

cc: Michael Megregian
Chairman of Parish Council

Crosby M. Goshgarian
Chairman Diocesan Council

Mr. Edward Korkoian

November 16, 1971

Reverend Diran Papasian
Pastor
President of Parish Council
✓ St. John's Armenian Church of
Greater Detroit
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Pather Diran:

We have received the letter of November 8th which was sent to us by your Parish Council; we were pleased because it bore the kind of spirit necessary for effective service in our Church. The letter reached us in time for consideration at the Diocesan Council Meeting which was held on November 11th.

We will accede to your request to stay the decision we had announced in our letter of November 8th. We will not revoke our decision at this time, but will consider such action when we and the Diocesan Council are convinced that the accommodation decided upon is being implemented effectively.

In acceding to your request, we direct that you and your Parish Council meet as soon and as often as possible jointly with your Diocesan Delegates to evolve the working agreement referred to in your resolution. We will appoint Archbishop Sion Manogian to preside over these sessions, and Mr. Daniel Shahan to chair them.

(continued)

Reverend Diran Papasian
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November 16, 1971

Such an agreement should be worked out prior to our next Diocesan Council Meeting which is set for December 18th. The agreement should be forwarded to us, and at some convenient date prior to the 18th, you and a representative of the Parish Council should meet with us at our headquarters here in New York for personal discussions before consideration by the Diocesan Council.

In your discussions, and indeed, in all relationships between Parish Councils and pastors everywhere, we urge that one fundamental concept never be lost sight of-- that the Parish Council with the pastor as president, is a single authority, one body. Too often is the Parish Council regarded as a separate entity and the pastors as another. This idea, even when not expressed, is wrong and harmful. Responsibilities and duties may be divided and assigned for convenience and efficiency, but the Church must remain with only one governing group--the Parish Council as a unit. Not the priest alone, not the Chairman alone, not the Tivan alone, but the Council as a unit.

For example, meeting invitations and all official letters should bear the signatures of the President, Chairman and Secretary. The Parish Council Meeting Agenda should be prepared by the President and Chairman and Secretary, jointly. All actions, in fact, must be based on the basic view of the Parish Council as a single authority.

St. John's Armenian Church is one of our great parishes and an example to others in our Diocese. We must give it the leadership it deserves, both for its own good and the good of all our Diocese.

It is within the power of your Parish Council to do this; we hope and pray that you will meet this challenge, as we know you can.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torquem Manoogian
Primate

cc: His Eminence
Archbishop Sion Manoogian

Mr. Daniel Shahan

File: Detroit St. John's Church File
(Letter to Archbishop Sion Manoogian)



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10016 • 212-MU 6-071

November 17, 1971

BISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN, PRIMATE

Քիւ 28222
Նոյեմբեր 17, 1971

Գերաշնորհ
Տ. Միոն Արք. Մանուկեան
Տիթրոյթ.

Սիրելի Արքագան,

Տ. Տիրան Զհնյ. Փափագեանի եւ ծխական Խորհուրդի ատենապետի եւ ատենադպիրի կողմէ ստորագրուած Ց Նոյեմբեր թուակիր նամակով մեզի հաղորդուած է, թէ Հովիւ եւ ծխական Խորհուրդը համաձայնած են մոռնալ իրենց միջեւ երկար ժամանակէ ի վեր գոյութիւն ունեցող անհասկացողութիւնները եւ համերաշխաբար գործել յօգուտ համայնքի բարգաւաճման:

Աոյն նամակը նկատի առինք Թեմական Խորհուրդի Նոյ. 11ի նիստին մէջ եւ որոշեցինք ի զօրու պահել Թեմական Խորհուրդի առած որոշումը մինչեւ որ Առաջնորդ եւ Թեմական Խորհուրդը համոզուին թէ Տիթրոյթի Հովիւն ու ծխական Խորհուրդը իրենց միջեւ կայացած համերաշխութեան ոգիով պիտի կարենան ընթացք տալ իրենց վստահուած պարտականութիւններուն:

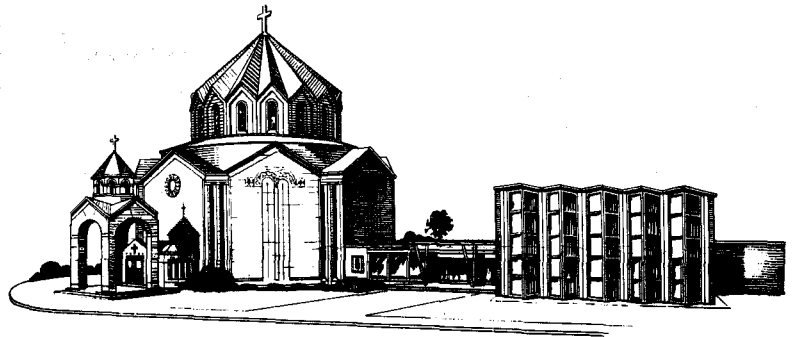
Սրկուստեք համաձայնութիւնը պէտք է գոյացուի Ձերդ Արքագնութեան նախագահութեամբ եւ Տիար Դանիէլ Շահանի ատենապետութեամբ գումարուած ժողովի մը մէջ, որուն պէտք է մասնակցին Տէր Տիրան քահանայ, ծխական Խորհուրդի լրիւ կազմը եւ համայնքի եօթը թեմական պատգամաւորները: Այդ ժողովին արձանագրութիւնը պէտք է պաշտօնապէս ներկայացուի Առաջնորդին ի վաւերացում: Իսկ Թեմական Խորհուրդի յաջորդ նիստէն առաջ, Տէր Տիրան եւ ծխական Խորհուրդի կողմէ նշանակուած մէկ ներկայացուցիչը պէտք է ներկայանան Առաջնորդին եւ անձնապէս եւս հաստատեն յատենի ժողովոյ առնուած որոշումները:

Այս կէտերը ներկայացնելով Ձերդ Արքագնութեան, շատ զոհ պիտի մնանք եթէ հաճիր նախագահել սոյն ժողովին եւ հսկէք անոր աշխատանքներուն:

Սիրոյ տղջուկիւ
Թորոմ Մանուկեան
ԹՈՐԿՈՍ ԱՐՔԵՊԻՍԿՈՍԿՈՍ
Առաջնորդ

ՍՐ. ՅՈՎՀԱՆՆԷՍ ՄԿՐՏԻԶ ԶԱՅՑ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ
ՄԵՐԱԳՈՅՆ ՏԻՔՐՈՅԻ

St. John's Armenian Church
OF GREATER DETROIT



REV. DIRAN PAPA ZIAN
VERY REV. PAREN AVEDIKIAN
PASTORS

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

★ PHONE: 356-1910 ★

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075

November 8, 1971

The Most Rev. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate of The Eastern Diocese of The Armenian
Church of America and President of The Diocesan Council
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Your Grace:

Upon receipt of your letter dated November 2, 1971, the Parish Council of St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit was convened in a special meeting on Friday, November 5, 1971, to read and discuss it.

Following a thorough review of the contents of the letter, the Parish Council passed a formal motion which they considered would be in the best interest of the parish. The motion which was approved unanimously by the nine members present (two were absent), reads as follows:

"The Pastor (Fr. Diran) and Parish Council of St. John's Armenian Church have agreed to settle their differences and to become reconciled for the good of the parish. In the spirit of Christian charity and forbearance they will forget the past and adopt a working agreement of mutual accommodation which will, when finalized, be presented to the Primate and Diocesan Council for approval and ratification."

In order that we may proceed without delay to implement the provisions of this motion, we respectfully request a stay of the planned actions as contained in your letter until such time as you evaluate and approve our action.

Asking your blessings.

Respectfully,

Fr. Diran Papazian
Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
Pastor and President of the Parish Council

Michael Megregian
Michael Megregian
Chairman of the Parish Council

Jack Margosian
Jack Margosian
Secretary of the Parish Council

cc: Mr. C. M. Gosh... Chairman of the Diocesan Council