



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 7, 1995

The Reverend Joan Brown Campbell, General Secretary
The National Council of the Churches of Christ
475 Riverside Drive,
New York, NY 10115

Dear Reverend Campbell:

It was a pleasure of course to see you once again at the Orthodox Summit on the Ecology last weekend in Baltimore.

With regard to the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians this coming January 1996, I wish to confirm our conversation about his visit to the NCCC headquarters.

He will be visiting the Riverside Center on Thursday evening January 11th; a time to be arranged by you and your office. Emilia Montgomery has informed us that you shall be providing us with an appropriate guest list forthwith. If you could send that along as soon as possible, it would be most appreciated.

We look forward to the visit of His Holiness in January and this very special opportunity for the NCCC to enjoy his presence.

With our continued prayers and good wishes
Always,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

c.c. His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate
Carl Bazarian
Frank Stoneson

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

His Eminence John Cardinal O'Connor
Archbishop of New York
Archdiocese of New York
1011 First Ave.
New York, NY 10017

Your Eminence:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

Upon his arrival on Wednesday, January 10, His Holiness will be received at the Saint Vartan Armenian Cathedral with a special service of thanksgiving and adoration. This will take place at seven o'clock in the evening. We would be most honored if you could join us in welcoming him to our Diocese on his first official visit to America since his enthronement as the Catholicos of All Armenians.

We have arranged through your Cathedral office to use the sanctuary of Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, January 14, 1996. His Holiness will celebrate the Patriarchal Divine Liturgy at two o'clock in the afternoon. We are truly grateful to your staff for making this possible. It would be our extreme honor and pleasure to have you present at this Liturgy, and to have you offer words of welcome to His Holiness prior to his homily of the day. As one who has shared a global vision of Christian unity like His Holiness, we are certain that the Catholicos would be moved to have you share in this service and offer prayers for the wholeness of Christ's Church.

During his brief stay here, His Holiness has expressed a desire to make an official visit to you. If it is possible, through your ecumenical officer, might you inform us of your availability for Friday, January 12 in the afternoon? We would appreciate as soon as possible confirmation of your presence at these events, as we are currently engaged in scheduling all his visits while he is here in New York.

We shall inform you of the protocols and time tables as we move closer to the date of his arrival. If there is anyway we may assist you in making your arrangements and confirming your participation, our Chancellor and Ecumenical Officer, the Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, stands ready to assist your staff members.

We continue to offer our prayers for your good health, and thanks to God for your commendable leadership and witness in our shared ministry.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos, Primate
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America
10 East 79th Street,
New York, NY 10021

Your Eminence:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

As you may recall from our conversation on October 31, 1995, this will be His Holiness' first official visit to the United States since his enthronement. When we spoke about his visit, I shared with your Eminence his desire to meet with the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops (SCCOBA), and you graciously agreed to host this gathering on Thursday, January 11 at the noon hour, at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. I presume that this meeting is scheduled to take place, and that the necessary arrangements to greet His Holiness Karekin at your headquarters are being made. May I request confirmation that this is correct, as we are in the process of arranging many of his visits during his four days here in the New York area?

Upon his arrival on Wednesday, January 10, His Holiness will be received at the Saint Vartan Armenian Cathedral with a special service of thanksgiving and adoration. This will take place at seven o'clock in the evening. As the Primate of the Greek Archdiocese and a prominent active leader of ecumenical initiatives, we would be most honored if you could offer words of welcome to the Catholicos in your two-fold leadership roles. We are certain that as His Holiness himself has been active in many global ecumenical encounters, your welcoming remarks as one who shares his visions would be most meaningful to him. We hope that you will accept our invitation to greet him upon his arrival.

Regarding the SCCOBA meeting, if there is any way we may directly assist you with working out the details, please have your office inform our Diocesan Chancellor and Ecumenical Officer, the Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, who is presently handling all ecumenical gatherings here in the New York area.

We continue to offer our prayers for your good health and thanks to God for your commendable leadership and witness in our shared Orthodox Christian heritage.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian

Primate

AKB/as

November 22, 1995

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It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

Upon his arrival on Wednesday, January 10th, His Holiness will be received at the Saint Vartan Armenian Cathedral with a special service of thanksgiving and adoration. This will take place at seven o'clock in the evening. We would be most honored if you could join us in welcoming him to our Diocese on this, his first visit to America since his enthronement as the Catholicos of All Armenians.

Following this service, there will be a special reception during which you will be able to meet His Holiness and convey your words and greetings to him.

We invite you to vest for this service of welcome according to the propriety of your liturgical tradition. Please plan to arrive by 6:15 p.m. in order to vest and receive instructions.

Please let our office know if you will be able to join us on this very special evening. You may contact our Chancellor and Ecumenical Officer, the Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, if you have any questions with regard to protocol and the timetable.

I look forward to this momentous occasion, and the opportunity to pray to our Lord as His Church in welcoming His Holiness to America.

With prayers,

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Matthias, Primate
Ethiopian Orthodox Archdiocese
P.O.Box 77262
Washington, DC 20013

Your Eminence:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

While visiting the New York area, His Holiness will meet with the leadership of various Christian denominations and communities. As part of his visitation schedule, we are planning a special meeting for the Catholicos with the leaders of our sister Oriental Orthodox Churches here in America. He has been a proactive force in global interaction with our sister churches, and firmly advocates maintaining our Orthodox unity.

We invite you to a unique gathering with His Holiness on Thursday, January 11, 1996 at 4:00 p.m. here at our Diocesan headquarters. During this one hour meeting you will have the opportunity to personally greet him on behalf of your church, and discuss with him a number of issues regarding our internal unity as an Orthodox body and some of the challenges that face us individually and collectively, both in the United States as well as the diaspora.

Please inform us if you will be able to join us for this momentous occasion by contacting our Chancellor, Father Garabed Kochakian, no later than December 15, 1995.

We look forward to the opportunity once again to share Christian fellowship and extend our hospitality to you.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

The Reverend Father Jacob Ghaly, Ecumenical Officer
St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church
31 Dolphin Rd.
New City, NY 10956

Father Ghaly:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

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Please inform us if you will be able to join us for this momentous occasion by contacting our Chancellor, Father Garabed Kochakian, no later than December 15, 1995.

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With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Nicholovos Zacharia
c/o General Theological Seminary
175 9th Ave.
New York, NY 10011

Your Eminence:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

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Please inform us if you will be able to join us for this momentous occasion by contacting our Chancellor, Father Garabed Kochakian, no later than December 15, 1995.

We look forward to the opportunity once again to share Christian fellowship and extend our hospitality to you.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

The Very Reverend Chorepiscopus John Meno
St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Cathedral
260 Elm Ave.
Teaneck, NJ 07666

Dear Father Meno:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

While visiting the New York area, His Holiness will meet with the leadership of various Christian denominations and communities. As part of his visitation schedule, we are planning a special meeting for the Catholicos with the leaders of our sister Oriental Orthodox Churches here in America. He has been a proactive force in global interaction with our sister churches, and firmly advocates maintaining our Orthodox unity.

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Please inform us if you will be able to join us for this momentous occasion by contacting our Chancellor, Father Garabed Kochakian, no later than December 15, 1995.

We look forward to the opportunity once again to share Christian fellowship and extend our hospitality to you.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

The Reverend Dr. K.M. Simon
12 Dogwood Lane,
Hohokus, NJ 07423

Dear Father Simon:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

While visiting the New York area, His Holiness will meet with the leadership of various Christian denominations and communities. As part of his visitation schedule, we are planning a special meeting for the Catholicos with the leaders of our sister Oriental Orthodox Churches here in America. He has been a proactive force in global interaction with our sister churches, and firmly advocates maintaining our Orthodox unity.

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Please inform us if you will be able to join us for this momentous occasion by contacting our Chancellor, Father Garabed Kochakian, no later than December 15, 1995.

We look forward to the opportunity once again to share Christian fellowship and extend our hospitality to you.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

His Grace Mathews Mar Barnabas
Metropolitan Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church
Indian Orthodox Church Center,
80-34 Commonwealth Blvd.
Bellerose, NY 11426

Your Grace:

It gives me great pleasure to officially inform you of the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the Armenian Church Dioceses of North America. His Holiness will be in the New York area January 10 to 14, 1996.

While visiting the New York area, His Holiness will meet with the leadership of various Christian denominations and communities. As part of his visitation schedule, we are planning a special meeting for the Catholicos with the leaders of our sister Oriental Orthodox Churches here in America. He has been a proactive force in global interaction with our sister churches, and firmly advocates maintaining our Orthodox unity.

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Please inform us if you will be able to join us for this momentous occasion by contacting our Chancellor, Father Garabed Kochakian, no later than December 15, 1995.

We look forward to the opportunity once again to share Christian fellowship and extend our hospitality to you.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 22, 1995

The Reverend Joan Brown Campbell, General Secretary
The National Council of the Churches of Christ
475 Riverside Drive,
New York, NY 10115

Dear Reverend Campbell:

It was indeed a pleasure to be together with you at the National Council of Churches Governing Board meeting last week in Oakland, California.

May I take this opportunity to thank you once again for all the help and assistance, which through your venerable office has been extended to the Armenian Church. You are truly a friend of the Armenian people and we are forever grateful for your advocacy on our behalf, particularly in this present partnership of helping the seminary at Holy Etchmiadzin. I congratulate you as well on your re-election as the General Secretary of the NCCC for another term. I know that the next four years will be productive for you, and I assure you that I stand ready to assist you in your ministry however possible.

It was truly an honor to accompany you to the White House and meet with President Clinton to present the NCCC Resolution on Federal Spending Priorities and voice our concerns over the threat of losing federal funding to assist the poor and those who seek a just life in our blessed nation. We as a struggling people know all too well the pains that deprivation and injustice have caused. Therefore, it was without question our duty to join you and advocate for the preservation of a system in our nation that assures us the good and welfare for all people in America.

Please accept my continued support and friendship, as we share in this sacred ministry to which we have been called.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as

ECUMENICAL LIST FOR HRASHAPAR SERVICE
ON JANUARY 10, 1995

The Rt. Rev. Craig Barry Anderson
President & Dean
General Theological Seminary
175 Ninth Ave.
New York, NY 10011

His Grace Mathews Mar Barnabas
Metropolitan Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church
Indian Orthodox Church Center,
80-34 Commonwealth Blvd.
Bellerose, NY 11426

The Most Reverend Bishop Edmond Lee Browning
Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Ave.
New York, NY 10017

The Reverend Dr. Joan B. Campbell
General Secretary
Nat'l Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.
475 Riverside Dr.
New York, NY 10115

The Rev. Dr. Nicholas B. Van Dyck
President, Religion in American Life
2 Queenston Pl., Room 200
Princeton, NJ 08540

The Reverend Dr. Milton Efthimiou
Ecumenical Officer
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North & South America
10 East 79th St.
New York, NY 10021

The Reverend Father Jacob Ghaly, Ecumenical Officer
St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church
427 Westside Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07304

The Right Reverend Bishop Richard F. Grein
Bishop of New York
1047 Amsterdam Ave. & 110th St.
New York, NY 10025

Dr. Eugene Habecker
President
American Bible Society
1865 Broadway
New York, NY 10023

The Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Hopko
Dean
St. Vladimir Orthodox Seminary
575 Scarsdale Rd.
Crestwood, NY 10707

His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos
Primate
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese
of North & South America
10 East 79th St.
New York, NY 10021

The Rev. Movses B. Janbazian
Executive Director
Armenian Missionary Association of America
140 Forest Ave.
Paramus, NJ 07652

His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph
Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox
550 - A West 50th St.
New York, NY 10019

The Very Reverend Father Leonid Kishkovsky
Bryant Ave.
Sea Cliff, NY 11579

The Most Rev. Archbishop Renato Martino
Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations
20 East 72nd St.
New York, NY 10021

His Eminence Bishop Matthias
Primate
Ethiopian Orthodox Archdiocese
P.O.Box 77262
Washington, DC 20013
(301) 894 - 2409
Fax: (301) 894 - 0924

The Most Rev. Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick
Archbishop of Newark
31 Mulberry St.
Newark, NJ 07102

The Very Rev. John Chorepiscopos Meno
St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Cathedral
260 Elm Ave.
Teaneck, NJ 07666

The Very Rev. James Parks Morton
Dean
Cathedral of St. John the Divine
1047 Amsterdam Avenue,
New York, NY 10025

The Right Reverend Bishop Paul
Exarch of the Patriarch of Moscow
and All Russia in the U.S.A.
Russian Orthodox Exarchate
15 East 97th St.
New York, NY 10029

Reverend David W. Perry
Ecumenical Officer
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Ave.
New York, NY 10017

The Most Rev. Metropolitan Philip
Primate
Antiochian Orthodox Christian
Archdiocese of North America
358 Mountain Rd.
Englewood, NJ 07631

The Right Reverend James H. Ottley
Anglican Observer at the United Nations
The Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue,
New York, NY 10022

Rabbi Arthur Schneier
President
Appeal of Conscience Foundation
119 West 57th St.
New York, NY 10019

The Right Reverend Bishop Hovhannes Tertzakian
Apostolic Exarch for
Armenian Catholics in U.S.A.
St. Ann's Cathedral
110 East 12th St.
New York, NY 10003

The Right Reverend Bishop James E. Sudbrock
Metropolitan New York Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
390 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10016 - 8803

His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius
Archbishop of Washington & Metropolitan
of All America & Canada
P.O.Box 675
Syosset, NY 11791

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Vsevolod
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
3 Davenport Ave.
New Rochelle, NY 10805

The Reverend Canon J. Robert Wright
General Theological Seminary
175 Ninth Ave.
New York, NY 10011

12/22/95
AKB/as



DIocese OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ ԱՐԵՒԵԼԵԱՆ ԹԵՄԻ

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 28, 1995

FAX

Ms. Joan Brown Campbell
National Council of Churches of Christ
475 Riverside Drive,
New York, NY 10115

Dear Joan:

The Primate has asked me to forward this COPY of the letter sent to President Clinton regarding the forthcoming visit of the Catholicos Karekin I to America this January.

It is his hope that through your office and with your help you may encourage the President to meet with His Holiness at the White House as indicated in the text of this letter.

Secondly, if you could provide to me some of the details regarding his visit on January 11th to the NCCC. What is being planned, who is to take part, what time and who is the individual contact person with whom I may speak.

Sorry I missed you at the Oakland meeting.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

Encl.

FGK/as



DIocese OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

COPY

October 30, 1995

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

As the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, I have the distinct pleasure to inform you that the newly-elected global pontiff of the Armenian Church, His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians will be visiting North America from January 10 through January 22, 1996.

This pontifical visit--His Holiness' first visit to our Dioceses in the United States--will be a major event for thousands of Armenians and non-Armenians as well. His visit to our Diocese, scheduled at the dawn of the New Year, will have a great impact on the nearly one million Armenians living in the United States, and will be of considerable importance as well for the Republic of Armenia. As we approach a new millennium and the 1700th anniversary of Christianity for the Armenian people, His Holiness' visit will focus on *A New Era--Church, Youth, Community*.

We are currently planning many visits and meetings for the Catholicos while he is in our country and certainly would be most honored if he could visit with you at the White House. During previous visits of our pontiffs, they have been received by Presidents Carter, Reagan, and Bush. His Holiness is eager to meet with you, to express his personal gratitude--and that of the citizens of the Republic of Armenia--for the humanitarian aid which the United States has continually provided since the devastating earthquake of 1988.

He also wishes to express his deep gratitude to the people of this blessed nation of the United States of America, for the example of hope it represents to all the Armenian people throughout the world.

Mr. President we would be greatly honored if you could arrange to meet with His Holiness during his stay in this country. He is scheduled to arrive at New York's JFK Airport on January 10, 1996, and his itinerary will bring him to Washington, D.C. on January 15-16. Naturally, we would be more than happy to arrange his schedule to your convenience.

In closing, I wish to express the collective thanks of all our faithful to you Mr. President for your friendship to the Armenian people and for the support you have offered into the building of a new nation from the rubble of a political system that retarded growth and prosperity for some seventy years.

I am confident that you will enjoy His Holiness' wisdom, warmth and character during this encounter, and through him come to know even more the soul of the Armenian people. Your office may contact me at the above address and telephone number.

May God continue to bless your ministry and leadership of this great nation.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 7, 1995

The Reverend Father Vertanes Kalayjian, Pastor
St. Mary Armenian Church
4125 Fessenden St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Father Vertanes:

I am sure you are well underway with your preparations for the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians.

In New York we are arranging a number of local ecumenical meetings with various groups and individuals. If there is any assistance we may offer to you in your region regarding ecumenical contacts and meetings please contact us.

In addition to the local hierarchs and clergy you have invited, may I recommend that you also contact

Reverend Ronald Roberson,
Associate Director of the Secretariat for Ecumenical Affairs
National Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington
3015 - 4th St. N.E.
Washington, DC 20017-1199

His Eminence Archbishop Matthias, Primate
Ethiopian Orthodox Church
P.O.Box 77262
Washington, DC 20013

who would be interested in attending your worship and program and if possible meeting His Holiness. They may already be on your list.

In Christ,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 7, 1995

The Very Reverend Father Baret Yeretjian, Pastor
St. John's Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway,
Southfield, MI 48075

Dear Father Baret:

I am sure you are well underway with your preparations for the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians.

In New York we are arranging a number of local ecumenical meetings with various groups and individuals. If there is any assistance we may offer to you in your region regarding ecumenical contacts and meetings please contact us.

In addition to the local hierarchs and clergy you have invited, may I recommend that you also contact

Reverend Bruce Rigdon, Pastor
1028 Yorkshire
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230

Reverend Ronald Byars, Pastor
18129 Riverside
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Reverend Edward Gehres, Jr. Executive Presbyter
Presbytery of Detroit
17575 Hubbell
Detroit, MI 48235

P. Richard Stoesser
5120 Russell St.
Midland, MI 48640

who would be interested in attending your worship and program and if possible meeting His Holiness. They may already be on your list. These clergy and lay persons visited His Holiness last spring in the Ecumenical group sent by the National Council of Churches.

In Christ,

Fr. Garabed

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 7, 1995

The Reverend Father Dajad Davidian, Pastor
St. James Armenian Church
465 Mount Auburn St.
Watertown, MA 02172-4182

Dear Father Dajad:

I am sure you are well underway with your preparations for the forthcoming visit of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians.

In New York we are arranging a number of local ecumenical meetings with various groups and individuals. If there is any assistance we may offer to you in your region regarding ecumenical contacts and meetings please contact us.

In addition to the local hierarchs and clergy you have invited, may I recommend that you also contact

The Reverend Diane C. Kessler
Executive Director
Massachusetts Council of Churches
14 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02108-3760

Sister Therese Dion, SJ.
Ecumenical Officer
Worcester Catholic Archdiocese
Elm St.
Worcester, MA 01602

who would be interested in attending your worship and program and if possible meeting His Holiness. They may already be on your list.

In Christ,

F. Garabed
Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



Archdiocese Of Newark
Office of the Archbishop

December 15, 1995

Your Excellency
Most Rev. Khajag Barsamian
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

Your Excellency,

Archbishop McCarrick has requested that I reply to your letter of November 22, 1995, inviting him to join in the welcoming of His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians to the Church Dioceses of North America, on Wednesday, January 10, 1996.

The Archbishop will be in attendance and sends his prayerful best wishes to you.

I have the honor to be, Your Excellency

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Thomas P. Nydegger

Rev. Thomas P. Nydegger
Secretary to the Archbishop

TPN:jl

ARCHDIOCESAN CENTER

171 Clifton Avenue · Post Office Box 9500 · Newark · New Jersey 07104-9500 · (201)-497-4000



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA
UNDER THE SPIRITUAL JURISDICTION OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΒΟΡΕΙΩ Κ ΝΟΤΙΩ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

COPY

December 12, 1995

Most Rev. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Dear Brother in Christ:

With great pleasure, we have been informed of the forthcoming first official visit, since his enthronement, of His Holiness Karekin I in the Americas.

It will be a distinct pleasure to welcome His Holiness at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, and we would deem it an honor if you would accept our invitation to an ecumenical luncheon on Thursday, January 11, 1996, at 12:30 p.m. at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, 10 East 79 St.

Hoping that you will honor His Holiness with your presence, kindly respond to the Ecumenical Office at (212) 570-3591.

Wishing Your Eminence a most blessed and joyous Nativity of our Lord, we remain,

With brotherly love
in the newborn King,

Iakovos

+I A K O V O S
Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox
Church of North and South America

AI:ak



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APOSTOLIC EXARCHATE FOR ARMENIAN CATHOLICS
IN U.S. AND CANADA

110 EAST 12TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10003-5395

TEL: 212-477-2030 † FAX: 212-477-2185

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 18, 1995

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

Your Excellency:

Your gracious invitation for the events honoring Karakin I Sarkissian, Catholicos of Etchmiadzin, during his visit to New York has been received.

I shall be pleased to attend the January 10 reception at 7:00 p.m. On January 14 I shall be in Toronto for a long-planned pastoral visit, so I must decline with regrets for that date.

Joyful good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Sincerely,

+ Hovhannes Tertzakian

Most Rev. Hovhannes Tertzakian

Apostolic Exarch

HT:mtt



DIocese OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Grace Bishop Youssef
P.O.Box 1005,
Colleyville, TX 76034-1005

Your Grace:

It is my pleasure to congratulate you upon your installation as Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church and faithful of the parishes in the southern district of the United States of America. Father Jacob Ghaly, who participates in the Oriental Orthodox meetings here in New York has shared the news of this new appointment with us. I look forward to your participation as well in future gatherings of the leaders of the Oriental Orthodox Churches.

With these words of congratulations, I wish to invite you to join us in welcoming our new Patriarch - Catholicos His Holiness Karekin I on his first official visit to America. We would be most pleased if you could join us with other Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant leaders who will greet His Holiness upon his arrival in America.

He will be received at our Cathedral here in New York on Wednesday January 10, 1996 at a special service of Thanksgiving at 7:00 o'clock in the evening. Following this service of prayer, a special reception for Ecumenical leaders will be held at which time you will have the opportunity to meet His Holiness and bring him the greetings of the Coptic Orthodox community in America.

Please let our office know if you will be attending by contacting the office of ecumenical affairs and inform Deacon Aren Jebejian if you will attend.

Plan to arrive no later than 6:00 p.m. and use the Second Avenue street - level entrance where you shall be greeted and directed to a location to vest and walk in the processional.

I look forward to this momentous occasion and the opportunity to pray to our Lord as His church welcomes His Holiness to America.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 29, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos, Primate
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of
North and South America
10 East 79th St.
New York, NY 10021

Your Eminence:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to attend the welcoming service for His Holiness Karekin I, and to offer the words of welcome on behalf of the ecumenical community. A reception for His Holiness will take place following the service. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that if it is possible you arrive by 6:30 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

When you arrive, please use the entrance at the north east corner of the Cathedral Plaza. In the foyer, you will be greeted by an escort and directed to the proper location for vesting.

Needless to say, I am greatly looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Please accept my wishes for a blessed Theophany season and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

Reverend David W. Perry
Ecumenical Officer
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Ave.
New York, NY 10017

Dear Father Perry:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Dr. Joan B. Campbell
General Secretary
Nat'l Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.
475 Riverside Dr.
New York, NY 10115

Dear Rev. Campbell:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Right Reverend Craig Barry Anderson
President & Dean
General Theological Seminary
175 Ninth Ave.
New York, NY 10011

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Grace Mathews Mar Barnabas
Metropolitan Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church
Indian Orthodox Church Center,
80-34 Commonwealth Blvd.
Bellerose, NY 11426

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Very Reverend Father Leonid Kishkovsky
Bryant Ave.
Sea Cliff, NY 11579

Dear Father Kishkovsky:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Movses B. Janbazian
Executive Director
Armenian Missionary Association of America
140 Forest Ave.
Paramus, NJ 07652

Dear Reverend Janbazian:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

Dr. Eugene Habecker
President
American Bible Society
1865 Broadway
New York, NY 10023

Dear Dr. Habecker:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Right Reverend Bishop Richard F. Grein
Bishop of New York
1047 Amsterdam Ave. & 110th St.
New York, NY 10025

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Dr. Nicholas B. Van Dyck
President, Religion in American Life
2 Queenston Pl., Room 200
Princeton, NJ 08540

Dear Dr. Van Dyck

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Father Jacob Ghaly, Ecumenical Officer
St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church
427 Westside Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07304

Dear Father Ghaly:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Very Reverend James Parks Morton
Dean
Cathedral of St. John the Divine
1047 Amsterdam Avenue,
New York, NY 10025

Dear Father Morton:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian
Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Very Reverend John Chorepiscopos Meno
St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Cathedral
260 Elm Ave.
Teaneck, NJ 07666

Dear Father Meno:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Most Reverend Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick
Archbishop of Newark
31 Mulberry St.
Newark, NJ 07102

Your Eminence:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Eminence Bishop Matthias
Primate
Ethiopian Orthodox Archdiocese
P.O.Box 77262
Washington, DC 20013

Your Eminence:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Very Reverend Father Paul Lazor
St. Vladimir Orthodox Seminary
575 Scarsdale Rd.
Crestwood, NY 10707

Dear Father Lazor:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

Msgr. David Malloy
20 East 72nd St.
New York, NY 10021

Dear Msgr. Malloy:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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With prayers,

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Right Reverend Bishop Paul
Exarch of the Patriarch of Moscow
and All Russia in the U.S.A.
Russian Orthodox Exarchate
15 East 97th St.
New York, NY 10029

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Canon J. Robert Wright
General Theological Seminary
175 Ninth Ave.
New York, NY 10011

Dear Reverend Wright:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Right Reverend Bishop Vsevolod
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
3 Davenport Ave.
New Rochelle, NY 10805

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Right Reverend Bishop Hovhannes Tertzakian
Apostolic Exarch for
Armenian Catholics in U.S.A.
St. Ann's Cathedral
110 East 12th St.
New York, NY 10003

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Right Reverend Bishop Charles McNutt
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Ave.
New York, NY 10017

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Dr. Johncy Itty
The Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue,
New York, NY 10022

Dear Father Itty:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Grace Bishop Antoun
Antiochian Orthodox Christian
Archdiocese of North America
358 Mountain Rd.
Englewood, NJ 07631

Your Grace :

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Dr. Milton Efthimiou
Ecumenical Officer
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North & South America
10 East 79th St.
New York, NY 10021

Dear Father Efthimiou:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Chancellor

FGK/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Father David Bebawy
19 Jefferson Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10306

Dear Father David:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend a special gathering of all Oriental Orthodox leaders of the sister churches to welcome and meet with His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America.

As announced to you in a prior letter, His Holiness the Catholicos will receive you at a special meeting on Thursday January 11, 1995 at the Diocesan headquarters 630 Second Avenue. The meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. and take place in the Primate's reception room.

Please use the 34th street staircase to the Cathedral plaza and use the first entrance door immediately to the right to enter the complex.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Grace Mathews Mar Barnabas
Metropolitan Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church
Indian Orthodox Church Center,
80-34 Commonwealth Blvd.
Bellerose, NY 11426

Your Grace:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend a special gathering of all Oriental Orthodox leaders of the sister churches to welcome and meet with His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America.

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Chancellor



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Grace Bishop Youssef
P.O.Box 1005
Colleyville, TX 76034-1005

Your Grace:

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Matthias, Primate
Ethiopian Orthodox Archdiocese
P.O.Box 77262
Washington, DC 20013

Your Eminence:

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With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Father Jacob Ghaly, Ecumenical Officer
St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church
31 Dolphin Rd.
New City, NY 10956

Father Ghaly:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend a special gathering of all Oriental Orthodox leaders of the sister churches to welcome and meet with His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America.

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With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Dr. K.M. Simon
12 Dogwood Lane,
Hohokus, NJ 07423

Dear Father Simon:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend a special gathering of all Oriental Orthodox leaders of the sister churches to welcome and meet with His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America.

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With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Nicholovos Zacharia
c/o General Theological Seminary
175 9th Ave.
New York, NY 10011

Your Eminence:

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With prayers,

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Very Reverend Chorepiscopus John Meno
St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Cathedral
260 Elm Ave.
Teaneck, NJ 07666

Dear Father Meno:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend a special gathering of all Oriental Orthodox leaders of the sister churches to welcome and meet with His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America.

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With prayers,

F. Garabed Kochakian

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

December 21, 1995

The Reverend Father Norris Absalom
St. Michael Ethiopian Orthodox Church
P.O. Box 3248,
Teaneck, NJ 07666

Dear Father Absalom:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend a special gathering of all Oriental Orthodox leaders of the sister churches to welcome and meet with His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America.

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DIocese OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Robert G. Torricelli
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Torricelli:

It is our great pleasure to announce that at the dawn of the New Year 1996, the Armenian-Americans, especially in the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area, will have an opportunity to greet their Pontiff His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of All Armenians, when our Diocese is graced with his presence. His Holiness will be touring the United States and Canada on his first pontifical visit to this country since his election in April 1995.

Upon the arrival of His Holiness on Wednesday, January 10, 1996 at 4:30 p.m. at Newark International Airport, there will be a Welcome Reception to honor him.

Since you have always been a friend to the Armenian people, it would be most appropriate to have you present at Newark International Airport to welcome His Holiness to the United States, and especially to the State of New Jersey, where a large constituency of Armenian-Americans reside.

I hope you will accept our invitation to welcome the spiritual leader of our people on this historical day for Armenians in this country.

May God bless you and your loved ones during this holiday season.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

Kindly respond by Monday, January 8, to:

Frank Avakian-Stoneson
Pontifical Visit Coordinator
(212) 686-0710

(Enclosed please find a biography of His Holiness)

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Richard A. Zimmer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Zimmer:

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May God bless you and your loved ones during this holiday season.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

Kindly respond by Monday, January 8, to:

Frank Avakian-Stoneson
Pontifical Visit Coordinator
(212) 686-0710

(Enclosed please find a biography of His Holiness)

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Frelinghuysen:

It is our great pleasure to announce that at the dawn of the New Year 1996, the Armenian-Americans, especially in the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area, will have an opportunity to greet their Pontiff His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of All Armenians, when our Diocese is graced with his presence. His Holiness will be touring the United States and Canada on his first pontifical visit to this country since his election in April 1995.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Robert E. Andrews
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Andrews:

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Jim Saxton
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Saxton:

It is our great pleasure to announce that at the dawn of the New Year 1996, the Armenian-Americans, especially in the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area, will have an opportunity to greet their Pontiff His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of All Armenians, when our Diocese is graced with his presence. His Holiness will be touring the United States and Canada on his first pontifical visit to this country since his election in April 1995.

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January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Bob Franks
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Franks:

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Christopher H. Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

It is our great pleasure to announce that at the dawn of the New Year 1996, the Armenian-Americans, especially in the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area, will have an opportunity to greet their Pontiff His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of All Armenians, when our Diocese is graced with his presence. His Holiness will be touring the United States and Canada on his first pontifical visit to this country since his election in April 1995.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Donald M. Payne
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Payne:

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Senator Frank Lautenberg
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lautenberg:

It is our great pleasure to announce that at the dawn of the New Year 1996, the Armenian-Americans, especially in the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area, will have an opportunity to greet their Pontiff His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of All Armenians, when our Diocese is graced with his presence. His Holiness will be touring the United States and Canada on his first pontifical visit to this country since his election in April 1995.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Bill Martini
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Martini:

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January 4, 1996

The Honorable Senator Bill Bradley
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bradley:

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January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Frank Pallone
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Pallone:

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Robert Menendez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Menendez:

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 4, 1996

The Honorable Congressman Frank A. LoBiondo
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman LoBiondo:

It is our great pleasure to announce that at the dawn of the New Year 1996, the Armenian-Americans, especially in the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area, will have an opportunity to greet their Pontiff His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of All Armenians, when our Diocese is graced with his presence. His Holiness will be touring the United States and Canada on his first pontifical visit to this country since his election in April 1995.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 5, 1996

Reverend Dr. Herald A. G. Hassessian
The Armenian Evangelical Church
152 East 34th St.
New York, NY 10016

Dear Reverend Hassessian:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

Pleasure use the Second Avenue (street level) entrance. In the foyer you will be greeted and directed by an escort to the proper location for vesting. Looking forward to the pleasure of your presence in welcoming our new holy father.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

With prayers,

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor

FGK/as



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 5, 1996

Reverend L. Nishan Bakalian
The Armenian Evangelical Church
152 East 34th St.
New York, NY 10016

Dear Reverend Bakalian:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 5, 1996

His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph
Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox
550 - A West 50th St.
New York, NY 10019

Your Eminence:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 5, 1996

His Eminence Archbishop Herman of Philadelphia
St. Tikhon's Seminary
South Canaan, PA 18459

Your Eminence:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

January 5, 1996

The Reverend Richard Foster
168 W. 100 St.
New York, NY 10025

Dear Father Foster:

We are pleased to learn of your positive response to the invitation from the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian to attend the welcoming service and a reception for His Holiness Lord Lord Karekin I Supreme Patriarch - Catholicos of All Armenians on his first Pontifical visit to America. As announced, the service will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral. In confirming your participation we ask that you arrive by 6:15 p.m. for vesting and pre-worship instructions.

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

February 6, 1996

The Most Reverend John Cardinal O'Connor
Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York
Archdiocese of New York
1011 First Ave.
New York, NY 10022

Dear Cardinal O'Connor:

We wish to extend to you our appreciation and thanks for hosting the breakfast for His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians and our official entourage on Saturday, January 13, 1996 at your residence. Your welcome extended to him and the fellowship during the meal, I am certain, was truly an occasion of true Christian agape in which our common witness to the Gospel of Christ and the work of His Holy Church - visibly shared in word and spirit. Your graciousness at this gathering assuredly touched all of the guests who were present to meet His Holiness.

May God continue to grant you many healthy and blessed years in the service of your diocese here in New York.

With prayers of thanks and appreciation,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

February 6, 1996

The Right Reverend Bishop Richard F. Grein
Bishop of New York
1047 Amsterdam Ave. & 110th St.
New York, NY 10025

Dear Bishop Grein:

We wish to extend to you our appreciation and thanks for your participation in the events held on the occasion of the visit of our holy father, His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians to America this past January, particularly your presence at the Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine on Sunday, January 14, 1996.

We offer our gratitude to you for hosting the luncheon for the Catholicos on Friday, January 12, 1996. Your welcome extended to him and the fellowship during the meal was, I am certain, truly an occasion of true Christian agape in which our common witness to the Gospel of Christ and the work of His Holy Church - visibly shared in word and spirit. Your graciousness at this gathering assuredly touched all of the guests who were present to meet His Holiness.

May God continue to grant you many healthy and blessed years in the service of your diocese here in New York.

With prayers of thanks and appreciation,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

February 6, 1996

His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos, Primate
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America
10 East 79th St.
New York, NY 10021

Your Eminence:

We wish to extend to Your Eminence our appreciation and thanks for your participation in the events held on the occasion of the visit of our holy father, His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians to America this past January.

Your warm and sincere words of welcome in the Saint Vartan Cathedral truly touched not only His Holiness but all of us who were present on the evening of his arrival. The smile on his face as well as the gleaming countenances of the other guest clergy in attendance that night were, as well, truly indicative of the impact your words and feelings toward His Holiness.

Likewise, our gratitude to Your Eminence for hosting the luncheon for the Catholicos at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan center on January 11, 1996. The welcome at the chapel and the fellowship during the meal was felt by us all to be an occasion of true Christian agape in which our common witness to the Gospel of Christ and the work of His Holy Church - visibly shared in word and spirit. The graciousness of Your Eminence touched all of us present at these two gatherings on the occasion of this pontifical visit.

May God grant you many years and comfort in your health as you continue in the care of your flock.

With prayers of thanks and appreciation,

Atop. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

February 6, 1996

The Reverend Joan Brown Campbell, General Secretary
The National Council of the Churches of Christ
475 Riverside Drive,
New York, NY 10115-0050

Dear Reverend Campbell:

We wish to extend to you our appreciation and thanks for your participation in the events held on the occasion of the visit of our holy father, His Holiness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians to America this past January.

Particularly, we offer our gratitude to you for hosting the dinner for the Catholicos at your residence on Thursday evening January 11, 1996. Your welcome extended to him and the fellowship during the meal was, I am certain, truly an occasion of true Christian agape in which our common witness to the Gospel of Christ and the work of His Holy Church - visibly shared in word and spirit. Your graciousness at this gathering assuredly touched all of the guests who were present to meet His Holiness.

The presentation of the gift by Bishop Mathews from the UM Corps in the name of the NCCC for the work of the seminary at Holy Etchmiadzin pleased his Holiness greatly and I am sure your commitment to this special request of his will continue as the rebuilding of the Faith remains the primary mission of the Catholicos' many initiatives.

May God continue to grant you many years of service in this most important ministry entrusted to you.

With prayers of thanks and appreciation,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

AKB/as



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

February 20, 1996

Your Holiness:

The following person is the contact individual for the United Methodist Corps. for Armenian Relief.

This is the agency that granted the \$25,000 through the NCCC.

Dr. Kenneth Lutgen, Director
UM Corps.
Telephone: (212) 870 - 3816

Also Bishop Mathews: Telephone (914) 684 - 6922

Your Humble Servant,

Fr. Garabed L.

Father Garabed Kochakian
Chancellor