

July 29, 1981

Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian, Chairman  
St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Mr. Cherkinian:

We are in receipt of your letter dated July 12, 1981 regarding the pastoral services of the Very Rev. Father Shnork Kasparian.

We are in full agreement in our willingness to secure Father Kasparian's services if he will inform us of the exact date of his availability.

We suggest that you also contact him, as we have done, and clarify the details regarding his intentions.

Please advise us at your earliest convenience.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

ss

cc: Very Rev. Father Shnork Kasparian

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St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

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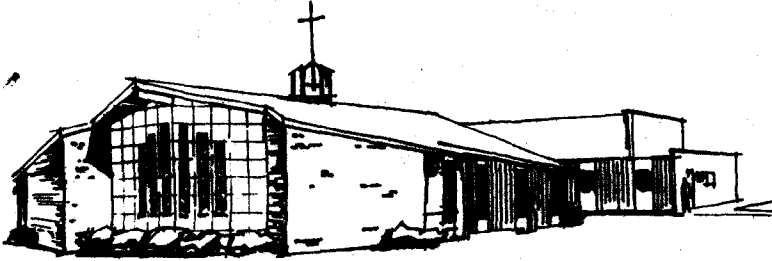
Please advise us at your earliest convenience.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

ss

cc: Very Rev. Father Shnork Kasparian



**St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church**

4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402  
Telephone 634-6550

July 12, 1981

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence:

On July 1, 1981, members of the St. Mesrob Church Parish Council and Priest Search Committee met with Very Rev. Father Shnork Kasparian. At the meeting, we discussed the lack of spiritual leadership in our parish and Father Kasparian's duties and responsibilities in Turkey.

For some time, our church has been suffering a lack of attendance and an even greater loss of Armenian youth. Although these problems may be plaguing other congregations, we feel it is extremely crucial in our area where we do not have a priest who can unite those parishoners who are here, bring back those who have been lost, and attract the young generation through participation, education, religion and fellowship.

Father Shnork has been received warmly by our congregation and has been accepted by the Parish Council and the Priest Search Committee. He has an interest in our parish and indicated that he would accept our call to serve eagerly. He also stated that since his departure from America he had experienced some problems with his health in Turkey. We have agreed to assume the financial responsibilities in moving him to Racine, if such an occasion should warrant this action.

The filling of a spiritual void has long been a major goal within our church, but such action cannot be accomplished without the express assistance of Your Eminence. Since Father Shnork is

*ATM*  
*We are in receipt of letter & have talked to Shnork & are willing to assume his services if he tells us exactly when he will be available to be assigned that you contact him & clarify the details of his intention*

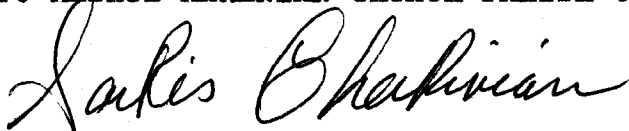
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
July 12, 1981  
Page 2

already here, the Parish Council of St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church respectfully requests your favor in granting him his permanent stay in Racine, or at the earliest possible time. This action is being requested in light of the prolonged absence of spiritual guidance in our parish and the strong rapport between St. Mesrob Parish and Father Kasparian.

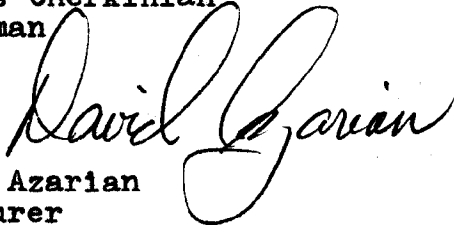
If Your Eminence feels the need to contact Father Kasparian, he may be reached at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Toros Keishian, 168 64th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, (414)-258-9176, or Ms. Berjouie Vartanian, Door County, (414)-854-4104. We look forward to your expeditious response and aid in this matter. Thank you.

Respectfully,

ST. MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH PARISH COUNCIL



Sarkis Cherkinian  
Chairman



David Azarian  
Treasurer

DA

cc: Very Rev. Father Shnork Kasparian  
% Mr. & Mrs. Toros Keishian  
168 64th Street  
Milwaukee, WI.

December 2, 1982

Ms. Rose Akgulian  
422 South Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Ms. Akgulian:

We received your correspondence dated October 28, 1982 and appreciate your sincere concern regarding the obligation of a delegate. Please forgive us for any inconvenience caused to you by the delay in receiving the 1982 Diocesan Assembly minutes.

In reference to your questions regarding standing committees, we wish to advise that appointments have been made by the Primate several months ago with instructions for procedure to be followed by each committee.

Your suggestion for the Nominating Committee may best be sent to the Reverend Father Haik Donikian, Assistant Pastor of the St. John Armenian Church in Southfield, Michigan for consideration as he has been appointed chairman ~~pro-tem~~ of that committee.

It would also be most appreciated if you would inform me of the reason for request of a list of those who have received a medal from Vehapar in the last ten to fifteen years so that I may be better equipped to advise you properly.

We wish you success in all your endeavors and for your continued strength to accomplish the good work needed by the Armenian Church.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

*with Frank*

September 6, 1983

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

This is to confirm our telephone conversation that His Eminence  
Archbishop Torkom Manougian will arrive in Milwaukee airport on  
Saturday, September 17, 1983 on Northwest flight 203 at 9:55 a.m.

His Eminence will leave on Sunday night, September 18, 1983  
from Chicago at 8:00 p.m. on American Airlines flight 564.

Kindly make the necessary arrangements for His Eminence's  
accommodation and transportation to and from the airport.

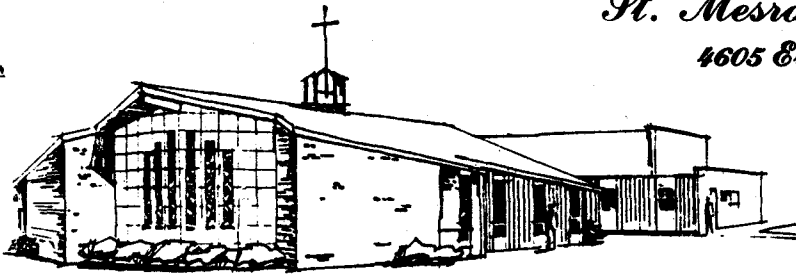
Yours respectfully,

Sylvia Terzibashian  
Secretary to the Primate

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոզաբան - Հովիւ

August 3, 1983

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr,

This is once again to confirm your forthcoming visitation to the Saint Mesrob Armenian Church and community on the weekend of September 17th and 18th.

Our committees are diligently working to make your visitation on the occasion of our double anniversaries a most memorable one. We shall be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the established parish community and the 10th Anniversary of our new church building which you yourself consecrated 10 years ago.

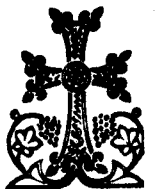
We have planned the ordination of 18 young men as acolytes (TBIR) which is to take place Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. September 17th. In addition to these young boys we also have one candidate ready to receive his rank as Ourar-a-gir (Stole Bearer). Please advise us as to when you feel it would be appropriate to confer this rank upon him -- Saturday night or at Sunday Badarak.

I would like to know of your travel arrangements, when you'll arrive, for how long you will be with us and your departure so that all necessary arrangements can be attended to. Contingent upon your time here with us, I do have plans for meetings and visitations with you, but I cannot finalize them nor make any formal commitment until I am exactly sure when you will be here.

Forthcoming will be your completed itinerary but for now the tentative schedule is:

September 17th

A.M. Saturday - Primate arrives  
Check in at Siena Center for  
lodging and freshen up.



Page Two  
August 3, 1983

P.M. Lunch

- 1) Meeting with young boys to be ordained
- 2) Informal Meeting with Parish Council and Executives of Church Groups
- 3) Possible taping of a T.V. program

7:00 P.M. Evening - Ordinations & Fellowship Hour in Church Hall

Sunday - Sept. 18th

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy  
After Liturgy - pre-banquet reception at St. Mesrob for visiting clergy to meet the Primate

3:30 P.M. - Anniversary Banquet and Program at Meadowbrook Country Club

Evening - Return to lodging to freshen up and free-evening or departure if scheduled

Monday - Sept. 19th

Open for anything preferred

Please let us know as soon as you can Srpazan Hayr of your intentions in order to facilitate our arrangements here. We eagerly await your forthcoming visit here and are confident that your presence will inspire our faithful to continue in the service of the Lord through the Holy Mother Church of Armenia.

With filial love and respect,

*Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

nc



July 5, 1983

Archbishop Torkoom Manoogian  
Diocese of the Armanian Church  
New York City, New York

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

Sahag and I welcomed the opportunity to greet you in Detroit. We were happy to see that you looked hale and hearty and full of the energy needed to tend to the needs of our Church.

I must confess I am saddened to see the turn of events for the Chautauqua program. It is unfortunate that when I wrote to you in October of 1982 as soon as Chautauqua gave me program approval, you did not come up with funding from an endowment or public relations fund at Diocesan level. I have informed Mr. Azadian of my disappointment with this turn of events.

On another matter, I want to express my deep concern and unhappiness with the letter sent out by the Diocese on 5/20/83 relative to the visit of Karekin Catholicos. I think most of us who are concerned with the future of our Church in this country, concur that the visit was untimely in view of the hurdles still to be overcome in the unity discussions. However, the wording of the letter was startling, to say the least. In a free society such as ours, with all due respect, how can you state "you are not permitted" to do thus and so. And to compound the matter, at least in our community, the parish council saw fit to send the letter to all parishoners, thereby once again bringing hostile feelings in all areas to the surface. I, for one, cannot react favorably to any directive given in such a non democratic fashion and beyond that would like to make the observation that the negative overtone of this May 20th letter and the constant references to unity and brotherhood made by Karekin Catholicos--however empty we may regard them when measured by actions taken--have us coming up on the minus side of the ledger in the area of public relations.

On the other hand, your requests, suggestions and wishes will continue to receive our respectful consideration.

I speak out of concern for my Church and out of respect for your office. I hope my words are accepted in that spirit.

Respectfully,



Rose Akgulian

August 17, 1983

The Reverend Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Der Garabed:

Thank you for informing your - and my former - congregation about my son's accident. Arra and we have received several messages of concern and good wishes from the good people of the St. Mesrob parish. Arra came home on August 2nd, with a long cast replacing the original one on his right knee and leg. He moves around with the help of crutches and gets rides in the cars of his friends. He will be seen by the orthopedic surgeon this Friday. Then we will have a clearer idea as to how the knee will be rehabilitated.

Normally in October I attend a meeting of the Faith and Order Commission of the NCCC. This time it will be held in the Chicago area. I have notified Brother Jeff Gros, Director of the Commission, that I will be unable to attend the Fall meeting scheduled for October 12-16. An alternate in a case like this is acceptable. I thought of you as an alternate, but had to wait until His Eminence the Primate returned from Vancouver, B.C.. Yesterday was my first chance to see him and he agreed. I am enclosing a copy of the agenda, and a descriptive brochure on the Faith and Order Commission.

Normally COFO meetings are held in retreat centers. This time the commissioners will lodge at the Hyde Park Hilton, 4900 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago. Your expenses will be paid by the Diocese upon presentation of your bill. There is a registration fee of \$10.00 payable to the COFO office in New York. The Hyde Park Hilton expects that reservation be received by September 13.

I urge that you plan to attend this meeting, at least the first three days, beginning with lunch on October 12. If you let me know soon, I'll forward your name to the COFO office here, and they will take care of the rest.

With brotherly love in Christ,

Fr. Arsen Ashjian

May 27, 1983

Mrs. Rose Akgulian  
422 South Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Mrs. Akgulian:

We thank you for your good wishes and kind thoughts on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of our primacy in the Western and Eastern Dioceses of the Armenian Church of America. The years have passed swiftly, and we are grateful to Our Lord for enabling us to serve His Church and the Armenian community in this hospitable country where our people came to find new life. We hope to continue in the service of Our Lord and family of our church as long as it is possible.

We were distressed to learn about the illness of your husband, and are now glad to hear that he is on the road to recovery and is enjoying relatively a peaceful recuperation. His long and fruitful service to the community in Racine has earned him the respect and love of countless people, all of which must share our hopes for his restoration to good health. May God send him the abundant comfort of His healing.

We are glad to learn that the Chautauqua program is on its way to becoming a reality and we commend your tireless efforts for the success of this program.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

May 14, 1983

Archbishop Torkoom Manoogian  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
New York City, New York

Dear Srpazan Hayr,

You were much in our thoughts and prayers on the occasion of your Primacy in our Church. We were not able to act promptly, because we have been going back and forth to the Mayo Clinic for Sahag. He finally seems to be on the road to recover, thank God. (That was also the reason that I was not able to attend the Diocesan Assembly.)

We both pray that the Lord will continue to grant you the good health, courage, strength, and wisdom to lead our Church and our people in His way.

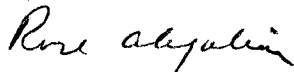
On a completely other matter, I am so elated and excited that the Chautauqua program is on its way to becoming a reality. When Mr. Yervant Azadian called and informed me that the Fund was granting my request for funding, I can't tell you my feeling of gratitude and excitement. I have talked to Dr. Ralph Loew for three years about the possibility of such a program and this year will see it come to pass. It was worth the long hours of effort to pull it all together. Now it is in your capable hands and those of Mr. Arzruni and the Diocesan program committee. I am confident that it will be a program that will do honor to our music and to our people.

I have asked Mr. Arzruni to keep me abreast of program developments. I would like to be considered part of the committee working on the program, and hope my suggestions will be welcome. Needless to say, I shall be happy to do anything else I can from here to help in its successful finalization.

We had a beautiful concert here with Vartan, and also met his lovely wife Brigitte and your fine nephew, Avedis. Racine fell in love with them all! We hope we will have the opportunity to see them again soon, here or in Madison.

Once again, our best wishes and prayers are with you.

Respectfully yours,



Rose Akgulian

422 South St.  
Racine, Wis. 53402  
(414) 639-2078

P.S. I am happy to see that Micheal Zeytoonian has joined the staff.

November 5, 1982

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

We received your correspondence dated October 13, 1982 regarding St. Mesrob Armenian Church expressing a desire to host a Diocesan Assembly.

The Diocesan Assembly sites for 1983, 1984 and 1985 have been assigned, therefore you may make a bid for 1986.

The procedure to be followed in order to make a formal bid is to prepare a letter from your parish requesting to be a host and present the letter to the Diocesan Assembly Chairman during the next Assembly.

Assembly dates in 1986 will be May 8, 9 and 10.

We are gratified by the enthusiasm of your parish and wish you success in all your endeavors.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

FAS:ked

SERPAZAN HAYR:

Frank would like to know how to go about the desire expressed by Racine to act as host for the Diocesan Assembly either in 1985 or 1986.

Should we present this letter to the Assembly next year in May or is it accepted automatically and Racine informed that their request has been accepted.

ST

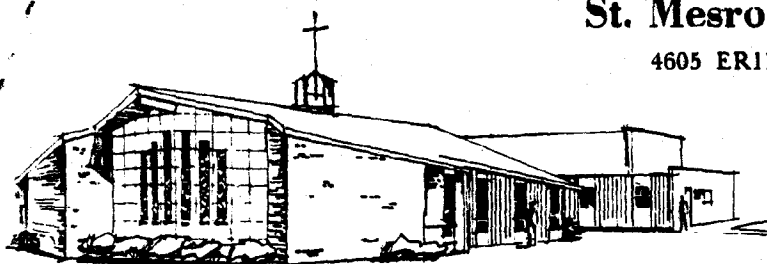
November 3, 1982

*Racine should be prepared to formally bid at 1983 Disc. Assembly. This letter may be presented to the Disc. Ass. Chairman during the Assembly.*

# St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

4605 ERIE STREET • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53402

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ

October 13, 1982

Mr. Frank Avakian Stoneson, Executive Director  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Stoneson:

At a recent meeting of our Parish Council, a desire was expressed to host a Diocesan Assembly here in Racine. We are aware that invitations from other communities were extended at last year's Assembly in New Britain, Connecticut, however we cannot recall from what parish and for which years.

We are hopeful of being host either in 1985 or 1986 if no community has reserved these dates. We are indeed certain that St. Mesrob Community will receive with great enthusiasm this honor and privilege of hosting a Diocesan Assembly and would like to have some definite dates in mind to present to our annual parish assembly.

I'll be in New York for a DRE meeting October 22nd and Oct. 23rd. Perhaps if you will be around you may let me know, if not I await your reply from this inquiry.

Our best regards to you and we pray for your continued success in your most important position within our diocese.

Prayerfully,

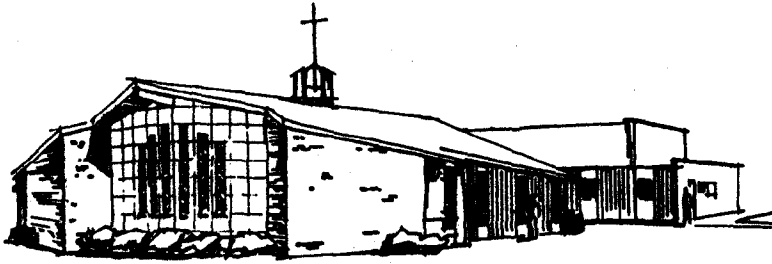
*Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

*Present to the 83 Ass.*

*11/2/82 ✓  
Please ask Primate  
Mechanics of this bidding  
at assembly -*





**St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church**

**4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402**

**Telephone 634-6550**

April 29, 1982

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Gentlemen:

This is to inform you that

Rose Akgulian  
Mikael Garoukian  
George Stevoff

are members in good standing of the St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church of Racine, Wisconsin and were duly elected

Diocesan delegates

by a General Assembly held on February 14, 1982.

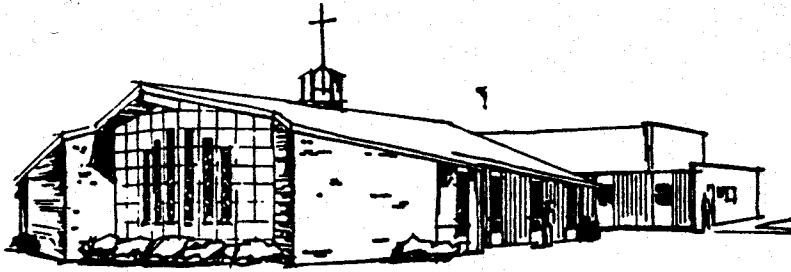
Also in good standing and elected at the same Assembly as the First Alternate Delegate is Sarkis Cherkinian.

ST. MESROB ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

*George Stevoff*  
George Stevoff, Chairman

*Sarkis Cherkinian*  
Sarkis Cherkinian, Secretary





## St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402  
Telephone 634-6550

May 12, 1982

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
91 Salisbury Street  
Worcester, MA 01609

This letter is to welcome your acceptance of our offer to become our permanent pastor. We are elated with your decision and look forward to your arrival. We understand that you will be notifying the Primate and Diocesan Council whose early approval is anticipated.

Our agreement with you is that we will structure the stipends according to the guidelines established and adjusted 1/1/82 and adjusted annually thereafter. A copy of the 1/1/82 schedule is attached.

Based upon the information as agreed upon previously and using the attached schedule, we agree to provide the following:

1. Basic stipend - \$13,440
2. "Longevity" 2 increments @ \$960 - \$1,920
3. Size of parish (150-300) - \$960
4. Auto - furnished by parish with all expenses included (personal usage reimbursed at rate of 20¢/mile)
5. Housing - as mutually agreed upon including all utilities or equivalent allowance for ownership - \$6,000 (approximate)
6. Clergy insurance - full cost
7. Clergy pension - \$1,000

We further understand that this schedule will change on 1/1/83 and the revisions will be implemented into this agreement effective that date and annually on 1/1 thereafter as revised.

The \$1,000 clergy pension allowance is \$250 over the minimum now required, but is in accordance with our agreement and will remain at that level unless mandated by the schedule to be higher.

The "longevity" allowance will change upon the anniversary of your service to the Diocese which we understand started in July 1974. We conclude that this converts to "two increments" at this time and will become "three increments" on 7/1/83, at which time the stipend will be revised. Additional adjustments will be made effective July 1st every three years thereafter according to the schedule in force at that time.

Our understanding of utilities includes heat, electricity, water, sewer and telephone. Personal long distance charges are to be paid by yourself.

Upon approval of the Primate and Council, we understand you will schedule a visit to our community to seek housing and celebrate mass on June 13, 1982. We have agreed to pay for your lodging and transportation. We understand you will arrive on June 11, 1982 and depart on June 17 or 18.

Your anticipated assignment to our parish will be some time during the first two weeks in August with the first mass celebrated as our permanent pastor on August 15, 1982. We have agreed to assume your moving costs from Worcester to Racine.

You indicated that you will be away from our parish for a wedding following your reassignment to Racine and we indicated that this would not present a problem (costs are to be borne by yourself).

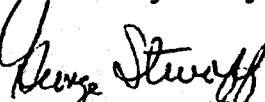
Our agreement with you on vacations is that you are entitled to three weeks per year consisting of two Sundays, with stipend. For 1982 you indicated that you still have two weeks due you that we will have to assume as you will not be taking that time prior to 8/15/82 - we have agreed!

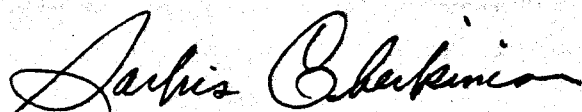
If your parish has prepaid your hospitalization or pension, we will reimburse them on a prorata basis effective 8/15/82.

We believe this commits to writing all of our agreements and if you are in accord, please acknowledge the copy enclosed and return it to my attention for entry into our official record book. If you have further questions, do not hesitate to inquire.

We anxiously await the approval from the Primate and Council, and your and Roberta's arrival.

Yours very truly,

  
George Stevoff  
Parish Council Chairman

  
Sarkis Cherkinian  
Parish Council Secretary

Accepted by Rev. Fr. Michael D. Kocian 24/May/1982  
Date

1981 ADJUSTED CLERGY STIPENDS

Effective January 1, 1982

Basic Stipends . . . . . \$13,440.00

Additional increment for each 3 years  
of service in the Diocese with a  
maximum of 7 increments (including  
service in California Diocese) . . . . . \$960.00

Additional increment for parish size:  
150-300 voting members. . . . . \$960.00  
Over 300 voting members . . . . . \$1,920.00

CAR ALLOWANCE

Pastor's own car. . . . . Allowance equivalent to 20 cents per mile for  
pastoral business (estimated).  
  
Parish owned car. . . . . Allowance equivalent to 15 cents per mile for  
pastoral business (estimated).

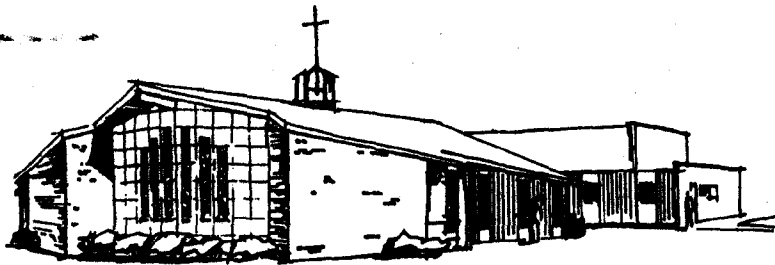
HOUSING ALLOWANCE

Parish owned home . . . . . All costs including utilities.  
  
Rental. . . . . If parish does not own a home, it will provide  
an allowance for housing including utilities.  
  
Home owned by Pastor. . . . . Pastors may use allowance for rental or payments  
on house purchase.

CLERGY MEDICAL INSURANCE. . Full payment

CLERGY PENSION. . . . . . \$750.00  
(plus additional \$750.00 optional).

December 11, 1981



## St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

4605 Erie Street      Racine, Wisconsin 53402  
Telephone      634-6550

June 16, 1982

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence,

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of June 7, 1982 wherein you inform us that Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian is appointed our Pastor.

Attached is a copy of our letter dated 5/12/82 which includes Father Garabed's acceptance. The only item not included in the agreement was the housing allowance which has subsequently been agreed upon to be \$500 per month plus utilities. This was agreed upon at our meeting with Father Garabed at our parish council meeting on June 14, 1982 upon the occasion of his visit to our parish.

As you can see, we have attempted to be diligent in our agreement concerning terms not only for now but also for future years. We believe this will alleviate future "mis-understandings."

We have made the 5/12/82 letter and our subsequent housing agreement a permanent part of our "Parish Minutes Book" for the reference of future parish councils and permanence of our agreement.

Father Garabed has already performed Badarak, a funeral, met with parish council, and met with all parish organization executive committees, a sunday school graduation reception all in addition to "house searching." This evening he and his wife will be guests of our Jr. A.C.Y.O.A. along with their advisors. He has been very active during his stay here and is very enthusiastic with the community. The parish is equally enthusiastic and eagerly looks forward to his arrival.

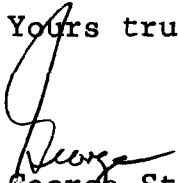
I view the next decade as a "re-awakening" period for our parish and consider Father Garabed and our parish as a very compatible union. I believe you will see in our parish a new direction that will serve as a guideline for the Diocese in its need to accept the challenges of the future that are created by the society within which we exist. Father Garabed's enthusiasm, education and youth will permit him to crusade with all members of our parish the Christian principals necessary for survival, not withstanding the need for a cultural understanding of heritage.

Although many of our parishioners have been frustrated for the past five years, they now feel the wisdom of patience has it rewards. Father Garabed has asked for help at all of his meetings in recognition that our efforts must be jointly conducted and has received assurances of cooperation from all.

I conclude that the Diocese, with you as its leader, will see in our parish a "family" that will serve its role as a leader in the Armenian Apostolic Church. You will be able with pride to continue using Racine as an example of what your parishes can accomplish if their desires and principals remain strong.

I would like to personally thank you for the guidance you have given us over the years and look forward to many more fruitful and joyous occasions.

Yours truly,



George Stevoff  
Parish Council Chairman  
St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

July 2, 1982

Mr. George Stevoff  
3451 Ruby Ave.  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Mr. Stevoff:

Enclosed please find an English translation of the letter sent to Sarkis Cherkinian in Armenian ratifying your parish elections.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

Enclosure

January 16, 1984

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

We were most pleased to learn from your letter dated December 21, 1983 that you were elected as the Orthodox Chairman of the group of clergymen and women at the recent meeting of the Orthodox-Catholic consultation, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese, along with Reverend Father Thomas Hughson S.J., who will co-chair this dialogue group for 1983-84.

We appreciate your efforts and the time you have dedicated to this group which we understand was formed in 1982. We feel confident that dialogues between the respective denominations in the United States will be instrumental to bring a better understanding between the churches, regarding their traditions, religious services, etc. and our cooperative efforts will bear positive, worthy results.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones always and imbue you with His Holy Spirit to enable you to continue to serve His Church.

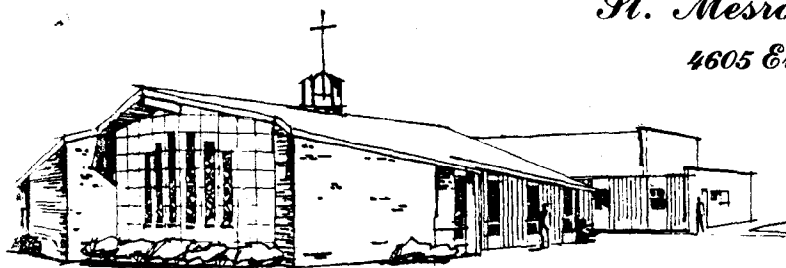
Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



Ս. ՄԵՍՐՈՊ ԶԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաճանայ Քոչաքեան - Հովիւ

June 25, 1985

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence,

As you are aware through our previous communiques that this year the St. Mesrob Armenian Church Sunday School will be celebrating 50 years of service in the Christian Education of Our people. Our parish Church Sunday School, being the first one officially established within our diocese is also planning to honor its organizer and founder on the day of this commemoration which is September 22nd, 1985.

As our Diocesan Arrachnort we invite your presence to be with us on that day. The program and dinner will be held in our cultural hall immediately following the Divine Liturgy. I do realize that your calendar of visitations has been set already, but perhaps you might find it possible to share in the joy of this occasion with us on that day.

Please let us know Srpazan Hayr at your earliest convenience if you will be able to attend and be with us on this our Church School's "Golden Anniversary Celebration - The First 50 Years."

With filial love and respect,

*Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor and President of the Parish Council

mc





July 18, 1985

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

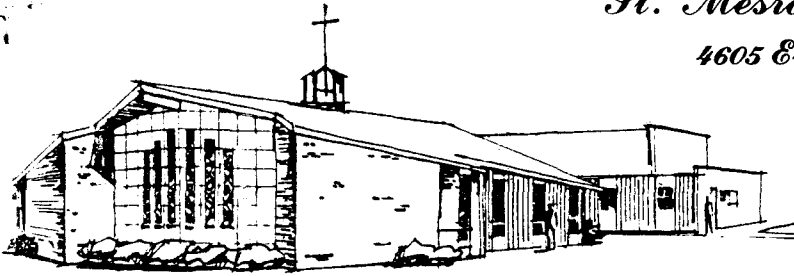
Thank you for your letter of July 11th, and for your good wishes for my return to the States.

I will be pleased to attend the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the existence and establishment of the first Diocesan Sunday School in Racine, Wisconsin, on Sunday, September 22. I will let you know at a later date details of my travel arrangements.

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

With prayers,

Fr. Khajag Barsamian  
Vicar General



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

Ս. ՄԵՍՐՈՊ ԶԱՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաճանայ Քոչաքեան - Հովիւ

July 11, 1985

Very Reverend Father Khajag Barsamian, Vicar General  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Hayr Khajag:

It was a great pleasure to speak with you this week and most importantly welcome you back to the U.S.A. as our Diocesan Vicar General.

I am writing to confirm with you, your visitation to the St. Mesrob parish for Sunday September 22nd. This is the weekend our Church Sunday School will be commemorating its 50th Anniversary of existence and the establishment as the first Diocesan parish Sunday School, established in October 1935. Your presence on behalf of our Diocese in recognition of this celebration no doubt will add to the joy of this occasion. We invite you to celebrate the Soorp Badarak, deliver the homily and preside at the banquet and program.

I will be in touch with you regarding further details as they develop.

Again I express my joy for your return and look forward to sharing together in the service of our Lord to our Armenian people.

With Brotherly Love and Prayers  
for your successful works,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

mc



January 13, 1986

Mrs. Rose Akgulian  
Chairperson  
Diocesan Banquet & Program Committee  
422 South St.  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Rose:

I am pleased to advise you that both Senator William Proxmire (letter attached) and Congressman Les Aspin (by telephone) have accepted our invitation to be present at the Assembly banquet and receive "Friend of the Armenians" award.

They should, in due course, be notified about the details of the event.

The award, and other appropriate gifts for the honorees would be arranged by the Primate's office, with his consent.

Hunan has been keeping me posted about the Assembly progress, via copies of minutes. Thanks and all the best.

Very truly yours,

Michael M. Kermian  
Director

Encl. Sen. Proxmire's letter

cc: Fr. Garabed Kochakian

MMK:mb

July 20, 1987

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie St.  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

His Eminence Abp. Torkom Manoogian asked me to thank you on his behalf for your letter of July 18th, inviting him to visit the Racine parish on the weekend of April 15-17, 1988.

His Eminence informs that the plans are acceptable. Perhaps you could contact him in mid January 1988 to re-confirm the schedule.

With prayers,

Fr. Haigazoun Najarian  
Acting Vicar General

CHARLES J. HARDY

818 CARLTON DR.

RACINE, WISCONSIN 53402

April 30, 1988

His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manogian  
Primate and President of the Diocesan Council  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence:

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you and the Diocesan Council for the St. Vartan Award of the Diocese which you presented to me on the occasion of your visit to the St. Mesrob Parish on Sunday, April 17, 1988.

I thank Almighty God for having been blessed with the privilege of serving His Holy Church these many years and pray that He will continue to provide me with the grace and strength to continue to serve the Armenian Church and Community.

Respectfully yours,

*Deacon Charles J. Hardy*

Deacon Charles J. Hardy

James J. Hardy

818 Carlton Drive

Racine, Wisconsin 53402

April 30, 1988

His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

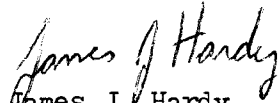
Your Eminence:

Your visit to the St. Mesrob Parish on April 16 and 17 was truly a memorable one. Thank you for ordaining me a subdeacon and granting me the privilege of serving our Church in this manner.

I hope to pursue my studies and someday be ordained to the diaconate and continue to serve my Church.

With God's help, I pray that I will be worthy of the trust and responsibility placed upon me.

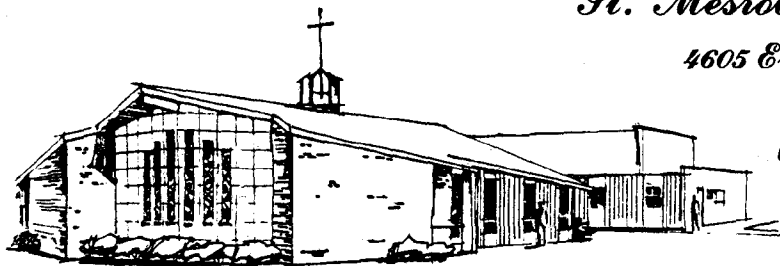
Respectfully yours,

  
James J. Hardy

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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ՌԷՑՍԻՆ, ՈՒՒՍՔԱՆՍԸՆ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Քոչաքեան - Հովիւ

March 23, 1988

His Eminence  
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Srpazan:

Enclosed is an announcement of your forthcoming visit to Racine's St. Mesrob parish. We joyfully look forward to your presence with us. I wish to remind you to remember to bring with yourself or send ahead of your arrival the St. Vartan Award for Deacon Charles Garabed Hardy whom the parish wishes to honor. Also that day we shall be presenting our own parish award to Ms. Janet Cherkinian for 25 years of service as Church Organist of St. Mesrob.

Mr. James Hardy, son of Deacon Charles will be presented for ordination to the Sub-diaconate following the Tbrootian ordinations on Saturday evening. He as well as the young boys are well prepared for their respective offices.

Mr. Geoff Davidian wishes to interview regarding the Karabagh situation, on Saturday afternoon. Please advise us of the time of your arrival on Saturday morning. The boys would like to meet with you briefly around noon to go through the service for Saturday night. Also our choir leader would like to go over the service as well.

Tentative Schedule for Saturday April 16:

12:00 noon	Rehearsal with acolytes and sub-deacon candidates
1:15	Meeting with choir leader
2:00	Interview with Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel Mr. Geoff Davidian
3:00	Rest



His Eminence  
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

March 23, 1988  
Page Two

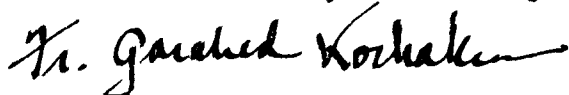
4:00	Dinner with Parish Council and Diocesan Delegates
6:30	Rest
7:30	Worship

Also Srpazan Hayr, Sunday's Badarak and other services need to be abridged for timing. The dedication of the stained glass windows and requiem services added to the Badarak we wish to conclude no later than 1:00 p.m. As to the form of the dedication and blessing of the 24 windows may I suggest that it take the form of an Antasdan Service. Following Badarak the donors of the windows shall come forward to receive your blessing.

I shall call you during the Holy Week to discuss these details. We await your time of arrival for Saturday April 16th.

On behalf of the St. Mesrob parish which enthusiastically awaits your visit, I remain

Your Obedient Son,



Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Enc.  
mc



June 8, 1988

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

Enclosed please find our check #08720 for \$264.00  
(two hundred and sixty-four dollars) to cover your  
recent travel expenses for the ecumenical meetings  
in Texas.

Respectfully,

Sylvia Terzibashian  
Secretary to the Primate

Enclosure

June 28, 1988

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

In an end-June review of the parish dues account, our records show that your parish is in arrears in the amount of \$4,335. May I ask that payment be made or that you contact me at Headquarters as to why remittance cannot be made at this time.

Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention to this matter.

With prayers,

Fr. Haigazoun Najarian  
Vicar General

April 22, 1985

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

We have received your letter dated April 15, and the enclosed Racine parish church directory for which we thank you.

We commend the Women's Guild of Racine parish for their initiative to produce this visual album, and thank you for your thoughtfulness to send us a copy.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones always with His love and wisdom.

Prayerfully,

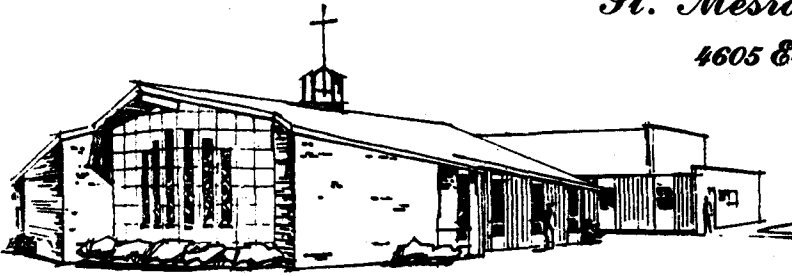
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

Thank You

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-839-0531



Ս. ՄԵՍՐՈՊ ԶԱՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ

April 15, 1985

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

Enclosed please find a gift copy of our recent St. Mesrob Armenian Church Directory which has just been published. We hope you find this little booklet helpful.

This project was completed by our Women's Guild who worked with the Olan Mills Studio. This visual album is a unique book of visual history. Perhaps other parishes in our diocese may be interested in pursuing such a publication.

In any case, enjoy it. Looking forward to sharing in this year's Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly.

KRISDOS HARYAV EE MERELTZ!

Your unworthy servant,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

Enc.  
mc



November 18, 1983

Mr. Paul Chobanian  
1533 Milwaukee Avenue  
Racine, WI 53404

Dear Mr. Chobanian:

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation for the brick cheese which you sent to us several weeks ago with Fr. Garabed Kochakian.

It is one of the tastiest cheeses we have ever sampled at the Diocese and recently ordered some for our inventory from the Sausage Kitchen.

We wish to thank Haig for asking you to send us this cheese but would like very much to reimburse you for any expenses incurred.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

FAS:mb

November 18, 1983

Mr. Paul Chobanian  
1533 Milwaukee Avenue  
Racine, WI 53404

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We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

FAS:mb

November 18, 1983

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

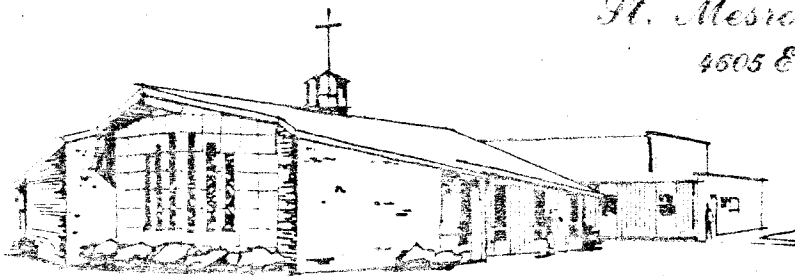
We have received your letter dated October 21, 1983 requesting confirmation of the dates for the annual Diocesan Assembly which will be hosted by the St. Mesrob parish in Racine in 1986.

Please note that the dates of the annual assembly will be as follows:

April 28 - 29	Clergy Conference
April 30	Assembly meeting
May 1	Assembly meeting
May 2	Assembly meeting

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Բահանայ Բողաքեան - Հովիտ

21 October 1983

Mr. Frank Avakian Stoneson,  
Executive Director  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Frank,

I just now arrived at my desk in my office, from La Guardia Airport, a bit tired from today's meeting but very much pleased that we are indeed in the right direction.

I thought I would send you that name of the person who sent the cheque.

It is Mr. Paul Chobanian  
1533 Milwaukee Avenue  
Racine Wisconsin 53404

*Sylvia*  
Also just a reminder about that problem with the assesment for 1983. My treasurer just told me she sent in the last payment with a note of inquiry again. Perhaps you could inform the bookkeeper as to the situation as well. Thanks again.

Also don't forget the date of the 1986 Diocesan Assembly. I need to know so I can begin to make hotel arrangements.

Looking forward to seeing you again.  
And keep up the good work, You are truly a blessing to our Diocese- and that's from the heart.

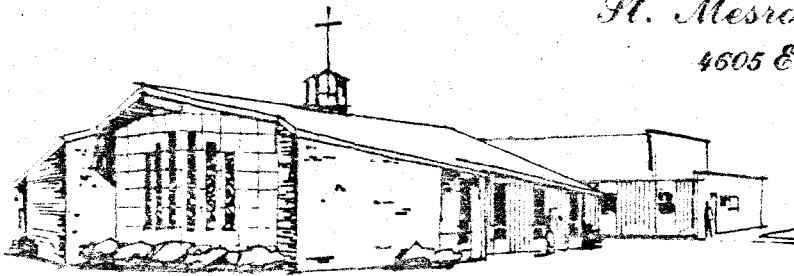
Prayerfully,

Father Garabed

*F.G.*







*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաճանյ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ

21 October. 1983

Mr. Frank Avakian Stoneson,  
Executive Director  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Frank,

I just now arrived at my desk in my office, from La Guardia Airport, a bit tired from today's meeting but very much pleased that we are indeed in the right direction.

I thought I would send you that name of the person who sent the cheque.

It is Mr. Paul Chobanian  
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Racine Wisconsin 53404

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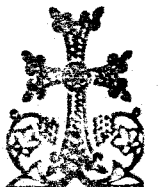
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And keep up the good work, You are truly a blessing to our Diocese- and that's from the heart.

Prayerfully,

Father Garabed

*F.G.*

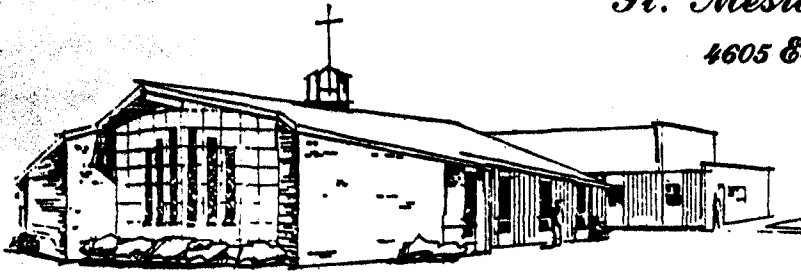


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*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոչաբեան - Հովիւ

December 21, 1983

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate of the Diocese of The Armenian  
Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence,

This is to inform you that at the most recent meeting of the Orthodox-Catholic Consultation under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, I was elected as the Orthodox Chairman of our group of clergy men and women. Along with the Rev. Fr. Thomas Hughson S.J. Catholic Chairman we will co-chair this dialogue group for 1983-84.

The nature of our group is to develop a greater awareness amongst the members of the group our two traditions through dialogue and especially by using the most recent document from Lima Peru on Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry. It was at the invitation of the Catholic Archbishop Rembert Weakland of Milwaukee that this group was formed in 1982 and thus far it has met 12 times and evolved into a harmonious, cohesive body working in a truly ecumenical spirit.

We shall keep you apprised of our work throughout the year.

Your Obedient Servant,

*Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian*  
Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

✓ cc: Rev. Fr. Arten Ashjian,  
Ecumenical Officer  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America

mc



FAS

November 15, 1983

St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 W. Layton Ave.  
Racine, WI 53402

Attn: Ms. Mary D. Akgulian

Dear Ms. Akgulian:

Upon reviewing your 1982 Annual Report for determination of parish assessments, we find that you are partially correct regarding when a priest was assigned to your parish. We had incorrectly calculated a priest for the 12 month period, whereas, it should have been for a 4 1/2 month period. Your Parish Assembly Meeting minutes state that Father Garabed Kochakian was in residence from August 15, 1982 through December 31, 1983 (copy enclosed).

Consequently, as 4 1/2 months is 37.5% of a year, and the yearly charge was \$576.92, the total assessment should have been \$216.35. This results in a reduction of \$360.57, or an annual assessment of \$11,061.00; therefore, your final payment due is \$211.00. Enclosed is a statement reflecting this.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you, and wish to express our appreciation for the promptness and accuracy of yearly assessment payments made by your parish.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

Enclosure (2)  
FAS:mb

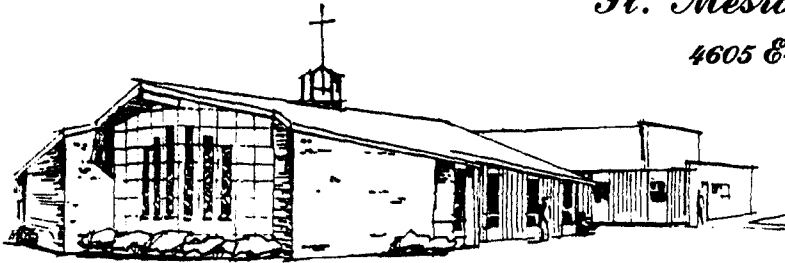
For Report See folder 756 A-3

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*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-839-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոջաբեան - Հովիւ

October 27, 1983

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church in America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence,

Enclosed please find a detailed report of my attendance at the NCCC & Faith and Order meetings held in Chicago October 12th-15th. As a representative of the Armenian Church, I took part in all sessions of the meeting both plenary and group. It was a most interesting, educational and spiritually fulfilling experience and I am honored that you asked me to attend this meeting. There were several officials who asked to be remembered to you and expressed their pleasure as to the presence of the Armenian Church in the NCCC.

The question of the Metropolitan Community Church's membership to the NCCC and the "experimental" lectionary in which the male image of God, Christ and the Church has been altered remained a very uncomfortable issue with the whole of Orthodox representation as well as with myself personally. Archbishop Iakovos of the Greek Orthodox Church expressed his displeasure on these issues and included the co-aligned and assumed response of the Armenian and Coptic communions. I feel that a united statement from the Oriental Orthodox Churches as well, would be in order and supportive clarifying our position and understanding of our Faith and the Church.

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this with you in person.

With deepest respect  
and filial obedience,

*Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

Enc.  
mc

cc: Father Arten Ashjian, Officer  
of Ecumenical Relations



September 3, 1986

Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian, Chairman  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie St.  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Mr. Cherkinian:

Please be advised that in the absence of a parish priest, we have designated the Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian to act as "Co-Ordinator" of baptism, wedding, funeral and other services for the Holy Resurrection Armenian Church of South Milwaukee.

In the event Fr. Garabed is unable to perform the required services for the South Milwaukee parish because of his other commitments, he will arrange for another clergyman to perform the required services.

May the Lord bless the members of your community with His love and wisdom, always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

cc: Fr. Garabed Kochakian

September 3, 1986

Mr. Leif Peterson, Chairman  
Holy Resurrection Armenian Church  
909 Michigan Ave.  
So. Milwaukee, WI 53172

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Please be advised that in the absence of a parish priest, we have designated the Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian to act as "Co-Ordinator" of baptism, wedding, funeral and other services for the Holy Resurrection Armenian Church of South Milwaukee.

In the event Fr. Garabed is unable to perform the required services for the South Milwaukee parish because of his other commitments, he will arrange for another clergyman to perform the required services.

May the Lord bless the members of your community with His love and wisdom, always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

cc: Fr. Garabed Kochakian

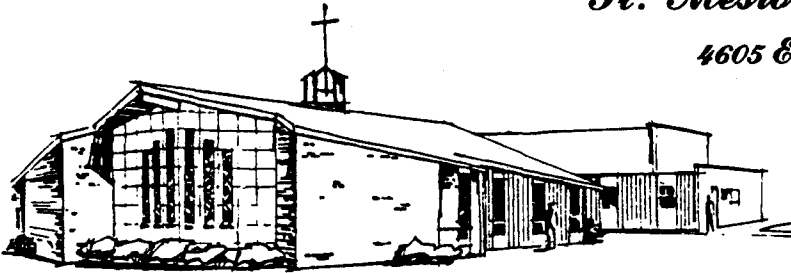
*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոզարեան - Հովիւ

August 27, 1986

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

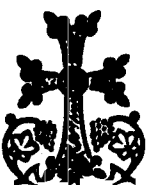
I had forgotten to mention one thing when we were together on Tuesday August 19th.

Per our telephone conversation, with regard to my responsibilities as co-ordinator for the services of funerals, baptisms, weddings, etc. for the Holy Resurrection Armenian Church of South Milwaukee, I feel that an official letter would be appropriate from you, designating me as the arranger for clergymen in the event I myself cannot be available; directing this letter to the attention of my Parish Council Chairman Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian. This will facilitate and clarify any questions with regard to my activities within the boundries of the South Milwaukee community. Perhaps the Holy Resurrection Parish Council could likewise be informed. As of yet Srpazan Hayr I have not heard from them at all. Would it be proper for me to take the initiative and call them myself, now that you have verbally communicated this arrangement to them? Please advise me as I wish only to do what is propitious to your directions.

With filial love and respect,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

mc



July 22, 1986

Mr. Jack Mahdasian  
3717 Astoria Drive  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Mr. Mahdasian:

Thank you for your letter of May 28, and for your kind words of congratulation on the occasion of our new term of service to the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America. We are grateful to our Lord for enabling us to serve His church and the Armenian community, and hope to continue in the service of our Lord and family of our church as long as it is possible.

We appreciate your concern and thoughts about the unfortunate split in the Armenian Church. We pray that loyalty to our church rules will prevail in order to open the way towards the unity of the Armenian Church. May the guidance of our Lord lead us to the achievement of this God-pleasing goal.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones, always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate



3717 Astoria Drive  
Racine, WI 53402  
May 28, 1986

His Eminence Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian  
His Eminence Archbishop Torkoom Manoogian

Dear Prelate:

Greetings in the precious name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I hope this letter finds you well in health and in spirit.

Let me begin by congratulating you both in your being re-elected to another term in office. May God grant you wisdom and understanding in serving the Armenian people regarding church and social affairs.

I write to you concerning a most temperamental subject; that of the schism that exists between our churches. How strange it seems that the grandchildren of the first nation to proclaim Christianity as its state religion are separated by the events surrounding a political gathering earlier this century. What would our founding church fathers say? Is it not a shame that our nation having endured persecution after persecution is not able to overlook this minor (in relation to history) incident?

Furthermore, if we as an Orthodox Church speak of God's forgiveness and love, how can we not forgive and love one another? Biblical passages are strewn throughout admonishing us to "love our neighbor" and even to "love our enemy". The Hayr Mer which we recite weekly at our church service tells us to "forgive those who trespass against us" (Matt 6:9-13). Immediately after teaching the disciples to pray Jesus says, "For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions" (Matt 6:14,15). Have we become callous to these strong words?

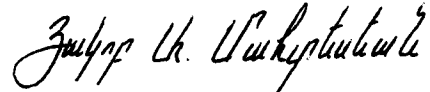
If we are not able to forgive one another - despite who is "right or wrong", how can we expect God to bless our people and our nation? If we can not embrace one another with brotherly love and affection, how can we expect church growth, spiritual awakening, and national prosperity? Others have put aside their differences, is it not time we did so also? We strive for concurrent goals: recognition of the 1915 Massacre; a free and independent Armenia; and spiritual renewal amongst our people. Why can we not co-join our efforts in these struggles?

I make this appeal to you in the name of humanity, love, and God. Let us start anew, begin fresh, and clean the dirty slate between us. Let us put aside all malice, bitterness, and anger, that God may be pleased to dwell again amongst the Armenians. My dear Prelates, if you do not speak out, who will? Will you not make this your highest priority for your new term?

Grace be with you. "Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the Great Shepard of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20,21).

I anxiously await your response.

In His Hope & His Service

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jack A. Mahdasian".

Jack A. Mahdasian

Jack Mahdasian is a young man who has just finished a Bible college in Dearfield, Illinois.

He is a member of St. Hagop Church in Rachine (Antelias).

Fr. Garabed sees him occasionally as he associates with Diocesan ACYOA members and comes occasionally to St. Mesrob sponsored affairs or dances.

His mother and father are alive, they are church going people, he has a younger sister.

July 8, 1986

July 16, 1986

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

Thank you for your letter of June 11, regarding the donation for the renovation project of the Soorb Hovhannes Church in Sisyan, Armenia.

A gift was presented to His Holiness Catholicos Vazken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of his enthronement, and His Holiness designated the renovation of the church in Sisyan.

The Diocesan Council functions in the name of the Diocese, and there was no need for Diocesan Assembly approval. The Council approved a maximum gift of \$30,000 for this project at its meeting held on September 20, 1985, and we have asked the Diocesan parishes to undertake each a certain amount which we believe does not overburden any parish. It is indeed a worthwhile project in honor of His Holiness Catholicos Vazken I.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones with His love and wisdom, always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

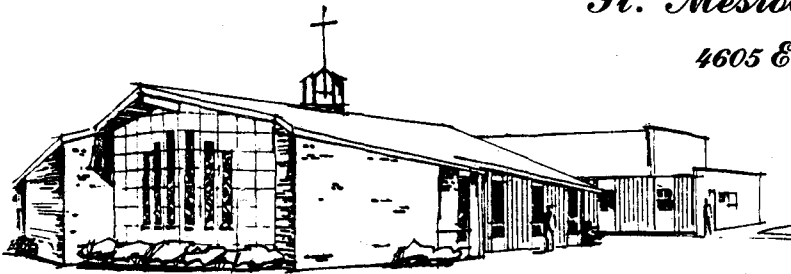
*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Բահանայ Բողաքեան - Հովիւ

June 11, 1986

H.E. Abp. T. Manoogian, Primate and  
President of the Diocesan Council  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence,

We are in receipt of your June 5th, 1986 letter regarding the refurbishment and renovations of the Soorb Hovhannes Church of Sisyan in Armenia. Also we have noted the 'suggested' donation to be made in the name of our parish/parishioners.

Before embarking upon a fund raising program for this worthwhile and noble task, we do have some question with regard to the nature of such an undertaking and certain ambiguities in this letter attempting to explain the announced intentions to His Holiness last fall.

Firstly, has this proposal in the name of our diocese ever been brought to the entire Diocesan Assembly at an annual gathering seeking its approval to undertake this task in the name of our diocese and further the approving of the \$30,000.00 allocation? When did this occur?

Secondly, as the letter is worded it appears as the "Diocesan Council wishes to underwrite the expenses", not the Diocese of the Armenian Church. Is the Council acting in violation of our By-laws?

Thirdly, is not this gift being presented "in honor of the Vehapar's 30th Anniversary" to the Catholicate rather than to him personally? Perhaps the intention of the letter was to convey that; The Diocese of the Armenian Church of America in honor of the 30th Anniversary of His Holiness Lord Lord Vasken I wishes to gift the renovation of Soorb Hovhannes Church in Armenia to the Catholicate in Holy Etchmiadzin.

Is this interpretation in accord with the intention of the good will and gesture of the Diocesan Council?

We would appreciate a clarification of our questions enclosed in this letter to better able us to respond to this appeal.

For the Parish Council and  
Parish of St. Mesrob, Racine, WI

*Fr. Garabed*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

*Sarkis Cherkinian*

Sarkis Cherkinian  
Chairman



September 25, 1985

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

We have received your letter of September 18, inviting us to attend the meeting of St. Nersess Seminary Alumni Association, October 31-November 2, 1985.

Unfortunately the date coincides with a number of other commitments we have, therefore it would be impossible for us to attend.

Since Archbishop Tiran will be present at the meeting, we suggest that you ask him to anoint and consecrate the Sacred Image for your chapel.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones always with His love and wisdom.

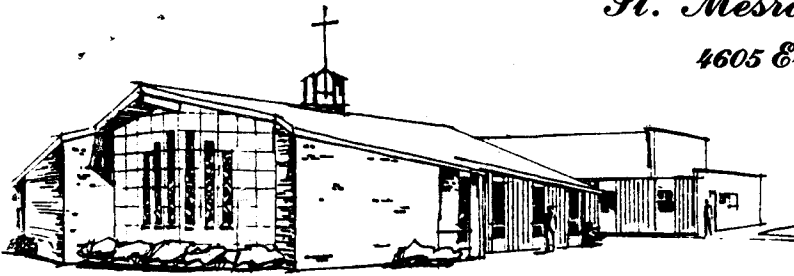
Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoegian  
Primate

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոչաքեան - Հովիւ

September 18, 1985

RECEIVED SEP 20 1985

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian,  
President of the Board of Directors of  
St. Nersess Armenian Seminary  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence:

As you have been informed by Father Mardiros Chevian, Director of St. Nersess Seminary, the formal formation of an Alumni Association has taken place. Our first meeting took place in May of 1985 in Bayside, New York coinciding with the Diocesan Assembly. At that gathering it was agreed to hold the first of our official gatherings at the Seminary in the month of October. Upon everyone's agreement, the dates of October 31, 1985 through November 2, 1985 (Thursday through Saturday) were designated for this our first gathering. I was appointed as pro-tem chairperson until our first official elections at this gathering.

As chairperson and on behalf of the Alumni Association, I extend to Your Eminence as President of the Board of Directors, an invitation to be present with us on that weekend. Also that Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan will grace us with his presence as well.

At the conclusion of the three day meeting, a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in the Soorp Hagop Chapel. On this occasion an Icon of the Three Heirarchs of The Armenian Church -- St. Gregory The Enlighter, St. Gregory of Datev and St. Gregory of Narek will be presented to the Seminary Chapel for one of the side altars. It is our hope that with your participation you may anoint and consecrate this Sacred Image for our chapel. In the event you are unable to share in this occasion may Your Eminence delegate such a liturgical responsibility to another presiding prelate.

We ask for your continued prayers and support for this Alumni body and that the works which we undertake for the benefit of



*Sorry I can't see  
from copy of envelope  
you sent*

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

September 18, 1985  
Page Two

St. Nersess, and most importantly the Armenian Church will be fruitful and filled with grace for the glory of God and our Armenian faithful.

With filial respect,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

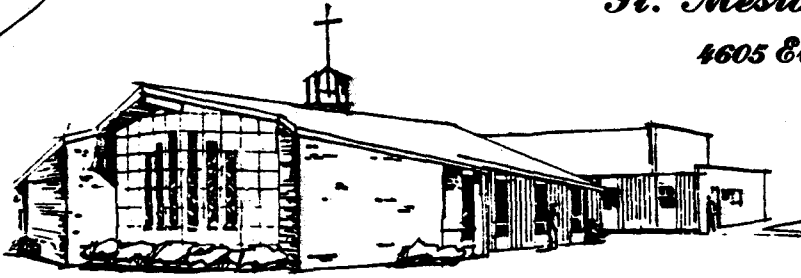
Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pro-tem Chairman  
St. Nersess Seminary Alumni Association

mc



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church**4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Բահանայ Բողաքեան - Հովիւ

September 18, 1985

Mr. Michael Kermian, Director of Operations  
 Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
 630 Second Avenue  
 New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Michael:

As we continue to meet with our NDA Executive Committee, some more questions have arisen which need clarification.

Firstly in your response to our initial inquiries, one point regarding the Sunday Celebrant for Badarak was still vague. You stated Srpazan Hayr suggested one of the 'visiting' clergy -- which visiting - those from Armenia specifically or any of the clergy 'visiting' Racine?

Second - Will there be a special dining room/area needed for the Primate during his lunching at the Church complex? Will he meet with special groups over lunch?

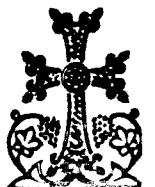
Thirdly - Security committee wishes to know who other than the Primate will be transported to and from the hotel and church; reason being to have an adequate size vehicle to use.

Finally will you supply us with a master mailing list for the information packets, hotel registrations, etc.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
 Pastor

mc



August 22, 1985

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53172

Dear Fr. Garabed:

As requested, we are sending a "St. Vartan Award" for one of your parishioners. We shall kindly ask you to insert his name on the award before presentation.

With prayers,

Fr. Khajag Barsamian  
Vicar General

Enclosure

June 19, 1985

Mr. William Boyd  
President  
Johnson Foundation  
Box 547  
Racine, WI 53401

Dear Mr. Boyd:

We have before us copies of the correspondence between the Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, pastor of St. Mesrob Armenian Church in Racine, and yourself. The correspondence concerns the Racine Armenian community's request for the Johnson Foundation's assistance in presenting a program to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, a tragic historical event which is observed by Armenians throughout the world each year on April 24.

We were disappointed to read your response to the request, since the Armenian Genocide is not a "controversial subject," requiring "non-partisan and balanced presentation of the arguments," but unfortunate reality.

The Armenian Genocide is a fully documented historical fact in the archives of many countries around the world, including our own. One might just as well state that the Holocaust never occurred, as some professed Nazi did in Skokie, Illinois, several years ago.

The "question" Fr. Kochakian refers to is not whether the genocide occurred, but how to deal with the shock of the most destructive event in our nation's long history -- a shock from which our people are still reeling -- and how to advance the research and scholarship needed to make up for the cultural losses we suffered. Your organization would have provided a forum for our community to discuss these vital issues, and to bring them to the attention of others.

On behalf of the Armenian community of Racine, and the more than five hundred thousand Americans of Armenian descent in the United States - including victims of the genocide, some of whom are to be found in Racine - we sincerely hope and pray that we may count on the cooperation, understanding and support of your organization in the future. To that end, we are enclosing some literature which we hope you will find enlightening.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Kermian  
Director

bc: Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Sylvia -

Enclosed is the draft ~~x~~ of a response to the Johnson Foundation from the Primate which you had requested from me about two weeks ago. Sorry it's late.

Please let Lynn know when the letter is sent so that she may mail them the literature referred to ~~x~~ at the end.

Call me if you have any questions.

*Martha*

*OK*

To the Primate, from M. Gurahian

Draft of letter to Johnson Foundation (~~see~~ see attached)

Mr. William Boyd, President  
Johnson Foundation  
Box 547  
Racine, WI 53401

Dear Mr. Boyd,

We ~~are~~ have before us copies of the correspondence between the Reverend Fr. Garabed Kochakian, pastor of St. Mesrob Armenian Church in Racine, and yourself. The correspondence concerns the Racine Armenian community's request for the Johnson Foundation's assistance in a <sup>presenting</sup> program to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, a tragic historical event which is observed by Armenians throughout the world each year on April 24th. ~~Our Diocese has designated nineteen eighty-five "The Year of Remembrance."~~

*disappointed* ~~Without any reservations, we must tell you that we were dismayed to read your response to the request, <sup>some</sup> with Christian charity, we extend to you the benefit of any doubts that we may have, and suggest that perhaps Fr. Kochakian's use of the phrase "Armenian question" provided the basis for your initial reaction. However, as Fr. Kochakian states, in his letter to you of April 15th, the Johnson Foundation should have explored the matter further.~~

~~If you had, it would have been clear that the Armenian Genocide is not a "question," <sup>it</sup> is not a debatable issue, and it is not a "controversial subject," requiring "non-partisan and balanced presentation of the arguments," *but unfortunate reality.*~~

~~Armenians throughout the world are outraged by the attempts of the Turkish government to revise history by denying that the genocide of the Armenians occurred, <sup>as</sup> and so are all those who are committed to truth and justice.~~ *(Continue here with next pg.)*

The Armenian Genocide is a fully documented historical fact in the archives of many countries around the world, including our own. One might just as well state that the Holocaust never occurred, as some professed Nazis did in Skokie, Illinois, several years ago. ~~Yet, the Johnson Foundation has not had the temerity to call the Holocaust a "controversial subject," leading us, regretfully, to conclude that there is a lack of integrity in your decision-making process.~~

The "question" Fr. Kochakian refers to is not whether the genocide occurred, but how to deal with the shock of the most destructive event in our nation's long history -- a shock from which our people are still reeling -- and how to advance the research and scholarship needed to make up for the cultural losses we suffered. Your organization ~~would~~ have provided a forum for our community to discuss these vital issues, and to bring them to the attention of others.

~~More than two hundred and twenty ~~such~~ members of our Congress have co-sponsored a resolution declaring April 24th a day of remembrance of man's inhumanity to man and specifically referring to the Armenian Genocide. The Johnson Foundation was in a position to strike a blow for human rights, but it declined to do so.~~

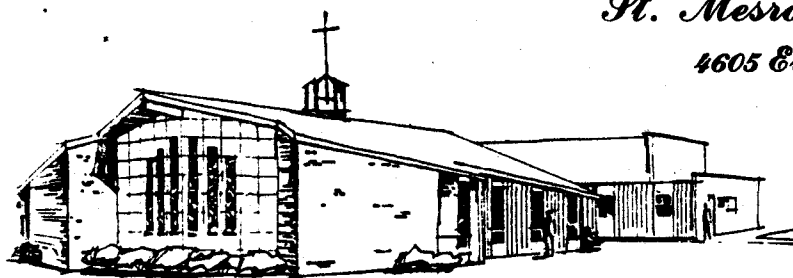
On behalf of the Armenian community of Racine, and the more than five hundred thousand Americans of Armenian descent in the United States - including victims of the genocide, some of whom are to be found in Racine - we sincerely hope and pray that we may count on the cooperation, understanding and support of your organization in the future. To that end, we are sending to you, under separate cover, some literature which we hope you will find enlightening.

*A. May*

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Թոշարեան - Հովիւ

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

April 17, 1985

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate and  
President of the Diocesan Council  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

Enclosed you shall find a series of letters and documents concerning our April 24th Commemoration we had hoped to conduct in Racine. The documents speak for themselves and should be clear. I feel as our community leader in America you should have full knowledge of our successes and failures. I regret that our attempts initially failed at sponsoring this 70th Commemoration with the Johnson Foundation.

We were able to have a most successful program finally without their help but it surely would have gained greater visibility had we succeed with them.

Should you have any further question concerning the enclosures, please do not hesitate to ask either Der Tateos or myself.

Perhaps a response to the Johnson Foundation from a more official diocesan level may help in raising our dismay and bring this body's attention closer to the seriousness of our plight.

Your unworthy servant,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

APRIL 24 COMMEMORATION  
COMMITTEE

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

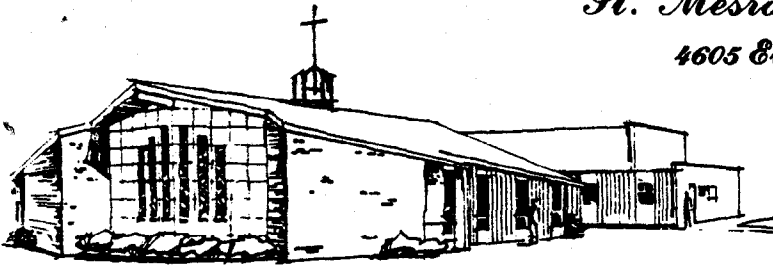




*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Բահանայ Բողաքեան - Հովիւ

April 15, 1985

Mr. William Boyd  
Johnson Foundation  
Box 547  
Racine, WI 53401

Dear Mr. Boyd:

This past week I received an announcement of the forthcoming "Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust" program sponsored by the Racine Holocaust Committee in an envelope from the Johnson Foundation. To be very open and frank with you, I am quite bothered by this since we as an Armenian Community in Racine had approached The Johnson Foundation last October for support in presenting a similar program on the 'Armenian Question'. I cannot understand the reason why your foundation has visibly shown support for the Jewish Community and their cause and has written our program in a sense "Off" because of as you stated in your November 30th letter "Our policies require that whenever a controversial subject is dealt with we insure non-partisan and balanced presentation of the arguments, issues and facts.

We are quite offended by the support your foundation has offered to the Jewish Community and at the same time has refused to the Armenian Community. This double standard should not exist.

The fact that their (Jewish) announcement has come, enclosed in an envelope marked Johnson Foundation, speaks for itself.

We our committee is quite saddened and disheartened firstly because of the inability to have your support in promoting our program and secondly seeing that a similar program has been endorsed by your foundation.

The 'fears' you so stated in your response letter to my original proposal of not having a 'balanced presentation' as you call it would have been precluded in every way had your foundation questioned our intentions further.

Having attended several programs at Wingspread, I must confess that many did not have those 'balanced, non-partisan' factors which seemed to be an obstacle in your foundation's willingness to help our cause.



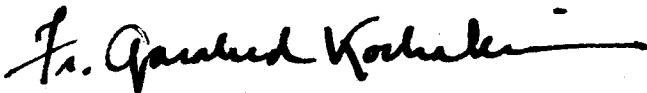
Mr. William Boyd

-2-

April 15, 1985

I do regret having to so negatively respond but in the name of our community I must so share our committee's dismay and offense.

Respectfully,



Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

Enc.  
mc

cc: Mr. Samuel C. Johnson - Chairman  
Board of Trustees  
Johnson Foundation

cc: Ms. Catherine B. Cleary - Vice President, Secretary  
Suite 716  
735 North Water Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

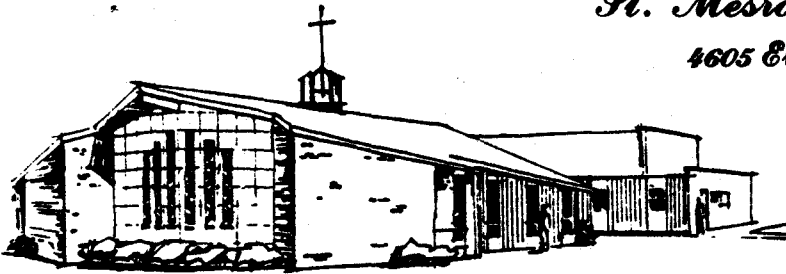
cc: Lovice Becker, Program Co-ordinator  
cc: Rita Goodman, Vice Chairman  
cc: Henry Halstead, Vice President  
cc: Richard Kinch, Program Associate  
c/o Box 547  
Racine, WI 53401

cc: Mr. James W. Allen - Board of Directors  
cc: Robben W. Fleming " " "  
cc: Patricia A. Graham " " "  
cc: Robert M. O'Neil " " "  
cc: Donald S. Perkins " " "  
c/o Box 547  
Racine, WI 53401  
Envelopes Marked PLEASE FORWARD

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Բահանայ Բոչաքեան - Հովիւ

October 24, 1984

Mr. William Boyd, President  
Johnson Foundation  
Box 547  
Racine, Wisconsin 53401

Dear Mr. Boyd:

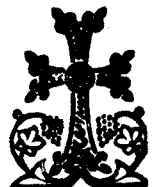
Having been directed by Mr. Richard Kinch, I am writing to you with regard to a possible program to be presented in Racine, which I believe is of a timely and social concern to the general public.

This coming year 1985, the Armenian communities throughout the world will be observing and commemorating with appropriate programs the 70th Anniversary of the first genocide of this century perpetrated by the Ottoman Turkish government upon the Armenians in 1915. A systematic plan was devised by the government at that time to remove the presence of Armenian people from the Turkish empire through any means possible; extermination, torture, deportation. On April 24th, 1915 this attempt began and through the ensuing months and years one and a half million Armenian people were barbarically murdered. Until today the Turkish government has outwardly denied this human tragedy in world history.

This heinous act was the prelude to the Jewish experience of their holocaust perpetrated by the Germans. Hitler himself, following the actions of the Turks stated "after all who remembers the Armenians", -- meaning the world forgot.

Fortunately for the Jews, the German deeds of such inhumanity have been acknowledged in history and retribution extended. But the Armenian question remains unresolved.

Our concerns as a community are not only focused on our own experience but in a broader sense the ramification this 'denial' of inhuman action may have in the future on other innocent peoples who could be victim of unacknowledged, and unaccounted for genocidal acts. Those who perpetrate such deeds are indeed accountable to humanity and cannot escape such sacrilege they have performed on human life. Such accountability can at least evoke the need to uphold the sanctity of human life. The Armenian experience yet unresolved is a classic example.



Mr. William Boyd, President

October 24, 1984  
Page Two

As a church community, we are bound to pursue resolve to the "Armenian Question". Also local Armenian organizations are bound and committed to this task. You should also be aware that this question of the genocide has occupied the work of many non-Armenian U.S. Representatives who have been working to achieve a just solution. Presently this issue has been before the House of Representatives on several levels and recently by majority vote April 2nd has been proclaimed as a national day of remembrance in America of "Man's Inhumanity to Man", based on the Armenian experience.

My proposal is to have a program presented on this topic in April of 1985, under the auspices of the Johnson Foundation and with a joint Sponsorship of the local Armenian community and the various Armenian organizations. To be considered in this joint endeavor with the Foundation would be the Knights of Vartan, The Armenian General Benevolent Union and the St. Mesrob Armenian Church Community.

I envision a full day program that would present 2 or 3 speakers for which we could arrange. I would also see the need for a suitable honorarium for their presentations as well as costs for lodging and transportation.

The scope of this program by way of those attending would be similar to the programs presented at Wingspread and Prairie School. Local clergymen, university professors, teachers, educators, historians and social professionals could be invited.

These are but a few considerations I envision presently. I would appreciate an opportunity to speak with you personally to further explore the realization of such a program for the greater Racine area.

Looking forward to the pleasure of our meeting,

Sincerely,

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

cc: Mr. Richard Kinch

mc

THE JOHNSON FOUNDATION  
RACINE, WISCONSIN 53401-0547

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 30, 1984

The Reverend Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

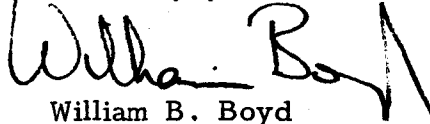
Dear Reverend Kochakian:

Your letter of October 24 has been a tough one to respond to. It raises an important issue and proposes an interesting meeting that could be educational for many persons who might attend. Normally that is the kind of opportunity to which we respond affirmatively. In this case, however, I feel compelled to respond with regrets. Our policies require that whenever a controversial subject is dealt with we insure non-partisan and balanced presentation of the arguments, issues and facts. That does not seem within our reach on this subject, and I fear that our attempt might come to grief.

I would, of course, be willing to meet with you personally at any mutually convenient time, but I did not wish to make an appointment that might suggest an affirmative answer to the proposal contained in your letter.

I do regret having to disappoint you in a matter of such importance to you and your parishioners.

Sincerely yours,

  
William B. Boyd

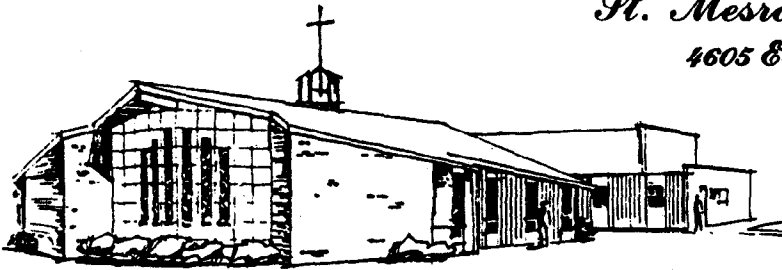
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cc: Richard Kinch

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Eric Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Թոշաքեան - Հովիւ

July 13, 1988

Rev. Fr. George Geha, Executive Director  
Antiochian Village Conference Center  
Route 711 North  
P.O. Box 638  
Ligonier, PA 15658

Dear Fr. George:

Thank you so very much for your May 6 letter regarding Antiochian Village and the forthcoming museum and displays you are organizing.

I wrote to our Primate, Archbishop Manoogian regarding your request and recently received an answer from him. Relative to finances he asked me to tell you, presently there is no budget to allow our financial participation. However, our diocesan Information Center will be transposing a wealth of Armenian source material onto microfiche and would be happy to share this information with you for use in the library and cultural museum.

If you have any further inquiries, please address them to:

Ms. Syraun Palvetzian  
Information Center  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10016

We wish you every success in your endeavors.

Prayerfully,

*Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

✓ cc: Archbishop Torkom, Primate

mc



October 27, 1987

Mrs. Rose Akgulian  
422 South Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Rose:

We thank you for your letter of September 16, 1987. We are grateful for your kind gift to the Racine parish in memory of Sahag Akgulian. That two young people will now be given additional opportunity to learn more about their church, is wonderful; just as inspiring to us is that you have chosen to honor Sahag in this way.

God bless you and may your every endeavor continue to be imbued with His Spirit and grace.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

Mark Y  
September 16, 1987

Archbishop Torkoom Manoogian  
St. Nersess Seminary Board of Directors  
150 Stratton Road  
New Rochelle, New York 10804

Your Grace:

The following is for your information.

"Two yearly \$100.00 scholarships in the name of Sahag Akgulian will be granted to St. Mesrob young people who plan to attend the St. Nersess summer studies program. The recipients for the 1987 year were James Hardy and Tamar Kazarian.

Sahag Akgulian, for whom the scholarship fund was established, was the eldest of four sons born to Avak and Zarouhy Akgulian, founding members of the St. Mesrob Parish. Avak Akgulian, originally from Tomarza was on the original Board of Trustees of St. Mesrob and built the altar of the church modeled after the altar of the Vank in Tomarza. Mrs. Akgulian, from Karaman, was a talented seamstress and sewed many of the vestments used by the St. Mesrob clergy and was active in the Women's Guild and Diocesan Auxiliary organizations.

Sahag and his brothers followed their parents footsteps and served the church faithfully. He served many terms as Parish Council member and chairman, on the Building Committee and was always available to serve where his community and church needed him.

Mr. Akgulian was a mechanical engineer at the Jacobsen Manufacturing Company in Racine, where he designed many of the new products and had numerous patents to his name. He had served with honor for three and a half years during World War II in the Phillipine area. He passed away in January of 1985. Survivors include his wife Rose, who has served on the Board of Directors of St. Nersess, and four children, Laura Akgulian, Mark Akgulian, Marguerite Guglielmo, and Nicholas Akgulian.

In recognition of Sahag Akgulian's devotion to his church and his community, his family and friends have established the Sahag Akgulian Memorial Fund for two yearly scholarships to St. Nersess."

Respectfully yours,

*Rose Akgulian*

Rose Akgulian

cc: Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan  
Rev. Mardiros Chevian

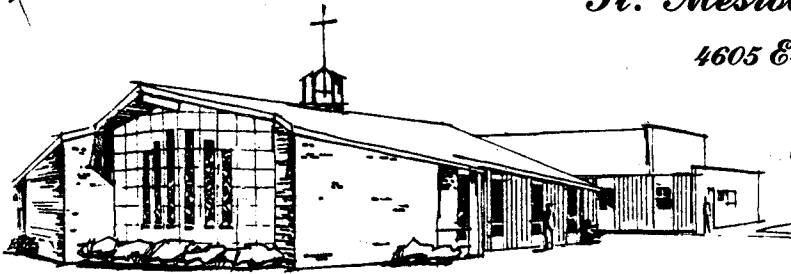


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*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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ՌԷՅՍԻՆ, ՈՒԻՍՔԱՆՍԸՆ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Քոչաքեան - Հովիւ

March 23, 1987

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church in America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

Enclosed is an announcement of the upcoming program God with us: A Festival of Icons in which our church is participating and bringing the Armenian presence and contributions to this occasion of celebration.

Musically and artistically we shall be represented and our tri-Wisconsin Armenian parishes have been invited to join together especially the musical soiree on May 8th.

I have been working on this planning committee since February of 1986 and must comment that our efforts appear presently to be worthwhile for all who attend.

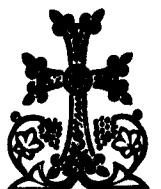
I shall keep you apprised of further developments.

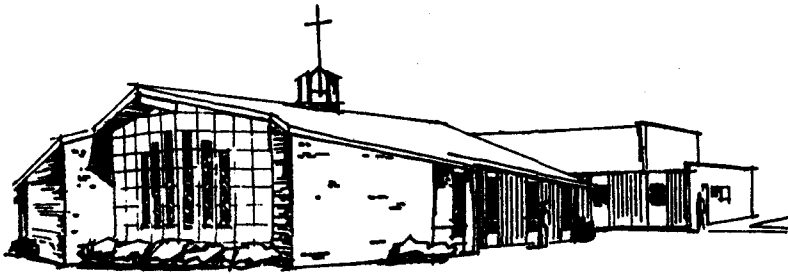
Your Obedient Son,

*Fr. Garabed*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Enc.  
mc





**St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church**

**4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402**  
**Telephone 634-6550**

June 25, 1982

Diocese of the Armenian Church  
of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

Enclosed are copies of two Parish Assemblies. One of which was held April 25, 1982, just prior to the Diocese Assembly and the second Parish Assembly was held May 23, 1982.

The minutes of both of these Parish Assemblies are being sent to you for your perusal and approval.

Yours truly,

*George Stevoff*  
George Stevoff  
Chairman

Encl.

P.S. Mr. Stoneson, please send our church in English, the verification of the newly elected trustees for 1982. Thank you!

7/14  
Talked  
to Norbert

Parish Assembly of April 25, 1982 was called to order by Parish Council Chairman George Stevoff. The invocation was given by Deacon Charles Hardy.

Minutes of the previous Parish Assembly of February 14, 1982 were read and approved. The count of the members present revealed there were 32 in attendance and it was decided that a 2/3 majority vote would be necessary as there was not a quorum present.

The upcoming Diocesan Assembly proposals and amendments were read and discussed.

Parish Council Chairman George Stevoff informed the delegates and authorized Parish Council Trustees that there was going to be a Midwest Regional Conference meeting on Wednesday, April 28th in Waukegan, Illinois.

Discussion was held that publications are not very prompt from the Diocese and this includes the receiving of church calendars. It was further stated that varification of newly elected Trustees should be more timely from the Diocese.


Mrs Rose Akgulian suggested that Racine host the Diocesan Assembly for next year. There was no discussion on this subject.

Mr Sam Akgulian gave a report for the Projects Committee and stated that their committee requested for the following projects in mind.

- 1) New lawn tractor
- 2) Self-propelled lawn mower
- 3) Painting exterior of parish home
- 4) Aluminum fascia on church proper
- 5) New altar curtain
- 6) New hot water tank
- 7) Parking lot sealer
- 8) Trees for church property

All of the above items totaled the sum of \$10,085.00, which would be added to our present 1982 budget if approved. Motion was made and seconded that the Projects Committee proceed with the above request. Discussion was held and a vote taken which was in the negative. After further discussion on the above matter, a second vote was taken and the motion was carried unaminiously.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

  
Sarkis Cherkinian  
Secretary

Parish assembly was held on May 23, 1982, commencing at 11:20 a.m. The assembly was called to order by parish council chairman, George Stevoff.


The minutes of the previous parish assembly of April 25, 1982 was read and approved.

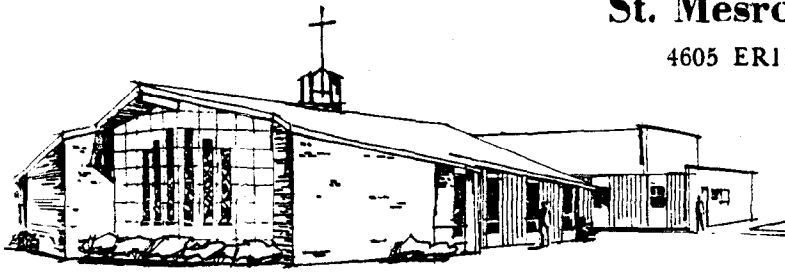
Chairman George Stevoff gave a brief report on the Diocese Assembly and stated that our Primate Torkom Manoogian was reelected for a 5th four year term and the financial condition of our Diocese is in much better shape than it has been in the past, due to the efforts of a CPA handling the accounts. Stevoff also reported that the Unity guidelines were approved by a vote of two to one. The resolution on violence was read in its entirety and that our Diocese did not condone such action.

The proposals and resolutions were read and our assembly informed as to which ones were approved and disapproved and those that were laid over.

The unity guidelines will be mailed to our members in the future, per their request.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

  
Sarkis Cherkinian  
Secretary



# St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

4605 ERIE STREET • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53402

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոջաքեան - Հովիւ

February 7, 1983

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr,

This is to confirm your letter dated January 28, 1983  
with regard to your forthcoming Pastoral Visit to  
St. Mesrob on the week end of September 17th thru  
19th.

We shall apprise you of details as they are planned.

With filial love,

*Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

mc



September 18, 1984

The Reverend Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

Enclosed is the guidebook for planning, administering and supervising the Diocesan assembly, as requested in your letter of September 12.

You shall indeed find a wealth of information, and wish you reading power and patience.

All is going well here. The One World Festival was a great success.

I trust you are well.

Respectfully,

Michael M. Kermian  
Director

Enclosure

April 4, 1984

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

We have received a letter dated March 26, 1984 from the Greenfield parish regarding the services of a priest.

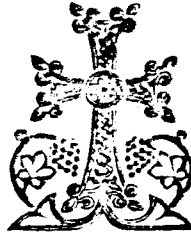
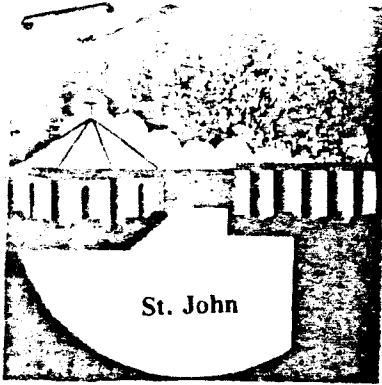
We agree with the proposed plan and arrangements made, and enclose herewith a copy of the letter, for your information.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

c.c. Parish Council Chairman  
Greenfield Parish





ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

7825 West Layton Avenue  
Greenfield, Wisconsin 53220  
Tel: 414-282-1670

March 26, 1984

His Eminence  
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Surpazan Hayr:

As you are aware St John's Armenian Church in Greenfield is without the services of a priest. We have had communication with you and with other area parishes, regarding the possibility of obtaining the services of a full time priest, and during the interim, the services of a visiting clergyman.

Harry Torosian and myself were invited by the Parish Council of St Mesrob's Armenian Church in Racine Wisconsin, to discuss the possibility of retaining the services of Father Garabed Kochakian. We attended their Parish Council meeting, on the evening of March 5th, 1984.

They were very responsive to our needs, and with your blessing, they will allow Father Garabed to perform services at our Greenfield Church on a regular basis. The Service would be performed on Saturday, once a month, until we obtain the services of a full time priest.

Upon your approval the St John's Parish Council would provide the St Mesrob Parish Council with a schedule for Saturday services.

We respectfully ask that you consider this proposal. If you should approve of this arrangement, your written approval would be presented to the Racine Parish Council. A formal schedule for Saturday Services would then be initiated.

Respectfully yours,

Edward Kargenian  
Vice Chairman

Alice Kaishian  
Secretary

February 10, 1984

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie St.  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Der Hayr:

This is to confirm our plans to hold a regional public relations workshop in your area on Saturday, May 19, 1984, to be hosted by the St. Mesrob Armenian Church in Racine.

This workshop will serve the parishes of Greenfield, South Milwaukee, Racine and Waukegan. Another such workshop will be arranged for the parishes of the Chicago area.

Enclosed please find a tentative schedule of the workshop, which will also give some indication of the topics being discussed. We plan to start the workshop at 10:00 a.m. sharp, and hope to close it by 4:00 p.m. I plan to remain on hand after the close of the workshop for any other matters related to either PR or the BEMA, and welcome any meeting individuals would like to arrange for PR purposes during that time.

There are two loose ends. You will notice that the workshop calls for a guest speaker. I am trying to get people from that area who will come and speak on a related matter. A professional journalist or advertising or PR person would be ideal. For instance, in the Hartford workshop, we hope to have John Zakarian, Editorial Page Editor of Hartford Courant come and speak about PR from the editor's or publisher's perspective. Another possibility would be Courant photographer Kirk Hatsian speaking on photos for publicity purposes.

Do you have such a person in your area that we might be able to invite to speak for 15-20 minutes on a related topic? I had in mind the gentleman who took your picture with the Primate and had the item in the Milwaukee Journal. I believe his name was Davidian or Davidoff(?). Would he be good in your opinion? Another person I have in mind is Lorene Skinner, PR contact for the Palos parish who did a magnificent job on the Assembly and the consecration PR for their church. She could speak on the PR process as she did it so well.

If you feel one of these will be appropriate, please advise me and I'll pursue it with you. If you have another person or persons in mind that would be even better, I'm open to suggestions.

The second matter is that of lunch. I am hoping your parish will be able to provide a lunch and coffee throughout the day for the participants. I don't anticipate a large number, maybe 20 at the most. If your parish is willing to underwrite the expenses, I'd be grateful and owe the parish a favor. If not, please let me know and we'll work out another option. I do not want to ask participants to pay -- the workshop should be a service we provide them.

Please advise me on these two items at your earliest convenience. In the meanwhile, I will be sending a letter to the priests and parish council chairmen of the four parishes, informing them of this workshop.

I look forward to doing the workshop and also to being with you on April 7 for the Spiritual Renewal Conference. Best wishes to Roberta.

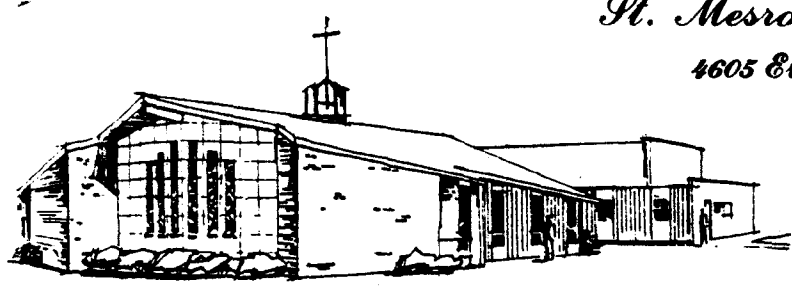
Yours,

Michael Zeytoonian  
Director of Public Relations

MZ:ab

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*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*  
4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402  
414-839-0531

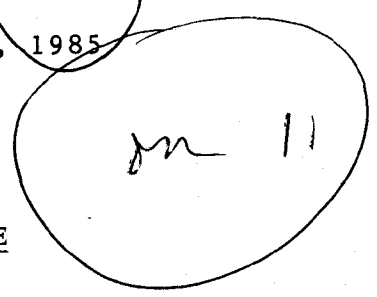


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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Բազանայ Բողաքեան - Հովիւ

February 11, 1985



RACINE AND GREENFIELD HOLD  
CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS CONFERENCE

On Saturday Feb. 9th, 1985 the Church School teachers of both St. Mesrob Armenian Church of Racine and St. John The Baptist Armenian Church of Greenfield gathered together for a day long conference at the Sacred Heart School of Theology in Franklin, Wisconsin. The theme of the day was "Lord Teach Me To Believe".

The program, attended by 14 teachers from both Sunday Church Schools, was arranged by the pastors of the two Churches, Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian and Rev. Fr. Tateos Abdalian.

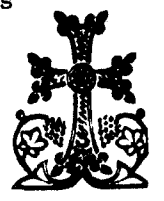
The conference opened with a Matins service in which all teachers took part. Following worship, a filmstrip and discussion was held concerning "Nurturing Spiritual Growth". The dialogue proved quite helpful in terms of Christian parenting, understanding teacher-parent relationships, and teacher-student relationships. The discussions led to the topical focus of the day, which was how to teach the faith and mystery of Jesus Christ and His presence in the lives of the students.

Suggested paraliturgical experience and examples were brought forth by both Fr. Garabed and Fr. Tateos as a means of re-inforcing the lessons and planned curriculum for the varying grade levels.

*end*

The guest speaker of the day, Sister Coletta Dunn shared her knowledge and experiences with the teachers of how to impart faith and mystery, via emotion and communication with students of different age levels. Sr. Coletta is the Director of Religious Studies at Cardinal Stritch College in Milwaukee and deals directly with Christian Catechesis for all age levels, even with the disabled and retarded.

Her presentation activated a lively discussion with the teachers and a great deal of knowledge was gained through this opportunity of sharing, the many problems, situations and confrontations, etc. in the classroom.



The afternoon session was devoted to exploring the ramifications the media has on values that children and adults alike learn and develop. Fr. Tateos led this interesting session focusing in on how as parents and teachers especially as a Christian community we must all screen and control programs and commercials that can confuse and lead astray our youngsters.

The closing session led by Fr. Garabed centered around "Images of God", a filmstrip and discussion that pulled the whole day together. A Working session on understanding "mystery" and how to convey it was conducted with the teachers whose participation enabled them to realize how to convey the faith-heritage especially expressed in the Armenian Christian tradition to their students.

With the conclusion of Vespers held in the beautiful Sacred Heart Chapel, the conference concluded with a desire to come together again for yet another opportunity to explore our Christian faith.

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

mc

May 13, 1986

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

On behalf of the Diocesan Council, we extend our appreciation and our congratulations to you, the Parish Council and the members of all the committees who worked tirelessly for the Annual Diocesan Assembly in Racine.

The organization of all the events and the warm and gracious hospitality extended to our Delegates and guests were apparent throughout the Assembly weekend.

Without intending to offend anyone of your committee members, we wish to extend our special gratitude to the Chairman, Mike Garoukian, for his excellent leadership in a most difficult and trying assignment. He and his committee are to be highly commended for a task well performed and for their unselfish devotion and dedication to our Church.

You may be rightfully proud of your Parish for making a most memorable 84th Diocesan Assembly.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

March 11, 1986

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

The St. John Armenian Church of Southfield, Michigan, is in urgent need of courses for the preparation of Deacons, Sub-Deacons, and Tebirs. We will appreciate if you will send Fr. Paren copies at your earliest convenience.

With prayers,

Fr. Khajag Barsamian  
Vicar General

June 7, 1982

Mr. George Stevoff  
Chairman of the Parish Council  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Mr. Stevoff:

This is to inform you that we have appointed the Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian as the Pastor of St. Mesrob Armenian Church of Racine, Wisconsin.

Father Garabed will assume his pastoral responsibilities on August 15, 1982 and will celebrate his first Divine Liturgy at St. Mesrob Armenian Church on the same day.

It would of course be most desirable if a reception were given on that day after the Badarak to introduce Father Garabed to the parishioners.

Kindly let us know the details of the mutual understanding and arrangements you have made with Father Garabed.

We look forward to the new service Father Garabed will bring to our church and people, strengthened always with God's love and guidance.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate



December 10, 1981

Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian  
Chairman  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
1906 Saturn Ave.  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Cherkinian:

We wish to remind you that our last billing for the 1981 dues was made to your parish on October 1, 1981.

Currently, there is an unpaid balance of \$1,074.00 due to the Diocese and it would be most appreciated if the remittance could be made promptly.

We wish you and all your parish members a most happy holiday season.

Yours truly,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

C.C. Mr. David Azarian, Treasure

February 10, 1982

Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian  
1906 Saturn Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Sarkis:

The Diocesan Council has expressed a sincere interest in developing guidelines for parishes that need to be informed of "How to Manage a Parish Without a Priest."

We are requesting your parish to undertake this project of developing guidelines for submittal to the Diocese in the form of a report.

Your comments will be studied and then distributed to those parishes that are in need of such information.

The prompt cooperation of those parishes involved in this project would be most appreciated.

Yours respectfully,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

FAS:lh

January 10, 1982

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

We refer to our letter dated December 14, 1982 regarding the annual visit of His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian to Racine, Wisconsin.

Kindly note that His Eminence has earmarked the weekend of October 15 through October 17, 1983 to visit your parish. Kindly let us know if this date is convenient to your parish.

Yours respectfully,

Sylvia Terzibashian  
Secretary to the Primate

December 14, 1982

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

We thank you for your letter dated December 1, 1982 addressed to His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian concerning the 10th anniversary celebration of the St. Mesrob Armenian Church.

As soon as His Eminence returns from Jerusalem, we will let you know the date he will be able to visit your parish.

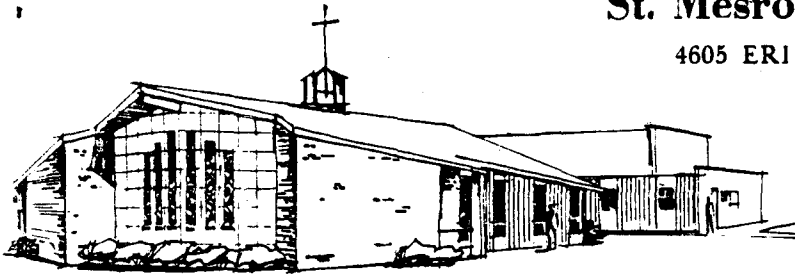
Yours respectfully,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

# St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

4605 ERIE STREET • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53402

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ

December 1, 1982

His Eminence Most Reverend Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence,

I am writing to you with regard to a letter which was sent to your attention dated 29 September 1982 concerning the 10th anniversary celebration of the St. Mesrob Armenian Church (new building).

We are in the preliminary stages of planning this event and are hopeful that you can grace us with your presence that weekend. We are aware that during the fall you shall be involved with the Mother See and the Blessing of Holy Miuron so we are flexible as to the date of your visit to Racine.

Our preference if possible would be on the weekend of the Holy Translators in October of 1983.

We patiently await your reply,

Madchim Ee Hambooyr Tzer Adjooyn,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor



December 10, 1986

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

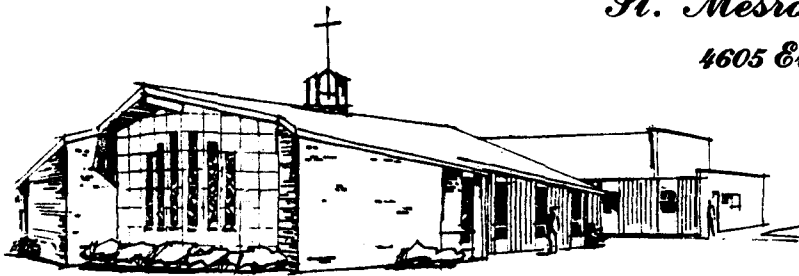
Thank you for your letter of December 3, inviting us to celebrate Divine Liturgy and participate in the various activities scheduled at the St. Mesrob Armenian Church of Racine, Wisconsin in October 1987.

We will be pleased to visit the Racine parish, and have earmarked the weekend of October 30 - November 1, 1987, for this purpose.

On the occasion of the Nativity of Our Lord, we extend to you our best wishes and prayers that the coming year will be one of health, happiness and prosperity for you and members of your community.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

Ս. ՄԵՍՐՈՊ ԶԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաճանայ Բողաքեան - Հովիւ

December 3, 1986

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

As president and on behalf of the parish council, I write this letter to confirm in writing the date of October 31 and November 1st 1987 for your forthcoming visitation to the St. Mesrob Armenian Church. As I had shared with you at the N.C.C.C. meeting, it is on this occasion that we shall have the ordination of four young men to the minor orders and one adult to the order of sub-deacon. Also we shall be formally dedicating all of our newly installed stained glass windows on that weekend.

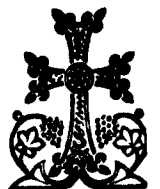
Our parishioners look with great joy toward your time with us and plans are already being made for the varied activities on that weekend.

We await your formal acceptance of our invitation and request to have your presence and celebrate the Holy Badarak for our faithful communicants of Racine.

With filial love and respect,  
Your Obedient Son,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor and President of the Parish Council

mc



September 3, 1986

Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian, Chairman  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie St.  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Mr. Cherkinian:

Please be advised that in the absence of a parish priest, we have designated the Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian to act as "Co-Ordinator" of baptism, wedding, funeral and other services for the Holy Resurrection Armenian Church of South Milwaukee.

In the event Fr. Garabed is unable to perform the required services for the South Milwaukee parish because of his other commitments, he will arrange for another clergyman to perform the required services.

May the Lord bless the members of your community with His love and wisdom, always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Terkon Manougian  
Primate

cc: Fr. Garabed Kochakian



September 3, 1986

Mr. Leif Peterson, Chairman  
Holy Resurrection Armenian Church  
909 Michigan Ave.  
So. Milwaukee, WI 53172

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Please be advised that in the absence of a parish priest, we have designated the Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian to act as "Co-Ordinator" of baptism, wedding, funeral and other services for the Holy Resurrection Armenian Church of South Milwaukee.

In the event Fr. Garabed is unable to perform the required services for the South Milwaukee parish because of his other commitments, he will arrange for another clergyman to perform the required services.

May the Lord bless the members of your community with His love and wisdom, always.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manougian  
Primate

cc: Fr. Garabed Kochakian

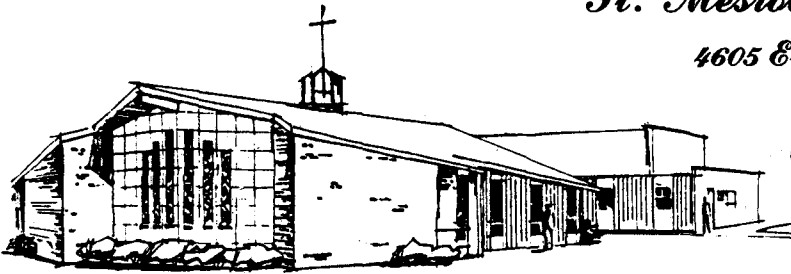
*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ

August 27, 1986

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

I had forgotten to mention one thing when we were together on Tuesday August 19th.

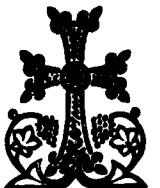
Per our telephone conversation, with regard to my responsibilities as co-ordinator for the services of funerals, baptisms, weddings, etc. for the Holy Resurrection Armenian Church of South Milwaukee, I feel that an official letter would be appropriate from you, designating me as the arranger for clergymen in the event I myself cannot be available; directing this letter to the attention of my Parish Council Chairman Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian. This will facilitate and clarify any questions with regard to my activities within the boundries of the South Milwaukee community. Perhaps the Holy Resurrection Parish Council could likewise be informed. As of yet Srpazan Hayr I have not heard from them at all. Would it be proper for me to take the initiative and call them myself, now that you have verbally communicated this arrangement to them? Please advise me as I wish only to do what is propitious to your directions.

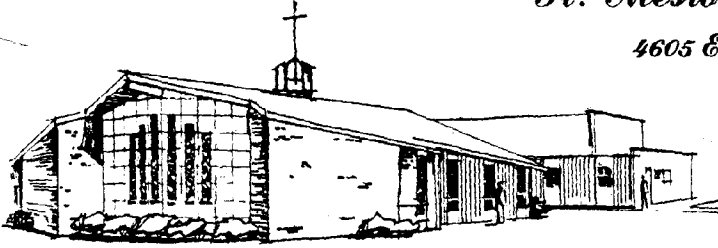
With filial love and respect,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

mc





*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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ՌԷՑՍԻՆ, ՈՒԻՍՔԱՆՍԸՆ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիտ

19 September 1987

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr,

Upon return to Racine from our August 18th meeting in New York, I realized I neglected to ask you for a letter of assignment addressed to the Parish Council of Saint Mesrob.

I took the liberty of composing a letter in your name - see enclosure - relative to my duties and responsibilities. Add or delete what you wish and send to: Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian, Chairman, Parish Council  
1906 Saturn Avenue  
Racine Wisconsin 53404

I would like a copy as well for my files.

Asking your prayers in the service of Our Lord I remain  
Your Obedient Son,

Father Garabed Kochakian

En.



August 25, 1987

Mr. Sarkis Cherkinian  
Chairman of the Parish Council  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
1906 Saturn Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin 53404

Dear Mr. Cherkinian:

As you have been informed, His Holiness Catholicos Vasken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, will be visiting our Diocese during the months of October 20th to November 5th. During that time many events and celebrations will be held in New York and other regions within our Diocese.

We have been in contact with and asked your pastor, Fr. Garabed Kochakian to join the Vehapar's Visitation Committee and to assume the responsibilities of particular arrangements in New York. Fr. Garabed's position as Coordinator of Religious Events for that time period will call him to the Diocesan headquarters frequently during the months of September and October.

Fr. Garabed should present to you his schedule so that you may make arrangements for any pastoral needs to your community in his periodic absences from his parish.

Also for both Sundays October 25th and November 1st, he will be required to be in New York for the celebrations of the Divine Liturgies by His Holiness.

Fr. Garabed has already had a preliminary meeting with us to set his schedule. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation at this time as we call him in the service to our Holy Mother Church during the visit of His Holiness the Catholicos of All Armenians.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

cc. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

October 26, 1987

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

Thank you for your letter dated October 14, together with the resignation submitted by Mr. Michael Charkudian from the parish council of St. Mesrob Armenian Church of Racine, Wisconsin.

We approve the elected alternate, Mrs. Goldie Roy to replace Mr. Charkudian on the Council.

May the Lord bless you and the members of the parish council for their devotion to His Church.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

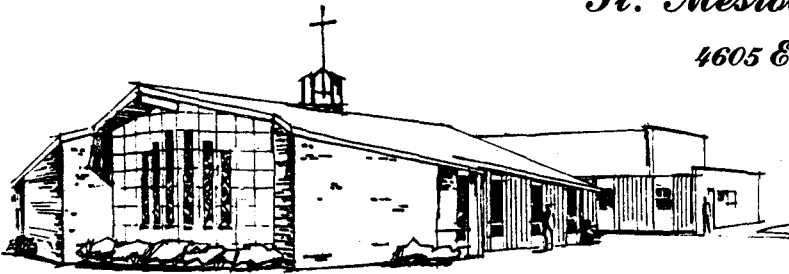
*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոզարեան - Հովիւ

October 14, 1987

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence:

We inform you of the recent resignation of Mr. Michael Chardukian (see enclosed resignation letter) from the Parish Council of the St. Mesrob parish of Racine, WI. He was elected last February 1987 for a two year term of office, the first year to expire this February 1988.

Elected as alternate is Mrs. Altoon Goldie Roy who at the annual elections received the next highest number of votes and shall replace Mr. Chardukian on Council following your approval. We hereby ask Your Eminence to ratify her replacement of Mr. Chardukian, thus enabling us to invite her to assume his position on the Parish Council.

Your obedient son,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Enc.  
mc

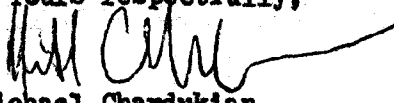
*Approve*



October 11, 1987

As of October 14, 1987 I hereby resign  
my position on the St. Mesrob Parish Council.  
My reasons are simple; I am moving to San Diego,  
California. Although my time was short, I feel as  
though I have learned from my experience on  
Parish Council.

Yours respectfully,

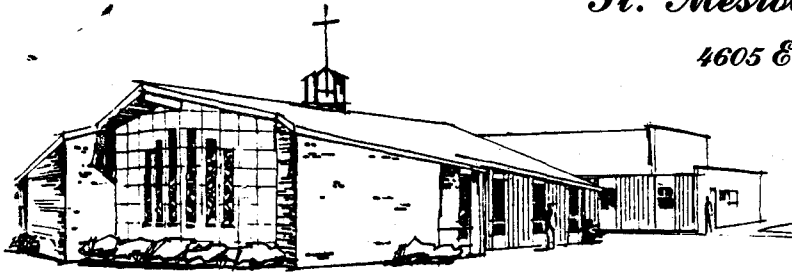


Michael Chardukian

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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*ՌԷՅՍԻՆ, ՌԻՒՍԲԱՆՍԸՆ*

**Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor**

*Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ*

March 18, 1987

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church in America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

We are most pleased to learn that you have reserved the dates of October 30 - November 1, 1987 to visit the St. Mesrob Armenian Church and community of Racine, Wisconsin.

As I had indicated for that weekend, blessed by your presence, many activities and events will take place.

On Saturday evening October 31, 1987

- a) Ordination to the minor rank of TBIR conferred upon Mark Nersesian, Haig Tcheurekdjian, Paul Barsamian, Joseph Gabrielian
- b) Ordination to the rank of Sub-deacon of James Hardy

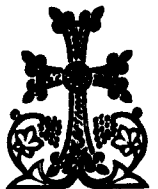
On Sunday morning November 1, 1987

We look with joy to your celebrating the Soorb Patarag and dedicating our 24 new stained glass windows.

All donors shall be present for the blessing ceremony.

The form of this service I would like to personally sit and plan with you sometime this summer when I am in New York.

Finally our parish wishes and requests through Your Eminence that the St. Vartan Award for years of service be conferred upon Deacon Charles Garabed Hardy for his 31 years as a servant of our Holy Mother Church and server at our Holy Altar. It is with the agreement and consent of the parish council that this request is presented to Your Eminence and Diocesan Council.





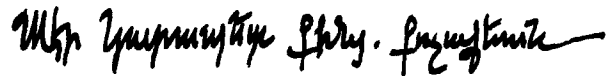
His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
March 18, 1987  
Page Two

Our intention is to surprise him with this particular honor at the banquet on Sunday November 1, 1987 following morning prayer.

We shall keep you apprised of the progress of this weekend and the varied activities as they develop.

With filial love, respect and  
pledged fidelity to Our Church,

Your Spiritual Son,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev. Garabed Kochakian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor and President of the Parish Council

mc

CLASSIFICATION FOR SERVICE

Saint Vartan Award

for

DEACON CHARLES GARABED HARDY

of

St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
Racine, Wisconsin

Part I

1. Dues paid member for 28 years	140 pts.
2. Parish Council Member for 4 years	32 pts.
3. Parish Council Secretary for 2 years	20 pts.
4. Church Organization Armenian School Chairman - 1 year	8 pts.
5. Education Board Member - 10 years	50 pts.
6. Choir - 4 years	20 pts.
7. Deacon Sub-deacon - 31 years	248 pts.
8. Teach of Acolytes from Sunday School - 10 years	50 pts.
Total -	<u>568 pts.</u>

Part II

During the years 1975-82 as Deacon of the parish which did not have a permanent priest (5 years) Deacon Charles Hardy performed Jashou Services every Sunday, arranged servers schedules, and assisted the choir in learning the proper hymns of worship. Through his efforts and dedication the doors of the holy sanctuary always remained open to the parishioners for formal worship according to the rituals of the Armenian Church.

Also during the absence of a permanent pastor he directed and guided to parish Bible Study group which has been in existence for some 55 years.

During the 70th Anniversary Commemoration in 1985 of the Armenian Genocide, he served as secretary on the planning and steering committee made up of the Wisconsin area Armenian Churches and St. George of Waukegan.

Part III

As a teacher of Library Science in Kenosha public school systems, he has endeavored to supply the book shelves with factual, historical and general information pertinent to the Armenian Church, People and Nation. He is most joyful of his Armenian Christian Heritage and Culture and has contributed to its dissemination particularly through the printed media.

Part IV

Financially, he is a contributing dues paid member of the local parish and has for several years been a pledged member as well.

July 7, 1988

The Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

We thank you for bringing the inspiring plans of the Antiochian Village to our attention. It is, of course, a very worthwhile and important undertaking.

Please let Fr. Geha know that while we cannot provide any financial assistance, our own Information Center will be transposing a wealth of Armenian source material onto microfiche and we will be happy, in the future, to share this with their research library and cultural museum.

As for the camp, as ideal as it might be, we feel that it is too far a distance from the concentration of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut and Pennsylvania parishes to be practical.

God bless you for your continuing energy and vision and may the Holy Spirit fill us all with the same vitality in His service.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

Nancy

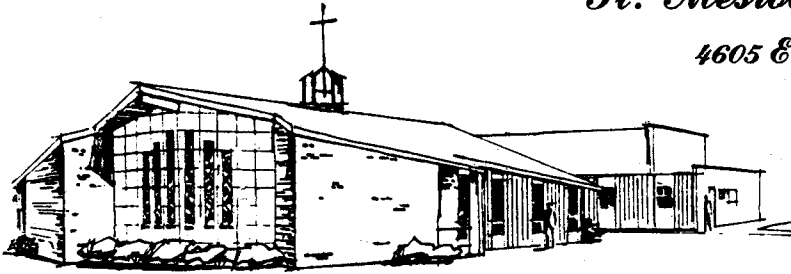
*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաչանյայ Բռնաբան - Հովիւ

May 18, 1988

His Eminence  
The Most Reverend Archbishop Torkom, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church in America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter dated May 6th, addressed to me regarding a project at the Antiochian Village in Bolivar, Pennsylvania.

They are seeking primary and secondary resources for their Armeniolog-  
ical Department on microfiche from the Inter Documentation Company AG  
in Switzerland.

I am not quite sure if they are seeking financial assistance alone or  
other input. Nonetheless, I thought you should read this and advise  
me as how to respond to this letter.

I think it important to be included in such a grand undertaking and  
whatever the Liebman Resource & Research Center at our diocese might  
offer could augment our response as well.

Also, this appears to be a most suitable place for our Diocesan St.  
Vartan Camp in future years as a site.

In any event, I would appreciate your guidance with regard to the  
enclosures.

Your Obedient Son,

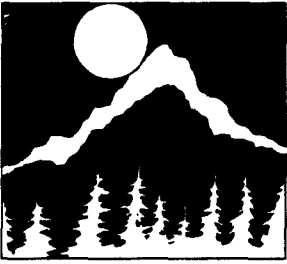
*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

*this site is too far  
it's near Pittsburgh*

Enc.  
mc





# ANTIOCHIAN

## VILLAGE CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

May 6, 1988

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
3663 Green St.  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Fr. Garabed:

Christ is Risen! Best wishes from the Antiochian Village. We write to you today to sketch some of the exciting work being done out here in Western Pennsylvania, and to ask for whatever help you might be inspired -- and able -- to extend.

Our three-year old Heritage and Learning Center provides some of the finest conference and retreat facilities in the region, which we make available to Christians of all traditions and backgrounds. This ministry of "passive witness," we are finding, creates a thirst for knowledge of the rich but hidden (and often maligned) heritage of the Eastern Christian peoples, and an atmosphere in which it can be properly appreciated.

We are, therefore, dedicated first to upgrading our present services by establishing a research library and cultural museum where American society at large can learn something of the Christian East, and ultimately to implementing Metr. PHILIP's vision of a full research program, the **Center for Biblical and Eastern Mediterranean Studies** (CBEMS). So strong were the historic ties and cultural affinities of Armenia and Georgia with "Greater Syria" that they are included in our primary collection policy and at the center of the vision we hope to portray.

Our Museum has begun collecting artifacts, and the Library is well on its way to assembling the basic reference collection which will facilitate systematic growth. Thank God, we are growing increasingly successful in convincing donors of the need for this Center; we work continually to identify new partners, and sincerely hope that as a result of this letter you will choose to be numbered among them.

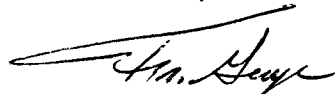
Conference Center: Route 711 North, P.O. Box 638, Ligonier, PA 15658 412-238-3677

Village Camp: R.D. #1, Box 307, Bolivar, PA 15923 412-238-9565

Our needs certainly include individual monetary donations in any amount, but are in no sense limited to this. The scope of our vision demands that we open channels to individuals and organizations within each of the Eastern Christian communities, in order first to interest their constituencies in using our facilities, then to secure their official publications, to open doors in the "Old Country" for acquisition of publications current and retroactive, to identify sources of major funding (i.e., foundations) and consultants on collection development, to acquire established libraries and representative artifacts, including sacred and secular objets d'art. Our most immediate "armeniological" goal is to acquire the extensive collection of primary and secondary resources available on microfiche from Inter Documentation Company AG in Switzerland, which would give this area of the collection a very solid base. Its cost would be \$13,000.

We are certain that you are in a position to help in this endeavor, and confident that you will want to. We will be even more confident if we can convince you to visit the Village this summer, and see for yourself what we have to offer. In the meantime, feel free to contact us for more information, to talk about the program with anyone you think might be able to help, to put them in contact with us -- or us in contact with them. We believe this project will be of great benefit to us all, and we look forward to working with you on it.

In Christ,



Fr. George Geha  
Executive Director



Paul D. Garrett  
Director of Information Services

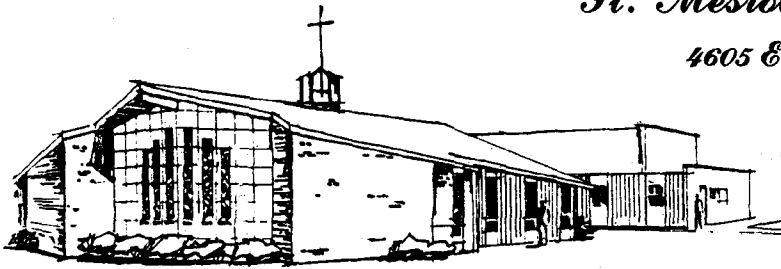
GG/bvs

cc: Metropolitan PHILIP, Primate  
Dr. John Boojamra, Chairman, Library Committee

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոչաքեան - Հովիւ

February 24, 1988

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

This is to remind you of your forthcoming visit to Racine on the weekend of April 16-17, 1988 for a pastoral visit, ordinations, dedication of our stained glass windows and banquet. Also if you recall, we shall be awarding the St. Vartan Award from the Diocese to Deacon Charles Hardy who has been ordained to the diaconate for 30 years. Enclosed is a review sheet (copy) listing his qualifications for the St. Vartan award originally sent to you March 18, 1987. Also, we shall present to Ms. Janet Cherkinian, The St. Mesrob Mashdotz Award from our parish for 25 years of service as church organist. These awards will be presented by you to them at the banquet following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday April 17, 1988.

We have arranged for your overnight lodging on Saturday April 16th at the Siena Center retreat house where our clergy conference was held in 1986. Should you prefer another arrangement please advise us.

We should like to know the day and time of your arrival as well, and departure time so we may make the necessary arrangements here.

We anticipate with great joy your presence amongst us once again and await to hear from you shortly,

I remain your obedient son,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

Enc.  
mc





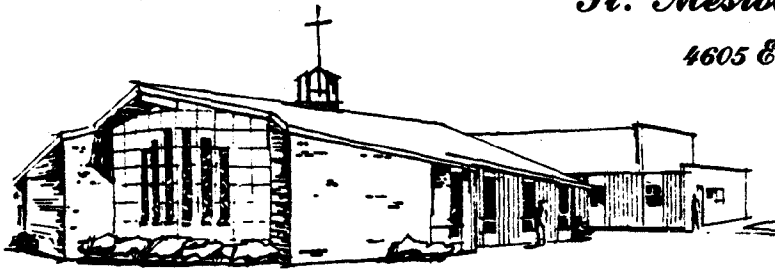
*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-839-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ

March 18, 1987

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church in America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

We are most pleased to learn that you have reserved the dates of October 30 - November 1, 1987 to visit the St. Mesrob Armenian Church and community of Racine, Wisconsin.

As I had indicated for that weekend, blessed by your presence, many activities and events will take place.

On Saturday evening October 31, 1987

- ✓ a) Ordination to the minor rank of TBIR conferred upon Mark Nersesian, Haig Tcheurekdjian, Paul Barsamian, Joseph Gabrielian
- ✓ b) Ordination to the rank of Sub-deacon of James Hardy

On Sunday morning November 1, 1987

We look with joy to your celebrating the Soorb Patarag and dedicating our 24 new stained glass windows.

All donors shall be present for the blessing ceremony.

The form of this service I would like to personally sit and plan with you sometime this summer when I am in New York.

Finally our parish wishes and requests through Your Eminence that the St. Vartan Award for years of service be conferred upon Deacon Charles Garabed Hardy for his 31 years as a servant of our Holy Mother Church and server at our Holy Altar. It is with the agreement and consent of the parish council that this request is presented to Your Eminence and Diocesan Council.



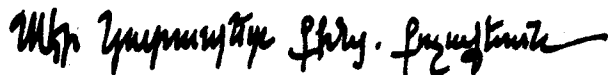
His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
March 18, 1987  
Page Two

Our intention is to surprise him with this particular honor at the banquet on Sunday November 1, 1987 following morning prayer.

We shall keep you apprised of the progress of this weekend and the varied activities as they develop.

With filial love, respect and  
pledged fidelity to Our Church,

Your Spiritual Son,



Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor and President of the Parish Council

mc .

## CLASSIFICATION FOR SERVICE

Saint Vartan Award  
for  
DEACON CHARLES GARABED HARDY  
of  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
Racine, Wisconsin

### Part I

1. Dues paid member for 28 years	140 pts.
2. Parish Council Member for 4 years	32 pts.
3. Parish Council Secretary for 2 years	20 pts.
4. Church Organization Armenian School Chairman - 1 year	8 pts.
5. Education Board Member - 10 years	50 pts.
6. Choir - 4 years	20 pts.
7. Deacon Sub-deacon - 31 years	248 pts.
8. Teach <sup>er</sup> of Acolytes from Sunday School - 10 years	50 pts.
Total -	<u>568 pts.</u>

### Part II

During the years 1975-82 as Deacon of the parish which did not have a permanent priest (5 years) Deacon Charles Hardy performed Jashou Services every Sunday, arranged servers schedules, and assisted the choir in learning the proper hymns of worship. Through his efforts and dedication the doors of the holy sanctuary always remained open to the parishioners for formal worship according to the rituals of the Armenian Church.

Also during the absence of a permanent pastor he directed and guided to parish Bible Study group which has been in existence for some 55 years.

During the 70th Anniversary Commemoration in 1985 of the Armenian Genocide, he served as secretary on the planning and steering committee made up of the Wisconsin area Armenian Churches and St. George of Waukegan.

### Part III

As a teacher of Library Science in Kenosha public school systems, he has endeavored to supply the book shelves with factual, historical and general information pertinent to the Armenian Church, People and Nation. He is most joyful of his Armenian Christian Heritage and Culture and has contributed to its dissemination particularly through the printed media.

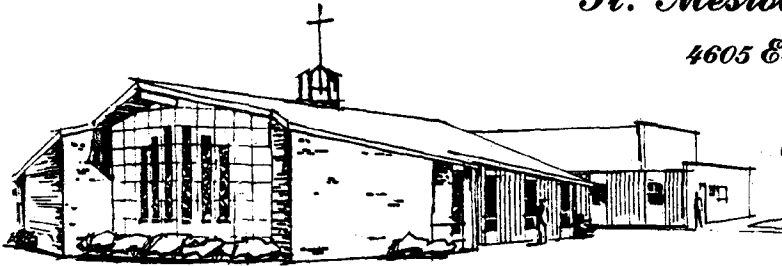
Part IV

Financially, he is a contributing dues paid member of the local parish and has for several years been a pledged member as well.

*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402

414-639-0531



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ՌԷՅՍԻՆ, ՈՒԻՍՔԱՆՍԸՆ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բողոքեան - Հովիւ

December 24, 1987

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence:

At the request made by Very Reverend Father Haigazoun Najarian regarding your forthcoming visit to Racine's St. Mesrob parish, we wish to remind you that as previously planned, we anticipate your presence with us on the weekend of April 15-17, 1988.

As planned previously before your cancellation of your Nov. 1, 1987 visit, we shall, a) formally dedicated our newly installed stained glass windows, b) have ordination of 11 young boys as acolytes and honor our parish's Deacon, Charles Hardy with the awarding of the St. Vartan award. Also, I requested that you present your lecture on the life of Gomidas and his music on Friday night April 15th.

✓ The tentative schedule will be Friday; arrival and lecture on Gomidas - Saturday; meeting with parish council and delegates, choir rehearsal, ordination vespers - Sunday; Divine Liturgy, Banquet and Dedication of windows and presentation of St. Vartan Award.

Please confirm these plans with us so we may continue our work. Looking forward to your presence with us in April of 1988.

With filial love and respect,

*F. Garabed*

Father Garabed Kochakian

mc



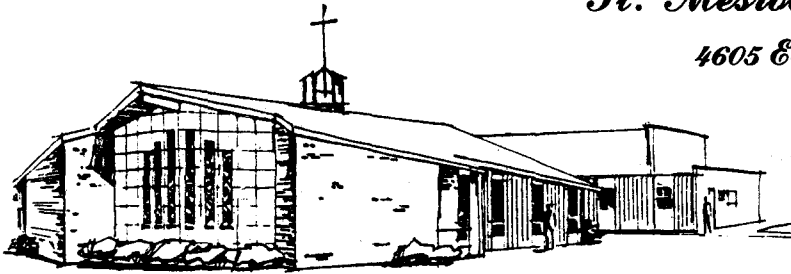
*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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**Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor**

*Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոչաքեան - Հովիւ*

23 December 1987

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of The Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr,

It was a bit difficult to construct this letter in an informal style and way, even though I would have preferred it, however I according to propriety greet you in the traditional formal manner.

Much time has passed since the visitation of His Holiness Lord Vasken I our beloved Catholicos and Patriarch and has given me especially many moments of reflection on His Holiness' visit and my own presence and part of the total experience. Words cannot suffice to explain my own sense of joy, exhilaration, euphoria and contentment in being part of the planning and actually enjoying His Holiness' presence, at gatherings, at table, and at worship.

It certainly was indeed a privilege to have been part of the entire two weeks in New York and I personally would like to thank you for the courtesies and inclusions for many of the dinners, functions and activities wherein he presided. Yes- it was a great deal of work; there were those moments of frustration, uncertainty, fear, even which occasionally overwhelmed me and perhaps many others as well, but somehow the Grace from Christ Himself saturated us enough at least, to survive and perform our duties and tasks.

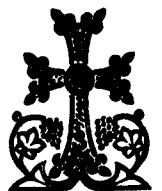
As we prepare to celebrate the glorious Birth of Our Lord Jesus The Christ, we will all ponder on the meaning of this great mystery once again. I know finally that, that Christ Love born nearly 2000 years ago was indeed Born with His Holiness' visit this year and the Joy given to me personally to have been part of it.

Thankyou Srpazan Hayr for such a unique opportunity.

Your Obedient Son,

*F. Garabed*

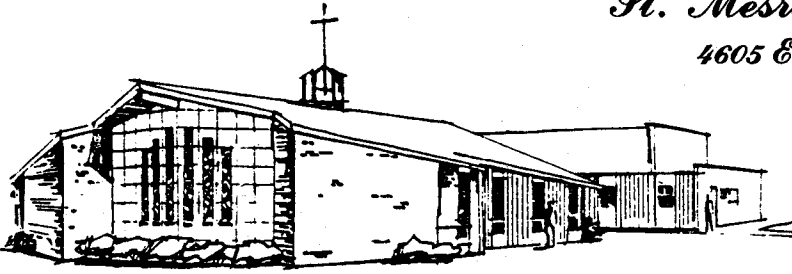
Father Garabed Kochakian



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

*Տէր Կարապետ Քահանայ Քոչակեան — Հովիւ*

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September 25, 1990

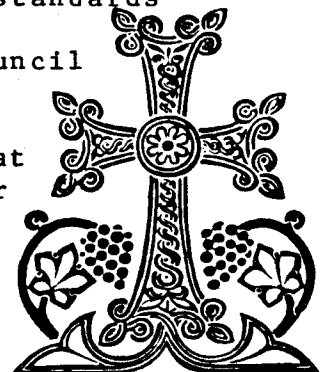
Mr. Anthony Barsamian, Interim Executive Director  
ACYOA Seniors  
Diocese of The Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10016

Dear Anthony:

First, let me congratulate you on your re-appointment as Interim Director of ACYOA Srs. I know you shall do your utmost to secure a more solid future for our youth.

In the spirit of true Christian love and concern, I am writing to you about the recent Sports Weekend, which the Seniors convened in Cleveland, Ohio. I recently learned that members from my own parish, as well as other Mid-Western Armenian parishes comprised a team(s) for sports competition, had won first place trophies, honors and the glory of the day. I cannot say I was happy. This disturbed me to find this out. Why?

The members from Racine, who participated, are not active in their own community here, nor is there really officially an ACYOA Seniors group of my parish. Many of them, neither pay dues to the National Organization, nor do they lend their hands in the service of the church. I question the Central Council and Sports Weekend Committee criteria for allowing them to compete; the screening of all participants by the "committee", and the eligibility of those who participate in ACYOA Sports. Also, I wonder about the "players" and their commitment to the Church. For this 'victorious' team from the Mid-West; are they truly worthy of the glory and honor given to them on the occasion, are they in compliance with the standards of the ACYOA Seniors -- upholding the integrity of our National Organization? In all honesty, is the Central Council 'proud' to honor these young people? Or, did the dark horse team, unknown of before the weekend, just capture the moment, steal the hour and walk away with an award that will mean nothing to them on October 1st or the days after that and after that, just for the fun of it all?



Mr. Anthony Barsamian,  
Interim Executive Director

September 25, 1990  
Page Two

I thought the Central Council had a tighter grip and a more responsible monitoring of the games. I really think for the future, this issue must be addressed in the light of fairness, justice and fair play to all who compete. It is indeed a reflection of the integrity of our Church's efforts to be the just and fair Christians that we espouse to be or -- at least hope to become through ACYOA.

I am sorry and sad that I must unleash these feelings of dismay on to you at such a critical time, as the ACYOA Seniors journey toward becoming a more model and exemplary group for Armenian Christian Youth in America. But, I feel that unless something is said, this type of deception will eventually corrode and eat away the very fiber of what ACYOA was established for, stands for and hopes to become. To the memory of Abp. Tiran Nersoyan, this and other improprieties must be examined and scrutinized.

Are we that insecure about being honest that our fear tempts and even leads us astray from the path of truth? How will these occurrences affect the quality of what ACYOA aspires to be for our youth? These and other questions surround this problem and I hope that in future years such 'mistakes' will not win first place. The truth and holiness of God can only shine from honest hearts and souls.

Let us not lament that "The Glory of God has departed from Israel (God's chosen), because the Ark of God has been captured." (1 Samuel 4:21)

With my continued prayers,



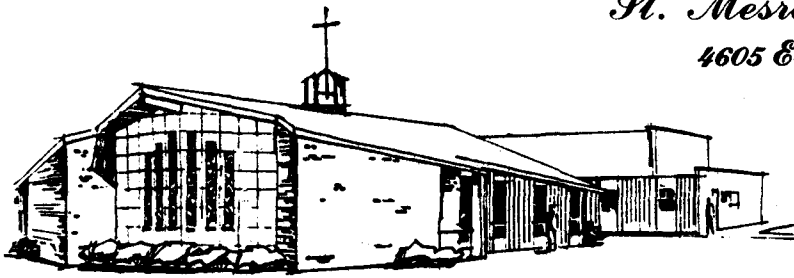
Fr. Garabed Kochakian



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

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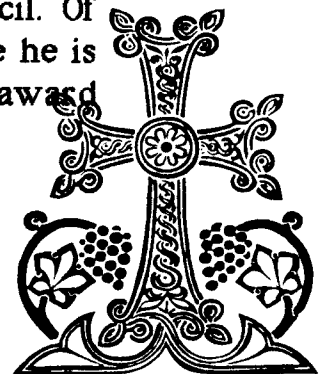
February 6, 1991

The Right Reverend Bishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate  
Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016-4885

Dear Srpazan Hayr,

On the weekend of May 24-26 1991 you are scheduled to make a pastoral visit to our parish. During that time we ask Your Grace to ordain to the order of Sub-deacon Mr. Daniel Korakian who has been serving the altar for several years. He is completing his preparations and will be ready for ordination.

Also on that day our students of the Sunday School senior class will graduate and receive their diplomas from you following the Divine Liturgy on May 26th. After services we are planning a banquet to honor your visit and honor the newly ordained Sub-deacon. In addition to these celebrations, I wish to submit the name of Mr. George Stevoff to you to receive the Saint Vartan award from the Diocese. I have submitted the necessary information attesting to his eligibility for the Saint Vartan award noting his credentials along with this letter of recommendation on behalf of our Parish Council. Of course his signature on this recommendation is missing because he is the Parish Council Chairman and is unaware of this 'surprise' award to be granted to him.



-2-

As the date of your visitation draws closer, Srpazan Hayr, I shall let you know of the time table and activities for the entire weekend. If you have any particular visitations or meetings that you wish on that Saturday to convene while you are here let us know so time can be arranged for them.

We look forward with great enthusiasm and joy for this your first "pastoral visit" as our beloved Arrachnort Srpazan Hayr.

Vasn Khaghaghootian amenayn ashkharhi

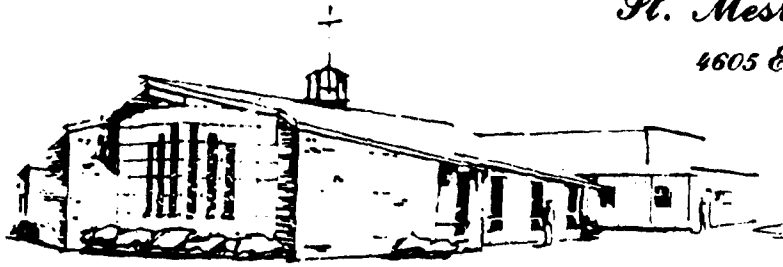
With fraternal respect

And obedience I remain,



Father Garabed D. Kochakian

Pastor



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402

414-639-0531

*Ամբողջական Զարգացման և Կրթության  
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June 11, 1992

Mr. Harry Olson, Administrator  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016-4885

Dear Mr. Olson:

Enclosed is a copy of Invoice RA 95379 in the amount of \$250.00, covering air fare for Fr. Garabed Kochakian. St. Mesrob has paid this account. By agreement with the Primate Bishop Khajag Barsamian and verbal telephone consultation with V. Rev. Haigazoun Najarian, Vicar General. I have been instructed to forward the invoice to your attention. Reimbursement should be made to St. Mesrob Armenian Church in the amount of \$250.00.

Sincerely,

*Murad Gengozian*

Murad Gengozian  
Parish Council Chairman

mc

✓ cc: V. Rev. Haigazoun Najarian,  
Vicar General

This is the only invoice that we are  
requesting for payment. This fell  
in the 30-day transition period.



July 27, 1984

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian asked me to send you the enclosed letters received from the Rt. Rev. Bishop David E. Climenhaga of the Brethren of Christ Church in Nappanee, Indiana, and the Executive Director of the National Federation For Decency in Tupelo, Mississippi, for a meeting scheduled for September 6 and 7, 1984 in Cincinnati.

We have already informed them that His Eminence will be unable to attend these meetings due to previous commitments and that you will represent him at these meetings.

Please get in touch with them as well as with Dr. Jerry Kirk (referred to in the attached letter) for any further information.

Respectfully,

Sylvia Terzibashian  
Secretary to the Primate

Enclosures



# BRETHREN IN CHRIST CHURCH

## Central Conference

David E. Climenhaga, Bishop    Office: P.O. Box 8    Telephone: 219-773-3164  
Nappanee, Indiana 46550    Residence: 258 W. VanBuren St. Tel.: 219-773-7642

July 20, 1984

His Eminence, The Most Rev. Torkom Manoogian  
Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10016

Your Eminence:

Last November a National Consultation On Pornography, Obscenity and Indecency was held in Cincinnati, Ohio. I received an invitation to that meeting, as did many other denominational leaders. And I felt as others felt I'm sure, "WHO NEEDS ANOTHER MEETING ANYWAY?"

Then I received a personal telephone call from a friend, Bishop Clyde Van Valin of the Free Methodist Church, about an area meeting being called in Indianapolis in December. At that meeting I was jolted as I have not been jolted before, at the flood tide of blatant, concerted obscenity and pornography. I had felt for a long time that something was very wrong in our society, particularly on the TV channels. At that December meeting Rev. Don Wildmon told us, with documentation, just what is happening and what is wrong, and Dr. Jerry Kirk outlined strategy for concerted confrontation by concerned Christians of the evil in our society, and he told us how such concerted action is working.

I am not by nature a Crusader. But I feel that this policy of coordinated action by many concerned Christians is mandatory if the flood tide of pornography and obscenity is to be stayed and turned back. A second consultation is being planned again in Cincinnati for September 6-7. Your Eminence, I know we all struggle with the feeling "Who needs another meeting?" but I hope you can attend. If you need further information please feel free to telephone Mrs. Sarah Blanken or Dr. Jerry Kirk at 513-541-5676, or write Dr. Jerry Kirk at P.O. Box 24K, Cincinnati, OH 45224.

God bless you.

Sincerely,

*David E. Climenhaga*

David E. Climenhaga  
Bishop, Central Conference  
Brethren in Christ Church

DEC/wed

# WORDS OF LOVE

BY BOB GREENE  
From today's teenagers, a different kind of fan mail

**TRAVELING THROUGH Texas,** I listened to local radio stations. In San Antonio I found myself listening to KISS-FM, a rock 'n' roll outlet.

On the air, one of the station's disc jockeys mentioned a promotion. "What would you do to meet the Crüe?" he said. He explained that a heavy-metal rock band called Mötley Crüe was coming to San Antonio. Listeners were invited to mail entries to the station. The winners would get free tickets to the concert; some would get to go backstage and meet the band.

I CALLED the station. I said I would be interested in seeing the entries. I asked if there were any ground rules. I was told that the only rule was that listeners had to answer the one basic question: "What would you do to meet the Crüe?"

A WEEK later, I read the entries.

We seem to have come quite a distance from Herman's Hermits fan clubs and "I Want to Hold Your Hand."

FROM A sixteen-year-old girl:

"What I Would Do To See Mötley Crüe:  
"First, I would tie you up, spread-eagle and naked, with leather straps. Then I'd shave all the hair off of your chest, and if I should nick you I'll suck up all the blood as it slowly trickles over your body. Next I'll cover your body with motion lotion to get things really heated up. When it gets *too* hot, I'll cover your body in crushed ice and lay on top of you to melt it down and cool you off.

"Then I'll do things to your body with my tongue that you never thought humanly possible. Then when you are screaming for mercy and begging for more, telling me how you want it all, I'll slam the spiked heel of my right leather boot into your navel, call you a very naughty boy, and laugh as I slowly walk away, telling you I'm just not that kind of girl."



FROM A fifteen-year-old girl:

"I want to see Mötley Crüe so bad I'd wear black nail polish and body glitter.... When I see them I'd get on my hands & knees & give them my body & even tear my clothes off if I had to. If that didn't work I'd do like Ozzy did and bite a dove's head off & say, 'Okay, let's talk business.'"

FROM A thirteen-year-old girl:

"I'd do it with the Crüe till black and blue is all you can see."

FROM A fifteen-year-old girl:

"I'm really a big fan of Mötley Crüe's and I would do anything to meet them. Vince Neil and Nikki Sixx are so fine!! I love 'em all. I would even get fucked by the ugliest, fattest, most disgusting guy in the world to meet them....

"My boyfriend gets mad at me because I like them so much, and listen to the radio all the time for their songs to come on! I had to beg him to let me write this letter to

you. Hopefully, I will win, because I went through a lot of trouble begging my boyfriend to let me do this.

"That would be just terrific if I won. I would have a chance of meeting Vince Neil! God, he's so fucking fine!!! If it would mean losing my boyfriend, I would fuck his best friend to meet these gorgeous guys. It wouldn't matter, as long as I got to meet Vince Neil and see his fine ass and fine body!! God, I can just see it now! Fucking him would be my biggest fantasy in the world! Well, I hope I win! Thank you!"

FROM A thirteen-year-old girl:

"I'd leave my tits to Mötley Crüe."

FROM A seventeen-year-old girl:

"To get backstage to Mötley Crüe I think I'd give them *every* piece of action they wanted. I'd give them my body, money, or whatever they wanted."

FROM A nineteen-year-old girl:

"I would go down to the local hardware store and buy some chains, leather straps, and nails. I would then put together the most outlandish outfit made of nothing but the leather straps, chains, and nails. I would go to the concert in this Kiss-Ass outfit, because I would do anything to get close to 'Marvelous' Mick Mars, 'Luscious' Tommy Lee, Nikki 'Sexx,' and Vince 'Can't Say No' Neil. P.S. I would take a hammer so the guys (the Crüe) can loosen the nails off my outfit."

FROM A thirteen-year-old girl:

"What's up? Well, you asked what I would do to be a Mötley Crüe, so here it is. First, I'd spread whipped cream all over my body. Then, I'd let Vince Neil lick it all off! I sure hope you enjoyed this cause I would love for it to happen."

FROM A fourteen-year-old boy:

"This is what I would do to join the KISS

PHOTOGRAPH - MARIA ROWLETO

**WOULDN'T MAKE THE SAME OFFER TO MY BOYFRIEND THAT I MADE TO THE BAND," SHE SAID. "IT JUST WOULDN'T BE THE SAME WITH HIM. MY BOYFRIEND IS FIFTEEN. WE DON'T CAR-DATE YET."**

Mötley Crüe: I would give them my mother, who is very beautiful. She has red hair and brown eyes. She loves heavy metal and especially Mötley Crüe. My mother definitely has *the looks that kill*."

I SPOKE with the sixteen-year-old girl who said she would tie the band members up with leather straps and shave their chests.

"I didn't let my boyfriend read it before I sent it in," she said. "It would make him wonder what he didn't know about me.

"Why did I write those things? I don't know. I just sat down and wrote what I thought. It took me about half an hour. I don't know where the ideas came from. They just came out."

I spoke with the girl's mother.

"Yes, I read the letter," the mother said. "Actually, I took it down to the radio station for her. I guess I was shocked in a way, but I'm sure she didn't mean anything by it. She's a very Christian girl.

"Did I think about not turning it in to the radio station? Well, it really wouldn't have been fair for me not to turn it in. I promised my daughter I would do it. It wouldn't have been fair for me to put it in the garbage."

I SPOKE with the fifteen-year-old girl who said she would get on her hands and knees for the band and give them her body.

"I was one of the winners of the contest, but I didn't get to go to the concert because I didn't have a ride," she said. "My father was supposed to take me, but he had to work late. I didn't speak to him for two days.

"I meant what I said. I'd get on my hands and knees and give them my body. I know that they're grown men and I'm fifteen, but so what? It would be worth giving them my body just to meet them. I think it would be neat.

"I heard that in ancient times women used to get on their hands and knees and not even be allowed to look at men. I think rock groups should be treated like that. They're like God, but they're even better. The reason I would take my clothes off and crawl to them is that I would hope that they liked that."

I SPOKE with the thirteen-year-old girl who said she would do "it" with the band until she was black-and-blue.

"I just love the group," she said. "I wrote what I wrote because they look like the type who would like that. They look like women-lovers."

I SPOKE with the fifteen-year-old girl who said she would go to bed with "the ugliest,

fattest, most disgusting guy in the world" in order to meet the band.

"I like their hair," she said. "I just like them a lot. It's pretty boring in this town. I don't like school very much, I get C's and D's. I wrote those things because I thought it might help me win. I meant every word of it.

"I really like Vince Neil's body. When he's onstage he wears a bunch of spikes and leather pants. I'd do whatever I had to do to meet him. I told my mother's boyfriend about it, and he said, 'Whatever turns you on.'"

I SPOKE with the thirteen-year-old girl who said she would "leave my tits" to the band.

"I really like the way their faces look," she said. "It makes me excited to see them onstage.

"I wrote what I did because I thought they might like it, and then I'd get to meet them. You can tell that they're like that. All rock groups know that they can have any girls' bodies that they want. That's one of the reasons they join a band."

I SPOKE with the seventeen-year-old girl who said she would give the band "every piece of action they wanted," and give the band money.

"They seem like a wild, outgoing bunch of guys to me," she said. "They seem like they'd do just about anything and not care about it.

"I'd give them whatever they wanted. They can do whatever they want with my body. They look wild and mean and evil. What I meant about giving them money is that first I'd try to convince them in other ways to take my body. I'd follow them where they went and tell them to do with me whatever they wanted to. I think I could convince them.

"But if they wanted money for it, I'd pay them to take me. It would be worth the money to me. I have some money saved from baby-sitting; plus my father is a truck driver, and I could borrow the money from him if I needed more.

"I'd do it with all four of them at once if that's what they wanted. If they said, 'Be with all four of us or get out,' I'd say, 'Okay, come on.' I'd be crazy not to if that was my only chance to be with them."

I SPOKE with the nineteen-year-old girl who said she would dress in chains, leather straps, and nails for the band.

"I think they're all gorgeous," she said. "When I see them, I just naturally think of leather and whips and chains. I think that means that they're aggressive. I happen to

love that image; it's a neat image.

"I think it's that kind of aggressiveness that a woman is always looking for. Why did I put that thing in about bringing a hammer with me? Just like I said—they could use it to loosen the nails on my clothes."

I SPOKE with the thirteen-year-old girl who said she would let one of the band members lick whipped cream off her body.

"They're really good-looking," she said. "Good and mean. They just look like guys who are out to party and have a good time.

"I saw the band in a magazine and I thought they were pretty neat. I like Vince Neil the best of them. He's got the blondest hair; it's kind of long. He's not fat and he's not thin; he's just right.

"I wouldn't make the same offer to my boyfriend that I made to the band. It just wouldn't be the same with him. With the band, you think more of being wild and having a good time. My boyfriend is fifteen. We don't car-date yet; our mothers mostly drop us off at the movies and pick us up afterward."

I SPOKE with the fourteen-year-old boy who said he would give his mother to the band.

"I wrote that letter because I really wanted to get to go backstage and meet Mötley Crüe," he said. "My mom likes the band, too, and I thought if I offered her to them, I might have a good chance of winning.

"If the band told me that they really wanted my mother? I'd say, 'Take her.' I'd say, 'Here.' I really love my mom; I know she'd go with them."

I spoke with the boy's mother, who is thirty-four.

"Yes, I am a fan of the band," she said. "I sure am. I approved of his letter.

"We keep listening to the radio to hear their music. They're kind of wild; just a little wild.

"Billy and I have a good mother-and-sor relationship. He's crazy about me and I'm crazy about him. When Billy said that he had offered me to the band, I said, 'Oh, Billy!' But I really do like them, and I would like to help Billy win the contest."

I WAS done with the interviews, and I knew it was time to sit down and write this story. First I went outside and took a long walk. Usually that helps to clear my head. For some reason this time it didn't seem to work.

BOB GREENE is a contributing editor of *Esquire* magazine.



July 19, 1984

His Eminence, The Most Rev. Torkom Manoogian  
Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10016

Your Eminence:

The enclosed article broke my heart. Although it will do the same to you, I ask that you read it.

Having dealt with the attack on Judeo-Christian morality for the past seven years, I am convinced that unless the Christian community--collectively and forcefully--begins to address this problem within the next few months, it will be too late to address the problem.

We aren't dealing with dirty words and dirty pictures, but with an effort to replace the very foundation of Western civilization--the Christian view of man. If the Christian community fails in this battle, the generation now being born will live in the most hedonistic, secular and materialistic society this world has ever known. Human life will become incredibly cheap. Your Eminence, I fully realize how extreme that statement sounds. I pray that I am wrong. But my greater prayer is that it isn't already too late.

The National Consultation on Pornography, Obscenity and Indecency meeting September 6-7 in Cincinnati is a beginning point. I hope you will be there.

No need to reply. I know you are busy. But please keep me and this ministry in your prayers.

Sincerely,

*Donald E. Wildman*

Donald E. Wildman  
Executive Director

DEW/wed





## WORLD HEADQUARTERS

MARION, INDIANA 46952 · BOX 2000

317-674-3301

July 12, 1984

GENERAL  
SUPERINTENDENTS

J. D. ABBOTT  
O. D. EMERY

ROBERT W. MCINTYRE  
VIRGIL A. MITCHELL

His Eminence, The Most Rev. Torkom Manoogian  
Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10016

Your Eminence:

There is an old adage which says, "When the cat is away the mice will play." The idea is that undesirable things enter when no one is guarding the door. That is exactly what has happened in our society. While those with moral sensitivity were engaged elsewhere, pornography and obscenity have come in the door like a terrible flood.

The Wesleyan Church has been generally passive on what has been taking place because we didn't see any handles for taking hold of the problem. But then along came the National Consultation on Pornography in November 1983, and as a participant I saw the opportunity to join concerned persons from a broad spectrum of religious life in a counterattack against these evils. I admit the problem is larger than I knew. It has become apparent to me that something must be done. Someone must face the issues courageously. Your Eminence, if not us, who? If not now, when? If not here, where?

That is why The Wesleyan Church will be represented at the September 6-7, 1984, second National Consultation in Cincinnati. I hope you will also become a participant. We can do together what each of us would be powerless to do alone.

To get further information on the Cincinnati meeting, September 6-7, please contact Dr. Jerry Kirk, Post Office Box 24K, Cincinnati, Ohio 45224. Or you may call his office at 513/514-5676.

The cause is too important to attempt it without you. Please become a participant.

Sincerely,

O.D. Emery  
General Superintendent

ODE:jw

*Handwritten note:* Sincerely, O.D. Emery

July 11, 1984

The Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

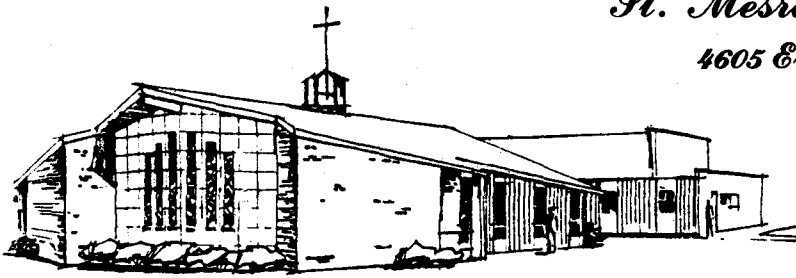
As per our telephone conversation, I'm writing this letter in response to your letter dated May 7, 1984 concerning the guidelines regarding stipends for visiting parishes to celebrate Divine Liturgy and performing Sacraments and various services.

1. The Stipend for performing Divine Liturgy is \$125.00 plus travel expenses.
2. Performing Sacraments and various services - a donation to the priest plus travel expenses.

I hope this will answer any questions you have concerning the above mentioned matter of Church affairs.

Yours in Christ,  
with prayers

V. Rev. Fr. Houssig Bagdasian  
Vicar General



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-839-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաճանայ Քոչաքեան - Հովիւ

May 7, 1984

Very Reverend Father Houssig Baghdasian,  
Vicar General  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Father Houssig,

We are in need of the most currently printed guideline regarding clergy stipends for visiting parishes to celebrate the Divine Liturgy and other Sacraments and Sacramental Services.

Presently, I am assigned to visit St. John in Greenfield once a month for Badarak and also St. George in Waukegan monthly for Badarak and with forthcoming other Sacramental Services requested by these parishes, we should like to know what the recommended stipends are.

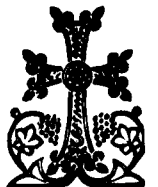
If you could attend to this request as soon as you could, it would be most appreciated.

With prayers,  
KRISDOS HARYAV EE MERELTZ,

*Fr. Garabed Kochakian*

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

mc



May 21, 1984

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
4605 Erie Street  
Racine, WI 53402

Dear Father Garabed:

This letter refers to yours of April 12, and I want to thank you for bringing the name of your sister-in-law to my attention for a possible exhibition in New York.

The committee for scheduling artistic programs for the fall and the first half of 1985 will soon convene and I would like to bring her name to their attention. If not a "one person" show, maybe we can organize a collective exhibition and I trust Susan would accept to join.

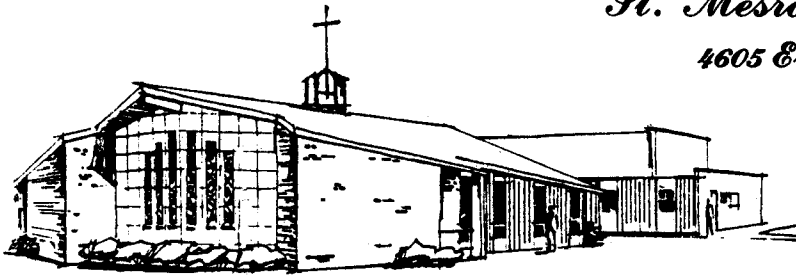
I hope the workshop was successful and you had a good number of attendees.

All the best,

Michael N. Kernian  
Director

cc: Ms. Susan Carman

MMK:mb



*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

414-639-0531

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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաճանայ Քոչաքեան - Հովիւ

April 12, 1984

Mr. Mesrob Kermian,  
Director of Operations  
Diocese of The Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mesrob,

I hope this letter finds you well. It was a pleasure to see you in Chicago at the regional meeting last month. As you recall, we spoke about various things at the lunch table, one of which was your planning art exhibitions at the Diocesan Center. I mentioned to you that my sister-in-law is an artist and recently received her MFA from Wayne State. She has had her works on display in Detroit and surroundings and I'm sure would be open to exhibiting in New York. Her name is Miss Susan Carman.

She taught at the AGBU School in Southfield; now teaching in Holly, Michigan. Perhaps you may want to contact her yourself if you are still interested in inviting her participation.

Ms. Susan Carman  
5897 Sutters Lane  
Birmingham, Michigan 48010

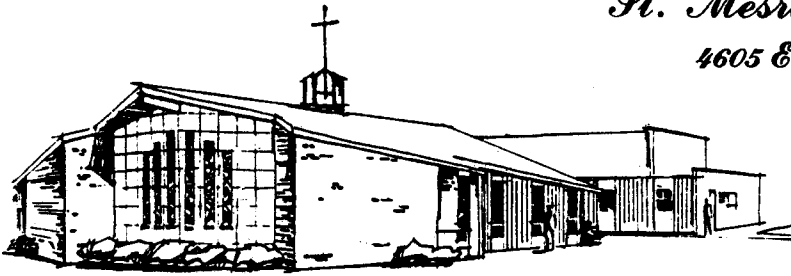
If you have any questions, I'll see you at the Diocesan Assembly.

Sincerely,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

mc





*St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church*

*4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402*

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Թէյսին, Ուիսքոնսին*

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

*Տէր Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոջաբեան — Հովիւ*

August 1, 1988

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

I wish to inform you that I shall be away from my office on vacation August 29th through September 12th. I will be vacationing in the USA, not abroad. I may be reached at my office or home anytime after September 12th.

Your Obedient Son,

*Fr. Garabed*

Fr. Garabed Kochakian  
Pastor

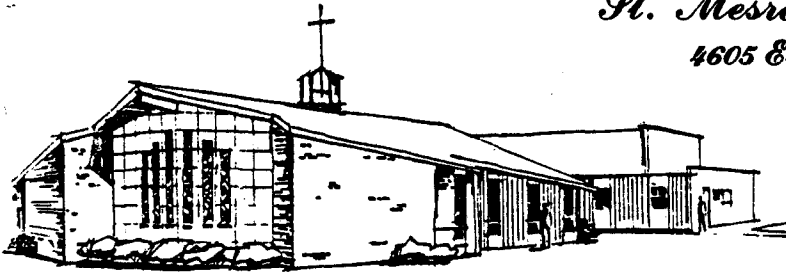
mc



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Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քահանայ Բոջաբեան - Հովիւ

February 1, 1984

Mr. Harry Torosian,  
Parish Council Chairman  
13750 W. National Avenue  
New Berlin, WI 53171

Dear Harry,

At our January 30, 1984 Parish Council meeting we read the request made by the St. John parish of Greenfield for Divine Liturgy services to be provided by our pastor Father Garabed Kochakian. Fr. Garabed expressed his willingness to celebrate liturgy on Saturday evenings rather than Sundays and referred to your conversation with him.

In view of other parishes which have called upon our Der Hayr's service, our Parish Council feels that it would be appropriate and in order for specifically St. John Church to ascertain from the Primate the proper procedure in making such scheduled visitations which you are requesting before arranging anything definite.

Such questions raised which you yourselves might consider are, 1) should the Wisconsin clergy care for these area parishes only or should the Illinois parishes be considered specifically Waukegan, 2) how frequently should/will St. John have visiting clergy, 3) what is the current stipend requirement regarding Sunday Badarak. Perhaps you may have other questions, but these are ones outstanding in our minds.

Until we hear from you further on this matter, we offer our assistance during this - your period of being pastorless but do feel that a directive concerning such arrangements be sanctioned first by His Eminence the Primate Abp. Torkom.

Sincerely,

*George Stevoff*

George Stevoff, Chairman  
For the Parish Council  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church  
Racine

