

PRIMATE'S MESSAGE

As we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America, it behooves us to pause and contemplate your endeavors and contributions to our Church and our people.

The first generation of the ACYOA was fortunate to have inspiring parents and church leaders who helped guide them in their spiritual search for the Truth that is Christ and in carrying on our sacred heritage. The question now is: Has that first generation been successful in fulfilling this task and passing it on to the second generation and those following?

The ACYOA theme this year has been **"40 YEARS OF CHURCH SERVICE AND ARMENIAN FELLOWSHIP IN AMERICA,"** and it is an appropriate one. To be an ACYOA member means making a commitment, a pledge to be loyal to the ideals for which the Armenian Church has always stood. As a group, you represent solidarity and determination in your service to God and to our people. You symbolize the opportunity to pursue and live our faith.

On this 40th Anniversary, we rejoice in our YOUTH. We need our youth to carry forth our identity as Armenian Christians. To be Armenian is a matter of spirit. Learn all you can about your culture, language, and heritage. The confidence you will gain will lead to action, and action changes the future. God has placed the future in your hands.

May the Lord bless you with His love and His wisdom.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate