

File

Saint Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church



12 CORBETT AVE.
BINGHAMTON, N. Y. 13903
(607) 722-8801

March 14, 1974

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
630 Second Avenue
New York City, New York 10016

Your Eminence:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I mailed to each of our Parish Council members asking them to consider raising my stipend.

At our meeting last night I was informed that they would not raise the stipend and will hold fast to the agreement which was made in mid-November, a copy of which is also enclosed.

I no longer feel the stipend nor the allowance for a larger apartment is adequate.

Since the stipend increase and allowance were refused, I ask Your Eminence's permission to: 1) obtain part time secular employment, or 2) be transferred to a parish that will be able to provide a larger stipend.

Respectfully,

Fr. George Arakelian
Fr. George Arakelian

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(607) 722-8801

February 28, 1974

Dear

Since mid-November I have just barely been able to make ends meet with the stipend I am now receiving. The stipend I now receive does not enable me to plan a family in the imminent future, let alone try and educate the child/children. Nor is the stipend in pace with ever inflating prices.

I was hesitant in accepting the stipend when we decided in mid-November. However I thought I would give it a few months trial. Now it has become apparent that the stipend is insufficient.

I suggest that the Parish Council members gather informally, without me, before the next meeting to discuss this matter and inform me of your decision.

Respectfully,

Fr. George

Fr. George

Copies to all 1973 Parish Council members.

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November 30, 1973

The Most Rev. Archbishop
Torkom Manougian
Primate of the Diocese of
The Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10006

Your Grace the Primate:

The Parish Council met on November 17th and 18th, 1973 in the presence of Mr. Crosby Goshgarian, Chairman of the Diocesan Council and personal representative of your Grace, with Father Kevork Arakelian presiding.

Father Kevork agrees to the following:

- a) Endeavor to expand his performance in church activities
- b) Take charge of the Newsletter
- c) Recruit new church members
- d) Organize and lead the Armenian School
- e) Follow up on Sunday School absenteeism
- f) Follow up absenteeism during Baġarak
- g) He is entitled to three (3) weeks paid vacation with the stipulation that he can be absent only one Sunday should he decide on time other than July or August.
- h) The salary will be increased to \$7,000.00 per annum as of November 16, 1973
- i) Father Kevork will be given an additional \$1,400.00 per annum for housing, if he does not live in the housing provided by the church. This is effective as of January 1, 1974 or anytime thereafter when he moves from the church provided accommodations.
- j) The salary will be reviewed annually in accordance with the cost of living fluctuation.
- k) Parish will provide him with an automobile, including the maintenance, insurance, and gas for church related use.

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- l) A residential telephone will be provided with the payment of basic rates and long distance church calls.
- m) The parish will pay 50% of his group insurance.

This agreement was approved by all the parties involved.

Respectfully,

John M. Bogdasarian

Nubar K. Astarjian

Father Kevork Arakelian

John M. Bogdasarian

Nubar K. Astarjian

F. Kevork Arakelian

Secretary

Chairman of
Parish Council

President

c.c. Mr. Crosby Goshgarian
Father Kevork Arakelian
Dr. Nubar K. Astarjian