

*File: Armenian Clergy*

Rev. Father Vartan Der Assadourian

(New Pastor)

Holy Resurrection Armenian Church

New Britain, Conn.

The Rev. Father Vartan Der Assadourian was born in Deort-yol, Turkey in 1910 and was christened Aram. He is the son of Rev. Assadour, who was a victim of the Armenian Massacre by the Turks in 1915. Father Vartan was raised by his brothers and sisters.

He attended elementary school in his native town, Deort-yol. From 1926 to 1930, he worked for the British and Foreign Bible Society, Jerusalem. He entered the Armenian Seminary at Antilyas, Lebanon in 1930, but after two years left to work for the Iraq Petroleum Company Ltd., Haifa, Palestine. He worked there from 1932 to 1941 and from 1943 to 1948. During this period, he supplemented his education by taking courses from Bennett College of England and Felman Institute of Languages. He speaks several languages besides English.

He returned to the Armenian Seminary of Antilyas in 1949 and was ordained into the priesthood on June 24, 1951.

His first parish was with the St. George's Armenian Church in Addis-Ababa (New flower), Ethiopia. He was also principal of the Armenian National School *Kavakoff*

Father Vartan came to this country on November 17, 1954 and became a citizen in 1960.

Prior to his assignment to Holy Resurrection Church of New Britain, Father Vartan has had parishes in Paterson, New Jersey, Troy, New York, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Haverhill, Massachusetts.

Father Vartan is married and has three boys, Vatche 16, Ralph 14, and Harry 12.