

SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

A N N U A L P A R I S H A S S E M B L Y

Sunday, February 9, 1992

After Soorp Badarak
and Lunch
in the Hovannessian Cultural Hall

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* NOTE *
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* Please bring this Report-Booklet with you *
* after reading it the contents carefully. *
*
* THANK YOU *
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* * * * *

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

NOTICE

As was announced in the Church calendar of the Feb/March/April 1992 newsletter and in the Sunday bulletins during January, the regular annual Parish Assembly meeting will take place on Sunday, February 9, 1991 following Church services and a complimentary lunch.

You are urged to attend and participate actively in this very important meeting. This is your chance to comment on the activities of the Parish Council and of the other Church organizations and elect new members to the Parish Council. Please read the enclosed reports before coming to the meeting.

Although all parishioners are urged to attend, according to the Church by-laws, only those parishioners who have paid their 1990 dues can vote. If you have not yet paid your dues, you can still pay them on or before February 9, 1991 and vote.

Yours respectfully,

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian,
President

Garbis H. Meguerian, Chairman
Parish Council

Enclosures

19 January 1992

PRAYERS OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

Before a Meeting.

O Jesus, wisdom of the Father,
grant me wisdom, that I may always
think, speak, and do that which is
good in Thy sight; save me from
evil thoughts, words, and deeds.
Have mercy upon Thy creatures and
upon me, a manifold sinner.

Joghovee Usguseleh Arach

Imasdootiun Hor Hisoos,
Door intz imasdootiun
Uzbaris khorhel yev khosel yev kordzel
Arachi ko hamenain jham;
Ee char khorhurtotz, ee banitz yev
ee kordzotz purgia zis.
Yev voghormia ko araradzotz
Yev intz bazmameghis.

*Եմտատմիւն Հօր Սեռուս, տար ինձ
խնայողութիւն, պարտախորհիւրդ և խո-
սիւրդ և գործիւրդ առաջի քո յամենայն
մտմ: Ի չար խորհրդոց, Ի բանից և Ի
գործոց վրկեալիս:
Ան սղոյմենտ քո սրտարածոց ե ինձ
բարեմտեղիս:*

Nerses the Graceful

ST. JOACHIM & ANNE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 1992

AGENDA

1. Lunch following Church services
2. Opening prayer
3. Roll call and verification of quorum
4. Election of officers of the Assembly Meeting
5. Discussion of annual reports:
 - A. Parish priest
 - B. Parish Council
 - C. Treasurer's and Budget
 - D. Auditor
 - E. Women's Guild
 - F. Sunday School
 - G. Choir
 - H. ACYOA Jrs.
 - I. Newsletter
 - J. Senior Citizens
6. Introduction of candidates by the Nominating Committee for the following positions
 - A. Parish Council: 5 members
 - B. Delegate
 - C. Nominating Committee, 1991: 3 or 4 members
 - D. Auditing Committee, 1991: 3 members
7. Elections
8. New business
9. Announcement of election results
10. Prayer and adjournment



**Saints Joachim & Anne
Armenian Apostolic Church**

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Pastor

Rev. Fr. DIRAN PAPA ZIAN, Archpriest
Տ. ՏԻՐԱՆ ԱՌ. ԶԷՆՅ. ՓԱՓԱՋԵԱՆ, ՀՈՎԻԷ

**ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 1991**

The annual parish assembly, as stipulated in the by-laws, convened in Hovanessian Cultural Hall . presided by Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor.

The meeting was called to order by Garbis Meguerian at 1:15 p. m. following invocation. A quorum of 42 members present, was verified by roll call.

Sarkis Boyajian was elected to act as Chairman for the meeting, with Lottie Mikaelian, as Secretary. Gary Mazian was appointed by the Chairman to act as parliamentarian.

For expediency, the Chairman suggested the Nominations and Balloting Committees, act as one committee. Mr. Meguerian moved to follow this procedure. Seconded by Sonia Harlan. Motion carried. Isabelle Gederian and Sarkis Boyajian acted in the name of the combined committee.

Chairman recommended we follow the agenda covering the annual reports of the various subordinating organizations, since they were presented to parishoners in advance of the meeting. And, unless there were questions or ammendments, we accept them as presented.

At this point of the meeting, Dr. Hovanessian moved we accept the minutes of the February 4, 1990 meeting. A second by Greg Srabian. Motion carried.

Lorene Skinner requested Der Hayr give us the exact literal translation of the Armenian Script above the sanctuary archway, so when asked, we quote correctly. Der Hayr did so, stating it translates: "A new commandment I give you. to love one another".

While reviewing the Sunday School Report, Dr. Hovanessian moved that any Sunday School teacher, requesting to attend DRE Classes in New York, have expenses paid for by the Parish, as well as those of the Sunday School Superintendent attending the Diocesan Assembly. A second by Mr. Robert Auer. Motion carried. Acknowledgement was expressed for the \$1,429.00 the Sunday School turned over to the Parish Council.

Isabelle Gederian commended the Choir for it's "fantastic and terrific efforts".

- continued -

Araxie Samarjian called attention to the fact the Seniors' Organization contributed \$1,200.00 to the Council. Mr. Meguerian acknowledged their donation and commended their enthusiasm.

It was noted ACYOA Jrs. remitted \$2,000.00 to the Parish Council. Mr. Meguerian accepted and thanked the members for their efforts.

A round of applause was afforded the Women's Guild for their contribution of \$11,000.00 to the Parish Treasury.

Dr. Hovanessian requested it be officially noted in the minutes to congratulate the newsletter staff for its efforts in producing the Number One Newsletter in the Chicago area. He also stated, other churches have been influenced by our letter and are commencing work on one of their own. Lorene Skinner graciously accepted accolades on behalf of the staff.

In reviewing the Budget and Expenses, Mr. Meguerian, as chairman of the council, suggested Trustees take into consideration paying-off the mortgage balance of \$16,400.00 and to report to the mid-year council meeting on same.

Dr. Hovanessian requested the line item of Delegate Expenses in the 1991 Budget be corrected to read "Delegates' Expenses" which incorporates the Chairman's expenses as well.

Irene Merijohn moved to accept the 1991 Budget as presented. Mr. Sahagian seconded. Motion carried.

Regarding the Diocesan Assembly, Dr. Hratch Doumanian asked whether there were any new disclosures on the progress of the Unity Committee. Dr. Hovanessian reported there were absolutely none. The Chair ruled further discussion be taken under New Business of the meeting.

Mr. Auer moved, seconded by Mr. Srabian, the assembly accept and approve all reports as submitted. Motion carried.

The next order of business was election for the office of trustee. Chairman related four trustees needed to be elected. Of the present trustees, the following accepted to run for office: Anahid Pridjian - Karneg Boyajian and Van Giragosian.

Remaining in office: Hratch Doumanian - Greg Srabian - Gary Mazian - Martin Randall and Garbis Meguerian.

Nominated were: Sonia Harlan - Ara Yeretsian - Elizabeth Sahagian and Irene Merijohn.

Rosie Yeretsian moved nominations be closed. A second by Garbis Meguerian. Motion carried.

The following were elected to serve on the Parish Council for the ensuing year:

Anahid Pridjian - 38

Karneg Boyajian - 45

Van Giragosian - 40

Sonia Harlan - 43

Ara Yeretsian - 6 (to serve in the event one of the above cannot fulfill term)

Alice Boyajian informed the assembly, Anahid Pridjian is a new member of the Women's Guild, and as such will be the representative to the Council.

Dr. Hovanessian accepted nomination for the position of Diocesan Delegate and was elected to office by a popular vote of 42. Vickie Hovanessian to be alternate delegate.

Elected to serve on the Nominating Committee for 1991:

Sona Doumanian

Ara Yeretsian

Dick Atkian

Virginia Bogosian

Elected to serve on the Auditing Committee for 1991:

Andy Sahagian

Irene Merijohn

Harry Mazian

New Business:

Chairman called on Mr. Srabian to report on the Altar Project. He reported meeting with the architect to finalize the design, which will then be submitted to a marble company. His understanding is, that five month's time will be needed to complete the marble work. At which time, it is hopeful, work will commence during the summer months.

Elizabeth Sahagian reported on the April 24th Genocide Committee, concerning joint services with other churches, as in the past year. She related 14 members at the meeting agreed to a joint service. However, the Diocese is disallowing such a joint service.

After general discussion, Karneg Boyajian moved to direct the assembly to request a letter be drafted and forwarded to the Archdiocese requesting permission to participate with area churches in a joint service. Greg Srabian seconded. Motion carried. Karneg Boyajian was directed to prepare such a letter, to be signed by Sarkis Boyajian as Chairman of the Parish Assembly.

Dr. Hovanessian requested the council consider paying a stipend to visiting deacons. After discussion and lack of motion, subject was dispensed with.

Dr. Hovanessian moved the Council work up a proposal to be addressed to the Diocesan Assembly, requesting quarterly reports from the Unity Committee. Seconded by Mr. Auer. Motion carried.

Martha Auer suggested Mr. Meguerian approach the council with a proposal suggesting each parish member contribute a computed sum of money to afford paying the mortgage balance in full. Mr. Meguerian agreed to do so and stated a report on same would be made at the mid-year assembly.

Dr. Hovanessian commended Der Hayr, the Council and subordinating groups for a great job in fulfilling the budget and activities during 1990.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Sona Doumanian moved to adjourn. A second by Lottie Mikaelian. Meeting closed 3: 50 p. m. Der Hayr concluded the assembly with a sharagan for Vartanantz and a popular Armenian song and benediction.

Respectfully submitted,



Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian,
President



Lottie Mikaelian,
Secretary



Sarkis Boyajian,
Chairman

PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT
1991

Submitted to the Parish Assembly of
Sts. Joachim & Anne Armenian Apostolic Church
Palos Heights, Illinois
Sunday, February 9, 1991

Dear Parishioners:

With the grace of God, we completed another year with worthy and noticeable accomplishments. With the close of 1991, I've concluded my third year as pastor of Sts. Joachim & Anne Armenian Church.

It is my privilege to submit, for your review, my pastoral activities and varied accomplishments during the course of the past year.

The nature of a pastor's work is such that he is almost involved in every phase of the parish life and it is hard to see him detached from the overall operation of the parish. He is priest, preacher and spiritual leader, simultaneously. His work encompasses the administration of the parish and the whole parish life in all its multiple phases. He brings God's love to people through sacerdotal and pastoral works, namely sacraments, rites, worship, Badarak, homily and entire range of pastoral activities, both in the Church and in the parish and in the community at large.

Pastor's Annual Report can be viewed in a panoramic way through certain categories, without being involved in detailed information, as it is outlined below.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE

Our Annual parish Assembly for 1990 convened on Sunday, February 10, 1991. New Parish Council, after ratification of the election by the Primate, took office with chairmanship of Dr. Garbis Meguerian.

The day-to-day affairs of the parish was maintained by the pastor. The Parish Council mainly supervized the financial matters, raising funds, apporpriating the budget and kept the Church ground and building in good shape.

Also, we had, as in the past, a Mid-year Parish Assembly, which met on May 26th, to receive the Diocesan Assembly reports.

The Diocesan Assembly was held in Teaneck, NJ, hosted by St. Thomas Armenian Church, May 9-11, 1991; the Clergy Conference preceded the Assembly in the same week, May 6-8, at Don Bosco Retreat Center, West Haverstraw (Rockland County), NY.

2. PASTORAL

Pastor discharged his pastoral duties conscientiously. He made sick calls at hospitals, when he was aware of the hospitalization of parishioners. Homes were visited on special occasions. Invitations were always welcomed by the pastor. It is important that parishioners should create opportunities once a year to welcome their pastor into their home, so that he can maintain contact with them and know them on individual family basis.

3. LITURGY

Soorp Badarak was celebrated, Church services conducted, sermons preached in Armenian and English every Sunday, with the exception of pastor's annual vacation and other out-of-town engagements.

All the major feast days were properly observed according to the requirements of our liturgical traditions. Armenian Christmas was observed on its canonical day (January 5-6) with Candlemas on the Eve of Theophany and with Solemn High Mass and "Blessing of Water" ceremony (Churorhnek) in commemoration of Lord's Baptism. Godfather of the Cross was Martin Randall, Jr., son of Martin & June (Semerdjian) Randall. For the first time in our Church, the ceremony was interpreted and narrated by Sunday School students intermittently with the ceremony. This was Yeretzgin Rosalie's innovation with her own preparation.

During Lenten period, on Sundays, Closed Badarak and "Sunrise Service" (Arevakal) were performed. On Wednesday evenings, "Vigil" service was performed. On Palm Sunday, "Opening of Gates" (Turunpatsek) was conducted. During Holy Week, the ceremonies of "Washing of Feet" on Maundy Thursday and "Burial and Entombment of our Lord" (Taghoum) on Good Friday were conducted. Badarak was celebrated on Easter Eve. On Easter day, the glorious Easter celebrations were performed with ceremony of "Antasdan" (Blessing of Fields). On the Feast of the Assumption of Virgin Mary, in August, the traditional ceremony of "Blessing of Grapes" (Khaghoghornek) was performed and on the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross (Khatchveratz), in September, the "Processional Antasdan" was performed.

In addition, other ceremonies and Church services, as well, were conducted throughout the year, as our canonical traditions demanded and special circumstances warranted.

American Christmas was observed both with caroling on Sunday preceding Christmas, December 22nd, after Badarak, and with Christmas Eve Service in English on December 24th. Jana Brotherhood volunteered to be our organist on Christmas Eve, as she did the previous year; we appreciate her willingness to avail herself at a time when our organists are unavailable to participate.

"Hokehankist" (Requiem Service) was performed after Badarak in fulfillment of occasional requests and also on Armenian Memorial days (Merelotz) and other special occasions, such as Armenian Martyrs Day and the third anniversary of the earthquake in Armenia.

4. SACRAMENTS AND RITES

Throughout the year, Sacraments and Rites were administered and duly recorded in our Parish Registry as follows:

BAPTISMS (CHRISTENING & CHRISMATION)

Six (6) Baptisms were administered as follows:

NAME	DATE
Hala Garabedian	January 6
Christina Garabedian	January 6
Sarkis Garabedian	January 6
Brett Capen	April 21
Shelby Tjortjis (adult)	June 9
Vera Helen Green	November 24

WEDDINGS

Four (4) Matrimonial services were conducted as follows:

NAME	DATE
Jean Hagop Nalbandian & Shelby Tjortjis	June 22
Samuel Arzumanian & Nina Szarleta	July 20
Dennis Papazian & Mary Arshagouni	September 14
Chris Kalajian & Judith Mounts	November 2

FUNERALS

Seven (7) funerals were conducted as follows:

NAME	DATE
Zena Tarazoff Kaminsky	January 12
Azniv Ann Sarkisian	January 16
Raffi (Bardizbanian) Gardiner	April 12
Walter Gaulian	August 24
John Marsoubian (in Waukegan)	August 26
Sam Marsoulian	October 11
Eghiazar Melikian	October 28

5. CHURCH AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS

We have Women's Guild, Senior Citizens, Choir, Sunday School and ACYOA, Jrs.

A. WOMEN'S GUILD - The Guild is indispensable for our parish. Bazaar and Rummage Sale are their main money making affairs.

This year, the Guild was involved in several other activities with more social, cultural and educational character.

A leadership program was led by Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian on January 8th.

The Guild participated in the University Women's Association program, providing Armenian ethnic food. A lecture was given by

Sonia Harlan on the distinctive character of the Armenian culture on January 10th. A Retreat, sponsored by the Women's Guild Central Council, was hosted by our Guild at St. Francis Retreat House, Oak Brook, on April 20th. Elizabeth Sahagian was District Leader and Yeretzgin Rosalie was Retreat Program Leader.

Armenian Women's Saints Day observance with three area sister churches, Sts. Joachim & Anne, St. James and St. Gregory the Illuminator was held in Chicago with a special Peace Service, having in mind the Gulf War, prepared by Der Diran on March 6th. A similar service was held for Wisconsin Armenian Church Guilds in Waukegan, with our Pastor as guest preacher, on March 16th. This year's Woman Saint was Sahaganoush, mother of St. Vartan the Brave. The area Armenian clergy participated in both services.

Our Women's Guild hosted a luncheon for the Moraine Valley Clergy Association on April 18th.

For the second year, Twelve-Month Dinner was given in September. We are happy that it is gaining popularity.

The Guild is under the capable co-chairmanship of Isabelle Gederian and Alice Boyajian. The load of the work are on the shoulders of a few members who constitute the core of Women's Guild. Obviously, the Guild needs to be expanded with new members.

B. SENIOR CITIZENS - Their monthly "kheyra" luncheons are getting more popular all the time. It is a labor of love on the part of Alice Boyajian who graciously prepares these luncheons every month. Senior Citizens are even able to contribute yearly to the Parish Council towards the annual budget.

C. CHOIR - Our Choir is small but is of fine quality. Our Deacons are stole-bearers Nazar Halajian, Dr. Norayr Madanyan and John Hovsepian. Other Acolytes who serve the altar are Shunt and Onnig Madanyan, brothers, and John & Leo Doumanian, brothers.

From time to time, whenever pastor feels the need, on invitation, guest Deacons from Evanston, participate in our Liturgy. They are Deacons Krikor Goshgarian, Krikor Mirijanian and Dikran Kelekian. Dikran Kelekian is always accompanied by his wife, Zaghik, who sings in the Choir, greatly enhancing it with her powerful and beautiful voice. Dr. Susan Mardoian is our Choir Director and Martha Auer is the organist. Choir needs practices on a regular monthly basis.

D. SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sunday School operates on the academic years from September to June. New projects are underway. The Annual Christmas Dinner/Pageant on Armenian Christmas is very popular. The participation of the Senior Class members in the interpretation of the Ceremony of the "Blessing of Water" was well received. The first Sunday of every month was designated for reception of Holy Communion and the sermons were geared towards them. The program of "Breakfast with Der Hayr" was continued with the help of parents. As a new project, fruit baskets were distributed to our home-bounds.

The academic year of 1990-91 ended on June 2, 1991. The new academic year of 1991-92 began on September 15, 1991. On October 13th, we had a Staff Dedication ceremony in the Sanctuary.

Superintendent is Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian and Assistant Superintendent is Dick Atkian. We have a fine teaching and support staff. The school needs the wholehearted cooperation of the parents.

E. ACYOA JRS. - Under ACYOA, Jrs. we include the young people of our parish under 18 years old who constitute ACYOA Jrs. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Violet Bargamian, Debbie Simonian and Irene Arakelian, who under a reorganization program, assumed the position of Advisors and reactivated the ACYOA.

The Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale sponsored by ACYOA is always successful.

This year, Acting ACYOA Executive Secretary, Tony Barsamian, made a special trip to our Parish on March 27th in order to prepare the way for the ACYOA Mission Program to our parish, which was held April 12-14. A group of ACYOA members from St. George Armenian Church, Hartford, CT, spent a weekend in our parish. That Saturday, they conducted workshops and seminars for the benefit of our youth. The group joined our Choir on Sunday and sang the Badarak with their lovely voices. Anoush Khachoyan played the organ. All their expenses were paid by ACYOA Central Council. They came to stimulate the young adults in our parish.

Unfortunately, after the graduation of many members from High School and attending colleges, our small group of ACYOA, Jrs. shrank. Now ACYOA needs reorganization; we hope the new crop will arrive soon and once again ACYOA will be active.

6. "ANI" NEWSLETTER

"Ani" is our Parish Newsletter which is prepared with great care, bimonthly. The Editorial staff is under pastor's editorship, and is comprised by Lorene Skinner as co-editor, Annette Sultanian as computer specialist and Sona Diorio as proofreader. This is a terrific team; with joint effort they produce a very commendable parish paper which is indeed a treasure-house of history of our community.

Along with the Newsletter, also prepared are Sunday Bulletins, special bulletins for Christmas and Easter, as well as occasional flyers for important activities.

7. HAYGIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL

Although Haygian Armenian School is not an integral part of our Church activities, nevertheless, to teach Armenian is a never-ending mission of any priest. The weekly Armenian classes for young students of our parish are continued in two locations in Indiana; Munster and Merrillville.

8. MAJOR ANNUAL PARISH EVENTS

- A. Christmas Dinner/Program - on Armenian Christmas is a Sunday School affair.
- B. Mardi-Gras (Paregentan) Dinner/Dance - at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster, Indiana, February 2nd. Rosy Yeretsian is the driving force behind it.
- C. Church Picnic - at the Church grounds which is mostly the endeavor of Parish Council, on July 15th. Sonya Doumanian was actively involved in the last two picnics, insuring success.
- D. Rummage Sale - this is mostly a Women's Guild affair, held May 4th.
- E. Twelve-Month Dinner - a Women's Guild affair, held Sept. 29th.
- F. Holiday Bazaar - Women's Guild affair, held November 9th
- G. Anniversary Consecration - this yearly observance with banquet/program is the responsibility of the Parish Council, November 17th.

In addition to the above major events, also mention should be made of our Lenten Suppers in conjunction with Lenten Vigil Services on Wednesday evenings during Lent . The lenten suppers are sponsored by various organizations or groups of our Church.

The first lenten supper was given by Women's Guild on February 20th. Sonia Harlan presented a lecture on the topic of "How to Present Ourselves to 'Odars'" (non-Armenians). The second lenten supper was given jointly by Sunday School and Choir on February 27th. The third lenten supper was sponsored by Parish Council on March 13th. Professor Apraham Terian spoke on an illustrated manuscript of Hymns which is in his possession. The fourth lenten supper was given by the parents of Haygian Armenian School students on March 20th.

9. ASBED BREAKFAST

Knights of Vartan provided their annual breakfast for our parish on October 20th, proceeds of which was donated to ACYOA, Jrs. activities. This is a generous gesture on their part and worthy of recognition.

10. COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF GENOCIDE

The 76th Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide was observed with an appropriate program in a united way on April 27th at Fairview High School in Skokie. Our own Dr. Raffy Hovanessian was the Armenian main speaker. We were not permitted, by the Diocese, to hold joint liturgy.

11. 8TH ANNIVERSARY AND MORTGAGE BURNING

Certainly one of the highlights of the year for our parish was the Church Anniversary and Mortgage Burning, held on Sunday, November 17th, with our Primate, The Rt. Rev. Bishop Khajag presiding. In the morning, Surpazan Hayr was the celebrant and preacher in the Church. At the conclusion of Badarak, Surpazan Hayr conferred the rank of stole-bearer to John Hovsepien. The Banquet/Program was very enjoyable. The burning of the Church mortgage was a realization through the generosity of our people, with over \$20,000 realized.

12. HYE CAMP

Hye Camp has been operating for many year in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, on Keishian property, who donate its use on a yearly basis, for the benefit of our youngsters. Administratively it is operated under the direction of Midwest Regional Council (MRC). Anna Giragosian, from our parish is the Camp Director. Many others from our parish are involved in different phases of it. Many children from our parish attend camp which is one week long, July 28- August 3. This year I was asked to be the Religious Director. Fortunately, I could employ the services of Yeretzgin Rosalie and seminarian Deacon Gregory Dudukian, as my assistants; they taught religion. Primate visited and celebrated Badarak. I conducted the ceremony of "Blessing of Grapes."

13. CHICAGO MISSION

This year, I was asked by the Diocese to visit the Chicago Armenian Church in the absence of their visiting clergyman. I could only accomodate them once, by visiting St. Gregory the Illuminator to celebrate Badarak on Sunday, October 6th. On that day, I tried to fulfill all their spiritual needs.

14. INTERNATIONAL ARMENIAN CLERGY CONVOCATION

I attended an unprecedented historic meeting, convened June 17-21, in New York. The meeting was called with the consent and blessings of Vehapar Vazken I and was organized by our Primate, Bishop Khajag Barsamian. The purpose of the meeting was the renewal of the Church. All the expenses were paid by Louise Manoogian Simone, President of AGBU.

15. MIDWEST CLERGY MEETINGS

On two occasions when the Primate visited our region, I attended meetings of Midwest Clergy, presided by the Primate. The first one was in South Milwaukee, on February 16, and the second at our Church on November 18. Surpazan Hayr and clergy were hosted with a luncheon by our Women's Guild.

16. MIDWEST REGION SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

On October 29th, Nancy Barsamian, Co-Director of DRE in New York, met with Sunday School Superintendents and clergy of Midwest Armenian Churches in Waukegan, and as a result established, for the first time a Midwest Regional Superintendents Association. Our Sunday School Superintendent, Yeretzgin Rosalie was appointed to head this new Association. She has already embarked into a variety of joint activities with other Sunday Schools of Armenian Churches in Midwest.

17. OFFICIAL-FROM ARMENIA IN OUR MIDST

Hrachig Simonian, Chairman of Committee of Cultural Relations between Armenia and Diaspora visited Chicago with his wife, under the patronage of our Diocese. He was a guest of Chicago area Armenian Churches during his one week stay. He gave a public lecture on November 20 at the AGBU Center which was sponsored by area Armenian Churches, including Sts. Joachim & Anne.

18. A PRINCELY DONATION

In response to my request, Mr. Alex Manoogian, the great humanitarian and benefactor, and Life President of AGBU, sent a donation of \$5,000 to our Church, to be used for any project deemed important for our Church. Our deepest respect and gratitude to him.

19. GUEST CLERGY AND GUEST PARTICIPANTS IN OUR LITURGY

Fr. Arnak Kasparian of New Jersey, Fr. Garabed Kochakian of Racine, Wis., and Deacon Crosby Kazarian of Providence, RI participated in a wedding ceremony in our Church on September 14th. Deacon Kazarian also participated in our Church worship service on Sunday, September 15th. Other guest participants in our Liturgy on that day were Louise Yardumanian of Florida as organist and Stepan Karougian as soloist from Detroit, MI.

20. COMING CHALLENGES

Within two years, in 1993, the Church in Palos Heights will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary. This is a significant milestone and it should be celebrated on a grand scale. This occasion should take into consideration the history of Sts. Joachim & Anne since it came into existence in West Pullman in 1958. Therefore, it will be the 35th Anniversary of the Armenian Church in West Pullman, the forerunner of Palos Heights. The combined 35th & 10th Anniversaries of our Church should be a glorious opportunity for our parishioners in Palos Heights. It is imperative that Parish Council immediately appoint a special Anniversary Committee with new plans and new projects. The time is short for such a celebration which needs lots of planning.

Another challenge is the project of a new marble altar in Armenian design for our Church. This project is very dear to our parishioner, Greg Srabian, who has even founded a special fund for this purpose. Now the fund is over \$50,000 which grows all the time. This project should be given every encouragement by the Parish Council so that this cherished dream will be realized soon. If possible, this project should be combined with the 10th Anniversary celebration.

Another challenge of our Church is considering the forming of an Auxiliary organization, targeting all the adults, singles and couples of the parish. Such an organization may enrich the parish life and become a blessing for both parish and parishioners, as well.

21. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPRECIATION

My deepest appreciation to the members of Parish Council; to the Women's Guild; to the Choir Director, Dr. Susan Mardoian, organist, Martha Auer and all the Choir members; to our Stolebearers, Nazar Halajian, Dr. Norayr Madanyan and John Hovsepian; to our Acaolytes and Altar Servers Shunt and Onnig Madanyan, brothers and John & Leo Doumanian, brothers; to the Sunday School Superintendent, Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian, Assistant

Superintendent, Dick Atkian and all the teachers and staff members; to the ACYOA advisors, Violet Bargamian, Debbie Simonian and Irene Arakelian; to the "Ani" Editorial Staff, Co-editor, Lorene Skinner, Computer Specialist Annette Sultanian and Proofreader Sona (Boghosian) Diorio.

My heartfelt appreciation to all those who contribute to Church by their service, talent or money as their gift of love. Also to all coffee hosts who provide good Christian fellowship and to those who, with their gifts of flowers, adorn the holy altar. We must not forget the greeters who, on special days, greet the worshippers to Church as they arrive for Sunday worship.

We cannot pass by the names of two dedicated people, Hagop Hakalmazian and Marderos Semerdjian who take care of many details pertaining to the Church and to the hall.

Appreciation is in order for Alice Madanyan for her helpfulness in mending of Church vestments.

Special mention should be made of Karneg Boyajian for his undertaking the task of refurbishing Pastor's office with custom-made oak bookcases and filing cabinets, as well as renovating three Sunday School classrooms. His latest labor of love involved replacing the old telephones with three modern ones for Pastor's office, secretary's office and in the kitchen for general use.

My sincere appreciation to any and all who in some way have made contributions to our Church through giving, attending and participating.

Most especially, we salute our parishioners, who though handful in number but generous in giving, and thus burning and keeping the ever-bright lights of Sts. Joachim & Anne on.

We are fortunate in having many dedicated people who are on the forefront of their voluntary services and considerable contributions. The parish is greatly indebted to these people. The Appreciation Dinner that Yeretzgin and I gave to a group of people in October was merely an attempt to show in a small way, our appreciation to them. We have to show these people appreciation more often, in words and moreover in deeds.

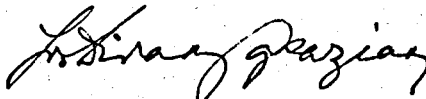
In closing, let me state a very simple but vital truth, and that is this: the Church needs you and you need the Church. If we sooner realize this truth, we will have less causes for disappointments in the future. It is true that no one is indispensable, but also no one is dispensable.

I cannot underestimate the importance of Church attendance. It is said that "charity begins at home" and how true! The Church is our spiritual home and our Christian duty is to participate in Soorp Badarak and to have Christian fellowship on Sundays. It is not comprehensible for we Christians who do not attend Sunday Badarak.

The future belongs to those who value the present and equip themselves for the future with full confidence in God's goodness. May God of our fathers preserve each one of you and keep us all under His divine protection.

"Heavenly King, preserve Thy church unshaken
and keep the worshippers of Thy name in peace."
(Divine Liturgy Hymn)

Prayerfully yours,



Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Archpriest
Pastor

January 1992
Palos Heights, Illinois

REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

1991

INTRODUCTION

The newly elected and in-office members of the Parish Council met on February 11, 1991 to elect officers and thereafter met at least once a month to plan, organize and oversee the various projects and activities of the Church. The 1991 Parish Council consisted of:

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian	President
Garbis H. Meguerian	Chairman
Sonia Harlan	Vice-Chairlady
Martin Randall	Treasurer
Gary Maxian	Secretary
Karneg Boyajian	Buildings & Grounds
Anahid Fridjian	Membership
Hratch Doumanian	Finance & Special Events
Van Giragosian	Member
Greg Srabian	Member

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. The activities of the Parish Council continued to be run mainly through 3 Committees: Membership (Anahid Fridjian - Chairlady); Finance: (Doumanian - Chairman); Buildings and Grounds (Karneg Boyajian - Chairman). Also, to better inform the Parish Council of the plans and activities of subordinate organizations, the following Liaisons were appointed: Fridjian - Women's Guild; Fr. Diran - Sunday School; Fr. Diran - Jr. ACYOA and NEWSLETTER; Sonia Harlan - Senior Citizens; Greg Srabian - Choir.
2. During 1991 the dues paying parish members numbered 92. Two new members joined the Church but 3 members effectively resigned because of moving out of the area and/or financial difficulties. Of the 92 members 17 members had not paid their 1991 dues by December 31, 1991 inspite of the quarterly statements sent to all members reminding of their obligations.
3. Religious gifts in 1991 were a great deal less than previous years: \$13,189 vs \$21,011 in 1990; \$20,460 in 1989; \$21,905 in 1988; \$24,525 in 1987; and \$27,385 in 1986. If the rate of decrease continues, in a few years our church will be subject to financial difficulties.
4. "The Husband and Wife Sunday Greeters" continued in 1991 on special occasions.
5. The Newsletter, ANI, was issued bimonthly on regular basis thanks to the tireless efforts of Laurene Skinner and our secretary, Anette Sultanian.
6. The sixth Annual Dinner-Dance of our Church was held at the Visual and

Performing Arts Center, Munster, Indiana, on February 2, 1991. The affair was very successful thanks to the efforts of the Committee chaired by Rosy Yeretsian. A profit of about \$3,600 was achieved.

7. On April 21, 1991 April 24 was commemorated simply with a Hokehankist. The Council decided not to join the other Chicago shurches in the religious commemoration of ths event.

8. At a Special Parish Assembly on May 26, 1991 Fr. Diran and Garbis Meguerian reported on the proceedings at the Clergy Conferece and the Diocesan Assembly. Also, various Church matters, including the "burning of the mortgage" were also discussed.

9. Thanks to the efforts of Greg Srabian and his Committee plaques honoring the donors for the buiding of the Church were mounted on the east wall of the lobby.

9. Buildings and Grounds Committee took care of the necessary repairs to the buildings and equipments. The surface of the flat roof of the Hovanessain Hall was completely overhauled with modified rubber composition at a cost of about \$14,000. Also, new shelves were purchased for Fr. Diran's office.

10. The annual Church picnic was held on Sunday, July 21, 1991, on the church grounds. It was very successful and netted about \$7,500 thanks to the tireless efforts of the Picinic Committee headed by Mrs Sona Doumanian and to the support of our members and friends. We appreciate

11. The 8th Annual Anniversary Dinner celebrating the consecration of our Church took place on November 17, 1991. His Grace Bishop Khajag Barsamian, our Primate, was the guest speaker. Mr. Stepan Karougian from Detroit, accompanied by Dr. Susan Mardoyan, entertained us with several songs. Also, our Rita Yeretsian, accompanied by her father, Dr. Ara Yeretsian, performed two musical pieces on her violin. Sonia Harlan was in charge of Dinner arrangements.

12. At the February Parish Assembly the Parish Council was charged to formulate a plan for paying up the remaining princile of about \$13,000 of the church mortgage. Upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Parish Council decided to initiate a special fund raising to "burn the mortgage" at the Church Anniversary Dinner on November 17, 1991 in the presence of the Primate. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners more than \$20,000 was raised which is enough to cover the building debt and part of the cost of the roof.

CONCLUSION

The Parish Council is gratified with the 1991 accomplishments which contributed to the effective running of church affairs. Hoever, these accomplishments could not have been achieved without the cooperations of Father Diran and the enthusiastic support of our parish members, which are greatly appreciated. Our special thanks go to the the members of the various Council Committees and to the energetic members of our Women's

Guild who helped to make our lunches successful and contributed to the financial well being of our Church by organizing the rummage sale and the bazaar.

Garbis H. Meguerian
Chairman

WOMEN'S GUILD ANNUAL REPORT

1991

OFFICERS:

Alice Boyajian	-	Co-Chairperson
Isabelle Gederian	-	Co-Chairperson
Irene Merijohn	-	Vice-Chairperson
Anna Giragosian	-	Treasurer
Lottie Mikaelian	-	Recording Secretary
Janna Simonian	-	Corresponding Secretary
Violet Bargamian	-	Advisor

Our Women's Guild is pleased to announce another productive and successful year. Meetings have been well attended. Although many projects are time consuming and work, there is always time for camaraderie. We look toward our new event, a Spring Arts and Craft Show for vendors.

May we take this opportunity to again thank all church members as well as non-members for their valued participation and support throughout the year, especially the bazaar.

Listed are some of the guilds functions:

Annual Church Bazaar	Picnic Bake Table
Lenten Dinner	Food Table - American Assoc. of University Women
Palm Sunday Bake Sale	Host One Day Retreat at St. Francis Retreat House
Rummage Sale	Host Luncheon for area Clergy
Coffee Table Hostess	Host Monthly Senior Citizens Kheyra Luncheon
Pool Party	
12 Month Dinner	
Altar Flowers	

Our goal for 1992 is to continue to work for the benefit of our beloved church, enrich fellowship and to increase in membership.

Respectfully,

Isabelle Gederian
Co-Chairperson

1991 WOMEN'S GUILD TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>NET</u>
ALTAR FLOWERS	\$ 230.00	\$ 431.92	\$ 201.92 -
BAZAAR 90/91	15,032.10	5,830.25	9,201.85
RUMMAGE	872.51	41.42	831.09
PICNIC +	306.00	196.40	109.60
EASTER/PALM SUNDAY	706.75	215.84	490.91
SPECIAL EVENTS	2,641.50	1,913.63	727.87
MISCELLANEOUS	177.00	1,244.37	1,067.37 -
DUES	125.00		125.00
INTEREST CHECKING ACCT.	381.24		381.24
KITCHEN & BATH SUPPLIES		223.87	223.87 -
TRANSFER TO TRUSTEES		11,000.00	11,000.00 -
	<hr/>		
	\$ 20,472.10	\$ 21,097.70	\$ 625.60 -

Balance 12/31/90
debit / credit '91

\$ 14,294.70
625.60 -

Balance 12/31/91

\$ 13,669.10

anna giragosian
treasurer women's guild

1991 Women's Guild Treasurer's Report

Additional

	Income	Expenses	net
Altar Flowers	\$ 230.00	\$ 328.00	\$ 98.007
'91 Xmas flowers	-	103.92	< 103.927
State gov't donation	100.00		100.00
Bazaar '90	1,911.50	380.93	1,530.57
Bazaar '91	13,120.60	5,449.32	7,671.28
Rummage	872.51	41.42	831.09
Qalm Sunday Bake	706.75	215.84	490.91
Church picnic	-	95.00	< 95.007
SCYOA picnic Bake	306.-	101.40	204.60
Diocesan Delegate		406.90	< 406.907
Lenten Dinner	201.-	55.-	146.00
AAUW dinner	450.-	163.-	
donation to Union center		50.-	237.00
Retreat	520.-	515.-	5.00
New Year Eve 90/91	512.00	524.58	< 12.587
Lenten Sunday Buffet	-	200.-	< 200.007
12 month dinner	794.50	356.17	438.34
Wye Camp meal	-	155.87	< 155.877
Women's Guild Central Council	-	90.-	< 90.007
Sponsor Arminian Tom-bonnie	-	100.00	< 100.007
Clergy luncheon	77.00	71.04	5.96
Climate's luncheon	-	40.59	< 40.597
Kitchen & Bath Rm supplies	-	223.87	< 223.877
Fr. Sapezian's Xmas gift	-	50.00	< 50.007
Guild Post party	-	40.00	< 40.007
Guild Xmas party	164.-	188.25	< 24.257
W. H. dues '91	125.00		125.00
supplies	-	151.60	< 151.607
Interest checking acct	381.24		381.24
Transfer funds to Trustees '92	-	11,000.00	< 11,000.007
Totals	\$20,472.10	\$21,097.70	\$625.607
Balance '90			14,294.70
Bal '91 as of 12/31/91			\$ 13,669.10

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

FEB. 1991 - JAN. 1992

The Sunday School academic year, September 1991-May 1992, consists of:

CLASS AND
NUMBER ENROLLED

STAFF

Nursery
5 children

Lisa Schlesinger

Preschool
10 children

Joyce Alcocer
Jana Brotherhood

Primary
10 children

Margo Arzumanian

Intermediate
8 children

June Randall

High School
11 children

Dick Atkian
Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian

Superintendent
Assistant Superintendent
Spiritual Advisor
Musical Director
Assistant Musical Director
Treasurer
Attendance Recorder
Substitute Teachers

Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian
Dick Atkian
Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
Genevieve Semerdjian
Jana Brotherhood
Debbie Atkian
Annette Sultanian
Alan Simonian
Jennifer Winterheimer
June Randall
Lorene Skinner

Advisor
"Ani" Representative

Our report begins with February of 1991, where last year's report ends. Our "Breakfast with Der Hayr" on Saturday, February 9, 1991 was hosted by Debbie and Dick Atkian, assisted by daughters, Shannon and Melissa.

Our Lenten Dinner was co-chaired by Sunday School and Choir on Wednesday, February 27th. The children's Lenten offering of \$81.00 was sent to the Artsakh/Karabagh Relief Fund. Eleven children, coordinated by Onnig Madanyan, had their feet "washed" by Der Hayr on Thursday of Holy Week.

The Palm Sunday Brunch was co-chaired by Dick Atkian and Arakel Arakelian.

The men in our parish built us three new classrooms and added a heating vent direct into a fourth classroom.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Parish Assembly and the Parish Council for their decision to assume the cost of the plane ticket for me to attend the DRE's Superintendents' Conference at the Diocesan Assembly in early May.

On May 25th, Der Hayr and Yeretzgin Rosalie hosted "Breakfast with Der Hayr."

On June 2nd, we had our closing exercises and saluted ten graduates from college, high and middle schools. The dinner was chaired by assistant superintendent Dick Atkian and his wife Debbie, assisted by Tom and Sandi Williams. The program was a reenactment of the Sunday School Worship Service conducted from 10:30-11:00. Through the year, this service has been conducted by June Randall, Dick Atkian and Yeretzgin Rosalie.

Teacher Margo Arzumanian and Superintendent Yeretzgin Rosalie attended the Mardigian Institute in early August at the Diocese.

Sunday School opened on September 15th with forty-four children enrolled. Opening day was an open house for parents and a discussion of questions related to faith and to the goals of Sunday School.

On October 13th, a Dedication Ceremony was conducted by Der Hayr in the Sanctuary. All staff members participated.

On October 19th, a Midwest Superintendent's Association was formed at St. George's in Waukegan as a consequence of the Superintendent's meeting held in conjunction with the Diocesan Assembly called by the DRE. Yeretzgin Rosalie was appointed coordinator of the group which will meet quarterly.

On Sunday, October 20th, the Chicago Knight of Vartan provided a breakfast for our parish, proceeds of which went to our youth.

The Halloween Party on October 27th was chaired by Joyce Alcocer and Renee Gawron.

At the Anniversary Dinner/Program on November 17th, we were represented by violinist Rita Yeretsian and the Preschool Class on percussion instruments.

Debbie and Dick Atkian hosted the "Breakfast with Der Hayr" on January 4, 1992. Armenian Christmas program rehearsal and our Christmas visit from Santa (Jay Harlan) followed breakfast. Twenty-seven children and seventeen adults were present.

The children brought fruit to make baskets of cheer for nine home-bound parishioners: Nectar Arakelian, Haiganoush Boghosian, Peggy Enokian (Sr.), Bedros Gopoian, Sarah Kachaturian, Payloon Pridjian, Armen Samarjian, Genevieve Samarjian, and Ken Tarazoff, Sr.

The High School class and three graduates interpreted the "Blessing of the Water Ceremony" in the sanctuary on January 5, 1992, Armenian Christmas.

Irene Arakelian was the chairman of the Armenian Christmas dinner and donated the desserts in memory of her daughter, Tanya Manoushag. Over 160 people attended. Following the dinner in the Hovanessian Hall, all the children of Sunday School presented a Christmas pageant entitled, "Do You Have Room?"

Upcoming scheduled events for 1992 are:

Saturday, February 15th - Midwest Sunday School

Superintendent's Meeting

Sunday, March 1st - Trip to Racine for Poon Paregentan celebration at St. Mesrob Church

Sunday, March 15th - Trip to Chicago Spertus Jewish Museum

Wednesday, March 18 - Lenten Dinner by Sunday School and Choir

Sunday, April 12th - Palm Sunday Brunch

Sunday, May 17th - End-of-Year Dinner/Program and Salute to Graduates

Respectfully submitted

Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian
Sunday School Superintendent

CHOIR

1991

Presently, we have 13 Choir members. Martha Auer has been carrying the Choir for the past year with her devoted weekly attendance. Her "assistant", Bob Auer has been by her side and also serves as lay reader of the Bible every Sunday.

Thank you also to the rest of the Choir for partaking in Badarak and for giving your beautiful voices to us.

All are welcome to join us. We'd love to have you.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan B. Mardoian
Choir Director

January, 1992

1991 ANNUAL REPORT

ACYOA JRS.

Chairperson: Elona Simonian
Vice Chairperson: Marc Arakelian
Corresponding Secretaries: Leah Arzumanian (Indiana)
Erica Simonian (Illinois)
Recording Secretary: Lisa O'Shea
Treasurer: Bradley Bargamian
Sports: Onnig Madanyan
Other Members: Shannon Atkian
Tony Diorio
John Doumanian
Leo Doumanian
Aileen Hovanessian
Maria Sawaya
Nellie Yeretsian
President: Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
Advisors: Irene Arakelian
Debbie Simonian
Violet Bargamian

Activities:

Hosted ACYOA Mission Program conducted by 5 leaders from St. George's Armenian Church in Hartford and 2 Central Council members - car wash

ACYOA JRS. 1991 FINANCIAL REPORT

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER, 1990

\$3,688.80

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
Donations from parish	\$220.00	
Donations from Knights of Vartan	197.00	
Car Wash	45.00	
Interest	<u>86.30</u>	
	\$548.30	
Donation to Parish Council		\$2,000.00
Hosted Mission Program		<u>181.94</u>
		\$2,181.94
Balance as of December, 1991		\$2,066.96

Treasurer: Bradley Bargamian

"ANI"

Newsletter of Sts. Joachim & Anne
Armenian Apostolic Church
1991 ANNUAL REPORT

The "Ani" staff continued thru 1991 completing six issues: Jan/Feb, March/April, May/June, July/Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov, and Dec 91/Jan 92.

OTHER MAILINGS

- **Easter Bulletin** which included Pastor's message, Holy Week Schedule, Palm Sunday Flyer and Easter Offering Envelope

- **Parish Greeting Card** - In lieu of sending individual greeting cards, parishioners make a donation to the Church and their names appear on a greeting card which is mailed to all 360 parishioners on the Sts. Joachim & Anne Church mailing list. The Christmastide observance schedule is included. The December '91 greeting card cover design was an artistic contribution by parishioner Kathryn Hajaved.

- **Christmas Offering Envelopes** were mailed with the Dec 91/Jan 92 "Ani."

- Event Announcements

1. New Year's Eve Flyer
2. Sunday School Armenian Christmas Pageant Flyer
3. Sunday School Armenian Christmas Pageant Program booklet
4. Midwest Regional Retreat Invitation
5. Mailing of Rummage Sale Flyer
6. Mailing of Picnic Flyer
7. Mailing of Bazaar Flyer
8. 8th Anniversary Program/Dinner Flyer
9. "Renewal" (newsletter of Midwest Regional Superintendent's Association)

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Easter Lily Plant, Parish Greeting Card and newly added, Christmas Poinsettia Plant donations are directed to the Parish Council Treasury, "Ani's" financial supporter.

Projected for the upcoming year is a change from the annual six issues to five issues: Feb/March/April, May/June, July/Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov and Dec/Jan. We ask our organizations to please be reminded of this new 5 issue schedule which might necessitate special mailing of their events.

"ANI" Objective is to inform parishioners of Church Services and Sunday School schedules and activities. Additional information categories include: Pastoral Reflections, Sacraments & Rites, Gifts of Love, Parish Council, Women's Guild, Senior Citizens, ACYOA, Church Choir, Pastor's Activities and Community News. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we endeavor to implement our Apostolic beliefs and practices with allegiance to the ancient faith of our fathers.

"ANI" STAFF

Editor - **Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian**
Co-Editor, Layout - **Lorene Skinner**
Computer, Distribution - **Annette Sultanian**
Proofreader - **Sona Diorio**

Respectfully submitted,

Lorene Skinner

Lorene Skinner

SENIOR CITIZENS

1991

Senior Citizens luncheon are held on the first Wednesday of each month. Forty to fifty people enjoy lunch, followed by "cards" for the men and "bingo" for the women. Ann Raptzian calls "bingo."

Birthdays are celebrated and often younger people come and enjoy the afternoon.

Our Treasurer is Araxie Samarjian and Assistant Treasurer is Nazar Halajian. Senior Citizens contributed \$500 for the "Mortgage Burning" at the Anniversary Dinner. Our balance at the end of 1991 is \$1,200, of which \$1,000 will be given to our Parish Council.

Respectfully submitted

Alice Boyajian