

Saint Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church



12 CORBETT AVE.
BINGHAMTON, N. Y. 13903
(607) 722-8801

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

1973

1. Organization-

1. Election-

Three members were elected to the parish council at the annual parish assembly on January 28, 1973 for a term of two years.

The beginning of the year the parish council unanimously elected the following officers.

Dr. Nubar Astarjian-----Chairman
Mr. John Bogdasarian-----Corresp. Secretary
Mr. Nishan Ketchoyian-----Recording Secretary
Dr. Vahe Garabedian-----Treasurer

The following terms have expired, and are eligible for re-election.

Dr. Aristakes Kachadourian
~~Dr. Michael Medzigan~~
Dr. Vahe Garabedian
Dr. Nubar Astarjian
Prof. Hrair Dekmejian's term has also expired

but he does not wish to be re-elected. Our appreciation for his unlimited services to the council.

2. Meetings-

The parish council has had a quorum at every meeting, During the past year 23 meetings were held, included 3 special meetings. One with the Primate and two with Mr. Crósbý Goshgarian, Chairman of the Diocese Council.

3. Minutes-

The Recording Secretary kept detail records of its proceedings.

4. Archives-

The archives of the church have been kept on file. Additional information was recorded from the files by the late Mr. Manoog Bogdasarian.

5. Correspondence-

The Corresponding Secretary has kept on file copies of correspondence sent to various church organizations, diocese communications, and other correspondence related to church business.

6. Committees-

The following committees were appointed for the year.

Finance:	Dr. V. Garabedian-Chairman Dr. George Rejebian Mr. Harry Kradjian
Maintenance:	Mr. John M. Bogdasarian-Chairman Mr. John Sarkisian Mr. Edward Seraydarian
Membership:	Dr. Garo Fattal---Chairman Mr. Nishan Ketchoyian Mr. Ara Misakyan

6. cont.

Publicity: Mr. Michael Medzigian==Chairman
Mr. Harry Mahakian
Mrs. Anoush Dekmejian

Accommodations: Dr. A. Kachadourian---Chairman
Mrs. Carol Bogdasarian
Mrs. Sophie Kradjian

Armenian School: Dr. R. Bogdasarian - Chairman
Mr. Gus. Kirjilian
Prof. Hrair Dekmajian

Dance: Mr. Harry Mahakian--Chairman
Dr. Vahe Garabedian
Mrs. Alice Bogdasarian

Awards: Mrs. Ruth Garabedian--Chairman
Mrs. Alice Ketchoyian
Mrs. Adrienne Kachadourian

Newsletter: Mrs. Sandra Arakelian--Chairman
Mrs. Marion Rejebian
Mrs. Michael Ketchoyian

3. Chairman of Organizations:

Womens Guild Mrs. Alice Bogdasarian
Youth Group Mrs. Marion Rejebian
Armenian School Prof. Hrair Dekmajian
Sunday School Michael Ketchoyian
Choir Mr. Paul Ketchoyian

Liasons:

Womens Guild Mr. John Bogdasarian
Youth Group Mr. Michael Medzigian
Armenian School Prof. Hrair Dekmejian
Sunday School Dr. A. Kachadourian
Choir Mr. Nishan Ketchoyian
Dance Comm. Dr. Vahe Garabedian

7. Liasons-

In order to keep close contact the parish council members were appointed liaisons with these committees.

8. Newsletter

Three publications were made of this important communication. Approximately 200 copies of each issue were mailed to the parishioners.

This committee needs more support from its parishioners.

Writers, typists, publishing and mailing assistance are required.

9. Inventory -

A complete physical inventory has been made by Mr. Edward Seraydarian. This includes the furnitures, books, religious objects and vestments.

10. Guidelines -

Guidelines for church sacraments, baptisms, weddings and funerals were amended and brought up to date.

11. Letters of appreciations-

Appreciation letters, and personal contact to parishioners for their contribution to the church.

2. PASTOR-

a. Deacon Raymond Arakelian was ordained to priesthood in our church on September 30, 1973. The name of "Father Kevork" was bestowed upon him, and he became the full time pastor for our church.

b. A stipend and work schedule was agreed for the pastor with the assistance of Mr. Crosby Goshgarian.

c. The pastor participated as an instructor at St. Nersess during the summer study program.

d. The pastor assisted visiting clergy and attended the Diocese Assembly programs, in Worcester, Mass, on May 2-3-4 1973.

e. Father Kevork serves as the ^{President}~~priest~~ of our parish council and its various church organizations.

3. Religious Functions-

a. Eleven Badaraks were given by the visiting clergy, including the presence of Primate Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, and Bishop Tiran Nersoyian,

b. Father Kevork officiated seven Badaraks

c. The church had

	Baptisums
<u>2</u>	Weddings
<u>1</u>	Funeral

4. Affiliated Organizations-

A close working relations with the church organizations and the parish council has been gratifying.

a. Ladies Guild

A detailed report for their achievements is appended. Their activities and projects raised \$700.00 for the church in 1973.

The Guild is preparing to replace the hall draperies and most important, a master kitchen renovation plan for 1974.

b. Choir

The Choir under the direction of Paul Ketchoyian and Pauline House, organist has greatly improved during the Badarak services.

A detailed report is appended.

c. Sunday School

We commend Mr. Michael Ketchoyian for his zealous work as Sunday School superintendent.

A detailed report is appended.

d. Youth Group

The Youth Group under the direction of Mrs. Marion Rejebian has done much in activities and assisting in church functions.

A detailed report is appended.

e. Armenian School

On January 28, 1973 the parish council appointed a committee consisting of

Dr. Robert M. Bogdasarian
Prof. Hrair Dekmejian
Mr. Gus Kirjilian

This committee presented a report to the parish council last June, however no positive action has resulted with this important program.

The committee will append a report on its findings.

5. Diocesan & Regional Activities

1. A close contact has been maintained with the Primate, the Diocese, and its affiliated organizations.

2. The Primate visited our parish on January 14, 1973 upon our invitation.

3. Diocesan Assembly

Father Kevork participated in the Diocesan Clergy Conference and Assembly. The conference was held in Worcester, Mass. May 1973. Full voting privileges were accorded to our then (Deacon Raymond)

Dr. Nubar Astarjian also participated in the Diocesan Assembly as an observer. In addition, Mr. Michael Ketchoyian represented the Sunday School, Mrs. Alice Bogdasarian represented the Women's Guild, along with Mrs. Grace Baradet.

Our delegate, Mr. Ara Misakyan, participated in the Diocesan Assembly with voting rights. He will submit a report.

The representatives benefited from this assembly and I understand a good time was had by all attending.

4. Association of Armenian Choirs-

Mr. Paul Ketchoyian attended the Association of Armenian Choirs as our delegate in Philadelphia last October 19, 1973.

5. Council on Religious Education.

Communications were received from the CRE and transmitted to the Sunday School.

6. Social and Educational Functions.

1. Dinners - During the year we had _____ dinners following church services. A monthly schedule has been prepared for the families undertaking the preparation of these dinners. It is suggested that turkey, chicken, or meat loaf be served at these dinners, in order to keep the costs down.

2. Picnic An enjoyable picnic was held in June 1973 at the Lutheran Fellowship grounds. We need more assistance at these functions, due to the large turn out. Preparing, serving and clean up requires your help.

3. Dance A dance was held at the Binghamton, Treadway Inn last June. Approximately 400 people attended this affair, and over \$5,000.00 business advertisements was solicited for the dance booklet.

4. Other activities

- a) Halloween party
- b) Christmas Party
- c) Game night
- e) Pilgrimage to St. Vartan's Cathedral

A chartered bus, with approximately 40 parishioners went to New York to attend the first services of Father Kevork, on November 11, 1973. We are in hopes to make this a yearly trip.

5. Ordination Dinner by Parish Council:

A banquet in honor of Father Kevork was held at At. Michael's Hall on September _____ 1973.

Students from the St. Nersess Seminary and many Armenian Church dignitaries were present, including Bishop Tiran Nersoyian, Father Arshag Aivazian, and Mr. Crosby Gosgarian, Chairman of the Dioceses Council..

6. Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of our church, and honoring elders.

A dinner was held in the church hall celebrating the Anniversary and honoring the elders.. _____

7. Future Plans

- a. Kitchen renovation
- b. Updating pledge system
- c. Increasing parish members
- d. Annual Dance
- e. Picnic
- f. St. Vartan's Celebration Thursday, Feb. 21, 1974
- g. Martyrs Day----April 24, 1974

8. Public Relations

- A. Monthly calender of events published by Father Kevork
- B. Public Relations committee appointed Mr. Harry Mahakian, who did an excellent job in getting radio and television coverage for the ordination. A Proclamation by Mayor Libous of Binghamton, was given for the church's 50th anniversary.

9. Financial

- 1. Capital and checking account balances will be submitted by the Treasurer.
- 2. Scholarship -
Guidelines for applicatios were established. No student applied in 1973.
- 3. Pledge system-
This is being updated so that only one offering is collected during Badarak.
- 4. Youghakeen
Envelops were sent with the Newsletter.
- 5. Diocese Steward Program
10 parishioners were members in 1973
- 6. Annual Budget
The 1973 budget was greatly increased due to having a full time priest. The Treasurer will report on this and our requirements for the coming year.

10. Fixed Assets

1. The Church real estate is clear of obligations.
2. Property in Castle Creek has been sold.
3. Church owns one (1) share of IBM stock
4. Use of apartment for the priest donated by the Sarkisian Brothers.
5. Automobile

11. New Furnishings and equipment

1. Vestibule carpeted

12. Maintenance

Most of the repairs were done by the parishioners. Our appreciation to the Baradet boys, Kevin, and Timmy, Edward Seraydarian, Nishon Ketchoyian, Harry Kradjian, John Bogdasarian, Michael Medzigian.

The following repairs were done: Repaired the church door latches, ceilings, electrical circuits, and tables, and ~~many various to mention~~ various other necessary repairs.

Our thanks to Vahan Ketchoyian, for painting the entire hall, and class rooms. His time for this project was donated to the church.

Incidentally, Father Kevork helped in repairing the bell in the bellfrey.

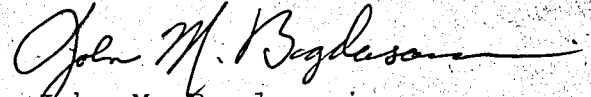
A new roof was put on the hall and kitchen area. Also, the broken sidewalks were replaced.

13. Custodian and Janitorial

This has become a problem in our church due to an increase in activities. A system of tidiness must be established among the various organizations using its facilities.

Our church needs your support, financially and
physically for its continued progress.

Respectfully submitted


John M. Bogdasarian

Secretary

JMB/atb