

617 North 24 th Street
East St. Louis, Illinois

May 11, 1955

Armenian Prelacy
630 Second Street
New York 16, New York

Gentlemen:

I would like to begin this letter by introducing to you the East St. Louis Armenian Independent Club, an organization who has recently purchased a church for the community of East St. Louis, Illinois. This church building, including church, on the first floor, and hall in basement was purchased at a price of \$22,000, with \$6,000 down payment and mortgage payments at \$125 per month for the coming 15 years.

Our main purpose in writing to you is that we are interested in dedicating our church, so that we may in the future be able to hold church services for the Armenian people of East St. Louis. It is our understanding, since we know so very little about the rules and regulations of the Armenian Religion, that there are many aspects to be considered in the dedication of an Armenian Church that do not prevail in the other denominations of religion.

The church as it was before we purchased it was a Trinity Lutheran Church, with an altar arrangement that we understand is not appropriate for the Armenian service, since we have heard that the Armenian altar should be in a particular direction from the congregation.

Another factor that we have been told which has to be considered is the affiliation with the Mother Armenian Church from which derives the factor of obtaining a priest who will consider giving a sermon in an Armenian Church of one kind of affiliation or another. Also, whether the Armenian Church, wherever or whatever kind it may be, is to belong to a Mother Church after dedication, and under what circumstances.

It would be appreciated if you would consider this letter with the utmost importance and let us have your answers to the various questions above, which are to us very important in order that we may be able to proceed with the necessary arrangements to start our church on the right road for the future of our community.

Yours very truly,

Roxie Parsaghian
Roxie Parsaghian, Secretary
Armenian American Ind. Club
East St. Louis, Illinois

P.S.- Enclosed is a self-addressed stamped envelope for your reply

5-17 No. 24th St

May 13, 1955

Miss Roxie Parsaghian, Secretary
Armenian American Ind. Club
East St. Louis, Illinois

Dear Miss Parsaghian:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated May 11, 1955, regarding the recently purchased Church for the Armenian Community of East St. Louis, Illinois.

We are happy to hear that you have been considering to affiliate with the Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America, which is at present under our jurisdiction, and we in turn are under the Supreme Authority of the Catholicos Patriarch of all Armenians. All of the Parishes of the Armenian Church in Canada and the United States of America, with the exception of the State of California constitute this Diocese.

We are planning to visit you in the near future to discuss with you, the arrangement of your altar, rules and regulations and other important matters in connection with our Church, and to look over your Church building.

We are enclosing herewith the By-Laws of our Diocese. We advise you to follow the administrative rules and articles and to organize yourselves in your community, as a parish of the Armenian Church of America, which shall be recognized and confirmed by us and the Diocesan Council.

If we can be of service regarding any questions concerning your organizational matters, please do not hesitate to write to us. We sincerely hope to be among you in the middle of June.

We bless the membership of your organization, and your good work. I remain,

Paternally yours,

His Eminence Archbishop Glafayan
Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian
Church of North America

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1/2
August 3, 1955

His Grace
The Archbishop Mampre Calfayan
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York 16, New York

Your Grace:

It was a great pleasure and a privilege having you in our midst for the several days that you spent in East St. Louis, Illinois. Your visit was not only encouraging, but it was needed.

Knowing of your many obligations, we were truly honored that you could take time away from your other responsibilities to be with us, and help us to understand the procedure which should be followed in beginning our Church.

We have taken your advice and many suggestions and are in the process of carrying them out. It is a big task, therefore, it may take a considerable length of time, but we hope to be able to succeed in our aims.

In behalf of all of the members of the Armenian Independent Club of East St. Louis, myself, and the residents of our community, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent visit.

I hope that in the near future, I will be able to write to you with some gratifying news of our progress in our Church in this community.

Yours very truly,

Roxie Parsaghatian
(Mrs.) Roxie Parsaghatian, Sec.
Armenian Independent Club
East St. Louis, Illinois

617 North 24th Street
East St. Louis, Illinois

August 11, 1955

Mrs. Rexie Parseghian
Secretary Armenian Independent Club
617 North 27th St.
East St. Louis, Ill.

Dear Mrs. Parseghian:

It was indeed a pleasure to receive your letter of August 3, 1955, in which on behalf of your membership, you were acknowledging our recent visit to your community.

Certainly we are glad that we had the opportunity to be amongst you. There is no doubt that each and every one of you has devoted himself or herself to undertake his obligations conscientiously. Otherwise there would be no such a building in your possession by this time. We are sure that in the near future, with the help of your membership and with the contribution of all Armenians, you will be able to transform it into an Armenian Apostolic church.

In our deliberation with you in the meeting, we, as the primate of our church, advised you, that without any, other consideration you should elect from your club's membership a seven member body as temporary parish council and submit the names to us for affirmation.

It is advisable that after our confirmation, and under our guidance, you should plan to open a drive for parish membership registration. After that probably you will realize of what backing you will be able to obtain from the people for your big project.

Having confidence in you that you will follow the advice of your spiritual father to carry on your wonderful task, we convey upon you the God's blessing, and wish you all the success.

Paternally yours,

Archbishop Nampre Galfayan
Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian
Church of North America

June 18, 1956

Mr. Alphones B. Magarian, Secretary
Parish Council Armenian Church
609 Veronica
East St. Louis, Illinois

Dear Mr. Magarian:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated May 29, 1956. Due to official duties I have been out of town and therefore have been unable to answer my correspondence.

A month ago we send you the plans for the Altar, if you do not have any need for them please send them back to this office, as I am going to forward it to another parish. As yet, I have not heard from the contractor mentioned in your letter.

I am very pleased to hear that Fr. Khoyan has been of help to you. We are therefore, instructing Fr. Khoyan to assist you in this God pleasing work whenever help is necessary.

We are deeply sorry to hear that two of your Parish Council members have passed on, please accept our sympathy we shall pray for their souls and may the Good Lord keep them in his heavenly home.

We hereby certify Mr. John Janjian as a parish council member, and congratulate him. The job which you all are doing is encouraging, keep up the good work, God will show you the way. I remain,

With fatherly blessings,

Maximo Archbishop Galfayan
Primate, Diocese of the Armenian Church
of America

May 29, 1956

His Grace
The Archbishop Mampre Calfayan
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York 16, New York

Your Grace:

It was a great pleasure having Father Khoyan of Chicago with us recently.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity in thanking you for sending Father Khoyan to us. He has helped the Church and it's needs.

Our dear Parish Council member Mr. Haig Kurkjian passed away recently, and Father Khoyan came here immediately to officiate.

During his stay Father Khoyan performed many wonderful deeds. Primarily, he formed a Church Choir, and proceeded to teach the Choir, Church songs. Also, he instructed the Parish Council on Altar matters. We relayed the instructions to a Church contractor, who will contact you in the very near future. Therefore, if you haven't completed our blue prints for the Altar, it will not be necessary for you to do so.

Your Grace, Father Khoyan's visits to our community is very important. He is very well liked, and listened to. Each one of his visits brings us a step closer to our aims.

Your Grace with your kind permission we would like to have Father Khoyan with us some time between June 3, to June 6. During which time we hope to complete the many pending works of the Church.

Some time ago we wrote you that Mr. Arsen Budgoian a Parish Council member had passed away. In his place we have Mr. John Jamjamian.

Please forward all correspondence to the undersigned hereafter.

Yours very truly,

Alphonse B. Magarian
Alphonse B. Magarian, Secretary
Parish Council-Armenian Church
East St. Louis, Illinois

609 Veronica
East St. Louis, Ill.

October 2, 1956

Mr. Alphonse B. Magarian
Secretary, E. St. Louis Parish Council
609 Veronica St.
E. St. Louis, Ill.

My dear Mr. Magarian:

Your letter of September 29 was received today and we are very pleased to hear that your church will be completed about November 1. You have done a good job and deserve commendation.

You asked us to appoint a priest to assist you with arrangements before the consecration of the church, and we note that you requested Father Khoyan for a period of two weeks prior to November 1. We appreciate the help he has been to you in the past and we are going to make arrangements for him to be with you during those two weeks.

It will be necessary for Father Khoyan to return to Chicago each Saturday of those two weeks, however, in order to officiate at Sunday services - and returning to East St. Louis again to continue with the arrangements.

I spoke to Father Khoyan today on the telephone and told him that Sunday, November 18, is open. If you plan to consecrate the church in November, therefore, it must be on the 18th since all the other Sundays are taken until the end of December.

December 23 and 30 are open dates but in any case I shall keep November 18 open for the consecration until I hear from you again.

As soon as possible, therefore, please let me know the exact date of the consecration. My prayers are with you for the best of success.

With my blessings,

Arch.MC/h

Archbishop Mampre Calfayan
Primate, Diocese of the Armenian
Church of North America

September 29, 1956

His Grace
The Archbishop Mampre Calfayan
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York 16, New York

Your Grace:

I wish to convey to you in this letter, with great pleasure, that our Church and Altar, will be completed on or about November 1, 1956.

We have a great need for a priest at least two weeks before that time, in order to assist us in making preliminary arrangements for the dedication of our Church.

If at all possible, we would like to have Father Khoyan with us during those two weeks. He has worked with us previously, and with much success.

It is very important that we hear from you soon. Therefore, if the above mentioned plans are not possible, please write, advising us for other arrangements.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration in this matter.

Yours very truly,



Alphonse B. Magarian, Secy.
Parish Council-Armenian
Church
East St. Louis, Illinois

609 Veronica
E. St. Louis, Ill.

November 29, 1956

Mr. Alphonse E. Magarian
Secretary of the Parish Council
609 Veronica St.
East St. Louis, Ill.

Dear Mr. Magarian:

In accordance with your request, we are pleased to enclose herewith a resume regarding the Armenian Church which we believe will be suitable for newspaper releases; as well as a photograph.

Please do not hesitate to add whatever information that you may prepare regarding the development of the East St. Louis parish.

We trust that plans for the consecration are progressing well and we look forward to seeing you soon.

With paternal blessings,

Archbishop Mampre Calfayan
Primate, Diocese of the Armenian
Church of North America

Ech.MC/h

enc.

The Armenian Apostolic Church, which stands as one of the greatest of national Christian churches, traces its history to two of the Apostles, Saints Thaddeus and Bartholomew, who brought Christianity to Armenia during the first century. In the year 301 A. D., Saint Gregory the Enlightener founded the Armenian Church in Holy Etchmiadzin, Armenia. To this day, Holy Etchmiadzin is revered as the Holy See of the Armenian Church.

Through the efforts of Saint Gregory, a vast number of the people, King Tiridates and the royal court, were converted to Christianity and they embraced the faith devoutly. Armenia thereby became the first nation in the world to proclaim Christianity as the state religion. Despite a tragic history of persecution and massacres, the nation and her people in the Diaspora have remained faithful during the centuries to their church and to the spiritual authority exercised by His Holiness, the Catholicos Patriarch of All Armenians.

The Armenian Church first took root in America when the Rev. Fr. Hovsep Sarajian arrived in 1889 as the first Armenian priest to come to this country; and in the same year the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Apostolic Church was celebrated for the first time in America at the Church of Our Saviour in Worcester, Mass. In the years which followed, His Holiness the Catholicos issued encyclicals establishing Dioceses in America as well as in other parts of the world.

Since 1889, eminent priests and bishops have served in the numerous parishes which grew and spread throughout the United States; and American born young men are now enrolled in schools of theology in this country, as well as in the renowned St. James Monastery in Jerusalem, in preparation for Holy Orders in the Armenian Church.

In 1955, His Eminence Archbishop Mampre Galfayan, Primate of the Armenian Church in America, attended the consecration of His Holiness Vazken I, who became the 130th Catholicos Patriarch in Apostolic succession to the throne of the Holy See in Etchmiadzin since the time of Saint Gregory the Enlightener.

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609 Veronica Ave.
East St. Louis, Ill.

April 12, 1957

His Grace
The Archbishop Mampre Calfayan
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

Your Grace:

During your last visit with us, you explained and outlined many important factors pertaining to our Church. One of the questions asked by one of our members was 'could we rent our Church hall to political or propaganda organizations'. To this question your answer was - no.

The two political organizations in question were the Dashnags, and the A.P.L.A. As you pointed out the latter of the two groups, is on file as a subversive organization. Most of the members are favorable to your outline, on the above question.

Now certain A.P.L.A. members oppose to this idea. Their claim is that they have read in the Armenian newspaper, that in the East, Church halls have been rented to the above named organization.

You have mentioned previously, ~~we~~ we should fill the needs of our community. That is fine, but we do not want to jeopardize the good name of our Church.

The Church Council had a meeting with the officers of the ladies auxiliary, and at the auzilaries request, I am writing this letter. They want you to write us, telling us what to do about this matter.

We are anxiously waiting your reply to this letter.

Yours truly,



Alphonse B. Magarian, Secy.
Parish-Council Armenian Church
of East St. Louis, Ill.

ABM/vs

May 1, 1957

Mr. Alphones B. Magarian
609 Veronica St.
East St. Louis, Illinois

Dear Mr. Magarian:

We have received your letter of April 12, 1957.

In reference to the rental of your church hall to political organizations, we state, hereby that the previous Diocesan Assembly anonymously adopted a proposal which forbids to rent the church halls to any political organizations. However any organization can rent the church halls, provided they use them merely for educational and cultural purposes and not for political propaganda.

With paternal blessings,

Archbishop Mamre Calfayan
Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian
Church of America

January 10, 1957

Mr. Alphons Magarian
609 Veronica Street
East St. Louis, Illinois

Dear Mr. Magarian:

I would like once again to congratulate you and the committee members who work so diligently for the fulfillment of their dreams, in succeeding to build a church for their community.

We would like to know the result of the consecration income as follows:

1. Net Profit
 2. Amount of the mortgage you were able to pay.
- If you should encounter any difficulties financially or other wise please feel free to call on us, so that we may be able to guide you.

The purchase of the Chalice was \$350.00 and the dove cost \$160.00. It will be greatly appreciated if you will send a check in the amount of \$510.00 so that I may be able to pay the company, at your earliest convenience.

With paternal prayers,

Mampr Archbishop Galfayan, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

December 12, 1958

Mr. Harry Chirkinian
2715 La Salle Street
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Chirkinian:

It has been reported to us that your parish council allowed itself to reduce the salary of your parish priest, Fr. Mesrob from \$65.00 to \$55.00 a week. The reasons given were that he does not know the English language and that his administrative abilities are limited. We are very much disappointed for this action and would like to point out the fact that it is not fair to reduce the assigned salary of the church servant within any circumstances. It should also be noted that the recognized minimum salary of our clergy is \$75.00 per week. However we did not, at the time, comment to your paying Fr. Mesrob \$65.00.

The Clergy Assembly of our Diocese which convened on November 13th & 14th heard of the case with concern, and found that it was an act of injustice. It should, moreover, be noted that in the event of Fr. Mesrob resigning from his position, it may take years before we shall be able to appoint another clergy for your church, because 18 parishes out of a total of 42 in our diocese, are without a clergy today.

We have had the opportunity of meeting some of your parishioners who, not only did not complain of your priest, but on the contrary, expressed their satisfaction in the performance of his duties. We are sure you realize that the duties of the parish council are to preserve peace and harmony in the community. With this in view we instruct you to settle the matter of Fr. Mesrob in a satisfactory way and keep us informed.

We take this opportunity to remind you also that in our Circular No. 29 dated February 13, 1957, we had instructed our parishes that deacons should not be elected as members of parish councils. Your parish assembly failed to comply with this instruction and elected some deacons for your parish council. During the next few months

continued.....

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you will call for a parish assembly to elect some parish council members. We advise you to bring this matter to the assembly's attention, in order to carry out the instructions of the above circular.

With my paternal blessings,

Mamre Archbishop Calfayan
Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian
Church of America

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13TH AND SMITH AVENUE
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.



ST. SHOGHAGAT
ARMENIAN CHURCH
13TH AND SMITH AVENUE
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.

March 6, 1959

Archbishop Sion Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church

New York, City, New York

Dear Archbishop Manoogian,

Again let me take this opportunity, on behalf of the Parish Council of the St. Shoghagat Church in East St. Louis, to convey our congratulations and best wishes to Your Grace upon his installation as Primate of the Armenian Churches in America.

Your Grace, I have been instructed by the Parish Council to write you several matters that we consider very important.

First, the matter of Easter and Holy Week services. Father V. Papazian advises us that he will be unable to be here to conduct services for Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, or for that matter, the Sunday following Easter.

The nearest Armenian church being in Chicago, three hundred miles away, leaves our people without Easter Services. To make matters worse, the dissident church in this area has a steady priest and will hold Easter services as they have in the past.

Under circumstances like these how can we hold our people and try to solidify the position of our young church in this community? We feel this matter to be of utmost importance and hope that Your Grace will make an arrangement, possibly with one of the churches that have two resident priest, so that the people in our community will be able to hold Sourp Badarak on this most memorable Easter Day.

As the printing and mailing of announcements takes time, an early answer would be deeply appreciated.

Since the consecration of our church, almost three years ago, we have had many visiting priests, who conducted services in our church. Father Papazian has conducted services about fifteen times in 1958. We are most appreciative to all of the priests but we contend that a church's and a priest's

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13TH AND SMITH AVENUE
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.



ST. SHOGHAGAT
ARMENIAN CHURCH

13TH AND SMITH AVENUE
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.

PAGE 2

duty to a community is much more than conducting services on Sunday. Our church is new and needs guidance and help. None of the church organs have received this help. Our choir is continually growing worse and more disorganized for lack of leadership. We cannot be expected to learn if no one will teach us or lead us.

We are aware of the shortage of priests in our diocese, but we know that other churches, consecrated as long as two years after ours, have a regular priest. We cannot understand this in view of the fact that we have requested and have been promised the "very next" priest that was ordained. We have repeated this request many times, orally and in writing. Our community stands ready and able to support a resident priest.

To say the very least, we are most distressed with the situation here and feel that a short personal visit in the very near future from Your Grace, or the Vicar-General, would be most beneficial for us. Our entire community awaits your visit.

Trusting this letter finds his Grace in good health we remain

Respectfully

St Shoghagat Parish Council

by Len Meoradian

John Jamjanian, Chairman
Parish Council.

December 5, 1963

Archbishop Sion Manoogian
Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America
630 Second Avenue
New York 16, New York

Your Grace:

We, the undersigned members of the Holy Shoghagat Parish Council, having been informed of the contents of your letter dated November 21 in which you state our resignations unacceptable, do out of respect for the wishes of Your Grace, the love of our Church and the requests of many sincere parishoners, promise our full co-operation as Parish Council members during the remainder of our respective tenures of office. We take this action notwithstanding the fact there has been no change in the policies and utterances of those who created this situation and who now say that the very fact nothing at all was said, officially, proves all the lies and half truths circulated about the Parish Council and others are true.

Your Grace, on this matter we are relying upon your infinite wisdom and sense of justice to rectify further smear of our names as it is not our wish to seek justice in areas other than that of the Church. We have, in a word, decided not to "knuckle under" to the well organized minority faction that is attempting to gain control of the Church through many deceptions for the satisfaction of their individual egos.

We again pledge our full co-operation, Your Grace, as long as, and only as long as, the written By Laws of the Constitution of the Armenian Church are not violated in any way. Where there are efforts to by pass or misinterpret the Armenian Church By-Laws, we promise that we will be equally vigorous in our opposition of any attempt to make a mockery of the Church rules and the Armenian Church for which they stand. We are confident Your Grace will concur with us in this stand, for it was Your Grace, who during his last visit here, emphasized the importance of adhering to the By-Laws in everything we did.

More specifically, we refer to Section Eight of the By-Laws that deal with Church membership, eligibility to vote and eligibility to hold any elective office. It is our intention to uphold these and all Sections of the Church By-Laws before, during, and after the forthcoming preliminary and regular Parish Assemblies. May we add that your suggestion to hold the meetings in the presence of the Vicar General is an especially good one, considering the tensions that exist here. Your Grace, putting these facts in writing is distinctly distasteful to us, but you must have sensed the shameless feelings that almost erupted into violence at the ACYOA meeting at which you presided during your visit here. We, therefore, make these suggestions out of practical considerations for the situation is no less explosive now. It is a matter of fact everyone is awaiting these annual meetings to voice opinions pro and con on the situations existing here. We regretfully point out that any unruly meeting will truly shatter this parish.

In closing may we refer to the October-November issue of the Armenian Church Monthly:

"True unity can come only in an atmosphere of Christian brotherhood and mutual respect."

Let there be no mistake, this unity does not exist in our parish nor is it being promoted by those who have vowed to do so.

Respectfully,

Solomon Kaprelian
Solomon Kaprelian

Jack Korkoian
Jack Korkoian

Charles Merzian
Charles Merzian

Len Mooradian
Len Mooradian

Henry Nersesian
Henry Nersesian

September 11, 1966

Bishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York

Your Grace:

In response to your letter dated August 24, we wish to inform you of the decisions taken at the September 11 meeting of our Parish Council.

Under separate cover you will receive a letter of resignation from Hayr Gomidas submitted to this Parish Council. According to the church bylaws, we are forwarding it to Your Grace. The Council took no action on the resignation except that we strongly urged Hayr Gomidas to reconsider his decision.

As Your Grace probably knows, we are celebrating this year the tenth anniversary of the consecration of our church. During the course of these ten years, we have had Hayr Gomidas for the past two years and Deacon Levon Daghlian for one year. Suffice it to say that both of them have proved inexperienced and unable to generate the badly needed motivation that is the basic responsibility of a leader. In short, we have not in the past ten years had anyone who has given us more than a service on Sundays.

Your Grace, the Council feels that since we had no priest for seven years and only trainees for the last three, we would be derelict in our duties as council members if we did not point out this situation to you.

The past ten years have taken their toll in membership, finances, enthusiasm, and, most important, Christian spirit, to the point where we can no longer endure another blunder. It is impossible in a few short paragraphs to relate the history of our first ten years and impress upon Your Grace the seriousness of our situation.

For these reasons we respectfully submit that our Parish needs and deserves the highest priority and consideration of Your Grace so that this time we may be blessed with an experienced and competent Priest whether he be young, old, celibate or not.

Since we feel that Hayr Vahrij does not meet the above requirements and that his main efforts will be directed toward his education, the Council does not accept him as our Priest, and we hereby notify you of this decision.

We are sure Your Grace will see the wisdom in our decision and give our request his earliest consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Salomon Kapelian
Chairman

Arant Nossigian
Secretary

November 21, 1967

The Very Reverend
Varoujian Dz. V. Kabaradjian
Visiting Pastor
Saints Joachim and Anne Armenian Church
445 West 119th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60628

Dear Father Varoujian:

We have received the letter sent by the Parish Council dated November 7, 1968 (it must be 1967) with reference to the membership meeting on November 1, 1967 at which time the membership unanimously has voted for the Very Rev. Vahrij Kazanjian as the Parish Priest for Saints Joachim and Anne Armenian Church in West Pullman.

Before approving this election we would like to receive the following information:-

1. The minutes, or a copy of the minutes of the special meeting indicating the number of voting members present.
2. Presenting in detail the complete terms mutually agreed upon the Parish Council and Father Vahrij Kazanjian.

After receiving the above mentioned necessary information we shall inform the Parish Council and Father Vahrij of our decision and approval.

With blessings,

Bishop Torkom
Primate

CC: Very Rev. Vahrij Kazanjian
Mr. Sarkis Boyajian

Saints Joachim and Anne Armenian Apostolic Church
445 West 119th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60628

November 7, 1968

The Most Reverend Bishop
Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church
of North America
630 Second Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10016

Your Grace:

On November 1, 1967, the Parish Members of the S. S. Joachim and Anne Armenian Apostolic Church held a special meeting for the purpose of voting on the issue of a Parish Priest for our Church. In accordance with the constitution the meeting was so conducted and the members unanimously voted their acceptance.

We, therefore, at this time request your Grace's approval to accept Very Rev. Vahrij Kazanjian as our Parish Priest under the terms mutually agreed upon by the Parish Council and Hayr Vahrij. Very Rev. Vahrij Kazanjian was so notified of the Parish decision and he expressed his desire to join our Parish effective February 4, 1968, pending your approval.

We are anxiously awaiting your decision and look forward to seeing you again in the very near future.

Yours faithfully,

Very Rev. Varoujan G. V. Kabaradjian
Very Rev. Varoujian Kabaradjian
(Visiting Pastor)

Sarkis Boyajian
Sarkis Boyajian (Chairman)

Stuart Nigohosian
Stuart Nigohosian (Secretary)

vs

cc: Very Rev. Vahrij Kazanjian
Trustees - S. S. Joachim & Anne

February 9, 1968

Mr. John Jenjenian
Chairman of Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
651 North 13th Street
East St. Louis, Illinois 62205

Dear Mr. Jenjenian:

In reference to your letter dated January 24th, 1968, from Mr. Harry Vartanian, a search of our records indicates that we have a deed of conveyance of your church building. We have enclosed a photostatic copy of it.

In regard to your inquiry as to ownership of church properties we suggest that you become familiar with the Articles No. 15, 77, 99-102 of the By-Laws of our Diocese.

We have no record concerning mortgage transactions of your church property. We suggest that you contact the lawyer who handled the purchase of your church. He may have some information on file. Your alternative would be to apply through an attorney to the county clerk or registrar's office to obtain information concerning the mortgage, and then to obtain a certified copy of the satisfaction.

Please send us a copy of the paper of satisfaction upon receipt of same, so that we may have it in file for your future reference.

Prayerfully,

Bishop Vasken Kebreslian
Vicar General

VK/mm
enc.

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

VERY REVEREND VAHRIJ KAZANDJIAN, PASTOR

THIRTEENTH AND SUMMIT AVENUE
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS 62205
OFFICE: 874-3292

January 24, 1968

Diocese of Armenian Church
Mr. Crosby Goshgarian
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

Please forward information to our Parish Council, on the disposition of the mortgage that was paid in full, for the Holy Shoghagat Church, 651 North 13th Street, East St. Louis, Illinois. In order to clear up misunderstandings, we would like to know what was done with the mortgage papers, and who will hold title to the Church, and Parish House, and property adjacent to Church, and what will be the circumstances, when information is needed, in regard to same. We would like to get our office in order, something which has been sadly lacking in the past, and in order to do so, we will need all the information, pertaining to our Church, and its holdings. We would appreciate it greatly, if you, or whoever is in charge of these matters, would send us the information as soon as possible, and detailed in full, as to the information requested.

Respectfully

Treasurer

December 5, 1968

Mr. John Jamjamian
Chairman of Parish Council
Holy Shoghagat Church
East St. Louis, Ill.

Dear Mr. Jamjamian:

We delayed for a few days replying to your letter of November 26 because of efforts to clear a Sunday in January for a visit to your parish and the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on the occasion of the twelfth anniversary of the consecration of your church. But we are afraid it will not be possible. No open date remains on our calendar through March.

We would be pleased to have our Vicar General, Bishop Vasken Kebreslian, represent us on this occasion. He can be with you on the February 2 weekend.

Please let us hear from you as soon as possible.

Prayerfully,

ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN
Primate

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

VERY REVEREND VAHRIJ KAZANDJIAN, PASTOR

THIRTEENTH AND SUMMIT AVENUE
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS 62205
OFFICE: 874-3292

November 26, 1968

The Most Rev. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate of the Armenian Church of America
President of the Diocesan Council
630 Second Ave.
New York, New York 10016

Your Grace:

As in the past years, we wish to extend to you our
invitation to celebrate Divine Liturgy Services during
the Month of January 1969.

Your grace may recall that this period also coincides
with the Twelfth Anniversary of the Consecration of
our Church.

If this meets with your approval, we would like to have
a confirmed date.

Respectfully Yours,

John Jamjanian
John Jamjanian

Received 12 m Feb 2

V. K.

March 2, 1971

Mr. Charles Tourajigian, Chairman
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church Parish Council
9 Weinel Drive
Caseyville, Illinois 62230

Dear Mr. Tourajigian:

Every year the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America undertakes a Mission Program in several parishes of the Diocese. This year we have designated July 1-8 as Mission Week. We would like to see one of these Mission programs return to your church during that week. We hope that you will regard it convenient to your parish.

This project has our wholehearted support and endorsement. We are all aware of the importance of this internal mission work, undertaken and sponsored wholly by the young people of our Diocese. Your parish will again be free of any financial obligation for this project, as the ACYOA Central Advisory Council will underwrite all expenses involved.

We would like to see that, under your leadership, the Parish Council, the youth, and all Church-related organizations give their cooperation to this worthy project, as a total effort, to facilitate the work and mission of these modern "Disciples" of the Armenian Church. The mission team to visit your parish will consist of three or four young persons headed by a clergyman.

We need to be informed by you about the suitability of the date, and the feasibility of forming a committee to coordinate the project. This committee should consist of a representative of each and every church organization in the Holy Shoghagat parish. The "Disciples" should be lodged in a college dorm or seminary in or near your city with the ACYOA taking care of the expenses. We would like to know if you can make lodging arrangements for three or four young people (girls and boys) and the priest/chaplain. Kindly inform us within two weeks as the time is very short for the numerous arrangements to be made by the ACYOA office and by your committee.

Mr. Charles Toursjigian
Page 2

March 2, 1971

We look forward to your favorable reply.

Prayerfully yours.

Archbishop Terken Mancoogian
Primate

March 11, 1971

Mr. Solomon Kaprelian
10 Sherry Drive
Caseyville, Illinois 62232

Dear Mr. Kaprelian:

The Primate received the material you send regarding
the Rev. I. Ghazarian and will take care of the matter.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Antroussian
Executive Director

March 9, 1971

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10016

Your Grace:

Enclosed you will find the remaining bills accumulated by the Very Rev. Issahag Ghazarian during his interim at the Parish of Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church.

In addition, kindly direct the proper authorities to forward all mail to Very Rev. Ghazarian at his proper address.

Thanking you, I am,

Respectfully yours,


~~Solomon Kaprielian~~
Solomon Kaprielian

December 28, 1972

Mr. Solomon Kaprelian
10 Sherry Drive
Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208

Dear Mr. Kaprelian:

I am sorry about the mail to your parish not coming to you. I have had it corrected again, and it should be all right.

We have received the \$279.00 you remitted for the assessment of your Church in 1972.

There is, however, an outstanding amount of \$350.00 from 1971. I urge that this amount also be remitted before January 10th, so that our Diocesan records may reflect the payment. This was the special assessment for 1971 which your parish has not yet remitted, and we are very anxious to close that account as soon as possible.

May I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Jack Antreassian
Executive Director

Dear Mr. Kaprielian:

I am sorry about the mail to your parish not coming to you. I have had it corrected again, and it should be all right.

We have received the \$279 you remitted for the dues= the assessment ~~reverted~~ of your church in 1972.

There is however an outstanding amount of \$350 from 1971. I urge that this amount also be remitted before January 10, so that our Diocesan records may reflect the payment. This was the special assessment for 1971 which your parish has not yet remitted, and we are very anxious to close that account as soon as possible.

May I look forward to hearing from you?

Jack

**FROM: The Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016
(212) 686-0710**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 8, 1972**

The children of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America are being invited to the second annual Christmas Party tendered by the Primate, His Grace, Archbishop Torkom Manogian. The party will take place on Saturday, January 6th, which is Armenian Christmas, at Kavookjian Auditorium in the Cathedral Complex of the Diocese in New York.

Close to 1,000 youngsters attended the party last year, most of them from the Greater New York area, augmented by busloads from other more distant parishes such as Philadelphia.

The day's program begins with the Celebration of the Divine Liturgy at 11 o'clock in the morning, at the conclusion of which the children will receive Communion from the Primate. Post Communion Breakfast and the party follow at 12:30 P.M., with Santa Claus and Edna S. Gordon, television's Clarabelle, entertaining.

141/72

June 21, 1972

Mr. Solomon Kaprelian
Secretary-Treasurer
✓ Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
651 North 13 Street
East St. Louis, Illinois 62205

Dear Mr. Kaprelian:

The Diocese hereby authorizes the Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church of East St. Louis, Illinois, to accept payment on behalf of the Diocese of funds deriving from the sale of the Holy Shoghagat Church property.

These monies are to be utilized for the purchase or construction of a new church for the Parish.

Sincerely,

Jack Antreassian
Executive Director

JA/ec

Enclosure

May 25, 1972

Mr. Solomon Kaprelian
10 Sherry Drive
Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208

Dear Mr. Kaprelian:

We have executed the copies of the Bond for Deed you mailed to us relating to the sale of the Holy Shoghagat Church in East St. Louis.

We ask that you please return one complete copy for our files.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

(enclosures 1)

March 29, 1972

Mr. Solomon Kaprelian
Treasurer
✓ Holy Shoghagat Armenian Apostolic Church
10 Sherry Drive
Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208

Dear Mr. Kaprelian:

The Diocesan Council and the Board of Trustees have approved and confirmed your Parish Assembly's resolution to sell your church property, Holy Shoghagat Armenian Apostolic Church, located at 651 North 13 Street, East St. Louis, according to the terms you indicated.

We urge that a serious effort be made to secure a higher down payment, perhaps as much as ten thousand dollars, to ease the financial circumstances of your Parish.

We pray that the Lord may bless your efforts.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

ATM/ec

cc: Mr. Charles Tourajigian
Chairman of Parish Council

January 5, 1973

Commissioner R. J. Quinn
Chicago Fire Commissioner
Room 101 City Hall
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Commissioner Quinn:

We are most appreciative of the kindness you showed us on our recent trip to Chicago, as you have on a number of earlier occasions.

The transportation you so thoughtfully provided was a convenience surely, but more than that a gesture of hospitality that made us feel very much at home in your fine city.

We were touched by the generosity of your spirit.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

ATM/sm



Lake Shore Photo Engraving Co.
INCORPORATED

262 EAST ILLINOIS STREET

CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS

Dec. 26, 1972

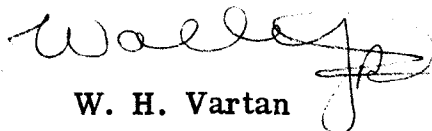
Mr. Jack Antreassian
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Ave.
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Jack:

In response to your letter of December 18, I am eager to let you know that the automobile provided for the Primate's transportation was the limousine of Commissioner R. J. Quinn, our Chicago Fire Commissioner. His address is Room 101 City Hall, Chicago, Illinois 60602. He always provides his limousine whenever I have need for it.

I think the Primate should be commended for his thoughtfulness in acknowledging this courtesy.

Sincerely,


W. H. Vartan

September 16, 1974

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon In Charge
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
3600 West Main Street, Apt. 2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

Proceed with the convocation of your special Assembly, as proposed in your letter of September 9. Please consult the by-laws provisions governing special assemblies to assure orderly process in your deliberations. And, of course, submit the minutes and all reports to us, along with the formal agenda, immediately after the Assembly.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

cc: Mr. Michael Bohigian
Council Chairman

vb

September 9, 1974

Your Grace,

The Holy Shoghagat Parish Council seeks your permission to call a special Parish Meeting within the next month. The necessity for this meeting is twofold: (1) to discuss with the parishioners the financial situation of the Parish and (2) to discuss a possible property purchase for a future church location.

Most respectfully,

Zabelle N. Vartanian
Manoog Kelegian

Zabelle N. Vartanian, Secretary
Manoog Kelegian, Deacon in Charge

September 16, 1974

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
3600 West Main Street, Apt. 2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

This is to confirm the Primate's visit to East St. Louis from Saturday, January 18 to Tuesday, January 21. He will leave for Memphis on January 22.

Details of his flight schedule will be sent to you in due course. Meanwhile the Primate would like you to prepare for an evening service on Saturday evening if possible, the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning, as well as meetings with your parish Council and a joint meeting with the executives of the various church organizations.

Please communicate your plans to the Primate as soon as they are completed.

Make arrangements for the Vartanian family's request to have their child's baptism immediately after the Badarak.

Sincerely,

Jack Antreassian

cc: Mr. Michael Bohigian
Council Chairman

vb

11 Sept. 1974

3600 W. Main
Belleville, Ill.

Yojn Grace:

Please, at your earliest convenience,
could you tell us when you will be arriving
in St. Louis?

Also, Richard and Zabelle Vartanian
(daughter and son-in-law of Aram and Zaroohi
Nersegian) would like very much for you
to baptize their newly born son, Garen.
Perhaps we could do this on the Sunday that
~~you will offer badarak.~~ If it is not
possible to do it on a Sunday, could you
possibly baptize the child in a home?
They would like to know all this as soon
as possible so that they can make their
plans.

Thank you very much.

Most respectfully yours,



Manoog Kelegian

Deacon-in-charge- of the
Holy Shoghagat parish.

February 28, 1975

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon-in-charge
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
3600 West Main Street, Apt. #2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian received your letter of February 25, 1975, requesting marriage and Baptismal certificates which are being sent to you under separate cover. Your inquiry about death certificates; they are issued only by the coroner or attending physicians of the decedant.

May we also respectfully suggest that you check to see if a "Register Book" is being kept at the Church office to record baptisms, marriages and deaths-as stipulated in the by-laws Section 33 paragraph J.

Hoping this letter covers your requests.

Sincerely,

Stephen Kambourian
Executive Director

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

February 25 1975

~~EST~~ St. Louis

Dear Srpezan Hayr,

Could we please have some Marriage and Baptismal certificates?
Also, if it is necessary, could you put your signature on one
of them (this will be the one for Garen Anthony Vartanian, who
you baptized). Could we also have some death certificates? ✓

Thank you very much.

Very Sincerely,

Deacon Maroog Kelegian

Deacon-in-Charge of the Holy Shoghagat Parish

- No death certificates
- 4 requests from 2
 - A. Baptism
 - B. Marriage
 - C. Funeral

SOCK 33 J BY-LINE
(K) ✓

August 19, 1975

Mrs. Zabelle N. Vartanian
Chairman, Parish Council
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
228 Julia Place
Belleville, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Vartanian:

We have received your letter of August 3, and can appreciate your consternation regarding the stipend schedule.

There are no provisions in the Assembly decision for Deacons-in-Charge, though it has always been our position that they are to be regarded as reverend clergy and be treated as all our pastors are.

We, therefore, urge that the schedule be followed as adopted, with the following qualification:

Since it is necessary to invite priests to perform badarak and sacraments, and since this entails additional costs above and beyond the customary stipend, accommodation should be made in the Deacon's stipend to account for such expense.

Based on this principle, your parish council and the Deacon should, we feel, come to some mutually satisfactory understanding regarding his stipend.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

cc. Deacon M. Kelegian

228 Julia Place
Belleville, Illinois
August 3, 1975

The Most Reverend Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Your Grace:

Very definitely the Diocesan Assembly Minutes specify the proposed raise for priests in our Diocese. Much to the dismay of the Holy Shoghagat Parish Council, however, no information is provided regarding the situation of a Deacon-in-Charge.

As you know, we have in our parish a Deacon-in-Charge. Consequently, we humbly seek direction concerning a Deacon's position in relation to the raise and also the Deacon's stipend as it presently exists. Without a doubt, these are matters of importance not only to Deacon Manoog but also to our planning.

We would very much appreciate your thoughts relative to our requests. May the remainder of the summer be pleasant for you. Thank you for your cooperation.

Manoog K. Manoogian

Deacon-in-Charge
Holy Shoghagat Church

Most respectfully,

Zabelle N. Vartanian

Zabelle N. Vartanian, Chairman
Holy Shoghagat Parish Council

ZV:lt

October 2, 1975

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon In Charge
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
3600 West Main Street, Apt. 2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 11, 1975 in which you inquire about the guidelines of our Diocese pertaining to monetary contributions of the faithful for special services or sacraments.

The Diocese does not have a standard guideline for monetary donations for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, or other services. However, I might add that the majority of the parishes in our area have the following understanding:

Donations for Baptisms: \$35.00 to Church
15.00 to Deacon
10.00 to Sacriston

Donations for Weddings: \$50.00 to Church
20.00 to Deacon
20.00 to Organist
\$10-15.00 to Sacriston

Donations for Funerals: \$50.00 to Church
20.00 to Deacon
20.00 to Organist
\$10-15.00 to Sacriston

The clergyman performing the sacrament or service is normally remembered by the family with a personal gift.

Deacon Manoog Kelegian

-2-

October 2, 1975

I hope that this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Kambourian
Executive Director

MK:vb

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

11 September 1975

3600 W. Main Street

Belleville, Il. 62223

Dear Mr. Kambourian,

We are presently in the process of setting up certain guidelines in order to facilitate more understanding of the running of the Church on the part of the people.

We are therefore very curious to know if the Diocese has guidelines or knowledge of suggested guidelines for the amount of monetary donation that is suggested for Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals (for those capable of paying).

Thank you very much.

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Manoog Kelegian

Deacon-in-Charge of the
Holy Shoghagat Parish.

March 11, 1975


Deacon Manoog Kelegian
3600 W. Main Street
Apt. 2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Kelegian:

The draft for the "Human Rights and Genocide " is enclosed herewith in two copies. We are informed that the printed copies will be available to send next week. I hope they keep to their promise.

The informational material for the newspapers will be available soon. Meanwhile I hope you can pursue the invitations to the various churches.

Cordially yours,



V. L. Parsegian
Chairman
Conference Committee

Enclosures

vb

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

7 March 1975

3600 W. Main Street

apt. 2

Belleville, Il. 62223

Dear Fr. Mampre:

This letter is in regards to the 60th Anniversary of the Armenian Massacres.

Could you please send to us as soon as possible the pamphlet titled "Human Rights and Genocide" and informational materials that can be given newspaper publicity.

We are inviting speakers and they would like this information as soon as possible.

Thank you very much.

Very Sincerely,

Manoog Kelegian

Deacon-in-Charge of the
Holy Shoghagat Parish.

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

12 February 1975

3600 W. Main Street

apt. 2

Belleville, Ill. 62223

Dear Dr. Parsegian:

The East St. Louis Holy Shoghagat Parish is very interested in holding a seminar on Genocide as outlined in your numerous news releases and information sheets. We are presently in the process of picking a committee for this project

Because of numerous reasons we will be celebrating Martyr's day on April 27, Sunday. Could you please send to us, as quickly as possible, the various documents which you have alluded to in past letters. This will take a great deal of planning and therefore we would like to have all the pertinent information as soon as possible.

Please send all information to me (the above address) and I will forward it to the Chairman of the Martyrs Day Committee as soon as we select him (or her).

Thank you very much.

Very Sincerely,

Deacon Manoug Kelegian

Deacon-in-Charge of the

Holy Shoghagat Parish

June 23, 1976

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon-in-Charge
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
3600 W. Main Street, #2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

As requested, please find enclosed one pad of
official Funeral Records.

Yours respectfully,

Syraun Palvetzian
Director

Enclosure

vb

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

May 24, 1976

3600 W. Main Street #2
Belleville, Il. 62223

Dear Jack,

Re: Official Sacrament Records.

We have record ledgers for Baptism and Marriage, but we are in need of the official records for funerals. If you could send that to me I would appreciate it. Thank you

Prayerfully,

M. Manoog Kelegian

Deacon Manoog Kelegian

Deacon-in-Charge of the

Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church

July 21, 1976

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon-in-Charge, Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church
3600 West Main Street, Apt. 2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

We will be pleased to make an official visit to your parish on the weekend of January 23, and have reserved the date in our calendar accordingly.

Please let us know, about a month prior to that date, the specific plans made for the weekend. We will, soon after we hear from you, inform you of our travel plans.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

cc. Parish Council Chairlady
Mrs. Liberty Tourigigian

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

July 1, 1976

The Most Reverend Archbishop
Torkoom Manoogian
Primate of the Armenian Church
of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

We would like to request the honor of your presence at Holy Shoghagat's 20th Anniversary celebration. We realize that your schedule is quite busy, but we would like to know, as soon as possible, which of the following dates you could come to East St. Louis: January 23rd, 30th, or the earliest date in February. It would be better if you could come in January, since that is nearer to our Anniversary. Your presence will be very deeply appreciated.

As you know, we have sent in minutes which state our Parish Assembly's desire to buy three acres of land. We humbly request approval of the Diocesan Council, Trustees and you as soon as possible.

Madcheemk i hampooyr tzer
Soorp Achooyn,

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon-in-Charge

Liberty Tourijigian
Chairlady, Parish Council

Yes

January 4, 1977

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon-in-Charge, Holy Shoghagat Church
3600 West Main Street, Apt.#2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

With reference to our letter dated December 22, 1976, kindly note that His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manooqian will be arriving in St. Louis on January 21, 1977, at 7:52 p.m., on American Airlines flight 473.

His Eminence will be leaving on January 24, 1977, at 1:10 p.m. on American Airlines flight 336.

It would be most appreciated if arrangements can be made to meet His Eminence at the airport, and the necessary reservations made for his accommodation.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully,

Sylvia Terzibashian
Secretary to the Primate

cc. Parish Council Chairman

st

December 22, 1976

Deacon Manoog Kelegian
Deacon-in-Charge Holy Shoghagat Church
3600 Main Street West, Apt.#2
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Deacon Manoog:

With reference to your letter dated December 20, 1976, enclosed please find an up-to-date bio data of His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian.

You will be notified of His Eminence's arrival in East St. Louis in a few days' time.

His Eminence will be pleased to perform a baptism while he is in your parish on Sunday, January 23, 1977, before the Divine Liturgy.

With regard to what will be needed for the baptism, it is suggested that you should follow the instructions in the Introduction of the "Book of Baptism" (small, red cover) published by Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan.

Respectfully,

Aylvia Terzibashian
Secretary to the Primate

Enclosure

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

December 20, 1976

3600 W. Main Street
Belleville, Il. 62223

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York City, N.Y. 10016

Dear Surpazan Hayr,

As soon as possible we would like your office to send us some information on your background and present activities for news releases. Also we would like to know of your arrival time so that we can arrange television coverage. (Again, as soon as possible).

That week-end we would like you also to perform a baptism. Perhaps, this could be done just before the Badarak on Sunday January 23? I have already suggested this to the Family. Would you please tell me what will be needed for the Baptism? Also, I told them that I would be the god-father because they are new in this community and cannot come up with a god-father.

Finally, I would like to again request that you come in Friday evening, January 21. I have resolved in my mind what I would like to do in the near future regarding what parish I will be in. I feel I have failed here and I also feel that I need an assistantship some where.

Madcheem i hampooyr tzer Soorp Achooyn,

Deacon Manoug Kelegian

Deacon Manoug Kelegian
Deacon-in-Charge of the Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church.

P.S. Would you please bring a few Ectenips with you?

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Holy Shoghagat
Armenian Church

December 9, 1976

3600 W. Main Street
Belleville, Illinois 62223

Dear Srpazan Hayr,

Many plans for your arrival are in the making presently, largely due to the work of the 20 Anniversary Committee under the chairmanship of Zabelle Vartanian and Judy Tourajigian. We will have a parish council meeting under your chairmanship Saturday night (January 22, 1977). We have a 20 Anniversary celebration planned for after church January 23, 1977. We hope to have over 30 \$100.00 or more donors.

Presently what we need are glossy pictures of you for news releases. Would you please send them as soon as possible?

Thank you very much.

Madcheem i hampooyr tzer Sdorp Achooyn,

Deacon Manooq Kelegian

Deacon Manooq Kelegian
Deacon-in-Charge of the
Holy Shoghagat Armenian Church

p.s. I hope you are considering coming in Friday night so that you can meet Judy, my fiancee, in a more relaxed atmosphere.

Recd
12-13-76

November 18, 1980

Mr. Radko K. Jansky
Maryville College-Saint Louis
13550 Conway Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63141

Dear Mr. Jansky:

Forgive the delay in answering your letter however, it just reached my attention. I will try to answer the several inquiries that it included.

Firstly, I have included an abridged "Armenian Church Directory" which should assist you.

Secondly, the Armenian-American community numbers some 500,000 souls, the majority of which are affiliated with the Church in one way or another. I suggest you directly contact the other Dioceses for the statistics pertaining to them.

Thirdly, I have included reprints of sections from The Church of Armenia by Malachia Ormanian, former Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople, which deal with the positions of the Armenian Church vis-a-vis other churches and denominations. While the book was printed many years ago (1910), its texts regarding Dogma and Church Doctrine are still in force.

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Finally, I have enclosed a transliteration chart which corresponds to the pronunciation of classical Armenian. Today, the Eastern Armenian pronunciation is similar to the classical Armenian while Western Armenian differs slightly from the classical.

As for printed material regarding Armenian grammar I suggest you write to the following address:

Mekhitarist Press
98 Mt. Auburn Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

They should have a complete listing of Armenian language books and aids.

I hope that this material will provide you with some help. Please feel free to call me if you need anything else.

Yours sincerely,

Hrant Gadarigian
Cultural Affairs

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