



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate

November 15, 1994

The Reverend Father Sahag Kaishian, Pastor
St. Gregory The Illuminator Church
110 Main St.
Haverhill, MA 01830

Dear Father Sahag:

I would like to put in writing the issues which we discussed on the phone.

1) Someone who is not a dues paying member can address the Parish Assembly or raise a question only with the permission of the Chair.

2) a. According to article 7 of our By-laws, a new member can vote in an assembly only if he has registered and paid his dues six months prior to the date of the assembly.

b. According to article 8 of our By-laws a member who has not paid his dues for one or more years automatically loses his membership in the Assembly. To reinstate his right he must pay his dues in arrears for at least the previous two years.

3) According to the clergy stipend guideline the parish must pay 28 cents per mile which covers the entire cost of the automobile. Another approach could be if the parish pays the costs directly, i.e. gas, oil, repairs, insurance...

I understand that for small parishes increasingly its getting difficult to follow the stipend guideline. One must not forget that, the guideline is a minimum criterion for clergy. Such things as cars and telephones are important for the pastor to reach out to his parishioners.

If the parish is looking for cuts they must look elsewhere and/or they must raise the funds for such things to facilitate the work of the pastor.

With prayers,

Father Haigazoun Najarian
Vicar General

FHN/as