

March 12, 1976

The Reverend Kevork Arakelian
Pastor, St. Gregory The Illuminator Church
12 Corbett Avenue
Binghamton, New York 13903

Dear Father Kevork:

Before we address ourselves to the questions posed in your letter of March 3, 1976, we urge you not to constrain us to remind you again that we expect you to use your ordination name Father Kevork, and not George, in your communications.

With respect to your questions: We made no note of a specific amount as a gift to a Bishop or Archbishop, because we wanted that left to individual discretion. The standards set for other priests should serve as somewhat of a guide.

The stipend for funeral services shall be remitted in the same manner as for the sacraments. If a priest has no parish, he is to receive it; if he has a parish, his Church is to receive it, in which case the priest may of course be given a personal gift, as is the present practice in any event.

The remittance must be made by the host parish council, who will have contact with the family in question, something which may be denied to or be awkward for the visiting priest.

If a request is made for a visiting priest in a parish which has a pastor, these guidelines do not apply. In that case, and once approval is given by the local pastor, the family will make its own stipend arrangements directly as is done now.

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Funerals are to be treated in the same manner as the Sacraments, as far as these stipend guidelines are concerned.

It is obviously not an easy matter to arrange and perhaps, as these guidelines are utilized, it may be necessary to effect modifications.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

Saint Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church



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

March 3, 1976

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

Eminence:

Please clarify for us the following guidelines for visiting
Clergymen's stipends:

#4 - What is the suggested gift to a Bishop/Archbishop?

#5 - The amount of \$50.00 per Sacrament...is that to
be remitted to the Priest performing the Sacrament
or to the Church the Priest comes from? and who
remits the \$50.00, the family asking for the
Sacrament or the Church in which the Sacrament is
being performed?

To the
Parish
The Council

Should a family request a Priest other than their pastor to perform
a Sacrament, do the "Stipends for Visiting Clergymen" apply to that
situation as well?

NO

Finally, how are funerals treated since they are not Sacraments?

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Your servant in Christ,

Fr. George Arakelian

Fr. George Arakelian,
Pastor