

Detroit

June 2, 1982

Mr. James Magarian
Executive Secretary - ACYOA
99 Long Pond Road
Tynngborough, Massachusetts 01879

Dear James:

We have received a complaint from Mr. Arthur Mardigian, Chairman of the Parish Council of St. John Armenian Church of Detroit, Michigan, expressing strongly their disturbance over the courtesies that were extended to their basket ball team for the annual Basket Ball Tournament held in New York City on April 17th 1982.

We find the objections raised by the St. John Parish of Detroit to be valid. We suggest that you look into this matter carefully so that such incidents are avoided at all costs in the future. We feel that particular attention should be paid to all details when planning any event to avoid criticism and ill-feeling among the youth groups.

For your information, we enclose herewith a copy of the letter in question, dated May 27, 1982. It would be appropriate if you send a letter to Mr. Mardigian giving your explanation regarding this matter.

May the Lord bless you with His love and wisdom always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

July 19, 1982

Very Rev. Father Paren Avedikian
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Father Paren:

I am writing this letter to inform you that the Diocese has embarked on a plan to organize a rug sale for any of the parishes within our Diocese that may be interested in instituting a simple and fast way to raise funds.

The rug dealer that is involved is a reputable one of long standing and has been most cooperative with the Diocese and its parishes for many years.

We feel there is a great potential in Detroit for a successful sale and I would be interested in hearing from you whether one could be scheduled some time in the near future.

Please discuss this idea with your Parish Council and advise me of the possibilities.

If further information may be required please contact me.

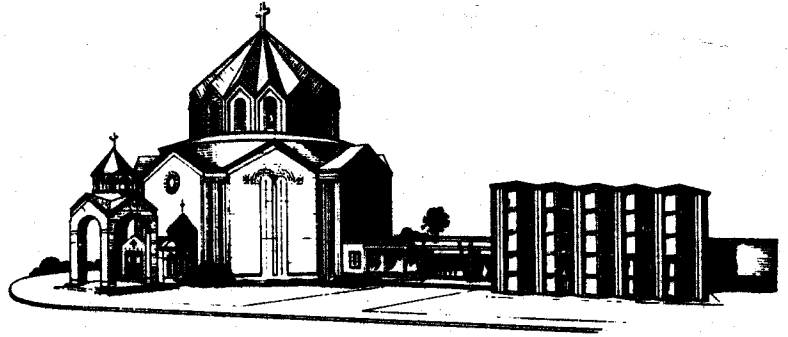
Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson
Executive Director

cc. Arthur Mardirosian Parish Council Chairman

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St. John's Armenian Church
OF GREATER DETROIT



REV. FR. HAIK DONIKIAN
ASSISTANT PASTOR

VERY REV. FR. PAREN AVEDIKIAN
PASTOR

VERY REV. FR. PAPKEN ANOUSHIAN
STUDENT PRIEST

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★

PHONE: 569-3405

★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

February 9, 1983

His Eminence,
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence:

On behalf of St. John's Parish, the Parish Council, and myself, I extend our sincere appreciation to you for your participation in St. John's celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Ordination of our Assistant Pastor, Fr. Haik Donikian to the Priesthood on the weekend of January 30, 1983. It is always a pleasure for our parishioners to have you here among us, and sharing in our celebrations.

I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$300.00 payable to the Diocese, as reimbursement for your travel expenses to Detroit. Again, thank you for making the time to be with us on this important occasion.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Paren Avedikian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Fr. Paren Avedikian
Pastor

PA/1a

Enc.

*Receipt No 2957
Sancton 2/23/83*

Sylvia

8346 Wisconsin
Detroit, Michigan 48204
March 28, 1983

Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016

Gentlemen:

I read in the BEMA, December-January, 1982-1983 edition, about a Lili Chookasian Scholarship Fund being established within the Armenian Church Endowment Fund.

I would like to obtain more information about the Scholarship Fund, with the thought that I may be eligible for this Scholarship.

I am of Armenian ancestry, was an 1980 honors graduate of the A.G.B.U. Alex Manoogian School in Southfield, and am currently majoring in Music at Wayne State University here in Detroit (where I hold a junior rank and have a 3.86 honor point average out of a possible 4.00).

Any information you can give me about my eligibility for the Lili Chookasian Scholarship Fund will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Mattheiss
Lisa Lynn Mattheiss
(Nishon)

*Send copy
to Andy on
5/31/83*

Thank you



MARTIN H. CHOLAKIAN • 17520 W. Twelve Mile Rd. • Suite 112 • Southfield, Michigan 48076 • Telephone (313) 557-8434

May 26, 1983

Archbishop Torcom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence:

I was pleased to read the joint directive issued to the faithful regarding the impending visit of Catholicos Karekin of the Great House of Cilicia to the United States.

As I have stated since 1975, this kind of behavior on the part of Antelias is typical of the contempt they hold for Etchmiadzin.

Not only is this an unfavorable step toward Church unity but, in fact, reinforces my feelings of their utter disregard of the five point program of His Holiness, Vazken I, which would lead to true unity and not the facade of co-operation.

My hope is that all of the faithful note the strength of the directive and, in fact, recognize the consequence of non-compliance.

Respectfully,

Martin H. Cholakian
Diocesan Delegate
St. John's Armenian Church

/p

925 4826

August 23, 1983

The Very Reverend Fr. Paren Avedikian
St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, MI 48075

Dear Father Paren:

Congratulations to you and all those in your community who worked as an organized team to offer an excellent and effective rebuttal to the Detroit Free Press and specifically to Colman McCarthy's syndicated essay.

Frank Stoneson filled me in on your efforts and I managed to get copies of the essay by Dennis Papazian and those letters of the Armenian people (and odars).

I have mentioned this to our clergy in the August monthly Public Relations memo which I send out to clergy and parish council members, so that they might do the same in their communities when articles appear in their local newspapers.

We are also keeping files here on articles on Armenian subjects, as best as we can. Would you or someone in the parish take the responsibility of forwarding such items to me when they are in print. I would appreciate that help.

Once again, congratulations. Keep up the good work. Please express these sentiments to Dennis Papazian and the others who wrote. I hope this effort motivates others to follow suit.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Zeytoonian
Director of Public Relations



MARTIN H. CHOLAKIAN • 17520 W. Twelve Mile Rd. • Suite 112 • Southfield, Michigan 48076 • Telephone (313) 557-8434

March 22, 1984

Mr. F. Stoneson
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Frank,

Would you please have my mailing address changed to:

Mr. M. Cholakian
27384 Strawberry Lane
Apartment 4-104
Farmington Hills, MI 48018

Please have this change made as soon as possible.

Regards,

Martin H. Cholakian

3/26/84
Please submit this
change on mailing list
as well as "Delegates"
list (St John - Detroit Parish)
JM
changed on Harbo's copy
3/26/84

Serapian 12/1



Ս. ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱԾԻՆ ՀԱՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ
St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church
1184 Ocean Avenue
Elberon, New Jersey 07740

Արժ. Ս. Կիլիկի Քինյ. Գալֆայեան
Հոգևոր Հովի

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OCTOBER 1, 1984

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION
1017 MAIN STREET
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY 07712

ATTENTION: MR. RICHARD MC OMBER

DEAR MR. MC OMBER:

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THERE IS NO POWER AS STRONG AS AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME. WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE TIME HAS COME. WE THEREFORE ARE INVITING, THROUGH THIS LETTER, TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH ARMENIAN ORGANIZATION IN THE CENTRAL NEW JERSEY AREA (AND OTHER INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS) TO ATTEND A VERY IMPORTANT GENERAL MEETING.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS TO DISCUSS THE BUILDING OF A NEW SAINT MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH, A CULTURAL CENTER AND POSSIBLY SCHOOL FACILITIES IN A NEW LOCATION. THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD OCTOBER 30, 1984 AT 7:00 P.M., AT SAINT MARY CHURCH, ELBERON, NEW JERSEY. THE OUTCOME COULD INFLUENCE THE SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL FUTURE OF YOUR CHILDREN AND THE ENTIRE ARMENIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN THIS AREA.

THERE IS A GREAT POTENTIAL IN THE MANPOWER OF OUR ARMENIAN COMMUNITY. WE HAVE MANY TALENTED, HARDWORKING AND EXPERIENCED PEOPLE IN MANY DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE WHO COULD CONTRIBUTE THEIR TIME AND TALENT TO THIS PROJECT. AS A BEGINNING, MR. HIRAIR HOVNANIAN HAS GENEROUSLY OFFERED A PIECE OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON DEAL ROAD (NEAR HIGHWAYS 35 & 18) IN OCEAN TOWNSHIP AS A POSSIBLE SITE.

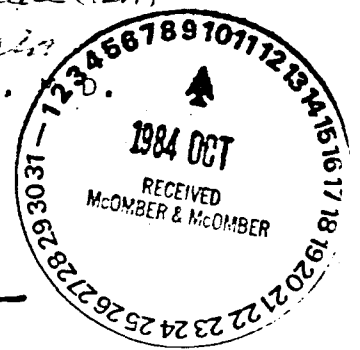
THROUGHOUT HISTORY, ARMENIANS HAVE BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF THEIR SOCIETY. THEY ARE THINKERS, BUILDERS, LEADERS DOERS. THE INCREASING NUMBER OF ARMENIANS LIVING IN THE CENTRAL JERSEY AREA, AND THE RAPID DETERIORATION OF THE SAINT MARY CHURCH BUILDING MANDATES US TO TAKE SOME POSITIVE ACTION. WE FEEL THE TIME HAS INDEED COME.

PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND LET US KNOW THAT YOUR ORGANIZATION WILL BE REPRESENTED BY CALLING 244-3277.
WITH BEST REGARDS AND MANY THANKS,

SINCERELY,
Nubar Tchilinguirjan (man)
Zareh A. Manigian
NUBAR TCHILINGUIRAN,
ZAREH MANIGIAN

- NT:MM
- CC:
- ARMENIAN CULTURAL SCHOOL ASSOC.
- ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION
- ARMENIAN RELIEF SOCIETY
- ARMENIAN YOUTH FEDERATION
- ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL
- ST. MARY WOMEN'S GUILD

*cc All members of
Exec Committee*



October 19, 1984

Ms. Susan Shekerjian
3979 Chablis
Bloomfield, MI 48033

Dear Ms. Shekerjian,

Thank you for the lead on Arshalous Agopian. There are a few families who would be pleased to have someone with her qualifications.

I have already contacted Ms. Jennie Agopian asking her to let me know as soon as her mother returns.

It is very kind of you to want to help her, and we should do our best to find a place where she would be happy.

All the best,

Michael M. Kernian
Director

December 5, 1984

Deacon Krikor Zamroutian, Deacon in charge
St. Gregory The Illuminator Church
110 Main Street
Haverhill, Mass. 01830

Dear Deacon Krikor:

H.E. Archbishop Torkom Manougian asked me to thank you on his behalf
for your letter dated August 31, 1984.

His Eminence will be pleased to visit Haverhill parish and attend
the 40th anniversary of the consecration of St. Gregory The Illuminator
church in Haverhill on December 1, 1985.

We will let you know about his travel arrangements at a later date.

Respectfully,

Sylvia Terzibashian
Secretary to the Primate

c.c. Parish Council Chairman

November 13, 1985

The Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian, Pastor
St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Fr. Paren:

This is to inform you that H.E. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian will arrive in Detroit on Friday, November 29 at 2:03 p.m. on American Airlines flight #501 and will leave for New York City on Monday, December 2 at 12:00 noon on American Airlines flight #652.

Kindly make the necessary arrangements to meet him at the airport and accommodation.

With prayers,

Fr. Khajag Barsamian
Vicar General

December 13, 1985

V. Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian
St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, MI 48075

Dear Fr. Paren:

We are excited and very gratified that our first two Sunday Church School curriculum textbooks sets will be gifted to the community by its Diocesan clergy and church schools.

Please accept our appreciation for both your generosity and the participation of your church school in this most vital project.

We look forward to the quick completion of our textbook series so our youth may be further enriched.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson
Director of Finance

FAS/ak

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St. John's Armenian Church
OF GREATER DETROIT



VERY REV. FR. PAREN AVEDIKIAN
PASTOR

REV. FR. HAIK DONIKIAN
ASSISTANT PASTOR

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★ PHONE: 569-3405 ★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

March 12, 1986

Very Rev. Fr. Khajag Barsamian
Vicar General
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Fr. Khajag:

I have received your letter of February 13 informing me that you will visit our Parish on April 5 and 6, 1986 with Miss Antreasian and Miss Basmadjian to meet with me "to consider the issues pertaining to DRE work". I have just received the DRE material for the workshop that you suggested to be held on Saturday, April 5.

You had also indicated that Miss Basmadjian would like to meet with the ACYOA Juniors on Saturday. I don't think that this will be possible. However, both Miss Antreasian and Miss Basmadjian are welcome to observe the Church School on Sunday during Church School hours. Please do not plan any meetings after Sunday Church Services, for my schedule will not permit time.

I would like to, at this time, invite you to celebrate the Divine Liturgy and preach in our Church on Sunday, April 6. I must have your response to this invitation by March 26. Also, I must have the date and expected times of your arrival and departure so that I can make arrangements accordingly.

Looking forward to hear from you soon, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

F. Paren Avedikian

Father Paren Avedikian
Pastor

PA/1a

June 26, 1986

The Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian, Pastor
St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Fr. Paren:

We enclose herewith a message from the Primate on the occasion of the commemoration of the 55th anniversary of St. John Armenian Church of Southfield, Michigan. We are also sending a photograph of His Eminence, as requested by you.

With prayers,

Fr. Khajag Barsamian
Vicar General

*will leave
1:30 pm*

November 17, 1986

The Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian, Pastor
St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Fr. Paren:

As you are aware, H.E. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian will visit the Detroit parish during the first week of December 1986. He is scheduled to arrive in Detroit on Friday, December 5 at 3:10 p.m. on American Airlines flight #885, and will leave for New York City on Monday, December 8 at 10:07 a.m. on American Airlines flight #330.

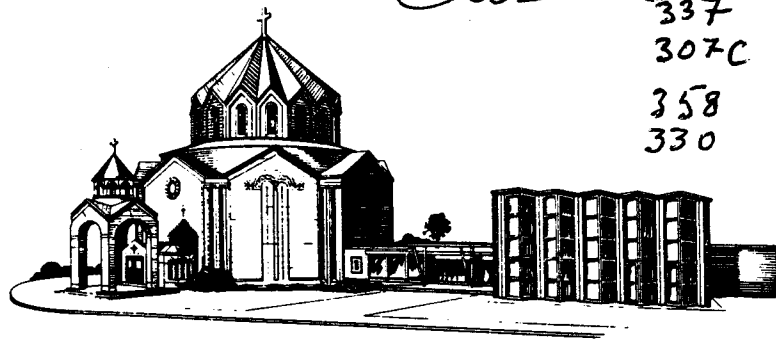
Kindly make the necessary arrangements for his accommodation.

With prayers,

Fr. Khajag Barsamian
Vicar General

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St. John's Armenian Church
OF GREATER DETROIT



VERY REV. FR. PAREN AVEDIKIAN
PASTOR

REV. FR. HAIK DONIKIAN
ASSISTANT PASTOR

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★ PHONE: 569-3405 ★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

December 31, 1986

His Eminence,
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence:

I am enclosing two checks in the amounts of \$2000.00 (two thousand dollars). The first is St. John's annual contribution of \$2000.00 as Etchmiadsin Looma. The other check represents a transfer to the Armenian Patriarchate of Istanbul which includes \$1000.00 as St. John's contribution in support of the mission of the Istanbul Patriarchate and \$1000.00 which was contributed by others for the same purpose. I would appreciate it if you would acknowledge the transfer of this gift to His Beatitude.

I have also enclosed a check in the amount of \$15,000.00 (fifteen thousand dollars) which represents St. John's gift towards the publication of one of the D.R.E. books. Recognition should be accorded in the publication to St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit.

Wishing you a Happy New Year and a Blessed Armenian Christmas, I remain,

Respectfully,

Father Paren Avedikian
Pastor

PA/1a

Enc.

Dennis R. Papazian, Ph.D.
17550 Roxbury Avenue
Southfield, MI 48075

(313) 424-8288

May 22, 1987

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Armenian Diocese
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Dear Surpazan Hayr:

It was good to see you again at the Diocesan Assembly. You looked well. Perhaps I will get to see you again at the St. Nersess board meeting.

On returning home, I found the messages you had left at my school office. This being the summer, I am not always at the University but spend a great deal of time at my home office.

If you need to get in touch with me for any thing important during the summer, please have me phoned at my home (313) 424-8288. The University number will be useful again in the fall. It is (313) 593-5545 or 593-5181.

I wish you, as always, good health and success in your God-pleasing work.

Sincerely,



September 15, 1987

The Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian, Pastor
St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Fr. Paren:

Our parish of St. Gregory of Narek in Cleveland, Ohio, is without a pastor at the present time. We have suggested to the Cleveland parish council to contact you first whenever they need a priest to celebrate the Divine Liturgy or to perform any of the sacraments.

We are confident that you will favorably consider the requests of the parish council of the St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church of Cleveland for a celebrant according to the schedule they may present.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones, always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

cc. Parish Council Chairman, Cleveland

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St. John's Armenian Church
OF GREATER DETROIT



VERY REV. FR. PAREN AVEDIKIAN
PASTOR

REV. FR. HAIK DONIKIAN
ASSISTANT PASTOR

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★

PHONE: 569-3405

★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

December 31, 1987

His Eminence,
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence:

I would like to extend my best wishes to you for a happy and healthy New Year and a Blessed Christmas.

I am going to trouble you with the following accounting matters, and will provide you with explanations on each of the checks.

First, a check in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadsin, which as you recall was promised during His Holiness' visit to Detroit for the renovation of the Parish Church in Armenia.

Second, an Etchmiadsin Looma donation of \$2000.00 for the year 1987. ✓

Third, two checks made payable to the Diocese for the Istanbul Patriarchate Account, one in the amount of \$2846.00 and the other in the amount of \$2000.00.

✓ Fourth, a check in the amount of \$1000.00 for one of the gold coins that you had left with me. I have four more gold coins, which I expect to sell within a month or two and will turn the money over to the Diocese.

Also, a check in the amount of \$1743.94 which represents payment for our Diocesan Bookstore obligations, according to the enclosed invoices.

Wishing you continued success on your efforts for the Armenian Church during the coming year, I remain,

Respectfully,

F. Paren Avedikian

Father Paren Avedikian
Pastor

PA/1a
Enc.

January 14, 1988

The Very Reverend Father Paren Avedikian
St. John Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Father Paren:

We are putting together material on the Vehapar's recent visit for the 86th Diocesan Annual Report. I have all of the details regarding the New York City and Washington, D.C. itineraries but lack specific information re the Detroit visit.

Please be kind enough to forward me Vehapar's complete itinerary in your jurisdiction. This should include not only the "official" events but also any important "informal" meetings he may have had with prominent individuals, community leaders and clergy.

Thank you for your cooperation. If there are any questions, please give me a call at the Diocese.

Cordially,

John R. McBride

June 20, 1989

Mr. Arthur S. Mardigian
21561 Concord
Southfield, Michigan 48076

Dear Arthur:

Just a note to tell you what a great pleasure it has been working with you. The new Council had its first meeting recently and I really missed you; things won't be the same! Thank you for all your help in the meetings, as treasurer, and as a good friend to the Church and to the Diocese.

Please find enclosed the reimbursement for your flight tickets. I wish you the very best and hope we have the opportunity to work together again.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

Syraun Palvetzian
Executive Director

Enclosure

*Jack
L'Esperance*

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St. John's Armenian Church
OF GREATER DETROIT



VERY REV. FR. PAREN AVEDIKIAN
PASTOR

REV. FR. HAIK DONIKIAN
ASSISTANT PASTOR

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★

PHONE: 569-3405

★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

October 18, 1989

His Eminence,
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence:

We received your letter of October 4 in regards to the reconstruction project in Armenia. Even though finally you have been able to arrange for the Diocesan plan for reconstruction of Stepanavan to get off of the ground, we are dismayed that the project sponsored by St. John's of a Medical and Dental Clinic has been placed in the indefinite future.

In order for St. John's Armenian Church to embark on additional fund raising and also to be able to provide a more acceptable answer to the criticisms which already exist among the donors; moreover, to make a statement to the general public who donated to St. John's Armenia Earthquake Fund, we the St. John's Community bring to your attention the necessity to start the Medical and Dental Clinic portion of the project concurrent with the housing project in January, 1990.

Bringing this urgent matter to your attention and expecting a reply in the very near future, on behalf of the Committee, I remain,

Respectfully,

F. Paren Avedikian

Father Paren Avedikian
Pastor

PA/la

October 30, 1989

The Very Reverend Father Paren Avedikian
Pastor
St. John's Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Father Paren:

Thank you for your letter of October 18, informing that St. John's Armenian Church of Detroit will sponsor a celebration in honor of the Primate on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination.

It will be appreciated if you will earmark September 15-16, 1990 for this celebration.

With prayers,

Fr. Khajag Barsamian
Vicar General