

*Banquet
To Honor
The Reverend Father Garen Gdanian
on the Fortieth Anniversary
of his Ordination
To The Holy Priesthood*

Sponsored By

*St. Peter Armenian Church
of Waterliet*

1:30 P.M. Sunday, November 6, 1988

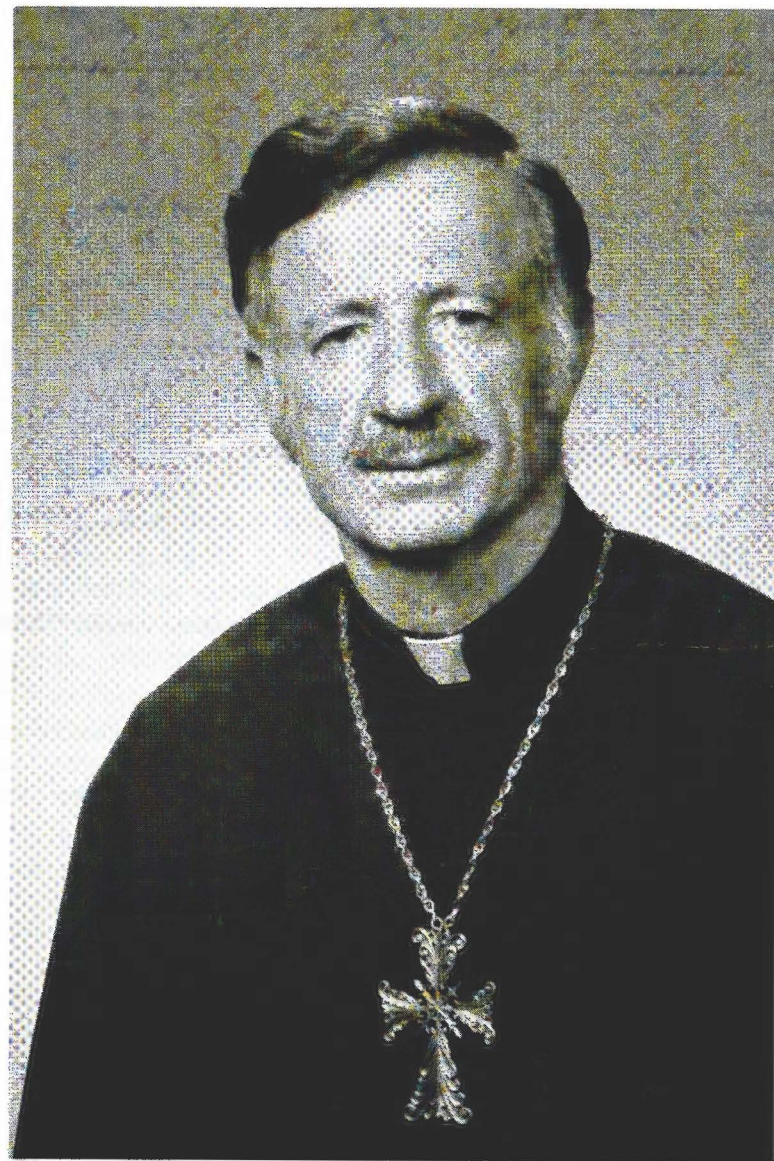
*Italian-American Community Center
Albany, New York*

PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies	Willard Martin
Star Spangled Banner Hayr Mer	led by Haigouhi Smith
Invocation	Father Alan Jupin
Toast	Suren Hrachian

DINNER WILL BE SERVED

Welcome	Edward A. Belemjian
Vocal Selections	Hrant Bardakjian
Remarks	Reverend James Thompson
Remarks	Papken Kadehjian
Remarks	Louise Ajemian
Musical Selections	Leo Mahigian Peter Mahigian
Address	Reverend Father Arten Ashjian
“Oorakh Ler”	Church Choir
Encyclical	Reverend Dr. Krikor Maksoudian
Comments	Church Organizations
Remarks	Bishop Papken Varjabedian
Remarks	Yeretzgin Zabelle Gdanian
Remarks	Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan
“Yerevan-Erepoonsi”	Church Choir
Honored Guest	Reverend Father Garen Gdanian
Benediction	
“Der Getzo”	led by Hrant Bardakjian



**Reverend Garen Gdanian
Forty Years of Service
1948 to 1988**

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Reverend Father Garen Gdanian was born in Aleppo, Syria on February 1, 1925 to Kevork and Siranoosh Tavookjian Gdanian, who gave him the baptismal name of Sarkis. He received his early education in the Aleppo Armenian School System before going to Jerusalem in 1938 to study at the Armenian Seminary there. After graduating from the Seminary in 1944, he returned to Aleppo and taught in the Zavarian Armenian School for a year. He then entered the Antelias Seminary in Beirut, Lebanon for further study and graduated in 1947.

In September 1947, Father Gdanian came to the United States upon the invitation of the Most Reverend Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan, who was then the Primate of the Armenian Church of America. With the sponsorship of Mr. Alex Manoogian, he was able to continue his education at the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge, Massachusetts and received his Master of Divinity Degree in 1950. However, his formal studies did not end there, for he has continued to take courses and attend seminars and workshops specializing in the area of family counseling at several educational institutions, including Harvard Divinity School and Siena College.

Father Gdanian was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Nersoyan at St. Vartanantz Armenian Church of Lowell, Massachusetts on December 19, 1948 and was renamed Garen at that time. He served as pastor of that church for nine years and of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church of New York City for thirteen years

before coming to St. Peter Armenian Church of Watervliet in September 1970. He also has been a member of the Diocesan Council for Religious Education from 1957 to 1967 and a member of the Diocesan Council from 1971 to 1975. In 1988, he was appointed as the Presiding Officer of the Regional Council for the New England Region of the Armenian Church of America by the Primate, the Most Reverend Archbishop Torkom Manoogian.

On August 31, 1964, Father Gdanian received permission from His Holiness, Vasken I, to wear a Pectoral Cross and then in 1977 received permission to wear a Floral Philonium. He was elevated to the rank of "Avak Kahana" on reaching the thirty-fifth anniversary of his ordination in 1983.

Writing is one of Father Gdanian's special interests. His first book, **Father Garen's Key to Inner Peace**, was a series of meditations based on several of his sermons. It was published in 1986 and is now in its second printing. Father Gdanian has donated the proceeds from the sale of this book to assist the Sunday School of St. Peter Armenian Church in its video project on the Armenian Church Liturgy. Another book of Father Gdanian's sermons is to be published in Armenian by the Diocese.

Father Gdanian and the former Isabel Kludjian of Lowell, Massachusetts were married on August 27, 1952. They were blessed with three children, a son, Kyn, and two daughters, Arpy and Garyn, and four grandchildren.

~DINNER MENU~

Wine Toast
Fresh Garden Salad
Prime Rib of Beef au jus
Sicilian Vegetable Medley
Oven Roasted Potato
Rolls and Butter
Apple Pie a la mode
Coffee-Tea

Divine Liturgy = Abp. Tiran Nersisian
Bp. Papken Vorjabinian
Fr. Arsen Ashjian
celebrant. Fr. Garek Gdavitian

Various representatives of ~~the~~ denomination.
tims.

Letters from both primates

DER GETZO

1. Der, getzo to uzHyes,
Yev ara znosa baydsarrs,
Getzo too uzHyes.
Zoghormootyoon verin
Hajyat ztonel notzin,
Zee novav martastzin
Abril hasdis.
2. Ee ko eechyal deghee
Zatorr Hayrabedeen
Mer hasdadya
Zergarootyoon genatz
Hor mer asdvadsazkyatz
Shnorhya bedin mer hartz,
Vor zmez hov-veh.