



St. Mary's Armenian Church

Building Fund

Two Year

Pledge Plan

“We Shall Build”

REV. M. KOUZOUIAN, *Pastor*

St. Mary's Armenian Church

417 14th AVENUE
IRVINGTON, N. J.

627 MT. PLEASANT AVENUE
WEST ORANGE, N. J.

Dear Parish Member:

By now you have received the Building Committee's Report, and an explanation of the 2 Year Pledge Plan. We hope you examined the contents, and discussed it with your family.

We want everyone in the Parish to participate in this plan. This pamphlet was prepared to refresh your memory and to guide you in making your Pledge.

A lot of time and effort has been put into evaluating the needs and plans of St. Mary's Armenian Church and you are the most important part of that plan.

Very few people, during their lifetime, have the opportunity to participate in the building of a Church and a Community Center. It will be a lasting tribute to you, as an Armenian Christian and one who is proud of his heritage.

*"Every man shall give as he is able,
according to the blessing of the Lord"*

Deut. 16:17

Fund Raising Committee
Peter J. Enokian,
Chairman

The Budget for the Two Year Pledge Plan calls for the following amount to be raised:

• Mortgage on the West Orange Property.....	\$25,000.00
• Interest for 2 years on the Mortgage	3,000.00
• Repairs on the Parish House	10,000.00
• Miscellaneous Expenses	2,000.00
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	\$40,000.00

Since we have an immediate need of \$10,000.00 for the repairs on the new Parish House, we would like to request a minimum of 25% down with your Pledge.

The following approximate figures are presented as a guide for your consideration. Again we would like to stress, this is a plan for every member of St. Mary's Armenian Church.

	(MINIMUM PLEDGE)			
	2 Years	Yearly	Quarterly	Weekly
	\$ 266.00	\$133.00	\$ 33.25	\$ 2.50
	(REGULAR PLEDGE)			
300.00	150.00	37.50	3.00	
400.00	200.00	50.00	4.00	
500.00	250.00	62.50	5.00	
600.00	300.00	75.00	6.00	
700.00	350.00	87.50	7.00	
800.00	400.00	100.00	8.00	
900.00	450.00	112.50	9.00	
1,000.00	500.00	125.00	10.00	

Your contribution to the Building Fund 2 Year Pledge Plan campaign, can be credited toward any Memorial or Dedication you select in the future.

The Internal Revenue Service grants any Individual donor, to deduct up to 30% of adjusted gross income, in gifts to Churches, Hospitals or Educational Institutions.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Dear Parishioners:

A thoughtful Christian must weigh in his own mind whether the gifts he makes to God for his work through his Church, are worthy, and in any real sense proportionate to the gifts of God to us. It is true, literally, that all the good things we enjoy are gifts of a loving God. Money that we earn is ours because God gave us the brains and skills that make earning possible. It is true too, that the things that make life good and happy and creative are direct gifts of the loving Father. The beauties of nature, the joys of family life, the appreciation of art and music, even the food that sustains us, all are God's gifts. Every pleasure that is fine and clean is a gift of the Father.

Add up God's blessing to you, and you will find an impressive total.

Armenians are bound to possess a sense of pride in the heritage of their Church and their Nation. Our history brings closely to our minds the great galaxy of saintly men who established the Faith in the land of our forefathers, and who fought and died for it, all through the centuries.

The Church has been the means by which the Armenian culture has been maintained, surviving, in spite of persecutions, wars, and removals of whole populations.

Today the Church is a center for strengthening the Christian Faith and knowledge of our people. Every member of the Church may look back through the ages with gratitude and pride, and he may look forward to still greater things spiritually and culturally, that will be brought into being as the Church grows and more and more fulfills its mission.

Many Christians neglect the privilege of saying "Thank You" in heartfelt gratitude to God for His mercies which are infinite and unceasing. But every Christian can prove the sincerity of his thankfulness by giving to God's work of his substance, his money that in this simple and direct way he can demonstrate his gratitude.

In much of our giving to God, there is a strange lack of a sense of the eternal fitness of things. Try the experiment of making a total of the money you spend each year in barber shops, in beauty parlors, for amusements of every sort, for tobacco, and for cosmetics. Then against that total put down the total amount of money that you give annually for God's work.

A great clergyman of a past generation once told his people, "It is about time that we stopped giving God tips." Truly it is time that we decide to give to God amounts of money in some sense commensurate with our actual appreciation of God's gifts to us.

A Church cannot stand still, if it is not moving forward, it is slipping back. A real sense of the duty and privilege of Christian stewardship will make it possible for every Parish to go forward, and it will make possible too the organization of Parishes where there are none, and where they are needed.

This year the Diocese is urging every Parish in the Church to start a program of progress. The method recommended is one that is used by most of the Christian Churches in this country, the Building Fund Canvas.

The aim of the Building Fund Canvas is to have every man, woman, and child in the Church contributing regularly some definite pledged amount, to the Church Building Fund. That means that a Parish can budget its expenditures for work planned, because the amount to be received during the year is known in advance. It puts the work of the Church "God's Business" on a business basis so far as financial matters are concerned.

The regularity of giving is highly educational for our people. We come to know that we are having a proper share in all that the Church is doing, and we experience the joy and satisfaction of knowing that in a real sense we are fellow workers with God and not parasites, receiving of His bounty with mere lip service of Thanksgiving.

Very soon a fellow Parishioner will call on you in the name of St. Mary's Building Fund, we hope you will welcome him to your home, so he can explain the Two Year Pledge Plan and answer any questions you may have. Since we have an immediate need of \$10,000 for the repairs on the new Parish House, we would like to request a minimum of 25% down with your Pledge.

We know from past experience that all the members of our Parish will be generous with their Pledges.

Sincerely yours,

Peter J. Enokian,
Fund Raising Committee