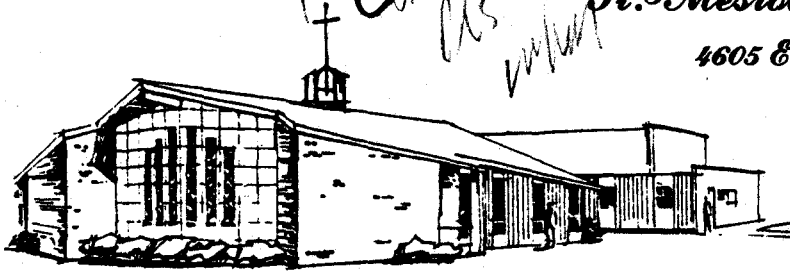


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St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church  
4605 Erie Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53402  
414-639-0531  
Is it the same as the one in Milwaukee?  
The same as the one in Milwaukee?  
JPL



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ՌԷՍԻՆ, ՈՒՐՍՔԱՆՍԸ

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տ. Կարապետ Քաչանյա Բռնաբան - Հովիւ

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RECEIVED MAY 2 - 1988

ST. MESROB - RACINE, WISCONSIN  
ORDINATIONS - DEDICATIONS

Handwritten notes: "FUIE", "5/6/88", and other illegible scribbles.

On the weekend of April 16 & 17, with the pastoral visitation of His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian to Racine, the St. Mesrob congregation had much to celebrate.

On Saturday evening His Eminence ordained 11 young boys to the four minor ranks of Tbir in the Armenian Church -- they were Peter Korakian, Paul Barsamian, Timothy and Mark Hammes, Ryan Weber, Haig Tcheurekdjian, Joseph Gabrielian, Mark Nersesian, Aaron Chalekian, Adam Buchaklian and Chad Vartanian. Also, James Hardy was ordained to the Order of Sub-deacon. Following the ordinations a reception in honor of Srpazan Hayr and the newly ordained was held with over 200 parishioners and friends in attendance.

On Sunday, His Eminence celebrated with spirited majesty the Divine Liturgy amidst an overflow congregation. Many worshippers from sister communities joined the St. Mesrob congregation for this joyous



occasion. The Primate offered prayers of requiem and blessed the newly installed stained glass windows in the holy sanctuary. The 24 windows were designed by the well known Oakbrook-Esser Stained Glass Window Fabricators in Wisconsin. The windows were designed cooperatively by the pastor Fr. Garabed Kochakian and two talented artists and craftsmen from Germany. They were modeled after the style of Armenian Illuminated Manuscript Art of the 9th-14th Centuries.

Following services, a banquet and program were held. Present to greet His Eminence were the Honorable Owen Davies, Mayor of Racine, Reverend Father Tateos Abdalian, pastor of the St. John Armenian Church of Greenfield. The fabricators of the windows Mr. Yohan Minten and Joseph Klotz.

The highlight of the afternoon were two surprize awards presented by the pastor of St. Mesrob and the Primate.

Deacon Charles Hardy, a worthy servant of the Armenian Church and the St. Mesrob parish in particular, received the Saint Vartan Award from the Diocesan Council for over 40 years of service as an Altar server, deacon, parish council member and educator in the parish. A beautifully sewn set of deacons vestments were presented to him by Srpazan Hayr on behalf of the parish. Also, honored was Ms. Janet Cherkinian, Church Organist who received the Saint Mesrob Mashdotz Award and a beautiful Armenian Cross for her 25 years of dedicated and faithful service.

Presented by the Mayor to His Eminence on this special occasion was a Proclamation from the City of Racine declaring the week of April 17th-24th as A WEEK OF REMEMBRANCE TO THE ARMENIAN MARTYRS.

The closing remarks were offered by His Eminence wherein he commended the parish for moving forward in fulfilling the mission of the Armenian Church to her children commending the St. Mesrob parish of Racine for setting the seeds today so that the continuity of preserving and developing the Armenian faith-heritage for tomorrow will be realized.

With the closing prayer offered by Srpazan Hayr, all present left renewed in spirit and hope.

April 27, 1988