Regional Meeting Held at St. Leon's Armenian Church, Fair Lawn, N.J. on October 28, 1975

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The participating parishes were: St. Leon's Armenian Church, Fair Lawn, St. Thomas Armenian Church, Tenafly, Holy Cross Church, Union City and St. Mary Armenian Church, Livingston. Absent were the parish priest and members of St. Mary's Church of Elberon.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m. by Mr. George Mekenian, Diocesan Council member, who also chaired the meeting. His Eminence the Primate presided over the meeting.

The Agenda was passed out to the 28 delegates and parish council members present. Present from St. Leon's Church were Father Paree Metjian and 7 members. Present from St. Thomas Church were Father Arnak Kasparian and 10 members. Present from Holy Cross Church were Father Vartan Megherian and 3 members. Present from St. Mary's Church were Father Houssig Bagdasian and 4 members. In addition, Miss Syraun Palvetzian, Director at the Diocese, Valerie Goekjian, Executive Secretary of the Council for Religious Education, and Edward Kaiserian, new Chairman of the Central Council of the ACYOA, and Mr. Stephen Kambourian, Executive Director of the Diocese were present.

Chairman George Mekenian announced that item 2 of the Agenda would be discussed first -- His Holiness Vasken I intended visit to the United States for the Bicentennial celebration in 1976. It was announced that the Catholicos' visit was canceled since arrangements are being made for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of his enthronement and the Blessing of the Holy Muron in Etchmiadzin.

Item 4A of the Agenda was then discussed -- Purposes and Aims for the CRE, ACYOA, Choir, Armenian Language, Ladies Guilds and Social Services. Miss Valerie Goekjian gave a summary of the activities and publications that the CRE has prepared for the Church Schools. Observations were made by the various members and comments as follows. It was said that there is a dire need to train our young Sunday School teachers and that regional meetings be localized, i.e., St. Thomas, Fair Lawn, Livingston, etc. to train the Sunday School teachers. A comment was also made that maybe this should be done on a monthly basis since it is difficult for most of the Sunday School teachers to get away for the annual retreat held during the summer.

Mr. Edward Kaisarian was introduced as the new ACYOA Central Council Chairman, at which time he briefed the gathering on what has transpired since the Miami weekend meeting and the various officers of the Executive Committee. Inquiries made of Mr. Kaisarian were regarding age limit, plans for the ensuing year, communications with the various members, and whether they were getting members in the age group of 22-25 (college students). Most questions were Regional Meeting Held at St. Leon's Fair Lawn on October 28, 1975

answered to the satisfaction of those present. Other observations from the gathering were as follows: there is a specific need to attract the senior members to the Church. Nothing is being done in the churches to keep the senior members active in Church functions. Possibly a training course with challenges and responsibilities plus social and religious programs would maintain the interest of those college students. Constant communications should be kept with college students by sending news releases. If they are attending out-of-state colleges, the local parish should maintain contact with them and invite them to the religious and social activities of the church.

Regarding the choirs, it was stated that Church Sunday School students should be invited to participate with the church choir during rehearsals in order to stimulate their interest in joining the choir. A time limit should be set (half hour to one hour) so as not to bore the students in their initial introduction to the choir. The choir should work with the church Sunday Schools in teaching them hymns of the Badarak.

Regarding the Armenian School, a comment was made that the Armenian School books received by the schools were for the first four grades and also had inquired about an advanced curriculum. His Eminence informed the members present that those books were now in the process of being completed. A question was raised as to the feasability of opening an Armenian parochial school in the New Jersey area. The St. Leon's Church informed the members that it teaches its children dances, culture and singing to breakup the monotony and maintain their interest.

Regarding the Ladies Guilds, His Eminence the Primate gave information on Women Saints Day which will be held in March of 1976 and requested that all churches have their Ladies Guilds participate and cooperate.

Regarding Social Services Miss Palvetzian briefed the members on the intended programs that are being planned by the Diocese in order to help those who are in need. Several people made comments regarding this highly essential program and spoke with Miss Palvetzian after the meeting regarding immigrants, language problems, financial assistance, transportation. It was asked if the AGBU should not be involved with the Diocese in this specific area.

Item 1 of the Agenda was then discussed -- Parish Matters. Regarding Assembly Reform, His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian informed the members that Assembly reforms are being planned and would be presented at the Diocesan Assembly.

Page 2

Regional Meeting Held at St. Leon's Fair Lawn on October 28, 1975

UNITY

After the Archdiocese summary was read to the members present, the following questions were raised: budget for each district, is it necessary for each district to have a bishop, supervision regarding each district and would it include California, how would it effect the Diocesan budget, what of our need for more priests and is their any reason why bishops cannot be elected instead of appointed. Would the bishop or district head serve a duel role as the parish priest and district leader?

Father Arnak requested Diocesan delegates who were present at the 73rd Annual Assembly for their interpretation as to the decisions rendered by the Assembly regarding Unity. He also stated that the Diocesan Council was taking a "hard line" on the Unity question. Mr. Arthur Otchy, Chairman of St. Thomas, made the following comment about the Assembly. A great majority of the delegates wanted to have the difference resolved posthaste. The Diocesan Unity Committee was to meet with their counterparts and iron out their differences. His Eminence the Primate then informed the members as to the situation up to that time. George Mekenian referred to the guidelines of the Unity Committee Report, paragraph 3, Section 2B.

The Chair then thanked the members present for attending and stated that he felt that constructive ideas were discussed and it is now up to us to implement them. His Eminence closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 a.m.

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Regional Meeting Held at the Diocesan Cultural Center

on October 23, 1975

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The participating parishes were: St. Gregory, Holy Cross, Holy Martyrs, Armenian Church of Westchester.

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 p.m. by Father Mampre Kouzouian, Diocesan Council member, who also chaired the meeting. His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian participated in the meeting. The agenda was passed out to 28 Diocesan delegates and Parish Council members present.

From the Holy Martyrs Church, Father Carnig Hallajian and six members were present. From Holy Cross Church, Chairman of the Parish Council, Sam Chapootian and five members were present. From the St. Gregory Church, Father Mampre Kouzouian and 10 members were present. From the Armenian Church of Westchester, Father Karekin Kasparian and three members were present.

It was announced that His Holiness Vasken I would not be coming to the United States in 1976, since arrangements are being made for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of his enthronement and the Blessing of the Holy Muron.

The first item on the agenda was Parish matters. The question was raised by George Sanosian of the Armenian Church of Westchester of the validity of a pledge system for a church and asked for remarks from the other council members through the Chair. After various remarks, it was the consensus that in today's circumstances for financial assistance for a church, a pledge system is mandatory. It was also pointed out that it is a matter of educating Armenian parishioners to the pledge system which is used by the Episcopalians, Methodists, etc. Sam Chapootian of Holy Cross indicated that they do not have a pledge system and that they depend solely on the plate collection dues plus the Easter and Christmas Yughakins. His Eminence the Primate gave a short dissertation on the advantages of the pledge system.

The next three items were skipped, and item 4A was then discussed --Diocesan Purposes and Aims for the C.R.E., ACYOA, Choir, Armenian Language, Ladies Guild, and Social Services. Father Karekin gave a short synopsis of the duties and the responsibilities of the C.R.E. There were several comments made regarding the C.R.E. as follows: Joseph Kalemkerian of Holy Cross suggested that a program be developed for adults as well as children for Christian Education, especially for the Church Sunday School teachers. Father Carnig observed that the Church Auxiliary should be developed in the area of religious education. Churches should make it a point to educate more in the religious theme and not in the social aspects in the various Church organizations and that the responsibility should fall on the pastor. Father Mampre stated that the **vit**al nerve of our religious life falls with the clergy. Regional Meeting Diocesan Center October 23, 1975

Father Karekin stated learning the Armenian religion, Divine Liturgy, and Armenian heritage go hand in hand.

The following observations were made by various people regarding the ACYOA. The youth should be given time to participate with the senior groups, Parish Assembly and Parish Council meetings. The ACYOA is only concerned with social activities and not with ideas on religious or cultural activities. Since most of our senior ACYOA members are away in college, when they return, it is up to the Councils and delegates to get them involved in Church activities.

The question was raised as to why the Cathedral Choir was being paid. Father Mampre answered the question to the satisfaction of the inquirer. Father Karekin suggested the use of the cassettes from the Diocese to help the Choir groups.

Excellent remarks were made on the curriculum and books as prepared by the Armenian Language Lab.

The following observations were made regarding the Social Service program. Funds should be available to provide help not only to the needy but to the Armenian immigrants who are coming to this country in the area of translation, medical, social and religion.

Item 3 of the agenda was then discussed -- Budget, Assessments and Stewardship. The majority of questions were on the assessments for the year 1976, at which point a run down was given on the Detroit formula. A remark was made that the Budget would be close to \$520,000. Stewardship was discussed and the help it would render parishes in their payment of assessments and that Parish Council members should encourage people to become Stewards in order to help their own church.

Item 5 of the agenda was discussed at which time His Eminence the Primate called upon Edward Chapian to give a brief run down on Assembly reform. The consensus of the members present was that Assembly reform is something that is drastically needed.

Item 7 of the agenda was then discussed - Archdiocese. After Apkar Omartian of the Westchester parish read the Archdiocesan Report, questions were raised as to budget, by-laws, would the district leaders be elected or appointed and would they be bishops or priests? All these questions were answered.

Father Mampre thanked the members for coming to the Regional Meeting. The meeting was closed with a prayer by His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 a.m.

Half yours 's 10/23/75 Regional meeting Helymarting To Westerlieter of IS Name Helgop J. Nazerian Per, Carrie Helijin Holy Mardyes - Bayside Upflag unlinganging St Seegor of Quality & Sulfflitus Frank C. Zotjan JOSEPH KALEMKERIAN Holy Maityes + Baysike Hour CRoss, N.Y. 11 11 11 $\frac{11 11 11}{11 11}$ $\frac{11 11 11}{11 11}$ SHAH ARSLAN JONY MAELIAN Hauger Hanteniau John Topolia ST GREGORY Hayy Mayor Sem Chapvotian Holy Cross N. Y Haly Cross NY Gregory Church Narry Shazarian St. Shegory chunch St. Shegory Chunch St. Angory NY St. Gregory X.Y Holy Margers Conati Cheristian George Shubelian Comency Vartian Pugant Babikian Il Gregaty Alperafluar_ Jang Kehimin Jang Kehimin Ulward Cosayan ST. Sregny Westchester George Sanossiand 11 Ankan Martins Fr-Karekin Kasparian Coligant Campinan Haly martys

December 11, 1975

The Very Reverend Shnork Kasparian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church 615 Stuart Avenue, Outremont Montreal H2V 3H2, Quebec, Canada

Dear Father Shnork:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a Regional Meeting, of which you were host, minutes were taken. Please be good anough to send us a copy of the minutes for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director

cc: Mr. Levon Kordzian Council Chairman

November 18, 1975

The Reverend Arsen Barsamian Pastor St. James Armenian Church 834 Pepper Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226

Dear Father Arsen:

I have received your letter of November 12, 1975 and a copy of the Regional Meeting minutes.

My sincerest thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director

cc: Mr. Peter Green Council Chairman

St. Iames

Armenian Church 834 PEPPER AVENUE RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23226 PHONE 282-3818



REV. FR. ARSEN BARSAMIAN PASTOR

RES. 705 WESTRIVER DRIVE 23229 RES. PHONE 282-4173 STUDY PHONE 282-3618

November 12, 1975

Mr. Stephen Kambourian, Exec. Dir. Diocese of the Armenian Church 630 Second Ave. New York, N.Y. 10016

Ditter Landstoff

Dear Mr. Kambourian:

Enclosed you will find a check for \$1000. which will pay the balance of our 1975 diocesan dues.

In response to your letter dated November 5, you will find a copy of the minutes of the Regional Meeting at which His Eminence Archbp. Torkom Manoogian presided.

At our parish council meeting of Tuesday, November 11, during the reading of the Regional Assembly minutes the following correction was made and accepted to page 3 of the minutes under <u>The Primate added, Budget Assesments-</u> <u>Stewardship</u>; Der Hayr Barsamian brought it to the Primates's attention that he is still not receiving the minimum amount as outlined by the Stipend's Committee Report, and that it was his understanding that that should be taken care of before the addition to our diocesan dues. The Primate agreed.

The parish council members found the 1976 assessment of \$3090. excessive and unreasonable because.... a) it is over a 100% increase from 1975. In his opening remarks at the meeting the Primate pointed out that the Richmond community was among the 2 or 3 parishes that "were almost alone - secluded from the diocesan parishes". With this point in mind one must appreciate the difficulty this means to us. b) According to our proposed budget of 1975 of which the diocesan office received a copy in our annual general membership meeting report, this year's assessment is nearly 10% of our total budget. Anticipating a decrease rather than an increase the proposed \$3090. will reflect nearly 25-30% of our gross receipts. - page 2 -

This will cause an undue additional hardship on an already overtaxed small community. c) Enclosed you will find a copy of the letter from the State Fair of Virginia to the chairman of that project, Mr. Gerry Sharigian, informing us that a minimum of 30 day's notice will affect the removal of our food stand when they so desire. This has always been a substantial source of our income, averaging \$5000. or more each year.

Because of the above mentioned and other pressing financial problems confronting it, the parish council feels it will be unable under the present circumstances to accept an increase of the diocesan dues.

Respectfully,

1 alpen Margunan Arsen Barsamian, Pastor

Peter Greene, Chairman

AB/ag 3 enclosures/check

STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA

P.O. Box 26805 - Richmond, Vinginia 23261 - Phone (804) 329-4437

-September 1st, 1975

St. James Armenian Church Mr. Gerry Sharigian 834 Pepper Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23220

Dear Mr. Sharigian:

All food stand operators were notified in 1972 that the Atlantic Rural Exposition's Master Plan for the future use of the Fair Grounds calls for construction of a new grandstand and a new exhibit building. These two buildings would be located in the area that the food stands now occupy.

Should our Board of Directors approve the construction of these two facilities, we will provide you with notice of this decision at as early date as possible. A minimum of thirty days notice to effect the removal of your property will be provided.

Sincerely yours,

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F. W. HASSELBACK Executive Vice President

FWH: jms



from the office of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 10, 1975

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate, Attends Regional Meetings Throughout Diocese

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, has held 13 Regional Meetings covering 43 parishes of the Diocese from Montreal, Canada to the Mid-West and New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Richmond, Virginia, Massachusetts, and Miami, Florida from August 29 through November 9, 1975.

The Regional Meetings are held to discuss pertinent matters from the local parish level to the Diocesan level. The items discussed this year were: Christian Education, Armenian Schools, Women's Guilds, A.C.Y.O.A., Social Services, Diocesan Budget, Parish Assessments, Stewardship, Armenian Church Endowment Fund, Archdiocese Proposal, Assembly Reform, and Church Unity.

His Eminence, usually accompanied by a member of the Diocesan Council, discussed and reported on progress being made on the above items and other Diocesan business.

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for further information contact Steve Kambourian, 630 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016, telephone: (212) 686-0710

Mr. Berdj Karagoz Parish Council Chairman St. Sarkis Armenian Church 3487 Greenway Grand Island, New York 14879

Dear Mr. Karagoz:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a regional meeting, of which your parish was the host, minutes were taken. Please be good enough to send us a copy of the minutes for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director

The Reverend Arsen Barsamian Pastor St. James Armentan Church 834 Pepper Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226

Dear Father Arsen:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a regional meeting, of which your parish was host, minutes were taken. Please be good enough to send us a copy of the minutes for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director

The Very Reverend Paren Avedikian Pastor St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Father Paren:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a regional meeting, of which your parish was host, minutes were taken. Please be good enough to send us a copy of the minutes for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director

The Reverend Arten Ashjian Pastor St. Mesrob Armenian Church 4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Arten:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a regional meeting, of which your parish was host, minutes were taken. Please be good enough to send us a copy of the minutes for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director

Mr. Nishan Babikian Parish Council Chairman St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church 7512 W. Belmont Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60634

Dear Mr. Babikian:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a regional meeting, of which your parish was host, minutes were taken. Please be good enough to send us a copy of the minutes.for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director

KS:vb

The Very Reverend Zaven Arzoumanian Pastor St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Armenian Church 630 Clothier Road Wynnewood, Pennsylvania 19096

Dear Father Zaven:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a regional meeting, of which your parish was host, minutes were taken. Please be good enough to send us a copy of the minutes for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director



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DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10016 212 686-0710

ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN, PRIMATE

Recard meridia

November 5, 1975

Mr. Nishan Babikian Parish Council Chairman St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church 7512 W. Belmont Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60634

Dear Mr. Babikian:

During His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian's visitation for a regional meeting, of which your parish was host, minutes were taken. Please be good enough to send us a copy of the minutes for the Diocesan files.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully yours,

Canchouran

Stephén Kambourian Executive Director

In my sorry for the delay in sending you the minutes also loved of the Surjos' address. Reach Mehabedian Inclose

MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 1, 1975

On Saturday, November 1, 1975 at 2:35 p.m., Archbishop Torkom Manoogian presided over the Midwest Regional meeting held at the host church, St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church of Chicago. The meeting was attended by the clergy, parish councils and their auxiliaries, of the midwest churches. Rt. Reverend Varcujan Kabaradjian of St. James Armenian Church of Evanston, Illinois, Deacon Manoog Keligian of Holy Shoghagat Armenian Apostolic Church of East St. Louis, Illinois, members of St. Joachim and Anne Armenian Church of Palos Heights, Illinois and the various bodies of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church of Chicago, Illinois.

After the opening prayer by Surpazan Hayr, the meeting began with the discussion of parish matters and their problems. Sunday school classes have good attendance. able teachers and good supervision. Their main problem seemed to be in the lack of involvement of the mid-teen children. The classes do not seem to keep their interest. They also will not participate in church services or Sunday School. At the present time. all they wish to participate in is sports activities. They need a program of some kind which would keep them informed and occupied. St. Gregory has about 18 young people in this group. St. James also has a similar problem. Deacon Manoog feels it might be difficult to keep them active socially between the ages of 15 to 17, but at 18 they somehow find their way back to the church. Deacon Manoog felt it was an overall problem whether you have clergy or not. St. Joachim and Anne was the exception, and their young group was the most productive. They were supervised by Khachig Bogosian, who did a remarkable job with them. George Nahabedian of St. Gregory, spoke of qualified teachers in our parishes, but lack of informative material did not help. Surpagan Hayr said the Diocese is putting together some pamphlets which will be informative to the young people.

Surpazan Hayr spoke about the A.C.Y.O.A. At their "Sports Weekend" in Miami last September, they elected a Central Council. They will elect a permanent youth director. The youth wish to govern themselves with no adult supervision, but the Diocese wants to look into their discussions and actions, not to govern them, but to see that their actions fulfill the wishes of the Armenian Church. The Diocese has put aside \$25,000 into their 1976 budget towards the A.C.Y.O.A.

Choir - New publications to help all services uniform. Choir problems at St. Gregory's were discussed, the lack of musical supervision with mainly no clergy to assist in practice. St. James has a lack of new young members. St. Joachim and Anne has a young choir, but lacks older choir members. George Nahabedian asked Surpazan Hayr if there were any choir directors available in other countries. He was told a language barrier would result in a lack of communication. George also spoke of an Armenian named Emile Surpos, who was the former music director of the Chicago Public Schools. Surpazan asked if we could get his new address and what he was doing now.

The Ladies Auxiliaries were asked if they had any problems. St. Gregory's had a successful year with the bazaar, runmage sale, lenten dinner, Saint's Day, and their picnic. St. Joachim and Anne said their auxiliary disbanded and the Young Women's Guild is doing all the auxiliary work. They have a membership of 12 and very active.

Surpazan Hayr spoke of Social Services at the Cathedral and said they dealt mostly with the immigrants who needed medical, financial and sometimes, help towards divorce. The people do not usually seek help, but when they learn there is a committee to help with social matters, then they seek these services. Many people have been helped and now regularly use the church facilities. Many new people now come around. A committee was set up to talk to the new visitors, introduce themselves, make them feel important and become a part of the Armenian community.

Armenian Schools - Surpazan Hayr spoke about the supervision of Sylvia Der Stepanian and the help of visual aids and games is an asset to the schools. She was to visit the Armenian School in Evanston on November 14.

Deacon Manoog brought up the subject of visiting clergy. He asked if there was a fund for the travel and housing of visiting clergy to a parish who does not

- 2 -

have a priest. He said it costs about \$200 for one visit and felt a small parish could not afford two visits a year. Surpazan said, as of now, it is the parish's responsibility.

Surpazan Hayr touched on various subjects, such as:

- 1. Stewardship Program
- 2. Assessments and Budget
- 3. Clergy Stipend
- 4. Communication with the Catholicos

Stewardship Program - Each parish should contribute towards a \$500,000 Diocesan budget. This is divided by the various parishes, each one having a proportionate share. Chicago for example, needs 20 stewards per year at a cost of \$100 per steward. The membership dues for parishes from Chicago, Evanston, Palos Heights and East St. Louis were listed as follows:

St. Gregory	\$1,465.00
St. James.	4,380.00
St. Joachim & Anne	1,138.00
Holy Shoghagat	1,285.00

Communication with the Vehapar - His Holiness' visit to America in September of 1977 was cancelled. It is the year for the blessing of the Holy Muron. The Vehapar's 20th anniversary also takes place; therefore, His Holiness will stay in Etchmiadzin.

Clergy Stipend - There will be various salaries set at the parishes. If a parish priest leaves one parish at a high salary, and goes to a less paying parish, the balance of his salary will come from the clergy stipend fund. A budget of \$120,000 is needed for this fund, but due to the lack of funds, this plan is not as yet active.

George Nahabedian of St. Gregory, brought up the subject of lack of priests in the Chicago area, and said it is too much work and traveling for Hayr Varoujan. Surpazan Hayr said 25 new parishes are to be created around the country. All these new parishes, including the parishes without priests, will survive mainly with the congregations help and attendance. The Diocese is not looking to the presnet, but to the future, 100 or 200 years from now. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m., after which coffee and cake was served to all our guests.

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Respectfully submitted Mark Nahabedian

Mark Nahabedian Recording Secretary St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church of Chicago

October 21, 1975

The Reverend Arten Ashjian Pastor, St. Mesrob Armenian Church 4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Father Arten:

I refer to your letter to His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian dated October 3, 1975, regarding the 1985 Fall regional meetings.

As of today we have been informed that six persons from Greenfield and eleven persons from South Milwaukee will be attending the meeting on October 31, in Racine. The Waukegan parish has not as yet sent reply forms.

A directive dated July 21, stating that pastors should invite chairpersons of church organizations to the regional meeting is enclosed herewith.

My best wishes to you and Yeretzgin.

Respectfully yours,

Syraun Palvetzian Director

Enc.

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Telephone **\$34-65\$9**

October 3, 1975

Most Reverend Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate, Diocese of the Armenian Church 630 Second Avenue New York, N.Y. 10016

Your Eminence:

I apologize for the fact that the Parish Council has not responded to your letter of July 7, 1975, addressed to Chairman Mr. Paul Chobanian, regarding your plans for 1975 Fall REGIONAL MEETINGS. At the time your letter arrived St. Mesrob Church was without a resident pastor, and due to the Parish Council's preoccupation with the major annual picnic your letter was not acted upon immediately.

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639-0531

Friday, Oct. 31, 8 p.m. has been set aside by St. Mesrob Church for the purpose of hosting the Regional Meeting in this area. We are assuming that the Greenfield, South Milwaukee and Waukegan parishes have been directed by the Diocesan office to participate in the scheduled meeting. If an invitation to these parishes on our part is necessary, please let us know.

Also, on the basis of my recollection of a letter addressed to me last summer while I was president of the St. Leon's Church Parish Council, you had urged that parish organization heads also be invited to the scheduled regional meeting. I find no such directive in your July 7 letter addressed to Mr. Paul Chobanian . If the attendance of parish organization heads is necessary, please advise us in order for us to notify them. On the basis of what I remember from your letter addressed to the Fair Lawn, N.J., church, I have gone ahead and informed the St. Mesrob Church School superintendent and the Women's Guild chairman that they are expected to be present at the Oct. 31 Regional Meeting.

We look forward to receiving your instructions, and will be happy to have you preside at the Oct. 31 Regional Meeting.

With filial respect

I am, your servant in Christ Arten Nshjian (Rev.) Arten Ashjian

St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church

4125 Fessenden Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20016 ԲԱԲԳԷՆ ԵՊԻՍԿՈՊՈՍ ՎԱԲԺԱՊԵՏԵԱՆ Rt. Rev. Bishop Papken, S. T. D. Tel: Church & Home 363-1923

ист. 20 - 1975 Dear Mr. Kambourian,

This is to inform you, and through you his Eminence our primate that I will be unable to attend Regional meeting of philadelphio (ocr. 25). It was beyond my control. a family (Nargisian of Columbia MD.) MUST baptize this child on that day. Sorry for the Conflict. with best wishes Bishop Japhen. OCT. 20 - 1975 P.S. Received 40 copies et "BODKS" If marriage Certificates are available, please give to our deligntes on Oct. 25th. BP.P.V.



Saint Thomas Armenian Church

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September 15, 1975

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America 630 Second Avenue New York, New York 10016

Re: Regional Meetings- 1975

Dear Sir:

St. Thomas Armenian Church Parish Council would like to add to the agenda the subject of the need for the local training of Sunday School teachers.

Very truly yours,

ARTHUR A. OTCHY

Parish Council Chairman

AAO:bap

August 28, 1975

Mr. Berdj Karagoz Chairman, Parish Council St. Sarkis Armenian Church 300 Ninth Street Niagara Falls, New York 14303

Dear Mr. Karagoz:

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian will be arriving in Buffalo on September 6, 1975 at 7:20 p.m., Allegheny flight 443. He will be leaving on September 8, at 10:40 a.m. from Buffalo, American Airlines flight 564.

It would be most appreciated if arrangements can be made to meet His Eminence at the airport and take him to the hotel.

His Eminence will perform the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning, September 7, 1975 in St. Sarkis Armenian Church of Niagara Falls, New York. The Regional Meeting will start at 3:30 p.m. which will include the parishes of St. Catharines and Toronto.

Sincerely,

Stephen Kambourian Executive Director



St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church

6700 W. DIVERSEY AVENUE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60635 PHONE 637-1711

August, 1975

The Most Rev. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate of the Armenian Church of America c/o The Diocese of the Armenian Church 630 Second Avenue New York, New York 10016

Your Excellency:

The Parish Council of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church of Chicago will be happy to host the Regional Meeting for our area scheduled for Saturday, November 1, 1975.

As per instructions we will prepare a lunch for 1:00 p.m. If there are any further needs, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will await further communicae from your office.

Respectfully yours,

Miss Georgette L. Sommese Corresponding Secretary Parish Council St. Gregory the Illuminator

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

REGIONAL MEETINGS

August 29 to November 9, 1975

AGENDA

- 1. Parish Matters
- 2. His Holiness Vasken I Visit and Bicentennial Celebrations
- 3. Budget Assessments Stewardship
- 4. Endowment Fund
- 5. Diocesan Purposes and Aims (Christian Religious Education - A.C.Y.O.A. - Choirs - Armenian Language - Ladies' Guilds - Social Services - Museum)
- 6. Assembly Reform
- 7. Archdiocese
- 8. Church Unity

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

REGIONAL MEETINGS

August 29 to November 9, 1975

AGENDA

1. Parish Matters

1. A. A. A. A.

2. His Holiness Vasken I Visit and Bicentennial Celebrations

3. Budget; Assessments; Stewardship

4. Endowment Fund

- 5. Diocesan Purposes and Aims Christian Religious Education A.C.Y.O.A. Choirs Armenian Language Social Services Museum
- 6. Assembly Reform
- 7. Archdiocese
- 8. Church Unity

August 26, 1975

AGENDA

Meeting: August 25, 1975 10:00 A.M.

100

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Edward Mardigian

- 1. His Holiness' Itinerary - To discuss
- 2. Philadelphia: Mr. Jack Goushian
 - (a) Committee
 - (b) Lodging
 - (c) Assembly
 - (d) City Officials and functions
 - (e) Security (f) Other
- 3. Washington:
- Mr. Barry Zorthian
- (a) Committee (Judge Arabian, Linda Melkonian, etc.?)
- (b) Lodging
- (c) White House
- (d) Congress
- (e) Arlington Cemetary
 (f) Cathedral (Dean Sayre, etc.)
- (g) Other

4. New York:

Mr.Artin-Aslanian

- (a) Committee * (see 1973 committee)
- (b) Lodgings
- (c) Ecumenical Relations NCC, WCC, etc.
- (d) United Nations
- (e) Armenian programs and projects (f) Security
- (g) Other

Mr. Sam Azadian, Mr. Theodore Karaghuesoff, Mr. Ned Parsekiar (a) City Arrangements

5. Publicity: Mr. Arsene Soghigian

BICENTENNIAL

4 1

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Edward Mardigian

- 1. Honorary Members
- 2. Letterhead
- 3. Theme
- National Projects

 (a) Recordings

 - (b) Armenian Mass Richard Yardumian

 - (c) Documentary Aram Avakian
 (d) Youth Orchestra Armenia
 (e) Who's Who in America
 (f) Hazarian Exhibit throughout Diocese
 (g) Artists contributing to Diocese Museum
 - (h) Publications
- 5. New York

January	
February	
March	
April	Drama - "The Armenians" in Armenian
May	Pro Musica Gala
June	CRE
July	(Heresaw Day)
August	Youth (Tennis tournaments, etc.)
September	One World Festival
October	Armenian School
November	Ladies Auxiliary - (Opera - Anoush)
December	

Other: Museum, social service, writers, etc.

Honorary Members -	<u>Bicentennial</u>		Accepted
Ray Aghayan	Designer	California	
Khoren Der Haroutian	Sculptor	New York	Yes
Lucine Amara	Singer	New York	Yes
Michael Arlen	Writer	New York	Yes
Ben Bagdikian	Writer	Washington	
Lili Chookasian	Singer	New York	Yes
Mike Connors	ΤV	California	
Leon Danielian	Dance	New York	
Arlene Francis	Theater	New York	Yes
David Hedison	Actor	California	
Alan Hovhaness	Composer	SEattle, Wash.	
Paul Ignatius		Washington	Yes
Haik Kavookjian	Philanthropist	New York	Yes
Alex Manoogian	Philanthropist	Michigan	,
Ruben Nakian	Sculptor	New York	Yes
Ara Parsegian	Sports		
William Saroyan	Writer	California	
Ruben Ter-Arutunian	Designer	New York	Yes
Richard Yardumian	Composer	Philadelphia	Yes

1973 Committee Members in New York for His Holiness' Visit

- 1. Andrew Shahinian
- 2. Lucille Hoshabian
- 3. Nubar Dorian
- 4. Garo ARtinian
- 5.
- Richard Gregory Gould Kardashian 6.
- Nikit Ordjanian
 John Tembeck
- 9. Ed Turnamian

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ԱՐՏԷՆ ԱՒԱԳ ՔՀՆՑ· ԱՇՃԵԱՆ, ՀՈՎԻՒ

ST. LEON'S ARMENIAN CHURCH 12-61 Saddle River Road • Fair Lawn, N. J. 07410 **REV. ARTEN ASHJIAN, Pastor** Telephones: (Code 201)

791-1583 - Rectory - 791-2862 Church - 791-2862



29 3nijhu 1975

Գերաշնորհ Տ. Թորգոմ Արքեպիսկոպոս Մանուկեան Բարեխնամ Առաջնորդ Թեմիս Ամերիկայի Նի**ւ Եո**րք, Ն. Ե.

Գերաշնորς Առաջնորդ Սրբագան Հայր,

θωπωջիկայ ամսու վերջաւորուԹեն էն սկսեալ մինչեւ Նոյեմբեր տեղի տուէք ընել Հետեւեալ ԹելադրուԹիւնը.-

ԿանոնադրուԹեան Յօդուած 33Ժի գործադրուԹիւնը ստուգելու Համար, իր կատարելիք գործերու մաս պէտք է համարէ ախձնապէս զննումը անդամատո-<u>πιδεδως</u> ζω<u>υ</u><u>ή</u> σ<u>ωτη</u> (ζηω<u>μ</u>ωμωμω<u>μ</u>) με ημη δια, ω<u>υ</u>ηη σ ω πωημω<u>σ</u> κηθωρύδρης ωρόζορ τι μωρτιηρηςθηςύρ γτγκτικός το υμωσωμηίς

ԵԹԷ ԹԵՄակալ առաջ Նորդը որդեգրէ այս գործելակերպը (կիրարկելով զայՆ επιπη δηιψερηιύ), εηχωύω μην σησηψερη ιωι ωπήθ μη ζωυπρυωύωυ ພຸພທພບບົບພົບພາກເພັບກຸພປີບິຍິດກະບົ, 6 ; ພຸງກຸ້ພຸກບກໍ່ ຊີບົນກະ6 ກະບົ່ນ ກໍ່ດູ ພຸກທກໍ່ ຢຸພທ່ພັດກະກ ωπωջύորդին կողմէ ծուխին տրուելիք յաջորդ այցելունեան առնիւ։

Մսամ, մատչելով ի Համբոյը սուրբ աջոյդ

Charle G. B. Ray. Chy theway Արտէն Ա. ՔՀՆյ. Աշճեան

July 11, 1975

a harringer

The Very Reverend Paren Avedikian Pastor, St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway Southfield, Michigan 48075

De-r Father Paren:

Your letter of June 18, 1975, was awaiting us on our return from Jerusalem.

We are pleased that the October 30 date has been confirmed for the Regional meeting in Detroit.

On our part we are happy to confirm our visit to your parish on the weekend of December 19-21, 1975. We have reserved the date accordingly.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

The Reverend Dajad Davidian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. James Armenian Church Watertown, Massachusetts 02172

Dear Father Dajad:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

We expect to communicate directly with all involved, prepare and distribute copies of the agenda, and otherwise work for productive meetings. But the first step is the arrangement of the schedule which restricts the meetings to a limited period, enabling us to contact all our parishes with as little variance in time as possible. We have enclosed a copy of the schedule for the Regional Meetings on which the host parishes are indicated.

We urge that you make every effort to accept this schedule, since making any changes would involve several areas. We hope also that you will agree to serve as the host parish for your Regional Meeting.

Please let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

and the second second

cc. Chairman, Parish Council Mr. Sahag Nahabedian

Mr. Paul Chobanian Parish Council Chairman St. Mesrob Armenian Church 4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dear Mr. Chobanian:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Please let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

The Reverend Nersess Jebejian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. John The Divine Armenian Church 64 Dresden Street Springfield, Massachusetts 01109

Dear Father Nersess:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Please let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

cc Chairman, Parish Council Mr. George Arslanian

Mr. Nishan Babikian Parish Council Chairman St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 6700 West Diversey Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60635

Dear Mr. Babikian:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Please let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

The Reverend Diran Papazian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church 666 Richmond Road Cleveland, Ohio 44143

Dear Father Diman:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Chairman, Parish Council Mr. Kevork Arslanian

The Very Reverend Paren Avedikian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Father Paren:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Parish Council Chairman Mr. Harry Terzian

The Reverend Arten Ashjian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. Leon's Armenian Church 12-61 Saddle River Road Fairlawn, New Jersey 07410

Dear Father Arten:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Parish Council Chairman Mr. E. George Dabagian

The Very Reverend Zaven Erzoomanian Pastor and President of Parish Council Sts. Sahag & Mesrob Church 630 Clothier Road Wynnewood, Pennsylvania 19096

Dear Father Zaven:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Parish Council Chairman Mr. Roupen Serberian

The Reverend Arsen Barsamian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. James Armenian Church 834 Pepper Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226

Dear Father Arsen:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Parish Council Chairman Mr. Khachig Dedian

The Reverend Mampre Kouzouian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 630 Second Avenue New York, New York 10016

Dear Father Mampre:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Chairman, Parish Council Mr. James M. Yacoobian

The Reverend Shnork Kasparian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 615 Stuart Avenue, Outremont Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Dear Father Shnork:

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Chairman, Parish Council Mr. Levon Kordzian

The Reverend Kevork Arakelian Pastor and President of Parish Council St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church 12 Corbett Avenue Binghamton, New York 13903

Dear Father Kevork:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Chairman, Parish Council Dr. Nubar Astarjian

Mr. Berdj Karagoz Chairman, Parish Council St, Sarkis Armenian Church 300 Ninth Street Niagara Falls, New York 14303

Dear Mr. Karagoz:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

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Please let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

Bev. Guregh Kalfayan Pastor and President of Parish Council St. John The Baptist Armenian Church 120 N.E. 16th Street Miami, Florida 33132

Dear Father Guregh:

We are planning our 1975 fall Regional Meetings.

We expect to communicate directly with all involved, prepare and distribute copies of the agenda, and otherwise work for productive meetings. But the first step is the arrangement of the schedule which restricts the meetings to a limited period, enabling us to contact all our parishes with as little variance in time as possible. We have enclosed a copy of the schedule for the Regional Meetings on which the host parishes are indicated.

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Please let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Primate

Enc.

cc. Chairman, Parish Council Mr. Ara Kulhanjian

June 25, 1975

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA SCHEDULE FOR REGIONAL MEETINGS

FALL 1975

August 29 to November 9, 1975

FRIDAY, August 29 1.

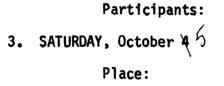
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Place:

Participants:

2. SATURDAY, September 6 Place:



Participants: MONDAY, October 20 Place:

Participants: THURSDAY, October 23 Place:

Participants:

6. FRIDAY, October 24 Place:

Participant:

7:30 p.m. (followed by light refreshments)

St. John The Baptist Church 120 N.E. 16th Street Miami, Florida 33132 - 305-371-4484

MIAMI

2:00 p.m. (following lunch at 1:00 p.m.)

St. Sarkis Armenian Church 300 Ninth Street Niagara Falls, New York 14303 - 716-282-2587

NIAGARA FALLS, ST. CATHARINES, TORONTO

2:00 p.m. (following lunch at 1:00 p.m.)

St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 12 Corbett Street Binghamton, New York 13903 - 607-722-8801

BINGHAMTON, SYRACUSE

8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments)

St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 615 Stuart Avenue, Outremont Montreal, Quebec, Canada 514-279-3066

MONTREAL

8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments)

St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 630 Second Avenue New York, New York 10016 - 212-679-1728

BRIDGEPORT **NEW YORK:** Holy Cross, Holy Martyrs, St. Gregory, Queens WESTCHESTER, NORTH WESTCHESTER 8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments) St. James Armenian Church 834 Pepper Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226 - 703-282-3818 RICHMOND

7. SATURDAY, October 25 Place:

,

Participants:

8. TUESDAY, October 28 Place:

Participants:

9. THURSDAY, October 30

Place:

Participants:

10. FRIDAY, October 31 Place:

Participants:

11. SATURDAY, November 1 Place: /

Participants:

12. FRIDAY, November 7 Place:

Participants:

13. SUNDAY, November 9

Place:

Participants:

2:00 p.m. (following light refreshments)

St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Church 630 Clothier Road Wynnewood, Penna. 19096 - 215-MI2-4212

CHELTENHAM, WASHINGTON, WYNNEWOOD

8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments)

St. Leon's Armenian Church 12-61 Saddle River Road Fair Lawn, New Jersey 04710 - 201-791-2862

ELBERON, FAIR LAWN, TENAFLY, UNION CITY, LIVINGSTON

8:00 p/m. (followed by light refreshments)

St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway Southfield, Michigan 48075 - 313-356-1910

CLEVELAND, DETROIT

-2-

8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments)

St. Mesrob Armenian Church 4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402 - 414-634-6550

GREENFIELD, RACINE, S. MILWAUKEE, WAUKEGAN

2:00 p.m. (following lunch at 1:00 p.m.)

St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 6700 West Diversey Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60635 - 312-637-1711

CHICAGO (St. Gregory & Sts. Joachim & Anne) EAST ST. LOUIS, EVANSTON

8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments)

St. John The Divine Church 64 Dresden Street Springfield, Mass. 01109 - 413-734-8691

HARTFORD, NEW BRITAIN, SPRINGFIELD, WATERVLIET, WORCESTER

3:00 p.m. (following lunch at 1:00 p.m.)

St. James Armenian Church 465 Mt. Auburn Street Watertown, Mass. 02172 - 617-923-8860

CAMBRIDGE, HAVERHILL, LAWRENCE, LOWELL, PROVIDENCE, WATERTOWN

riace:

7. SATURDAY, October 25

Place:

Participants: 8. TUESDAY, October 28

Place:

Participants:

9. THURSDAY, October 30 Place:

Participants:

7 10. FRIDAY, October 31 Place:

Participants:

11. SATURDAY, November 1
Place

Participants:

12. FRIDAY, November 7

Place:

Participants:

13. SUNDAY, November 9

Place:

Participants:

-2-2:00 p.m. (following light refreshments) St. Sahag & St. Mesrob Church 630 Clothier Road Wynnewood, Penna. 19096 - 215-MI 2-4212 CHELTENHAM, WASHINGTON, WYNNEWOOD 8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments) St. Leon's Armenian Church 12-61 Saddle River Road Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410 - 201-791-2862 **EESERON**, FAIR LAWN, TENAFLY, UNION CITY, LIVINGSTON 8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments) St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway Southfield, Michigan 48075 - 313-356-1910 CLEVELAND, DETROIT 8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments) St. Mesrob Armenian Church 4605 Erie Street Racine, Wisconsin 53402 - 414-634-6550 GREENFIELD, RACINE, S. MILWAUKEE, WAUKEGAN 2:00 p.m. (following lunch at 1:00 p.m.) St. Gregory The Illuminator Church 6700 West Diversey Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60635 - 312-637-1711 CHICAGO (St. Gregory & Sts. Joachim & Anne) EAST ST. LOUIS, EVANSTON 8:00 p.m. (followed by light refreshments) St. John The Divine Church 64 Dresden Street Springfield, Mass. 01109 - 413-734-8691 HARTFORD, NEW BRITAIN, SPRINGFIELD, WATERVLIET, WORCESTER 3:00 p.m. (following lunch at 1:00 p.m.)

Kenede Vagero

Holy Trinity Armenian Church 145 Brattle Street Cambridge, Mass. 02138 - 617 - 354-0632

CAMBRIDGE, HAVERHILL, LAWRENCE, **EDWEEL**, PROVIDENCE, WATERTOWN