

Esteemed Mr. Assembly Chairman,  
Parish Council Members and  
Ladies and Gentlemen;

The year 1973 too has now been added to the history of St. Gregory Chicago parish. That includes a date which caused deep sorrow to us all: 9 January, 1973. That is when Rev. Sarkis Kashikjian, Pastor of this parish, passed away. Blessed be his soul. Let's all stand up for one minute in silent tribute to Father Sarkis . Thank you.

1. APPOINTMENT TO NEW POSITION

On 13 January, 1973, immediately following Father Sarkis' interment, our primate, the Most Rev. Arbp. Torqom Manoogian, named me visiting clergyman too and in charge of this parish. This is the second time that I have been appointed. The first was during 1959-60, when the Most Rev. Arbp Sion Manoogian was primate.

My report essentially consists of three brief parts:

- a. General remarks
- b. Spiritual life and
- c. Modifications

1. GENERAL REMARKS

In this section are resumed all our church organizations. Here I must say that, without exception, they all need more work and the entertaining of new projects. It is the duty of each organizations governing body:

- a..The growth of membership
- b. The improvement of the financial status and the means and ways of doing so,
- c. The preparation of upcoming events.

Any organization that may neglect in any one of these points will not be successful in its mission. Accordingly,

I strongly urge everyone to be attentive and respect these points.

2. PARISH COUNCIL

During 1973, the trustees did their best. Neverthe less mere could be accomplished if there was a greater attendance at all council meetings and more adequate participation in the performance of necessary tasks. I shall be pleased to see the trustees approach their responsibilities with still greater care.

3. CHURCH SUBSIDIARY ORGANIZATIONS

I shall not speak about these organizations one by one as their own chairpersons will do so in a just a short while.

4. PLANNING OF ACTIVITIES

All our organizations are requested to submit to me a complete list of their activities for 1974 by February 1974.

5. MERGER

On 24 July, 1973, I met with Chicago parents in here. After consultations we decided to merge our Armenian Schools.

6. 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The 75th anniversary of the establishment of our Diocese was celebrated on 16 Sept. 1973, here, by our greater Chicago three Churches together. Former Primate Arbp Sion Manoogian, was invited from Detroit for this occasion, also was the main speaker.

7. FALL REGIONNAL MEETING

On 26 Oct., 1973, a regional conference was held in West Pullman, gathering the three parishes of Evanston, Chicago and West Pullman, present were Primate Arcb. Torkom Manoogian and Diocesan Executive Director Jack Antreassian. The subject was stewardship and Endowment Fund.

8. EMERGENCIES

There are serious calls and cases such as sickness, I visit West Pullman, Waukegan, Indiana and other towns.

9. MARTYRS DAY

On 29 April, 1973, the three parishes of Evanston, Chicago and West Pullman, jointly observed the Martyrs' Day in here.

10. PARISH MONTHLY

The parish monthly was not published due to the tight schedule of the members of its newly formed committee. However, this year the situation will change.

11. ORDINATION OF DEACON

<sup>Ohanesian</sup>  
Michael ~~Channessian~~ was ordained deacon on 23 December, 1973, in St. Gregory Church by Primate Torkom Manoogian.

12. DEACON-IN-CHARGE

The Primate has appointed Michael Ohanessian as Deacon-in-charge of this parish effective as of to-day. Sunday, 27 January, 1974. All of us ought to help and cooperate with him.

13. NEW CHOIR ADMINISTRATION

On 11 November, 1973 we had a meeting with all the choir members in the church hall and constituted the new board:

- a. Chairman.....Kegham Perseghian
- b. Vice Chairman.....Sarkis Gercikyan
- c. Treasurer .....Shnorheeg Hitik
- d. Ass. Treasurer .....Garbis Sazian
- e. Secretary.....Charles Babigian
- f. Choir leader.....Violet Koresian
- g. Ass. Choir leader.....Sona Yazijian

14. NAME OF THE CHOIR

On 9 December, 1973, after Divine Liturgy, Choir members once again conferred in the church hall and unanimously decided to name the choir NAIRI.

II SPIRITUAL LIFE

- 1 a. 15.....Divine Liturgies  
 b. 1.....Arcb. Sion Manoogian  
 c. 1.....Primate  
 3 REV. VARTANES PAPAZIAN } 20

2. BAPTISMS

- a. three

3. FUNERALS

- a. ~~six~~ seven

4. SYMPATHIES

- a. six

5. REQUIEM SERVICES

- a. ~~nine~~ Ten

6. VISITINGS OF THE SICK

305 sick calls and Holy Communion following parishes, Chicago, Waukegan, West Pullman and Indiana. 50 sick calls and Holy Communion in Evanston parish, the total 355.

7. WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

One golden wedding anniversary Mr & Mrs Nahabedian.

8. CHURCH CONSECRATION

St. Gregory 9th church consecration anniversary

9. INSTALATION SERVICE

March 18, 1973 right after church services the new officers of the Parish Council of this church were installed.

## 10. COMPENSATION

On 23 December, 1973, Charles Babigian, Jean Paklaian, Edward Kilijian, Garbis Sazian, Sarkis Gircikian and Arto Hitik, received minor degrees in choir from Primate Arbp. Torkom Manoogian in this church.

## 11. REHEARSALS

Every Tuesday evening during the 1973 Lent we had rehearsals for:

- a. The choir
- b. Twin incense burners
- c. Candle holders
- d. Readings (Easter). <sup>of scriptures</sup> This last one hadn't been done for six years.

## 12. MATINS

During 1973 we had matins before Divine Liturgy. On those Sundays when there was no liturgy, deacons Magar Nahabedian and Kegham Parseghian assisted by the choir officiated matins. Thus, the church doors always remained open to the faithful to come and pray.

## 13. VISITING CLERGY

~~Acc~~ceding to the Parish Council's and our wishes the primate sent Rev. Vertanes Papazyan here to officiate from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, 1973.

Most Rev. Arbp. Sion Manoogian celebrated the Divine Liturgy and offered the sermon on 16 September 1973, here at St. Gregory Church.

On 23 December, 1973, Primate Torkom Manoogian offered the sermon and ordained a deacon during the Divine Liturgy, he celebrated here.

## ~~III~~ MODIFICATIONS

### 1. QUOTA

This is the first time that we shall implement this system

in this parish. I am confident that every organization will cooperate with this new method.

a. Trustees.....	\$4,000.00
b. Ladies Auxiliary.....	\$3,000.00
c. Ladies Guild .....	\$3,000.00
d. A. C. W. O. A .....	\$1,000.00
e. Choir .....	\$ 100.00

#### 12. ATTENDANCE OF TRUSTEES

During 1973, we prepared and submitted to the trustees a list which contained a distribution of their names together with a schedule of Sundays when a particular trustee was expected to be on duty.

We shall issue a revised one for 1974.

#### 13. ANNUAL PICNIC

It was only in 1973 that we did this. Henceforth, the Parish Council must do this as a rule. People are requested to donate towards the annual parish picnic the following:

- a. Meat (money)
- b. Raffle gifts, and
- c. Other miscellaneous items.

#### 14. REQUEM SERVICES

Those who ask for a requiem service must:

- a. Come to the altar and kiss the Gospel <sup>when</sup> ~~as the~~ choir sings Holy God (SOORP ASDVADZ)
- b. Partake Holy Communion and
- c. Offer the choir some gift (as desired)

#### 15. MAKING OF BLACK VESTMENTS

Upon my recommendation, the board of Trustees paid for the expenses of four new black vestments to be used by

1. Deacon Magar Nahabedian
2. Sub-Deacon Kegham Parseghian
3. Clerk Garabed Babigian and
4. Clerk John Paklayan

16. OFFICIAL VISITING MONTH

One of the most important jobs of the parish council is visiting people. Accordingly, I proclaim November, 1974, as official visitation month. I shall be providing necessary details to the council which, I expect, will implement them in cooperation with Deacon Michael Hovhannessian.

17. SPECIAL FEE LIST

In 1973, I had prepared and submitted to the Parish Council a special list of fees to be charged for consultations. The same applies for 1974 as well. Every member is required to respect this rules.

18. IT'S IMPORTANT

- A. Every organization's board must meet twice a year.
- B. Membership Committee
- C. Budget Committee
- D. The preservation of the existing friendship and cooperation between our diocesan parishes.
- F. Without exception every registered member must do his duties in time.
  - 1. Material (Pledge, membership dues)
  - 2. Abstract (Encouraging activities, etc.)
- G. During Divine Liturgy the loitering here in this hall is strictly prohibited.

Dear Members:

I am quite sure that some of the points I just made may seem harsh to you, but you'll get used to it. You must all practice. All that I have said is for the good of the parish. This is your desire too, I am sure.

Before I finish, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Board of Trustees for having worked with and assisted me during an entire year, the deacons, the choir and all the organizations.

Thank you for listening, *AND* may God bless  
all of you.