

1994 NAIRI CHOIR

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN CHURCH

The membership of the Nairi Choir is 14 dedicated and hard-working members. The 1994 Executive Body was as follows:

Michelle Babikian	Chairlady
George Nahabedian	Vice-Chairman
Pauline Nahabedian	Secretary
Margaret Sarkesian	Treasurer

ACTIVITIES

We were very lucky to have Maestro Khoren Mekhanedjian, Director of the Holy Echmiadzin Cathedral Choir, visit our Parish three times this year. Maestro Mekhanedjian is presently directing the St. Vartan Cathedral Choir and is extending his talents in teaching at seminars throughout the Diocese. His first visit here was on Monday, February 21st, and a choral workshop was held. On his next visit in July, we held one workshop and attended another at St. James Armenian Church in Evanston. On Sunday, July 17th, Maestro Khoren conducted our combined choirs in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at St. Gregory's. Maestro Khoren visited us again in October to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of our Church. We held a choral workshop, and on Sunday, October 2nd, the Maestro conducted our Choir and members of our sister churches who joined us that day in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

We held several Choir meetings and rehearsals during the year in order to prepare for the Feast Days and special occasions.

With the guidance and direction of our new Parish Priest, the Very Reverend Father Paren Avedikian, we know that we will have a strong new year in 1995, and hope that our Choir will grow in numbers.

Under the supervision and direction of Father Paren, a permanent Armenian Bookstore has been established and is operated by the Nairi Choir. There are books of all types...Armenian religion, history, literature, cooking, etc. as well as cassette tapes, CDs, and records for sale each Sunday after Church services. This is a wonderful means of providing the parish of St. Gregory with Armenian reading materials and is proving to be very successful. The Bookstore is being funded by the Nairi Choir Scholarship Fund which was established several years ago to financially assist in the religious educational needs of our Parish.

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Nairi Choir for their dedication and support throughout the year. I pray that we will continue to be a strong arm of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church. Also, our thanks to all the parishioners for their support.

Our financial statement for the year 1994 is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michelle Babikian".

Michelle Babikian
Chairlady
Nairi Choir