

1967 ANNUAL REPORT ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS BAYSIDE, N.Y.



1 9 6 7

PARISH COUNCIL

Term Expires

| | | |
|------|---------------------------|---------------|
| | Rev. Fr. Vartan Megherian | President |
| 1969 | Anthony Jevarjian | Chairman |
| 1969 | Walter Kaprielian | Vice-Chairman |
| 1968 | John Pilibosian | Treasurer |
| 1968 | John Rapiel | Secretary |
| 1968 | Harry Ashbahian | Asst. Secy. |
| 1969 | George Ajemian | Advisor |
| 1968 | *Aram Avakian | Advisor |
| 1968 | **Vahak Deirmendjian | Advisor |
| 1969 | Jack Melikian | Advisor |
| 1968 | Peter Piranian | Advisor |
| 1969 | Zohrab Turekian | Advisor |

*Filling unexpired term of Dr. M. Kimatian who resigned in March 1967.

**Replacing Edward Kapikian who resigned in September 1967.

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Edward Asadorian
Edward Chapian
George Papalian

DIOCESAN DELEGATES

(4 year term, expiring 1968)

Ralph Anoushian
George G. Bashian
Joseph Chorbajian
Dadour Dadourian
*Richard K. Gregory

*Filling unexpired term of the late Yervant Hampar.

RESERVE FUND TRUSTEES

(6 year term, expiring...)

George G. Bashian 1973
Richard K. Gregory 1971
Dadour Dadourian 1969

ՍՐԲՈՑ ՆԱՀԱՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

ARMENIAN CHURCH of the HOLY MARTYRS

REV. FR. VARTAN MEGHERIAN
Pastor

209-15 HORACE HARDING BLVD.
BAYSIDE 64, N. Y.
Tel. BAyside 5-0235

ՀՐԱԽԻՐ ԾԽԱԿԱՆ ԺՈՂՈՎԻ

ՍՐԲՈՑ ՆԱՀԱՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՈՅ

Կիրակի, Փետրուար 25, 1968

Յաւարտ Ս. Պատարագի
Եկեղեցւոյ Սրահին Մէջ

Օ Ր Ա Կ Ա Ր Գ

- 1- Ջեկոյց Հովիւի:
- 2- Տեղեկագիր Ծխական Խորհուրդի:
- 3- Ընտրութիւնք. Ծխական Խորհուրդի
6 անդամներու, 5 Թեմական Պատգամա-
ւորներու, Հաշուեքննիչ Յանձնախումբ-
ի 3 անդամներու:
- 4- Տեղեկագիրք Եկեղեցւոյս Օժանդակ Կազ-
մակերպութեանց:
- 5- Տեղեկագիր Երիտասարդութեան Հարցեր
Ուսումնասիրող Յանձնախումբի:
- 6- Տեղեկագիր Հաշուեքննիչ Յանձնախումբի:
- 7- 1968ի Պիւտճէի սահմանում:

Սուրբ Պատարագէն ետք թեթեւ ճաշ պիտի
որուի ժողովականներուն:

Քուէարկութիւնը պէտք է անձամբ կատար-
ուի: Քուէարկութիւնը պիտի տեղի ունենայ
Ժողովի բացումէն ետք միայն եւ պիտի ղաղրի
երկու ժամ յետոյ: 1967ի իրենց անդամ-
որութեան վճարողներ իրաւասու պիտի ըլլան
քուէարկելու:

ԴԻԽԱՆ ԾԽԱԿԱՆ ԺՈՂՈՎԻ

Վարդան ԲՀՆՅ. Մկրեան
ՆԱԽԱԳԱՀ

Եղուարդ Մ. Զափեան
ԱՏԵՆԱՊԵՏ

Բենեամին Պ. Սողիկեան
ԱՏԵՆԱԴՊԻՐ

INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

of the
ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS

Sunday, February 25, 1968

Following Services
Church Auditorium

AGENDA

- 1- Report of the Pastor.
- 2- Report of the Parish Council.
- 3- Elections: 6 Parish Council Mem-
bers, 5 Diocesan Delegates, &
3 Auditing Committee Members.
- 4- Reports of the Church Organizations.
- 5- Report of the Youth Study Committee.
- 6- Report of the Auditing Committee.
- 7- 1968 Budget.

A light lunch will be served after
the Divine Liturgy to members who plan
to attend the meeting.

Important Note: Voting will start
only after the meeting is officially
opened and will terminate after two
hours, as decided by the Preliminary
Parish Assembly. Ballots must be cast
in person. Those who are paid-up mem-
bers of the parish through 1967 are
eligible to vote.

OFFICERS OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY

Rev. Fr. Vartan Megherian
PRESIDENT

Edward M. Chapian
CHAIRMAN

Penyamin B. Sohikian
SECRETARY

ՍՐԲՈՑ ՆԱԿԱՏԱԿԱԼՑ ԿՈՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

ARMENIAN CHURCH of the HOLY MARTYRS

REV. FR. VARTAN MEGHERIAN
Pastor

209-15 HORACE HARDING BLVD.
BAYSIDE 64, N. Y.
Tel. BAyside 5-0235

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOLY MARTYRS CHURCH:

For the first time, the Parish Council has assembled a comprehensive record of all the events and activities that occurred in 1967 and published this report for your information.

Please read the report, make notes on questions you may have, and bring the report with you to the Parish Assembly on February 25, 1968, at which time any points you do not understand may be clarified.

Only one copy will be distributed to each church-member family.

Respectfully,

FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

Rev. Fr. Vartan Megherian
President

Anthony Jevarjian
CHAIRMAN

John Rapiel
SECRETARY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| Invitation to the Annual Parish Assembly | 1 |
| Candidates for Election | 4 |
| Pastor's Report | 5 |
| Parish Council Report | 11 |
| . Long Range Planning Committee | 12 |
| . Cathedral Campaign | 13 |
| Building Committee Report | 16 |
| Youth Study Committee Report | 17 |
| Church Choir Report | 19 |
| Sunday School Report | 21 |
| Armenian School Report | 25 |
| Hye-Bardez Nursery School Report | 27 |
| Women's Guild Report | 29 |
| George G. Bashian Sunday School and Armenian School Report | 32 |
| A.C.Y.O.A. Report | 33 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary Report | 35 |
| Men's League Report | 36 |
| Cub Scouts | 38 |
| Boy Scouts | 39 |
| Statement of the Auditing Committee | 40 |
| Comparative Financial Reports for 1965-66-67 and 1968 Proposed Budget | |
| . Receipts (Exhibit A) | 41 |
| . Disbursements (Exhibit B) | 42 |
| Statement of Assets and Liabilities (Exhibit C) | 43 |
| Reconciliation of Cash (Exhibit D) | 44 |
| Reserve Fund (Exhibit E) | 44 |
| Consolidated Financial Report | 45 |

SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

Parish Council (Vote for 6 names only)

Avedis, Azad
Baronian, Jack
Der Tatevasian, Albert
Dukmejian, Mihran
Kaloustian, Aram
Keurpeyan, Sarkis M.

Kimatian, Eli P.
Kyrkostas, Margaret
Martin, Larry
Saruhan, Henry
Sohikian, Penyamin B.
Tekeyan, Thomas

Diocesan Delegates (Vote for 5 names only)

Anoushian, Ralph
Bashian, George G.
Chapian, Edward M.
Chorbajian, Joseph
Dadourian, Dadour

Gregory, Richard K.
Kapikian, Zareh K.
Mendikian, Aram
Papalian, George
Shahabian, Kenneth

Auditing Committee (Vote for 3 names only)

Aprahamian, Misak
Babaian, Robert S.
Barber, Walter

Boyajian, Harold
Kevorkian, George
Yardum, Ara L.

NOTICE

Ballotting will begin at the opening of the Parish Assembly on February 25, 1968, and will close after two hours.

Ballots for voting are available at the church office and will also be distributed at the meeting.

PASTOR'S REPORT FOR 1967

As I reflect upon my twenty years as a priest of the Armenian Church, I thank God that I have been able to serve His Church one more year during 1967. As much as my abilities would allow me, I have brought my share also to the spiritual and administrative efforts of this community. It is true that as life itself, the life of our parish has had to face some small difficulties, but like pebbles in a running stream, they have not become obstacles in the path to progress. Facts and records prove that 1967 has been one of our most successful years. I have always been confident that our church will progress spiritually, educationally and socially, so long as we do not miss the real meaning of the Christian motto, which is so appropriately written on the facade of our altar, "Love ye one another, for God is Love."

Worship

During all of the Sundays of the year, without exception, Divine Liturgy was held and appropriate sermons were given in either or both Armenian and English. This year during the church school year, sermonettes in English were delivered by me to the children on Sundays. This year again, Deacon Hagop Nersoyan assisted me at the altar, and delivered sermons on occasion, until the time of his departure for Ohio. Besides this, other church services were conducted on special occasions. These are:

Theophany Eve, "Jerakalouytz", on Thursday, January 5 - Special Service and Divine Liturgy.

Holy Communion on Thursday, January 5, for the Armenian mothers and fathers at the Old Age Home.

Armenian Christmas, on Friday, January 6 - Women's Guild members participated in the Divine Liturgy where they took corporate Holy Communion followed by Communion Breakfast.

Holy Communion Service for Sunday School children, on Saturday, Jan. 7.

Blessing of the Water, "Tjurornek", on Sunday, January 8. This ceremony was performed on the Feast of Theophany in commemoration of Christ's Baptism.

Feast of St. Vartanantz, on Thursday, February 2 - Divine Liturgy was celebrated.

Sunrise Service, "Arevakal", performed during the Sundays of Lent.

Lenten Vigil Service (Peace and Rest Hours), held every Wednesday evening during Lent.

Holy Week Observances:

Maundy Thursday, March 23, Holy Badarak was celebrated and Holy Communion was administered to the Women's Guild followed by Communion Breakfast.

Feet-Washing Ceremony, on Thursday evening, March 23, followed by the Service of the Betrayal of Christ, "Khavaroom".

Burial of Christ, "Taghoom", on Good Friday, March 24.

Holy Communion Service for Sunday School children, Saturday, March 25.

Easter Eve, "Jerakalouytz", on Saturday evening, March 25 - Special Service and Divine Liturgy was celebrated.

Grape-Blessing Ceremony, on the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother-of-God, Sunday, August 13.

Festive Antasdan (Processional of Blessing of the Four Corners of the World) on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Sunday, September 17.

Antasdan was performed on major Holy Days.

Pontifical Prayer, "Hayrabadagan Maghtank", services were offered on the 12th anniversary of the Consecration of Catholicos Vasken I, Sunday October 1, and on the Feast Day of Holy Etchmiadzin, Sunday, May 28.

Memorial Services, "Hokehankisd", were conducted for the soul of Francis Cardinal Spellman (December 24) and for the deceased founders of the A.G.B.U. (April 17), as directed by the Diocese, and almost every Sunday as requested by the parishioners.

Christmas Midnight Candlelight Service (December 24). This service, which is performed all in English, is well attended, especially by the youth, and has been one of the most inspiring services of our parish. This year more than 400 worshippers were present.

The Church expresses itself at its best in the worship of God. The beauty of our worship services depends on a choir whose contribution is singular and most valuable. To this end, this year, the Choir of our church as well as the Junior Choir were reorganized, to the efforts of which I am pleased to have brought my share also.

Visiting Clergy

In the course of the year, guest clergymen have participated in our church services as celebrants and preachers.

The Most Rev. Bishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of our Diocese, paid his first official visit to our church on April 21-22-23. On April 21, His Grace was present at a dinner-meeting with the Pastor, Parish Council, and the Diocesan Delegates, after which officers of the church organizations also arrived to participate in the discussion. On April 22, the Primate conducted an Evening Service as well as a choir rehearsal, which was followed by a reception to give parishioners an opportunity to meet their Primate. On Sunday, April 23, His Grace celebrated the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon, after which he presided at the Banquet given in his honor as well as in commemoration of Armenian Martyrs Day.

The Very Rev. Vasken Kebreslian, the Vicar-General of the Primate, celebrated the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon on Sunday, March 19, in our church, on the occasion of the anniversary celebration of the Gomidas Choir.

The Rev. Fr. Levon Arakelian, Executive Secretary of the Cathedral Project, was guest celebrant at our church on Sunday, November 12.

In addition, we had four guest clergymen who exchanged Sundays with me. They were: The Most Rev. Bishop Papken Varjabedian, the Pastor of St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Church of Philadelphia, Pa., on April 2; The Very Rev. Vatche Dz. V. Hovsepian, the Pastor of Holy Cross Church of Union City, N.J., on May 28; The Rev. Fr. Mampre Kouzouian, Pastor of St. Mary's Church of Newark, N.J., on October 15; and The Rev. Fr. Garen Gdanian, Pastor of St. Gregory the Illuminator Church of New York, N.Y., on December 10. Deacons and Choirs accompanied their Pastors during the last two exchanges. These exchanges were well received on both sides and will be continued in the coming year.

Sacraments and Rites

During the year 1967, the following services were performed by me:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----------|----|
| Baptism and Confirmation | 26 | Weddings | 20 |
| Adult Confirmation | 3 | Funerals | 22 |

A few Betrothals were also performed.

Visitations

Pastoral visitations, being a very important task, were rendered by me to the best of my ability and time. During the year, numerous contacts in the way of sick calls to hospitals and homes or of visits to bereaved families or of the blessing of homes were made by me. According to the registry kept in the office, this year I have had the opportunity of making more visitations, numbering 143.

In addition, pastoral counseling, family conferences and pre-marital consultations were administered by me. This important work of the Pastor, although it requires much time and effort, is difficult to report upon because of its personal nature.

Birthday and Anniversary Letters

Beside the ties of communication which I have tried to establish with my parish members by means of telephone to show personal interest in their sorrow or joy, I have written letters of congratulation or good wishes on their birthdays and marriage anniversaries which, according to my records, number 275 this year. I have requested dates from our church-member families whose records are not complete. I am pleased that some have already responded. Only those who value receiving congratulatory greetings from their Pastor will join the ranks in sending their family record information.

Educational Activities

In the educational work of the parish, the Pastor's share is two-fold: supervision of the schools of the church and educational talks.

The Sunday School, in which more than 350 enrolled children were given instruction in the teachings and the heritage of the Armenian Church, received my guidance in acquiring teachers and in functioning according to curriculum and discipline. I am happy that, since September 1966, the Sunday School Staff adopted my proposal to include in the curriculum the teaching of the songs of the Badarak at the assembly sessions of our Sunday School. This knowledge of melodies will make a lasting impression on our children, not only by making the worship services meaningful to them as they attend church, but also will strengthen our Choir in the future by having prepared prospective choir members. In addition to this, prayers in Armenian as well as elementary conversational Armenian have been introduced, again as part of the curriculum for the nursery and kindergarten classes, upon my suggestion. Both are progressing well.

Our Saturday Armenian School also had my immediate supervision in its educational program. It was a gratifying experience working with the school committee and with the teachers on curriculum, teachers' meetings, and problems concerning education.

An adult Armenian class in language and history was conducted by me on Monday nights from September 1966 to late winter 1967. Despite the fact that members of the class said they were interested and stimulated by the new conversational methods, they were prevented from continued participation due to inclement weather and circumstances beyond their control.

In my last year's report, I mentioned that I was giving considerable thought to the project of having a daytime Nursery School on our church premises. In the course of this year, I was in charge of an interim committee to investigate and work closely with the New York City Department of Health for the fulfillment of the necessary requirements. I am pleased that our efforts have been brought to fruition by the formation of a permanent Day School Committee and the opening of the Hye-Bardez Nursery School.

The lecture which I gave to the parishioners of St. Robert's Roman Catholic Church in our own church building at the beginning of this year and the various short cultural talks to our organizations have also been part of my educational work in this parish during 1967.

Publications

The "Narrec", official semi-monthly paper of our parish, continued to be published this year also as one of my activities in this church. Besides the parish organizational news, effort was made to present other items of interest to our parishioners.

The "Sunday Bulletin" this year, without interruption, became one of the regular facets of my work every week. By means of the material on its first and fourth pages, spiritual, informative, instructive and educational topics, most of them prepared by me, were offered to worshippers and Sunday School children.

Meetings

As expected of the Pastor to participate at the meetings of the parish, I have attended and presided over the meetings of church bodies -- the Parish Council, Women's Guild, Men's League, Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary, ACYOA, Armenian School Board, Armenian and Sunday Schools, Bazaar and other committees, as Youth Study or Nursery -- to which I have brought my contribution. Besides this, I have attended almost all church functions. It would be fair to say that, considering all these, my attendance averages two meetings per week.

In the deliberations of finding a remedy to the ailing ACYOA Senior Chapter, I have called special meetings. Despite the formation of a new executive committee, the ACYOA Senior Group was unable to overcome outside circumstances and, therefore, fell into a state of lethargy. The details relating to this problem, which is not peculiar to this parish but exists throughout the Diocese, can be found in the report of the Youth Study Committee created by the 1967 Parish Assembly.

As Pastor of this church, I had the opportunity this year to participate in two important assemblies held on the Diocesan level. At the Diocesan Assembly, held in Detroit on May 5-6, I accompanied the five Diocesan Delegates of our church and brought my contribution to its deliberations, serving as chairman of the Budget Committee of the Diocese.

At the 21st Annual Assembly of the ACYOA, convened at the Holiday Hills YMCA, Pawling, N.Y., on September 1-4, I joined the delegates from our church chapter and participated in all its sessions.

Preceding the Diocesan Assembly as well as the Youth Assembly, I was present at the Clergy Conferences, held under the presidency of the Primate, Bishop Torkom Manoogian.

In addition to the above, I have also attended the New York and New Jersey Armenian Clergy Conferences which are held monthly to exchange ideas and to program for the betterment of our churches.

Inter-Church Relations

As representative of the Armenians in this community, I have endeavored to maintain good relations with our community-at-large through the churches. My contacts with the clergy of the community, my presence at the Ecumenical Luncheon given by the Catholic Church on December 14 of this year, as well as the visit of the priest and the parishioners of St. Robert's to our church to hear me speak on January 21, are examples of this relationship noteworthy of mention.

Besides this, I am a member of the Fellowship of the Institute for Religious and Social Studies and, as such, have participated with the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergy in the lecture series which take place on Tuesdays during the months of October through January at the Jewish Seminary in Manhattan. The purpose of this Institute is to develop a keener awareness of the contributions which the various religious traditions have made to advancement of civilization and can make toward solution of the perplexities of our day.

Cathedral Campaign

There is no doubt that every one of us is happy that the dream of the Armenians is embodied now in the beautiful Cathedral and Cultural Center, symbolizing our faith concretely. However, the need is still crying and immediate and our parish's share in that campaign is not yet completed. During 1967, as did some leading members of our church, I also took it upon myself to go from house to house for pledges, and the result of my share in the campaign proved satisfactory to all expectations.

Office Procedure

No small amount of time is required by the Pastor in his office work to reach the demands of parishioners and the work of the parish. Church correspondence is attended to, numerous telephone calls are made, conferences with parishioners are held which require my assistance and action.

In one word, if each parishioner considers his own demands of the Pastor of one kind or another, and multiplies them by those of the thousand families of the parish, he would become aware of the extent of the work which the Pastor tries to fulfill.

Recommendations

1- In order to keep pace with the times and to function as a church, our church members must make some commitment in doing some evangelical activities. One way of doing this is to launch a project of visiting the parishioners who consider Holy Martyrs as their church; this will not only show that we care for each other but also create stronger ties of Christian unity among Armenians. This activity on the part of lay members of the church is common to other American churches and has been tried also by some Armenian churches of our Diocese, such as Tenafly and Detroit. Let me immediately mention here that this visitation has nothing to do with collecting pledges or contributions from the parishioners. This will be purely for fellowship. For this purpose, therefore, I recommend that the Parish Assembly create a committee whose duty will be to organize and launch this project, with a definite program of canvassing the parishioners. An incidental benefit of this work might very well be the compilation of a directory of Long Island Armenians.

2- During 1967 our parish registered 511 paid members in good standing which, however, does not include those members who made their payments in 1968 for the 1967 membership year. During 1967, 42 persons registered as new members. To bring church membership to its potential as well as to give a boost to our pledge system, it seems to me that it will be beneficial to make an attempt at combining the pledge system with membership and thus to bring forth a new system of church affiliation. It has been two years now that I have been propounding the idea to follow the example of the Detroit Church and ask for only one contribution from each family for each year, which will include or to which will be credited their yearly pledge, membership, Christmas and Easter offerings, donations for sacramental services (baptism, wedding, funeral), etc. For this purpose, therefore, I recommend that the Parish Assembly create a committee whose duty will be to consider the practicability of this proposal and, if need be, to revise it and bring forth a new system, submitting it to the Parish Council for execution.

3- In September 1968, it will be a decade since the Consecration of our church. An appropriate 10th anniversary celebration banquet and a souvenir book will score the achievements of our parish with accompanying history and pictures of our organizations and schools. For this purpose, I recommend that the Parish Assembly commit this task to the Parish Council immediately, since time is short for its preparation.

4- The last Diocesan Assembly, which convened in Detroit on May 5-6 of 1967, accepted a recommendation "that each parish appoint a youth leader to work either full time or part time, his detailed duties to be defined by the Pastor and the Parish Council. In case such a person is not available, each parish should encourage and, if possible, sponsor the training of such an individual in the field of youth work." Without additional comment on my part to emphasize the need and the importance of the above resolution, I recommend that the Parish Assembly adopt this resolution of the Diocesan Assembly and submit it to the Parish Council for execution.

5- In anticipation of the visit of His Holiness Vasken I, Catholicos of all Armenians, to consecrate our new Cathedral, work has begun by the Diocese to give His Holiness a royal reception with the widest participation possible. His arrival is scheduled for Wednesday, April 24th. It is my recommendation that all my parishioners make it a point to greet His Holiness at the airport along with their children and to be present at other ceremonies presided over by him to express their joy and loyalty to him.

Let us bear in mind that this is the first time in history that Armenians have built a Cathedral on American soil and that the Supreme Patriarch is to journey from the Holy Mother See of Etchmiadzin to consecrate personally this symbol of our faith.

Acknowledgements

Allow me to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to all our parishioners who, in one way or another, have tried to fulfill the grace that God had bestowed upon them in their dedication and efforts on behalf of our church. My thanks also go to our deacons, Dr. Hagop Nersoyan and Mr. Edward Karnikian, to our choirmaster, Mr. Onnik Dokmejian, to our organist, Mr. Eli P. Kimatian, to our choir members, to our Sunday and Armenian School teachers, to our secretary, Mary Selvinazian, to our Parish Council and to all our parish organizations who worked tirelessly for the progress of our church.

May the Lord Himself illumine our paths so that we, with full appreciation of our duties, may walk toward the future and toward His glory. Amen.

REV. FR. VARTAN MEGHERIAN
Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs

January 2, 1968

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR 1967

The Parish Assembly conducted on February 26, 1967, elected the following parishioners to serve on the Parish Council for a two year term:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| George Ajemian | Walter Kaprielian |
| Anthony Jevarjian | Jack Melikian |
| Edward Kapikian | Zohrab Turekian |

The first meeting of the new Parish Council was held on March 12, 1967. At that time Father Vartan Megherian read the letter from the Primate confirming and approving the elections. The Parish Council members elected their officers as follows:

Chairman, Anthony Jevarjian
Vice-Chairman, Walter Kaprielian
Treasurer, John Pilibosian
Asst. Treasurer, Edward Kapikian
Secretary, John Rapiel
Asst. Secretary, Harry Ashbahian

The following standing committee chairmen were appointed to conduct the business of the Parish Council:

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Building Operations | Jack Melikian |
| Annual Pledge | Peter Piranian |
| Membership and Altar Care | Zohrab Turekian |
| Inventory | Aram Avakian |
| Communications: Narrec and Sunday Bulletin | Anthony Jevarjian |
| Legal Advisor | Edward Chapian |
| Church Accountant | Robert Babaian, C.P.A. |

The following Parish Council members served as liaison officers with the various organizations within the church:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Women's Guild) | Anthony Jevarjian |
| Armenian School) | |
| Men's League | John Rapiel |
| Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary | Harry Ashbahian |
| Sunday School | George Ajemian |
| Choir | Aram Avakian |
| A.C.Y.O.A. | Walter Kaprielian |
| Scouts | Edward Kapikian |
| Building Committee) | Zohrab Turekian |
| Nursery School) | Jack Melikian |

Alternate Aram Avakian had been called to fill the unexpired term left by the resignation of Dr. Martin Kimatian. Due to the resignation of Edward Kapikian in September 1967, the next available alternate, Vahak Deirmendjian, was then called to fill the vacancy until the next Parish Assembly.

The following special committee chairmen were appointed:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Cathedral Campaign | Zareh Kapikian |
| Long Range Planning | George Papalian |
| Youth Study | Mitchel Malian |
| Hye-Bardez Nursery School | John Kimball |

During the course of the year, the Parish Council met and conducted 27 business meetings and two joint meetings with all the church auxiliaries represented. One of the joint meetings took place on Friday, April 21, on the first official visit of our Primate, Bishop Torkom Manoogian.

The Parish Council initiated a series of clergy and choir exchanges. Six exchanges took place during 1967, the details of which may be found in the Pastor's Report. On the Sunday of the St. Gregory clergy and choir exchange, a combined luncheon for 108 persons was held at Holy Martyrs, including the families and members of both churches' choirs, deacons and parish councils.

The following items are some of the more significant actions taken by the 1967 Parish Council:

- 1- Put into effect the concept of the Long Range Planning Committee. (See recommendations under Committee report.)
- 2- Endorsed the recommendations of the Nursery School Committee to open the Hye-Bardez Nursery School in October 1967, provided the school operate on a self-sustaining basis pending action of the 1968 Parish Assembly. (See detailed report of Hye-Bardez Nursery School.)
- 3- Completed the transfer of the deeds of the church properties to the Diocese of the Armenian Church. At this point we would like to acknowledge the great amount of time that was taken and donated by our legal advisor, Mr. Edward Chapian.
- 4- Initiated the practice of providing each Parish Council member with individual copies of: a) the agenda for each Parish Council meeting; b) major reports; c) monthly and quarterly financial status reports.
- 5- Printed a "Membership Directory".
- 6- Representatives of the Parish Council, Building Committee, and Architect, met in an attempt to resolve the heating and air-conditioning problem in our new community center.
- 7- Published an Annual Report Booklet covering all church activities and organizations, which was mailed to every member prior to the February 25, 1968, Parish Assembly.
- 8- Initiated the column in "Narrec" called "The Parish Council Reports" as another way to improve the flow of information to our church community.
- 9- Installed a new multiple microphone and amplifier system to improve the transmission of sound during church services.
- 10- Parish Council members responded to the need for house-to-house canvassing for pledges for the Cathedral Campaign.

Long Range Planning Committee

The following parishioners were appointed by the 1967 Parish Council to serve a two-year term starting April 1, 1967:

George Papalian, Chairman
Edward Chapian
Dr. Zaven Daderian
Jack Guevrekian
Mrs. Lucy Jamakordzian

John Kimball
Mrs. Araxie Mergerian
Dr. Hagop Nersoyan
Manoog Tatosian
Mrs. Helen Vetzgian

The objective of this committee is to investigate, study, and recommend solutions to those problems which concern the future growth and development of our parish. They may initiate projects for investigation and study, and from time to time projects will be turned over to them by the Parish Council for their study and recommendations.

The Committee has vigorously considered many ideas and suggestions during the nine months since their first meeting. The following are their recommendations to the Parish Council:

- *1. Create direct communication between the Parish Council and the parishioners by the insertion of an unedited column, "The Council Speaks," monthly in the "Narrec".
- *2. Take steps to re-establish a Junior Choir.
- *3. Adopt a policy of exchanging clergy and, if possible, choirs, for a minimum of six times between September and June.

*4. Announce in the Sunday Bulletin the celebrant and the title of the sermon for the following Sunday.

*5. Maintain a permanent attendance record for church services and record vital information pertaining to weather and special circumstances.

*6. Install ear phones in a section of the balcony, utilizing a tape recorder for interpretations and commentary on the Divine Liturgy in English.

**7. Establish a method of informing worshippers as to the page number in the Divine Liturgy book during church services.

***8. Adopt a manual to serve as a guide for the Parish Council which would spell out established internal procedures and practices. This manual would be especially useful for new members of the Parish Council.

9. Realizing the need for a "Healing Ministry," it is recommended that this need be brought to the attention of the Diocesan Delegates for presentation to the Primate and/or Diocesan Assembly. There is a definite need for pastoral counseling on a professional level and the training of clergy for handling psychological problems in the church community. The responsibility for the training should be initiated under the direction of the Primate.

The Committee recommended that our Diocesan Delegates be instructed to present the following proposals to the May 1968 Diocesan Assembly:

A. The recommendations outlined in Item #9 above.

B. Propose to amend the Diocesan By-Laws by changing the revised Article 33N to read "To meet with the Diocesan Delegates at least two months prior to the Diocesan Assembly to review the affairs and status of the parish."

* Recommendations adopted by the Parish Council.

** Recommendations under consideration.

*** Forwarded to the Primate for his comments.

Cathedral Campaign

The Diocesan Assembly of 1966 issued a directive that all parishes should actively participate in the campaign to collect funds for our Cathedral Project. The quota for the Holy Martyrs Church was set at \$150,000.00

Upon the directive of the Pastor and the Parish Council, a meeting consisting of Diocesan Delegates, former Parish Council Members and officers of all church organizations was called. At this meeting, committees were formed to collect funds. Ten groups were organized as teams to cover our entire membership for door-to-door solicitations.

As of December 31, 1967, we have collected or received in pledges approximately \$20,000 from this door-to-door campaign. In addition, some parishioners, including godfathers who took part in the Cornerstone Blessing, have contributed in excess of \$65,000. During the Cornerstone Blessing Ceremonies, our Church paid \$10,000 from our own treasury. We are about two-thirds complete on our quota; there is more than \$50,000 to collect from our parishioners.

It is quite imperative that our church do its share and live up to its responsibility toward this project. We have a great deal of work to do. Needless to say, it is the obligation and duty of each and every one of our church members to make a commitment toward the Cathedral Project.

We, therefore, make a personal plea to each of you that when one of the committee knocks at your door, please do your utmost in supporting your Cathedral and Cultural Center Project where funds are needed immediately.

Notes and Comments

Increase Membership - The table below indicates the family and individual members for 1960, 1964, 1965 and 1966. Membership figures for 1967 cannot be counted until after the 1968 Parish Assembly because some members pay their dues that day. Comparing the 1960 and 1966 figures, we see that the membership has remained about the same over this six year period.

| | 1960 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 |
|------------|------|------|------|------|
| Individual | 576 | 553 | 584 | 569 |
| Family | 336 | 330 | 346 | 333 |

The distance between the church and the Nassau-Suffolk County line is 22 miles. Conservative estimates indicate that in this area a minimum of 100 Armenian families representing 225 adults and 150 children are not members of any Armenian church. Add to this those Armenians living in eastern Queens who are not members of any Armenian church, and you have a vast potential who could be members and attracted to Holy Martyrs. There has been a big growth in population on Long Island during the past ten years.

Each year, a number of Armenian families who are not members use the facilities of our church for baptisms, weddings and funerals. This group also represents an additional source of future members.

There is a strong need to pursue vigorously the above potential sources to enlarge our membership and to make our church the continuing means for maintaining our Christian and cultural heritage.

Appoint Public Relations Committee - A working committee with an active chairman should be appointed whose main function should be to keep our external image constantly in a favorable light. This committee should endeavor to acquaint and expose our improved image not only to the Greater New York area but also to those areas across the United States that have large Armenian communities, i.e. Los Angeles, Boston, Detroit, etc.

More Donations for Altar Flowers - Donations for altar flowers are lagging. We do not have sufficient funds donated on many Sundays to cover the purchase of flowers for the altar. Possibly our church organizations would consider taking turns one year at a time to coordinate this effort and thus ensure adequate funds for altar flowers every Sunday.

Improve "Narrec" - Twelve hundred copies of the "Narrec" are currently mailed twice each month. This repeated contact with so many of the members and friends of our church can become a powerful and effective means of communication for conveying the activities at Holy Martyrs. I believe the time has come whereby the format and contents of the "Narrec" should be reviewed and revised. An Editorial Board should be created to provide the direction for improvement.

Consolidated Financial Report - For the first time, a consolidated comparative report of receipts and disbursements for the period 1960 - 1967 is being provided for our members. This will give you an opportunity to study our past financial performance as a church, to see where we are at the present and, hopefully, to provide some basis for future planning.

Improved Financial Practices - I have requested that our church accountant, Robert Babaian, recommend a simplified, uniform system of fiscal practices. The Parish Council, therefore, is planning a Fiscal Workshop soon to provide assistance and instruction to all organizations in the church to facilitate the handling, recording and reporting of money.

Service in the Church Organizations and the Parish Council - We have had many parishioners in the past who have given valuable and extensive service to our church community as members and leaders of our organizations, committees and the Parish Council. However, recent nominating committees have had an extremely difficult task of recruiting individuals for important assignments. The need at Holy Martyrs for continuing responsible leadership is urgent. Personal sacrifices in terms of time and effort must be made or we cannot grow. Let us not forget the sacrifices of all those wonderful men and women who, in the past 14 years, gave us what we have today.

Each of the eleven members of the Parish Council has, on the average, 25 years of experience in business, government and education, totaling 275 years for the group. Add to this 20 years of experience of the Pastor and you have a total of 295 years of collective experience.

Under conditions of mutual trust, understanding and cooperation, pooling 295 years of experience could provide a basis for sound approach to problem-solving and mature decision-making. This would ensure continued growth and progress in our church community.

1968 Proposed Budget - This year the Parish Council called upon George Papalian and John Serabian, past treasurers of the Parish Council, whose experience related to the church's financial matters proved valuable. Assisting me on the Budget Committee from the Parish Council were John Pilibosian, Aram Avakian and George Ajemian. The Budget Committee and the Parish Council devoted many hours to reviewing and formulating the 1968 budget. The proposed budget printed in this report booklet is their recommendation for adoption by the Parish Assembly.

Acknowledgements

I wish to express, on behalf of our parishioners, the gratitude for the services performed by Mr. & Mrs. Khantzian in maintaining the premises of the church in a clean and presentable fashion at all times.

Also, to Mr. Edward Chapien, our church attorney, who donated many hours on several legal matters and especially for the transferring of our property deeds to the Diocese of the Armenian Church.

Also, to Mr. Robert Babaian, our church accountant, who devoted many hours in the preparation of our financial reports and statements.

Also, to the church organizations which cooperated with the Parish Council to make the operations of the church smoother.

Also, my gratitude for the sincere cooperation I received from the men on the Parish Council who devoted unselfishly their time and effort to serve the church in this important and responsible way.

January 29, 1968

ANTHONY JEVARJIAN
Chairman, Parish Council

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1967

During the first few months of 1967, the Building Committee functioned as an advisory body, making recommendations as needed and requested.

In a letter dated April 29, 1967, which was read at a joint meeting between the Building Committee and the Parish Council on May 2, 1967, all the papers and accounts pertaining to the construction of our School and Community Center Building were turned over to the Parish Council, since the work for which this Committee had been created was now done. The amount we turned over was \$13,711.74.

Letters were written to donors of \$500. or more, inviting them to make further donations toward a memorial and giving them full credit for their original contributions.

A total of \$234,003.00 has been paid to the contractor, Schumacher and Forelle, leaving a balance of \$2,906.00 outstanding, against the original adjusted contract price of \$236,909.00. The Parish Council is currently in negotiations with the contractor in the settlement of this matter.

The present status of outstanding pledges is as follows: From individuals, \$21,261.65; from organizations, \$9,485.25. Organization accounts are as follows:

| | <u>PLEDGE</u> | <u>PAID</u> | <u>BALANCE</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| Women's Guild | \$7,500. | \$2,928.30 | \$4,571.70 |
| Men's League | 5,000. | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary | 5,000. | 3,950.53 | 1,049.47 |
| Sunday School | 5,000. | 3,635.92 | 1,364.08 |
| ACYOA | 5,000. | 5,000.00 | -0- |

On behalf of the Holy Martyrs Building Committee and myself, we again want to extend our thanks and appreciation to our pastor, Father Megherian, to the past and present Parish Council members, to all our church organizations, members of the church and friends of our church, who helped to make our long awaited dream come true. I also wish to thank Mary Selvinazian, our secretary, who worked diligently and was always ready to help me.

Many reminders have been mailed to all our pledgors who have outstanding amounts, to remit them to the church as soon as possible.

I know that when Armenian people make a pledge, they stand behind it. It is very important that we meet our obligations in order to carry on the work of the church. Thank you all again.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE G. BASHIAN
Chairman, Holy Martyrs
Building Committee

YOUTH STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Youth Committee of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs, which was appointed by the Parish Council early in 1967, at the direction of the Parish Assembly, to study the possibilities of increasing attendance of youth in church and church related activities, met on ten different occasions during the year. A questionnaire was formulated by Dr. Hagop Nersoyan and the other committee members and distributed to 169 young adults between the ages of 17 and 29. Responses were received from approximately 30% of the group.

About one-half of the respondents showed an indifference to God. There seemed to be much confusion and lack of spiritual understanding of God. The law of God and Church seemed to run subordinate to the individual young adult's personal feelings of right and wrong when moral decisions were to be made. Thus the presence of God and the need for the Church are no longer foremost in the minds of young Armenian-Americans.

After examination of the replies to our questionnaire, and after interviews and conferences in depth with church and lay leaders, we strongly recommend the implementation of a five point parish-wide program. These points are listed below (not necessarily in the order of their importance).

- A. Religious and spiritual understanding
- B. Cultural and educational programs
- C. Social and fund-raising functions
- D. Athletic activities
- E. Fellowship (service groups serving individuals and groups in and outside the community)

Through implementation of the above, a sense of fellowship, belonging, and identification is expected to be achieved. The following are some activities which fall under the above-mentioned five categories:

A. Religious

1. Bible study and prayer groups.
2. Teaching Badarak to different age groups.
3. Using Sunday School graduating class in church oriented duties such as assisting parish, giving "Kiss of Peace," bringing "mas" from deacon to vestibule, reading of lections, and counting of offerings.
4. Week-end retreats for various groups such as teen-agers, young adults, mothers, businessmen, etc.
5. Religious counseling for teen-agers.

B. Cultural and Educational

1. Instruction classes for teen-agers.
2. Discussion groups with parents.
3. Monthly discussion group on contemporary vital issues as they relate to Christian ethics.
4. Leadership training program.
5. Initiation of a drama group.
6. Formation of choral groups.
7. Formation of Armenian folk dance troupe.
8. Initiation of art classes.

9. Monthly instruction classes for our older folk to be conducted in Armenian.
10. Career night or career month where business or professional leaders can introduce their respective fields to the youth and give them the opportunity to ask questions and assist them in choosing professions.

C. Social and Fund Raising

1. Dances
2. Parties
3. Bazaars
4. Car washes
5. Cake sales
6. Paper drives

D. Athletic Activities.

1. Continuation of the successful program stressing team sports.
2. Setting up our existing recreation room with adequate facilities and equipment (billiard table, juke box, games).

E. Fellowship and Service Groups

1. Visitations to shut-ins, sick and elderly at home.
2. Visitations to hospitals and mental institutions.
3. Participation in community-wide projects.
4. Car-pools for church attendance.

The Youth Committee realizes that the size of our ever-growing community and the various needs of its members makes it virtually impossible for one person to plan, organize and coordinate this five point program in addition to the numerous priestly and administrative functions of the church. Therefore, the Committee strongly recommends securing the full time services of a qualified and trained program coordinator with special emphasis on youth work.

For this purpose we have recommended to the Budget Committee that \$9,500. be placed on the annual church budget for 1968 with the understanding that the overall budget will be greater when the program is in full operation.

Steps should be taken to find such a person, male or female, without delay.

If no one can be found, the committee then recommends that the Pastor and Parish Council use methods to find and underwrite the expenses for a prospective candidate to be trained for this position.

In the meantime, a standing committee from the parish must be appointed to carry out some of the functions of a youth coordinator during the transitional period.

Respectfully submitted,

THE YOUTH STUDY COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Mitchel Malian, Chairman | Thomas Fourounjian |
| Sara Anoushian | James Nazarian |
| Misak Aprahamian | Dr. Hagop Nersoyan |
| Fred Avedis | Michael Simonian. |
| Dr. Zaven Daderian | |

CHURCH CHOIR REPORT FOR 1967

Reverend Father, Mr. Chairman, Fellow Parishioners:

Unlike other organizations within the church, the choir does not have activities involving finances. We therefore dispense with a financial report. Our main mission is not to raise money but to present choir singing in the church each Sunday and on special holidays, and work for the betterment of the choir. We have about 25 mixed voices; we rehearse every Monday evening, and this year we have visited two churches on an exchange basis and plan to continue to do so this coming year and include in our tour all the neighboring sister churches. But what is of greater interest here are our activities regarding our immediate and long term plans to strengthen the choir.

During the course of this year, an executive committee has been formed under the initiative of Fr. Vartan for the general purpose of improving the size and quality of the choir. A number of decisions have been made and are currently being implemented. Among these are the reorganization of the Junior Choir and the participation of the older Sunday School students in the Senior Choir. We wish to stress on this occasion, that the revitalization and continuity of the once disbanded Junior Choir is essential to the health and effectiveness of the Senior Choir. No organization can thrive without new recruits; we are convinced that the Junior Choir is the proper machinery to pave the way of our youth from the Sunday School to the choir and hence to the church proper where the Badarak takes place.

The success of this important program depends on community support and the musical leadership of the young. What this means is that we must find a qualified Junior Choir Director and pay him if necessary. We think this would be a good investment. In this connection we are happy to acknowledge the cooperation and support of Der Hayr, the Parish Council and the Sunday School Staff who understand our problems and appreciate the importance of the choir. To date, we have not yet been able to find a qualified Junior Choir Director. However, Dr. Dikran Tahtaburunian and Mr. Vahe Hajinlian who share our concern and enthusiasm for the musical education of our youth, have generously consented to share the leadership of the Junior Choir on a temporary basis until a more permanent substitute is found. We are grateful to them.

Recently announcements have been made that the Junior Choir is in business. We wish, on this occasion to appeal again to parents to encourage their children to enroll in this choir. This will involve a small sacrifice since they have to report on Sunday mornings a half hour earlier than usual.

With regard to the needs of the Senior Choir, we respectfully submit the following requests:

- . Individual lockers in the choir room to be shared by no more than two or three people.
- . A new set of Shabiks and Veils. It is important, however, that the lockers be acquired first.
- . A yearly budget of about \$300 to cover our operating expenses.
- . The designation of a Choir Day to be observed by appropriate services followed by a dinner in recognition of the service of the Choir members. (We are happy to report that the Sunday of Feb. 11, 1968 has already been designated as the first Choir Day. We understand our Primate Bishop Torkom plans to be present that day. We urge all friends of the choir to do likewise.)
- . Last but not least, to secure the services of a permanent Junior Choir Director.

In concluding our report we would like to ask a question: If this community has the resources and the will to build such a magnificent church and community center, and organize a Sunday School system of which we are justly proud, then why shouldn't it strive also to have a choir that is second to none? Let us face it, this task has long been neglected. We offer no immediate cure for the revitalization of the Senior Choir, but we do believe that in getting the Junior Choir off the ground we have begun to bridge the gap between our thriving Sunday School and struggling Church Choir. We don't think that the choir is an ornamental appendage of the church any more than the Sunday School is. They all need and supplement each other in the religious education of our youth. Remember that the Ten Commandments that we teach in Sunday School are common to most religions, but the music of our Badarak is unique and it is ours. It conveys the religious experience of our ancestors with beauty and power. Our concern is to pass this experience to our youth. They will need it in years to come as much as our choir needs them now.

In closing I wish to express my personal thanks to all those who served the choir in numerous ways. In particular, to Father Vartan for expediting the affairs of the choir and making things happen; to Mr. Aram Avakian who, as choir liaison officer in the Parish Council, has championed our cause; and last but not least to our resourceful and dedicated Choirmaster, Mr. Onnik Dokmeciian.

Respectfully submitted,

ONNIG HALAJIAN
Chairman, Choir Executive
Committee

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS
CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

JANUARY 1967 - DECEMBER 1967

ENROLLMENT

The Church Sunday School has to date an enrollment of 334 pupils divided into 18 classes.

TEACHING STAFF

The Staff numbers 45 and consists of Superintendent, 5 secretaries and office assistants, treasurer, 20 teachers, 15 assistant teachers, and 4 singing teachers.

The Staff members for the 1967-1968 school year are the following:

TEACHERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Elizabeth Aktarian | 11. Margaret Kyrkostas |
| 2. Arlene Chemenian | 12. Zarmi Megherian |
| 3. Dr.Zaven Daderian | 13. Raffee Mgrdechian |
| 4. Beatrice Derdarian | 14. Robert Nakashian |
| 5. Virginia Devejian | 15. Aroussiac Papasian |
| 6. Karen Fourounjian | 16. Stella Patoyian |
| 7. Jack Guevrekian | 17. Laura Sarafian |
| 8. Harry Gurahian | 18. Mary Selvinazian |
| 9. Elizabeth Hekimian | 19. Star Troshagirian |
| 10. Lucille Kimatian | 20. Margaret Turekian |

ASSISTANT TEACHERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Charles Apelian | 9. Gregory Kaladjian |
| 2. Alan Arifian | 10. Lori Megherian |
| 3. Susan Chilingirian | 11. Robert Nazarian |
| 4. Lora Der Kazarian | 12. Victoria Pernice |
| 5. Gregory Dilian | 13. Diane Pilibosian |
| 6. Susan Gendjoian | 14. Dennis Tarzian |
| 7. Rosemary Hamperian | 15. Kenneth Winchell |
| 8. Francine Hekimian | |

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Secretary- Lucy Deyirmenjian | <u>Singing Teachers</u> |
| 2. Asst.Sec.- Betty Kalajian | 1. Sara Anoushian |
| 3. Asst.Sec.- Carol Hintlian | 2. Vahe Hajinlian |
| 4. Office Asst.-Anita Bajakian | 3. Artemis Nazerian |
| 5. Office Asst.-Annette Tatosian | 4. Aroussiac Papasian |

Osanna Damborajian has served on the Staff as substitute teacher.

Liason Officer from the Parish Council:

George Ajemian

Assistants during church attendance: Charles Chilingirian
Zohrab Turekian

STAFF ACTIVITIES

The Staff has held eight meetings during this report period.

January 12 - A panel discussion on The New Morality was presented by teachers who had recently completed a four week Leadership Training Course sponsored by the Queens Federation of Churches.

February 4 - Teachers' Pot Luck Dinner

March 3,4,5- Seven staff members attended a Religious Conference sponsored by St. Nersess Theological School at Pawling, N.Y.

March 8 - One of our teachers, Mrs. Grace Kechian, delivered a talk, The Bible As History, to the Staff and other parishioners who came downstairs after one of the Wednesday night Lenten Services.

August 6 - Beach Party for Staff at summer home of Dr. & Mrs. O. Kechian.

October 5 - Teachers' Dedication Service was conducted preceding the regular teachers' meeting.

October 7 - A Teachers' Conference for the Mid-Atlantic region was sponsored by the CRE and hosted by our church. Osanna Damborajian and Lucille Kimatian took co-chairmanship of this affair, and other teachers and parishioners assisted them. Dr. Dora Chaplin, well-known author of books on Christian Education was the main speaker for the day.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

January 7 - Christmas Communion and Breakfast

January 8 - Annual Christmas Program

March 25 - Easter Communion and Breakfast

May 21 - Family Day of Worship

June 11 - Closing Day

June 17 - Picnic

September 17- Registration for 1967-68

December 24- Santa Claus and Distribution of Christmas gifts

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROCEDURES

1. Choir Participation - The graduating class (11th grade) of this school year, 1967-68, is participating in the choir during Divine Liturgy every Sunday morning. Their attendance is staggered throughout the year to enable them to be present at all parts of the Liturgy. Choir participation is offered in addition to their regular class sessions.

2. Communion by Classes - Each class, first grade and up, receives Holy Communion at least once during the year besides Christmas and Easter. The response of parent participation at class communion time has been rewarding.

3. Open School-Parent Visitation Days - Parents were invited to visit their children's classes and assembly periods on three Sundays in December according to the following schedule:

December 3 Pre-school through 3rd grade

December 10 4th grade through 7th grade

December 17 8th grade through 11th grade

4. Mas and Sunday church bulletins are being distributed to all Church Sunday School children each week through the Sunday School Office.

GRADUATES

Twenty-six young people received diplomas from the Council for Religious Education upon their graduation from the Church Sunday School in June, 1967. Two other students were awarded attendance certificates. Most of these students were of the original group who began Sunday School when it was held at the Flushing YMCA; therefore, they were the first class to go through the entire curriculum to graduation.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports are sent home three times during the school year for children in 3rd grade and up. The reports indicate the attendance and behavior of the child as well as his progress in learning curriculum material.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

During this report period, our children have been involved in various activities:

1. They have sold raffle tickets to help the bazaar project.
2. They have served each Sunday on the altar as acolytes.
3. They raised \$48.65 for UNICEF, on Halloween, in lieu of Trick-or-Treating.
4. They donated \$279.17 in mite box proceeds to the Armenian Missionary Association of America; \$150 will go to the Child Education Program and \$129.17 to the Lunch Fund Project.
5. In June, a dinner party was given by the teachers of the 11th grade, in honor of the graduating class, with 10th graders invited.

LECTURE SERIES

Upon the suggestion of three of our teachers, a lecture series was initiated at the Diocesan House this year on seven consecutive Monday evenings from October 9 to November 20, 1967. Competent speakers were obtained to speak on Comparative Christianity. The series was well attended and proved to be very worthwhile to the participants.

AWARDS AND GIFTS

Gifts for students at Christmas and Closing Day have been provided for by the George G. Bashian Sunday School and Armenian School Fund.

The Church Sunday School would like to thank Fr. Vartan for his counsel and guidance throughout the year.

The school wishes to express thanks also to the many parents, friends, and organizations who have assisted the school so willingly and unselfishly throughout the year with gifts, donations, and other contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

YERETZGIN Y. MEGHERIAN
Superintendent, Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1967

Balance, January 1, 1967 \$1,040.68

Receipts

Parish Council:

| | | | |
|---|----------|-----------------|--|
| Working Capital | | *\$1,000.00 | |
| Events | \$ 40.00 | | |
| Donations | 170.75 | | |
| Sale of Books, Bibles, Photos | 108.40 | | |
| Bank Interest | 6.58 | 325.95 | |
| <u>Bashian Fund:</u> | | | |
| Closing Awards | | 182.99 | |
| Children's Christmas Gifts | | 169.53 | |
| Building Fund Events: | 447.60 | | |
| (Christmas Program and Candy Sales -- net) | | | |
| Lenten Mite Box Offerings (net) | 279.17 | | |
| UNICEF Offerings | 48.65 | 775.42 | |
| | | <u>2,453.89</u> | |
| 10th Grade Donation for Missionary Association | | 27.00 | |

TOTAL RECEIPTS 2,480.89
3,521.57

Disbursements

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|--|
| Curriculum | 608.90 | | |
| Postage | 125.00 | | |
| Teacher Training | * 56.00 | | |
| Mother's Day Carnations | 50.00 | | |
| Miscellaneous | 26.01 | 865.91 | |
| Conference Luncheon | | 68.05 | |
| Closing Day Awards | | 182.99 | |
| Children's Christmas Gifts | | 169.53 | |
| Holy Martyrs Building Fund | 1,377.61 | | |
| Parish Council | 325.95 | | |
| Armenian Missionary Assn. | 279.17 | | |
| U.S. Committee for UNICEF | 48.65 | 2,031.38 | |

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 3,317.86

Balance, December 31, 1967 \$ 203.71

* Parish Council also paid \$150 for S.S. Teachers attending Study Conference.

ARMENIAN SCHOOL REPORT FOR 1967

We are happy to state that this year the Holy Martyrs Armenian School completed its tenth year. During this time, a group of women, having in their hearts the love of the Armenian language, spared nothing to make our school self-supporting and to put it on a high educational level. The graduates of our school represent the reward of our sacrifices.

In May 1967, the following Executive Board was elected to serve the Armenian School:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Chairman: | Araxie Hamparian |
| Vice-Chairman: | Irma Guevrekian |
| Recording Secretary: | Mary Barikian |
| Corresponding Secretary: | Eve Gorvetzian |
| Treasurer: | Margaret Davidian |
| Publicity Director: | Grace Kechian |
| Advisors: | Mrs. M. Ashbahian |
| | Mrs. E. Babaian |
| | Mrs. S. Bitte |
| | Mrs. A. Dilsizian |

During the period January to June 1967, the School Board was headed by Mrs. Emma Babaian. At that time we had an enrollment of 65 pupils in four classes whose teachers were Mrs. Angele Hovagimian, Mrs. Siran Demirdjian, Mrs. Berjouhi Tamzarian, Miss Mary Selvinazian.

The Annual Dinner of the School was held in January 1967 and the Closing Day Dinner and Hantess in June 1967, during which the outstanding pupils of each class and those with perfect attendance were given awards. There were no graduates that year; however, with the addition of a higher grade, the standard of our school was raised.

Our current school year opened in September 1967 with an enrollment of 60 pupils divided into four classes in which the curriculum proposed by our Pastor is followed and the textbooks suggested by the Diocesan Educational Council are used. Conversational Armenian, reading and writing, grammar and composition, history, culture and literature, are the subjects taught. Quarterly report cards are issued to show the pupils' progress.

The teachers of our Armenian School are: Mrs. A. Hovagimian, Mrs. B. Tamzarian, Miss M. Selvinazian, Miss Elizabeth Norshanian. Singing instruction is given by Miss Selvinazian who this year also prepared an Armenian songbook for the use of our pupils. The Armenian alphabet was prepared for us at our request by Rev. Nerses Baboorian, and appears in every classroom.

Transportation is in the responsible care of Mr. John McCormick. Open School Day is held once a year in February. In addition to our regular monthly meetings and teachers' meetings which are held to administer the needs of the School, the activities of the Armenian School Board during 1967 were as follows:

In February we had a Vartanantz Program where Fr. Baboorian was present. In April, the Sevan Theatrical Society presented the Armenian Comedy "Nut Number 5" for the benefit of our School. In May we celebrated Mother's Day with an appropriate luncheon and program at which Mrs. Satenig Bazikian spoke and Mrs. Araksi Kirishjian sang.

At our Cultural Month Celebration luncheon in October, we welcomed the newly consecrated Bishop Vasken Kebreslian, Vicar-General of the Diocese. On this occasion Mrs. Julia Kaprielian rendered a few Armenian songs.

In December 1967, the children had a Christmas party and were remembered with gifts. We would like to express the gratitude of our School to Mr. George G. Bashian through whose generosity this year we were able to show our appreciation to the children.

At this time I would like to thank our Der Hayr, Father Vartan, who is always present at our meetings and gives his blessings and guidance to our undertakings. Our appreciation goes also to Miss Mary Selvinazian who helps us not only as a teacher in the Armenian School but also by doing all our paper work, and to the Parish Council for their moral support.

Respectfully submitted,

ARAXIE HAMPARIAN
Chairman, Armenian School
Board

ARMENIAN SCHOOL
Financial Report for 1967

Balance, January 1, 1967

\$ 1,938.88

Receipts

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Tuition | \$ 882.00 |
| Transportation | 455.00 |
| Member Annual Dues | 46.00 |
| Receipts of Monthly Meetings | 60.85 |
| Gifts & Donations | 29.00 |
| Books sold to pupils | 60.75 |
| January Dinner (net) | 319.25 |
| April Play (net) | 254.97 |
| May Raffle | 479.75 |
| May Mother's Day Dinner (net) | 115.93 |
| October Cultural Day Luncheon (net) | 83.75 |

TOTAL RECEIPTS

\$2,787.25

Expenses

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Teachers' Salaries | \$1,515.00 |
| Transportation | 636.55 |
| Postage & Printing | 122.09 |
| Donation to Church Bldg. Fund | 200.00 |
| Books | 114.75 |
| Miscellaneous | 51.99 |

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$2,640.38

Net Income

146.87

Balance, December 31, 1967

\$ 2,085.74

* \$1,000 of this amount is in a savings account.

The Nursery School Committee thanks the Parish Council for the church office facilities, which it made available for our needs, and also for the required and necessary part of the outdoor play area fencing work and other needed physical additions to the classroom or play area which are still under consideration.

We want to extend our special thanks to Mr. George Ajemian of the Parish Council for his personal involvement in our immediate printing needs.

Our parish and community should remain convinced that there is a definite place for an Armenian Nursery School and even more advanced classes.

We the parishioners built our School and Community Center to better meet such programs, and so that our church, through its parishioners' enthusiasm, could be the principal agent to sponsor and develop them.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. KIMBALL
Chairman, Hye-Bardez Nursery
School Committee

HYE-BARDEZ NURSERY SCHOOL

Financial Statement for 1967

RECEIPTS

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Tuition | \$ 1,513.00 | |
| Outright donations | 520.00 | |
| Booklet (March 17 Play) | 110.00 | |
| Women's Guild Donation | <u>200.00</u> | |
| Total Receipts | | \$ 2,343.00 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Indoor Equipment | 207.06 | |
| Salary | 1,333.32 | |
| FICA Taxes | 58.68 | |
| Paper, Juice, etc. | <u>19.75</u> | |
| Total Disbursements | | <u>1,618.81</u> |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| BALANCE ON HAND December 31, 1967 | | \$ 724.19 |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|

WOMEN'S GUILD ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1967

Executive Committee:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Rev.Fr.Vartan Megherian |
| Chairman | Alice Bashian |
| Vice-Chairman | Beatrice Asadorian |
| Recording Secretary | Lucy Tatosian |
| Corresponding Secretary | Matilda Deirmendjian |
| Treasurer | Mary Pagdikian |
| Assistant Treasurer | Beatrice Mekjian |
| Advisors | Helen Fourounjian |
| | Annig Karagheuzian |
| | Mary Melikian |

There are also 13 more women who are Chairmen of Standing Committees, who work very devotedly and with a great sense of responsibility. Together with the above 10 names, the total of 22 women and Fr. Vartan comprise the Executive Board, which always meets prior to each membership meeting.

Although the job of Women's Guild Chairman is very time consuming and challenging, my meetings and rapport with the women in the Guild has created such a strong bond of fellowship and mutual respect -- that it has truly enriched all our lives. I earnestly invite all the women of this church who are not members, to join our group. Since my term of office will soon be over, I am taking the liberty of digressing from just an activity report, and emphasizing the fellowship and cooperation between our members. Working together for the church with members of the Women's Guild, has opened a wonderful new door to me, a door to a "church family", to which we should all belong.

Our activities always start with a Women's Corporate Communion Breakfast, which was very successful last January. We always prepare a light luncheon for the annual Parish Assembly and, in January, there is always an election. In 1967, we elected the three new Advisors, who replaced Alice Avakian, Beatrice Mekjian and Astrik Saraf. Isabelle Herdemian, who had been elected Assistant Treasurer, resigned due to lack of time to attend our meetings, and Beatrice Mekjian was appointed to replace her.

On January 26, Father Vartan was host to the neighboring parishoners of St. Robert's Catholic Church, for an Ecumenical Meeting. Over 100 of their members listened to Fr.Vartan describe and interpret our Liturgy. They then toured our buildings, which they greatly admired. The Women's Guild served them coffee and cake.

We attended World Day of Prayer Services in Bayside and New York City. His Grace, Bishop Torkom Manoogian, asked two women from our church to represent the Diocese in New York. This was on February 10.

On March 3 we gave our traditional Lenten Supper and Easter Communion Breakfast on March 23. At these Communion Services, Eli Kimatian plays the organ and Edward Karnikian assists at the altar. We wish to thank them.

All winter and spring, our activities for "Arshin Mal Alan" never ceased. Regardless of weather or health, rehearsals were held, costumes were measured, tried on, scenery was fashioned, tickets were sold -- in short, it was always with us.

In April, a committee of women paid an Easter visit to the Armenian Welfare Home, taking them tulumbah, and a group sang for them under Lucy Jamakordzian's guidance.

April 23, Martyrs Day, was the dinner for Bishop Torkom's official visit to our Parish. Due to many conflicting circumstances over which we had no control, this affair was not as well attended as it should have been. The Women's Guild would like very much to invite the Primate again.

This past spring, Women's Guild members sewed a new altar curtain for our church, as the old one was very worn.

In May, our women again joined forces with the Picnic Committee. Also in May, we all finally enjoyed the thrill of seeing "Arshin Mal Alan", directed by Siranoush Katchouny and beautifully presented. We again thank all those who helped, including the busy members of the Parish Council. The tremendous profit realized was very gratifying. So many people helped in cutting costs, getting things donated, subsidizing costs, asking favors, working day and night, that I can never begin to name them. The beautiful program booklet put together by Walter Kaprielian was a credit to the production. We can never thank Mrs. Katchouny enough; her own health finally failed her, so hard did she work.

In June, we always have a Covered Dish Luncheon Meeting which was held in our new Reception Hall this year. It was a perfect setting for an art exhibition, arranged by Program Chairman Mary Pilibosian, of paintings and art work done by our own members.

Lucille Kimatian, our Chairman for Church Women United, informed us that World Community Day will be observed in our church November 1, 1968, just as the Guild had requested.

Our September meeting featured a Silver Tea, which is traditional, and picnic and bazaar plans. Housekeeping Chairman, Margaret Kaloustian was very busy this year, putting away our new China presented to the church by Mark Markarian; and also equipping the new kitchen.

In October, which is always observed as Cultural Month in the Armenian Church, some of our members performed Armenian dances, in costume. Mrs. A. Vartanian recited a beautiful poem by Bedros Tourian entitled, "Complaints" and Julia Kaprielian delighted us with two Armenian songs. We were also very happy to hear how successful our picnic was.

At our November meeting, once again we chose a committee to cook for the Parish Assembly in December. We listened glowingly to the wonderfully profitable bazaar report. This year's bazaar was a delight and a pleasure.

The hard work was minimized by the wonderful attendance, its attractive decor, the many new innovations and the many generous donations.

Besides all these described activities, the Women's Guild makes the Mahts, keeps church decorations in good repair, visits bereaved and sick members; and, as stated in our by-laws, tries "to extend moral and material help to the Church so as to render it more radiant."

We wish to thank Der Hayr for his spiritual guidance, Anthony Jevanjian, our liaison member with the Parish Council, Mary Selvinazian for all her help, and Agnes Khantzian for her marvelous help and cooperation.

I, personally, thank my executive board, all my committee chairmen, all the other church groups for their cooperation whenever asked, and all the Women's Guild members for their loyal support.

In January, 1968, six new executive board members will be elected. I look forward to working with them and offer my help whenever it is needed.

Respectfully submitted,

ALICE BASHIAN
Chairman, Women's Guild

WOMEN'S GUILD

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1967

Balance as of January 1, 1967:

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Checking Account | \$ 164.47 | |
| Savings Account | <u>600.74</u> | \$ 765.21 |

RECEIPTS

| | | |
|--|----------|-----------------|
| Dues | 250.00 | |
| Christmas Communion | 20.40 | |
| Lenten Supper (Net) | 218.57 | |
| Arshin Mal Alan (Net) | 8,302.58 | |
| Miscellaneous Donations | 15.00 | |
| Posterity Tablecloth | 10.00 | |
| Deposit reimbursed-Arshin Mal Alan | 100.00 | |
| Interest Accrued, Jamaica Savings Bank | 22.79 | |
| | | <u>8,939.34</u> |
| Total Receipts | | <u>9,704.55</u> |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Stationery, stamps, printing | 126.57 | |
| Gifts | 45.00 | |
| A. Khantzian, services rendered | 40.00 | |
| Armenian Cathedral Project | 4,151.00 | |
| Parish Council | 2,500.00 | |
| Holy Martyrs Building Fund | 1,800.00 | |
| Holy Martyrs Nursery School | 200.00 | |
| Kitchen Utensils | 97.45 | |
| Miscellaneous | <u>2.00</u> | |
| Total Disbursements | | <u>8,962.02</u> |

Balance as of December 31, 1967:

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Checking Account | 319.00 | |
| Savings Account | <u>423.53</u> | |
| | | <u>\$ 742.53</u> |

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS
GEORGE G. BASHIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL & ARMENIAN SCHOOL FUND

At the close of 1966 and beginning of 1967, a special gift of \$10,000 was made to the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs by Mr. George G. Bashian who wished to put on a permanent basis his past practices of donating prizes and awards in order to encourage attendance and interest in the Sunday School and Armenian School of our church. The Parish Council unanimously and gratefully accepted the terms of this donation and asked the Pastor to execute them accordingly.

Following are the general provisions of the George G. Bashian Sunday School and Armenian School Fund:

1) The income only from this Fund is to be used as prizes and awards to pupils and teachers of the Sunday School and Armenian School of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs.

2) The Fund is administered exclusively by a Board of Trustees whose officers are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| President: | Fr. Vartan Megherian |
| Vice-President: | Alice N. Bashian |
| Treasurer: | George G. Bashian, Jr. |
| Secretary: | Ronald S. Bashian |

Other members of the Board are the Superintendent of the Sunday School, the Chairman of the Armenian School, Mr. Richard K. Gregory, and Mr. Edward G. Bashian.

3) The principal of the Fund is on deposit at the Bayside Federal Savings and Loan Association in two savings certificates of \$5,000 each, drawing 5 1/4% interest annually. The interest income is deposited every six months into a savings account in the same bank, from which the monies for awards and gifts are drawn.

Financial Statement of
George G. Bashian Interest Fund

| | |
|---|----------|
| Cash on Hand December 31, 1966 (from former Bashian Bros. Awards Fund) | \$113.37 |
|---|----------|

Income

Savings Certificates' Dividends:

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| 5-25-67 | \$131.25 |
| 8-4-67 | 131.25 |
| 11-28-67 | <u>131.25</u> |

\$393.75

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| Interest | <u>8.41</u> |
|----------|-------------|

TOTAL INCOME

402.16

\$515.53

Disbursements

To Sunday School:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Closing Day Awards (6-67) | \$182.99 |
| Children's Christmas Gifts (12-67) | 169.53 |

To Armenian School:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Children's Christmas Gifts (12-67) | <u>65.00</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

417.52

Balance on Hand December 31, 1967

\$ 98.01

LONG ISLAND ACYOA JUNIORS
Fiscal Year: July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967

Executive Committee

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Chairman: | Steven Ashbahian |
| Vice-Chairman: | Alan Arifian |
| Treasurer: | Kenneth Malian |
| Recording Secretary: | Gail Malian |
| Corresponding Secretary: | Donna Malian |
| Publicity: | Janet Derderian |

Membership Status

Number of members in good standing is 57; at end of last fiscal year it was 45. Reasons for increase in membership were interesting activities and intensive membership drive by the Executive Committee.

Our members served the church in the following ways: 6 altar servers; 1 Sunday School teacher; 49 Sunday School pupils; 9 Explorers and Boy Scouts.

National Programs

1. On ACYOA Day, 30 new members were initiated and we held an Armenian Hantess.
2. We participated in the Anniversary Ball and Booklet.
3. Participation in Regional Conference at St. Gregory.
4. Pawling retreat in September.
5. Sports Days with other chapters.
6. Junior Delegate to General Assembly in September was Steven Ashbahian.
7. Articles in Armenian Guardian.

Chapter Activities

1. 8 Executive Committee meetings
2. 15 membership business meetings
3. Religious, Cultural, Educational Activities:
 - a) visit to St. John the Divine Cathedral; b) lecture by Jack Guevrekian on coins; c) lecture by Haig Agababian on retailing; d) discussion of problems with parents; e) joint meeting with Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary; f) Christmas caroling; g) talk on Armenian massacres.
4. Recreational and Social Activities:
 - a) ice cream party; b) picnic; c) 4 dances; d) 4 beach parties; e) baseball game; f) various sports; g) retreat; h) television show; i) 2 movies, j) supported other chapters at dances, etc.

Money-Making Functions

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 4 Dances | \$464.15 |
| Hantess | 225.00 |
| Gomidas Choir Contribution | 25.00 |

Special Service Projects

1. Help at Church Picnic and Bazaar, Sunday School Anniversary Dinner and "Tom Thumb Wedding", Gomidas Choir Dinner, Banquet in honor of Bishop Torkom.
2. Participation in Annual Junior Essay Contest.

The major problem is the large gap with the Senior Group.

Financial

Up to the end of 1966, profits of Junior Activities were submitted to the Senior treasury and we worked on money given to us by them. Since the beginning of 1967, the Junior Group operates its own treasury and books.

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Net profits from Junior Activities and Projects | \$ 714.15 |
| Disbursements | 51.15 |
| Net Income | <u>663.00</u> |
| Current Balance Junior treasury | \$ 265.83 |

Respectfully submitted,

ACYOA JUNIORS
Executive Committee

ACYOA SENIORS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1966 to December 1967

Balance, June 30, 1966 \$ 695.62

Receipts

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Membership Dues: | | |
| Senior | \$ 71.00 | |
| Junior | 149.00 | |
| Junior Activities | 481.66 | |
| Christmas Caroling Donations | 70.00 | |
| Sales of Inventory | 20.00 | |
| Bank Interest | <u>20.53</u> | |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | | <u>812.19</u> |
| | | \$1,507.81 |

Disbursements

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| ACYOA Central Council: | | |
| Fiscal Tax | \$238.70 | |
| Membership Fees and Dues | 106.00 | |
| Junior Group | 175.00 | |
| Assembly Delegates: | | |
| 1966 | 109.45 | |
| 1967 | 240.00 | |
| Holy Martyrs Church: | | |
| 1966 | 300.00 | |
| 1967 | 224.12 | |
| Social Programs | 90.50 | |
| Postage | <u>24.04</u> | |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | | <u>\$1,507.81</u> |

Balance, December 31, 1967

- 0 -

MR. & MRS. AUXILIARY ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1967

The year 1967 was one filled with education through our regular programs and fun through the entertainment of major events.

Our programs were geared for religious teachings as well as material benefits in the endeavor to maintain a balance of both. From presentations of Hypnotism to the Stock Market, to lessons in our Christian Religion, little remained unsaid or not done.

Perhaps our greatest evening in learning came through our very qualified ACYOA members for which we are grateful. I refer to the combined Mr. & Mrs. and ACYOA panel discussion covering "Communications between Teenagers and Their Parents," which left us all a little wiser.

Evenings filled with fun and entertainment at our "Oriental Night," "Christmas Dinner Dance," "Boat Outing," "Garden Parties" and a host of other events highlighted the remainder of our year. The combination equaled a totally successful year.

There is little doubt that the major contribution of the Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary is companionship of current members and a welcome place for new families coming into our community. The by-product of this companionship is unlimited.

We are proud of our church, its teachings, and our association with the other auxiliaries within it. The teamwork it produces will result in a bigger and better 1968.

Respectfully submitted,

MARK CHITJIAN, Chairman
Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1967

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Opening Balance | | \$ 827.46 |
| <u>Income</u> | | |
| Membership Dues | \$ 120.00 | |
| Donations | 10.00 | |
| Refund, 1966 Dinner-Dance | 26.60 | |
| Oriental Night (NET) | 1,124.78 | |
| Cake Sale | 75.65 | |
| Boat Ride (NET) | 70.50 | |
| Beach Party | 9.00 | |
| Christmas Dance (NET) | 541.90 | |
| | | <u>1,978.43</u> |
| | | \$2,805.89 |
| <u>Expenses</u> | | |
| Administrative | \$ 73.59 | |
| Donation for "Arshin Malalan" Book | 100.00 | |
| Church Obligation | 1,500.00 | |
| Building Fund | 500.00 | |
| Pot Luck Dinner (NET) | 2.45 | |
| | | <u>2,176.04</u> |
| Balance as of December 31, 1967 | | \$ 629.85 |

MEN'S LEAGUE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1967

The Men's League of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs has just completed another successful year of service to the church. Our purpose has been to serve the religious and social welfare of our church; to create close ties of friendship and understanding among our members; and to aid in church functions.

During this fiscal year our membership totaled 117, two of whom are honorary members.

This year as in the past we participated in the church picnic and the church bazaar along with the co-operation of other church organizations. I might add that both events proved to be very successful.

The Men's League undertook a program this fiscal year of organizing and sponsoring a sports activity program. Through the efforts of Thomas Fourounjian, Peter Apelian, and Fred Avedis, our church has a basketball team participating in a basketball league and competing against other Armenian churches. As pointed out by the Parish Council, all expenses in this activity have been met by the Men's League. A total of \$500.00 was turned over to the sports activity program of which \$150.00 was returned.

During the year we held two fund raising affairs; our annual Spring Dinner and Dance and a New Year's Eve affair. Both proved that our new community hall could be used to great advantage.

Twenty dollars was donated to the Sunday School Picnic to buy watermelon. A hundred dollars was donated in the form of an ad for the "Arshin Mal Alan" Booklet. In keeping with the budget, \$750.00 will be contributed for the general purposes of the church.

The same officers were re-elected for 1968. They are:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Chairman: | George Jamgochian |
| Vice-Chairman: | Nishan Peter Apelian |
| Treasurer: | Thomas Fourounjian |
| Recording Secretary: | Leon Bedigian |
| Corresponding Secretary: | Leon Ajemian |

It has been very gratifying to see the excellent attendance at all our monthly meetings. I know that next year the Men's League will be just as active to help our church as it always has in the past.

Once again, the Men's League and I would like to thank Father Vartan and the Parish Council for their fine and wonderful guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE JAMGOCHIAN
Chairman, Men's League

MEN'S LEAGUE ANNUAL
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1967

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Cash Balance December 31, 1966 | | \$ 204.44 |
| Income | | |
| Dues | \$ 204.00 | |
| New Year's Eve Dinner Dance | 547.42 | |
| | (Net Profit) | |
| Spring Dinner Dance (Net Profit) | <u>357.50</u> | |
| Total Income | | <u>1,108.92</u> |
| | | 1,313.36 |
| Disbursements | | |
| Postage & Cards | 67.77 | |
| Refreshments | 31.86 | |
| Film | 18.30 | |
| Arshin Mal Alan | 100.00 | |
| Sunday School | 20.00 | |
| Armenian Church of the Holy | 350.00 | |
| Martyrs Sports Association | | |
| Church Donation | <u>700.00</u> | |
| Total Disbursements | | <u>1,287.93</u> |
| Balance as of December 31, 1967 | | \$ 25.43 |

CUB SCOUTS -- PACK NO. 443
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1967

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Balance beginning of year | | \$ 35.08 |
| INCOME | | |
| Den Dues | \$ 94.66 | |
| Registration Fees | 14.00 | |
| "Father & Son" Dinner | 150.00 | |
| "Boys' Life" Subscriptions | 9.00 | |
| Other Income | <u>31.75</u> | |
| TOTAL INCOME | | <u>299.41</u> |
| | | \$334.49 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Registration Fees | \$ 17.35 | |
| "Boys' Life" Subscriptions | 14.76 | |
| Handicraft and Supplies | 134.90 | |
| Literature | 3.90 | |
| Insignia | 5.16 | |
| Trip | 8.60 | |
| Leader Training | 4.00 | |
| Postage | 4.00 | |
| Insurance | <u>18.00</u> | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | <u>210.67</u> |
| BALANCE, December 15, 1967 | | <u>\$123.82</u> |

CUB SCOUTS -- PACK NO. 443
1967 Report

The Pack started in January with two dens consisting of thirteen boys.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Cub Master: | John Herdeman |
| Assistant Cub Master: | David Davidian |
| Den Mothers: | Den 1: Lily Ajemian |
| | Den 2: Sarah Kapikian |

The Cub Scouts made arts and crafts objects from scraps, put on skits for their Pack meetings and made numerous trips.

They put their utmost in the February Father and Son Dinner. Besides making rocket ships from salt boxes for centerpieces and napkin holders from egg carton sections, they put on a historical skit titled, "The Time Machine", in which each Cub represented patriots and famous men of the past to the present space age.

In March the Cubs made Easter baskets, filled them with candy and despite a heavy snowfall, took them to the Armenian Old Age Home in Flushing and presented one to each guest of the Home.

For the annual Pack picnic in June each Cub carved a model space ship out of wood and raced them. The winners were presented with Championship placques. After participating in some competitive games and races, a delicious shish-kebab dinner was enjoyed by all.

Trips were made to the Con Edison Energy Control Center in New York City, the U. S. Post Office in Flushing, the New York Telephone Co., Governors Island, and the U.S.S. Albert T. Harris, destroyer escort training ship in Whitestone.

In September David Davidian took over as Cub Master and Mary Pernice as Den Mother of Den 1. Sarah Kapikian continued as Den Mother of Den 2 assisted by Eve Gorvetzian. A new Webloes Den was formed for 10 year old boys with Joseph Pernice as the Weblow leader. One of our Cubs graduated into Boy Scouts and a few new boys were added which brought our number to 19 Cub Scouts.

During the month of October the Cubs made vases, ash trays, candle holders and shopping pads for our Church Bazaar. They set up their own booth, sold the items themselves and donated the total receipts of \$83.00 to the bazaar. Part of the "Law of the Pack" is "Cubs Give Good Will" and this was their way of giving "Good Will to our Church".

For Christmas they worked on Christmas decorations and gifts for their parents.

In all, the boys have spent a fruitful year of learning to give to others, to create with their hands, to be honest, fair and square and as the Cub Scout Motto says, "Do Your Best".

BOY SCOUTS -- TROOP NO. 443
1967 Report

Scout Master - John Herdemian

On January 14, 1967 the boys went to Camp Pouch on a weekend hike.

On February 25, 1967 the boys went on a weekend hike to Camp Alpine.

On November 11, 1967 the boys went on a weekend hike to Camp Kaufman.

Their Camporee was held in Flushing Meadow Park on the weekend of June 9 with both boys and fathers participating. They slept in tents on the park grounds. Blue ribbons were won for general scouting. This was for all of Queens.

On April 21 the boys went to the Quantico Marine Base in a chartered bus with fathers going along as escorts. From there, they went to Washington, D. C.

At the annual Boy Scout rally, the boys won ribbons for their different activities and for the making of the pyramid the fastest.

The boys have worked for their church in many ways. They have volunteered their services for checking of coats in coat room, and many other small odd jobs too numerous to mention.

All in all they are 18 boys.

Financial Report for 1967

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Balance, beginning of year | \$247.54 |
|----------------------------|----------|

INCOME

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Patrol Dues | \$109.37 |
| Registration Fees | 8.50 |
| "Father & Son" Dinner | 150.00 |
| Other Income | <u>5.60</u> |

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| TOTAL INCOME | <u>273.47</u> |
|--------------|---------------|

EXPENSES

\$521.01

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Insurance | \$ 21.00 |
| Registration Fees | 17.50 |
| Camp fees | 20.40 |
| Insignia | 12.22 |
| "Boys' Life" subscriptions | 24.00 |
| Postage | 12.00 |
| Supplies | 191.35 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>2.45</u> |

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| TOTAL EXPENSES | <u>\$300.92</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|

BALANCE, December 15, 1967

\$220.09

STATEMENT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

To the Members of the Parish Assembly
Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs

We have examined the financial books and records of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs, the Women's Guild, Men's League, Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary, A.C.Y.O.A., Sunday School, Armenian School, Reserve Fund and Picnic Committee. We have found the receipts and disbursements reported by the foregoing and which are attached hereto, to be true and correct.

We have also examined the records and report of the Bazaar Committee as submitted to us and we find that there is insufficient evidence to reconcile its final report with the facts reported. Therefore, we find such records and report to be incomplete.

We submit the following recommendations:

- 1) Uniform system of bookkeeping among all parish organizations should be maintained.
- 2) More detailed records of receipts and disbursements should be maintained by each organization as well as by the special committees of the church.
- 3) The Parish Council should examine the recommendation to combine the Sunday School account with the Church account.
- 4) No saving account balance should exceed the guaranteed insurable amount of that bank.
- 5) Building and Church pledges should be examined by the Parish Council to determine uncollectability, and the Parish Assembly should give the authorization to write off such findings.

THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

Edward Asadorian
Edward M. Chapian
George K. Papalian

January 29, 1968

Approved by: Robert S. Babaian, C.P.A.

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS

EXHIBIT A

Summary of Cash Receipts - Budgeted and Actual

EXHIBIT A

For the Years 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968 (Pennies Omitted)

| | Proposed | | A C T U A L | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | Budget 1968 | Budgeted 1967 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 |
| Regular Operations: | | | | | |
| Annual Pledges | \$ 6,500 | \$ 7,000 | \$ 6,173 | \$ 7,004 | \$ 7,456 |
| Membership Dues-Current | 6,200 | 5,500 | 6,040 | 3,556 | 3,465 |
| Offering Plates | 6,000 | 5,300 | 5,850 | 5,161 | 5,948 |
| Sunday School Offering Plates | 1,900 | 1,400 | 1,768 | - | - |
| Christmas Offering | 3,000 | 2,500 | 2,752 | 2,321 | 2,778 |
| Easter Offering | 3,000 | 3,000 | 2,859 | 3,154 | 2,919 |
| General Donations | 150 | 300 | 80 | 685 | 258 |
| Estate of Krikor Koutnouyan | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 |
| Weddings | 900 | 800 | 955 | 1,255 | 720 |
| Baptisms | 500 | 600 | 340 | 710 | 560 |
| Funerals | 400 | 400 | 435 | 310 | 650 |
| Requiems | 950 | 950 | 912 | 998 | 971 |
| In Lieu of Flowers | 2,500 | 1,500 | 3,392 | 1,388 | 4,893 |
| Donations for Use of Hall | 2,000 | 1,500 | 1,695 | 1,315 | 695 |
| Annual Picnic | 2,200 | 1,700 | 2,040 | 2,011 | 1,960 |
| Annual Bazaar | 22,000 | 15,000 | 19,576 | 16,000 | 14,264 |
| Annual Dinner-Dance | - | - | - | 1,917 | - |
| Testimonial Dinner | - | - | - | - | 718 |
| Donations: | | | | | |
| Women's Guild | 2,200 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 1,100 | 1,500 |
| Men's League | 1,000 | 750 | 700 | 500 | 500 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary | 2,000 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 1,200 |
| A.C.Y.O.A. | 100 | 300 | 224 | 300 | 300 |
| Sunday School | - | - | - | 600 | 400 |
| Armenian School | - | - | - | 200 | - |
| TOTAL - REGULAR OPERATIONS | \$63,750 | \$52,750 | \$60,041 | \$52,735 | \$52,405 |
| Other Receipts: | | | | | |
| Building Fund Pledges | 16,000 | 16,455 | 10,841 | - | - |
| Bazaar - Prior Years | 1,000 | - | 918 | 205 | 639 |
| Membership Dues - In Advance | | | 48 | - | 77 |
| Membership Dues - Prior Years | | | 434 | 602 | 665 |
| Pew Seats & Memorials | | | 835 | 450 | 330 |
| Interest on Savings* | | | * | 415 | 1,152 |
| Refund of Escrow Taxes | | | | 409 | - |
| Christmas Offering-In Advance | | | 50 | - | - |
| Primate's Banquet | | | 125 | - | - |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | \$80,750 | \$69,205 | \$73,292 | \$54,816 | \$55,268 |

*1967 interest received shown in Exhibit E.

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS

EXHIBIT B Summary of Cash Disbursements - Budgeted and Actual

EXHIBIT B

For the Years 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968 (Pennies Omitted)

| | Proposed Budget 1968 | Budgeted 1967 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Pastor's Stipend - Including Expenses | \$ 7,000 | \$ 7,000 | \$ 7,000 | \$ 7,000 | \$ 6,500 |
| Salaries: | | | | | |
| Secretary | 5,200 | 5,200 | 5,200 | 4,880 | 4,680 |
| Custodian | 6,500 | 7,800 | 6,313 | 2,720 | 3,640 |
| Cleaning Services | - | - | - | 1,715 | - |
| Choirmaster | 1,080 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 900 |
| Sunday School Supt. | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,200 |
| Church Operations: | | | | | |
| Payroll Taxes | 600 | 500 | 437 | 319 | 302 |
| Clergy Fund | 333 | 398 | 397 | 330 | 318 |
| Major Medical (Secy.) | 100 | - | - | - | - |
| Printing, Stationery, Postage | 1,900 | 1,500 | 1,552 | 1,359 | 1,205 |
| Repairs of Office Equipment | 200 | - | - | - | - |
| Telephone and Telegraph | 600 | 600 | 543 | 577 | 514 |
| Printing of "Narrec" | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,566 | 1,604 | 1,550 |
| Visiting Clergy | 200 | 100 | 110 | 25 | 75 |
| Candles and Flowers | 400 | 400 | 488 | 572 | 318 |
| Christmas Gifts (Volunteers) | 250 | 400 | 118 | 315 | 598 |
| General Expenses | 700 | 300 | 313 | 335 | 507 |
| Church Supplies | 200 | - | - | - | - |
| Laundry and Dry Cleaning | 400 | 400 | 376 | 463 | 391 |
| Sunday School | 1,300 | 1,400 | 1,150 | - | - |
| Choir Expenses | 700 | - | - | - | - |
| Prelacy: | | | | | |
| Parish Dues | 6,000 | 4,965 | 5,400 | 4,725 | 4,725 |
| Etchmiadzin Louma | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Books and Calendars | 10 | 50 | 3 | 17 | 60 |
| Assembly Expense & Misc. | 25 | 650 | 230 | 50 | 21 |
| Parish House: | | | | | |
| Repairs and Improvements | 400 | 300 | 180 | 380 | - |
| Amortization and Interest | - | - | - | 303 | 1,212 |
| Water | 90 | - | 87 | - | - |
| City Sewer Assessment | 176 | - | - | - | - |
| Building Operations: | | | | | |
| Amortization and Interest | 13,210 | 13,210 | 13,208 | 13,208 | 4,489 |
| Fuel Oil | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,083 | 1,062 | 908 |
| Gas and Electricity | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,052 | 2,218 | 974 |
| Insurance | 2,500 | 2,800 | 2,276 | 2,796 | 1,644 |
| Supplies | 300 | 800 | 844 | 389 | 381 |
| Landscape Gardening | 500 | 300 | - | 23 | - |
| Building Repairs | 500 | 500 | 1,316 | 490 | 140 |
| Improvements | 900 | 900 | 482 | 254 | 200 |
| City Sewer Assessment | - | 3,811 | - | - | - |
| Articles and Fixtures | 1,400 | 1,500 | 1,178 | 558 | 536 |
| Miscellaneous | 500 | 500 | 800 | 476 | - |
| Building Fund Committee | - | - | - | - | 15,000 |
| Picnic Advance | - | - | 150 | - | - |
| Clergy Group Insurance-Advance | - | - | 132 | - | - |
| | \$60,674 | \$63,784 | \$57,584 | \$51,763 | \$53,388 |
| Extraordinary Expenditures: | | | | | |
| Reparations to Building | 11,500 | - | - | - | - |
| Contracts Payable | 2,906 | - | 4,500 | - | - |
| Prelacy Groundbreaking Pledge | - | 3,333 | 10,000* | - | - |
| Prelacy Spec. Collection Fund | - | 2,088 | 2,088* | - | - |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | \$75,080 | \$69,205 | \$74,172 | \$51,763 | \$53,388 |
| Hye-Bardez Nursery School | 1,500 | - | - | - | - |
| Youth Director | 9,500 | - | - | - | - |

* Paid out of Reserve Fund

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS

EXHIBIT C Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Equity EXHIBIT C

December 31, 1967

A S S E T S

Cash:

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| <u>Regular -</u> | | | |
| Chase Manhattan Bank | \$ 16,302.04 | | |
| Chase Manhattan Bank, Bazaar | 100.00 | | |
| Chase Manhattan Bank, Special | 100.00 | | |
| Petty Cash | <u>100.00</u> | \$ 16,602.04 | |
| <u>Reserve Fund -</u> | | | |
| Chase Manhattan Bank, Savings Acct. | \$ 31,405.27 | | |
| Franklin National Bank, Certificate of Deposit, 5%, due February 17, 1977 (including interest thereon) | <u>4,152.84</u> | <u>35,558.11</u> | \$52,160.15 |

Receivables:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--|
| Church Building Pledges - Old | \$ 1,458.34 | | |
| School Building Pledges | 27,691.90 | | |
| Bazaar Pledges | 1,164.74 | | |
| Annual Pledges | <u>261.00</u> | 30,575.98 | |

Advances and Deposits

282.48

Real Estate and Fixtures:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| Balance - January 1, 1967 | \$363,547.52 | | |
| Additions During Year | <u>1,659.72</u> | | |
| Balance - December 31, 1967 | | <u>365,207.24</u> | |

TOTAL ASSETS

\$448,225.85

L I A B I L I T I E S

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| Accounts Payable | \$ 202.80 | | |
| City Sewer Assessment - Parish House | 176.80 | | |
| Contracts Payable | 2,906.00 | | |
| <u>Church and Community Center Mortgage:</u> | | | |
| Balance - January 1, 1967 | \$155,479.50 | | |
| Less: Paid During Year | <u>4,775.50</u> | | |
| Balance - December 31, 1967 | | <u>150,704.00</u> | |

TOTAL LIABILITIES

153,989.60

NET EQUITY INVESTED IN CHURCH PROPERTIES

\$294,236.25

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE EXPENDITURE OF
TIME, EQUIPMENT, AND MATERIAL, DONATED BY THE
FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO MADE THIS REPORT POSSIBLE:

Mr. George Ajemian: for the printing
Mr. Samuel Kazazian: for the binding
Mr. Walter Kaprielian: for the cover design
Mrs. Alice Der Tatevasian: for the typing

A P R A Y E R

Lord, Thou knowest better than I myself that I am growing older and will some day be old.

Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy.

Free my mind from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing humility and a lessening cock-sureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint -- some of them are so hard to live with -- but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me, Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Amen.