.
- 1940—The Choir was organized.
- 1943—A church originally built by the Unitarians in 1641 was purchased for \$5,500 and remodeled for \$10,000.
- 1945—December 23, the church was consecrated by the Very Rev. Tiran Dz. Vardapet Nersoyan (now Archbishop Tiran).
Until 1948 this church had no permanent pastor of its own, pastors of the churches in Lowell and Lawrence, Mass., as well as other visiting clergymen came to the parish to celebrate the Divine Liturgy and these services were held in the Trinity Episcopal Church.
- 1947—**The ACYOA Chapter received its charter.**
- 1948—March 20, the Very Rev. Humayag Vardapet Intoyan was appointed first pastor of this church.
- 1952—April 21, the Very Rev. Hrant Abegha Khachadourian, the present pastor, was assigned to this parish.
During his tenure of office he has established an Armenian school, organized a Mr. and Mrs. Club, reorganized the Sunday School, and developed the choir which he has trained to sing the Komitas Liturgy.
- 1952—November 30, the new Community Hall was inaugurated.
- 1954—August 31 - September 1st, hurricane damaged the roof, belfry, and windows which were speedily repaired.

This church sends two delegates to the Diocesan Assembly, they are Messrs. Krikor Derderian and Edgar Movsesian.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

54 East Haverhill Street
LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

- 1883—1900—The first Armenian immigrants began to arrive in this town. Gradually the community grew to about 1600 persons. Originally services were held in a small chapel, and later at the Grace Episcopal Church.
The first Pastor was the Very Rev. Arsen Dz. Vardapet Vehouni who served from 1905 to 1907.
- 1915—The Choir was founded.
- 1916—The Ladies Auxiliary was established with 21 charter members. The Armenian School was founded the same year.
- 1930—A Church Building Committee was formed and a church was built at a cost of \$62,000.
- 1931—The cornerstone was blessed by His Eminence Archbishop Leon Tourian.
- 1936—June 21, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian.
- 1938—The Sunday School was organized.
- 1946—November 24, the two side altars, which had been added to the church, were consecrated by the Very Rev. Tiran Dz. Vardapet Nersoyan (now Archbishop Tiran).
- 1953—**The ACYOA was organized with 20 members and received its charter.**
Some fifteen pastors have served this parish in the past sixty years. The present pastor is the Very Rev. Oshagan Abegha Minassian.
- 1955—May 1st, the choir conducted by Father Oshagan gave its first annual concert at the Oliver High School Auditorium.
Since Father Oshagan's illness the Rev. Father Garen Gdanian and the Very Rev. Hrant Abegha Khachadourian have been ministering ministered to the spiritual needs of the parish.

The Chairman of the Parish Council is:

Mr. Bedros Aznoian
9 Booth Road
Methuen, Mass.

ST. VARTANANTZ CHURCH

60 Lawrence Street
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

- 1885—Beginning with this year Lowell became a very active and important community with its charitable and educational groups. It acquired the title of "The Brave Little Community".
- 1910—The Ladies Auxiliary, formed in 1910, is still in office to this day. It has a membership of fifty and is the backbone of the church.
- 1910—The Ladies Auxiliary organized a Church Building Committee.
- 1916—The Church building was completed at a cost of \$10,500 with many of the members helping in the actual construction work. The church has a seating capacity of 250.
- 1916—The choir was organized and trained by the noted composers Proff-Kalfayan and Servandztianz.
- 1916—April, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Moushegh Seropian, and the sponsor was Mr. Asadour Babigian. Until 1931 this church administered to the spiritual needs of Armenian communities in all of New England north of Boston.
- 1942—The entire parish came to witness the mortgage burning ceremonies which was to herald a new era for this church and its "Brave Little Community".
- 1947—**The ACYOA Chapter received its charter. It has Senior and Junior members.**
- 1948—The Rev. Father Gdanian became Pastor of this church.
- 1951—January, the Ladies Auxiliary celebrated its Fortieth Anniversary.
- 1952—The Parent-Teacher Association was formed with special interest in the Sunday School, which has now 55 students. The church has about 600 parishioners, it owns a plot of land on which a community center will be constructed. Father Garen Gdanian, the Pastor, is assisted by two deacons and a professionally trained choir.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

1501 N. E. First Avenue
MIAMI 32, FLORIDA

- Since the 1920's the Armenian community of Miami held services from time to time at the local Episcopal Church.
- 1948—February, the first Parish Council was organized by His Grace Bishop Tiran, who suggested the idea of building a church for the Armenians in Miami. This suggestion fell on receptive ears and the Parish Council undertook a fund-raising drive.
- 1950—October, a former Greek church was bought largely through the donations of the Building Committee. This church was remodeled.
- 1953—February 8, the church was consecrated by His Grace Bishop Tiran, and the sponsor was Mr. Harry Burt (Movsesian). On this occasion Mr. Dicran Khoyan (now the Rev. Father Dicran) was ordained Archdeacon.
- 1953—February, the Very Rev. Yeghishe Abegha Gizirian was appointed first Pastor of this church, where he served for one year. The community, which is growing rapidly, now consists of some 600 persons in 150 families. The present Pastor is the Very Rev. Vahram Dz. Vardapet Nazaretian. At the Divine Liturgies he is assisted by Archdeacon Dicran Basralian and Sub-Deacon Aram Missirlian. The various bodies of the church are the Ladies Auxiliary, headed by Mrs. Mary Kulhanjian; the choir whose Director is Miss Agnes Der Moushegian, and the organist is Miss Aghavni Ellian. The Sunday School has 30 students and Miss Hasmig Balikjian is their Supervisor. The Armenian School has 15 pupils and they are taught by Mrs. Victoria Pilibbosian.
- The ACYOA Chapter has not been organized yet.**

MONTREAL, QUE., CANADA

- This community does not have its own church yet. The community has existed since the 1920's.
- 1929—1940—The Rev. Father Zkon Charhoukian visited this community twice a year and celebrated the Divine Liturgy in a local Anglican church. Since 1941 there have been several visiting clergymen who have ministered to the spiritual needs of the parish. The Chairman of the Parish Council is:
Mr. Khachig Shiroyan
387 Barnard West
Montreal, Que., Canada.

ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN CHURCH

417 14th Avenue
IRVINGTON, NEW JERSEY

1926—October 25, the first Parish Council was organized under the presidency of the Rev. Father Yeghishe Kalshinjian.
For about twenty years thereafter services were held in local Episcopal churches.

1928—The Ladies Auxiliary was organized.

1948—November, the Very Rev. Shnork Vardapet Kaloustian (now Bishop Shnork) was appointed Pastor who served until January 1953, when he was elected Primate of the California Diocese.

1949—A church with a seating capacity of 200 was purchased for \$26,000. It included a parish house and a community hall.

1950—January 2, the church was consecrated by His Grace Bishop Tiran, in the presence of a large number of Armenian and other clergymen.

1950—**The ACYOA Chapter received its charter.**

This church has a choir with 20 members, the choir director is Mr. Haroutune Shalian.

It has a Ladies Auxiliary and a Young Peoples' Auxiliary. The Sunday School has thirty students and five teachers.

St. Mary's serves a widely scattered community consisting of Newark, the Oranges, Montclair, Belleville, Bloomfield, Kearny, Arlington, Irvington, Maplewood, Milburn, Summit, Cranford, Plainfield, the Roselles and others.

The present Pastor is the Very Rev. Yeghishe Abegha Gizirian.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY RESURRECTION

P. O. Box 122
NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT

1900—The First Parish Council was established.

1915—The Ladies Auxiliary was founded.

1932—The Sunday School was established.

1936—A Youth Group was organized.

1939—The Choir was founded by Miss Sara Yakoubian.

1940—A building was purchased for \$6,500 and converted into a church, with a seating capacity of 200, at a cost of \$6,000.

1941—March 19, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian.

A number of clergymen have served this community before and after the purchase and consecration of the church.

1948—April 4, in this church His Grace Bishop Tiran ordained Deacon Minas Kasparian to the priesthood and renamed him Father Arnak.

The church publishes a bulletin called "The Illuminator".

The youth group originally founded in 1936 was reorganized and chartered as the ACYOA.

1949—**This ACYOA Chapter was host to the Third Annual Assembly.**

1950—December 24, the choir directed by Miss Sara Yakoubian sang Armenian Christmas hymns over station WKNB.

1951—April 8, the church celebrated its tenth anniversary.

1951—**September, the ACYOA Chapter was dissolved. (It has just been re-organized and will soon receive its charter).**

1952—June, the community purchased a plot of land adjacent to the church building for \$3,000, which will later be used for a community center building.

1954—September, the Very Rev. Muron Vardapet Gourdjikian was appointed pastor of this church, where he is now serving.

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

580 West 187th Street
NEW YORK 33, N. Y.

1929—January 1, a former Lutheran church and Parish House were purchased for \$40,500.

1929—The first Pastor was the Rev. Haroutune Avak Kahana Sarkisian (who held the first church service on January 6th.)

1929—September, first issue of "Zvartnotz" was published, (It has now a circulation of 1300).

1931—May 7, Ladies Auxiliary was organized.

1933—The church choir was organized by His Grace Bishop Hovsep Garabedian.

1934—March 3, the Very Rev. Elisha Vardapet Simonian was appointed Pastor.

1937—May 17, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepien.

From 1937 the membership indicated a phenomenal rise, from 87 to over 1,000 now, thanks to an intensive membership drive.

1944—The Holy Cross League was founded.

1946—The Holy Cross Choir, directed by Mr. Nerces Nercessian, recorded the "Hymns of the Church of Armenia". It was published by RCA and brought the Choir into national prominence.

At the Diocesan Assembly the Church received commendation by the Primate "as a model church with its praiseworthy and exemplary Pastor and Parish Council".

1946—Holy Cross Seniors and Holy Cross Juniors were founded.

The ACYOA was founded the same year but disbanded later and is now reorganized.

A major activity of the Church has been its Armenian School. In fact, the school was founded before the church. The first Armenian teacher in Washington Heights was Miss Takouhi Boyajian. Later Miss Boyajian was succeeded by Mrs. Aghavni Nigohossian, Mrs. A. Khashmanian and Mr. K. Kevorkian.

Since 1937 Mrs. Vartanoush Paboojian has been conducting the school which has had many fine graduates who have brought credit to their teachers.

1949—The Church celebrated its Twentieth Anniversary.

1951—April 29, the Parish Assembly resolved to build a new church as the present one had become too small for the parish.

1954—October 17, the new Holy Cross Church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan, assisted by Archbishop Tiran, Archbishop Tirayre, and other clergymen.

The Pastor of the Holy Cross is the Very Rev. Elisha Vardapet Simonian, who has served in this capacity for the past twenty-two years.

The Very Rev. Oshin Abegha Nicolian was recently appointed assistant pastor.

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR

314 East 35th Street
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

1903—The first Parish Council was organized.

1918—The community rented a building on 17th Street.

1923—The Ladies Auxiliary was established.

1925—The first choir was organized.

The present choir, which has been under the direction of Mr. Gabriel Majarian since 1933, has a membership of 65.

1925—The parish moved to Adams Memorial Building and remained there until November 1946.

1933—The Armenian School was founded. It continues to this day. The three Armenian Schools in Long Island are also under the jurisdiction of this parish.

1938—The church began publishing a bulletin called "Loosavorich".

1947—The parish moved to a hall adjacent to St. Peter's Episcopal Church and converted it into a church.

1947—September, the altar of this church was consecrated by His Grace Bishop Tiran.

1947—July, the Rev. Father Vertanes Papazian was assigned pastor of this church.

1949—A 3-story building on 35th Street (near the Cathedral site) was purchased for \$90,000 and converted into a church at an additional cost of some \$60,000.

1950—March 10, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran.

1951—**February, the ACYOA Chapter received its charter and on March 31st, thirty new members were initiated at a solemn Candlelight Service.** The Pastor is the Rev. Father Vertanes Papazian, who has been serving this parish since his appointment in 1947.

LONG ISLAND CHURCH

Horace Harding Boulevard
BAYSIDE, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

1954—1955—Plans got under way to build a church in Long Island, N. Y.

1955—September 25, a banquet was held to commemorate the first anniversary of the Church Building Fund, following this banquet ceremonies were held at the church site to bless the ground and lay the cornerstones.

A sum of \$40,000 was collected from the sponsors who were accorded the privilege of laying the cornerstones.

ST. SARKIS CHURCH

300-9th Avenue
NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

- 1945—March, the Very Rev. Tiran Vardapet Nersoyan (now Archbishop Tiran) visited the Armenian community in Niagara Falls and appointed a Church Building Committee, the members of which were also to serve as the first Parish Council.
- 1945—October, the first Parish Council was elected.
- 1948—April, a plot of land was purchased for \$4,700, to which sum the Armenians of Buffalo, N. Y. also contributed.
- 1952—June 14, the ground was blessed followed by laying of the cornerstone.
The church building was completed at a cost of about \$70,000.
- 1953—September 20, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, assisted by a large number of clergy and the choirs of St. Catharines and Toronto, Canada.
- 1955—February 15, Krikor Tatoyan was ordained Deacon by His Eminence Archbishop Mampre.
A banquet followed attended by 250 guests.
- 1956—**The ACYOA Chapter was organized and will be chartered soon.**
The Pastor of this church is the newly ordained Very Rev. Vasken Abegha Tatoyan.

The church is now almost complete.

The Parish has a Ladies Auxiliary.

- 1956—**April, the ACYOA chapter was organized.**

Chairman of the Building Committee is:

Mr. Dikran Missirlian

219 Kensett Road

Manhasset, Long Island, N. Y.

ST. LEONCE CHURCH

135 Bloomfield Avenue
PATERSON 3, NEW JERSEY

This is one of the oldest Armenian communities in the United States. His Grace Bishop Hovsep Sarajian, the first Armenian Primate sent to America, visited this parish in 1898.

1900—The first Parish Council was established.

1928—The Ladies Auxiliary was formed.

1934—The choir was organized.

1934—A former Episcopal church, with a seating capacity of 350 persons, was purchased for \$6,000 and repairs and remodeling cost another \$7,000.

1938—June, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian.

The church publishes a bulletin called "Loosadoo".

There is an ACYOA Chapter.

1949—June 26, the 15th anniversary of the church purchase was commemorated and the Divine Liturgy was celebrated by the Pastor, Very Rev. Shnork Vardapet Kaloustian (now Bishop Shnork).

On this occasion memorial services were held for all deceased members who had contributed to the development of this church.

1950—The church purchased a two - story house opposite the church which is to serve as the parish house.

The present Pastor is the Rev. Father Vartan Der Assadourian, who was appointed in 1954.

PITTSBURGH, PENN.

This is a community and it has no church.

The Pittsburgh area has a number of towns Braddock, Duquesne, Ambridge etc., in which about seventy-five Armenian families live. In 1947 His Eminence Archbishop Tiran turned this parish over to the pastor of the West Philadelphia church. As a consequence the Very Rev. Mesrob Vardapet Semerjian first, and the Rev. Father Levon Arakelian later, have visited this community once or twice a year and held Divine Service and ministered to the spiritual needs of the community.

A church committee functions in lieu of a regular Parish Council.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

2160 North Marshall Street.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

- 1940—The community moved to a new site and purchased a church for \$6,000, it also includes a large hall with a seating capacity of 500.
- 1942—December 27, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian.
- 1946—**The ACYOA Chapter received its charter.**
- 1947—**The First ACYOA Assembly was held in the Church Hall.**
The Ladies Auxiliary, founded in 1910, has played an important role in this church and community.
- 1948—The Choir celebrated its 20th Anniversary.
Under the direction of the Very Rev. Torkom Vardapet Manoogian the Choir also published song books containing hymns and folk music.

This church has an Armenian School, which has been in existence since 1916, except for minor interruptions.
- 1950—March 9, the main altar of the church was destroyed in a fire but it was speedily restored through the efforts of the Karibian brothers and other members.
- 1951—September 10, Deacon Hrand Arakelian was ordained to the priesthood by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, who renamed him Father Levon, and appointed him pastor of SS. Sahag and Mesrob Church in West Philadelphia.
- 1951—December 24, the church celebrated its own eighth anniversary and the 25th anniversary of the Sunday School.
The present Pastor is the Rev. Father Boghos Manoukian, who has been serving this parish since his ordination on February 12, 1956.

ST. SAHAG AND ST. MESROB CHURCH

70 Jefferson Street
PROVIDENCE 8, RHODE ISLAND

- "Having a sense of God's merciful Providence unto me called this place Providence" — Roger Williams**
- 1897—The first Pastor of this parish, the Very Rev. Vaghinag Dz. Vardapet Sisagian, arrived in Providence. He died on July 14, 1899, after serving only two years.
- 1899—1913—A number of clergymen served this parish as visiting pastors.
- 1913—A former Baptist church, built in 1868, was purchased. It is an imposing building with a lofty tower, and 12 beautiful stained-glass memorial windows. It has a seating capacity of 500.
- 1914—The first Divine Liturgy was celebrated in the newly acquired church.
- 1914—June 7, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Moushegh Seropian.
- 1938—The Sunday School was opened with an enrollment of 90 students. (It was originally organized in 1932 through the efforts of the Rev. Father Yeghishe Kalchinjian but the membership had gradually declined.)
- 1939—The Silver Jubilee of the Church was celebrated, presided over by the Very Rev. Sion Vardapet Manougian (now His Grace Bishop Sion) who served as the Pastor of this church for seven years.
- 1940—The Sunday School was reorganized.
- 1943—The Junior Ladies Aid Society was founded.
- 1946—**January 12-13, a constituent assembly of youth groups met here to ratify the Constitution of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America.**
- 1950—The Ladies Auxiliary, originally established as a charitable organization in 1901, joined the Church in 1913 and became the founders of the present Ladies Auxiliary.
- 1952—Sept. 7, first ordination in this church took place when Deacon Garabed Potookian was ordained to the priesthood by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran and renamed Father Alan.
The Pastor is the Rev. Father Shahe Altounian, who has served this parish since 1950.

ST. MESROB CHURCH

1326 State Street
RACINE, WISCONSIN

Until 1918 this community was part of the Midwest Parish and shared the services of the Rev. Father David Avedisian with the nearby cities. Meanwhile the community had increased to about 100 members.

It is extremely noteworthy that during World War I this small community of immigrants purchased Liberty Bonds amounting to \$80,000 and the City Officials paid tribute to the Armenians for having contributed the most on a per capita basis.

1914—Rev. Father Mesrob Sahagian held Vesper Services in Wergland Hall.

1915—A committee was formed to take responsibility for securing the services of visiting clergy.

1918—The first Parish Council was formed.

1922—1925—Services were being held in the local Episcopal church.

1923—The Rev. Father David Avedisian became the first permanent pastor of the community.

An Armenian School was founded the same year.

1924—April 8, a fund-raising rally was held, presided over by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre, for the purchase of a church, and \$3,535 collected at this initial meeting.

1925—The Ladies Auxiliary was organized.

1925—A former Danish Lutheran Church, with a seating capacity of 500 was purchased for \$18,000 and remodeled for \$7,000.

1925—December 25, the church was consecrated by Archbishop Tirayre. The sponsor was Mr. Krikor Keishian.

1931—The church choir was reorganized by Deacon Penyamin Torosian.

1935—October, the Sunday School was founded by Mr. Toros Madaghian.

1943—The Very Rev. Soukias Vardapet Kalfayan was appointed Pastor.

1944—The Junior Ladies Auxiliary was formed.

1946—**March 21, the ACYOA Chapter was organized.**

1952—July 6, His Eminence Archbishop Tiran installed three young members, Paul Chobanian, Souren Chalikian, and Hagop Der Hovsepan, as Stole Bearers.

1955—**The ACYOA Chapter was host to the Ninth Annual Assembly.**

The Pastor, the Very Rev. Soukias Vardapet Kalfayan, has served this parish since 1943.

CHURCH NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION

2403 West Main Street
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

The community has had a parish group since 1912.

1947—His Eminence Archbishop Tiran visited this community and celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, he urged this community - which had existed without a church for thirty-five years - to strive towards acquiring its own church.

1950—The Very Rev. Torkom Vardapet Manoogian paid a number of visits to this community, organizing the parish, holding divine services at St. Paul's Church, and directing the work of the Church Building Committee.

1953—September 24, the Parish Council signed the deed for a church building.

An ACYOA Chapter was tentatively formed by Father Torkom but this was later merged with the Choir.

The church has a choir and a Ladies Auxiliary.

1955—The old site was sold and a new plot of land was purchased.

1956—July 8, the cornerstone of the nearly completed church was blessed by His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan, assisted by the Rev. Father Levon Arakelian and the Rev. Father Boghos Manoukian. The church building cost \$60,000. Raising this sum was quite an achievement for this small community of 120 families.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

This community has no church as yet.

1950—A community was organized and His Eminence Archbishop Tiran appointed the Rev. Father Arnak Kasparian Visiting Pastor of the community, which consists of about 200 families.

1951—A Ladies Auxiliary was organized.

1956—April, the Parish Council was reorganized by His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Calfayan.

ST. GREGORY THE ENLIGHTENER

112 Pleasant Avenue
ST. CATHARINES, ONT., CANADA

- 1918—The first Parish Council was founded.
- 1919—An Armenian school was established.
- 1925—The Canadian - Armenian Society was founded under the direction of Mr. Levon Babayan and Professor Baghdassarian. Under the auspices of the Society two plots of land were purchased.
- 1930—The church building, with a seating capacity of 300, was completed at a cost of about \$45,000.
- 1930—November 30, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre.
- 1938—Four adjacent plots were purchased by the church.
- 1945—The choir was reorganized by Deacon Krikor Der Krikorian.
This church had a number of temporary or visiting pastors, including the Very Rev. Humayak Vardapet Intoyan, the Very Rev. Isahak Vardapet Ghazarian, and the Rev. Father Khoren Mamigonian.
The church has no ACYOA Chapter.
- 1947—Messrs. Hovhannes Magarian and Garabed Haroutunian, Canadian born members of the choir, were installed as Stole-Bearers by His Grace Bishop Tiran.
- 1956—The newly-ordained Very Rev. Vasken Abegha Tatoyan, pastor of St. Sarkis Church of Niagara Falls, N. Y., has been appointed visiting Pastor of this church.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.

This community does not have a church as yet. It was established as a parish back in 1911.

The Secretary of the Parish Council is:

Mr. V. Aghababian
401 Hawley Avenue
Syracuse, N. Y.

ST. HAROUTUNE CHURCH

909 Michigan Avenue
(Mailing address: P. O. Box 334)
SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

This Parish consists of about 450 members.

- 1912—The first Parish Council was founded.
Until 1924 services were held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.
- 1924—A Church Purchasing Committee was organized.
- 1924—An Evangelical Church, with a seating capacity of 350, was purchased for \$3,200 and remodeled for \$11,000.
The choir was established the same year.
- 1924—October 4, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre.
- 1924—The Ladies Auxiliary was founded.
- 1934—The Armenian Community was granted the privilege of establishing Armenian language classes in the local High School.
- 1943—The Sunday School was opened.
- 1946—**The ACYOA Chapter received its charter.**
- 1947—The church was granted the privilege of acquiring its own cemetery, which was named St. Haroutune.

Plans are now under way for the construction of a new church. This community enjoys an enviable reputation in the City and State. It won special awards for having purchased the greatest number of Liberty Bonds in World War I and War Bonds in World War II. It received special citation for being the highest tax-paying community in the city. As a consequence of these achievements the community has been granted the above mentioned privileges.

The quota of this parish for the Cathedral Project was \$4,000 which this little community has almost paid up.

The Pastor is the Very Rev. Soukias Vardapet Kalfayan, who has been serving this parish since September 16, 1943.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

86 Yonge Street
TORONTO, ONT., CANADA

- 1947—November 30, His Grace Bishop Tiran celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the local Episcopal Church.
- 1948—The first Parish Council was organized and confirmed by the Diocese.
- 1948—The Parish sent its first delegate to the Diocesan Assembly.
- 1950—A plot of land was purchased for \$3,300 for the purpose of building a church estimated to cost about \$35,000.
- 1952—January, The Rev. Father Khoren Mamigonian was appointed Visiting Pastor of Toronto and the other Armenian communities of Canada.
- 1952—June 22, a picnic was held for the benefit of the Church Building Fund.
- 1953—**The ACYOA Chapter was organized.**
- 1953—December 6, the Church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran. The sponsor was Mr. Carl Benlian. Governor Allan A. Lamport, who was present at the banquet following the consecration, delivered an address in which he paid warm tribute to the Armenians of Toronto.
- 1956—The newly ordained Very Rev. Vasken Abegha Tatoyan has been appointed Visiting Pastor of this church.

The Secretary of the Parish Council is:

Mr. Hagop Shishmanian
86 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ont., Canada.

ST. PETER'S ARMENIAN CHURCH

2200 Fifth Avenue
TROY, N. Y.

- This is one of the oldest Armenian communities in the United States.
- 1899—The first Parish Council was established. For about twelve years services were held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.
- 1911—A church was purchased for \$2,500.
The first Pastor was the Rev. Father Vartan Missirlian.
- 1911—October 8, the first Divine Liturgy was celebrated by the Rev. Father Levon Pahlavouni.
- 1914—May 5, the Ladies Auxiliary was organized.
- 1916—July, the church was consecrated by the Very Rev. Tirayre Vardapet Markarian and the Very Rev. Triphon Vardapet Podzakian.
- 1917—the Sunday School was organized by Miss Azniv Movsesian.
- 1927—The present church building, with a seating capacity of 650, was bought for \$30,000 and remodeled at an additional cost of \$18,000.
- 1927—The church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre.
- 1935—The Choir was reorganized.
- 1941—Mortgage burning celebrations were held. This was also the 25th anniversary of the Ladies Auxiliary and forty-two members received gold crosses.
- 1946—**The ACYOA Chapter was organized and chartered.**
- 1949—May 15, the Church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.
- 1952—The church began publication of a bulletin called "Loosavorchi Kantegh".
- 1954—**The ACYOA Chapter was host to the Eighth Annual Assembly.**
- The Very Rev. Papken Vardapet Varjabedian, who served as Pastor of this church from 1946 to 1956 was recalled to the Catholicate of Cilicia and the parish has no pastor at this time.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

2700 New York Avenue
UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

This church has the distinction of being the third Armenian Church, built on the American continent. (The first was The Church of our Saviour in Worcester, Mass. in 1891 and the second was Holy Trinity Church in Fresno, in 1900).

- 1899—A church service was held by His Grace Bishop Hovsep Sarajian, who was the first Primate to visit America. He also established the first Parish Council of this community.
- 1902—A plot of land was purchased for \$800 in the township of what was then known as West Hoboken, for the construction of a church.
- 1906—September 16, the cornerstone was laid and the church building, with a seating capacity of 300, was completed within two months at a cost of about \$10,000.
- 1907—January 27, the church was consecrated by His Grace Bishop Hovsep Sarajian.
- 1910—The choir was organized.
- 1921—The Sunday School was opened.
- 1934—October 11, the Ladies Auxiliary was founded.
- 1937—The 30th anniversary of the consecration of the church was commemorated. (In 1957 Holy Cross Church will celebrate its Golden Jubilee).
This parish has three Armenian schools, all of them founded early in the century.
- 1947—**The ACYOA Chapter received its charter.**
- 1951—December 27, a farewell banquet was given in honor of the Rev. Father Khoren Mamigonian who served this parish for six years. Although there are now four Armenian churches in New Jersey which serve the spiritual needs of a far flung community, Holy Cross Church was for nearly five decades the only church and spiritual center for the Armenians living in Hudson, Bergen, Passaic, and Essex counties. During these past fifty years the parish was served by a long list of distinguished pastors, including Bishop Sarajian, Archbishop Mampre Calfayan, and the Very Rev. Vahram Dz. Vardapet Nazaretian. The Very Rev. Vatche Abegha Hovsepian, the newly-appointed pastor, succeeds the Very Rev. Humayak Dz. Vardapet Intoyan, who served this parish for four years.

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

42nd Street and Fessenden
WASHINGTON, D. C.

(No church edifice built as yet)

A small Armenian community has existed here for the past thirty-five years, with an active Ladies Auxiliary for about twenty-five years. The community has grown in recent years and it is now estimated to be about 1,500, which includes a number of transients.

Through the years visiting clergymen have held occasional services at the local Episcopalian Church and ministered to the spiritual needs of the Armenians.

1945—The first Parish Council was confirmed by the Diocese.

1950—A Church Purchasing Fund Committee was organized.

1950—January 14, The Very Rev. Torkom Vardapet Manoogian was appointed Visiting Pastor of this Parish.

During 1950 Father Torkom visited Washington five times to perform various sacraments and organize the community.

1953—A plot of land with a partially finished basement was purchased from the Wisconsin Avenue Baptist Church Council for \$32,000.

Repairs were made and an altar was built in this basement which will become the auditorium when the actual church edifice is built.

The parish has a Ladies Auxiliary, a choir, and a Sunday School.

There is also an ACYOA Chapter with a membership of twenty six. The Washington Chapter is host to the Tenth Annual Assembly.

Succeeding the Very Rev. Torkom Vardapet Manoogian, the Rev. Father Levon Arakelian, Pastor of SS. Sahag and Mesrob Church of West Philadelphia, was appointed Visiting Pastor of this parish.

Father Levon and other visiting clergymen come to Washington several times a year and celebrate the Divine Liturgy.

Funds are now being raised for the construction of the church building.

ST. JAMES CHURCH

467 Mt. Auburn Street
WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

- 1924—July 21, Armenians of Watertown met for the purpose of acquiring a church of their own.
- 1927—The site for a church, assessed value \$5,880, was purchased.
- 1928—June 28, the Ladies Auxiliary was founded by the Very Rev. Shahe Vardapet Kasparian, the then Pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Boston. This group has now a membership of 150.
- 1930—The first Pastor appointed was the Rev. Father Mateos Manigian.
- 1931—August 29, ground-breaking ceremonies and blessing of the foundation were performed by His Eminence Archbishop Leon Tourian.
- 1931—The SS. Sahag Mesrob Armenian school was founded; the first teacher was Mrs. G. A. Nazar who served until 1949.
- 1932—May 14, cornerstone blessing ceremonies were performed by Archbishop Tourian.
- 1933—August 15, the choir was formed under the direction of Mr. Diran Dinjian who served as choirmaster for twenty years.
- 1933—Religious services were being held in the half-completed church.
- 1935—The Sunday School was established. It has now more than 250 pupils and twenty-five teachers.
- 1937—The church was consecrated by His Grace Bishop Mampre Calfayan, the sponsor was Mr. Harry Touloukian. On this occasion the sermon was delivered by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian, Legate of the Holy See.
- 1943—His Grace Bishop Hovsep Garabedian was appointed Pastor of this church and he served in that capacity for six years.
- 1944—The church purchased a 3-story community center across the street.
- 1945—**December, His Grace Bishop Tiran attended the annual banquet of St. James Church and called on the youth to form a Watertown chapter of a nationwide organization.**
- 1946—**January 4, first meeting held and delegates chosen for the Constituent Assembly of what was to be known as the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America, to be held in Providence, R. I. ACYOA membership is now about 40 seniors and 30 juniors. The Watertown Chapter was host to the Fifth Annual Assembly in 1951.**
- 1948—April 26, The Young Women's Guild of the St. James Armenian Church of Watertown was organized. It has now a membership of over 100.
- 1949—February 28, The St. James Men's Club was organized. The Church publishes a bulletin entitled "Looys". The Armenian population of Watertown is estimated at 7,500 and together with Belmont, Waltham and other communities this figure

(CHURCH NOT NAMED YET)

581 Oak Street
WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS

This community formerly belonged to the parishes of Chicago and Evanston.

In 1950 a building was purchased which will be converted into a church and community hall.

The Chairman of the Parish Council is:

Mr. Donabed Kopeian
2411 Washington Street
Waukegan, Illinois.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

6228 West Washington Avenue
WEST ALLIS, WISCONSIN

1923—The first Parish Council was established.

This Council together with a group of Armenians in the community worked towards the acquisition of a church.

1934—The Ladies Auxiliary was founded.

1942—A church, with a seating capacity of 200, was purchased for \$6,000.

The first pastor was the Rev. Father Khoren Mamigonian.

1942—May 11, the church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Garegin Hovsepian.

1952—A Community Hall was built adjacent to the church.

This church has a choir and a Sunday School.

There is no ACYOA chapter as yet.

The pastor is the Very Rev. Soukias Vardapet Kalfayan who has served this church since September 1943.

WEST PULLMAN, ILLINOIS

This is a community and does not have a church of its own.

1951—May, His Eminence Archbishop Tiran visited here for the purpose of organizing the parish and appointing a Parish Council.

The Chairman of the Parish Council is:

Mr. Arthur Semerdjian
727 West 117th Street
Chicago, Illinois.

reaches 20,000.

1951—**The Watertown Chapter of the ACYOA was host to the Fifth Annual Assembly.**

The present Pastor is the Rev. Father Arten Ashjian, who has been serving this parish since February 1, 1955.

ST. SAHAG AND ST. MESROB CHURCH

Cobbs Creek Parkway and Locust Streets

PHILADELPHIA 39, PENNSYLVANIA

- 1902—The first Parish Council was established.
- 1903—Clergymen from West Hoboken visited this parish periodically and held services.
- 1904—The first choir was organized by Mrs. M. Guloyan, who also became founder of the Ladies Auxiliary in 1910.
- 1912—The first pastor appointed was the Rev. Father Bedros Vartanian who served this parish until 1925.
- 1917—March 21, a small church was purchased at Broad & Pine Streets for \$12,000. \$7,000 more were spent for remodeling it. This church was sold in 1923 for \$30,000.
- 1923—The Sunday School was founded.
The Armenian community having increased with the arrival of new immigrants and the Armenians of North and West Philadelphia finding it difficult to use the same church, decided to separate into two parishes.
- 1925—July 22, a building was purchased at Walnut Street for \$42,000. At a cost of another \$23,000 the second floor was converted into a church with a seating capacity of 175.
- 1932—This church was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tirayre, the sponsors were Messrs. Dicran Isbetcherian and Garabed Jerrehian. This church served the Armenians in West Philadelphia for twenty years.
- 1947—March 31, a plot of land was bought at 63rd & Locust Streets for \$38,000. The intention was to build two edifices, a church and a community hall, and since building the latter entailed less difficulty at the time, it was decided to build the community hall first and use it as a church until a church could be built.
- 1953—June 24, ground-breaking ceremonies took place presided over by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran, and assisted by the Very Rev. Torkom Vardapet Manoogian and the Rev. Father Levon Arakelian, the pastor. Mr. Harry Kuljian was invited to break the ground, in recognition of his services.
The building was completed within a year.
- 1954—The Altar was consecrated by Archbishop Tiran and Archbishop Tirayre.
The church has an ACYOA chapter, which together with the North Philadelphia chapter was host to the First Annual Assembly.
The Pastor is the Rev. Father Levon Arakelian, who has served this parish since 1950.

CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

87 Salisbury Street

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

(The first Armenian Church built on the American Continent)

- 1889—January 27, the Armenians of Worcester, one of the oldest Armenian communities in the New World, asked the Armenian Patriarchate in Constantinople for a clergyman to serve the spiritual needs of some 300 Armenians.
- 1889—July 25, the Very Rev. Hovsep Vardapet Sarajian arrived in Worcester and held services in a local hall.
- 1889—August, the first Armenian Parish Council in America was founded.
- 1890—The Parish purchased a plot of land for \$1,275 and built a church in less than six months at a cost of about \$6,300. The church had a seating capacity of 250.
- 1891—**January 18, the Very Rev. Hovsep Vardapet Sarajian consecrated the first Armenian church in America and named it the Church of our Saviour.**
He served as Visiting Pastor until 1893 and returned to Constantinople.
- 1896—Until 1896 the Armenian communities in Europe and America were under the jurisdiction of the Patriarchate of Constantinople. In that year they were transferred to the jurisdiction of the Holy See in Etchmiadzin at the instance of Patriarch Ormanian.
In 1896 the United States became a separate Diocese.
- 1898—October, the Very Rev. Hovsep Vardapet Sarajian, now Bishop Sarajian, returned to Worcester as the first Primate of the Armenians in America.
The Diocesan Office was established in Worcester where it remained for twenty - five years.
- 1941—The Golden Jubilee of this church was commemorated.
The church has a Ladies Auxiliary, Sunday School, Armenian School, and **ACYOA Chapter.**
- 1952—**The ACYOA Chapter was host to the Sixth Annual Assembly.**
The Ekmalian Choir's director for thirty years was Deacon Haygaz Santoyan.
- 1952—October 19, the new Church of our Saviour was consecrated by His Eminence Archbishop Tiran. The entire service was broadcast over the radio.
About twenty clergymen have served as pastors, the Rev. Father Hagop Mekjian having served the longest -- for nearly two decades. Recently the Very Rev. Alan Vardapet Potookian was appointed temporary pastor of the church.

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AUTOGRAPHS

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The Prayer of A. C. Y. O. A.

O Lord our Saviour Jesus Christ, who art the Way, the Truth and the Life, give us, the youth of thy Church of Armenian, we beseech thee, the wisdom to know, to love and to serve thee, in our personal lives severally and in the corporate life of our Organization.

Thou that leadest men in thy way, lead us, thy children, so that we may be able to serve our Church and people with courage and vision in the faith of our illustrious forefathers. Inspire us, O Lord, so that we may cherish and profit by the heritage which they have left to us. Open our eyes to thy light, so that we may be aware of our responsibility as the citizens of our beloved country of the United States.

Fill us, O Christ our God, with thy Holy Spirit, so that we may be the obedient and unselfish servants of the will of our heavenly Father, to whom, together with Thee and the Holy Spirit, is befitting glory, dominion and honour, now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

With Best Wishes

Maranian Family
Mr. and Mrs. Aram Sakayan
A Friend
A Friend



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