



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

May 5, 1993

The Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian, Pastor
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Father Shnork:

We have received your letter of inquiry dated April 18, 1993 questioning our response regarding your Diocesan annual assessment.

This request has been discussed at our Diocesan Council meeting. The treasurer of the Council, Mr. Haig R. Dadourian shall be in touch with you shortly regarding this matter.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian
Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

cc: Mr. Haig R. Dadourian



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

July 7, 1993

The Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian,
Pastor
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Father Shnork:

At the recent Diocesan Council meeting held on June 18 once again there was a discussion relative to the past payment issue of your annual Diocesan assessments. We realize the difficulties which you confront and the financial strain you are presently experiencing, however, this does not preclude your obligation to comply with the Diocesan assessment formula and payment.

It was recommended by the Diocesan Council that you submit to us as soon as possible a proposed plan of payment of arrears dues in order to catch up to the present and, this payment plan must satisfy the Diocesan Council. Please send to our attention your proposal no later than July 20, 1993.

In addition, we hereby accept your parish elections and minutes conditionally upon the aforementioned. We hereby confirm the following Parish Council members who were elected at the Parish Assembly:

Jane Matoesian
Hrant Norsigian
Charlotte Tatosian
David Matoesian

We pray for the continued growth of your parish and the fulfilling of Christ's commission to your flock.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

JAA

HOLY SHOGHAGAT ARMENIAN CHURCH
400 Huntwood Rd.
Belleville, IL 62221

July 13, 1993

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

RE: Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church

Your Eminence:

This is in response to your letter of July 7, 1993 directed to Father Shnork Kasparian. Your letter was received by me yesterday.

Unfortunately, we cannot respond to your letter by July 20, 1993 because Father Shnork is out of the country. He is anticipated to return during the first week of August. The issues raised in your letter will be taken up with Father Shnork upon his return.

We appreciate your patience in this matter.

Very truly yours,



M. Jane Matoesian
Parish Council Chairman

MJM/s



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate



October 13, 1993

The Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian, Pastor,
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Father Shnork:

At the recent Diocesan Council meeting, we discussed the invitation extended to you by His Beatitude, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Patriarch of Jerusalem and your willingness to serve in the Patriarchate.

After informing the members the nature of your request and explaining to them that this would be a temporary leave of absence, we agreed to accept your leave for a two-year period. We suggest however, that you remain at your post until early Spring of 1994 in order that your parish will not suffer the absence of a spiritual leader, a void which we hope to fill soon.

We wish you every blessing as you prepare to take leave of our Diocese in order to share your gifts with the church in another capacity.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate



DIocese OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

February 18, 1994

The Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian, Pastor
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Rd.
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Father Kasparian:

The Diocesan Council has expended countless hours to prepare a fair budget for the current year. Among the difficulties they have faced is the delinquency of payment of the annual assessments. This year, your parish has fallen behind schedule, thus resulting in a deficit of \$200,000.00 of our annual budget. Presently you are in the arrears amounting to \$5,509.00. The lack of financial support from the parishes has drastically affected the operation of our Diocesan Departments and their work and ministry to you.

Noting that your assessment has not been received and is not current with your scheduled obligation, we ask that you make every effort to assure timely payments so that we might be able to maintain a consistent level of operation at the Diocese which will ultimately benefit your parish and community.

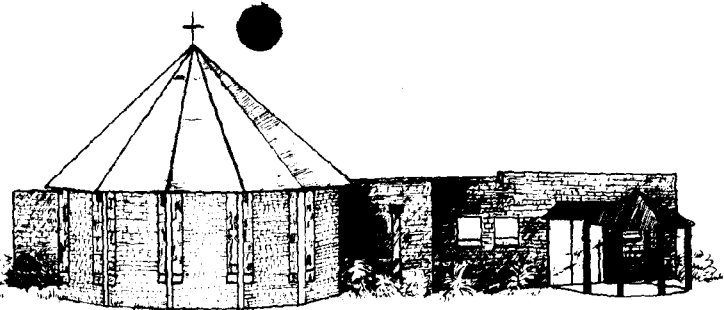
With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

Holy Shoghagat

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



400 HUNTWOOD ROAD + BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62221 + 618-277-6400

March 28, 1994

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

VERY REV. SHNORK KASPARIAN

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Your Eminence:

When we last spoke, we discussed our upcoming special parish assembly which was to address a change of our church name. At that assembly held March 21, 1994, the assembly voted to change the name to St. George Armenian Church. Several names were considered by the assembly, including St. Mary Armenian Church, Holy Mary Shoghagat Armenian Church, St. Mary Shoghagat Armenian Church, St. John Armenian Church and Saints Thaddeus and Bartholomew Armenian Church. You advised me that once the parish had voted to change the church name, we should submit the proposal to you for approval.

We respectfully request that you approve the name St. George Armenian Church for our parish.

Humbly yours,

Jane Matoesian
Parish Council Chairman

Father Shnork Kasparian
Pastor



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

June 2, 1994

The Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian,
Pastor
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Father Shnork:

We are in receipt of your letter of March 28, 1994 wherein you have requested permission to change the name of your church.

In view of the fact that your church has been consecrated as Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church granting such permission is not a simple matter.

I have given careful consideration to your rationales to a name change, but I am afraid that I find them unpersuasive; nor do the practical circumstances demand such a radical measure as altering the consecrated name of an Armenian sanctuary.

While I am sympathetic with the request of your community, as expressed through its special assembly, it is also important to understand that the sacrament of consecration--like all the sacraments of the church--are serious and binding matters, which ought not to be broken lightly. Once again I do not give my permission to change the name of Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate



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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

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Pastor
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

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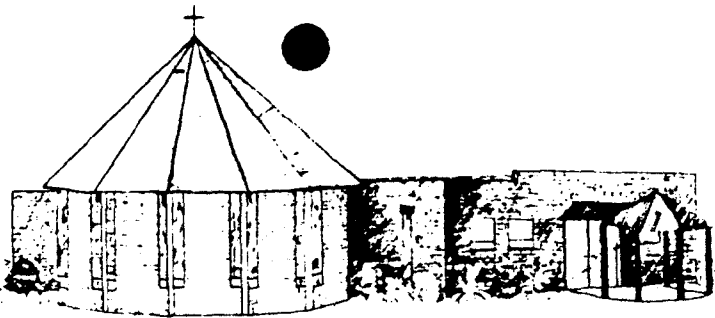
With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

Holy Shoghagat

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



400 HUNTWOOD ROAD + BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62221 + 618-277-6400

March 28, 1994

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

VERY REV. SHNORK KASPIAN

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

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We respectfully request that you approve the name St. George Armenian Church for our parish.

Humbly yours,

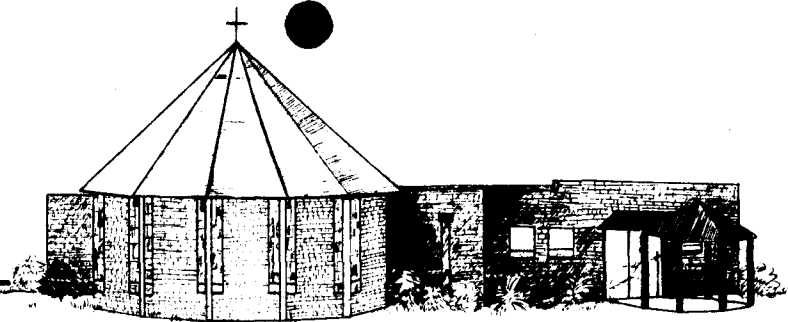
Jane Matoesian
Parish Council Chairman

Father Shnork Kasparian
Pastor

Holy Shoghagat

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

400 HUNTWOOD ROAD + BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62221 + 618-277-6400



VERY REV. SHNORK KASPIAN

March 7, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Re: Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church

Your Eminence:

In our February 28, 1995 letter to you, we referred to two letters and indicated that copies of such letters were enclosed. Our records are incomplete as to whether we enclosed copies of the two letters. If we did not, we apologize. Enclosed are copies of the two letters. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian,
Pastor

Hrant Norsigian, Jr.
Hrant Norsigian, Jr., Parish Council Chairman

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

March 23, 1995

The Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian
Pastor
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Father Shnork:

In response to your letter of February 28, 1995 regarding the question of the name of your parish in Belleville, Illinois, approved at a special parish assembly on March 21, 1994, we hereby direct the following. In view of the historical identity of the parish as bearing the name of the Holy Virgin at the time of its incorporation, we shall allow a modification of the name to be inclusive of the name of the Holy Virgin with the name Shoghagat. Hereafter the church should be known as The Holy Virgin of Shoghagat Armenian Church.

We hereby grant permission for the Belleville parish to bear this name aforementioned. This is our decision regarding the question on the name of the church.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

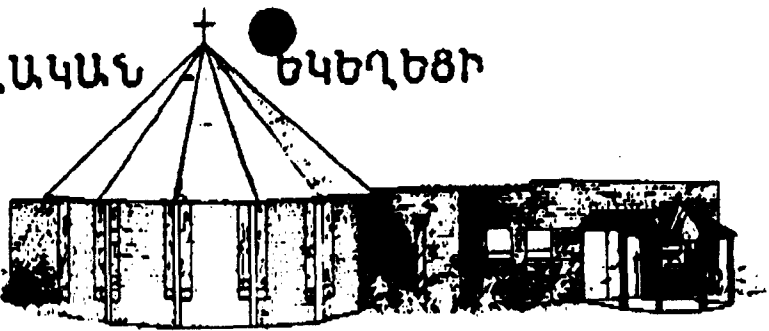
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Holy Shoghagat

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

400 HUNTWOOD ROAD + BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62221 + 618-277-6400



VERY REV. SHNORK KASPARIAN, PASTOR

May 31, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016-4885

Your Eminence:

This will confirm your letter dated March 23, 1995 and recent telephone conversation with Father Shnork Kasparian regarding the modification of the name of our church. Your letter stated that you had approved the use of the name Holy Virgin of Shoghagat Armenian Church. After speaking with Father Shnork, you advised that the name Holy Virgin Mary and Shoghagat Armenian Church would be acceptable.

It is our desire that the latter name, HOLY VIRGIN MARY AND SHOGHAGAT ARMENIAN CHURCH, be used. If this meets with your approval, we would be happy to receive your confirmation as to the official name of our church. Please adjust the Diocesan records accordingly to reflect this modification of our church name.

Respectfully,

Hrant Norsigian, Jr.

Hrant Norsigian, Jr.
Parish Council Chairman

The Very Rev. Shnork Kasparian

The Very Rev. Father Shnork Kasparian
Pastor

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

June 8, 1995

The Very Reverend Father Shnork Kasparian
Pastor
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Father Shnork:

We are in receipt of your letter dated May 31, 1995 wherein you have requested modification of your church name.

We hereby grant permission that hereinafter Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church be named HOLY VIRGIN MARY AND SHOGHAGAT ARMENIAN CHURCH.

May God bless you and your parish council members, as you continue to serve in the vineyard of Our Lord.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

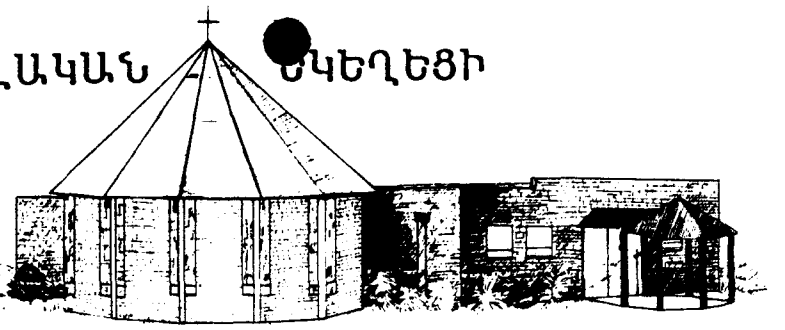
cc: Parish Council Chairman

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Holy Shoghagat

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



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VERY REV. SHNORK KASPARIAN, PASTOR

June 14, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Your Eminence:

On behalf of our Parish Council I am writing to express our appreciation for your kind acceptance of our invitation to visit the Holy Shoghagat parish on the occasion of the Assumption of the Mother of God, Sunday, August 13, 1995. We anxiously await your return to Belleville as your last visit was over four years ago.

Please inform us of your travel plans as soon as possible so that we may schedule the weekend activities.

Respectfully,

Very Rev. Fr. Shnork DzV. Kasparian
Pastor



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

November 25, 1996

Mr. George Marifian, Esq.
St. Mary and Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
400 Huntwood Rd.
Belleville, IL 62226

Dear George:

We have presented your request stated in a letter from you dated October 27, 1996 regarding the present situation at your parish and the outstanding amount owed toward your annual assessment.

It is the policy for all parishes in your particular situation to be given every opportunity to work out an equitable and fair solution in paying your debt owed. Therefore, Mr. Haig Dadourian the treasurer of the Diocesan Council will be in touch with you in order to work out a plan which is mutually acceptable.

We shall inform him that we have contact you and that he shall expect to engage in a dialogue with you over this matter.

As to our pastoral visit, we shall contact you in that regard under separate correspondence.

May the blessings of God our Father always imbue you and your community to remain faithful to the call of Christ.

With prayers,

Abp. K. Barsamian

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate

c.c. Haig Dadourian

AKB/as