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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARCHBISHOP MANOOGIAN VISITS HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH IN LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

Tenth Anniversary of The Reverend Father Nalbandian Celebrated and Ordination Rites Conferred on Altar Servers

It seemed just like yesterday when the Reverend Father Zenob Nalbandian was ordained into the priesthood by His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. He was a long way from St. Paul Armenian Church in Syracuse, New York and ten years had passed. Now as Pastor of the Holy Cross Armenian Church in Lawrence, Massachusetts, Father Zenob had a wonderful sense of pride upon seeing his altar servers elevated to the first four minor ranks of the Armenian Church.

Father Zenob entered the Theological Seminary of Holy Etchmiadzin in 1965. He was ordained deacon in 1968 and upon graduation, one year later, was appointed by His Holiness Vasken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to teach at the Seminary. During his tenure (1969-71) Deacon Hagop continued his studies at Yerevan State University showing a special interest in linguistics. Since then he has worked extensively in the area of lexicography compiling three ecclesiastic dictionaries in French-Armenian, Russian-Armenian and Armenian.

The Primate was present for the ordination rites conferred upon the four parish altar servers on Saturday evening, April 16. The Archbishop ordained Mark Kazanjian to "Tbir" (Acolyte) and Anthony Giragosian, Jr. and Gary Townsend to "Gisa Sargavak" (Sub-Diaconate). As Sub-Deacons, the men were each vested with a stole (a long, narrow cloth worn over the shoulder of the altar robe) signifying rank.

On Sunday, Paul Bogosian, Jr. was elevated to the rank of Diaconate by the Primate. Deacon Norair Avakian was vested with an "ourar" signifying his elevation to the rank of

"Avak Sargavak" (Archdeacon). Berj Zamkochian, world-renowned musician, was guest organist.

The Der Vartan Avakian Church Hall was the site for a banquet after the Badarak where the guest speakers were Dr. Perguhi Svajian, Professor of Education at Brooklyn College, Krikor Keusseyan, editor of "Baikar", Ara Kalaydjian, editor of "The Armenian Mirror Spectator", Berj Zamkochian and Fr. Nalbandian's brother, the Rev. Fr. Untzag Nalbandian, Pastor of the Holy Ascension Church in Trumbull, Connecticut. Master of Ceremonies was Charles Kochakian and singer Mary Bogosian beautifully performed two pieces, "Ay Vart" by Alexander Spentiarian and "An Or" by Hampartsoum Berberian with Lena der Kevorkian on piano.

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