

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM
PROGRESS REPORT

Stewardship Committee: Pastor and Parish Council

Planning Group: Reverend Father Mampre A. Kouzouian, Pastor
Eugene Raphaelian, Chairman
Aetna Tashjian
Donald Tellalian

Treasurer/Accountant: Barbara Hagopian

Parishioners were introduced to the concept of the Stewardship Program, as the major means of financial support for our Church, through a series of letters during the summer months. The Program is based on participation of all our parishioners whose pledge of support made at the beginning of each year establishes the budget by which the Church will operate throughout the year. Each letter emphasized the key components of the Program, and reasons for implementing the Program for our parish. The Program would serve to eliminate the frantic effort by various organizations to annually reach predetermined goals in order to meet rising costs.

A question and answer sheet, which dealt with the key elements of the Program, was sent to all parishioners along with an announcement of a Special Parish Assembly to be held on Sunday, September 28th for all church members to vote on whether or not to adopt the Stewardship Program for 1981. By an overwhelming majority, the Program was adopted. All parishioners were notified by letter, of the vote and that Stewardship pledge cards and envelopes would be mailed to all parishioners prior to the Anniversary Banquet to be held on Sunday, October 26th, also named "Stewardship Sunday".

By "Stewardship Sunday", the Anniversary Banquet, 192 Stewardship pledges for 1981 were received totaling \$42,632 in pledges, with \$9,623 of the amount received in cash. It was an encouraging beginning! A letter was sent to all parishioners thanking those who were participating in the Program and announcing the Stewardship Telethon which was to take place on November 24 and 25 to reach all those who had not as yet responded to the Program. In addition to being a dynamic fund raising tool, the Telethon provided an opportunity for personal conversation during which questions could be answered and parishioners could become better acquainted with Church programs, and the importance of everyone participating in the Stewardship Program would be emphasized. Response to the Telethon was heartwarming and enthusiastic.

As of January 8, 1981, 484 parishioners are participating in the Stewardship Program of which 153 are new members bringing the total amount pledged for 1981, to date, to \$62,336 of which \$20,878 has been received in cash. Pledges are being received daily. The initial list of participants in the 1981 Stewardship Program will appear in the February issue of the Dajar with a follow-up list to appear in the April issue.

The support and participation reflects the success of the Program. Initially, in the beginning stages of the Program there was some concern as to whether or not the Program "could work". The response certainly allays any concerns! The participation reflects the success!

The work continues to develop and implement the Program for our Parish. The process of evaluation is ongoing. With everyone participating, the Program is bound for continued success!

as of February 1981