

## 1993 Pastors Report

As of November 1, 1992 by the assignment of His Eminence, Archbishop Khajag Barsamian. I became Deacon-in-Charge of this parish. In that capacity I carried out the pastoral and administrative duties of a full time clergyman.

Upon my ordination of the Sacred Priesthood on February 21, 1993, I was appointed the pastor of this community.

Since that time I have celebrated the Divine Liturgy every Sunday except for May 2 when I was at the Diocesan Assembly in Chicago, October 17 when Hayr Krikor Maksoudian was invited to be the guest celebrant in connection with our parish's Appreciation Day and December 5 when His Eminence celebrated the Divine Liturgy on the occasion of our church's 48th anniversary.

On October 3 I celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. John the Baptist Armenian Church in Greenfield, WI on the occasion of their 51st Anniversary. On the two Sundays when no priest was available Deacon Garabed Loosian conducted the Matins and Jashou Services.

I performed and participated in 2 baptisms, 3 weddings and 7 funerals (4 parishioners and 3 at other churches).

I officiated at all special rituals in accordance with the Liturgical Calendar and Canons of the Church.

1993 was a period to become better acquainted with church members by making visitations to parishioners homes, as well as businesses. I also began making regular visits to various area hospitals and nursing homes to help care for the pastoral and spiritual needs of the members of our community in those institutions.

I supervised the operations of the church office and have been in charge of parish mailings & flyers, correspondence and record keeping.

I reinstated the publication of the parish newspaper "Loosavorich". Three issues were published in 1993. I express much gratitude to Yerezgin Lana who wrote most of the articles as well as handled the editing and typesetting. With the assistance of two new volunteers, we plan to publish the newsletter on a monthly basis to keep our parishioners better updated and informed.

As the president of all parish auxiliary organizations, I attended meetings and functions whenever possible.

During the course of the year I established a training program for those who serve at the altar. Five boys were bestowed the four Minor Orders and two older servers became Sub-deacons. I look forward to continuing to instruct our altar servers and hope to see them continue to be elevated in the service of the Holy Church.

This year a Sunday School pre-school was established for children ages 1-4 years old. The new program allows our youngest parishioners to have fun and learn together and gives parents more freedom to participate in our worship. We were blessed with increased enrollment for the Sunday School and increased adult participation in instruction. The Sunday School has also become more involved in parish activities and participated, once again, in an American Christmas Eve Service which was attended by more than fifty people.

During the year I also worked closely with a newly established census committee which sent a questionnaire to all parishioners. We had a very good response which has allowed us to better understand the needs of our parishioners.

A membership committee was also established to try to build up church membership. The number of registered members increased from 91 in 1992 to nearly 130 this year.

Preliminary meetings were held to re-establish an Armenian School and an auxiliary organization for young adults.

An effort was made to give the church more recognition and visibility in the Haverhill area. Several articles appeared in the Haverhill Gazette and the Lawrence Eagle Tribune. Press releases were also sent by the church office to the Armenian Mirror-Spectator, The Armenian Church Diocesan newspaper and the Boston Globe, who all published articles on events that took place in our church.

During 1993, I participated in meetings of the Greater Haverhill Clergy Association and have invited clergy from neighboring parishes to participate in our church functions.

I have also represented our parish in other local churches and New England area Armenian churches.

I also attended the graduation gathering of the Knights of Vartan where I was invited to give the opening prayer and final benediction.

I represented our parish at both New England Regional semi-annual assemblies. I was also elected to New England Regional Council and attended the monthly meeting regularly.

This is a brief recounting of some of the duties I have performed during the year. There are many things left to be done and much room for growth and improvement.

I express my deep appreciation to the organizations and individuals who worked so hard for the church this year.

Special thanks to the Parish Council, Altar Servers, Choir and Organists, Choir and Sunday School Directors and teachers, Ladies Aide Society, Mr. & Mrs. Club, Women's Guild and the various committee chairmen and members, and to all who gave of the time, energy and resources for the building up of the church.

May God bless you and may His Holy Spirit continue to guide His Church in Haverhill.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Sahag Kaishian". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Fr. Sahag Kaishian