

Pastoral Report - 1983  
Rev. Arsen Barsamian

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The Holy Eucharist was celebrated regularly throughout the year except for the Sunday I was on vacation, the Sunday I celebrated services at St. Vartan Cathedral in conjunction with the presentation of the holy relic to the Cathedral by Mrs. Floyd Dervishian Smith, and the two Sundays last winter because of snow when our Parish Assembly was postponed. Again I didn't take the four weeks of vacation allowed each year to me. Sermons and homilies were delivered in Armenian and English on most Sundays and on appropriate occasions. Private meetings were held with individuals or groups for instruction and consultation. And visitations to the sick at homes and hospitals were done regularly and also daily when there was a serious illness.

The following are the number of marriages, baptisms and funerals I administered to during 1983.....

- 4-baptisms    3-adult confirmations 1-adult baptism
- 6-funerals    4-marriages

The following is a summarized reporting of some of my activities and services during the past year.....

- 1-presided over meetings of our church organizaions and coordinated their activities. <sup>t/</sup>
- 2-assisted in the publication and mailing of the Sevan Newsletter and other circulars.
- 3-did the necessary correspondence in Armenian and English.
- 4-did some purchasing of office and most all of the church supplies and also that needed in maintenance.
- 5-handled the monies recieved during the week that was mailed to the church
- 6-contacted those who participate in our Stewardship Program

- 7-ordered altar flowers when requested and took them to the sick.
- 8-handled the responsibilities of the church library and aided those who were writing school papers on our faith or history.
- 9- made arrangements for the dinner-program on Armenian Christmas when Dr. William Bickers spoke.
- 10-collected over \$1,000.00 in ad monies for the 25th Anniversary Booklet.
- 11-work on having the Memorial Stone in the vestibule of the church replace with one with a more suitable writing.
- 12-meetings with Mr. John Ivins of the Baptist Mission Board to gain insight of organizing membership drives and also made arrangements for him to meet and discuss this with members of our Membership Committee members.
- 13-meeting at Greek Orthodox Cathedral concerning the Genocide-Holocaust commemorative ceremony.
- 14-made arrangements with VCU and Sahan Arzruni for his concert held this month at VCU.
- 15-held meetings and rehearsals with several persons and stressed the need for them to learn and do the deacon's part during the Divine Liturgy.
- 16-prepared the calendar of events for the church organization's joint officers' meeting
- 17-attended funeral services of friends of our church community.
- 18-made arrangements for a donation of a valuable painting of the crucifixion which is now in the vestibule of the church.
- 19-met with the Diocesan Delegates concerning the Diocesan Delegate Meeting prior to it being convened.
- 20-made arrangements for Deacon Michael Chevaian and Nancy Basmajian to meet with our ACYOA Juniors.

- 21-had the Divine Liturgy books in the church pews rebound.
- 22-made the arrangements for the speaker on Martyr's Day program
- 23-arrangements for the grapes for the Blessing of the Grapes Service on the Feast of the Assumption of St. Maryy.
- 24-made arrangements with the Diocesan Office and Mrs. Floyd Dervishian Smith for her donation of the relic of the cross to the Cathedral
- 25-participated in the Ecumenical Service at the Cathedral during the Vesper Service of the Holy Cross.
- 26-made arrangements of the Cultural-Educational Dinner-Program held on Sunday, October 2nd at which Raffi Hovhanessian spoke and showed slides on his trip to Historic Armenia
- 27-participated in the joint Thanksgiving Day Service held by the seven westend churches.
- 28-organized the cultural display at our Annual Food Festival.
- 29-made arrangements for the dinner-program on our church name-day. celebration and the showing of the film "Blessing of the Holy Muron".
- 30-handled the monies of the Cultural-Educational committee; AnnBicker's Fund for the Name-day celebration; and the Church Stewardship Fund.
- 31-celebrated the Divine Liturgy in St. Mary's Church, Washington D.C. in an exchange service with their priest the Rev. Verthanes Kalayjian
- 32-organized the bus trip to Washington to see the AGBU Dance Group performance of the Eternal Flame.
- 33-contact and kept in communication with the lawyer's concerning the estate of Martiros Astourian whose will has provisions for our church.
- 34-ordering of candles, votive glass lamps and votive cnadles and the candle-stick tubing for the candle-holders.