

1989 NAIRI CHOIR REPORT

ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN CHURCH

The membership of the Nairi Choir is 20 dedicated and hard-working members.

The 1989 Executive Body was as follows:-

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

The Nairi Choir conducted 3 full membership meetings during the year and met for rehearsals twice per month throughout the year.

We opened our year on January 1, 1989, with a balance of \$200.00, and ended with \$200.00. A complete financial statement is attached.

ACTIVITIES

On February 12, 1989, the members of the Choir contributed the luncheon for the annual Parish Assembly Meeting.

On April 23, 1989, the parishes of St. Gregory the Illuminator of Chicago along with St. James of Evanston commemorated Martyr's Day at St. Gregory Armenian Church. The Nairi Choir participated in the program following the Divine Liturgy with a choral selection.

The Nairi Choir prepared dinner and made a condolence visit on September 24, 1989, to the home of Mrs. Vartouhie DerMinassian, mother and grandmother of Choir members, Mrs. Helen Babikian and Ms. Michelle Babikian.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza and Ms. Michelle Babikian attended the 43rd Annual A.A.C.C.A. (Association of Armenian Church Choirs of America) Assembly hosted by the Sts. Sahag and Mesrob Armenian Church of Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, in November 1989.

The Nairi Choir invited Reverend Father Arshen Aivazian of St. Leon Armenian Church of FairLawn, New Jersey, to conduct a lecture series on the Divine Liturgy over the December 2-3, 1989, weekend. On Saturday, December 2nd, Father Arshen conducted his lecture for the entire day. It was a spiritually enlightening and highly educational experience for all those who attended. The meaning of the Divine Liturgy was explained in full detail.

Father Arshen celebrated the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 3rd. On this day, we also celebrated our 8th Anniversary with a delicious buffet and sweet table following Church services.

On December 9, 1989, the Nairi Choir had our annual Christmas Party which was held at the Sayat Nova Restaurant in downtown Chicago.

We had planned an evening of Christmas caroling to the homes of the Parish elderly, however due to extremely cold weather conditions, we had to cancel our plans.

In 1987, the Nairi Choir established our Scholarship Fund in cooperation and under the guidance of the Parish Priest and Parish Council. The fund is available to qualifying individuals for financial assistance in attending Church-related training programs. We were very pleased this year to sponsor Mr. Raffi Hazarian, an altar server, who attended the Deacon's Training and Liturgical Music Program in June, 1989. We hope that we will always be in a position to financially assist those who are seriously interested in attending religious training programs. We also hope that in return, those who attend these programs will bring back what they've learned to serve our Church.

Although at times it may seem that our progress may be slow, our Choir should be very proud of what we've achieved in the past and our capabilities for the future. The year 1989 ended on a strong and positive note. The commitment of the Choir members to our Church and Choir is extremely strong. As always, we will continue to attempt to bring religious and cultural education to the Church. The Nairi Choir recognizes the great need for this.

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 the Nairi Choir will continue to be a strong arm of St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church. Also, our thanks to all the parishioners for their support of our Choir.

We close our books this year with \$200.00 as is allowed by the A.A.C.C.A. By-Laws.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Babikian  
Chairlady  
Nairi Choir  
St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church  
Chicago, Illinois