

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH OF WESTCHESTER

DIOCESAN DELEGATE'S REPORT - 1987

The Diocesan Assembly convened on May 7, 1987 and met through May 9, 1987 at St. Mark Armenian Church in Springfield, Massachusetts, with His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate, presiding.

The Hon. John K. Najarian was elected Assembly Chairman, Hon. Mason Avrigian Vice-Chairman, Rev. Fr. Arten Ashjian Armenian Language Secretary and Rose Reynolds, English Language Secretary.

An innovative group discussion took place on May 7 involving an exchange of views by Assembly delegates on several topics of social concern such as the mission of the Church and clergy, the position of the Church on drug abuse, AIDS, pornography, etc., and the obligation of the Diocese to provide social services for those who are in need.

Elections for Board of Trustees and Diocesan Council were held. George Dabagian was elected as Trustee for a term of 10 years. Judge Vincent Gurahian, Edward Chapien, Clement Ashekian, Rev. Fr. Arten Ashjian and Very Rev. Fr. Ghevont Samoorian were elected to the Council for four year terms.

A proposal reaffirming the 1982 Guidelines for unification of the Armenian Church, submitted by St. James Armenian Church, Westchester, was passed by the Assembly with an amendment which asked the Holy Sees of Etchmiadzin and Cilicia to consider Article II-2 of the Guidelines and to find a satisfactory solution to the problems raised therein.

A number of other items were discussed including the High Rise Project, ACYOA and St. Nersess Seminary. And, as usual, the host Parish rose to the occasion by providing the delegates and guests with excellent accommodations and amenities.

Respectfully submitted,



Vincent Gurahian
Lionel Galstaun
Delegates