# PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, INC., NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

#### PREAMBLE

WE, the members of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Inc., Niagara Falls, New York, and of the Armenian Church of America, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom and abundant life, in order to secure the treasured spiritual hopes and blessings for the Armenian Community of Niagara Falls, New York, do establish this constitution.

# ARTICLE 1 - ORGANIZATION

- 1. The name of this Religious corporation is and shall be the Armenian Apostolic Church, Inc., Niagara Falls, New York, as set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Niagara at Lockport. New York, on July 19, 1951, as amended by a Certificate of Change of name filed in the same effice on March 30, 1952.
- 2. The corporation shall have a seal which shall be in the following form:

#### ARTICLE 2. PURPOSES

- 1. The purposes of this corporation is to maintain a place of worship as the Armenian Church recognized and confirmed as such by the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, and to exercise all of the activities incidental to the maintenance and operation of a church.
- 2. This corporation confirms and declares its allegiance to the Supreme Authority of the Catholicos Patriarchs of all Armenians recognised and accepted as the Supreme Head of the Armenian National Church, with its See at Echmiadsin and to the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, the Body authorized by His Heliness the Catholicos and recognised and accepted as the governing Body of the Armenian Church in Canada and the United States

of America, excepting the State of California, and in conformance with the foregoing, this corporation adopts and agrees to observe and be governed by all of the provisions of the By-Laws of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America as presently adopted form as amended in the Dioceson Assembly of 7-8 October, 1950, in Detroit, Michigan, and subsequently approved and confirmed with certain changes by His Holiness the Catholices-Patriarch of All Armenians, George VI, in His communication dated 10 Oct., 1952, and in force and applicable to individual Churches under its jurisdiction a copy of which By-Laws, both in Armenian and English languages, is annexed hereunto and made a part hereof, and hereafter referred to as the "Diocese By-Laws".

### ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP

l. Membership in this corporation shall be open to all who qualify under the Diocese By-Laws, and the rights and privileges of members are and shall be as set forth in the Diocese By-Laws.

### ARTICLE 4 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 1. The business of this corporation and its activities shall be managed by a Board of Directors, also called Council of Wardens and Parish Council, consisting of not less than 3 nor more than 11 members. Until other future determination by a duly authorized and consolidated meeting of the members the said Board of Directors shall be 9.
- 2. All the provisions of the Diocese By-Laws shall apply to and govern the duties, privileges and rights of the individual Directors and Board of Directors as a group.

#### ARTICLE 5 - THE CLERGY

 All the provisions of the Diocese By-Laws which apply to the Clergy, shall apply to the election, privileges and duties of the Clergy of this corporation.

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### ARTICLE 6 - DIOCESON COUNCIL

1. All the provisions of the Diocese By-Laws which apply to the Dioceson Council shall apply to the election, privileges and duties of the Dioceson Council.

# ARTICLE 7 - MEETINGS

1. The meetings of the members (Parish Assembly) shall be governed as set forth in the Diocese By-Laws.

# ARTICLE 8 - OFFICERS

1. The officers of this corporation shall be as follows:

President
Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Vice-Chairman
Assistant Secretary
Assistant Treasurer

The Vice-Chairman and the Assistant Secretary and Assistant
 Treasurer shall act and serve in their respective offices if the Chairman and
 Secretary and Treasurer are absent or otherwise incapacitated from filling
 their offices.

#### ARTICLE 9 - PERMANENT COMMITTEES

- 1. Auditing Committee All the provisions of the Diocese By-Laws which apply to the Auditing Committee, shall apply to the election, privileges and duties of the individual members of the Auditing Committee of this corporation.
- 2. Delegates to Dioceson Assembly All the previsions of the Diocese By-Laws which apply to the Delegates to Dioceson Assembly, shall apply to the election, privileges and duties of the Delegates to Dioceson Assembly of this corporation.
  - 3. Nominating Committee All the provisions of the Diocese By-Laws

which apply to the Nominating Committee, shall apply to the election, privileges and duties of the Nominating Committee of this corporation.

# ARTICLE 10 - REAL PROPERTY OF THE CORPORATION

- 1. The real property or property rights in real estate of this corporation used as a place of worship or for any other purposes by this corporation, shall be subject to all the provisions of the Diocese By-Laws hereto annexed.
- The real property or property rights in real estate of this corporation may be conveyed, mortgaged, leased, transferred or encumbered.

# ARTICLE 11 - DUES

1. Membership dues of this corporation will be as approved and voted on by the Parish Assembly, but not in controvention of the Diocese By-Laws.

#### ARTICLE 12 - AMENMENTS AND ADDITIONS

This constitution is subject to amendments and additions. Said
amendments and additions shall be in accordance with amendments to the
Constitution of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America.

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