

## ANNUAL REPORT 1981 - ARMENIAN LANGUAGE & SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The Armenian Language and Sunday Schools are currently in their twelfth session with classes being conducted in the St. James Armenian Church of Westchester in Harrison.

Our Sunday School sessions are held weekly from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. This year the children's time is divided as follows: 10:30-11:00, Activity and Project period; 11:00-11:20, Assembly; 11:20-12:00 Class instruction.

The goal of the Sunday School is to give our children knowledge and love of Christ and His teachings as practiced by our church, and instruct how such knowledge, love and teachings relate to our children's daily lives and spiritual growth. Each week the children are offered a varied program of religious education with exposure to the talents of several dedicated teachers.

Our 35 children are taught by School Superintendent Yeretzgin Dawn Kasparian, Diane Davidian Assistant Superintendent, Beatrice Postian, Assembly Coordinator, Anna Bas, Lillian Boyajian, Chris and Linda Derdiarian, Leslie Kalaydjian, Valerie Pisani, Deacon Michael Chevian and Ara Ishkanian.

This year the Church School students participated in our Christmas Eve program by presenting poems and readings appropriate for the season. We thank the Women's Guild for the Christmas presents they presented the children.

Meeting on Friday afternoons from 4 to 6 the 32 Language School students attending regularly have been learning about Armenian language, music, dance, and heritage. Mrs. Aida Pisani is the energetic and capable principal with a highly dedicated staff comprised of Annette Bashian, Margrit Cetinkaya, Anahid Choukhachian, Alice Kalaydjian, Mark Kapikian, Araxie Tepikian, and Deanna Stepanian who has been providing dance instruction. The staff also includes the following aids: Eliz Bas, Siran and Victoria Tutak, Stella Choukhachian and Alice Shimshidian.

The students have participated in a wide range of activities during the past year, some of which follow: Garo Kapikian's karate demonstration on October 2; On the 16, Der Hayr's slides of his recent trip to Armenia; and a Halloween party and supper. November 20 Sylva Der Stepanian (Director of the Language Lab of the Diocese) visited our school and taught demonstration classes. On December 19 students and teachers visited Holy Martyrs Saturday School in Bayside for a special Christmas program and lunch. The children have been taped for a session of the Armenian Radio program to be heard on February 14.

The School Committee is headed by Ara Ishkanian with Mary Hakissian serving as Treasurer. Other members of this devoted committee are Gloria Aslanian, Helen Kapikian, Gail Keyishian, and Mary Sevulyan. The Committee wishes to thank the parish for their encouragement and support of school programs. Special appreciation is extended to Mrs. Melik Cachoian for her generous contribution in memory of her husband.

The following is a brief financial statement of the schools:

Cash on hand as of January 1, 1981	\$ 897.06
Total Income - (plate collections, tuition, bake sale, hantes, donations)	<u>2,810.85</u>
	\$3,707.91
Expenses - (Teachers' salaries (2), teachers' educational programs, donations, books, supplies, fund raising expenses and playground equipment)	<u>\$2,692.94</u>
Balance as of January 1, 1982	\$1,014.97

Respectfully submitted,  
Ara Ishkanian, Chairman