



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA  
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIMATE

It is a great pleasure for me to extend my greetings to the people of the St. Leon Church of Fair Lawn, New Jersey, on an occasion which embodies the hard work, dedication and optimism of this community.

Transforming the dream of this renovation into a reality took a great deal of hard work and determination, and the Fair Lawn Armenian community deserves to be congratulated for this wonderful achievement.

Thanks to the leadership of your pastor, the Very Reverend Fr. Vahan Hovhannessian, the labors of the building committee, and the contributions of many individuals and families, you have succeeded in creating a worthy environment for promoting the life in Christ in your community, and for participating in the Armenian cultural heritage.

The brave and pious souls who first settled in this area, and who went on to establish an Armenian sanctuary in Fair Lawn, would be proud of your accomplishment today. You have taken the legacy they bestowed, and built upon it—expanded it. And in doing so, you have contributed your own vital legacy to future generations.

May the God of our fathers always keep the people of this parish under His protective watch; and may He bestow His blessings upon you, whenever you gather in this building to worship in His Name.

With prayers,

*Abp. Khajag Barsamian*

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian  
Primate

November 17, 1996