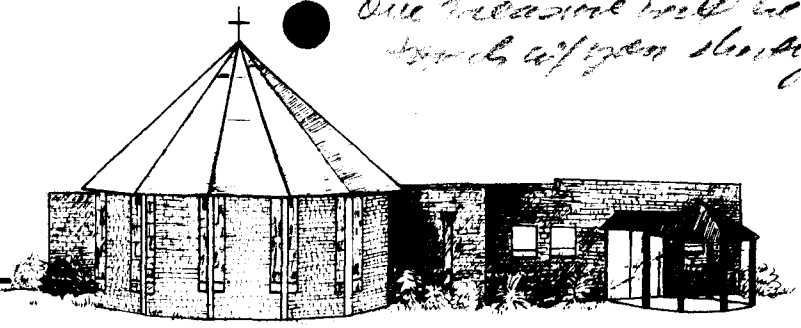


*received letter  
Our treasure will be  
spent w/you slowly.*

# Holy Shoghagat

## ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



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

April 18, 1993

VERY REV. SHNORK KASPARIAN

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

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

Your Eminence:

We are writing to acknowledge receipt of an undated letter (copy enclosed) from Haig Dadourian, Diocesan Council Treasurer, regarding the non-payment of our diocesan dues for 1992. As you may recall, we previously corresponded to you requesting an adjustment with respect to our dues in light of the poor financial status of our parish. According to our records, we have received no response to our letter until receipt of Mr. Dadourian's letter postmarked April 14, 1993.

Our parish is financially unable to make payment in full of the requested amount of \$4880.00, and we respectfully request that you and the Diocesan Council consider whether a payment at this time of \$1,000.00 is acceptable.

In follow-up to our previous correspondence we wish to update you with respect to our current financial status. As you know, we have had a tremendous influx of Armenian refugees from Azerbaijan. Our parishioners have contributed to their financial support, and, in addition, we regularly feed them at our parish functions without charge. For our Easter dinner last week, we fed more parishioners free of charge than those regular parishioners who paid. Our financial assistance to these newcomers is ongoing, and, unfortunately, our income from regular sources cannot meet our regular expenses.

As another example, donations for funerals and gifts in lieu of flowers declined by over fifty percent from the previous year, and our interest income has significantly declined due to the drop in interest rates. However, our costs have remained relatively constant.

In light of the foregoing, we respectfully request that our delegates to the Annual Assembly be certified. We would also request that the amount our dues be abated for 1992 to \$1,000.00 and that this correspondence be kindly acknowledged by contacting me immediately.

Humbly yours,



M. Jane Matoesian  
Parish Council Chairman



Very Rev. Fr. Shnork Kasparian  
Pastor



**DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA**  
**ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ ԱՐԵՎԵԼԵԱՆ ԹԵՍԻ**

**Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate**

Ms. Jane Matoesian  
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church  
400 Huntwood Rd.  
Belleville, IL 62221

Dear Ms. Matoesian:

We have just finished a review of the results for 1992 and the budget for 1993. In the course of that review, it has come to my attention that your parish dues for periods prior to January 1993 have not yet been paid in the amount of \$4,880.00. In order to proceed with the certification of the delegates from your parish to the Annual Assembly to be held in Chicago from April 29 - May 1, I must ask that you pay this overdue amount no later than close of business on Friday April 23.

If your records do not agree with ours please let us know immediately so that we can resolve the difference before the Friday April 23 deadline. If we do not hear from you by that time we will assume that you agree with our records.

Thank you for your cooperation in getting this resolved.

Sincerely yours

  
Haig Dadourian, Treasurer

P.S.: Please respond to Harry Olson at the address or phone number listed below.



# ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016-4885 212 686-0710

April 25, 1996

Mr. George Marifian, Esq.  
22 Powder Creek Dr.  
Belleville, IL 62223

Dear George,

Today I spoke with Hayr Shnorhk regarding the issue of your parish's proposal that was submitted for consideration by this year's assembly but was subsequently 'disposed' by the Diocesan Council because the members of the Council thought it was not a *wise proposal*.

The following excerpt from the February 23, 1996 Diocesan Council meeting minutes clearly explains their position. I quote,

*A letter was received from the Proposals Committee chairman Mr. George Marifian, Esq. regarding a proposal to ask the Prelacy not to consecrate a new church in the Belleville area. The council asked the Primate to speak with Mr. Marifian and explain to him why this would not be a wise proposal.*

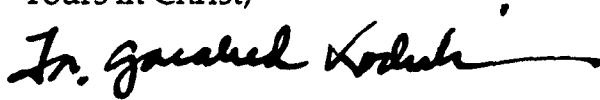
Following this meeting the Primate asked that I speak with you and convey their [the Diocesan Council's] concerns which I did on no less than two occasions. I was merely delivering their comments and sentiments regarding the proposal and their wish that it not be submitted. This is why you noted that it was not included in the mailing to the Delegates to the Assembly.

It is often difficult to interpret sometimes what the Council's thinking and/or suggested actions are to be, particularly when deferred to the Primate and then relegated through me to, in this case, you.

On behalf of the Primate and Diocesan Council, I extend to you and your parish apologies of regret for the lack of a proper reply to your letter and the inappropriateness of this action . I hope that you can rectify this dilemma at the Assembly.

Blessed is His Resurrection!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Fr. Garabed Kochakian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

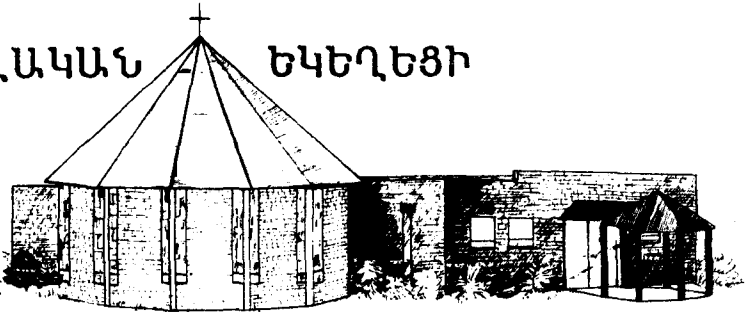
Father Garabed Kochakian  
Chancellor

Ս. ՇՈՂԱԿԱԹ ՀԱՅՑ. ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ

Հովիտ՝ Տ. Շնորհք Ծ. Վրդ. Գասպարեան

# Holy Shoghagat

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH



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

VERY REV. SHNORK KASPARIAN, PASTOR

October 27, 1996

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

RE: Past dues of Holy Virgin Mary and Shoghagat Armenian Church

Your Eminence:

We are writing to you to seek your guidance in responding to the Diocesan Council's correspondence concerning the status of our unpaid dues.

As you know, our parish has been unable to meet its financial obligations to the Diocese since 1994 and we have operated at a deficit during these years. Although over fifty percent of our annual budget has been attributable either directly or indirectly to the cost of a full time clergy, we were not even able to provide Fr. Shnork with the minimum stipend, expense allowances and benefits prescribed for a clergyman of his tenure.

Now that we do not have the cost of a full time clergy we believe that we will be able to pay our Diocesan assessments for 1997. However, we do not believe it is possible for us to generate sufficient positive cash flow to completely retire our unpaid balance and propose that our dues for 1994 and 1995 be abated in full and that our 1996 assessment be abated by fifty percent. This will allow us to stay current for 1997 and make monthly payments toward the remaining 1996 liability.

We want very much to have a new permanent pastor; however, until we can get our financial condition in order we are reluctant to approach you concerning the assignment of a clergyman to our parish. We believe we are in the unfortunate situation of risking the loss of parishioners (either to the Granite City Church or from general apathy due to the absence of a pastor) and with the accompanying loss in revenues. Therefore we humbly seek your guidance in planning for the survival of our small parish.

We also respectfully request that you consider a pastoral visit to our community as soon as your schedule permits. We look forward to your response.

Very truly yours,



John A. Bagdasarian, Parish Council Chairman



George E. Marifian, Diocesan Delegate

*Handwritten note:*raig will be in for...