

St. John's Armenian Church  
OF GREATER DETROIT

ՍԲԻՆԻՍԻՍԻԱՆԻ ՍԿՐԻՉ ԶԱՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian  
Pastor

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★

PHONE (313) 569-3405

★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

January 11, 1983

Editor, Bema  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Ave.  
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Sir:

St. John's Armenian Church will honor  
Rev. Fr. Haik Donikian on the occasion of  
the 25th Anniversary of his ordination to  
the sacred priesthood on January 30, 1983.

I have enclosed his biography along  
with a photograph for publication in the  
Bema.

Thank you for your assistance in this  
regard.

Prayerfully,

*F. Paren Avedikian*

Father Paren Avedikian  
Pastor

*Returned by M. Zeytounian  
3/83*

Rev. Fr. Haik Donikian, Assistant Pastor at St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit, was honored on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with an entire day of celebration on January 30. Fr. Haik performed the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon that morning, followed by a banquet and program in his honor, in the church cultural building, attended by many of his family and friends,

He was born in Bandrma, Turkey of Armenian parents who had him christened Garo. When his family immigrated to Kavala, Greece, young Garo, after completion of his elementary and high school education, attended the Armenian Anatolia College in Salonika. He then continued his education at the Melkonian Educational Institute in Cyprus. Upon the death of his father, Rev. Fr. Jirayr Avak Kahana Donikian, he returned to Greece. Garo later settled in Vienna, Austria where he attended the Business College of Vienna. He married the former Maireni Taschdjian of Vienna, and their marriage was blessed with a daughter, Shooshan. In his early years, Garo served the Church as Tbir, and was Choirmaster and Deacon of the Church of Our Saviour in Vienna for 16 years. In 1954 he was ordained Deacon in Vienna and attended the University of Vienna for three years in pursuit of his theological degree. In 1957 he arrived in New York and was later ordained to the priesthood, being named Fr. Haik and having as godfather the late benefactor Mr. Haik Kavookjian. Following this, he served at the Holy Cross Armenian Church in uptown New York City, and at St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Armenian Church in Providence, R.I.

In 1966 His Holiness Vazken I granted Fr. Haik the right to wear a Pectoral Cross, presented with a pontifical encyclical in appreciation for his faithful services to the Armenian Church. Simultaneously, His Eminence Archbishop Sion Manoogian granted Fr. Haik the honor of wearing a black floral priest's cloak (Pilonion). In May of 1980, upon the appointment of the Primate, His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Fr. Haik Donikian assumed the position of Assistant Pastor at St. John's .

sent to  
Vostok  
to [unclear]

Fr. Donikian

S. S. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

Ս. ՍԱՀԱԿ ԵՒ Ս. ՄԵՍՐՈՊ ԼԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

70 JEFFERSON STREET  
PROVIDENCE 8, R. I.

GAspee 1-7712

TO BE RETURNED TO THE  
PUBLICITY FILE

Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue, N. Y. C. 10016  
REV. FR. HAIK DONIKIAN  
Pastor

Տ. ԼԱՅԱ ԲԱԼԱՆՑ ՏՕՆԻԿԵԱՆ  
Հովիւ

ԼԱՄԱՌՕՑ ԿԵՆՍԱԳՐՈՒԹԻՒՆ

ՏԻՐ ԼԱՅԱ ԱԼԵՑ. ՏՕՆԻԿԵԱՆԻ

File: Armenian  
Clergy

Ծնած է 1919-ին՝ Պանտրմա: Աւազանի անունով Կարօ՝ ընտանեօք կը հաստատուի (1922) Յունաստանի Գալաթիա քաղաքը, ուր կաւարտէ նախակրթարանի դասընթացը ու ապա կը յաճախէ Սելանիկի Ամերիկեան Անաթոլիա Գալէնը: Կանցնի Կիպրոսի Մելքոնեան Կրթական Հաստատութիւնը, ուր երեք տարի (1934-1937) կուսանի: Իր հօրը՝ Արժանաշնորհ Տ. Ժիրայր Աւագ Բհնյ. Տօնիկեանի՝ վախճանումը վրայ հասնելով կը ստիպուի վերադառնալ Յունաստան իր մօր եւ քրոջ մօտ:

Պաշտօնավարած է (1938-1942) Պելճիզական եւ Գերմանական ծխախոտի տուներու մէջ իբր գրագիր եւ նոյն ժամանակ ծխախոտի մասնագիտութեան տիրացած: Կը փոխադրուի Վիլննա, ուր կը յաճախէ առեւտրական վարժարան ու կը հաստատէ իր գորգի վաճառատուներ:

Փոքր տարիքէն սկսեալ կանոնաւորապէս յաճախած է եկեղեցի եւ իբր դպիր ծառայած. իսկ 16 տարի շարունակ իբր դպրապետ եւ սարկաւազ պաշտօնավարած է Վիեննայի Ս. Փրկիչ Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ:

Զեռամբ Ամերիկայի Հայոց Նախկին Առաջնորդ Գերաշնորհ Տ. Մամբրէ Ս. Արք. Գալճեանի՝ սարկաւազ ձեռնադրուած է (1954) Վիեննայի մէջ, որմէ յետոյ երեք տարի կը յաճախէ Վիեննայի պետական համալսարանը, հետեւելով Աստուածաբանական ճիւղին:

1957 Յուլիս 8-ին կը փոխադրուի Նիւ Եորք եւ Սեպտեմբեր 8-ին Եունիըն Սիթիի Ս. Խաչ Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ քահանայ կը ձեռնադրուի Մամբրէ Ս. Արքեպիսկոպոսի ձեռամբ եւ կնքահայրութեամբ հանրածանօթ ազգային բարերար Տիար Հայկ Գալուզեանի:

Պաշտօնավարած է Նիւ Եորքի Ս. Խաչ Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ իբր գործակից Հովիւ. այժմ Հոգեւոր Հովիւն է Րոտ Այլընտ Նահանգի, որուն մայրաքաղաք Փրահիտնսի մէջ կը գտնուի Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ Հայոց Առաքելական Եկեղեցին, որը ունի տասը հազար Ծխականներ:

REV. FR. HAIK DONIKIAN

Rev. Fr. Haik Donikian was born in Bandrma, Turkey of Armenian parents who had him christened Garo. When his family immigrated to Kavala, Greece, young Garo, following completion of his elementary and high school education, attended the Armenian Antolia College in Salonica. He then continued his education at the Melkonian Educational Institute in Cyprus. Upon the death of his father, Rev. Fr. Jirayr Avak Kahana Donikian, he returned to Greece. Garo later settled in Vienna, Austria where he attended the Business College of Vienna. He married the former Maireni Taschdjian of Vienna, and their marriage was blessed with a daughter, Shooshan.

In his early years, Garo served the Church as Tbir. He also served the Church of Our Saviour in Vienna, Austria as Choirmaster and Deacon for sixteen years.

In 1954, Garo was ordained Deacon in Vienna by the late Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, His Eminence, Archbishop Membre Calfaian; following which, he attended the State University of Vienna for three years in pursuit of this theological degree. In July, 1957 he arrived in New York, and on September 8, 1957 he was ordained to the sacred priesthood by His Eminence, Archbishop Membre Calfaian at the Holy Cross Armenian Church, Union City, New Jersey, being named Fr. Haik and having as godfather, the late benefactor, Mr. Haik Kavoukjian. Following his ordination, Fr. Haik served as Assistant Pastor at the Holy Cross Armenian Church in uptown New York for one year. Fr. Haik Donikian was then appointed to St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Church in Providence, Rhode Island as Pastor, where he served from June, 1958 to April, 1980.

In 1966, upon the resolution of the Annual Parish Assembly of St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Church of Providence, and the subsequent request of the then Primate of the Diocese, His Eminence, Archbishop Sion Manoogian, His Holiness, Vazken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, granted Fr. Haik the right to wear a Pectoral Cross presented with a pontifical encyclical in appreciation for his faithful services to the Armenian Church. Simultaneously, His Eminence, Archbishop Sion Manoogian granted Fr. Haik the honor of wearing a black floral priest's cloak (Pilonion).

Upon the appointment of the Primate, His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Fr. Haik Donikian assumed the position of Assistant Pastor at St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit on May 19, 1980.

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of his ordination to the sacred priesthood, St. John's Armenian Church will honor Fr. Haik Donikian with an entire day of celebration on Sunday, January 30, 1983. Fr. Haik will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and deliver the sermon on that morning. Immediately following Church Services at 1:30 P.M., a Banquet and Program will be tendered in his honor at the Church Cultural Building. For Banquet tickets and reservations, contact St. John's Church Office, 313-569-3405.