



HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH
CHELTENHAM, PA.

TENTH CONSECRATION ANNIVERSARY
SOUVENIR BOOKLET

ANNIVERSARY BANQUET
SEPTEMBER 19, 1976

PROGRAM

Invocation

Toast

Azad Attarian
Godfather of the Church

Dinner

Dedication of the Anniversary

Introduction

Albert Kapeghian
Co-Chairman, Anniversary Committee
Mason Avrigian - Master of Ceremonies

Welcome

Sebouh Minassian
Co-Chairman, Anniversary Committee

Greetings

John Mirakian
Chairman, Parish Council

Piano Selections

Cynthia Khatchadourian

In Retrospect

The Very Rev. Zaven Arzoumanian
Pastor, SS. Sahag & Mesrob Church

Vocal Selections

Joan Setian Campbell
Diane Sarkisian at the Piano

Address

The Very Rev. Arshen Aivazian, Pastor

Presentation of Awards

Message

His Eminence Torkom Abp. Manoogian
Diocesan Primate

Benediction

Վազգէն Մտայ Յիսուսի Քրիստոսի Ողորմութեամբն Աստուծոյ եւ Կամօքն Ազգիս, Եպիսկոպոսապետ եւ Կաթողիկոս Ամենայն Հայոց, Մայրազոյն Պատրիարք Համազգային Նախամեծար Աթոռոյ Արարատեան Առաքելական Մայր Եկեղեցւոյ Սրբոյ Էջմիածնի

Բարեխնամ Առաջնորդին Հայոց Հիւսիսային Ամերիկայի Արեւելեան Թեմի, Գերշ. Տ. Սիոն Արք. Մանուկեանին, Հոգեւոր սպասաւորաց, Եկեղեցական Վարչութեան եւ Երեսփեան Յանձնախումբի Ֆիլատելֆոյ Հայոց Ս. Երրորդութիւն Եկեղեցւոյ եւ այլ համայն հաւատացեալ ժողովրդեան՝ հարազատ որդւոյ Մայր Աթոռոյ Սրբոյ Էջմիածնի, Քրիստոսաւանդ ողջոյն Հայրական եւ օրհնութիւն Հայրապետական:

«Ձի Աստուած ընդ մեզ է»
Ահա այս հաւատով պարեցան մեր յոսարակ նախնի դարեր շարունակ: Այս հաւատով կ'ապրի ու պիտի ապրի միշտ, մեր եկեղեցին եւ մեր ազգը համայն: Մեզի համար անհուն ուրախութիւն է տեսնել, թէ դուք բոլորդ սիրելիներ մեր, այս օրը հաւատով կը բարձրացնէք այսօր Ձեր աղօթքի Տունը, որուն Սուրբ Անդանէն պիտի բաշխուի Ձեզի ամենուդ եւ Ձեր գաւակներուն, եւ անոնց գաւակներուն Աստուծոյ խօսքը աղբիւրը լոյսին, կեանքին եւ յաւերժութեան:

Փառք եւ գոհութիւն Տիրոջ Ամենակալին, Ձեր այս հոգեւոր յարթանակին համար: Մենք իրրեւ Հայոց Հայրապետ կ'օրհնենք եւ կը շնորհաւորենք զՁեզ բոլորդ, Ձեր կատարած անձնուրաց աշխատանքին համար, որով յաջողութեամբ պսակուեցաւ Ձեր Աստուածահանոյ եւ ազգանուէր սնունդը:

Թող միշտ հաստատ եւ շէն մնայ Ձեր նորակառոյց եկեղեցին:
Թող Աստուած մնայ միշտ անհապան եւ օգնական Ձեր եկեղեցիին եւ ժողովուրդին, որպէսզի անոնք անարատ ու պայծառ պահպանեն իրենց ֆրիստուէական եւ հայկական հոգին:

Դուք, հարազատ գաւակներ Մեր, որ կը բնակիք «Ներայր-սիրութեան Ուխտի» քաղաքին մէջ, իրաւ եղբայրական սիրով միաբանած, խաղաղ ու համերաշխ՝ ապրեցէք, զօրացէք ու անեցէք Ձեր Սուրբ եկեղեցիին հովանին ներքեւ: Ձի Հայոց ազգի ֆրիստուէական հաւատք եւ հայկական հոգին, եւ անոնցմէ նառագայթող լոյսը, քաղաքակիրթ աշխարհի հրաշալիքներէն մին կը հանդիսանայ:

Պահեցէք, պաշպանեցէք եւ պաշտեցէք այդ լոյսը, որպէսզի ապրիք յաւերժ եւ չմեռնիք:

Ամենայն Հայոց Սուրբ Հաւատքի վեմ Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածնէն Ձեզի ամենուդ Հայրական ողջոյն եւ Հայրապետական օրհնութիւն:

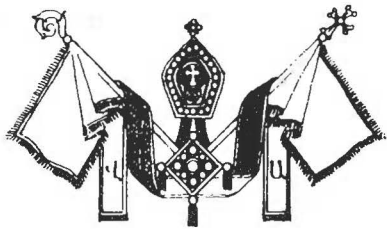
Ողջոյն եւ օրհնութիւն նաեւ Ձեր մեծ երկրին, Ամերիկայի Միացեալ Նահանգներուն եւ անոր Քրիստոսասէր սխալելի ժողովուրդին:

Արդ հարազատներ Մեր՝ «Հսկեցէք, հաստատուն կացէք ի հաւատս, ժրացարուք, զօրացարուք: Ամենայն ինչ Ձեզ սիրով եղիցի»:

Ա. Կորնթ. ԺԶ. 13-14: Ա.Բ.Բ.:

ՎԱԶԳԷՆ Ա.
ԾԱՅՐԱԳՈՅՆ ՊԱՏՐԻԱՐԿ ԵՒ
ԿԱԹՈՂԻԿՈՍ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ

Տուաւ կոնզակս ի 14-ն Մարտի 1966
Փրկչական ամի եւ ի տունարիս Հայոց Ռեժե ի
Մայրավանս Սրբոյ Էջմիածնի



**THE ENCYCLICAL OF THE CATHOLICOS OF ALL ARMENIANS
ON THE OCCASION OF THE CONSECRATION OF THE
HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH OF NORTH PHILADELPHIA**

**VAZKEN, SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST, BY THE MERCY OF GOD AND BY
THE WILL OF OUR NATION, CHIEF OF THE BISHOPS AND CATHOLICOS OF
ALL ARMENIANS, SUPREME PATRIARCH OF THE PRE-EMINENT SEE OF
THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC MOTHER CHURCH OF THE MOST HOLY
ETCHMIADZIN.**

To the Primate of the North American Diocese, His Eminence Archbishop Sion Manoogian, to the Clergy, to the Church Administrators, to the Building Committee of the Holy Trinity Armenian Church of North Philadelphia, and to all faithful sons and daughters of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin Greetings and Benediction.

"For God is with us."

It was in this faith that our ancestors lived all the times. Even in this very faith our Church and our people as a whole live and shall continue to live. It is a great pleasure for us to see that you all, beloved children of ours, holding the same faith are erecting today your House of Worship, whence the Word of God, the source of light and of eternal life shall be dispensed to you all.

Thank to the Almighty Lord for your spiritual victory. As Catholicos of the Armenians, We bless and congratulate you for your sacrifice and labor, by which you have accomplished the God-pleasing endeavor.

May your newly built church remain firm and in prosperity.

May God be always protector and helper of your Church and to your people so that they may keep their christian-Armenian spirit pure and sound.

And you all, beloved children of ours, who live in the city of "Brotherly Love," live in peace like brothers towards each other, be strengthened and grow up under the shadow of your church. You should know that the christian faith of the Armenian people, the Armenian spirit and the light radiated therefrom, constitute one of the wonders of the world.

From the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, which is the rock of the faith of all Armenians, we extend to all of you paternal greetings and blessings.

Blessings and greetings also to your great country of the United States of America and to her Christ-loving and wonderful people.

Therefore, beloved, *"Watch, stay strong in the faith, be strengthened and labourious so that all things may be accomplished by love."* (1 Cor. 16:13). Amen.

VAKZEN I

Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians

The Fourteenth day of March

In the year of Our Lord Nineteen hundred and sixty-six

At the Monastery of Holy Etchmiadzin



PRIMATE'S MESSAGE

Many of our churches have shared the experience of our immigrant people who settled in America half a century and more ago. Our people came and established homes, and then moved to other areas as their families grew and their needs changed. So has it been with many of our churches, among them the Holy Trinity parish of Cheltenham, Pennsylvania. It is a town no one in our Diocese had heard of until our North Philadelphia parish established itself there ten years ago.

We think of Holy Trinity with a special warmth of course, since it was our flock at one time, no matter that it was North Philadelphia then and not Cheltenham. The place may change; it may become a bit grander, it may be richer in families; the spirit remains the spirit of our Lord.

We rejoice in the celebration of this tenth anniversary. But our joy is not so much in the beautiful new church you built for the glory of God, but the beautiful manner in which the parish has placed this church in the service of our people through God's will and love.

We pray that all of you experience this joy every day of your lives.



THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The tenth consecration Anniversary of our Church certainly brings to mind a lot of memories. No doubt, some of our reminiscences are those of bitter and trying experiences. Yet, as time passes by, the joy of our accomplishments overshadows the unpleasant memories and once again we look ahead to new horizons.

It is indeed true that a community accomplishes much more than meets the eye, when it joins forces for a certain project. In the case of our parish, the everlasting benefits that we would derive from a spiritual home and a community center, was deemed vital enough to make all the necessary sacrifices to attain it. I believe, that the fundamental motivating factor, which inspired us to build our Church, is our faith in the eternal values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and our responsibility to help the Church in her Divine work.

It is appropriate, therefore, to come together and rejoice in the fruition of our efforts. But we must not let ourselves be overwhelmed by self-congratulatory feelings and lose sight of the ultimate purpose of the mission of the Church. As we are reminded in the folk wisdom: "It what you did yesterday still looks big to you, you haven't done much today."

We must benefit from this occasion and concentrate our efforts now on the mission of the Church to bring the Gospel into our lives. Throughout centuries, the Armenian Church has kept alive the Light of our Christian faith, thus giving the spiritual strength, whereas our forefathers have triumphed over the arduous difficulties inflicted upon them by human forces.

Today, more than ever, we need that spiritual strength to overcome the perils of society that threaten the very essence of our Christian way of life. Let us then re-dedicate ourselves to our Lord Jesus Christ and follow the luminous faith of our forefathers.

May God bless us with the Graces of the Holy Spirit, so that we may continue to do works that are pleasing to Him.

A MESSAGE FROM FR. ZAVEN ARZOUMANIAN (Pastor, 1963-1971)

It gives me a special kind of pleasure and a feeling of deep satisfaction in sending to you my sincere congratulations on your Tenth Anniversary Celebrations, together with my prayers and best wishes for happy, healthy and prosperous decades to come.

My memories of Holy Trinity Church of Philadelphia are coupled with initial experiences and work with your parish for a period of nine years. Those years of service have always become sources of inspiration for future aspirations. The dedicated work of your parishioners and their perseverance have encouraged their young pastor to cross the bridge and re-establish a healthier parish above and beyond the flames of the devastating fires which destroyed the old edifice.

Dedication, perseverance, faith and love lay as the real foundations of that new church in Cheltenham which now proclaims the glory of God from the depth of each and every member of Holy Trinity. That proclamation is the light shed through the torch of the Armenian heritage carried along the many centuries of our history.

May that torch, its light and the proclamation of the Lord's name, be carried, seen and heard from the heights of the Armenian Church in Cheltenham always.



A MESSAGE FROM FR. MICHAEL BUTTERO (Pastor, 1971-1974)

I offer my congratulations to the Parish on the 10th Anniversary of the consecration of your church. It has indeed been a pleasure for me and my family to have been a part in the development of the religious life of your community during the past 10 years. I pray to God that the Holy Trinity Armenian Church will continue to grow and develop as the focal point of the religious and communal life of your parish; that day by day you grow in the love we have in Christ Jesus.

Anniversaries are important, they give us an opportunity to look back on the accomplishments of the past and at the same time to look forward to the future, to be certain that the path we have chosen to walk is one that is lead by the light of Jesus.

My love and prayers to you all, I rejoice with you and for you on this joyous occasion.

The grace that comes through our Lord Jesus Christ, the love that is of God the Father, and the fellowship that is ours in the Holy Spirit be with you all.



A DECADE OF HISTORY



Our House of Worship
(1941-1964)



The New Church
Under Construction



Groundbreaking Ceremony — January 31, 1965



Consecration — September 18, 1966



The Visit of His Holiness Vazken I — May 8, 1968

HIGHLIGHTS IN THE HISTORY OF OUR PARISH

1966 – 1976

- 1966 – September 18, His Grace Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, the Primate, consecrated our new church edifice.
- 1967 – April 13, His Grace the Primate, consecrated the new Baptismal Font, donated by Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Baldadian. On this occasion, His Grace bestowed upon the Very Rev. Zaven Arzoumanian the rank of Dzayrakooyn Vartabed.
- 1968 – April 21, our Church Choir celebrated the 40th Anniversary of its foundation.
- 1968 – May 8, the Armenian community of Philadelphia, and our church in particular, were blessed with the pastoral visit of His Holiness Vazken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians.
- 1970 – May 1 & 2, our parish hosted the Annual Diocesan Assembly, which elected His Grace Archbishop Torkom Manoogian to a second term of office as Diocesan Primate.
- 1970 – December 12-13, the 4th Anniversary of the consecration of our Church and the 30th Anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of His Grace, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, the Primate, were celebrated jointly in our Church.
- 1970 – December 18-20, His Beatitude Archbishop Shnork Kaloustian, the Patriarch of Constantinople, paid a visit to our parish and the Armenian community of Philadelphia.
- 1971 – May 9, the 25th Anniversary of the ACYOA was celebrated by our chapter with a banquet honoring the past Chapter chairmen.
- 1971 – In September, the Very Reverend Zaven Arzoumanian, the pastor of our Church since 1963, was assigned to Montreal, Canada as the Vicar General, and the Reverend Father Michael Buttero assumed his responsibilities as the new pastor of our Church.
- 1971 – October 17, the Centennial and the birth of His Holiness Garegin Hovseptiantz, the late Catholicos of the See of Cilicia and former Primate of our Diocese, was celebrated jointly by SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Holy Trinity.
- 1973 – March 18, His Grace Torkom Abp. Manoogian, Diocesan Primate, paid a pastoral visit and bestowed the order of sub-deacon upon Garbis Kelyan, Albert Kapeghian, Sebouh Minassian, George Kashikjian and Albert Keshgegian.
- 1973 – August 31-September 3, the Senior Chapters of the ACYOA of SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Holy Trinity Church hosted the 4th Annual Sports Weekend.
- 1974 – January 13, in a Testimonial Banquet, the parish honored the past chairmen of the parish Council.
- 1974 – In October, the Reverend Father Michael Buttero, our pastor since 1971 was transferred and the Very Reverend Arshen Aivazian was assigned to our parish.
- 1974 – November 7, His Beatitude Archbishop Shnork Kaloustian, Patriarch of Constantinople, visited our parish for the third time in a decade.
- 1975 – April 24, the 60th Anniversary of the Armenian Massacres was commemorated in our Church with a solemn Divine Liturgy and Ecumenical Requiem Service.
- 1976 – April 30-May 2, the 74th Annual Diocesan Assembly was held in Philadelphia, hosted by SS. Sahag-Mesrob and Holy Trinity Churches.
- 1976 – September 19, the Tenth Anniversary of the consecration of our Church is being celebrated with a solemn Divine Liturgy, followed by a banquet, presided over by His Grace Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, the Diocesan Primate.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET HOSTS

MR. AVEDIS BOORNAZIAN

In Memory of
Berjoohie, Yeghsa and Sahag Boornazian

MR. & MRS. JOHN CHAKAMIAN

In Memory of
Robert and Manoog Paroonagian

MR. & MRS. ROBERT DAMERJIAN

MRS. DAVID S. DAMERJIAN
In Memory of
David S. Damerjian

MR. & MRS. OHANNES HASHAS

In Memory of
Kevork Hashas

MR. & MRS. MENAS MALOUMIAN

In Memory of the deceased members of
Maloumian and Stepanian families

MR. & MRS. MESROB OKOORIAN

MRS. HAIGOUHIE OKOORIAN

MR. & MRS. PAUL OKOORIAN

In Memory of
George Okoorian

MR. & MRS. ALBERT SANTERIAN

In Memory of
Harry Santerian

MR. & MRS. HARRY SARKISIAN

In Memory of
Dirouhie Sarkisian

ANDREW & HAIG VARTANIAN FAMILIES

In Memory of
Hratch and Araxie Vartanian

MR. & MRS. BARKEV ZOOLALIAN

In Memory of
Paul Zoolalian

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

1966 – 1976

*Jack Basmajian	(1966-1967)
Charles Antarmian	(1966-1971, 1974-)
Harry Mirijanian	(1966-1969, 1972-1975)
†Garabed Keshgegian	(1966-1967)
†Robert Paroongian	(1966-1967)
*Sarkis Manoogian	(1966-1968-1974)
Ara Paroonagian	(1966-1972)
Martin Paroonagian	(1966)
Paul Okoorian	(1966)
Robert Damerjian	(1966)
Avedis Boornazian	(1966-1968, 1970-1973)
Michael Chakmakian	(1967-1972)
Moushegh Vishabazoon	(1967-1968)
Edward Monokian	(1967-1968)
Alishan Haigazian	(1967-1968)
*John Mirakian	(1968-1973, 1976-)
Andrew Vartanian	(1968-1969, 1971-1972)
André Javardian	(1969-1972)
Karnig Thomassian	(1969-1970, 1973-1974)
†Ohannes Bebirian	(1969-1970)
Philip DerPilbosian	(1969-1970)
Berjoohy Haigazian	(1970-1971)
Azad Attarian	(1971-1972)
George Garabedian	(1971-1972, 1974-)
*Jack Vishab	(1972-)
Lawrence DerHagopian	(1972-)
Albert Keshgegian	(1973-1974)
Noubar Mangasarian	(1973-1974)
Harry Andonian	(1973-)
Naomi Kapeghian	(1973-)
Berj Yeretjian	(1975-)
Sebouh Minassian	(1975-)
Ara Shakarjian	(1975-)
Edward Zarzatian	(1975-)

†Deceased

*Served as Chairman

DIOCESAN DELEGATES

1966 – 1976

Sarkis Manoogian	(1966-1970)
†Ohannes Bebirian	(1966-1970)
Jack C. Goushian	(1970-1974)
Menas Maloumian	(1970-1974)
Avedis Boornazian	(1966-)
Berj Yeretjian	(1970-)
John Mirakian	(1974-)
Jack Vishab	(1974-1975)
Albert Kapeghian	(1976-)

†Deceased

TEN YEAR STATISTICS

Baptisms and Confirmations: 133

Weddings : 61

Fallen Asleep in Christ : 141

— Currently our mailing list includes 450 families.

— Our Church serves as the spiritual home of an estimated 350 families.

— 310 individuals are enrolled as supporting members.

— Our Church School enrollment in 1975-1976 was 85 students.

— Our Annual Budget has grown from \$45,000 in 1966 to \$79,000 in 1976.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET SPONSORS

Mr. & Mrs. Alex Alexanian	Mr. & Mrs. Albert Kapeghian
Mr. & Mrs. Mamas Alexanian	Mr. & Mrs. Katchdoor Kapeghian, Jr.
Mrs. Zarmine Alexanian	Mr. & Mrs. Arsen Kashkashian
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Andonian	Mr. & Mrs. Clement Kashkashian
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Antaramian	In Memory of Paul S. Kazanjian
Mr. & Mrs. Azad Attarian	Mr. & Mrs. Martin Kouyoumjian
Mr. John Attarian	Mrs. Nectar Kumkumian
Mr. & Mrs. Mason Avrigian	Dr. & Mrs. Hrant G. Marcarian
Mrs. Azadouhie Ayjian	Mr. & Mrs. Vahan Markaridian
Mrs. Lousvart Kouyoumjian	Mr. & Mrs. Misak Mazmanian
Miss Mary Bahadurian	Mr. & Mrs. George Meranshian
Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Baldadian	Mr. & Mrs. Shahab Minassian
Mr. & Mrs. Aram Boornazian	Mr. & Mrs. Sebouh Minassian
Miss Araxie Boornazian	Mr. & Mrs. John Mirakian
Miss Acabe Boornazian	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Mirijanian
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Chakmakian	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Okoorian
Mr. George Chalikian	Mr. & Mrs. Sooren Paretchanian
Miss Anahid Chalikian	Mr. & Mrs. Ara Paroonagian
Dr. & Mrs. Shavarsh Chrissian	Miss Aghanvey Paroonagian
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence DerHagopian	Mrs. Alice Paroonagian
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Eretzian	Mrs. Nektar Paroonagian
A Friend	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Parnagian
Mr. Jack C. Goushian	Mr. & Mrs. Martin Parnagian
Ms. Berjoohy Haigazian	Mr. Robert Sarkisian
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hatatian	Mr. & Mrs. Ara Shakarjian
Mr. & Mrs. Arsen Hanamirian	In memory of Garabed Shirinian
Mr. & Mrs. Zaven Hovsepian	Mr. & Mrs. George Stepanian
Mr. & Mrs. Vartan Javian	Mr. & Mrs. Karnig Thomassian
Mr. & Mrs. André Javardian	Mr. & Mrs. Jack Vishab
	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Vishab
	Mr. & Mrs. Berj Yeretzian

PARISH COUNCIL — 1976

John Mirakian, *Chairman*
 Berj Yeretzian, *Vice-Chairman*
 Charles Antaramian, *Treasurer*
 Naomi Kapeghian, *Recording Secretary*
 Ara Shakarjian, *Corresponding Secretary*
 Lawrence DerHagopian, *Advisor*
 Harry Andonian, *Advisor*
 Jack Vishab, *Advisor*
 George Garabedian, *Advisor*
 Sebouh Minassian, *Advisor*
 Edward Zarzatian, *Advisor*

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Co-Chairmen:
 Albert Kapeghian
 Sebouh Minassian

Secretary:
 Jeanette Der Hagopian

Treasurer:
 Azad Attarian

Reservations:
 Richard Vishab
 Karnig Thomassian

Publicity:
 Acabe Boornazian

Booklet:
 André Javardian

Advisors:
 Robert Damerjian
 Arsen Kashkashian
 Berj Yeretzian