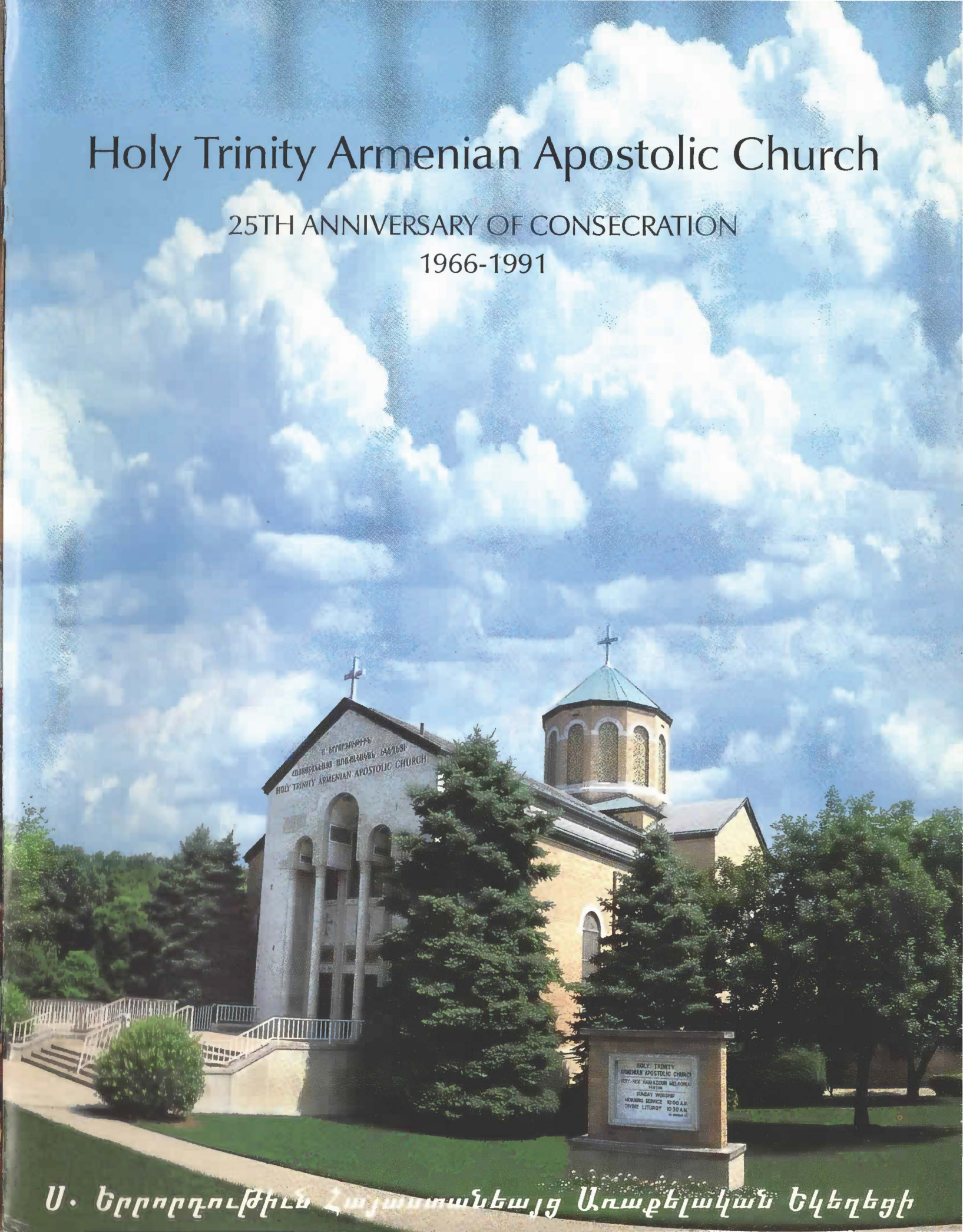




# Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONSECRATION

1966-1991



Ս. ԵՐՐՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԵԱՅԵ ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

**Ս. Երրորդուժիւն  
Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի**

**HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONSECRATION  
1966 - 1991**



*VERY REVEREND FATHER HAIGAZOUN MELKONIAN  
PASTOR*

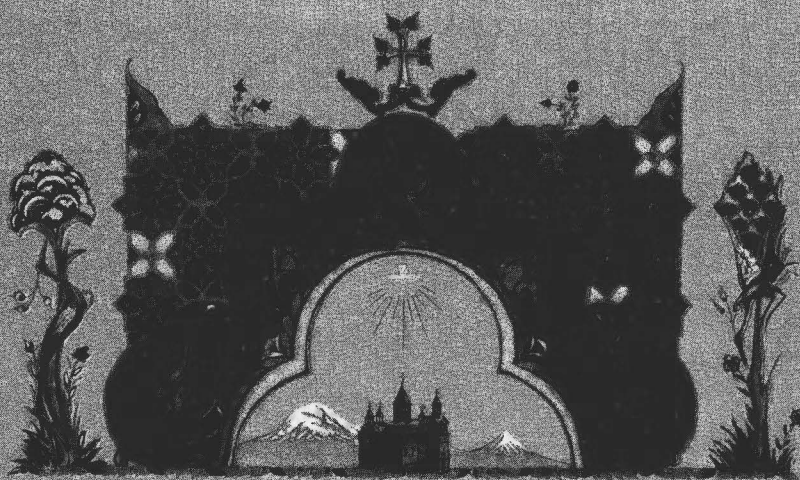
**101 ASHMEAD ROAD, CHELTENHAM, PA**



*His Holiness, Lord Lord Vazken I  
Supreme Patriarch — Catholicos of  
All Armenians*



*Carouk  
Toronto*



ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՊՈՍՏՈՂՈՍԱՆՈՎ ԵՒ ՍԱՆՏՈՍ ԱՐՄԵՆԻԱՆ ԵՐԿՐԱԿՆԵՐԻ ԱՊՈՍՏՈՂՈՍԱՆՈՎ ԵՒ ՍԱՆՏՈՍ ԱՐՄԵՆԻԱՆ ԵՐԿՐԱԿՆԵՐԻ ՎԱՅՏԻ ՄԻՋԻՆԵՐԻ ԱՊՈՍՏՈՂՈՍԱՆՈՎ ԵՒ ՍԱՆՏՈՍ ԱՐՄԵՆԻԱՆ ԵՐԿՐԱԿՆԵՐԻ ՎԱՅՏԻ ՄԻՋԻՆԵՐԻ ՎԱՅՏԻ ՄԻՋԻՆԵՐԻ ԱՊՈՍՏՈՂՈՍԱՆՈՎ ԵՒ ՍԱՆՏՈՍ ԱՐՄԵՆԻԱՆ ԵՐԿՐԱԿՆԵՐԻ ՎԱՅՏԻ ՄԻՋԻՆԵՐԻ ՎԱՅՏԻ ՄԻՋԻՆԵՐԻ

Մանկաշատի տեղում 2-րդ հասարակական թանգարանը կառուցված է 1914 թ. Բ. 11. 12. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300.

Հատվածը ստորագրված է հարկուհի Վազենի կողմից

Վազեն I

Հրատարակվել է 1991 թ. 14. 03. 1440 թ. հարկուհի Վազենի կողմից



THE ENCYCLICAL OF THE CATHOLICOS OF ALL ARMENIANS  
COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION OF  
HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
OF CHELTENHAM, PENNSYLVANIA

VAZKEN, SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST, BY THE MERCY AND WILL OF OUR NATION, CHIEF BISHOP AND CATHOLICOS OF ALL ARMENIANS, SUPREME PATRIARCH OF THE PRE-EMINENT SEE OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC MOTHER CHURCH, THE MOST HOLY ETCHMIADZIN.

HIS EMINENCE BISHOP KHAJAG BARSAMIAN, PRIMATE; THE CLERGY OF HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH OF CHELTENHAM; MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL AND ALL FAITHFUL PARISHIONERS, PATERNAL GREETINGS AND PONTIFICAL BLESSINGS:

By the grace of almighty God twenty-five years have passed since the erection and consecration of Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Cheltenham, Pennsylvania.

Upon the God-fearing and hospitable land of the United States of America, for a quarter of a century your church has stood as an eternal lamp abundantly shedding the light of the Holy Gospel upon our faithful children as comfort for their souls and for the edification of the Armenian community's spiritual and moral life. While maintaining the devote Christian traditions and customs of our forefathers.

For our distant children, this time for rejoicing brings to light a spiritual victory in the midst of the hospitable American nation. A jubilee which at the same time is a source of good tidings for our entire Church and especially for the Holy Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin.

Greatly comforted on this blessed occasion and through the good offices of Your Eminence, and by means of this Pontifical Encyclical, we convey our paternal blessings and warmest regards to all our parishioners of Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Cheltenham, Pennsylvania. With prayers that the Lord always keep your House of Prayer unshaken and illuminate and from its Holy Altar heavenly graces abundantly flow upon you all, your children, and generations of progeny to the glory of the Armenian Apostolic Holy Church.

"Heavenly King, preserve Thy Church unshaken and keep the worshippers of Thy name in peace." Amen.

VAZKEN I  
Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians

Holy Etchmiadzin  
March 14, 1991  
Armenian Calendar 1440  
(4483)



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

## PRIMATE'S MESSAGE

IT IS ALWAYS WITH GREAT JOY THAT WE RECEIVE THE NEWS OF A CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, whether the first, the fifth, or the twenty-fifth; for every such milestone is vivid testimony to the vigor and strength of the Armenian Church.

AND BEYOND THAT STRENGTH LIES THE POWERFUL STORY OF FAITH IN ACTION. FOR IN twenty-five years of organized church life in the Holy Trinity parish, how much fellowship and service, how many small milestones have been experienced in the blessed company of one another? Twenty-five years have brought growth and possibility to your worship, Sunday school, auxiliaries, religious, educational and cultural observances, publications, and so many other formal community events. But they have also brought the miracle of faith to every member, past and present; they have brought the validation and esteem of community; they have brought love, history and heritage, shared joys and shared pain.

IN THIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION HERE IN CHELTENHAM RESIDES THE congratulations and happiness of the entire Armenian Church. For as you mark your milestone here, Armenians throughout the Diocese exult in your achievement. As you grow and endure here, so does the Body of Christ everywhere.

SO WE EXTEND OUR WARMEST PRAYERS AND CONGRATULATIONS FOR THESE GLORIOUS years in God's service and the many that lie ahead. God bless your devoted pastor, your parish council, your leaders and all of you, dear faithful, and may He ever grace you with the gift of community and the salvation of faith.

With prayers,

*Bp. K. Barsamian*

Bishop Khajag Barsamian  
Primate

April 19, 1991



**HIS EMINENCE BISHOP  
KHAJAG BARSAMIAN, PRIMATE**



# ՊԱՏՐԻԱՐԻԱՐԿԱՆ ՆԱՅՈՑ

ARMENIAN PATRIARCHATE

№ .....

Թուական  
Date .....

ET/E-002

July 26, 1991

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 18, 1991

Dear Friends:

Barbara and I are delighted to send our congratulations as you celebrate the 25th anniversary of Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Cheltenham.

We can all rejoice in what your house of worship has meant to its members. A place of prayer, fellowship, reflection, and renewal, it has also been the focal point for many acts of generosity and service to others. Indeed, because the faith and values nurtured within its walls are the foundation of strong families and communities, your church has been a source of strength for our entire country.

You have our best wishes for a joyous celebration.

Sincerely,

Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church  
Cheltenham, Pennsylvania

V.Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian  
Pastor  
Holy Trinity Armenian Church  
101 Ashmead Rd  
Cheltenham, PA  
USA

Dear Fr Haigazoun,

Thank you for your letter of June 26, 1991. It brings back so many fond memories for us.

You shall soon be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the consecration of Holy Trinity Armenian Church. This will be an auspicious occasion not only for Cheltenham, or the Armenian Church in America, but for all Armenians everywhere.

When, a quarter of a century ago, we consecrated this edifice here in this city, and put it squarely on the map, no one could have possibly dreamt of the immense progress the church would make.

We built our dreams with a modest scenario in mind, that did not take into account our burgeoning growth, the increasing demands of our times, the constant need for spiritual regeneration.

The Church of the Holy Trinity has stood the test of time, has flourished and has inspired generations of Armenians, who have come along their way filled with true faith and a recognition of their particular destiny.

Without the church to guide, inspire and teach, our nation would have long been lost. There is no measure of the great service this humble edifice has rendered our people throughout the past 25 years.

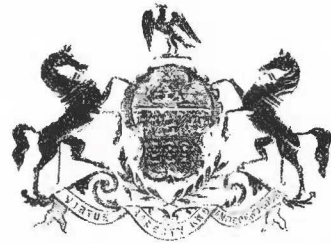
In generations to come, your children and your children's children will continue reaping the spiritual harvest we sowed in 1966.

In paying tribute to all those whose selfless devotion and service contributed towards the growth of this church, let us not forget the great part played by its former pastors, church councils and church organizations.

With blessings and prayers from Jerusalem,

*Abp. Torkom Manougian*  
Archbishop Torkom Manougian  
Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

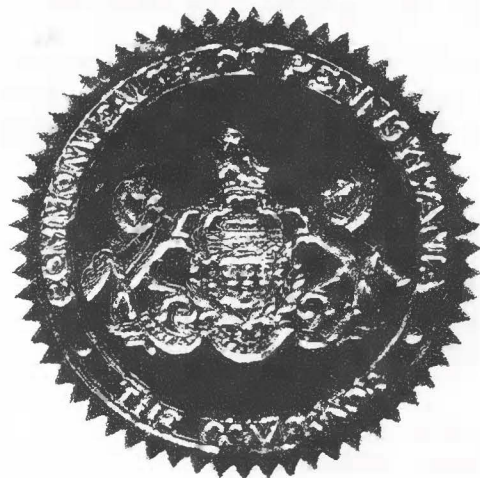
GREETINGS:

*As Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I am delighted to send my warm regards to the Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian and the members of the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church as you celebrate its 25th anniversary.*

*As we face the challenges of today's society, it is vital for us to hold fast to the enduring values of faith and family. Your teachings have been a bright beacon of light. The torch of compassion you have passed to others has given renewed strength, hope and spiritual awareness to the disheartened and lonely.*

*For a quarter century, the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church has ministered to the needs of its congregation. By encouraging pride in the heritage and culture of the Armenian people, your church has given strength and vitality to the Armenian-American community of Philadelphia.*

*Best wishes for 25 more years of spiritual growth and success.*



*Robert P. Casey*

Robert P. Casey  
Governor  
March 1991



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

W. WILSON GOODE  
MAYOR

September 14, 1991

The Reverend Father Haigazoun Melkonian  
Pastor  
Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church  
101 Ashmead Road  
Cheltenham, Pennsylvania 19102

Dear Father Melkonian:

As Mayor of Philadelphia, the "City of Churches," it gives me great pleasure to extend congratulations and best wishes to Holy Trinity Armenian Church on the occasion of its 25th anniversary celebration on Saturday and Sunday, September 14-15.

Holy Trinity's anniversary not only marks growth and accomplishment, but also a willingness on the part of your congregation to commit themselves to persevering and furthering the venerable traditions of Armenian culture through the education and involvement of its youth.

May you always receive the Lord's blessings in all of your endeavors. I am certain that the coming years will bring forth even greater accomplishments.

Sincerely,

*W. Wilson Goode*  
W. WILSON GOODE



## Holy Trinity Armenian Church

101 Ashmead Road  
Cheltenham, Pennsylvania

VERY REV. HAIGAZOUN MELKONIAN  
Pastor

### 25th Anniversary of Consecration

#### Pastor's Message

Եկայք շինեսցուք սուրբ զտորանն լուսոյ, քանզի ի սմա  
ծագեաց մեզ լոյս ի Հայաստան աշխարհի :

*Come let us build the holy tabernacle of light, for therein did  
light shine forth unto us in the land of Armenia.*

The joy of coming together and commemorating the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Consecration of our beloved House of Worship reminds us of our collective past.

Our forefathers laid the foundations of our faith, passing on to us the legacy of the hope of Salvation, the love of family, respect of humankind and the integrity and autonomy of our beloved Holy Mother Church, the Armenian Apostolic Church.

These Christians values: hope, love, respect, integrity and autonomy have sustained our Christ loving nation through centuries of persecution and tribulation. They now are the anchor upon which we build our communal life in this wonderful land of Freedom.

From death to life, from nothing to an edifice which proudly stands as a beacon to all of our love of Christ and our commitment to our National Church. The pride and joy each and everyone of you feels this day is an expression of that love for all those who went before, for those who worked each bringing their own special talents and contributions to create the wondrous 'Tabernacle of Light.' May the generations of progeny share in this legacy with the same love and values that you all have shown.

May the Lord bless each and every one of you and may Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church stand as a symbol of your dedication for your children, and the children of your children.

Prayerfully,

*Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian*  
Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian  
Pastor

Մ. Երրորդութիւն Հայաստանեայց Առաքելական Եկեղեցի

## SAINT VARTAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

### CHARLES ANTARAMIAN

Charles Antaramian has been an active member of Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church parish since 1953. He has served on the Parish Council for over 30 years and as a Executive Committee member over 16 years. He has served his Church in a variety of capacities which include; Chairman of Major Functions, Church Building Committee, Men's Club, Church Bazaar/Festival, Raffle Sales, etc.



Charles has helped the pastors of Holy Trinity with home visitations either introducing him to members or to visit the sick and shut-ins. He is an all around Church member who has worked unceasingly for the benefit of his Church without ever expecting personal accolades or honor. Chuck is one of those unique individuals who is loved and respected by all. A grateful pastor and parish requested of His Eminence, Bishop Khajag Barsamian, our primate the coveted SAINT VARTAN AWARD to be presented at the Church's 25th Anniversary of Consecration.

### ACABE BOORNAZIAN

Acabe Boornazian has been a member of Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church for over 50 years. She has served as an Executive member of the Parish Council, a Parish Council member, Parish Assembly Secretary, Choir Chairman, Choir Executive Board member, Church School Superintendent, Church School teacher, Choir member, Chairman of a Major Function, Diocesan Delegate and on Diocesan committees.

Acabe truly has been for Holy Trinity parish, a 'Woman for all Seasons.' Her name is synonymous with church service. She has always served with a 'no nonsense' and let's get to work attitude doing everything within her power for the good of the Church. Dedication, honesty and personal sacrifice are not presented as gifts but her way of life. Her selflessness and devotion has been acknowledged by a grateful pastor and parish who requested of His Eminence, Bishop Khajag Barsamian, our primate the coveted SAINT VARTAN AWARD to be presented at the Church's 25th Anniversary of Consecration.







25TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE



CHURCH CHOIR & ALTAR SERVERS



CHURCH ALTAR SERVERS



PARISH COUNCIL & DIOCESAN DELEGATES



MEN'S CLUB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



ACYOA JUNIORS



MEN'S CLUB



**WOMEN'S GUILD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**



**CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS**



**WOMEN'S GUILD**



**CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENT BODY**

## 25 YEARS IN THE NEW CHURCH

1966 - 1991

- 1966 - September 18, His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, the Primate consecrated our new church edifice.
- 1967 - February 5, Testimonial Banquet honoring Harry A. Kuljian.
- 1967 - April 13, His Eminence the Primate, consecrated the new Baptismal font, donated by Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Baldadian.
- 1967 - May 2 & 3, Recital by Kohar Kasparian, famed soprano from Armenia took place in Town Hall. A banquet was tendered in her honor in the church hall.
- 1967 - November 19, His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian presided over church's First Anniversary Banquet.
- 1968 - April 21, our Church Choir celebrated the 40th Anniversary of its foundation.
- 1968 - May 8, the Armenian community of Philadelphia, and our church in particular, were blessed with a pastoral visit of His Holiness L. L. Vazken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians.
- 1969 - April 13, Gomidas Centennial Commemoration with Gomidas Choral Group of New York hosted by Diocesan Auxiliary Ladies.
- 1969 - September 21, 3rd Anniversary of Consecration Banquet, Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan presides.
- 1970 - May 1-2, our parish hosted the Annual Diocesan Assembly, which elected His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian to a second term of office as Primate.
- 1970 - December 12-13, the 4th Anniversary of the Consecration of our church and the 30th Anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, the Primate, were celebrated jointly in our church.
- 1970 - December 18-20, His Beatitude Archbishop Shnork Kaloustian, Patriarch of Constantinople, paid a visit to our parish and the Armenian community of Philadelphia.
- 1971 - May 9, the 25th Anniversary of the ACYOA was celebrated by our chapter with a banquet honoring the past Chapter chairmen.
- 1971 - July 9-11, ACYOA hosts 25th Anniversary and National Assembly of the ACYOA.
- 1971 - In September, the Very Rev. Zaven Arzoumanian, pastor of our church since 1963, was assigned to Montreal, Canada as Vicar General, and the Reverend Father Michael Buttero assumed his responsibilities as the new pastor.
- 1971 - October 17, the Centennial and the birth of His Holiness Karekin Hovsepian, the late Catholicos of the See of Cilicia and former Primate of our Diocese, was celebrated jointly by SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Holy Trinity.
- 1973 - March 18, His Eminence Torkom Abp. Manoogian, Primate, paid a pastoral visit and bestowed the order of sub-deacon upon Garbis Kelyan, Albert Kapeghian, Sebouh Minassian, George Kashikjian and Albert Keshgegian.
- 1973 - August 31-September 3, the Senior Chapters of the ACYOA of SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Holy Trinity churches hosted the 4th Annual Sports Weekend.
- 1974 - January 13, in a Testimonial Banquet, the parish honored the past chairmen of Parish Council.
- 1974 - In October, the Rev. Father Michael Buttero, pastor since 1971 was transferred and the Very Rev. Arshen Aivazian was assigned to our parish.
- 1974 - November 7, His Beatitude Archbishop Shnork Kaloustian, Patriarch of Constantinople, visited our parish for the third time in a decade.
- 1975 - April 24, the 60th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 was commemorated in our church with a solemn Divine Liturgy.
- 1976 - April 30-May 2, the 74th Annual Diocesan Assembly was held in Philadelphia, hosted by SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Holy Trinity Churches.
- 1976 - September 19, the tenth Anniversary of the consecration of our church is being celebrated with a solemn Divine Liturgy, followed by a banquet, presided over by His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, the Diocesan Primate.
- 1978 - October 22, Holy Trinity burns its mortgage.
- 1979 - April 8, Golden Anniversary of Holy Trinity Church Choir.
- 1979 - October 28, Dedication of Memorial Stained Glass Windows, His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian presides.
- 1982 - August 15, Holy Trinity bids farewell to pastor the Very Reverend Fr. Arshen Aivazian.
- 1982 - November 5-7, Holy Trinity Church Choir hosts 36th Annual Assembly of Armenian Church Choirs.
- 1983 - March 27, ACYOA and Parish Council sponsor luncheon welcoming the Very Rev. Nourhan Manougian (visiting pastor).
- 1983 - November 5, Holy Trinity Church Choir receives the Gomidas Award from the Association of Armenian Church Choirs.
- 1984 - January 14, 20th Anniversary celebration of Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's Episcopal Consecration, jointly celebrated with SS. Sahag-Mesrob Armenian Church. Garbis Kelyan and Albert Keshgegian are elevated to the rank of deacon, Garo Garibian, Krikor Mahserejian, Shahab Minassian and Karnig Torossian to Sub-deacon, the rank of Tbir and the blessing of veils also took place.
- 1984 - January 22, Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian assumes pastorate, Parish Council sponsors welcoming luncheon.
- 1984 - April 15, Parish Council sponsors welcoming Banquet in honor of the new pastor, Very Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Melkonian on Palm Sunday.
- 1984 - November 25, Establishment and celebration of Annual Avak's Banquet, honoring the elderly members of our church.
- 1985 - April 28, Establishment of Madagh and program in commemoration of the Armenian Martyrs of 1915.
- 1985 - May 29, Placement of Vigil Altars to Sts. Hripsime and James in memory of Hagoup and Mariam Mooradian.
- 1985 - December 1, Second Annual Avak's Banquet. Very Rev. Khajag Barsamian, Vicar General celebrant and guest speaker.
- 1986 - March 23, Palm Sunday, Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Ordination of our pastor, the Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian.
- 1986 - April 27, Annual Madagh and Program in honor of Armenian Martyrs. Ensemble de Musique Armenienne from Paris performs.
- 1986 - June 3, Embellishment of Church facade by Haig and Marie Vartanian in memory of Hratch and Araxie Vartanian.
- 1986 - October 11, SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Holy Trinity joint Choirs sponsor Dinner Concert on the 40th Anniversary of the Association of Armenian Church Choirs.
- 1986 - November 22-23, 20th Anniversary Commemoration of Holy Trinity Armenian Church. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate, presides. Krikor Mahserejian is ordained to the diaconate. Deacon Menas Maloumian and Aghavney Paroonagian receive the 'Saint Nerses Shnorhali' award and patriarchal encyclical from His Holiness Lord Lord Vazken I, Catholicos of all Armenians.
- 1987 - January 5, Eve of Theophany, His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian celebrates 'Jurakalouytz' Divine Liturgy.
- 1987 - February 26, joint commemoration of Holy Vartanantz with Sts. Sahag and Mesrob, Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian celebrant.
- 1987 - April 24, Vigil together with Sts. Sahag and Mesrob commemorating 72nd anniversary of Armenian Genocide.
- 1987 - April 26, Madagh and Program commemorating Genocide, Mr. Ara Kalaydjian Guest Speaker.
- 1987 - June 6, Annual Mother's Day banquet honoring original Executive Board of 1954.
- 1987 - October 24, Children's visitation to St. Vartan's Cathedral to have audience with His Holiness L.L. Vazken I, Catholicos of All Armenians.
- 1987 - October 24, Holy Trinity sponsors a unique Cultural Display.
- 1987 - October 25, Solemn Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Holiness L.L. Vazken I, Catholicos of All Armenians in St. John the Divine Cathedral, New York.

- 1987 - November 13, Holy Trinity, SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Tekeyan Cultural Association host concert for Lisitsian Sisters from the Soviet Union.
- 1987 - November 29, Third Annual Avak's Banquet.
- 1988 - February 11, Commemoration of Holy Vartanantz.
- 1988 - April, Holy Trinity parishioners join with thousands of Armenians who marched from St. Vartan's Cathedral to Russian Mission to protest the treatment of Armenians in Artzakh (Karabagh).
- 1988 - April 24, 73rd Commemoration of Armenian Genocide, Divine Liturgy and Madagh. Program featuring Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian and St. Nersess Armenian Theological Seminarians.
- 1988 - November 20, Fourth Annual Avak's Banquet.
- 1988 - December 7, TRAGIC EARTHQUAKE IN ARMENIA.
- 1989 - January 8, Ecumenical Service for the Victims of the Armenian Earthquake - Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul.
- 1989 - January 15, Karasouk and Madagh for victims of Armenian Earthquake.
- 1989 - February 5, Pontifical Liturgy celebrated by His Holiness L.L. Vazken I, Catholicos of All Armenians, during extraordinary visitation following the Armenian Earthquake.
- 1989 - Holy Trinity parish adopts Armenian Earthquake victims and their parents, Armen Zhamgochian and mother Shoushanig and Haroutune Sarkissian and father Roupen.
- 1989 - February 26, Ecumenical Service of Armenian Earthquake victims with St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral parishioners.
- 1989 - March 19, Palm Sunday Banquet honoring Berjoohy Haigazian recipient of the Saint Vartan Award.
- 1989 - April 23, 74th Commemoration of Armenian Genocide, Sayat Nova Dance Company guest performers. Rev. Father Demetrios S. Katerlis Keynote Speaker.
- 1989 - October 8, Pilgrimage to St. Nersess Armenian Theological Seminary.
- 1989 - November 24 - 26, Pastoral Visitation of His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. Saturday - Concert featuring Maro Partamian. Sunday - His Eminence celebrates Divine Liturgy, Garo Garibian and Shahab Minassian elevated to the diaconate, Hacatur Hashas and Larry Der Hagopian Jr. to Stole-bearer and acolytes and choir members receive Minor Orders and the Blessing of the Veils.
- 1989 - December 7, First anniversary Commemoration of Armenian Earthquake, Ardmore Presbyterian Church.
- 1990 - April 22, Combined Diocese and Prelacy commemoration of 75th Anniversary of Armenian Genocide. Times Square gathering.
- 1990 - April 29, 75th Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, Keynote Speaker Rabbi Allan Tuffs of Temple Shalom, Levittown.
- 1990 - October 27, Blessing and Tree planting of newly prepared Back-lot area.
- 1990 - November 24, *Hrashapar* Service welcoming new Primate, Bishop Khajag Barsamian on his first pastoral visit.
- 1990 - November 25, Banquet honoring Primate and Fifth Annual Avak's Banquet honoring Hyarpi Garibian and Edward Terzian. Holy Trinity & St. Sahag's give \$90,000 to Primate from Armenian Church Earthquake Fund making total \$400,000 for Diocesan Stepanavan Project.
- 1990 - December 30, Reception for Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian, pastor on the occasion of the printing of his translation of Patriarch Torkom Koushagian's, *SAINTS AND FEASTS*.
- 1991 - March 24, Annual Palm Sunday Banquet in honor of Mary Kapeghian who served as Church Secretary for more than 20 years.
- 1991 - April 28, 76th Commemoration of Armenian Genocide, Keynote Speakers St. Nersess Seminarians. 1991 - September 14-15, 25th Anniversary of the Consecration of Holy Trinity Armenian Church. His Eminence, Bishop Khajag Barsamian, presides. Very Rev. Father Haigazoun Melkonian elevated to the rank of *DZAYRAKOUYN VARTABED*. Charles Antaramian and Acabe Boornazian receive the coveted St. Vartan Award.

## PASTORS

1962 - 1971

Rev. Dr. Zaven Arzoumanian

1971 - 1974

Rev. Fr. Michael Buttero

1974 - 1982

Rev. Fr. Arshen Aivazian

1982 - 1984

Very Rev. Father

Nourhan Manougian

(Visiting Pastor)

1984 -

Very Rev. Father

Haigazoun Melkonian

## CHURCH BUILDING

### COMMITTEE

Rev. Dr. Zaven Arzoumanian

Rev. Fr. Sarkis Kashikjian

Rev. Fr. Boghos Manoukian

Alex Alexanian

Mamas Alexanian

Charles Antaramian

Delemek Basmajian\*

Jack Basmajian

Ohannes Bebirian\*

Acabe Boornazian

Avedis Boornazian\*

Joyce Chalikian

Robert Damerjian

George Garabedian\*

Jack C. Goushian

Berjoohy Haigazian

Arsen Hanamirian

Charles Injaian\*

Vartan Javian\*

John Karakashian

Arsen Kashkashian

Yeznig Kazigian\*

Harry A. Kuljian\*

Ara Lulejian\*

Deacon Menas Maloumian

Dr. Hurant Marcarian\*

Sarkis Manoogian\*

George Meranshian

Bette Meserlian

Sebouh Minassian\*

Shahab Minassian\*

John Mirakian\*

Harry Mirijanian

John Monokian

Souren Paretchianian\*

Vartan Parnagian

Ara Paroonagian\*

John Samuelian\*

Robert Sarkisian

Bedros Semerjian\*

Karnig Thomassian

Berj Yeretian

## PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMEN

1966

Sarkis Manoogian\*

1967

Jack Basmajian

1968

Sarkis Manoogian\*

1969-1973

John Mirakian\*

1974-1975

Jack Vishab

1976-1977

John Mirakian\*

1978-1980

Berj Yeretian

1981

Karnig Thomassian

1982

Albert Kapeghian

1983

John Mirakian\*

1984-1988

Berjoohy Haigazian

1989-1990

Garo Garibian

1990

George Terkanian

1991

Berjoohy Haigazian

## SPECIAL AWARDS

### ST. NERSESS SHNORHALI

1986

Deacon Menas Maloumian

Aghavney Paroonagian

### ST. VARTAN AWARD

1973

Deacon Menas Maloumian

1989

Berjoohy Haigazian

1991

Charles Antaramian

Acabe Boornazian

## AVAK HONOREES

1984

Yeznig Kazigian\*

Deron Mirijanian\*

Bedros Semerjian\*

Moushegh Vishabazoon\*

1985

Vartanoush Attarian

Siranoush Bahadurian\*

Vahan Damghajian\*

Zabel Kassabian\*

Arakel Kazanjian\*

Arousiag Kazanjian\*

Anjel Yeretian

1986

Menas Maloumian

Aghavney Paroonagian

1987

Aram Boornazian\*

Anahid Chalikian

George Chalikian

Karapet Garibian

Niaz Garibian\*

Kayane Goushian

Noemzar Mazmanian

Arshaloos Melkisetegian

Alice Paroonagian\*

1988

Armenouhi Autian

Kayane Asadourian

Dorothy Baldadian

Victoria Kazigian

Susan Paroonagian

Yebrakse Toomigian

1990

Hyarpi Garibian

Edward Terzian

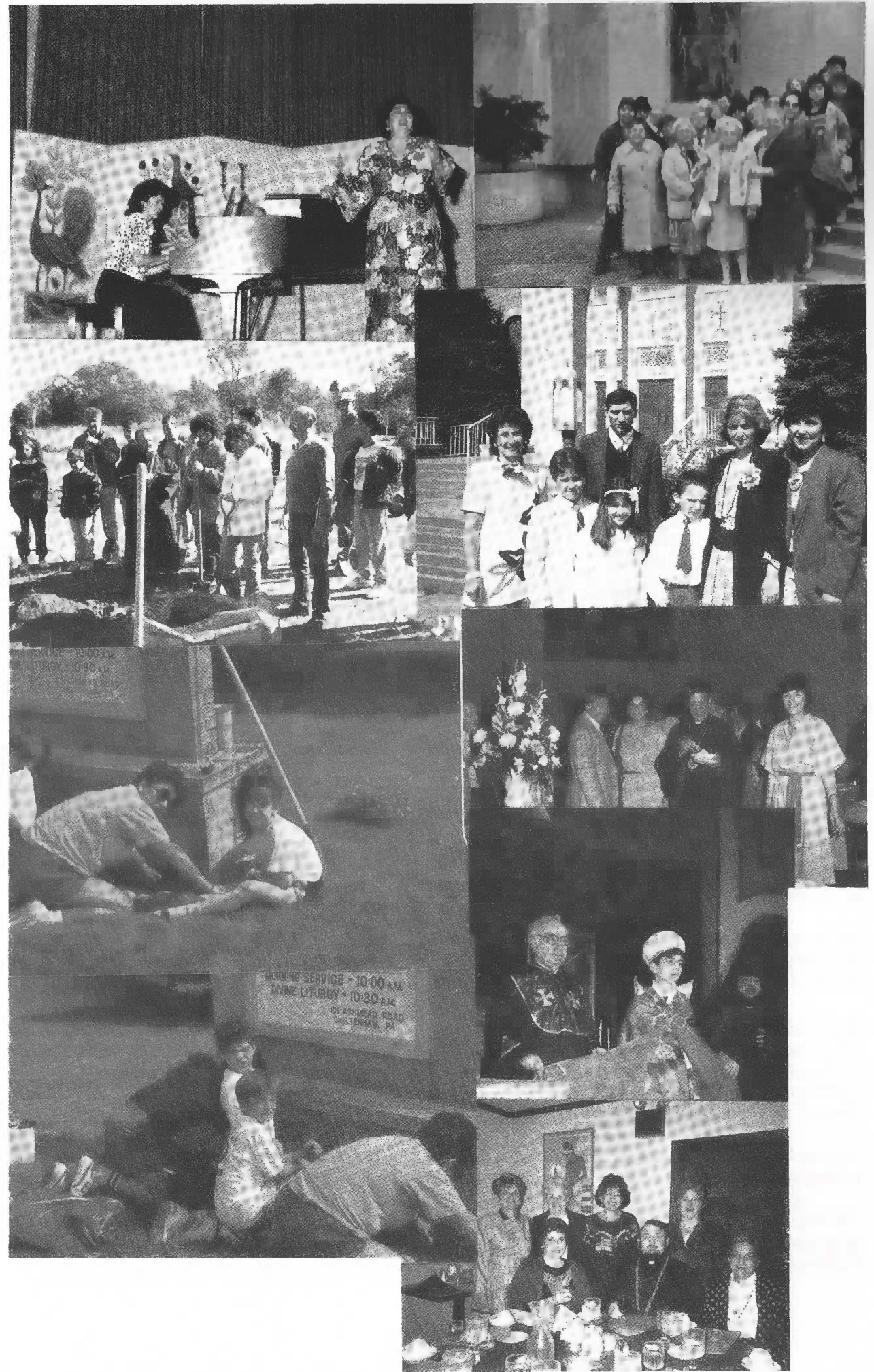
1991

Charles Antaramian

Acabe Boornazian

\*Deceased





## HONORARY CHAIRMEN

### AZAD ATTARIAN

Azad has served as chairman of the ACYOA several times, he was chairman of the first ACYOA convention that was held in Philadelphia.

Azad was the Godfather of our new Church at its consecration in 1966.

He has been the General Chairman of or a members of several consecration anniversary committees, and has served on our Parish Council.

Azad was Chairman of the 'Project '78' committee, which was responsible for additions, changes and memorials of dedicated in many parts of our Church, including the beautiful stained glass windows.

Azad is a lifelong member of Holy Trinity parish, the Men's Club and has served his parish in many capacities.

### JACK C. GOUSHIAN

Jack was educated in Philadelphia Public Schools. Graduate of St. Joseph's University (1950) and Temple University Law School (1953).

He served in U.S. Army on staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Far East and United Nations Commands, Tokyo, Japan (1954-55).

Jack served two terms as National President of the Armenian Students Association of America, and nine years as First Vice-President of the Armenian General Benevolent Union of America.

He served as Vice-Chairman of Diocesan Assembly held at Holy Trinity Armenian Church and in charge of Philadelphia itinerary of His Holiness Vasken I, Catholicos of All Armenians during first pontifical visit to U.S.

Jack has represented Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, and Holy Etchmiadzin in various matters, including negotiation of insurance claim arising out of destruction by fire of former church edifice, zoning hearings and condemnation proceedings in Cheltenham Township, and "Iron Curtain" case involving bequest to Holy Etchmiadzin.

He established the Garabed Goushian Memorial Fund for St. Nersess Seminary and the Kayane Goushian Fund for Armenian Language Programs with the Armenian Church Endowment Fund.

He was past Master of St. Paul's Lodge No. 481, A.F. and A.M. Jack is a founding partner of Goushian, Mooradian and Goldsmith Law Offices (1963), now Goushian, Mooradian and Goldsmith, P.C.

## HONORARY CHAIRMEN

### ZAVEN A. HOVSEPIAN

Zaven has been a life-long member of Holy Trinity Armenian Church Parish and beginning 1935 was a member of the Church Choir

Between 1942 and 1944 he served in U.S. Army and in 1946 graduated Rutgers University School of Law with Juris Doctor Degree

Zaven served as Chairman of the Holy Trinity Church ACYOA and was the first Chairman of the ACYOA Central Council

He has served his Church in many ways over the years including in 1959 he was the Co-Chairman of the Building Fund Committee.

Presently Zaven is engaged in Business as distributor, manufacturer, and consultant in the coin-operated vending and amusement machine industries.

### DEACON MENAS MALOUMIAN

Deacon Menas Maloumian's life is brilliantly reflected in the Sixty-year history of the Philadelphia Armenian Community. After arriving in Philadelphia in 1928, Deacon Menas has served under seven diocesan Primates as Tbir, Choirmaster, and Deacon. Menas' involvement in the Armenian community has been above else a history of uninterrupted service to the Armenian Church.

Deacon Maloumian's service is a living witness to our yesterday's history. When Archbishop Ghevont Tourian paid his first visit to Philadelphia, Deacon Menas was there to lead the choir for the episcopal celebration of the Holy Badarak. In 1941, Menas traveled to New York and Boston to organize choirs and to sow seeds for the national organization of Armenian Church Choirs.

When the North Philadelphia Armenians were forced to leave their edifice and purchase another church, Menas became involved and he personally designed the Holy Trinity Church Altar, where he was ordained Deacon by Archbishop Mampre Kalfayan in 1955.

When the Church was destroyed by fire in 1964, Deacon Maloumian stood firm at the side of the Pastor by exploring, finding and arranging a temporary chapel for Sunday services until 1966, when the new Church was built in Cheltenham. Deacon Maloumian has been serving the same Church in its third location as he stands tall at his remarkable age as the Honorary Chairman of the 25th Anniversary of his Church in Cheltenham.

Deacon Maloumian was awarded the St. Vartan Medal by the Primate, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian in 1973, and the grateful parish dedicated the new Altar in honor of Deacon Menas. Five years ago His Holiness Vasken I, Catholicos of all Armenians, awarded Deacon Maloumian the coveted St. Nerses Medal with an encyclical, praising his many years of service to the Armenian Church. Congratulations also reached Menas from the White House, signed by President Ronald Reagan in 1986.



## THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

by Vahan Tekeyan

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

The Armenian Church I see with my eyes closed.  
I breath 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 forefather's faith.  
Raised by them from the earth stone by stone.  
And descended from heaven, a dewdrop and a cloud at a time.  
In it they unfolded 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 life-giving bread and wine.

The Armenian Church is a peaceful heaven across turbulent seas.  
It is fire and light in the cold of night;  
It is 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 Armenia's soul and body.  
Her crosses rise to protect her;  
Her bells ring forth and her song is always Victory.

## THE ORTHODOX CREED OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

St. Gregory of Datev

*This is the orthodox confession of our faith, which every Christian ought always keep in his heart and have it on his tongue. For with the heart man believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation, says the Apostle. This is the foundation upon which good works ought to be built; for these are the steps of faith through which we go up to heaven unto God, pace by pace, through mind and faith. And after death, through spirit and good works. But after resurrection, through body and soul. (The Chief Bishop [Catholicos] shall demand from all those who are going to be ordained, to have this creed recited at all ordinations.)*

We confess and believe with all our heart in God the Father, uncreated, unbegotten and without beginning; He also being the Begetter of the Son and Source of the Holy Spirit. We believe in God the Word, uncreated, begotten and originated of the Father before eternity. He neither came after nor is younger than the Father but as long as the Father is Father the Son is Son with Him.

We believe in the Holy Trinity, uncreated and timeless. Not begotten but proceeding from the Father; coexistent with the Father and sharing the same glory with the Son.

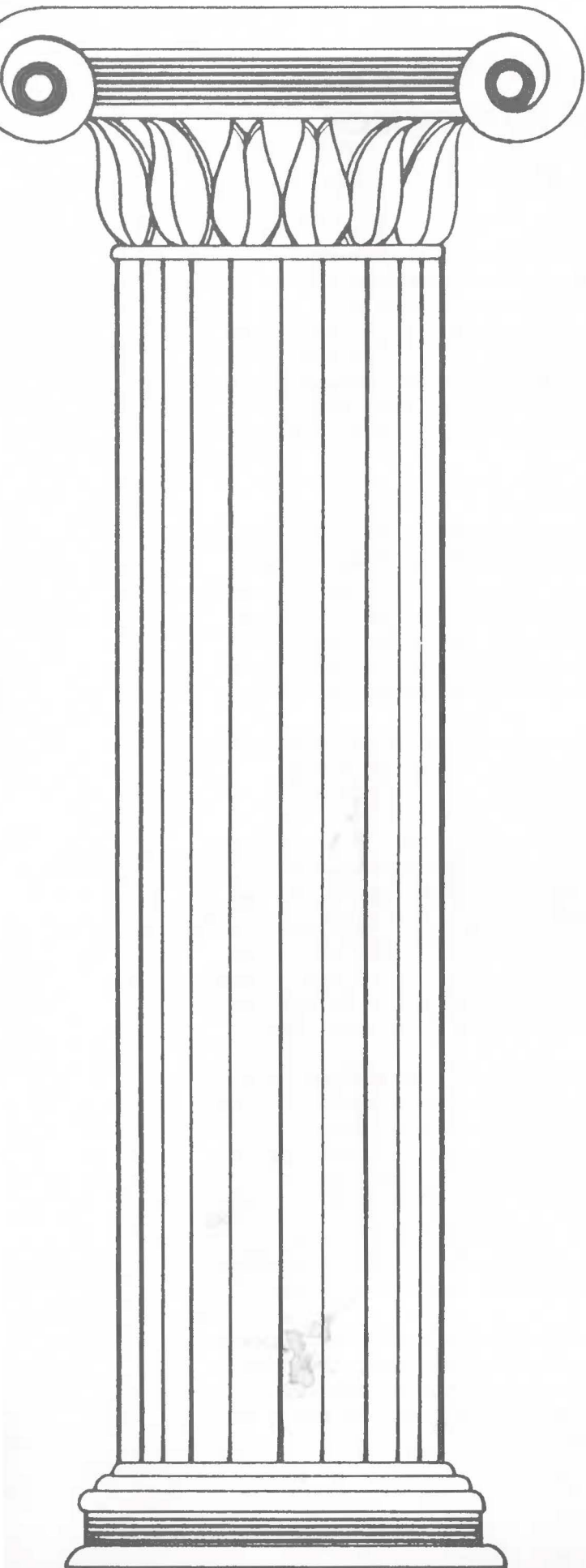
We believe in the Holy Trinity, one Nature, one Godhead, not three Gods; one God, one Will, one Kingdom, one Power; Maker of things visible and invisible. We believe in the Holy Church, the forgiveness of sins and the communion of saints.

We believe that One of the Three Persons, God the Word, begotten of the Father before the ages, in the course of time came down into the Mother of God, Mary the Virgin and taking blood from her united it with His divinity. He was content to be for nine months in the womb of the Immaculate Virgin; and thus He became perfect God and perfect Man in soul, mind and body; One Person, One Hypostasis and One United Nature. God became Man without change and without alteration, by immaculate conception and incorruptible generation. There is no beginning to His Godhead nor to His humanity (for Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, yea and forever).

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ walked upon the earth and after thirty years He came to be baptized. The Father bore witness of Him from above, saying; "This is my beloved Son" and the Holy Spirit as a dove descended upon Him. He was tempted by the devil but overcame him. He preached Salvation to men. He labored bodily, was fatigued, became hungry and thirsty, suffered by His own will, was crucified and died in the body but lived by the Godhead. The body was placed in the tomb, being united with the Divinity; in Spirit He descended into hell, being indivisible from His Divinity. He preached unto the spirits, devastated hell and freed the spirits. After three days He rose from the dead and appeared to the disciples.

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, in the same body and sat at the Right Hand of the Father. He also is to come in the same body to judge the quick and the dead and give resurrection to all mankind.

We also believe in the recompense of deeds, in the everlasting life of the righteous and in the everlasting suffering of the wicked.



### PILLARS\*

**John Hoplamazian**  
**Ronald and Millicent Asadoorian**  
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**Arsen and Ann Hanamirian**  
**Zaven and Elizabeth Hovsepian**  
**George and Linda Paroonagian**  
**Chakmakian Family**  
**Antaramian and Simonian Families**

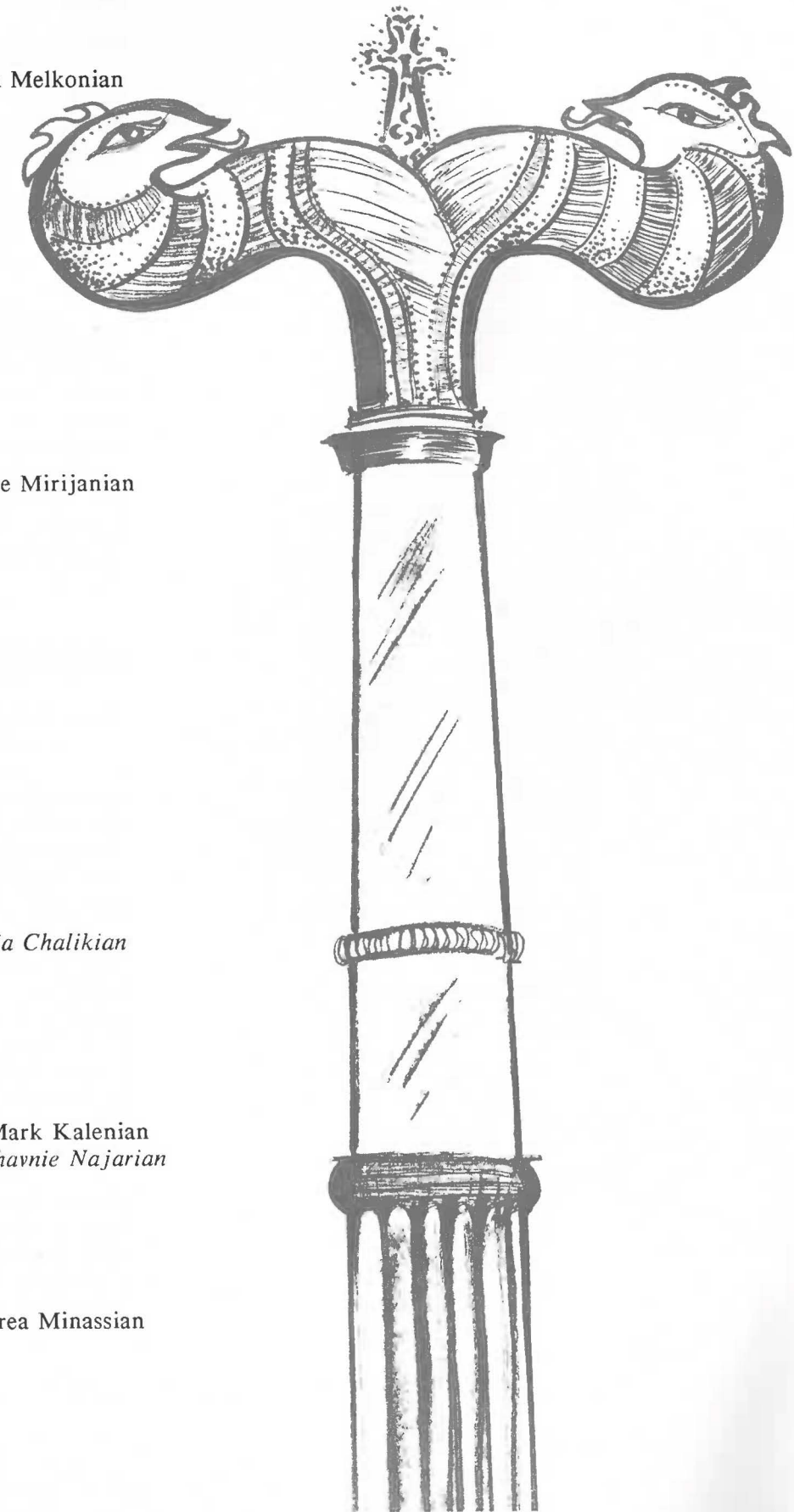
\* Pillars have been listed in order by greatest donation.

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*John and Dorothy Chalikian*  
Karapet and Hyarpi Garibian  
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Michael and Lynn Hajatian  
Stephen and Nancy Hovnanian  
Harry and Mary Injaian  
Clarence and Marian Kalenian - Mark Kalenian  
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Della S. Baker  
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Eugene and Katherine Nedzwecky  
Jerry and Theresa Sisian  
Barkev Palouian



*ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS*

*OUR SINCERE THANKS....*

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*To Sarkis Dedeian, Larry Der Hagopian, Aram Kumkumian, Harry Mirijanian, and Edward Terzian who donated hours of labor to the Church in preparation for the 25th Anniversary.*

*To Tanya Paretchan for her donation of lovely frames for the St. Vartan Awards, Organizational photographs and Pontifical Encyclical.*

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*To Church Secretary, Angel Tookmanian and pastor, Very Rev. Father Haigazoun Melkonian for the preparation of this booklet.*

*To all those who made financial contributions in honor of the 25th Anniversary of Consecration.*

*To all the Committee members and their helpers.*

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25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONSECRATION COMMITTEE

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His Eminence Bishop Khajag Barsamian

PASTOR & PRESIDENT

Very Rev. Haigazoun Melkonian

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Jack C. Goushian

Zaven Hovsepian

Menas Maloumian

GENERAL CHAIRMAN

John P. Hoplamazian

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Linda Santerian

SUNDAY BANQUET

Merle Santerian

FINANCE

Pauline Haufler

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Jeanette Der Hagopian

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Anne Terkanian

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