



April 5, 1990

Dear Mrs. Abdo -

I read in the Buffalo NEWS Sunday - April 1 - of the plight of your church and St. Hagop's in regards to Bendison Niagara Associates wanting to take over your property.

It brought to mind a similar situation in San Antonio, Texas. We were there for an Air Force Reunion in September 1988 and stayed at The Menger Hotel which is next to the Alamo. They had recently opened the Rivercenter which had Lord & Taylors and Dillard's and more than 135 specialty shops - three levels. A really beautiful place.

Parking was in Rivercenter
garages on two streets on each
side of the center. Two hours free -
no purchase necessary. Have the
parking ticket validated at any
Rivercenter store.

Our group was having a memorial
service at St Joseph's Church. They
were told to walk around the
corner of Hillards and down a
couple hundred feet to the church.
Knowing that Hillards was next
to the Menger and that the
Rivercenter wrapped around it
we wondered. Sure enough
here was St Joseph's, an old church
left in its original place and the
center was wrapped around it!

After the service which was
conducted by the Squadron

Chaplain, the parish priest told
of the history of St Joseph's and
mentioned the new Rivercenter
being good neighbors. He said -
"They have Lord & Taylors and we
have Lord and Jesus Christ."

Hope this gives you encourage-
ment as you try to keep your
Church where you are. If it can
work in San Antonio with the
Rivercenter - it could work here.
Like you said "coexist."

Sincerely,

Val Norma Van Dyke