

BIOGRAPHY of Rev. Fr. Dajad Davidian, Watertown, Massachusetts

Fr. Davidian was born on September 14, 1934, in Worcester, Mass. His secular name was Arthur (Ardashes). Upon completion of high school in Worcester in 1952, Fr. Davidian entered the Armenian Theological Seminary in Antelias, Lebanon.

Returning to America in 1955, he entered the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York. He graduated from this institution in 1958 with an STB and did one year's graduate study in the same school, on a Master's program in Theology.

Fr. Davidian was ordained a deacon in 1957 by Archbishop Mampre Kalfayan in New York and a priest on July 17, 1960 by Archbishop Sion Manoogian in Worcester.

As a young man, Fr. Davidian was an active member in the ACYOA. He was chairman of the Jr. group, Worcester Chapter, 1951-52 and chairman of the New York-Holy Cross Chapter, 1956-57. He was an instructor in the New York Holy Cross Church Sunday School and its Superintendent, 1956-58.

In 1958, Fr. Davidian was appointed Deacon-in-charge of the newly organized Armenian Church of Bergen County (now St. Thomas Church, Tenafly, NJ.) In 1960 he became its parish priest. In 1962, Fr. Davidian was named pastor of St. Mesrob Church in Racine, Wisconsin, where he remains to date.

Fr. Davidian has served as ACYOA Executive Secretary and Editor of the Armenian Guardian from 1960-62. He was on the staff of the St. Nersess Theological School from 1962-5. In 1967, he was elected to the Diocesan Council. Fr. Davidian has also been the director of Hi-Kamp, a summer camp for the Armenian Church children in the Mid-West in 1963, 1964, and 1967. He has also conducted numerous retreats and conferences for ACYOA Juniors.