

Թիւ 28049  
Յունուար 20, 1988

Արժանաշնորհ  
Տ. Տիրան Քճնյ. Փափազեան  
Հովիւ Ս. Գրիգոր Նարեկացի Եկեղեցւոյ  
Գլխավէնա.

Սիրելի Տէր Տիրան,

Յունուար 7ին ստացանք Մայամիի Ս. Յովնանէս Մկրտիչ Եկեղեցւոյ  
Տիպիկան Խորհուրդին, Ս. Գրիգոր Նարեկացի Եկեղեցւոյ Նամակաթուղթով,  
Դեկտեմբեր 6, 1982 թուակիր նամակ մը, որուն ներքեւ դուք նա ըս-  
տորագրած էք: Ստացած ենք նաև Գլխավէնաի Ս. Գրիգոր Նարեկացի Եկե-  
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Հաճեցէք յստակ ընել թէ ձեր հոգուական պաշտօնի կապակցութեամբ  
ի՞նչ փոփոխութիւն կը ծրագրէք կատարել:

Սիրոյ ողջունել

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Առաջնորդ

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Առաջնորդ

Ս. ԳՐԻԳՈՐ ՆԱՐԵԿԱՑԻ  
ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ  
Գլխավոր, Օհայո



ST. GREGORY OF NAREK  
ARMENIAN CHURCH

REV. FR. DIRAN PAPAŽIAN  
PASTOR

Area Code 216—Tel. 381-6590

666 Richmond Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44143. U.S.A.

December 3, 1982

*marked post-mark  
Jan. 4/83*

*recd. Jan. 7/1983*

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

Dear Surpazan,

With your consent, Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor of St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church, Cleveland, Ohio, visited Florida as guest clergyman of our two parishes in Florida; namely, St. John the Baptist Armenian Church in Miami and The Armenian Church of South Florida in Fort Lauderdale, for three consecutive Sundays: October 31st, November 7th, and 14th, to celebrate Holy Badarak and preach the sermon with the intention that he might eventually accept our invitation to be pastor of our Church in Florida.

At the end of his mission, before Fr. Diran returned to his parish, we, the Parish Council of St. John the Baptist Armenian Church and Fr. Diran arrived to an agreement which we submit hereby for your approval, so that it paves the way for his assignment as our pastor in official capacity.

The following represents our agreement for the present and immediate future, considering Fr. Diran's family situation:

- a. Fr. Diran will visit our parish monthly and spend slightly more than two weeks and three consecutive Sundays and then will return to his family the remainder of the month which is slightly less than two weeks and includes one Sunday.
- b. Fr. Diran will receive for his services, a stipend of \$750.
- c. His travelling expenses will be paid in full.
- d. Fr. Diran will be provided secretarial help.
- e. Parish Council will provide for him a car and undertake all the costs (insurance, maintenance, repair and gasoline)

*Miami,  
Fla.*

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Page 2.

- f. Parish Council will provide a house for him to live.
- g. Parish Council will pay all the utilities (including telephone calls).
- h. Clergy Medical Insurance will be paid in full by the Parish Council.
- i. Clergy Pension for IRA \$1,000 per year, will be paid by the Parish Council.
- j. This agreement will be readjusted annually to make provisions for cost of living according to the Diocesan Guidelines for Clergy Stipends.

In the future, when Fr. Diran is able to bring his family to Florida, and give his full time to our parish, then of course this agreement may be readjusted to be fully in line with the Diocesan Guidelines for Clergy Stipends and Benefits.

We hope that this will meet with your approval and that we will be able to receive Fr. Diran as our pastor in the near future, with your blessings.

Asking your prayers,  
Yours faithfully,

*Fr. Diran Papazian*  
Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian

FD/ma

*Sentis Mauozian*  
Chairman of Parish Council

*Mary Seraydax*  
Secretary, Parish Council.

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January 4, 1983

The Most Reverend Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Grace:

This is to follow up my letter dated December 8, 1982, a copy of which is attached, in which I reported a meeting was to be held with Father Diran Papazian. (A copy of the minutes of that meeting is also attached).

This letter is also a result of our Parish Council meeting on December 20, 1982, during which a resolution was unanimously passed to write to you to acknowledge Father Diran's services and to express our appreciation of his accomplishments in our Parish.

It is to be noted that our annual meeting is scheduled for February, the celebration of Father Diran's 25th Anniversary of his Ordination shortly after, and the Diocesan Assembly in May, all of which makes his continued presence desirable. We request any reassignment be delayed to at least the summer of 1983 or until Father Diran retires, or until a suitable replacement is established, or until such time as Your Grace finds that reassignment is in the best interests of all.

We are looking forward to Father Diran's continued tenure with renewed dedication.

Very truly yours,

*Diran Papazian*  
Father Diran Papazian, Pastor

*Robert Bagdasarian*  
Robert Bagdasarian  
Parish Council Chairman

*Richard N. Aurslanian*  
Richard N. Aurslanian  
Parish Council Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE FORMED TO EXTEND FR. DIRAN'S TENURE

The committee, consisting of Nat Arslanian, George Sakian and Richard Aurslanian, met with Fr. Diran on 12/13/82 at the Parish House. The meeting ran from approximately 7:45 pm to 9:00 pm. It was a warm, congenial atmosphere where thoughts and ideas were freely exchanged.

As previously reported in Parish Council minutes, Fr. Diran said that negotiations with Florida people had been pretty much completed, namely, <sup>with</sup> Miami, which is in need of a new Church, and Ft. Lauderdale, which is just forming.

Fr. Diran said that he learned with horror five years ago that a replacement priest was being sought behind his back and that the experience was devastating. He said his main reason for leaving at this time is that he wants to leave in honor and not at the whim of a few individuals. Otherwise, Fr. Diran explained, he planned to remain until retirement, another two or three years, because he loves Cleveland and the parish. He said he cannot reverse his decision because the "die is cast". But, he said, this conference can provide a valuable function and that is to supervise an orderly transission, taking into consideration the annual meeting, the 25th anniversary of his ordination and the Diocesan Assembly in May, 1983.

The committee did not come up with any particular recommendations, however, several options were discussed:

- 1) Persuade parish council to urge Fr. Diran to remain (a near unanimous decision would be required)
- 2) Supervise an orderly transission by notifying the Primate of the important events noted above.
- 3) Have a parish election with or without a specific term.
- 4) An offer from parish council for a specific term.

As the meeting broke up it was observed that looking for a replacement is difficult for the priest, whoever it is, whatever church it is, and perhaps the incumbent, <sup>should</sup> be reminded every once in awhile of that inevitability, or, perhaps, a vote of confidence be held during the annual meeting.

Several times Fr. Diran expressed his great appreciation for the opportunity to meet with the committee.

Respectfully submitted

  
Richard Aurslanian  
Committee member

December 8, 1982

The Most Reverend Archbishop Torkom Manougian, Primate  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Grace:

Please be advised that at our regular Parish Council meeting on December 6, 1982, a committee was formed to negotiate with Father Diran Papazian in an effort to have him remain as our Pastor.

A meeting has been scheduled for December 13, 1982 between the committee and Father Diran, who is presently out-of-town.

Very truly yours,

Robert Bagdassarian  
Parish Council Chairman

Richard N. Arslanian  
Parish Council Secretary

CC: Father Diran Papazian, Pastor  
Nat Arslanian, Parish Council Advisor

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