

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIMATE

Every parish within the Armenian Diocese takes shape around many elements, and one vital element in particular is its pastor. The parish grows and flourishes under his watchful eye, and its development is influenced by his spiritual strength, ideals, character, energy, devotion, and compassion. St. John's Armenian Church is fortunate in having as its pastor the gifted Very Reverend Father Paren Avedikian, who has shepherded the development of a church of which every Armenian can be proud.

Twenty-five years ago, Father Paren was ordained into the Holy Order of Priesthood. Today, it is entirely fitting that we gather to celebrate this anniversary of his ordination, an ordination which united his spiritual strengths to the well-being of the Armenian Church. The result of that ordination twenty-five years ago is the beautiful and thriving parish of St. John's, which reflects eloquently upon the gifts of Father Paren.

The Armenian Church of St. John's, and all who come in contact with this parish and its priest, are the beneficiaries of Father Paren's experience and devotion, and we honor him on his ordination anniversary.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

New York City, October 1985