

PASTOR'S REPORT

In January 1962, I held my first parish assembly here, and today I am participating in my last parish assembly. On this occasion, I can't help but reflect on some of the significant aspects of my ministry in this parish.

I used to come to NYC from Detroit every month for Diocesan Council meetings, of which I was chairman. Nazar Nazarian, who was a parish council member then, picked me up from the airport and brought me here to take a look. The framework for the hall was up---and there was nothing else on this property but woods! I accepted the challenge, and today our parish is one of the most vibrant in the Diocese. The Detroit parish could not believe I would leave them to come here. And in those early days, when we had only 129 members, summer pay days sometimes were payless.

29 years ago we had our newly-built hall (now known as Saddler Hall) and celebrated Badarak on the stage every Sunday. Every week after Badarak we had Sunday School, and occasionally followed by a dinner. On those Sundays we used a lot of incense to cover the odors of the food! There are several of those early altar servers/choir members who are still serving with me today: Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian, Sub-deacon Armen Basmajian, Edward Daghlian, Arthur Azarik, Tony Ajemian, and a couple of years later, Susan Shamamian joined. Tish Basmajian was standing at the door then, and 29 years later, he is still at the door greeting worshippers as they arrive. Nazar Nazarian was responsible for my coming to this parish, and I have always enjoyed his friendship. I consider one of my greatest accomplishments of those early days was to convince Ed Bashian to become Building Committee chairman.

I reflect that while now we have a staff, I used to depend solely on my Yeretzgin, who has always been willing to help me in my ministry. For years she prepared the BEACON, for years she took care of all my clerical work, for 12 years she served as superintendent of the Sunday School at a time when our enrollment was 320 students and we had no classrooms, she served as Women's Guild chairman when no one else would take the position, and has been totally supportive throughout my pastorate.

And now after 43 years in pastoral ministry, I am retiring. I wish God's blessings upon you all individually, and upon St. Thomas parish. May this parish continue to grow and work to do God's will in Bergen County, and be a witness to our Armenian Apostolic Orthodox faith in this area.

During my years here, I have seen numerous changes in the parish. New faces have come forward to enlarge our St. Thomas family; at the same time we must never forget those who are no longer with us. We were proud to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the consecration of our church in April.

A hearty "thank you" to all our church organizations, and all the untiring members of the Parish. Each organization has submitted its own report, and our Parish Council Chairperson, Joanne Torigian, has acknowledged their service in her report; therefore I shall concentrate mainly on the sacramental and pastoral activities of the past year.

WORSHIP SERVICES: Divine Liturgy was celebrated every Sunday but 4. There was no Badarak on April 22 (all area churches were closed on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Genocide), on May 6 (Diocesan Assembly weekend), July 29 (my vacation), and December 30 (my illness). We were pleased to have the Very Rev. Khajag Barsamian, Vicar-General, celebrate the Badarak and preside over our services on Palm Sunday, April 8, and were proud to welcome him back as Primate to celebrate the Divine Liturgy on July 8. Frs. Carnig Hallajian, Mardiros Chevian, and Garen Gdanian each celebrated the Badarak and delivered the sermon during the year. Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian

conducted Jashou services and preached the sermon in my absence, and also preached on several other occasions as well, always receiving favorable comments. Elise Antreassian, Director of Religious Education of the Diocese, and our own Gregory Doudoukjian each spoke in place of the sermon one Sunday. Badarak was also celebrated at the Emerson Home for the Aged on the occasion of Armenian Christmas (January 6) and Holy Thursday (April 12). We also conducted a service for the Blessing of Grapes on the Feast of the Assumption (August 12). St. Thomas continues to be the only parish which celebrates the Divine Liturgy at the Home. We celebrated American Christmas Eve, December 24, with a service led by our A.C.Y.O.A. Juniors.

I participated in several ecumenical services, one at St. Patrick's Cathedral for the Armenian victims in Azerbaijan, a HRASHAPAR service at St. Vartan Cathedral when our Primate returned from his episcopal consecration, and another at the Coptic Cathedral in Jersey City honoring our Primate. With our sister congregations in Tenafly we worshipped at the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service on January 21 at Mount Carmel Church, and participated at an Inter-faith Thanksgiving service on November 20 at Temple Sinai.

SACRAMENTAL SERVICES: During the year, 37 baptisms were performed, (44 last year); 28 weddings were blessed (16 the previous year); 22 funerals took place (18 in 1989). At this time let us remember our departed members: Ophelia Topalian, Vartouhi Halebian, Sara Mateosian, Lillian Gedachian, Helen Davidian, Hripsime Gulbenkian, Mary Melikian, Marshall Nigosian, Helen Boghosian, Victoria Magarian, Garabed Safarian, Eliza Alyanakyian, Goulaz Goulazian and Artin Kevorkian.

ADMINISTRATIVE: As ex-officio President of all church organizations, I attended many of their meetings. I directed, advised and in many cases, helped in the implementation of their decisions. I attended the Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly at the Church of Our Saviour in Worcester, MA, in May.

PUBLICATIONS: We have published and mailed the BERGEN BEACON every month to about 1000 addresses, and prepared flyers for our various affairs. Each month the BEACON is mailed to our college students residing on campus. A special thank you to Alyce Parseghian for providing many of the photographs, and also to Albert Papazian for the rest.

We continue to issue a special periodical just for our college students entitled NOW AND THEN. It is published several times a year to enable us to keep in touch with them, and the students with each other. The young people have been very complimentary about it.

This year peaceful cooperation and harmony in the parish council and in the parish have prevailed, due in large measure to Joanne Torigian, our chairperson. The longer I know Joanne, the more I love her. Her compassion and understanding for all sides, her good will, her charm, her sense of humor, her diplomacy, and her vitality enable her to follow through on every task. What impresses me most about her is that she is not on an ego trip, and very gracefully shares credits for her accomplishments.

It has been a real blessing to have the support of a staff. I am happy to state that not only does St. Thomas have a staff, but that they are devoted, competent and work together as a team. I am referring to my Pastoral Assistant, Louise Kalemkerian; Office Manager, Toni Barker, and our custodians, Yang and Azizah Harun. They are all project oriented rather than clock watchers. I have asked Louise to write her own report for two reasons: one to make mine shorter, and secondly, to make explicit some of the endeavors which have been her responsibility altogether. Here I especially

want to emphasize the very valuable assistance of Louise Kalemkerian to my pastorate during the past 3 ½ years. She proved that pastoral ministry is more than performance of church rituals and services, and she did real pastoral work by being a minister of visitation, a minister of education, a minister of youth.

Down the hill from us in Tenafly, we have churches half the size of ours, which draw members only from the local community. And they have ministers for education, for youth work, for visitations, besides the pastor. We are an important parish (5th in our Diocese), and if we are to meet people's needs, we must not be short-sighted. We must spend money to serve our people. If you wish your new pastor to be successful, you must consider these things. Let's not fool ourselves into thinking that this is a one man shop and the pastor will do everything.

I have enjoyed many warm and wonderful years here at St. Thomas with my family. I am sure that my successor will be received as warmly, and I wish him the same fruitful pastorate. I pray that this parish keeps prospering and continues trying to advance God's kingdom through worship and fellowship, and maintains its Armenian character.

Fr. Arnak Kasparian

PASTORAL ASSISTANT'S REPORT

I have never written a report describing my function and activities before this. They are by nature covered in the Pastor's Report, but this year I was asked to write my own report to touch on some areas not mentioned heretofore.

I have tried to assist Fr. Arnak in every aspect of his pastorate, while at the same time exercising my own ministry. He and I work together on his sermons every week, conduct Bible study every other week, and lead the Nareg prayer group each month. I have worked with him in the preparation of special services of prayer conducted on various occasions during the year.

I compose office correspondence, prioritize the office duties, write or cull the educational/inspirational sections of the BEACON and Sunday Bulletin, and am generally responsible for administering the office. I author the newsletter for our college students, NOW AND THEN, which we publish and send to them periodically. I have prepared the information sheets on the sacraments of baptism and marriage which are sent to families requesting those sacraments. I readied a pamphlet of explanation and translation of the services of Holy Week. I have also drafted a pamphlet of prayers and scripture readings to take on hospital visitations.

One area of my responsibilities has been the ACYOA Jrs. I have worked with the young people and their adults advisors, planning educational programs, activities and discussion, and conducting an overnight Lock-In for them in March. I also worked closely with the Executive Committee in preparation for their 1990 and 1991 Sports Weekends held in conjunction with St. Leon parish.

Another aspect of my responsibilities has been programming. I arranged evening Armenian conversation classes, a slide presentation and program on the Earthquake aftermath, Fr. Dajad's third annual day-long spiritual program, a congratulatory reception for high school and college graduates, and a holiday gathering and supper for our college students. I am working on forming an organization for singles 25-45.

The most satisfying aspect of my work has been the home and hospital visitations I do. Fr. Arnak and I have tried to do home visitations together in the evenings, generally to new families and signed them

up as dues-paying members. I have tried to reach out to hospitalized or grieving members or friends of the church whenever possible.

Three and a half years ago Fr. Arnak and the Parish Council gave me the opportunity to serve this parish in pastoral ministry, a previously untested endeavor. I still am the only woman serving in this capacity in any Armenian Church parish. This is my profession. I was prepared, trained and educated for pastoral ministry and I look forward to the day when I will be able to utilize my skills and abilities to serve the Armenian Church as other women have served their denominations. I thank Der Hayr and the Parish Council for their confidence in me and affording me the opportunities I've had at St. Thomas.

Louise Kalemkerian

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

When I attended my first Parish Council Meeting after the 1990 elections, and was re-elected to be Chairperson, I was truly apprehensive. Why? We were starting in a confused and deficit position! Those of you who were in attendance at the Assembly will recall that the budget was imperfect and was then hurriedly rearranged on the spot. In spite of that the Council was diligent in supporting its principal. We had great support from all the Church organizations this year, especially the Men's Club and the Women's Guild. Each exceeded their commitments voluntarily. Because of the hard work, support and faith of not only these organizations but many individuals in our parish, we have been able to turn the deficit around.

I truly believe that this Council's adoption of an attitude of being a "healer rather than a hater", resulted in this turnabout. I thank them with all my heart. "I luv-ya Troops"!

STATUS OF VARIOUS PROJECTS

Anniversary Dinner: This year it will be held on Sunday, March 24th (Palm Sunday). It will be co-chaired by Garabed and Mario Yazidjian. We will be honored by the presence of our Primate, Bishop Khajag Barsamian.

Budget Computerization: The computer program mentioned last year has been implemented. We now have better data management for payrolls, accounts payable and receivable and budget management. We have refined our Chart of Accounts which permits us to automatically break down expenditures allowing us to determine net income from our various affairs.

Building Committee: Building Committee notified the Council that as of December 2nd, 1990 they unanimously agreed to dissolve their committee which was organized in 1984. We are indebted to Al Victoria who negotiated the following: 1) The amount of \$10,000 will be withheld from the final settlement to Kiseli (the building contractor) for 90 days pending the completion of re-caulking sky light windows and tracking down leaks in the new roof and to replace one or two doors as necessary, 2) Fifty-five thousand dollars will be paid immediately to Kiseli upon completion of legal documents and the balance of funds, after all payments are completed, will be turned over to the Council (approximately \$20,000).

1991 Diocesan Assembly: Hosted this year by St. Thomas, and to be held at Loew's Glenpointe Hotel in Teaneck, May 7-12, it will be co-chaired by Frank and Susan Avakian-Stoneson. Much effort has been expended on this project. All is on schedule, thanks to Susan and Frank and their excellent committees.

Hall Rentals: While the original 1990 budget proposed was \$15,000, the Assembly arbitrarily raised the figure to \$26,000 in order to show a balanced budget. \$12,000 had already been booked for 1990, for which we thank Virginia Victoria. Sales in 1990 were over \$25,137 which are recorded in the new budget system as \$21,393 NET, from which expenses had been deducted because our new accounting system now reflects actual income rather than sales. Sales of \$12,000 have already been booked for 1991.

Because the Council recognized the need to produce greater income for the Church, and Hall rentals provided a positive alternative to fund raising, a promotional program was instituted including the preparation of a test brochure, a promotional photo album, some minor advertising and a fresh appraisal of our banquet facilities; all were accomplished with limited funds.

The very shabby condition of our chairs was determined to be a major factor for rejection by prospective renters. Here, your Chairperson approached our major benefactors who very graciously and equally shared the donation of \$15,000 for these 350 new chairs. Of course, these benefactors were the Haroutune Mekhjian, Nazar Nazarian and Rupen Saddler.

Additional funds were donated by Nazar Nazarian and Rupen Saddler in order to do other refurbishing of the Hall facilities. These must include professional marble treatment of the Atrium flooring, window treatment of Saddler Hall and other minor accoutrements, i.e. Bistro tables and chairs for the Atrium. All should be done in good time.

The increased usage of our Hall facilities, including our own affairs produced a major problem with garbage handling. This was solved by the Council's purchasing of stronger garbage containers; and through the generous donation and work efforts of our ever supportive Men's Club (led by Jerry Keosayian), a garbage shed was constructed adjacent to the kitchen.

The Council embarked on a program to increase our Church's good will through sharing. Occasionally an Armenian organization or a parishioner approached us for use of our facilities but could not afford our standard rental fees. We made special arrangements, as long as the use of our facilities was for youth encouragement, cultural, and especially for Sacramental purposes. The Council feels that this policy is in concert with the efforts of St. Thomas to increase good will. The policy has proven rewarding.

Library/Cultural Center: The primary committee was composed of Ani Capan, Suzanne Daghlian, Yer. Violet, Shaké Mekhjian and Arax Parseghian. The services of Gloria Boyajian, Interior/Industrial Designer, and Randy Preston, Electrician, were given gratis. Bookcase/Cabinets and lighting fixtures have been installed. We wish to thank the committee for their fine work. The Parish Council is expected to form a special library operating committee.

Parsonage Repairs: This year a new roof was installed on the Parsonage. The Parsonage is to be refurbished for the new Priest and I have been advised by Dr. Mekhjian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, that the trustees will fund the necessary expenditure.

Priest Search Committee: The committee, chaired by Dr. Haroutune Mekhjian consists of Paul Kahaumjian, Ara Martaian, George Mekenian, and Joanne Torigian. On July 26, the parish members met with the Priest Search Committee to offer their suggestions and recommendations with regards to a new pastor. Since that date, the following has transpired: 1) Contact was made with 11 clergy, 2) Four indicated interest, 3) As of this date, three have been interviewed and one was eliminated, 4) Two of the candidates, after serious consideration, decided to withdraw on the objections of their

Yeretzgins who did not want to make the move, 5) The fourth candidate, who comes highly recommended, is scheduled to be interviewed in mid February, 6) The search continues, 7) As previously agreed with the candidates, all names are withheld.

The following represents your 1990 Parish Council:

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	LIAISON
Rev. A. Kasparian	President	
Joanne Torigian	Chairperson	
Paul Kahaumjian	Vice-chairman	1991 Diocesan Assem./Avaks
Suzanne Daghlian	Secretary	
John Derderian	Treasurer	
Joseph Kalemkerian		Women's Guild
Ara Martaian		Choir/Memorial Funds
Thomas Merjanian		Sunday School
Richard Papazian	Membership/Pledges	Men's Club
Ara Pekmezian	Grounds/Supplies	
Gregory Tenbekjian		ACYOA Jrs./Srs.
Garabed Yazidjian	Building/Maintenance	Armenian School

The Parish Council met on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, with additional meetings when necessary. Meeting were well attended with an average monthly attendance of 95%. Sunday Church attendance of Parish Council members was good with always two members every Sunday. Parish Council meetings were presided over by the President, Fr. Arnak Kasparian and conducted by the Chairperson, Joanne Torigian. The council meetings were always open to interested individuals, delegates, trustees and parish organizations.

This year the Parish Council met once with the Board of Trustees—in June.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 3 Badarak at Emerson Home and Women's Guild Visitation
- 5 Christmas Eve Readings and Badarak followed by supper
- 7 Armenian School Christmas Dinner
- 20 Armenian Churches' Sports Association Dance
- 21 Luncheon and Program on Earthquake "Lest We Forget, Lest We Assume" by Carol Der Boghosian
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service
- 24 Bus trip for Vigil and Ecumenical Service at St. Patrick's Cathedral for victims of strife in Azerbaijan
- 26 Church Women United Annual Meeting
- 28 Parish Assembly - Session I

- February 4 Parish Assembly - Session II - and elections
- 5 Armenian Conversation class for beginners (13 consecutive weeks) led by Haroutioun Diratzouian
- 6 Armenian Conversation class for intermediates (13 consecutive weeks) led by Haroutioun Diratzouian
- 9 Women's Guild Valentine Luncheon at Gatsby's
- 16-19 ACYOA Jrs. Sports Weekend
- 25 Poon Paregentan Luncheon sponsored by Choir

- March 3 ACYOA Jrs. Ski Trip
7 Program on "Improving Family Communication" by Jane Bardes, Bergen County Parent Workshop Director, sponsored by Church School
16 Women's Guild Fish & Chips Dinner
16-17 ACYOA Jrs. Overnight LOCK-IN
24 Women's Guild Progressive Dinner
31 Fr. Dajad day-long program, "Forgiveness: The Key to Happiness"
- April 4 Community Genocide/Holocaust program on 75th Anniversary of Genocide with Dr. Richard Hovanesian followed by Hokehankisd
8 Anniversary Dinner celebrating 25th consecration anniversary
12 Badarak at Emerson Home and Women's Guild Visitation
14 Children's Easter Communion and Breakfast
Easter Eve Readings and Badarak followed by fellowship
22 Bus trip to St. Vartan Cathedral for 75th Anniversary of Genocide
27 Church School Chinese Auction
28 Bus trip to Statue of Liberty with Genocide survivors on 75th Anniversary
ACYOA Jrs. Regional Spring Dance
- May 1-6 Annual Diocesan Assembly, Worcester MA
3 Kirikian Armenian School Brunch, Knickerbocker Country Club
12 33rd Annual Cotillion at Woodcliff Lake Hilton
18 ACYOA Jrs. Progressive Dinner
28 ANNUAL Picnic
- June 2 Church School trip to Wynnwood, PA for regional Pentecost celebration
3 Erevan Choral Society concert, led by Fr. Oshagan Minassian
10 Church School closing exercises and graduation
Armenian School closing hantes and graduation
17 Reception for high school and college graduates
21 AVAKs Mothers' Day/Fathers' Day luncheon
27 Summer softball
- July 8 Welcome Reception for Fr. Khajag Barsamian, new Primate
11,18,25 Summer softball
25 Blood Drive sponsored by Women's Guild
- August 1,8,15,22,29 Summer Softball
12 Blessing of Grapes at Emerson Home and Choir visitation
- September 6 Armenian Dance Class (10 consecutive weeks)
8 Registration and Opening of Armenian School
9 Registration and Opening of Church School
ACYOA Jrs. car wash
13 Armenian History Class by Dr. George Bournoutian (14 consecutive weeks)
16 "Welcome Back" Barbeque sponsored by Church School
29 Art Auction sponsored by Women's Guild
- October 10 Women's Guild Membership Tea
20 St. Thomas/St. James Parish Councils' joint day-long seminar

- 21 CROP Walk for Hunger
- Nov. 10-11 ANNUAL Bazaar
 16 ACYOA Jrs. Spaghetti Dinner
 20 Tenafly Inter-faith Thanksgiving Service
- December 5 Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon at Le Chateau
 7 Armenian History lecture by Dr. George Bournoutian
 9 ACYOA Srs. Wine and Cheese Reception
 15 Men's Club Christmas Party at Pearl River Hilton
 ACYOA Jrs. Visit to Emerson Home followed by basketball game
 23 Reception honoring Deacons and Altar servers
 24 Christmas Eve services led by ACYOA Jrs.
 31 New Year's Eve family party sponsored by Parish Council

In addition, on-going activities of the parish include: Armenian and Church school activities and weekly classes, Men's Club, Women's Guild, Parish Council meetings, Building Committee and Trustees meetings, Choir rehearsals, AVAK meetings, Bible Study, Narek Prayer Group, the making of MAHS, ACYOA meetings, church basketball teams' practices and games, monthly meal for the homeless, Armenian History Class and Armenian Language Class.

It is commendable that St. Thomas has undertaken several outreach activities to extend themselves to others in need. On a monthly basis a parish organization prepares a meal for a men's shelter in Paterson; we raised funds for the victims of the Iranian earthquake and we have helped parishioners who have come to us for financial support as well as numerous individuals who have come in from the street; and we participated in the CROP Walk.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank the following for their efforts in service, leadership and fund-raising for the benefit of St. Thomas Church in 1990:

- ACYOA Jrs. - Maral Kazanjian, chairperson
- ACYOA Srs. - Vartan Nazarian & Margaret Vartanian, co-chairpersons
- Anniversary Dinner - Peter Ajemian
- Anniversary Cake Sale - Garbis Kirikian
- Armenian Churches Sports Association - Michael Kenajian, chairperson & Douglas Martaian and Linda Tchalikian, coaches
- Armenian School - Ani Capan, superintendent
- AVAK Society - Nish Ohanesian
- 1990 Bazaar Committee - Dick Keurajian, chairperson
- Board of Trustees - Dr. Harout Mekhjian, chairperson & Edward Bashian, co-chairperson
- Bookstore - Alin & Albert Papazian & Eva Yazidjian
- Building Committee - Nazar Nazarian, chairperson & Vahan Najarian, co-chairperson
- Building Technical Committee - Albert Victoria, coordinator, Moses Kazanjian, George Mekenian, Antranig Ouzoonian
- Car Raffle - Zaven Poosikian
- Choir - Edward Daghljian, director & Eugenie Amerkanian, chairperson
- Christian Education & Sunday School - Louise Kalemkerian, director
- Christmas card - Dikris Malool
- Church Custodians - Yang and Azizah
- 1990 Cotillion Committee - Grace Hagopian

- Deacons' Training - Joseph Kalemkerian
- 1991 Diocesan Assembly - Frank and Susan Avakian-Stoneson, co-chairpersons
- Holiday poinsettia and lily sales - Arax Parseghian
- MAHS - Sirvart Bedrosian, Violet Ouzoonian
- Men's Club - Krikor Khoroizian, chairperson & Dick Keurajian, vice-chairperson
- Office Manager - Toni Barker
- Organist - Susan Shamamian
- Outreach to St. Paul's Shelter for the homeless - Bertha Vaniskhian
- Photographers - Alyce Parseghian & Albert Papazian
- Publicity - Douglas Martaian
- Rug Sales - Edward Bashian, Michel Izmirly, Laureen Berberian
- Women's Guild - Adrienne Tenbekjian, Chairperson & Alyce Parseghian, vice-chairperson
- Diocesan Delegates - Victor Arzooonian, George Mekenian, ShaKac Shabinien, Joanne Torjigian (P.C. Chairman)

The Parish Council wishes to acknowledge all of our parishioners not listed above who have volunteered their services working on all the various committees and functions throughout the year. You are the core of the St. Thomas family. Our deepest appreciation and thanks to all of you.

Parish Council Members:

Paul Kahaumjian, Vice Chairman and liaison to 1991 Diocesan Assembly. Paul is an exceedingly level headed gentleman that one can always count on. He works hard and diligently for St. Thomas and smiles and maintains a gracious attitude no matter what the assignment. Thank you, Paul!

Suzanne Daghlian, Secretary par excellence. The best minutes ever have been taken by Suz, whom we consider to be among the special young American/Armenian professionals. She is vibrant, intelligent, in control, pretty to look at, etc., etc. Thank you, Suz! The "Troops luv ya".

John Derderian, Treasurer. John is a quiet man and always in control. He is dedicated to his Church and totally professional in his work. Thank you, John, for the many hours you devoted as treasurer and especially all your input in preparing the budget.

Joseph Kalemkerian, Liaison to the Women's Guild. In addition to his Parish Council responsibilities, Joe is our prize Deacon and trains those who wish to become Altar Servers. He is a most dependable gentleman and regularly serves on the Altar. He has also delivered some inspirational and heart-warming sermons whenever Der Arnak requested it of him.

Ara Martaian, Memorial Funds and liaison to the Choir. Ara is a gracious gentleman who has the courage to speak his mind, but always in a succinct manner. I have always appreciated and respected his honesty. Besides being liaison to the Choir he sees to it that reports are submitted on all Memorial Funds. Thank you, Ara!

Thomas Merjanian, Liaison to the Sunday School. Thomas, truly our zealot, is strong in his faith and often misunderstood because of it; still he is always smiling and willing to help whenever asked. He is meticulous and methodical in all he does. Thank you, Tom!

Richard Papazian, Pledges, Membership and liaison to the Men's Club. Rich adds the jovial dimension to our meetings. We can always count on him to lighten things up. He is always willing to help on any St. Thomas project. He's there whenever needed. Always generous. This year the Council will lose Rich and he will be dearly missed. Thank you, Rich!

Ara Pekmezian, Grounds and Supplies. Give Ara an assignment and there will be no detail overlooked. He is methodical, and most dependable. He is excellent. Thank you, Ara!

Gregory Tenbekjian, Liaison to ACYOA Jrs. and Srs. Greg, a young energetic fellow is genuinely concerned with the youth of this Parish. I could not have a better liaison for these young people. Greg truly cares. Thank you, Greg!

Garabed Yazidjian, Building Maintenance and liaison to the Armenian School. Garabed is a soft-spoken, very kindly gentleman who takes his liaison responsibility very seriously. His polite and gentle ways have been an asset in working with our custodians, Yang and Azizah, as well as the Armenian School. Thank you, Garabed!

Rev. Arnak Kasparian, Pastor and President of the Parish Council. Our Der Hayr will be retiring in June, 1991. This year culminates 29 years that he has served this Parish. During these years he and Yeretzgin Violet have seen and helped the growth of St. Thomas from a single hall, to this present complex with which we are blessed. We will miss their presence, but certainly, their influence and spirit will remain for many years to come. We hope to make their next few months, their happiest.

Louise Kalemkerian, Pastoral Assistant. For the past three and a half years, Louise has served as Der Arnak's Pastoral Assistant. Now that Der Hayr is retiring in June, Louise will have completed her tenure and this position will be eliminated. Those who know Louise appreciate the effort she expended in fulfilling her responsibilities. During her tenure, she has helped Der Arnak tremendously and made the twilight of his pastorship less demanding. Godspeed Louise, we thank you!

Toni Barker, Office Manager. The scope of responsibility in the office was expanded this year to include the data entry for all accounting for our new computerized accounting program. Toni was able to accommodate the new technology exceedingly well. The council expanded her work hours for this purpose. She has also absorbed the responsibilities associated with the hall rentals. She has been an asset to the functioning of the Church office and is warmly accepted by the parishioners.

Yang and Azizah, Custodian/Housekeeper. We were fortunate in attaining the services of this team, after George Paseler's resignation with a single day's notice. Having known this couple for the past 15 years, I felt comfortable in giving them a trial period after which the Council engaged them full time to care for our facilities. They are a hard working and accomodating couple who try most diligently to keep the complex in good order. In this case, we were able to get a team to care for the internal and external appearance of our complex.

I conclude by voicing my sincere appreciation to the entire Parish Council for their cooperation and devotion in serving the total Parish Membership. Thank you!

May each member of the St. Thomas Church family continue to grow in Christ; love your fellow parishioners; pray and work for peace, in our Parish, Country and the World.

For the Parish Council:

Rev. Arnak Kasparian
President

Joanne Torigian
Chairman

Suzanne Daghlian
Secretary

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Joseph Kalemkerian, Liaison to the Women's Guild. In addition to his Parish Council responsibilities, Joe is our prize Deacon and trains those who wish to become Altar Servers. He is a most dependable gentleman and regularly serves on the Altar. He has also delivered some inspirational and heart-warming sermons whenever Der Arnak requested it of him.

Ara Martaian, Memorial Funds and liaison to the Choir. Ara is a gracious gentleman who has the courage to speak his mind, but always in a succinct manner. I have always appreciated and respected his honesty. Besides being liaison to the Choir he sees to it that reports are submitted on all Memorial Funds. Thank you, Ara!

Thomas Merjanian, Liaison to the Sunday School. Thomas, truly our zealot, is strong in his faith and often misunderstood because of it; still he is always smiling and willing to help whenever asked. He is meticulous and methodical in all he does. Thank you, Tom!

Richard Papazian, Pledges, Membership and liaison to the Men's Club. Rich adds the jovial dimension to our meetings. We can always count on him to lighten things up. He is always willing to help on any St. Thomas project. He's there whenever needed. Always generous. This year the Council will lose Rich and he will be dearly missed. Thank you, Rich!

Ara Pekmezian, Grounds and Supplies. Give Ara an assignment and there will be no detail overlooked. He is methodical, and most dependable. He is excellent. Thank you, Ara!

Gregory Tenbekjian, Liaison to ACYOA Jrs. and Srs. Greg, a young energetic fellow is genuinely concerned with the youth of this Parish. I could not have a better liaison for these young people. Greg truly cares. Thank you, Greg!

Garabed Yazidjian, Building Maintenance and liaison to the Armenian School. Garabed is a soft-spoken, very kindly gentleman who takes his liaison responsibility very seriously. His polite and gentle ways have been an asset in working with our custodians, Yang and Azizah, as well as the Armenian School. Thank you, Garabed!

Rev. Arnak Kasparian, Pastor and President of the Parish Council. Our Der Hayr will be retiring in June, 1991. This year culminates 29 years that he has served this Parish. During these years he and Yeretzgin Violet have seen and helped the growth of St. Thomas from a single hall, to this present complex with which we are blessed. We will miss their presence, but certainly, their influence and spirit will remain for many years to come. We hope to make their next few months, their happiest.

Louise Kalemkerian, Pastoral Assistant. For the past three and a half years, Louise has served as Der Arnak's Pastoral Assistant. Now that Der Hayr is retiring in June, Louise will have completed her tenure and this position will be eliminated. Those who know Louise appreciate the effort she expended in fulfilling her responsibilities. During her tenure, she has helped Der Arnak tremendously and made the twilight of his pastorship less demanding. Godspeed Louise, we thank you!

Toni Barker, Office Manager. The scope of responsibility in the office was expanded this year to include the data entry for all accounting for our new computerized accounting program. Toni was able to accommodate the new technology exceedingly well. The council expanded her work hours for this purpose. She has also absorbed the responsibilities associated with the hall rentals. She has been an asset to the functioning of the Church office and is warmly accepted by the parishioners.

Yang and Azizah, Custodian/Housekeeper. We were fortunate in attaining the services of this team, after George Paseler's resignation with a single day's notice. Having known this couple for the past 15 years, I felt comfortable in giving them a trial period after which the Council engaged them full time to care for our facilities. They are a hard working and accomodating couple who try most diligently to keep the complex in good order. In this case, we were able to get a team to care for the internal and external appearance of our complex.

I conclude by voicing my sincere appreciation to the entire Parish Council for their cooperation and devotion in serving the total Parish Membership. Thank you!

May each member of the St. Thomas Church family continue to grow in Christ; love your fellow parishioners; pray and work for peace, in our Parish, Country and the World.

For the Parish Council:

Rev. Arnak Kasparian
President

Joanne Torigian
Chairman

Suzanne Daghlian
Secretary

St. Thomas Armenian Church, Tenafly, New Jersey
Proposed Budget for 1991
Income for the Years 1990 & 1989

	Proposed <u>1991</u>	Actual <u>1990</u>	Budget <u>1990</u>	Actual <u>1989</u>	Budget <u>1989</u>
<u>Pledges and Offerings</u>					
Dues	55,000	54,069			
Pledge Receipts		60	56,078	56,078	60,000
Plate & Candles	11,000	10,697	9,789	9,789	11,000
Christmas Offering	3,300	3,100	3,230	3,230	3,100
Easter Offering	3,500	3,435	2,450	2,450	3,400
Prayers	200	150	300	300	500
<u>Sacraments</u>					
Baptism	4,600	4,595	3,970	3,970	3,200
Weddings	5,800	5,810	5,400	5,400	6,600
Funerals	2,000	1,550	2,075	2,075	1,700
Requiems	3,600	3,515	2,515	2,515	4,900
<u>Auxiliary Organizations</u>					
Women's Guild	12,000	18,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Avak Society	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,500
Men's Club	17,000	17,000	15,500	15,500	16,500
<u>Church Affairs</u>					
Bazaar	38,000	40,105	35,343	35,343	33,000
Memorial Day Picnic	6,000	5,782	6,856	6,856	5,000
Anniversary Dinner	1,000	162	5,531	5,531	8,200
Cake Sale	5,000	5,000			
Other Affairs	2,000	567	4,244	4,244	9,700
Diocesan Assembly	6,000				
<u>Donations</u>					
Lieu of Flowers	10,000	15,490	7,700	5,768	12,000
Altar Flowers	1,500	1,285	1,565	1,565	2,200
Memorial Donors	3,000	3,000	5,500	5,500	3,700
Holiday Flowers	1,000	690	1,255	1,255	900
Christmas Greetings	1,500	1,275	1,481	1,481	1,300
Other Donations	8,000	7,890	7,390	7,390	1,800
<u>Other Income</u>					
ACEF Interest	3,000	2,992	2,019	2,019	2,000
Bookstore	2,000	2,297	1,435	1,435	400
One World Festival					1,700
Hall Income	23,000	21,393	26,347	12,450	20,000
Investment Interest	2,000	366	1,956	1,956	2,000
Library Fund			1,560	1,560	
Miscellaneous	1,000	950	2,815	2,815	
Int. on Trustees Reserves	8,500	13,542	15,262		
Armenian History Lectures	2,300	2,300			4,500
Transfer Fund From Trustees				40,000	
Total Income	244,800	249,067	243,566	252,475	232,800
1991 Reserves	15,000	14,112			
Grand Total	259,800	263,179	243,566	252,475	232,800

St. Thomas Armenian Church, Tenafly, New Jersey
Proposed Budget for 1991
Disbursements for the Years 1990 & 1989

	Proposed <u>1991</u>	Actual <u>1990</u>	Budget <u>1990</u>	Actual <u>1989</u>	Budget <u>1989</u>
<u>Salaries, Fees & Benefits</u>					
Clergy Salary	32,125	32,125	32,125	28,290	28,290
Parsonage Expenses			2,600	2,447	3,000
Hackensack Water/Parsonage	170	138			
NJ Bell/ "	350	322			
Gas & Electric/ "	2,000	1,840			
Clergy Auto Expenses	3,600	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300
Clergy Insurance	3,500	2,940	3,000	2,302	3,500
Health Insurance/custodian		2,212			
Custodial Salary	21,000	20,990	22,500	20,663	21,000
Office Staff	12,240	12,240	8,900	78,500	7,500
Pastoral Assistant	10,750	21,500	21,500	21,500	16,500
Dir. of Chr. Ed.	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Choirmaster	1,320	1,320	1,320	1,320	1,200
Organist	1,212	1,212	1,230	1,212	1,200
FICA Expenses	7,500	9,987	8,000	7,164	5,000
IRA	2,000	2,000			
Employee Benefits			5,000	4,530	2,000
Visiting Clergy	2,000	350	1,000		800
Priest Search Com.	1,979	453			
<u>Operating Expenses</u>					
NJ Bell/Church	2,200	2,112	1,859	1,859	2,100
Office Supplies	800	776			
Paperware & Suppoies			2,438	2438	
Candles & Flowers	2,000	2,035	1,863	1,863	500
Bookstore		1,705	569	569	300
Supp/Post/Printing			14,954	14,954	14,000
Print Beacon	6,500	6,479			
Print Other	500	405			
Print Office Stationary	2,400	2,386			
Postage/Office	300	242			
Postage/Beacon	900	759			
Postage/General Mailings	900	756			
Postage/Special Mailings	650	536			
Activities	4,500	4,540	1,373	1,373	4,200
S/C Copy Machine	1,000	1,280			
<u>Assessments</u>					
Diocesan Dues	26,140	26,140	26,100	26,100	24,000
<u>Educational</u>					
Sunday School	500	456	990	990	1,000
Armenian School					1,000
St. Nersess Seminary			1,000		1,000
World Wide Charity	1,000	110	1,000	1,000	1,000
Good Samaritan	1,000	1,142			
<u>Church Building Expenses</u>					
Mortgage Payment	24,144	24,144	23,180	23,180	25,500
Gas & Electric/Church	24,500	22,186	20,164	20,164	21,000
Hackensack Water/Church	650	567	417	417	500
Building Insurance	13,000	11,763	9,389	9,389	11,000
Repairs & Maintenance			10,992	10,992	10,000
Repairs/Church & Offices	500	504			
Repairs/Electr., Plumber	500	93			
Maintenance/Bldg	1,000	995			
Snow Removal	1,100	1,100	360	360	2,300
Garden Supplies/Equipment	1,000	3,412			
Building Supplies	850	850			
Kitchen Supplies	3,000	3,077			
S/C Air Cond./Heating	2,500	2,189			
S/C Pest Control	520	520			
Memorial	2,500		4,087	4,087	400
Diocesan Assembly	5,000	2,592			
Contingency	5,000		5,000		
Miscellaneous	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,241</u>	<u>5,856</u>	<u>5,856</u>	<u>6,000</u>
Total Expenses	244,800		243,566	229,669	232,800
Payment to reduce mortgage				40,000	
1991 Reserves	<u>15,000</u>				
Grand Total	<u>259,800</u>	<u>244,521</u>	<u>243,566</u>	<u>269,669</u>	<u>232,800</u>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1990

Bank Balances, January 1, 1990

Checking Account	\$49,163.00	
Investment, Money Market	6,315.00	
Cert. of Dep. earmarked for Library	22,369.00	
Total		\$77,847.00

1990 Receipts	263,179.00	
1990 Disbursements	244,521.00	
Cash Surplus for 1990	18,658.00	
Library Fund Transferred to Parish Treasury	<25,798.00>	
Total		<7,131.00>
Total, December 31, 1990		70,716.00

Bank Balances, December 31, 1990

Checking Account	64,046.00	
Investment, Money Market	6,670.00	
Total, December 31, 1990		70,716.00

Note # 1 - Bazaar checking account balance as of 12/31/90, \$257.00 not included in the above summary.

Note # 2 - A.C.E.F. Fund balance as of 12/31/90 is \$111,651.00. See attached schedule to the annual report.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Balance January 1, 1990	\$104,990.67	
Interest Income to 9/20/90	6,613.12	
Total Fund Available	111,603.79	
Transfer to St. Thomas Treasury	11,603.79	
Balance Invested to 12/20/90	100,000.00	
Interest to 12/20/90	1,937.87	
Fund Available	101,937.87	
Transfer to St. Thomas Treasury	1,937.87	
Balance Invested to 1/23/91	100,000.00	

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT - 1990

Chairman: Nazar Nazarian Co-chairman: Vahan Najarian
Members: Vahan Najarian, Edward Bashian, Michel Izmirly, Dr. Harout Mekhjian, Rupen Saddler, Albert Victoria, Peter Ajemian, Antranig Ouzoonian, Moses Kazanjian, George Mekenian, Richard Turnamian, Ronald Kenderian, Mary Ann Saraydarian

There were two meetings held during the past year during which fonal plans were established to bring the church expansion project to a proper conclusion.

On April 4 the committee met with Joanne Torigian, Parish Council Chairlady. The thrust of the meeting was to see who would negotiate with Kiseli, the builder, to settle on a final figure in order to close the project. The question was whether the Building Committee or the Parish Council should have the responsibility. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the Technical Committee (Moses, George, Andy and Al) or whichever members were willing to participate, would meet with Kiseli to present a clear package of the necessary steps to conclude the project.

On December 2, Albert reported that he had met with Kiseli's son and that from claims equaling \$137,478.09, Al had successfully negotiated a settlement of \$65,000, subject to mutual verification of figures involved. The agreed upon amount less \$10,000 will be paid to Kiseli upon the proper completion of legal papers. The remaining \$10,000 will be paid within 90 days on the condition that Kiseli recaulk the skylight windows and track down leaks on the new roof as well as repair two doors.

Michel reported that there is currently a CD for \$80,000 due on December 20 as well as \$6,000 in the bank. The committee then unanimously agreed to conclude negotiations and approve payment of a settlement not to exceed \$72,000. (The final amount agreed upon was \$65,000.)

Chairman Nazarian requested that three letters be sent to the Parish Council. 1) Notifying them of the Building Committee's decision to settle with \$10,000 withheld from the final payment for 90 days pending recaulking and leak repair. 2) Notifying them that they or a designated representative had the responsibility of notifying Kiseli within 90 days whenever leaks occur. 3) Notifying them that as of December 2, the Building committee had unanimously agreed to dissolve. All records and monies will be turned over to the Parish Council - with a letter of confirmation of their receipt given to the Building Committee.

MEMORIAL DONORS, DECEMBER 31, 1990

<u>Donors name</u>	<u>Earmarked for</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Araxie Pichigian	Front Main Door	\$500.00
Michael Fuhrmann	Memorial	2,000.00
Shakae Kapakjian	Memorial	500.00
Total		<u>3,000.00</u>

**BUILDING COMMITTEE CASH REPORT
NOVEMBER 1982 TO DECEMBER 31, 1990**

Checks Received

Pledges	1,015,405.66	
Mortgage from First Fidelity Bank	150,000.00	
Loan from Trustees	135,000.00	
Interest from Investment	44,990.89	
Parish Treasury Payment for Interest	30,000.00	
Parish Treasury Payment for Mortgage Affairs	40,000.00	
	17,355.22	
Jokes	49.41	
Profit sharing	100.00	
Cake Sales	6,842.00	
Exchanges	1,912.01	
	1,441,655.19	\$1,441,655.19
Total Deposits		

Disbursements

Expansion contract	946,727.16	
Kitchen Equipment	37,428.15	
Water Retention	16,196.20	
Tiles for Atrium and Carpeting	49,219.92	
Telephone System and Paging	9,138.52	
Interest Expense	70,584.96	
Prof. Luders, Avakian, Zeigler, Hurban, Lyon	79,771.40	
Permits	2,508.98	
Security System	2,760.00	
Wood Stain, Painting & Acoustics, Lighting	19,227.02	
Awning, Landscaping & Paving	44,673.77	
Stationery, Printing & Postage	779.07	
Affairs	16,486.91	
Heating System	33,017.21	
Railing and Store Room	11,682.00	
Ladies Room	7,789.13	
Repairs	1,380.40	
Exchanges	4,273.01	
	1,353,643.81	1,353,643.81
Total Disbursement		
Cash Balance after Disbursement		88,011.38
Investment		85,000.00
Bank Balance		3,011.38

A.C.E.F. FUND, DECEMBER 31, 1990

Vahan Barsamian Memorial Fund	\$5,700.00	
Edward S. Bashian Family Fund	2,000.00	
Zakar & Vartoohe Goshgarian Memorial	1,075.00	
Kassabian/Kavazanjan, Anoush Memorial	1,035.00	
Rev. Arnak & Violet Kasparian Fund	5,000.00	
Dr. Haroutune & Shaké Mekhjian Fund	5,000.00	
Arthur & Dorothy Otchy Fund	1,200.00	
George Shahinian Memorial Fund	20,586.00	
Martin (Sonny) Tashjian Memorial Fund	6,585.00	
St. Thomas Armenian church A.C.E.F.	2,875.00	
Ardashes & Siranough Tekirian Memorial Fund	2,595.00	
Caspar Kasparian Memorial Fund	58,000.00	
	<hr/>	
Total		\$111,651.00

The above mentioned names and amounts received from Victor Arzoomanian, Executive Director of A.C.E.F. Fund.

CASPAR M. KASPARIAN MEMORIAL FUND

The St. Thomas Armenian Church, Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund was established in 1979 by the St. Thomas Parish Council from in-lieu of flower donations in memory of its devoted Vice-Chairman who served the Armenian Church for many years. Other donations are occasionally made to the fund and gratefully received. The Charter, approved by the Annual Parish Assembly in 1980, stated that the purpose of this fund is "To provide full or partial scholarships to primarily further the religious education of the youth of St. Thomas and in exceptional cases full-time seminary students of the Diocese of the Armenian Church or the youth of the Holy Cross Parish (N.Y.C.) and St. Mary Parish of Washington, D.C." The money from the Kasparian Fund has been invested in the Armenian Church Endowment Fund, and it is the interest from that sum which is used annually to assist the young people of our parish.

During the summer of 1990, three St. Thomas youngsters were awarded scholarship assistance by the Board of Directors to attend the St. Nersess Summer Study Program. During the past eleven years the Fund has awarded 153 scholarships to young people from the St. Thomas Parish.

Through activities such as the Summer Study Program and Retreats, the Fund seeks to expand the religious education experience of St. Thomas youngsters and encourage them to grow in the Armenian Christian faith. The members of the Board of Directors are: Fr. Arnak Kasparian, President Ex-Officio; Lillian Chapien, Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian, and George Mekenian.

**CASPAR M. KASPARIAN MEMORIAL FUND
1990 FINANCIAL REPORT**

A. <u>Activities - 1990</u>	Income	Expenses	
Interest	1,155.00		
Seminarian Scholarship		500.00	
St. Nersess Scholarships (3)		425.00	
Christmas Eve Service Book (printing)		1,415.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses		105.55	
	1,155.00	2,445.55	(-) 1,290.55
B. <u>Assets</u>			
1. December 31, 1989			
a) Armenian Church Endowment Fund	58,000.00		
b) Checking Account (First Fidelity Bank)	2,928.39		
		60,928.39	
2. December 31, 1990			
a) Armenian Church Endowment Fund	58,000.00		
b) Checking Account (First Fidelity Bank)	1,637.84		
		59,637.84	
3. Change in Assets - 1990			
Principal Funds	0		
Operating Funds	(-)1,290.55		
		(-)1,290.55	

MEN'S CLUB

Chairman: Krikor Khoroizian
 Vice Chairman: Richard Keurajian
 Recording Secretary: Paul Pinajain

Treasurer: Jack Ekizian
 Corresponding Secretary: Arman Ajamian
 Publicity: Matthew Keshishian

Activities, Programs, Special Events and Accomplishments:

Our Men's Club always provides the Church with a chairperson or two for the St. Thomas Annual Picnic Memorial Day, and the annual Car Raffle Booklet. They sell the raffles for the church annual Bazaar each year. Donations are made for the Cotillion Booklet and Men's Club Bowler League, Sponsorship of all Church youth programs and sports activities, guest speakers, trips to sporting events and annual fruit (oranges and grapefruit) sale in December. The men provide a brunch and breakfast at certain times, make lunch for the homeless, have an annual Christmas party, Marlboro, Super Bowl party, and monthly meeting dinners. The Men donate their time to clean and repair when needed. Thank you to all our men.

MEN'S CLUB TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand, 1/1/90			\$5,846.56
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Membership Dues	\$440.00		
Postage		\$83.00	
Dinner meetings	1,310.00	1,244.55	
Men's Club raffle	1,922.00	120.00	
Fruit sales	5,519.00	3,840.00	
Christmas party	2,040.00	1,875.85	
Women's Guild Cotillion Ad		125.00	
Armenian Churches Sports Association		1,140.00	
Armenian Churches Sports Ad		100.00	
Get well gifts & lieu of flowers		52.00	
Shish kabob motor		91.77	
New shish kabob machine	800.00	2,600.00	
Turned over to Pariah Council		4,500.00	
Donations		475.00	
	12,506.00	15,772.17	
Balance on hand, 12/31/90			2,580.19

Car raffle

Sale of tickets	\$37,500.00		
Purchase of car		\$22,770.00	
Turned over to Parish Council		14,000.00	
License for raffle		265.00	
Printing of tickets		130.00	
Balance in the bank		335.00	
	37,500.00	37,500.00	

WOMEN'S GUILD

Executive Board (elected)

Chairman: Adrienne Tenbekjian	Corres. Secretary: Beverly Hajinlian
Vice Chairman/Programs: Alyce Parseghian	Ways and Means: Shaké Mekhjian
Treasurer: Margaret Varbedian	Mailings: Betty Zoraian
Recording Secretary: Alin Papazian	Advisors: Celia Martaian & Roxy Daghlian

Standing Committee (appointed)

Membership: Sona Doudoukjian	Sunday Coffee: Margaret Minassian & Adele Jibilian
Devotionals: Marion Babigian	Social Services: Queenie Tashjian
Hospitality: Helen Aprahamian	CWU: Bertha Vaniskhian
Publicity: Grace Hagopian	Emerson Home: Violet Ouzoonian
Historian: Pauline Pekmezian	Bazaar Liaison: Yeretzin Violet

Sunshine/Visitation: Dikris Malool
Mahs: Syl Bedrosian
Parliamentarian: Yeretzgin Violet
Fruits and Nuts: Yeretzgin Violet

St. Paul's Shelter: Bertha Vaniskhian
Telephone Chain: Marion Kahaumjian
Cotillion: Grace Hagopian

Nominating Committee: Alicia Demirjian, Jeanette Ekizian, Grace Hagopian and Bertha Vaniskhian

Women's Guild Delegates: Adrienne Tenbekjian (chairman), Yeretzgin Violet, Rose Mekenian and Susan Avakian-Stoneson

Parish council Liaison: Joseph Kalemkerian

Activities for the year included:

- January 4 Executive Board Meeting
6 Christmas services and fellowship at Emerson Home - Violet Ouzoonian chaired
19 General meeting and program by Genevieve Karakashian of Dominique, Ltd. - scarf demonstration and sale
26 CWU - St. Thomas host parish - Bertha Vaniskhian installed as chairman.
28 Cotillion Tea at the home of Ellen Kenderian
31 Celebration of the January birthdays at the Emerson Old Age Home - Violet Ouzoonian chaired
- February 9 St. Valentine's "Lovely Luncheon" at Gatsby's Restaurant co-chaired by Celia Martaian, Alyce Parseghian and Mary Varteressian
25 Prepared dinner for St. Paul's Homeless Shelter
- March 2 CWU - World Day of Prayer - Trinity Lutheran Church
4 Pictures taken of the Executive Board for the Anniversary Dinner Booklet
9 General meeting and program - Vartan Ajamian - A recent graduate from St. Nersess Seminary
16 Fish & Chips Dinner - chaired by Dikris Malool and Sona Doudoukjian
21 Women Saints Day at Cathedral - coordinated by Violet Ouzoonian
24 Progressive Dinner - chaired by Bertha Vaniskhian
- April 12 Holy Thursday Badarak at Emerson Old Age Home - refreshment donated by members of the Women's Guild - Violet Ouzoonian chaired
20 General meeting and program by our own Syl Bedrosian - "Magic Carpet Show" (Nominees presented for the executive board election)
25 Celebration of the April birthday's at the Emerson Old Age Home - chaired by Violet Ouzoonian
- May 4 CWU - May Fellowship and Luncheon - Tenaflly Presbyterian Church
4-5 1990 Women's Guild 4th Annual Assembly - Armenian Church of Our Savior, Worcester, MA. Our Guild received an honorable mention as a runner up for Guild of the Year
12 St. Thomas Cotillion at the Woodcliff Lake Hilton - Grace Hagopian - chairman
15 Dinner meeting with the Men's Club - elections and harmonica presentation
24 Preparation of bourma, paklava and kadaif for picnic
28 Memorial Day Picnic
- June 4 Executive Board Meeting
15 General meeting and barbecue with the Men's Club. Installation of new officers

Executive Board (elected)

Chairman: Adrienne Tenbekjian
Vice Chairman/Programs: Alyce Parseghian
Treasurer: Margaret Varbedian
Recording Secretary: Hemy Ajemian

Corres. Secretary: Beverly Hajinlian
Ways and Means: Grace Hagopian
Mailings: Marion Kahaumjian
Advisors: Celia Martaian & Mary Varteresian

Standing Committee (appointed)

Membership: Sona Doudoukjian
Devotionals: Marion Babigian
Hospitality: monthly volunteer
Publicity: Dikris Malool
Historian: Pauline Pekmezian
Sunshine/Visitation: Dikris Malool
Mahs: Violet Ouzoonian
Parliamentarian: Yeretgin Violet
Fruits and Nuts: Yeretgin Violet
Art Auction: Celia Martaian
Photographer: Alyce Parseghian

Sunday Coffee: Margaret Minassian
Social Services: Queenie Tashjian
Church Women United: Grace Haledjian
Emerson Home: Violet Ouzoonian
Bazaar Liaison: Yeretgin Violet
St. Paul's Shelter: Bertha Vaniskhian
Telephone Chain: Joan Bogosian
Cotillion: Beverly Hajinlian
Fish & Chips: Mary Lou Pinajian & Gladys Fenarjian
Dance Group: Arax Parseghian & Madelyn Karanfilian

Nominating Committee: Eugenia Amerkanian, Arax Parseghian and Virginia Victoria

Parish Council Liaison: Joseph Kalemkerian

Activities for the year included:

- July 25 Blood Drive at St. Thomas - Queenie Tashjian - chairman
- August 21 Executive Board Meeting
- Sept. 6 Armenian Dance Group classes begin and continue for the next nine weeks - Arax Parseghian and Madelyn Karanfilian co-chaired this very popular activity
- 21 Dinner at Harbour House in Fort Lee with General meeting following - Mary Varteresian and Alyce Parseghian arranged the dinner
- 23 Hokehankisd for Vickie Ganam and departed Guild members. Fellowship hosted by the Women's Guild in their memory
- 29 Art Auction - Celia Martaian, chairman
- October 10 Membership Tea in the Mekhjian Atrium - Sona Doudoukjian chaired. Installation of new members - Veronica Asadourian, Margaret Hartounian and Madelyn Karanfilian. Program: Readings and Recollection by Justine. Singing: Armenian Oldies But Goodies
- 15 Executive Board Meeting
- 20 Liz Claiborne Fashion Show at Bloomingdales - *Adrienne Tenbekjian - chairman*
- 25 Avak Luncheon - Queenie Tashjian and Thelma Sarajian co-chaired
- 27 Armenian School Halloween celebration - *cupcakes* - cider and donuts donated - Adrienne Tenbekjian and Margaret Minassian *Marion Babigian chaired*
- 29 Sunday School Halloween Celebration - cider and donuts - Adrienne Tenbekjian and Margaret Minassian
- Nov. 5-9 Pre-bazaar cooking
- 10-11 St. Thomas Church Bazaar - Dick Keurajian, chairman
Fruit and Nuts go on sale - Yeretgin Violet

- 16 General meeting and program. Guest speaker - Dr. Larry Najarian (one of our own)
- Dec. 5 Christmas Luncheon at Le Chateau - Mary Varteressian, chairman
- 11 Executive Board Meeting

In Addition:

- I would like everyone to know that it has been ten (10) years since Violet Ouzoonian began the visitations to the Emerson Old Age Home. She's done a wonderful job.
- The placque for the Youth Room stating it was donated by the Women's guild on its thirtieth anniversary has been put up.
- Mahs is now being made on a regular basis. No more last minute desperate telephone calls. Thank you, Violet Ouzoonian.
- During the summer when the children from Armenia were being baptized, Marion Kahaumjian activated the telephone chain to inform our church members of the event. Thank you.
- Hemy Ajemian found it necessary to resign from the board and we now have an opening in the position of recording secretary. If any one is interested please let us know.
- We have purchased and sent to Armenian hats, gloves, scarves and socks as Christmas gifts for the children.
- We are also sponsoring a little boy from Armenia who will be having open heart surgery in January. We needed \$2,000.00 towards his air fare and we received enough that we may even be able to bring over another child. We are a great group!
- We continued to sponsor a child at the St. Tarkmanchantz Secondary School.
- We purchased a microwave for the church kitchen.

A Special Thank You!!!

I have been chairlady for about one and one-half years. I feel that our Guild has pulled together. Our meetings are well attended. Our functions are getting tremendous support. Our dance group was forced to turn people away. Our fund raisers are making money and we are having fun at the same time. The luncheon we prepared for the Avaks had so much help that the service they received was as good as any four star restaurant (if not better).

At this time I would like to thank the Parish Council, especially Joanne Torigian, for all of their support and encouragement. Joanne has really been a friend to both myself and our Guild. How lucky we are to have such a dedicated Parish Council Chairwoman.

In my last report I stated that we are all working towards making our Guild the **BEST** in the Diocese. We are almost at our goal. We received an honorable mention, *at the 1990 Women's Guild Fourth Annual Assembly.* Maybe this is our year!

If you haven't attended a meeting in a while, plan on joining us at our February meeting. I'm sure you will be happy that you did.

Again, thank you to all of you who have helped to make my life a little easier by not saying no when asked to help out. To those of you that I haven't asked - why not volunteer!

Adrienne Tenbekjian

WOMEN'S GUILD TREASURERS REPORT

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	
Balance on hand, January 1, 1990			\$3,789.02
Cotillion	\$39,607.00	\$28,987.35	
Art Auction	7,773.00	5,455.77	
Fruit & nuts	6,492.15	4,114.04	
Derenik Galstian Fund	3,108.00*	2,000.00	
Christmas Luncheon	2,737.50	2,949.18	
Armenian Dance Group	2,175.00	930.00	
Dues	1,420.00		
Fish and Chips Dinner	1,273.50	835.50	
Valentine Luncheon	1,188.00	1,184.42	
Scarf sales	790.00	553.00	
Progressive dinner	700.00		
Harbor House dinner meeting	666.00	681.00	
Interest income on checking account	373.29		
Emerson Home	90.75	42.29	
Women Saints Day	63.00	63.00	
Donations	45.00		
Membership Tea	30.00	115.00	
Avak Luncheon	30.00	440.60	
Hats and golves for children in Armenia	25.00	280.00	
St. Thomas (pledge \$12,000 - Donation \$6,000)		18,000.00	
Postage		456.41	
Women's Guild Assembly delegates expenses		440.00	
In lieu of flowers		300.00	
Refreshments		253.28	
Microwave oven		149.97	
Women's Guild Central Council dues		132.00	
Flower for members		108.00	
Women's Guild Hokehankisd		100.59	
St. Tarkmanchatz - Annual student fee		100.00	
Sunshine		82.57	
Milk for Sunday coffee		76.38	
St. Paul's men's shelter - Paterson		75.50	
Church Women United - 1990 dues		75.00	
Armenian School Halloween party		53.80	
Sunday School Halloween party		36.36	
Film		38.00	
Miscellaneous		50.00	
	68,587.19	69,159.01	
	68,587.19	69,159.01	
Net/Income and Disbursements			(-)571.82
*Reserved for Derenik Galstian Fund			(-)1,108.00
			2,109.20
Balance on hand, December 31, 1990			2,109.20

CHOIR

Chairman: Eugenie Amerkanian
Vice Chairman: Gladys Fenarjian
Treasurer: RoseAnn Arzoomanian
Recording Secretary: Jeanne Turnamian
Corresponding Secretary: Gladys Fenarjian
Choirmaster: Edward Daghlian
Organist: Susan Shamamian

Advisors: Eileen Barsamian, Rose Mekenian
Susan Shamanian
Phone Squad: Armen Basmajian
Parish Council Liaison: Ara Martaian

St. Thomas Church Choir currently has 40 members (this includes deacons and altar servers). During the course of the year, we were delighted to have various choir members of other parishes join us—a real treat. Our choirmaster, Eddie Daghlian and our organist, Susan Shamanian, continue to faithfully perform their duties every Sunday as well as for funerals. We are very grateful for their time and devotion.

Serving on the altar during the year were: Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian, Sub-Deacon Armen Basmajian, and Altar Servers, Levon Altiparmakian, Stephen Mekenian and Andrew Martaian. Gregory Doudoukjian also served on the Altar on his free Sundays from St. Nersess Seminary. We thank Joseph for his time in training and assisting our fine young servers.

On Holy Thursday and Theophany, several choir members visited the Armenian Home in Emerson and joined Der Hayr in celebrating the Divine Liturgy, also donating to the luncheon. The residents are always thrilled to have us there, and this brings joy to us all.

Calendar of Events

- February The choir hosted a complimentary luncheon for the entire parish. This was enjoyed by all. At the same time, we asked for donations to rebuild Armenia through the Buy a Brick Fund. This successful collection was sent to the Association of Armenian Church Choirs of America.
- March Our month to prepare a meal for the homeless.
- April We participated and sang for the Hokehankisd service on the 75th Anniversary of the Genocide, which was held at St. Thomas. Our traditional Easter plate collection was again a success, thanks to the many parishioners who most generously contributed.
- May ~~Our traditional Easter plate collection was again a success thanks to the many parishioners who most generously contributed.~~ *Bake Sale*
- September The 11th graders of the Church School, joined our choir for 4 consecutive weeks as part of their curriculum. It was a pleasure having Audra Arzoomanian, Leyna Bautista, Krista Jarahian, Sarah Kalemkerian, Ardis Kehiayan, Elise Kenderian, Violet Merjanian, Michael Pinajian, Alexis Topjian, Mihran Torosian, Darren Vaniskhian and Harry Yazidjian. We hope that they will join us whenever they can.
- November The 44th Annual Choir Convention was hosted by our neighbors, Holy Martyrs in Bayside, New York. In attendance were Choirmaster Eddie Daghlian, Organist Susan Shamamian, Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian, our delegates, Rose Mekenian and Mary Sanossian, and several choir members. Our choir again participated in the St. Thomas Bazaar by having an Ice Cream/Yogurt Booth which was not only enjoyable but successful. Everyone enjoyed the delicious yogurt (which was donated) and ice cream with assorted toppings. We look forward to having this booth again.

It was a rewarding year. Several meetings were held as well as rehearsals. The goal of our choir is to increase our membership, with the future in mind. Many of us were reluctant to come into the choir the first time, but after the initial time, it became easy. There are many parishioners that can sing and can follow the Badarak. We always welcome new members to our choir. The 2nd Sunday of each month is Open Choir Day—won't you join us?

The upcoming events are: January - a campaign to increase our membership, February - new members will join us followed by a reception during the fellowship hour (date to be announced), March - preparing a meal for the homeless in Paterson and Easter plate collection, May - annual bake sale.

CHOIR TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand, January 1, 1990			\$720.33
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
February brunch		\$388.67	
Plant for Parseghians		28.00	
Build a Brick Fund (AACCA)	\$243.00	243.00	
Easter Collection	505.00		
Donations	250.00		
Payment to AACCA		250.00	
Bake sale	280.00		
44th annual choir booklet		100.00	
St. Thomas Bazaar Cake Sale		25.00	
Bazaar Ice Cream Booth		54.80	
December Expenses		29.48	
Holiday plant for Diane Nakashian		31.75	
	<u>1278.00</u>	<u>1,150.70</u>	
Balance on hand, December 31, 1990			847.63

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

We have examined the Statement of Revenue and Expenses for the year ended December 31, 1990. Our examination was made in accordance with the requirements of the Armenian Diocese of North America and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and auditing procedures as we considered necessary in these circumstances.

In our opinion this Statement of Revenue and Expenses fairly presents the results of the operation of St. Thomas Armenian Church and its auxiliary organizations.

Artemis Nazarian
 Charles Amerkanian
 Ardis Kasparian Waldron

ACYOA JUNIORS

Officers - September 1990 to June 1991

Chairman - Maral Kazanjian

Treasurer - Violet Merjanian

Vice Chairmen - Daniel Babigian &

Recording Secretary - Sarah Kalemkerian

Ardis Kehiayan

Corresponding Secretary - Grant Tenbekjian

Advisor - Sona Damergy

The ACYOA Jrs. have been active with meetings each month at St. Thomas, membership at Sports Weekends, Sports Weekend committee meetings, and activities at other churches such as dances. The membership is currently at 55.

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| January | Members attended a professional basket ball game between the Nets and Knicks.
Lock-in at St. Thomas |
| February | Co-hosted Sports Weekend with St. Leon's |
| March | Ski trip at Vernon Valley |
| April | Progressive Dinner. Our thanks to the Kazanjian, Tenbekjian and Vaniskhian families for opening their homes to us. |
| May | Hosted Spring Dance at St. Thomas
Members attended Sports Weekend at Watertown, Mass. |
| June | Final Meeting/Elections held at St. Thomas |
| July | Trip to Great Adventure. Our thanks to Douglas Martaian for chaperoning the trip. We also appreciate his help and support during the past years. |
| August | Members attended Regional Picnic held at St. James Church in Westchester.
Executive meeting at St. Thomas with new board. |
| September | Car wash (fundraiser) |
| October | Members participated in CROP Walk.
Members attended Sports Weekend in Wynnewood, PA
Bake sale (fundraiser) |
| November | Participated in annual Bazaar
Spaghetti Dinner to benefit St. Thomas |
| December | Trip to Meadowlands to see a basketball game. Thanks to Steve Jarahian and Moses Kazanjian for chaperoning.
ACYOA Jrs. led Christmas Eve Service. Our thanks to Susan Shamamian and Rose Ann Arzoomanian for their time and assistance. |

The ACYOA Jrs. would especially like to thank Der Hayr, Mrs. Kalemkerian, Mr. Gregory Tenbekjian, the Parish Council and all the parents for their time, help, patience and encouragement.

ACYOA JRS. TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand 1/1/90			\$445.78
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Credit for trophies from Sports Weekend		\$372.17	
Dues		60.00	
Car wash (PC donated)		179.00	
Credit from bank		80.00	
Sports Weekend		500.00	
Stamps			\$120.50
Food for meetings			50.90
Spaghetti Dinner	436.00		185.00
Sports Weekend Fee			30.00
Christian Children's Fund			36.00
St. Thomas Good Samaritan Fund			55.00
Vernon Valley ski trip			162.00
Parish Council loan repaid			400.00
Bank charges			20.00
Basketball Game			256.00
Total		1,616.17	1,316.14
Balance on hand 12/31/90			745.81

KIRIKIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL

Our Armenian School is an integral part of our parish, teaching our children their language and instilling pride and knowledge of their ethnic heritage.

The record enrollment is ¹⁰⁰97 students this year with classes ranging from nursery to seventh grade. Due to a need, the 2nd and 4th grade currently have 2 classes; one for English speaking students and another for bi-lingual students. All children must take a reading and spelling test at the end of each year. The seventh graders have to pass a comprehensive three hour test to graduate, and an optional Armenian history test of 100 questions to qualify for an award. Every grade must also take a standardized test from the Diocese to go on to the next level. Also, an incentive gift is given to encourage promptness.

Trophies or certificates are given at the annual Hantes and graduation for the following achievements: George Shahinian Award for perfect attendance, the Edward Bashian Award for Armenian history, the Rupen Saddler Award for Armenian reading and the Dr. Harout and Shaké Mekhjian Armenian Spelling Award.

Sponsored a Hoki Hankisd on the second anniversary of the earthquake in Armenia.

The Kirikian Armenian School has a paid faculty and other expenses as are noted in our financial report. Funds are raised by the school largely through tuition. The Mothers' Committee is responsible for the Bazaar booth, annual Armenian Christmas Dinner, luncheons, the publication of our cookbook (the second printing of 500 copies is sold out) and many other events. We are also deeply grateful for the help our benefactors continually give us.

Executive Committee: Ani Capan, Martha Saraydarian, Seta Yavru-Sakuk, Sam Demirjian, Artemis Arslanian, Marion Babigian, Mary Ann Saraydarian.

Pariah Council Liaison: Garabed Yazidjian.

Faculty: Ani Capan, Berta Yigitkurt, Ruby Kherlopian, Sona Aris, Queenie Tashjian, Seta Yavru, Sosi Slabashian, Mari Zokian, Margrit Sinanian, Maro Hajakian, Nazig Sheshetian, Siranus Gulbenkian, Araxi Diratzouian, Mari Tashjian, Grace Bashian, Jenia Kazanjian.

KIRIKIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance on hand, 12/31/89			\$3,658.42
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Tuition (97 x \$140)	\$13,580.00		
Atlantic City Weekend	10,223.00		
Spring luncheon	3,967.00		
Cookbook (1990 only)	3,361.55	1,180.32	
Bazaar	1,495.75		
Microphone donation	1,346.44	1,346.44	
Miscellaneous donations	1,100.00		
Hantes	563.65		
Shahinian ACEF Fund	500.00		
Saddler donation	500.00		
Mekhjian ACEF Fund	419.00		
Salaries (1 @ \$30 x 35 weeks, 11 @ \$35, 2 @ \$40, 2 @ \$55)		21,175.00	
Diocesan bookstore		3,217.19	
Supplies, postage		1,108.15	
Taranto Bus Co.		510.00	
Equipment		435.50	
Diocesan Assembly		870.35	
ALLARC		300.00	
	<u>33,694.84</u>	<u>30,142.95</u>	
Balance on hand, 12/31/90			7,210.31

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A. CHURCH SCHOOL

The Church School began its academic year on Sunday, September 9, with an enrollment of 116 students (compared to 110 last year.) A "Welcome Back Barbeque" for students, parents and friends was held on the following Sunday, September 16, and was well-received. A number of new families have joined the Church School this year, as a result of a recruitment drive. Of course the best recruiters are our parents and students themselves. The students are divided into 12 classes, plus the 11th graders who meet occasionally for discussion. Classes are held on Sunday mornings, 10:15-12:15. The students' courses of study are prescribed by the Diocesan Department of Religious Education. Since 1987, the new curriculum texts published by the Diocese have been in use. Bibles, Divine Liturgy books and St. Thomas tote bags are provided to each student.

One of the goals of the Church School is to help its young people develop into worshipping members of the Armenian Church. To this end, the students attend Divine Liturgy every week for at least 45 minutes as part of the regular Sunday morning schedule. An important benefit is that the children, even the very youngest, feel a part of the worshipping community. It is heart-warming to see the young people receive Holy Communion on a regular basis. Two Assembly programs are conducted, according to age-levels, and include opportunities for learning the hymns and songs of the Badarak, as well as the meaning of the Badarak. Current issues and discussions are also part of the upper grades Assembly. Students of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh grades read the Scripture lessons during the Armenian Christmas Eve and Easter Eve services.

The current 11th grade students (12 in number) are spending this academic year in service to the parish, singing in the Choir, and assisting in the Church School. They produced and directed the Christmas program by themselves. Six young people received the Diocesan graduation diploma in June, upon completion of all the requirements for graduation, including a year of service to the parish.

The Church School is blessed with dedicated teachers who try to provide our children with a firm Christian foundation, especially by their own example. Some of them have been teaching for many years. Their devotion deserves the gratitude of the entire St. Thomas family. It is promising that several Church School "alumni" are members of the teaching staff, and they serve as very positive role models for the children. During the current academic year, two St. Nersess seminarians, Robert Boyajian and Richard Bohajian, have been assigned to St. Thomas Church School to teach and participate in our activities.

Our Lenten project was to raise money for religious education materials for Armenia. At Christmas this year, the children and their families sent new hats, gloves, sweaters and school supplies to their brothers and sisters in Armenia. Child-to-child outreach always seems to have the most meaning. The children also took part in the "Trick or Treat for UNICEF" campaign at Halloween. Church School students participated in the preparation of the monthly meal for St. Paul's Men's Shelter in Paterson this fall, and collected non-perishable foodstuffs for the Center for Food Action in Englewood at Thanksgiving time.

The Church School sponsored a Chinese Auction in April, which was a huge success. In June, staff and students travelled by bus to attend a first ever regional Pentecost celebration at Sts. Sahag-Mesrob Church, Wynnewood, PA.

Annual events of the Church School include the Armenian Christmas Eve supper, Easter Communion breakfast, Christmas dinner and program, and graduation reception. We are thankful for the support and cooperation of the entire parish family which ensures the success of these events.

B. ADULT EDUCATION

A monthly periodical, AVEDIS, published by the Diocesan Department of Religious Education, was distributed to all Church School families and other interested parishioners during the year.

A Lenten educational program entitled "Improving Family Communication", led by Jane Bardes, Director of the Bergen County Parent Workshop, was held in March.

20 adults and young people participated in the CROP Walk for Hunger on October 21, along with 500 other Christians from all the communities around Tenafly. St. Thomas continues to be the first and only Orthodox congregation that participates in the Walk, and our walkers raised \$2329.00 through pledges and donations for this worthy cause.

CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Louise Kalemkerian, Director of Religious Education

Pre-Kgn. - Laurie Christopher

Kindergarten - Anita Anserian

1st Grade - Paula Guglielmo

2nd Grade - Jean Karagosian &

Ardis Kasparian Waldron

3rd Grade - Marlené Ross

4th Grade - Karen Topjian

5th Grade - Douglas Martaian

6th Grade - Stephen Jarahian

7th Grade - Thomas Kasparian

8th Grade - Gregory Tenbekjian

9th Grade - Thomas Merjanian

10th Grade - Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian

Treasurer - Sara Malajian

Records/B'day cards - Jean Karagosian

Advisor - Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian

CHURCH SCHOOL TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand, 1/1/90			\$1914.66
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Sunday offerings	\$467.00		
Chinese Auction	2,684.00	\$498.19	
Bake sale	143.00		
Welcome Back Barbecue	125.00	134.67	
Torigian Award	100.00	100.00	
Easter Communion Breakfast	75.00	221.38	
Christmas luncheon	385.00	494.41	
Miscellaneous	40.00	369.71	
Textbooks and registration	1741.25	1890.21	
Postage and supplies		537.64	
Bergen County Parent Workshop program		89.59	
Graduation reception		45.00	
Campership		100.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	5,760.25	4,480.80	
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	
Balance on hand, 12/31/90			3,194.11

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH, TENAFLY, NJ
FIRST SESSION - SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 1990

Chairman George Mekenian called the meeting to order at 11:45a.m. There were 52 people present, adequate for a quorum.

Der Hayr pronounced the opening prayer.

The Chairman announced the officers for the Assembly: Der Arnak Kasparian, President; George Mekenian, Chairman; Ron Kenderian, Vice-Chairman; Alin Papazian, Secretary. Susan Shamamian will substitute today for Alin Papazian who had to go out of town. A tape will also be made of the meeting. George Mekenian asked if that was acceptable. The Assembly responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Mekenian announced that the Annual Report including the minutes of last year's assembly would be distributed at this time. Rose Mekenian, Assembly Secretary for 1989, read the 1989 Parish Assembly minutes.

The Chairman asked if anyone had additions or amendments to the Minutes. Sam Demirjian said he wished to supplement his remarks regarding the Kasparian Fund. He had questioned who was aware of the anonymous donation to the Kasparian Fund in addition to George Mekenian and the response had been that in addition to the Kasparian Fund Directors, those who knew of it were the Pastor and the Parish Council Chairman. A brief discussion followed.

George Mekenian said that the Kasparian Fund has made a comprehensive report that is part of the 1989 Annual Report. He suggested that any further discussion of this subject be held over until the Parish Assembly on February 4th.

Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian moved that the Minutes be accepted as read and amended. She commended Rose Mekenian on an excellent job as Secretary. The motion was seconded. The Assembly accepted the Minutes as read and amended.

Chairman Mekenian asked if anyone had suggestions regarding time of balloting at the Parish Assembly.

Edward Parseghian made motion to conduct balloting from 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m. Motion was seconded and passed with none opposed.

The Chairman invited Zaven Poosikian, Chairman of the Nominating Committee to present the nominees:

For Parish Council -	Suzanne Daghlian
	John Derderian
	Charles Doudoukjian, Jr.
	Harry Hajinlian
	Gregory Hourdajian
	Ara Martaian
	Richard Keurajian
	Ara Pekmezian
	Virginia Victoria
	Garabed Yazidjian

For Nominating Committee: Arman Ajamian
Peter Ajemian
Victor Arzoomanian
Eileen Barsamian
Edward Daghlian
Dikris Malool
Arax Parseghian
Edward Parseghian
Albert Papazian
Paul Pinajian

For Auditing Committee: Hermine Ajemian
Sandra Alpino
Charles Amerkanian
Charles Doudoukjian, Sr.
Artemis Nazarian
Ardis Waldron

For Diocesan Delegate: Victor Arzoomanian
Arthur Azarik
Frank Avakian-Stoneson
Edward Daghlian
George Mekenian
Shakae Shahinian

Officers of 1991 Assembly:
For Chairman - Peter Ajemian
Ronald Kenderian

For Secretary - Rose Mekenian
Adrienne Tenbekjian

The Chairman asked if there were nominations from the floor for any of the above offices. There were none.

John Armen made a motion to close nominations. Motion was seconded and passed.

George Mekenian commended Nominating Committee for presenting a fine slate of candidates.

The chair reminded Assembly that as indicated in 1989 Assembly minutes, Roberts Rules of Order will be used where Diocesan By-Laws don't provide for rules of procedure.

George Mekenian asked those present to remind those members not present to attend next week's Parish Assembly.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn Assembly at 12:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Shamamian
Susan Shamamian, Acting Secretary

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH, TENAFLY, NJ
SECOND SESSION - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1990

Chairman George Mekenian called the assembly to order at 1:47p.m. Der Arnak Kasparian opened the meeting with a prayer.

In answer to a question by Leon Nigohosian the Chairman stated that the procedures described by the Diocesan by-laws would be followed. If the particular situation were not covered by the by-laws then Roberts Rule of Order would be utilized.

At 1:50p.m. there were 57 people, enough for a quorum. The eligibility of the voters was verified by Zaven Poosikian.

The Chairman designated Ron Kenderian, Vice Chairman of the Assembly, as parliamentarian.

The Assembly changed the order of the items on the agenda.

The following motions were made and carried regarding procedural matters: to accept the new order of the agenda; for the various chairpeople to present a commentary on their reports rather than read them; to take a "yes" as well as "no" vote on motions.

Der Arnak said a special prayer for parishioners who were deceased during the past year.

PASTOR'S REPORT: A discussion followed Der Arnak's published report.

Leon Nigohosian asked what was being done to bring back parishioners who had left the parish. He was told by Der Arnak and by Joanne Torigian, Parish Council Chairman, that the Membership Committee members were calling some of these people but there was no organized effort underway. Mrs. Torigian will form a group that will call and visit former parishioners in an effort to reinstate them. It was suggested that Der Hayr should also be calling such persons. Roxy Daghljan appealed to those people who are staying away because they feel they have been hurt should come to church and try to heal the hurts. Sandra Alpino felt that Der Hayr should initiate contact with people who stay away from church for whatever reason. Der Hayr asked for a list of such people. Eva Yazidjian commended the Parish Council for setting up the new Nursery which has been encouraging young families with small children to come to church.

Sam Demirjian accused Der Arnak of alienating some of the parishioners. He related a specific incident when a parishioner told him they would be leaving St. Thomas because Der Hayr had told them that if they did not like the way he ran the church they could go elsewhere. In an effort to mediate, Mr. Demirjian presented the problem to Joanne Torigian who wrote to both Der Hayr and the parishioner. Der Hayr apologized to the parishioner and the matter was resolved to their satisfaction. Der Hayr explained to the Assembly that the father of the parishioner involved

had been complaining about the way the Badarak was done with the use of English in some parts etc. He mentioned that at St. Vartanantz things were done in the traditional way, upon which Der Hayr told him he should go to St. Vartanantz if spiritually he would be more satisfied. This upset the family and the aforementioned events took place. When Mr. Demirjian wanted to discuss other complaints of this sort, Mr. Mekenian suggested he bring such problems to the Parish Council. The Chair recommended that discussion of this subject be ended now. A motion from the floor to this effect was seconded and all present voted yes except one.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT: In addition to her published report Joanne Torigian thanked the following people who were inadvertently omitted: Michel Izmirly who with Alice Arzoomanian and Laureen Berberian had prepared the budget in spite of his ill health; Virginia Victoria for diligently overseeing the rentals; the Delegates to the Diocesan Assembly Victor Arzoomanian, George Mekenian and Joseph Kalemkerian and the St. Thomas people who helped the earthquake victims associated with the AGBU/Airlift Project. The following corrections are to be made to her report: ACYOA Seniors - Stephen Mekenian, Chairman & Douglas Martaian, Vice-Chairman; Armenian School - Ani Capan, Director; the Parish Council has designated the Youth Room to be donated by the Women's Guild.

A discussion of the Parish Council report followed.

In reply to Leon Nigohosian's questions on the progress of the Priest Search Committee, Joanne Torigian reported that the committee had had one meeting where they reviewed three names and contacted some people who were not interested in the job. The committee will list the criteria a candidate must meet at their next meeting. When the committee makes their decision they will submit the names to the Parish Council and the Board of Trustees. The process must be a confidential one to preserve the privacy and dignity of the candidates.

Leon Nigohosian moved that there be a person on the Priest Search Committee who is not a member of any administrative body of the church (not elected or appointed); it was seconded. Rose Mekenian suggested that if anyone had a candidate in mind, they should make a recommendation to the committee. Paul Kahaumjian, a former member of the committee, said that the members of the committee were very knowledgeable about the clergy available and should be entrusted with the job. Leon Nigohosian moved to amend the motion to include Frank Avakian-Stoneson as the lay person to be appointed to the committee. Motion to amend was seconded and defeated. The original motion was also defeated.

Leon Nigohosian made a motion that the Priest Search Committee submit the names of three or more clergymen to the Parish Assembly next year to be voted on. Motion seconded and defeated.

Edward Bashian appealed for unity among the parishioners and criticized the uneasiness and divisiveness prevailing among some members of the church.

The Chair recommended that since finding a replacement for Der Arnak is such a vital issue, an evening be set aside for everyone to come and discuss their suggestions, concerns etc. Leon Nigohosian made a motion to that effect. It was seconded and passed. Greg Doudoukjian, a seminarian at St. Nersess said that finding a pastor is not an easy job because of a severe shortage of priests. We should enjoy Der Hayr's services while he is here since we may have to go without a priest for a number of years.

Sam Demirjian asked Joanne Torigian about 1) what is being done about increasing revenues and reducing expenditures; 2) not being allowed to attend Parish Council meetings; 3) accuracy of minutes taken at Parish Council meetings. Mrs. Torigian answered that 1) increased revenues would be achieved by increased pledges and more fund raising activities by parish organizations; expenses could be reduced by computerizing most operations. She praised Greg Saroyan who had donated computer equipment toward that end. The Beacon is now being produced by computer which will save a considerable amount of money. 2) According to Diocesan regulations parishioners can attend Parish Council meetings with advance permission of the Parish Council Chairman. Mrs. Torigian granted such permission to Mr. Demirjian as well as other parishioners until the Parish Council felt having observers constantly was interfering with conducting their business. 3) Mrs. Torigian commended the Council Secretary, Joseph Kalemkerian, for doing a fine job with the minutes and stated that any inadvertent mistakes he made had been corrected.

The Chair thanked the Parish Council for the fine job they did last year with special recognition for Arax Parseghian who is leaving the council after six years of service and Alice Arzoomanian who is leaving after two years as treasurer.

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT: Fred Karagosian reported that the Auditing Committee found the books of the Parish Council and all Church organizations in order.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1989: Treasurer Alice Arzoomanian answered questions on the report. Edward Parseghian announced that the exact figure for the bazaar income is \$34,021 not \$35,343 as shown on the report. Mrs. Arzoomanian said that the discrepancy was due to a balance remaining in the bazaar checking account from the previous year left in the account to keep it open and to take care of late disbursements, etc. \$1,500 is in the account right now. Ron Kenderian said the financial report should include an accurate figure for bazaar profits in order to plan a realistic budget. The same also is true for hall rentals. Mrs. Torigian stated that the new computerized system would enable us to analyze the figures more accurately and give us a better picture.

In reply to his question on the Library Fund, Edward Parseghian was told that the \$1,560 listed as actual income for 1989 was the interest earned on a CD.

Haig Varjian questioned the increase in the salary of the Pastoral Assistant from the \$16,500 budgeted to the \$21,500 actual and wanted to

know where the additional money came from. Mrs. Arzoomanian replied that it was a line item adjustment.

Joanne Torigian explained that when the Parish Council decided to increase the Pastoral Assistant's salary by \$5,000 and only \$1,400 of it could be covered by the budget, Nazar Nazarian agreed to subsidize the remaining \$3,600 with the concurrence of the Parish Council and the Board of Trustees.

Sam Demirjian asked if any parishioner could subsidize salaries. Mrs. Torigian replied that in this instance it was done to accommodate Der Hayr's request for the continued service of the Pastoral Assistant.

Leon Nigohosian wanted to know how the salary increase for the pastor had been arrived at. Mrs. Arzoomanian explained that the Diocese provides a formula which was followed.

In discussing the deficit shown on the proposed budget Edward Bashian suggested forming a Budget Committee to work on future budgets.

Paul Kahaumjian proposed that to increase the income parishioners be asked to tithe 0.25% of their income. The chairman said that was a good idea but not a realistic one at this time.

Edward Bashian moved that the interest accruing in 1990 to reserve funds held by the Board of Trustees be given to the Parish Council for operating expenses.

Motion seconded and carried by the majority with 3 opposed. \$15,262 will be added to the income.

In answer to Edward Parseghian's question Ron Kenderian said that at this time we owe \$90,000 to the builder. If litigation is resolved in our favor it would be less.

Following are some of the points raised during the discussions to try and balance the budget. Leon Nigohosian proposed to adopt the actual disbursements for 1989 to the proposed income for 1990 thereby decreasing the deficit.

Thomas Kasparian asked why the amount of the 1990 pledges was lower than the 1989 pledges. Arax Parseghian answered that a number of people have reduced their pledges by as much as a half. It was commented that this could have been due to earthquake relief. Der Hayr called "pledge" a misnomer for "membership fee" and stated that in other churches the two items are treated separately. Of the \$100 per person membership paid in this church \$67 goes to the Diocese.

After a number of adjustments, an amended budget was accepted with the majority of those present voting "yes", 4 voting "no" and 2 abstaining.

The revised adopted budget of \$243,566 for 1990 is attached.

Puzant Torigian suggested this budget be worked on for the next several months to come up with more realistic numbers.

Ara Pekmezian suggested that quarterly reports be generated using the computer and checked against the proposed budget.

Haig Varjian moved to appoint a committee of five to examine the budget to determine where increases and decreases can be made based on more realistic numbers and present it to the Parish Council. Motion was seconded and defeated.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT: The discussion centered around our mortgage obligations. \$50,000 (\$40,000 from the Parish Council and \$10,000 from Nazar Nazarian) was paid toward reducing the mortgage. In the absence of a member of the Board of Trustees who could answer the questions about the mortgage, the Chair proposed that the Parish Council ascertain the exact figures of the mortgage and send a letter to the parishioners within 30 days. This proposal was accepted.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT: In answer to Yeretzgin Violet's query about the status of pledges to the building fund still outstanding, Mrs. Torigian said that Der Arnak had been calling some people who have not paid yet, but no figures are available at this time.

MEMORIAL FUNDS REPORTS: Caspar M. Kasparian Fund: Sam Demirjian raised the issue of the anonymous donation of \$150,000 to the fund which was discussed during the 1989 assembly. He wanted to know what had become of the \$41,000 in interest generated by the donation and why it was not reported before 1989. At this time George Mekenian temporarily relinquished the chair to Ron Kenderian due to his involvement in the Fund. Mr. Kenderian told Mr. Demirjian that since the money has been reported and disbursed as discussed in the Kasparian Fund report no issue remains; that the donation had not been reported before because it was a contingent gift.

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS: The Chairman commended the officers of the various organizations for the splendid job they did and asked for comments on the reports.

WOMEN'S GUILD: Chairwoman Adrienne Tenbekjian made the following corrections: Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian, Rose Mekenian, Alyce Parseghian and Roxy Daghlian as chairwoman of the Women's Guild attended the Diocesan Women's Guild Assembly as delegates. Fish and Chips dinner chairman was Dikris Malool.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Vahan Soukiasian questioned the thrust of the Sunday School. Chairman Mekenian answered that Der Hayr, the Parish Council Liaison and the Director of Christian Education would take his concerns into consideration when planning their program.

NEW BUSINESS: Leon Nigohosian made a motion that the minutes of this assembly be made available within 30 days. Motion seconded and carried.

Sam Demirjian recommended having two or three more meetings between assemblies. Ron Kenderian re-iterated the Diocesan by-laws which direct any one group of 10 or more who want to have a meeting to present it to the Parish Council for approval and scheduling.

Yeretzgin Violet proposed that the Parish Council send a letter to the Diocesan Assembly asking them to decrease their disbursements so they

can lower the assessments of the parishes, thus lightening the heavy burden placed on parish budgets.

Alyce Parseghian proposed increasing the annual pledge to \$125. After discussion George Mekenian recommended this be made a voluntary rather than mandatory action.

Leon Nigohosian moved to end discussion of New Business and announce the election results. Motion seconded and passed.

ELECTION RESULTS: Zaven Poosikian, Chairman of the Nominating Committee announced that 152 ballots had been cast and the following (given alphabetically) were elected;

Parish Council - Suzanne Daghlian, John Derderian, Ara Martaian, Ara Pekmezian and Garabed Yazidjian; first Alternate: Virginia Victoria, second Alternate: Richard Keurajian.

Nominating Committee: Victor Arzoomanian, Eileen Barsamian, Edward Daghlian, Arax Parseghian, Edward Parseghian; Alternate: Albert Papazian.

Auditing Committee: Charles Amerkanian, Artemis Nazarian, Ardis Waldron; Alternate: Charles Doudoukjian, Sr.

Diocesan Delegates: Victor Arzoomanian, George Mekenian, Shakae Shahinian; Alternate: Arthur Azarik.

Officers of the 1991 Assembly: Chairman - Ronald Kenderian
Secretary - Rose Mekenian

The Assembly was adjourned at 5:55p.m.

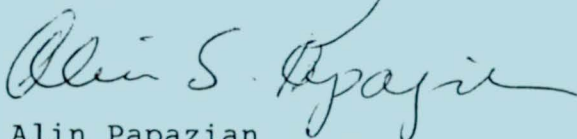
Respectfully submitted,



Rev. Arnak Kasparian
President of the Assembly



George Mekenian
Chairman of the Assembly



Alin Papazian
Secretary of the Assembly