

MEMORANDUM

TO: Leaders of the St. Mary's Assembly Discussion Groups
FROM: Dean Shahinian
RE: February 6, 1993 Discussions
DATE: February 2, 1993

Thank you for agreeing to lead a discussion group at the first day of the St. Mary's Annual Parish Assembly on February 6, 1993.

The major group goals are: (A) to discuss a few topics that your group members are concerned about and identify goals and means of reaching those goals and (B) to build closer relationships between parishioners by discussing common concerns in a positive and relaxed manner.

After dinner, the Assembly program will consist of three parts:

1. Introductory comments -- Der Hayr and Dean Shahinian (All members meet together)
2. Discussion groups -- leaders (Each member chooses one group with which to meet)
 - A. Youth and Education -- Yeretzgin Anahid Kalayjian
 - B. Stregthening the Family and Parish Mission -- Mr. Stephen Ohanian
 - C. The Parish Building and Parish Administration -- Mr. Vartkes Keshishian and Mr. Richard Hatchik
 - D. Parish Finances -- Dr. Edward Onanian and Mr. Hagop Safak
3. Summaries of Discussions and Plans for Parish Assembly or Future Action (All members meet together and representatives present summaries)

You may lead your group in any manner you feel most comfortable. I offer a few suggestions that may help promote the goals:

- Select a person to write notes of the discussion.
- Introduce yourself to the group. "I am _____ and I am interested in this subject because _____"
- Make sure that everyone in the group knows everyone else. If some do not, you might ask each person: "Please tell everyone your name and why you are interested in the subject of this discussion group."
- State the topics that you will discuss and for each:

- A. identify the current status at St. Mary's
 - B. ask the members of the group where they want St. Mary's to be, and
 - C. discuss with the group members whether and how St. Mary's can reach these goals
- At least five minutes before finishing, summarize these points again.

Following your group's discussion, everyone will reassemble. Representatives from each group will describe the discussion highlighting the current situation, the group's goals, and how the goals might be achieved. The implementation may include suggestions to present to the Parish Assembly on Sunday.