\*

#### REPORTS ANNUAL

BOOKLET

- 1963 -

#### ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

#### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

#### ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

Friday, February 28, 1964

8 P.M.

At The Armenian Cultural Building 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, Michigan

#### AGENDA

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Verification of eligible voters
- 3. Election of officers of Parish Assembly (Chairman and Secretary)
- 4. Minutes of the Parish Assembly of 1963
- 5. Partial Election of Parish Council (5 members)
  6. The Pastor's Annual Report and Message
  7. Parish Council Annual Report

- 8. Apostolic Society Report (Activities and financial)
- 9. Election of Board of Directors of Armenian Apostolic Society
- 10. Activities of Church Organizations
- 11. Annual Financial Statements of Church Organizations
- 12. Cemetery Committee Report (Armenian Memorial at Woodlawn)
- 13. Diocesan Delegation's Report
- 14. Auditor's Report

- 15. Cultural Building Report
  16. Membership and Pledge Program Report
  17. Budget Report and Approval of the Proposed Budget for 1964
  18. New Proposals
  19. Proposals to the Diocesan Assembly

- 20. Election results announcement of newly elected Parish Council Members
- 21. Adjournment

REV. FR. DIRAN PAPAZIAN Pastor of St. John's Armenian Church and President, Parish Assembly

Harry Zartarian Secretary, Parish Council

Martin P. Apkarian Chairman, Parish Council

## ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT 22001 Northwestern Highway Southfield, Michigan

## PASTORAL REPORT - 1963 (Presented at the General Parish Assembly February 28, 1964)

#### Dear Parishioners:

Thanks be to God for the successful completion of the second year in our new building in Southfield. 1963 completes the sixth year of my ordination into priesthood for St. John's Armenian Church. With God's mercy and help we have had another year of fruitful service that has brought our plans to conclusion or to closer fulfillment.

Early Spring in 1964, ground will be broken for our million dollar Church building in traditional Armenian architectural style. The entire community must support this God-pleasing project which Detroit so desperately needs and deserves. This will be our second one million dollar venture within a short span of time which really reflects the love and sacrifice of our community.

#### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND PLEDGE SYSTEM

There are 1,600 families on our mailing list. Our pledge paying membership numbers 1,010. Fifty-one new families joined the Church during 1963. It is regrettable that 274 pledgers (more than one-fourth of the total) have not fulfilled their promise to their Church.

To meet the annual budget accepted by the General Parish Assembly of last year, it is necessary that we achieve 100% fulfillment of our pledged amounts.

The Church can efficiently execute its duties and responsibilities only if adequate funds are available. Please do not neglect your Church in this area.

We should aim during the coming year toward an average of \$100.00 per family.

#### WORSHIP

Divine Liturgy was celebrated each Sunday except during the Lenten Period (February 25 - March 31). Other exceptions were June 2, Pentecost, when the Pastor was hospitalized, July 7, when the Pastor returned to Church, and September 1, when he attended the Annual ACYOA Assembly held in Montreal, Canada.

In addition to Sunday Worship, Badarak was celebrated Armenian Christmas Eve (Saturday, January 5); St. Vartanantz Day (Thursday, February 21); Maundy Thursday (Thursday, April 11); Easter Eve (Saturday, April 13); and Memorial Badarak for martyred President John Fitzgerald Kennedy (Monday, November 25).

Fresh flowers adorned the Holy Altar every Sunday by arrangement of the Pastor.

#### PRAYER FOR AN ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Grant, O Lord, that thy Holy Spirit may preside over us now in all our concerns and deliberations for the welfare of this parish. We thank thee for all the blessings of the past year, and pray that we may go together from strength to strength in the year before us. Help us all to dedicate ourselves to thee, and to be ready to make sacrifice of time and money for the extension of thy kingdom.

Guide us, we beseech thee, in the choice of our Parish Council, and may they discharge their duties faithfully.

We praise thee for those thy servants who labored and worshipped here before us, and especially for those who have departed this life since we last met together. Grant to them eternal rest, O Lord, and let thy light perpetual shine upon them; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Special church services were held on various occasions. Giramoudk services were held before Divine Liturgy Armenian Christmas Eve (January 5); Palm Sunday Eve (April 6); and Easter Eve (April 13). Blessing of the Water (Tchurorhnek)in commemoration of our Lord's Baptism was performed on Armenian Christmas (Sunday, January 6). Sunrise services and midday services were offered on Lenten Sundays; Vigil services (Peace and Rest hours) were offered on Wednesday evenings during Lent. Holy Week observances were conducted with Trunpatzek (Opening of the Door) on Palm Sunday evening (April 7); Feet-Washing ceremony on Maundy Thursday afternoon (April 11); Khavaroom (Betrayal of Christ) on Maundy Thursday night (April 11); Tre-Ore service (Crucifixion of Christ) in English on Good Friday noon (April 12); and Taghoom (Burial of Christ) on Good Friday evening.

Special Church School communion devotional programs were conducted on Saturdays prior to Armenian Christmas and Easter. Midday services were held prior to monthly meetings of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

Grape blessing ceremony was performed on the Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary on August 18. Festive Antasdan (Processional Blessing of Four Corners of the World) on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was conducted on September 15.

Pontifical prayer services were offered on various occasions according to the direction of our Church calendar, such as on the name day and the anniversary of the consecration of His Holiness Lord Lord Vasken I, Catholicos of All Armenians, and on the occasion of the Feast of Holy Etchmiadzin.

Our major holy days were observed with great solemnity and attended by an overflowing congregation. Special mention should be made of Armenian Christmas (January 6), Palm Sunday (April 7), Easter Sunday (April 14), Assumption (August 18), and Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 15). The first three feast days were performed on the Holy Altar of the Holy Resurrection in the main auditorium of the Cultural Building.

Sermons were delivered every Sunday by the Pastor and on special pre-arranged occasions by guest clergymen. Intermittently, sermons were delivered in English.

The following guest clergymen and deacons participated in services in our Church in 1963.

Deacon Levon N. Zenian, Superintendent of Church School and inspiring lay preacher, delivered the sermon on occasions and on alternate Sundays of the summer months.

The Very Rev. Shahe Ajamian, Patriarchal Delegate from Jerusalem, preached on March 3, March 31 and April 28, and celebrated Easter Divine Liturgy.

The Most Rev. Tiran Archbishop Nersoyan, Dean of St. Nersess Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, delivered sermons on March 17 and November 24, and offered the eulogy on Monday, November 24, at the Memorial Badarak for President Kennedy.

The Very Rev. Guregh Vartabed Kapikian, Patriarchal Delegate from Jerusalem, celebrated Divine Liturgy on April 21, Armenian Memorial Day.

Rev. Fr. Vertanes Papazian, retired clergyman from New York, assumed the Pastoral duties while our Pastor was hospitalized during the month of June and early part of July.

Very Rev. Zaven Vartabed Arzoomanian, pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Philadelphia, conducted Divine Liturgy on July 2, Sunday of Transfiguration, and delivered the sermon.

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kalfayan, former pastor of Yetem, California and presently retired, was guest preacher on October 27.

Very Rev. Yeznik Apegha Chavdarian, student at the St. Nerses Seminary, celebrated Divine Liturgy and preached the sermon on December 8.

Deacon Hovhannes Kasparian, instructor and assistant to the Dean of St. Nersess Seminary, gave the sermon at a Lenten Vigil service on March 20, and also delivered the sermon on December 29.

Very Rev. Vahrij Apegha Kazanjian, a student at the St. Nersess Seminary, celebrated Divine Liturgy on December 29.

#### SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS

During 1963, seventy-eight baptisms, including six adult baptisms and adult confirmations of non-Armenians who were accepted into our faith at the time of their marriage to an Armenian, were performed.

Six betrothals were blessed and seventeen matrimonial services, two of which were out-of-state, one in Long Island, N.Y., and the other in Cleveland, Ohio, were performed.

Sixty-three funeral services were conducted, one of which was held in Cleveland. Grateful acknowledgment is extended to the families who made it possible for friends and relatives to contribute, in part or totally, to our Church Building Fund, a sizable amount in lieu of flower donations.

Requiem services were performed almost every Sunday, usually on the 40th day or first year of passing, for loved ones upon request by families and relatives. Sundays following major feast days were considered Armenian Memorial Days.

General requiem services were held on Vartanantz Day, February 21, for all the Armenian deceased; on April 21, for parish members who had fallen asleep in Christ during 1962; on April 29, for deceased members of the AGBU upon request of the organization; and on May 26 (nearest Sunday to Memorial Day) for the departed members of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

On the occasion of Armenian Memorial Day, Sunday, April 21, General Hokehankist was held for all Armenian martyrs massacred in 1915. On the same day, Madaghorknek (blessing of sacrificial offering of lamb) was also held and Madagh was distributed to the congregation.

Graves were blessed on Memorial Day (May 30) and at other times upon request.

On December 8 (closest Sunday to the anniversary of Pearl Harbor), the Veterans had a general Hokehankist for their deceased comrades, after which their annual Madaghorhnek took place with a short program.

Initiation and installation services were held for all church affiliated organizations for new members and newly elected officers.

Divine Liturgy was performed and a special memorial service was conducted on Monday, November 25, in memory of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan delivered the stirring eulogy to an overflowing congregation.

On December 29, a special requiem service was offered on the 40th day of the mourning period of President Kennedy and Bishop Terenig Poladian who was assassinated in Beirut, Lebanon, on the same day of the death of President Kennedy. In conjunction with the above, requiem service was also said for Archbishop Leon Tourian, former Primate of our Diocese, who was slain on a Christmas day some three decades ago.

On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, a special midnight service was performed in English by our Pastor with the participation of the ACYOA.

On New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 1964, special services and prayers were said in our Chapel by the Pastor for the progress and advancement of our parish in the coming year.

#### FAREWELL BADARAK

One of the important events that took place in our parish during 1963, was the Farewell Badarak held on Second Palm Sunday (May 26) in our old Church at 1335 Oakman Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan (near the city of Highland Park), before turning it over to the new owners on the following day. An overflowing congregation gathered to worship there for the last time. The Church served our community so well for the past thirty years. Although we moved to our new location in Southfield in October, 1960, with a grand opening dedication dinner, the Old Church and Cultural Building were kept until the above date for occasional use.

#### PASTORAL VISITATIONS AND CALLS

Pastoral visitations and calls refer to sick calls at homes and hospitals, home blessings, attendance at public and private functions, pastoral counseling, sympathy calls, visits to homes or places of business. The Pastor made it a point to support all church affairs by attending and presiding over them.

Pastoral counseling is extended to parishioners on personal, marital, and family problems.

Throughout the year, 79 sick calls, including some emergency communions, were made; 76 other pastoral calls were made.

Funeral: The Pastor calls upon the family immediately, when possible, to offer consolation and to assist in arrangements. The evening prior to the day of the funeral, a chapel service is held at the funeral home. The day of the funeral, following services in the Church and interment at the cemetery, the Pastor attends the Hokejash to bless the Memorial Meal. Sympathy calls are made, if possible, within forty days following the burial. Whenever the family requests, graves are blessed, usually on the 40th day and first year.

Eulogies were delivered by the Pastor at each funeral.

Marriage: Pre-marital counseling is held by the Pastor who also at times conducts the rehearsals. The Pastor is also present to bless the wedding feast and to share the happiness of the families. It is the desire of the Pastor to call upon these newly formed families, thus fulfilling an important ministry.

Messages were delivered by the Pastor at each wedding.

Christening: The Pastor gives an explanation concerning the significance of the Sacrament of baptism and confirmation whenever he deems it necessary. He often conducts parts of the ceremony in English. At the invitation of the family, he attends the gathering for the occasion. In connection with adult baptisms and confirmations, which includes cases of inter-marriage, catechetical instructions are given.

It is the wish of the Pastor to make more visitations and to bless more homes. Due to illness of our Pastor during the summer months of 1963, and to the increasing birden of parish office work, the number of calls was restricted. Whenever possible, every effort was extended to fulfill requests for various visits. More time, however, must be devoted to visiting the homes of the flock.

#### CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

In addition to the regular presentation of outstanding guest lecturers and observances of national holidays in each auxiliary group, a parish-wide program was also presented.

Distinguished clergymen and laymen who visited our city were contacted by our Pastor and asked to speak to our community in the Cultural Building.

Professor Emmanuel Varantyan, Ohio State University, lectured on the thematic development of Armenian Literature at the Dearborn campus of the University of Michigan on March 15.

Mr. Armand Guirag, tenor, appeared in connection with AGBU Founder's Day Concert on March 31.

The Very Rev. Shahe Ajamian presented slides and films of Jerusalem at the Jerusalem Tea given in connection with the Restoration of the Holy Sepulchre Project on April 28.

Miss Anahid Apelian, psychology graduate student of the University of Michigan, lectured under the sponsorship of the PTA on May 15.

Mr. Antranick Antreasian, noted Armenian author from Boston, lectured by invitation of the Detroit Armenian Democratic League on June 7.

Professor Emmanuel Varantyan spoke in connection with the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Armenian troubadour Sayat Nova on November 10.

Deacon Nersess Jebejian, Cleveland, Ohio, showed slides on PTA Summer Camp Life on November 19.

Sunday, February 24, the Annual Vartanantz Program presented a portion of the play, "The Battle of Vartanantz," under the direction of Mr. Hagop Der Stepanian.

Fr. Diran spoke to the Knights of Vartan on February 14, on Sts. Vartanantz Day. At other times, he spoke to the ACYOA Juniors on the significance of Lent; to the Ladies' Auxiliary at their Lenten Topic Luncheon; and to the AGBU October meeting on Armenian culture.

Occasional talks were given on the Armenian Radio Hour in connection with important holidays by the kind invitation of Mrs. Alice Der Vartanian. Distinguished visitors to our parish also gave addresses on the air, through the arrangement of the Pastor.

The ACYOA Juniors participated in a retreat in June at Camp Holiday, Pontiac. The retreat was directed by Rev. Fr. Dajad Davidian of Racine, with the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Boyajian and Mr. Dennis Papazian. Miss Rose Hanesian was responsible for the initial organization of this first retreat.

Armenian Cultural Month was celebrated on October 24, with a program centered on the Seven Saints known as the Holy Translators with the participation of the Pastor and through the efforts of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Women's Guild, and ACYOA Juniors.

Commencement programs were held for both Armenian and Church Schools. An Easter Pageant was presented for the first time by the Sunday School.

Under the direction of Church School, different religious study programs were offered to Church School Staff.

We would like to give recognition to the Parish Council for their annual contribution to the Wayne State University Armenian classes.

In connection with their scholarship grants, the AGBU awarded a full scholarship to Miss Gloria Korkoian, Wayne State Liberal Arts student and former graduate of our Church School, to pursue her studies at the Melkonian Institute in Cyprus.

Of worthy mention was the guest solo performance by pianist Miss Miriam Gargarian, a student of our Church School, with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra on Thursday, August 1.

#### CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

The Pastor presided over all Parish Council meetings. He also presided over most of the executive and general meetings of auxiliary groups giving guidance and encouragement to them, and on numerous occasions he was also called upon to give a message. He particularly attended the election meetings of the groups. He was also present at meetings of both special and standing committees.

During 1963, two parish meetings and one joint meeting of officers of all church affiliated groups were held: the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting held on Friday, March 15 to review achievements in 1962; Parish Preliminary Meeting for 1964, Sunday, December 15; Joint Quarterly Meeting, August 15, for discussion of pledges of organizations towards the building of the Church.

During the summer months, the Pastor, together with Deacon L. Zenian, Superintendent of Church School, attended to the organization and preparation of the 14th session of the Church School.

The Church School PTA Camp Project was held for the first time in our parish in 1963. This successful event was made possible through the efforts of Mr. Fred Demirjian, chairman, Deacon Zenian and many other volunteers. Deacon Nersess Jebejian, of Cleveland, was the camp's spiritual director. The Camp Project will expand its program for the summer of 1964.

The Pastor also worked closely with the Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian School and the ACYOA in the formation of a new Kindergarten School. A combined activity and worship program is offered each Sunday for 2–1/2 hours to pre-school children of our parish, under the able leadership of Mrs. Stephen Boyajian, Miss Aurora Melikian and Mrs. Nerses Nersesian.

The 4th Annual Church Picnic at the Michigan State Fair Grounds on Sunday, July 21, and the New Year's Eve Celebration, two annual affairs given by the Parish Council, were very successful due to the fine leadership of the chairmen, Mrs. Simon Javizian and Mr. Vahe Papelian, respectively.

The Men's Society Blood Bank Project was supported by parish members enthusiastically. Pancake lunches were also successfully given on several Sundays following Church services.

Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan, founder of the ACYOA, was the guest speaker at the ACYOA Day Program held on March 17.

The first Father's Day Banquet was initiated by the ACYOA Juniors on June 16. Mr. Edward Mardigian was honored as "Father of the Year" and Fr. Diran as "Spiritual Father of the Year."

The Choir Assembly was held in October in Watertown, Massachusetts. Deacon Harry Ekizian, choirmaster, and Miss Shakay Godoahian were delegates.

The Apostolic Society devoted 1963 to the task of improving the design of the new Church. Many hours of consultation were spent with Mr. Souren Pilafian, the architect, to perfect the interior of the Church. Mr. Edouard Utudjian, as our consultant architect from Paris, assisted us in the preparation of the Church design.

All church organizations moved forward in their loyal support of the Church.

The Pastor attended a total of 156 church auxiliary meetings throughout 1963.

#### JERUSALEM DELEGATES

During the historical visit of His Holiness Vasken I to Jerusalem in October, several of our parishioners made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The delegation consisted of the Martin Apkarians, Hagop Derderians, Alex Manoogian, Vahe Papelians, and Onnig Tabibians. Detroit had the greatest representation at the Jerusalem meeting. The Pastor was one of the few privileged who was invited by the Patriarch. However, his pressing duties in the parish did not permit him to attend this historic meeting.

#### INTRA-CHURCH

The Pastor made five out-of-state trips to participate in parish activities and Diocesan matters.

He participated in the clergyman's conference at St. Peter's Church in Troy, New York on May 16 and 17, and the Diocesan Assembly which followed on May 18 and 19. Fr. Diran was elected General Secretary at this assembly for the second consecutive year.

He also celebrated Divine Liturgy and delivered sermons while visiting these parishes: April 14, Easter Sunday in Cleveland; April 21, Armenian Memorial Day in Long Island, N.Y., where he also performed a wedding ceremony with the accompaniment of the pastor of the Church; and December 8, in Cleveland where he also presided over the Annual Parish Preliminary Meeting and performed a wedding ceremony.

On August 29 - September 3, the Pastor attended the 17th Annual ACYOA Assembly held in Montreal, Canada, and participated in church services there on September 1.

#### INTER CHURCH AND CIVIC RELATIONS

Our Church is a member of the Detroit Council of Churches. Our Pastor served on the Board of Directors and also in the Public Service Department. The Pastor also attended the Detroit Pastors' Union as a member and as a participant in their activities and in the National Confederation of American Ethnic Groups.

Whenever possible, he tried to attend cultural events and lectures organized by Church and civic groups.

On January 13, Fr. Diran lectured to the University Club on the opera, "David-Beg."

Sunday, February 10, he gave the invocation at the annual city-wide Brotherhood Rally worship program at Bethany Methodist Church.

March 16, he blessed the Hampikian Armenian Library on its opening day at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. G. Alexanian, of Southfield, Michigan.

The Pastor attended many official dinners during the year, giving the invocation and delivering closing remarks.

Accompanied by Church School teachers, he attended a workshop prepared for Sunday School teachers at the Temple Emanuel Synagogue, Oak Park, Michigan.

He was invited on May 4 to the dedication ceremony of the new library of the Lawrence Institute of Technology .

On May 8, he presented slides of the Divine Liturgy to the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, and on May 25, he gave a comprehensive talk on the history of the Armenian Church to a large group of children from the Grosse Pointe Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Assistance and advice were extended upon request to the Armenian-American Veterans who celebrated the opening of their new building on Saturday, April 20.

Pastor and Parish Council and their wives joined together with Southfield city officials for dinner on June 24, at our building, as a cordial gesture of public relations on our part.

By invitation of Mayor Orville Hubbard, our Pastor attended a special showing of "Townsend Towers" in Dearborn, a housing program for senior citizens, on August 22.

Our Pastor was among a group of Michigan educators who visited the USAF Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, on September 12–14, by the arrangement of Major Sarkis Samarian from our parish.

The Pastor participated in "I Am An American Day" in Highland Park in October.

On December 1, Fr. Diran gave the invocation at the Christmas Music Festival of the Detroit Council of Churches. Our Youth Choir under the direction of Mrs. Martin Apkarian presented Armenian songs and hymns from the Divine Liturgy.

The Pastor participated in many Armenian community organizations and is an active member of some of them.

He and members of the Ladies' Auxiliary visited the residents of the Armenian Home for the Aged biannually at Christmas and Easter to perform special services and to give Holy Communion. Accompanied by Mr. Harry Avakian of the choir and members of the Ladies' Auxiliary, he visited the Armenian patients at Eloise State Hospital during Christmas and Easter to perform services and to give Holy Communion. Packages were distributed by members of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

Good neighborly relations were maintained with the other Armenian denominational churches in our city.

On May 26, the TV program known as "Church at the Crossroads," televised our Jashou service performed by our Church and the Pastor both presided over the service and delivered the sermon.

Friendly relations were maintained with local newspapers who gave good coverage when informed of our activities.

#### CEMETERY PROJECT

The Armenian Community Memorial Garden at Woodlawn Cemetery, originally consisting of 2,000 plots, was realized in 1962 with a groundbreaking and cornerstone laying ceremony of the Armenian Memorial Shrine. The dedication of the Memorial Shrine and the unveiling of the altar piece took place on Sunday, October 27.

The extension of 1,000 additionally acquired grave-plots was blessed by Fr. Diran on Saturday, September 7. In the near future a second memorial shrine, depicting the Armenian Massacre of 1915 by the Turks, will be constructed in the newly acquired section.

On Saturday, October 26, the remains of the first pastor of our community, the Very Rev. Sahag Vartabed Nazaretian, were removed from Evergreen Cemetery to Woodlawn, and placed near the Armenian Memorial Shrine. A special requiem service was performed on the grave during the dedication ceremony the following day.

#### PARISH PUBLICATION AND OFFICE WORK

The Pastor took great interest in parish publications and extended their scope.

Weekly church bulletins were expanded to include important news items of a religious, educational, cultural, and social nature related to current church and community activities.

The "Torch Bearer," the parish paper, was published bimonthly whenever possible, and expanded news coverage with incorporated English and Armenian sections. It now reflects the entire parish and community life and as such is an historical record. Great attention has also been given to its attractive layout. An attempt will be made to publish it monthly in 1964. We thank the following individuals for their assistance in the paper's publication: Mrs. Margo C. Hatcherian for typing; and Mr. George Keurajian for preparation and donation of plates for each issue.

Christmas and Easter folders were prepared, as well as radio announcements and flyers.

A comprehensive annual parish report booklet for 1962 was published.

Official correspondence was maintained with the Diocesan office and other parishes of our  $\operatorname{\sf Diocese}$  .

Upon request, letters of recommendation were written by the Church office, and assistance was lent in personal matters of child adoption, social security, court cases, etc.

Mrs. Helen Armoudlian, our Church secretary, kept files, lists, ledgers and building rentals up to date. She has worked diligently to keep up with the ever-increasing work of the Church office.

My thanks to the Parish Council who being aware of the increasing desk work at the Church office has provided me with part-time help. Since Christmas, Miss Roslyn Melikian, student at Wayne University, has been helping me on a part-time basis.

#### APPRECIATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Those who perform services to the Church do so out of love of God and of the Armenian nation. The omniscient God sees and accepts these works of love. May each of you who have given of yourselves in any way be richly blessed and may you feel inspired to continue to labor in God's vineyard.

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the outstanding service of individuals and of each church affiliated group under the leadership of its capable chairmen.

Mr. Edward Mardigian, president of the Apostolic Society, and Mr. Alex Manoogian, chairman of the board and of the Church Building Project, have continued to lead the Church Building Project with vigor and purpose. May God grant them good health and long life as this project enters its final stage.

Mr. Martin Apkarian, chairman of the Parish Council, together with his colleagues, has devotedly carried out the administration of the Council and the Church with efficiency.

The other auxiliary groups and their capable leaders are to be commended for the fine work that they are doing:

Ladies' Auxiliary and chairman Mrs. Paul Mazloumian;

Women's Guild and chairman Mrs. Edward Carmen;

Men's Society, past chairman Mr. Arthur Boudakian, and current chairman Mr. Harry Khatchadourian;

ACYOA Seniors and chairman Mr. Edward H. Korkoian, Jr.;

ACYOA Juniors and chairman Mr. Gary Zamanigian and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Boyajian in their role as advisors to the Juniors;

Altar Guild, Mrs. John Avakian, past chairman, and Mrs. Soultanian, current chairman;

Komitas Choir, Mr. Souren Gozmanian and members who sing each Sunday; Choirmaster Deacon Harry Ekizian for faithful service; Deacons Ara Haig, Daniel Shahan, John Semezian and Mihran Hoplo nazian who seldom fail to assist at the altar. Our thanks also to visiting deacons Hagop Janoyan (Minneapolis, Minnesota) and Hagop Assadourian (Columbus, Ohio), and to clerks Hayrabed Merhafyan and Masa Carmen;

Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian School, Mr. Charles Astourian of the School Board, Mrs. Garbis Alexanian and staff;

Calouste Gulbenkian Kindergarten School, Mrs. Stephen Boyajian (ACYOA), Miss Aurora Melikian (ACYOA), Mrs. Nerses Nersesian (Armenian School) and staff;

Church Sunday School and Deacon L. N. Zenian and staff;

PTA, Mr. Fred Demerjian, past chairman, and Mrs. Albert Sarkisian, current chairman;

Auditors Messrs. Richard H. Simonian, Albert Semonian and Albert Marderosian;

Diocesan delegates and alternate Messrs. Martin Apkarian, Ara Haig, Edward Korkoian, Daniel Shahan, and Edward Sarkisian who attended the 1964 Diocesan Assembly;

Mr. George Mashlakjian (Parish Council) for his invaluable assistance in the administration of the building.

Mr. George Keurajian for helping in the area of public relations and for his generous donation of plates for the "Torch Bearer," Annual Report Booklet and other church publications.

Messrs. Bob Sivazlian (Church School) and Richard Vahratian (ACYOA) for their work with the youth of the church.

- Mr. Harry Marderosian as Church Ushers' Captain for compiling an ushers' manual.
- Mr. Hayrabed Mikaelian for his indispensable help during special church services.
- Mr. Charles Kahayan for the conscientious performance of sexton's duties.
- Mrs. Lousadzin Kazanjian (Ladies' Auxiliary) for the preparation of the large quantity of Mas that is distributed weekly.
- Mrs. Adam Karapetian (Women's Guild) for the packaging of Mas.
- The Veterans, Mr. Jack Kavlakian and associates for cooperation in providing facilities and space for our newly opened kindergarten.
- Messrs. George Bahadurian, C.P.A. and Richard Simonian, C.P.A. for the outstanding Annual Report Booklet prepared in their office.

#### PERSONAL REMARKS

In June and the early part of July during my illness and hospitalization, I experienced deep spiritual experience and satisfaction as a result of the affection and concern of my parishioners. Their many inquiries, visits, gifts, and cards were most appreciated.

In October the Pastor moved to a new rectory in Southfield, Michigan, located at a convenient distance from the Church. The good wishes of parish members and friends were sincerely received.

May God continue to pour His divine spirit in the hearts and to illumine the minds of our people, bringing them closer to the House of Worship with the same devotion as their forefathers.

l ask for your prayers and support for guidance of His humble servant through right paths.

Let us pray, all of us, for God's Almighty Providence upon our parish.

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor

St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit

Southfield, Michigan

#### PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

#### Fellow Parishioners:

In my capacity as Chairman of The Parish Council of St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit, I am privileged to report to you that our parish has continued to progress, and that we are now entering upon a most momentous phase of its long history of service to the Armenian Community of Detroit. Our parish has grown over the years and has expanded its facilities to meet the needs of its faithful. Step by step we have built our facilities to meet the demands of our people – first the Church on Oakman Blvd., then the Cultural Building next to the church, recently our new and magnificent new Cultural Building in Southfield and in the very near future a beautiful new church building, which will be a tribute to the spirit and sacrifice of the Armenian faithful of Greater Detroit. I feel privileged and fortunate to have had a share in this progress – certainly all of us can feel a great satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment in serving our Church and contributing to Her growth.

As our parish and its facilities have expanded, so have the requirement and the demands of our parishioners increased. Our schools – the Church School, the Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian School and the Kindergarten have grown at a fantastic rate. Our growing youth population is straining our facilities, and requires an adequate program of religious guidance, cultural and sports programs and other outlets for their energies and abilities.

Your Parish Council realizes that merely erecting buildings is not enough – we must make intelligent use of our facilities, so that they will fulfill the needs of our people, especially our youth. We also need competent, trained leadership, which can develop a worthwhile program of activities, that will meet the requirements of our parish.

With this need in mind the Parish Council during the past year, has been searching for trained people, who could give us the talents and leadership we need. We have been negotiating with a clergyman and a layman from the Near East, whom we feel can be invaluable assistance to us, and we hope to bring them to Detroit in the near future. They will be placed in active charge of the church schools, youth groups and other church activities as coordinators. The clergyman will of course assist in the religious phase of our parish life; and the layman will be invaluable in the church office and the pledge program.

I take this opportunity to thank all the church organizations and all the individuals, who have so graciously helped me and the Parish Council whenever they were called on for assistance.

To Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian and my fellow Parish Council Members, I express my heartfelt thanks for their unstinting cooperation and their dedicated devotion to their duties. It has been my pleasure to be part of a team, which works together for the glory of God and our Holy Mother Church.

Martin Apkarian, Chairman Parish Council

#### PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1963.

#### ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BODY

The combined meeting of outgoing and incoming Parish Council members and Diocesan Delegates met at Topinkas Country House on March 19, 1963, with the Most Rev. Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan as guest. As its first order of business after the General Membership Meeting of March 15, 1963, the newly constituted Parish Council of St. John's Armenian Church elected its Executive Body. The following officers were elected:

> Chairman Vice-Chairman Secretary Assit. Séciy. Treasurer

Martin P. Apkarian John K. Semizian Harry Zartarian Edward B. Korkoian Harry Kezelian

#### APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS AND FORMAL TRANSFER

During the same meeting the following appointments were made by the Executive Body for liaison Officers and Standing committees:

#### LIAISON OFFICERS:

Apostolic Society Armenian School

Church School Ladies Auxiliary

Women's Guild ACYOA

Men's Society Church Ushers Martin P. Apkarian Vahe Papelian Harry Zartarian

Edward B. Korkoian Hairabed Mikaelian Vahe Papelian John K. Semizian Harry Kezelian

Edward Yaqoobian Martin Manoogian Harry Kezelian

#### STANDING COMMITTEES:

Bookkeeping Pledge

Cultural Building

Church Ushers **Budget and Finance** Cemetery

**Publicity** Bnagabah (Books, Plate) Annual New Year's Eve

Affair Annual Picnic Martin Manoogian

John K. Semizian George Mashlakjian, Chairman Vahe Papelian, Co-Chairman

Harry Mardirosian Vahe Papelian

Karl Sarafian, Chairman Edward B. Korkoian, Co-Chairman

George Keurajian Hairabed Mikaelian

Vahe Papelian Simon Javizian Parish Council Chairman Martin P. Apkarian thanked the retiring members of the Parish Council and welcomed the new members to their posts. At this meeting a formal transfer of duties and material pertaining to the various offices was effected. The Parish Council decided unanimously to hold its regular meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise notified.

#### REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL DURING 1963

A total of 26 regular Parish Council meetings were held, three of which were held with the Diocesan Delegates. One Quarterly meeting, with all of the executive bodies of the various church affiliated organizations, was held during 1963. The Parish Council also had several special meetings with various church organizations to discuss problems arising within the groups and to clarify Parish Council policy and decisions.

The Executive Body of the Parish Council attended meetings of the Executive Body of the Armenian Apostolic Society where plans and designs for the new church building were being developed. The year 1963 witnessed the completion of the design and plans for our new house of worship, and actual construction will begin immediately after the ground breaking ceremonies to be held on Palm Sunday, March 22, 1964.

#### ARMENIAN COMMUNITY MEMORIAL AT WOODLAWN CEMETERY

Mr. Karl Sarafian was reappointed chairman of this committee which consisted of Mr. Edward B. Korkoian, co-chairman, Mr. Martin P. Apkarian and Mr. Edward Sarkisian. The Memorial Shrine erected by Woodlawn Cemetery with addition of the Resurrection Altar piece was dedicated on Sunday, October 27, 1963. Our Pastor, Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian and Rev. Fr. Garabed Kalfayan (of Yettem, California) assisted by Deacon Harry Ekizian, presided at the dedication ceremonies. A large group, consisting of the Cemetery Committee, Parish Council, Diocesan Delegates, Armenian Apostolic Society Executive Board, representatives of Woodlawn Cemetery and J. Howard Wendorph Associates and many parishioners, were in attendance. Following the dedication ceremonies, Fr. Diran and Fr. Garabed blessed the new resting place of the Very Rev. Sahag Vartabed Nazaretian, the first pastor of our church. The remains of Fr. Sahag had been transferred from Evergreen Cemetery by Mr. Edward B. Korkoian under the supervision of Fr. Diran, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Parish Council.

The terms of the original agreement with Woodlawn Cemetery and J. Howard Wendorph Associates were successfully fulfilled during 1963 with the sale of 1,000 spaces and in return Woodlawn Cemetery erected the Memorial Shrine, transferred title to 20 spaces to St. John's Armenian Church and reserved 1,000 spaces for the exclusive use of the Armenian Community. A new burial area was set up and blessed by Fr. Diran on September 7, 1963, in section 28 B, which is across the road from our present area in section 27. This area has 1,000 spaces and will feature a shrine, entitled "The Shrine of Tears," dedicated to the memory of the victims of the April 25, 1915 massacre of Armenians by the Turks. Spaces in this area, which is in the process of development, will be sold for \$200.00 each (at pre-need) as compared to the regular prices at Woodlawn Cemetery which begin at \$300.00. After a designated date, prices will revert to the current prices in effect at Woodlawn Cemetery at such time. Parishioners are thus afforded an opportunity to participate in this unique Armenian Community Memorial at worthwhile savings by purchasing space at the pre-need prices. The Armenian Community Memorial, when completed, will consist of 3,400 spaces and two inspiring shrines. This beautiful project will be a source of satisfaction and pride to our entire community.

### CHURCH SCHOOL

Deacon Levon Zenian was reappointed Superintendent of the Church School, without monetary compensation, as in the past, for the ensuing year. The Parish Council was gratified by Deacon Zenian's acceptance of this vital post which entails considerable personal sacrifice on his part. Under his dedicated leadership and inspired guidance, our parish is assured of the continued

progress of our Church School, which is the largest in our Diocese and the finest. The religious education of our children is of the highest calibre, due to the efforts of Deacon Zenian, the Church School Board and the most efficient teaching staff of the school.

#### CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL

Mr. Charles Astourian was reappointed Chairman of the reorganized Board of the Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian School and Mrs. Nvart Alexanian was reappointed principal.

The reorganized Board of the Calouste Gulbenkian School consists of:

Chairman Mr. Charles Astourian
Secretary Mrs. Sona Yavruian
Treasurer Mr. Nerses Nersesian
Advisor Mr. Sarkis Soultanian
Advisor Mr. Edward Sarkisian
Advisor Mr. Garbis Ohanian
Advisor Mrs. Emma Minasian

The Armenian School has made great progress and through the efforts of the School Board, the principal and the teaching staff has provided a much needed facility to those desirous of learning the mother language. At the present time, the enrollment in the Armenian School is over 140 students.

The Parish Council instituted a new and unique Kindergarten School for 4 and 5 year olds and assigned this project to the Calouste Gulbenkian School Board. This project has won overwhelming acceptance by our parishioners and under the capable guidance of Mrs. Nellie Boyajian, Miss Aurora Melikian, Mrs. Arshalouse Nersesian and their enthusiastic staff, the school has grown to about 100 children. The Kindergarten classes are held in the Armenian American Veterans Memorial – Recreation Building on Sunday mornings.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION IN TROY, N.Y., MAY 18, 19, 20, 1963

Representing our parish at the Diocesan Convention at St. Peters Armenian Church of Troy, New York, were:

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian Mr. Martin P. Apkarian Mr. Edward Sarkisian, (Alternate) Deacon Daniel Shahan Deacon Ara Haia

Father Diran was re-elected Convention Secretary and Mr. Martin Apkarian was appointed to the Nominating and Budget Committees.

#### MEN'S SOCIETY

This comparatively new organization which was formed under the auspices of the Parish Council has been very active in our church life and has begun to develop the potentials it possesses. The officers of the Men's Society for 1963 and for current terms respectively, are:

Arthur Boudakian Harry Kachadurian Chairman Harry Kachadurian Harry S. Carman, Jr. Vice-chairman Myron Boloyan Treasurer John Bahadurian John Ohanian Corr. Sec'y. George Elian Myron Boloyan Rec. Sec'y. Beri Kurkechian Harry Nazarian Harry Nazarian Advisor Jack Kazaniian John Ohanian Advisor

The Men's Society, in addition to helping all church groups, has initiated several fund raising affairs and it has presented to the Church the following items: new platforms for the auditorium and a complete tractor unit for snow removal and grounds maintenance. Funds were raised through Pancake Dinners, raffles and Bingo parties. Currently the Men's Society is promoting the sale of metal key chains featuring a medallion with a picture of our new church building.

A very important project of this group has been the formation of our Blood Bank, with Mr. Charles Astourian as Chairman, which got off to a fine start on April 23, 1963, with a visit by the Red Cross Bloodmobile unit to the Cultural Building. The Blood Bank has been literally a lifesaver for several of our parishioners, who have drawn on the blood supply. A new drive for blood donations will be started in the very near future.

The Men's Society has initiated a fine recreational program; a Bowling League, under the leadership of Mr. John Ohanian, and a class for Bridge Lessons taught by Mr. Karl Sarafian.

#### ARMENIAN AMERICAN VETERANS MEMORIAL -RECREATION BUILDING

The Armenian Armerican Veterans Memorial Recreation Building was completed and has been put to use by our Church Community, as well as the Veterans Group. The Parish Council wishes to gratefully acknowledge the Armenian American Veterans of Detroit the generous donation of their facilities to the Kindergarten class on Sundays. This building is a vital part of our great Religious-Cultural Center, and a worthy memorial to our war dead.

#### **INSURANCE**

The Parish Council reappointed the committee of insurance brokers who made up this committee when it was formed. Members of the committee are: Messrs. Harry Ekizian, Noubar Dourjalian, Harry Mardirosian, and Harry Terzagian.

This committee has assumed the responsibility of looking after the insurance needs of our church and church properties.

#### PICNIC

The annual picnic, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Simon Javizian took place on July 21, 1963 at the Michigan State Fair Grounds. The picnic was a success in every respect. Blessed with good weather, our parishioners turned out in great numbers and enjoyed a wonderful day of fellowship and fun.

#### HOUSE COMMITTEE

Mr. Vahe Papelian was appointed Chairman of this committee, whose task it is to oversee our building and make recommendations to the Parish Council for improvement in service, maintenance, equipment etc. The fine condition of our building is a tribute to the efforts of the House Committee, the building maintenance staff, and the Building Manager, Mr. George Mashlakjian.

### P.T.A.

The P.T.A. has been of great help to the Church School and has kept parent and pupil interest at a high level, through its activities.

It's program during 1963 was highlighted by a fine marionette show, the highly successful Summer Camp which was held at Sand Lake on July 28–August 3, 1963, the annual Sunday School Picnic and Easter Communion Breadfast for Sunday School children. Deacon Nerses Jebejian (of Cleveland, Ohio) was Spiritual Director of the Camp.

Mr. Albert Sarkisian is the current chairman (1963–64), succeeding Mr. Fred Demerjian (1962–63).

#### A.C.Y.O.A. JUNIORS SPIRITUAL RETREAT

On June 19-20, 1963, a spiritual retreat was held at Camp Holiday, Flint, Michigan, lead by Rev. Fr. Dajad Davidian, (Racine, Wisc.) and was sponsored by the A.C.Y.O.A. Juniors. Those participating were given a spiritual uplift and an invaluable experience.

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

Third Annual New Year's Eve Celebration held in our new building was a wonderful success. This affair continued in the tradition of giving our parishioners an enjoyable evening in pleasant surroundings. The committee of this affair, under the capable leadership of Mr. Vahe Papelian is to be complimented for a task well done.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Parish Council acknowledges and expresses sincere gratitute on behalf of our community to the following individuals and groups for their efforts in assisting them during the year 1963:

The Rev. Father Diran Papazian who has devoted himself so zealously to his task." His devotion to his duties and to the welfare of our parishioners is appreciated by us all. May God give him the strength to continue his good works for many, many years to come.

Mr. Alex Manoogian who has undertaken the task of chairing the actual construction of the New Church Building, and Mr. Edward Mardigian as President and all members of the Apostolic Society for dedicated guidance and untiring efforts on behalf of the new Church Building Project.

Deacon Daniel Shahan and Mr. Archie Yeghissian, Chairman and Secretary of the 1963 Annual Parish Assembly, for the fine manner in which the meeting was conducted and the proceedings recorded.

- $\,$  Mr. George Mashlakjian and Mr. Vahe Papelian for managing our church properties so efficiently.
  - Mr. George Keurajian for again insuring the successful publication of the Torch Bearer.
  - Mr. Vahe Papelian for a most enjoyable New Year's Eve Affair.
  - Mr. Simon Javizian for his chairmanship of the Annual Church Picnic.

The Auditors: Mr. Richard Simonian, Chairman, Mr. Albert Mardirosian and Mr. Albert Simonian, for the efficient and competent manner in which they audited and set up the bookkeeping system for the Church and its affiliated organizations.

All Church affiliated organizations.

The Komitas Choir under the leadership of Deacon Harry Ekizian and all the Deacons and Altar Servers serving at the Altar: Deacon Ara Haig, Deacon John Semizian, Deacon Daniel Shahan, Deacon Mihran Hoplamazian, and Mr. Masa Carman, Mr. Hairabed Merhafyan also visiting Deacons Hagop Janoyan and Hagop Assadourian.

The Altar Guild members for their devoted care of the Altar and Chapel.

Calouste Gulbenkian Armenian School Board Chairman, Mr. Charles Astourian, the Board Members, the Principal, Mrs. Nvart Alexanian and the faculty.

Church School Superintendent, Deacon Levon Zenian, and the Administrative Board and the very capable staff.

The Men's Society for the Blood Bank Program, the gifts of the tractor equipment for the Cultural Building grounds and the fine recreation program.

Mr. Robert Sivazlian and Richard Vahratian for their program of youth activities.

The Ushers Committee and its Captain, Mr. Harry Mardirosian, who has compiled an Ushers Manual.

Our Building Custodians, Mr. Frank Bartholomew, Mr. Barney Bernard and Mr. Nerses Markarian whose diligence has contributed to the fine appearance of our building.

Mrs. Dikran Tirakian for the gift of the Oil Painting of the Virgin Mary and the Christ Child for the Altar.

A.C.Y.O.A. Juniors for the gift of the Electric Typewriter costing \$500.00 to the church office.

Mrs. Helen Armoudlian our tireless Church Secretary for her efficient work in the church office.

A.C.Y.O.A. Junior and Senior Chairmen, Gary Zamanigian and Edward H. Korkoian and their executive boards for their activities in the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Boyajian for their fine work as advistors for the A.C.Y.O.A. Junior Chapter.

The Ladies' Auxiliary and Women's Guild, their respective chairlady's:

Mrs. Nora Mazloumian and Mrs. Agnes Carman and their executive boards for their assistance whenever called upon by the Parish Council and their selfless devotion to our church in all its activities.

Mr. Edward B. Korkoian for making the arrangements and providing the transportation and all necessary materials required to make the transfer of the remains of our First Pastor the Very Rev. Sahag Vartabed Nazaretian from Evergreen Cemetery to the Armenian Community Memorial in Woodlawn Cemetery.

 $\,$  Mr. Edward Papelian, Mr. George Gargarian, Mr. Harry Kezelian and Mr. John Semizian for cleaning the drapes in the Cultural Building.

The Jerusalem Fund Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Vahe Papelian and under the guidance of the Jerusalem Patriarchal Delegates Very Rev. Fathers Shahe Vartabed Ajemian and Guregh Vartabed Kapikian for the successful completion of the fund drive which raised \$57,000.00 in Detroit.

 $\,$  Mr. Armenag Boghosian, through the efforts of Mr. George Laktzian, donated an incensor stand to the church.

The Riverside Wholesale Beef and Locker Company, who through the efforts of Mr. Richard Simonian, donated a freezer to the Cultural Building.

Harry Zartarian, Secretary Parish Council

Mr. Martin P. Apkarian, Chairman Parish Council

### Armenian Apostolic Society, Inc.

REV. DIRAN PAPAZIAN HONORARY CHAIRMAN ALEX MANOOGIAN CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY

PHONE 356-1910

SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

OFFICERS

EDWARD MARDIGIAN

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC SOCIETY, INC. REPORT CALENDAR YEAR 1963

H. S. DERDERIAN SECRETARY

JOHN P. TABIBIAN TREASURER

DEAR PARISHIONERS:

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD DEVOTED MOST OF THEIR TIME LAST YEAR IN FINALIZING THE DESIGN AND PLANS OF OUR NEW CHURCH.

THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, DESIGN AND REDESIGN, AND MANY MEETINGS, SOMETIMES SEVERAL WITHIN A WEEK, BEFORE WE CAME UP WITH A TRADITIONAL DESIGN THAT WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED BY THE ENTIRE COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE HEADS OF ALL THE CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS. WE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION WILL ACCEPT IT WITH THE SAME ENTHUSIASM.

Our Building Chairman, Mr. Alex Manogian, put in a great deal of time with our Architect, Mr. Pilafian, and the noted Armenian Church Architect, Mr. E. Utdjian, whom we were fortunate enough to have as a consultant on this very important project.

At present, the detailing of the plans and the specifications are in their final stages and will be completed 100% before the 15th of March, so that we should be able to get bids, award the contract, and start construction before the end of April.

The major project facing us for 1964 will be the construction of our new Church and a vigorous campaign to raise the necessary funds. This final, but major phase of our program will require the cooperation and support of every member of our Community.

WE WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE PARISH COUNCIL, AS WELL AS ALL CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR OFFICERS, AND MEMBERS OF THE PARISH FOR THEIR GENEROUS COOPERATION IN THE PAST, WITHOUT WHICH WE COULD NOT HAVE SUCCEEDED IN COMPLETING OUR MAGNIFICIENT CULTURAL HALL, NOR COULD WE HOPE TO EMBARK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CHURCH, WHICH WILL BE ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ARMENIAN CHURCHES EXISTING ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

E. MARDIGIAN, PRESIDENT ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC SOCIETY, INC.

EM/MAS

### ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH - PARISH COUNCIL BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1963

### ASSETS

Cash: General checking account	\$11,840.90	
Savings account "In lieu of flowers" checking account	21,951.91 2,164.82	\$35,957.63
Accounts receivable:		\$05,757.00
Expense advances Other	500.00 332.50	832.50
Investments:		002.50
Vacant land (Sterling Township) – at estimated current value of Common stock – Bank of the Commonwealth – at cost	10,000.00 1,299.50	
Cemetery lots - Woodlawn Cemetery	13,100.00	24,399.50
		f (1, 100, (0
		<u>\$61,189.63</u>
LIABILITIES AND CHURCH EQUIT	Υ	
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable		\$12,311.06
Hall rental deposits Payroll taxes withheld and payable		1,900.00 421.21
"In lieu of flowers" funds to be remitted to Armenian		721.21
Apostolic Society and other specified organizations –		0.1/4.00
see contra Service fund held in safekeeping		2,164.82 1,225.94
Prepaid pledge - years 1964 thru 1968		1,130.00
Total liabilities		19, 153.03
Self-Liquidating Cemetery Lot Obligations (Woodlawn		•
Cemetery): Old section (240 burial rights), \$36,000.00 total		
purchase price, unpaid balance at		
December 31, 1963 <u>\$ 7,136.49</u> New section (500 burial rights), \$96,000.00 total		
purchase price, unpaid balance at		
December 31, 1963 \$85,320.00		
Church Equity: Balance, December 31, 1962	\$24,982.37	
Add - transactions applicable to prior years:	•	
Vacant land in Sterling Township donated October 12, 1943		
Bank of the Commonwealth stock donated in prior year Sundry account adjustments	169.50 851.51	
,	36,003.38	
Add: Excess of revenues over expenses - year ended		
December 31, 1963	6,033.22	42,036.60
		<u>\$61,189.63</u>

## ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH - PARISH COUNCIL STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

DEVENUES.		
REVENUES:		£45 554 40
Pledges – includes \$5,768.07 for prior years		\$43,554.40
Plates and candles		5,005.58
Gifts and requiems		5,651.00
Weddings, baptisms and funerals Christmas and Easter offerings		3,065.00 1,760.50
Annual activities - Picnic and New Year's Eve		4,334.54
Miscellaneous church revenues		922.23
Interest earned on savings account		831.80
Building rentals - includes \$5,200.00 from St. John's Armenic	an Church	031.00
organizations	an Choren	27,196.59
Building service and miscellaneous income		6,324.01
bollaring service and miscertaneous meome		
		98,645.65
EXPENSES:		
Salaries and wages:	\$ 6,957.69	
Priest – includes expense allowances Other church salaries	3,632.80	
Office	4,106.70	
Building maintenance	15,554.32	
Temporary help	1,196.50	
reinporary neap		
Total salaries and wages	31,448.01	
Payroll and other taxes	855.22	
Capital improvements	6,966.85	
Insurance – includes \$586.04 employee benefits	2,659.68	
Utilities expense	9,951.02	
Repairs and maintenance	2,068.07	
Supplies - building and grounds	5,464.30	
Office supplies and expense	597.17	
Postage and freight	994.07	
Printing expense	2,065.50	
Advertising	235.00	
Diocese dues, including \$400.00 for Etchmiadzin Diocese special assessment – Cathedral Fund	7,750.00 5,000.00	
Church supplies and calendars	1,826.33	
Sunday School expense	481.60 917.05	
Armenian School expense Visiting clergy expense	592.44	
Travel expense – clergy and delegates	445.94	
Wayne State University Armenian Studies	215.00	
Miscellaneous expense	579.18	
Contributions:	3, 7.10	
Building Fund	11,000.00	
Jerusalem Fund	500.00	92,612.43
		-27012.40

\$ 6,033.22

**EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES** 

### ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH - PARISH COUNCIL STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED PLEDGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1964

BUDGET OF ESTIMATED OPERATING EXPENSES – see accompany statement	ing		\$105,365
LESS ESTIMATED REVENUES (other than estimated 1964 pledges):			
Pledges applicable to years prior to 1964	\$	5,000	
Plates and candles		5,000	
Gifts and requiems		3,500	
Baptisms		1,000	
Weddings		500	
Funerals		1,500	
Christmas and Easter offerings		1,500	
Annual activities - Picnic and New Year's Eve		4,000	
Interest earned on savings account		1,000	
Rental revenues:		.,	
Church organizations		5,000	
Other than church organizations		20,000	
Miscellaneous church revenues		750	
Miscellaneous - sundry hall services, checkroom, vending		, 00	
machines, etc.		6,000	54,750
ESTIMATED 1964 PLEDGE REQUIREMENTS			\$ 50,615

# ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH - PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET OF ESTIMATED OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1964

Salaries and wages:	
Priests - includes expense allowances	\$ 10,000
Other church salaries	3,750
Office	8,000
Building maintenance	17,000
Temporary help	1,250
Total salaries and wages	40,000
Payroll and other taxes	900
Capital improvements and equipment	2,500
Insurance, including employee benefits	2,500
Utilities expense	10,000
Repairs and maintenance:	•
Current year	2,500
Provision for future repairs	2,500
Supplies - buildings and grounds	6,000
Office supplies and expense	1,000
Postage and freight	1,500
Printing expense	2,500
Advertising	300
Diocese dues, including Etchmiadzin	7,500
Diocese special assessment - Cathedral Fund	5,000
Church supplies	2,000
Sunday School expense	1,000
Armenian School expense	1,000
Detroit Council of Churches dues	200
Visiting clergy expense	750
Travel expense – clergy and delegates	500
Wayne State University Armenian Studies	215
Miscellaneous expense and contingencies	5,000
Contributions – new church building and other projects	10,000
Estimated 1964 Operating Expenses	\$105,365

# LADIES' AUXILIARY STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1962			\$ 7,820.08
CASH RECEIPTS: Dues Gifts Net profit from special activities: Vartanantz Miching Hampartzoom Bazaar Culture Day Bake sales Sale of Crosses Sale of Raffle Tickets, etc. Interest Earned on Savings Account	\$	515.57 515.65 1,181.60 332.46 69.75 995.39 131.08 961.09 28.00 28.59 233.60	
Total Cash Receipts	_	4,992.78	
CASH DISBURSEMENTS: Rent Flowers Postage, Printing & Supplies In Lieu of Flower Gifts & others Purchase of Raffle Tickets Jerusalem Restoration Fund Net Profit from Easter Bake Sale to Diocese Net Profit from Culture Day to Apostolic Soc. Total Cash Disbursements	_	1,000.00 137.63 339.42 109.12 30.00 200.00 131.00 365.50 2,312.67	
Add: Excess of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements			2,680.11
CASH IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1963			\$10,500.19

# WOMEN'S GUILD STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH IN BANKS AND U.S. BOND (\$72.00) - DECEMBER 31,	196	2	\$4,001.27
CASH RECEIPTS:			
Dues	\$	403.00	
Christmas Party	•	242.79	
Dinner Dance - 1962		72.06	
Dinner Dance - 1963		3,027.60	
Raffle		79.75	
Mother's Day		1,675.12	
Lenten Luncheon		94.51	
Spring Bake Sale		139.67	
Luau		617.16	
Fall Bake Sale		152.08	
Miscellaneous		81.21	
Silver Tea Service money		49.00	
Total Cash Receipts	_	6,633.95	
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:			
Rent		1,000.00	
Secretary and Treasurer supplies		76.06	
Mother's Day, - 1963		716.38	
Dinner Dance - 1963		2,324.59	
Lugu		447.83	
Gifts		51.58	
Lenten Luncheon		100.00	
Jerusalem Fund		230.00	
Dinner meeting - Food		51.21	
(2) Silver Compotes and (12) Bags		34.90	
Christmas Party – 1963		100.00	
Miscellaneous		155.57	
Total Cash Disbursements	_	5,288.12	
Add: Excess of cash receipts over cash disbursements			1,345.83
CASH IN BANKS AND U.S. BOND (\$72.00) - DECEMBER 31,	196	3	\$5,347.10

# MEN'S SOCIETY STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH ON HAND AND IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1962			\$ 481.19
CASH RECEIPTS:			
Dues	\$	303.00	
50/50 Raffle		126.25	
Dinner		632.00	
Pancake Luncheon		328.67	
Pancake Luncheon		193.18	
Bingo		541.80	
Spaghetti Dinner		190.50	
Pancake Luncheon		101.35	
Donations		20.00	
Food sold from dinner meetings		39.00	
Miscellaneous		1.00	
Spaghetti Dinner		20.50	
Total Cash Receipts	3	497.25	
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:			
Dinner meeting food expenses		602.58	
Other meeting expenses		156.75	
Postage		74.06	
Pancake Luncheons (3)		271.20	
Tickets and Flyers		16.00	
Blood Bank refreshments		28.98	
Blood Bank miscellaneous expenses		10.87	
Restoration to Holy Sepulchre		100.00	
Vacation raffle tickets and poster		33.00	
Spaghetti Dinner		172.05	
Donations	_ 1	,384.00	
Total Cash Disbursements	_2	,849.49	
Less: Excess of cash disbursements over cash receipts			 352.24
CASH ON HAND AND IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1963			\$ 128.95

## ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA - SENIOR CHAPTER STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH ON HAND AND IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1962			\$2,043.35
CASH RECEIPTS:			
Membership dues	\$	310.00	
ACYOA Convention - 1962		480.29	
Special activities, net of expenses:			
Bake Sale		68.25	
ACYOA Day dinner		238.90	
Spring Spectacular		482.22	
Anniversary Ball		143.80	
Toy Sale		246.94	
Total Cash Receipts		,970.40	
'			
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:			
Cultural Building annual rent		500.00	
ACYOA Central Council taxes		504.00	
Central Council dues		159.00	
Stationery and supplies		133.52	
Gifts		50.00	
Picnic and socials		124.20	
Sixteenth Annual ACYOA	1	,051.68	
Lenten offering		100.00	
Delegate expense		300.00	
Christmas trees		437.50	
Miscellaneous		83.38	
Total Cash Disbursements	_3	3,443.28	
Less: Excess of cash disbursements over cash receipts			1,472.88
·			
CASH ON HAND AND IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1963			<u>\$ 570.47</u>

## ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA - JUNIOR CHAPTER STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH ON HAND - DECEMBER 31, 1962		\$1,256.55
CASH RECEIPTS:  Membership dues Special activities, net of expenses:	\$ 249.00	
Bake Sale	62.94	
Candy Sale	961.00	
Treasure Hunt	21.50	
Fathers Day	153.11	
Miscellaneous	78.57	
Total Cash Receipts	1,526.12	
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:		
Central Council dues	104.00	
Stationery	108.16	
St. John's Armenian Church	500.00	
ACYOA Montreal Chapter Photograph	25,.00	
AGBU - Ad	15.00	
ACYOA Seniors	45.00	
Refreshments	24.51	
Social	35.00	
Miscellaneous	180.00	
Total Cash Disbursements	1,036.67	
Add: Excess of cash receipts over cash disbursements		489.45
CASH ON HAND - DECEMBER 31, 1963		\$1,746.00

### KOMITAS CHOIR STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1962		\$	364.73
CASH RECEIPTS: Plate collections and donations Sale of Divine Liturgy Albums Sale of Deacons Albums Donation – 35th Anniversary tea 1961 Convention booklet ad Sale of Christmas items from 1961 Bazaar Picnic receipts Armenian Cabaret receipts Total cash receipts	\$ 518.17 30.00 30.00 5.00 10.00 17.75 79.25 1,344.30 2,034.47		
CASH DISBURSEMENTS: Contribution to building fund – Cultural Hall Dues and plate collections to Central Council Delegate expenses – ACCA Annual Convention Gifts and flowers Women's Guild Booklet ad Picnic expenses Amenian Cabaret expenses Miscellaneous Total cash disbursements	1,000.00 130.00 100.00 74.10 20.00 73.03 621.03 29.97 2,048.13		
Less: Excess of cash disbursements over cash receipts		_	13.66
CASH IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1963		<u>\$_</u>	351.07

## CHURCH SCHOOL PTA STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH ON HAND AND IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1962			\$	213.25
CASH RECEIPTS:  Membership dues Sponsorship of Annual Picnic Camp fees Loan from Sunday School Miscellaneous food sales Total Cash Receipts	\$	89.50 220.00 825.00 200.00 3.90 ,338.40		
CASH DISBURSEMENTS: Camp expenses Picnic expenses Camp deposit – Year 1964 Printing and Mailing expenses Meeting, lecture and incidental expenses Total Cash Disbursements		975.71 230.63 50.00 41.95 37.23 ,335.52		
Add: Excess of cash receipts over cash disbursements				2.88
CASH ON HAND AND IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1963			\$	216.13
ALTAR GUILD STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBUR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963	SEM	AENTS		
CASH IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1962			\$	58.88
CASH RECEIPTS - Gifts	\$	15.00		
CASH DISBURSEMENTS - Supplies		11.63		
Add: Excess of cash receipts over cash disbursements			_	3.37
CASH IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1963			<u>\$</u>	62.25

# ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH SCHOOL OF GREATER DETROIT STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1963		\$2,417.24
CASH RECEIPTS: Offerings – Regular: Primary Department (6–8 year olds) Secondary Department (9–17 year olds)	\$ 996.76 2,169.34	
Offerings for Church Building Fund: Payments on Pledges Rally Day Birthday Offerings Christmas Offerings	1,654.46 232.05 398.30 220.05	
Offerings – Special: Jerusalem Restoration Fund St. Nersess Armenian Theological School	548.77 497.75	
Book sales Interest Earned Misc . Receipt Total cash receipts	111.85 106.31 1.00 6,936.64	
CASH DISBURSEMENTS: Textbooks and teaching supplies Books and publications for resale Postage and stationery Printing and mimeographing Supplies Graduation diplomas and gifts Equipment – portable dividers and cabinet Loan to P.T.A. for summer camp Special Contributions – See Receipts: Jerusalem Restoration Fund St. Nersess Armenian Theological School Freight and cartage Pre-Christmas staff dinner expense Breakfast for Senior Class Gifts and miscellaneous Total cash disbursements	1,607.73 36.70 302.54 117.75 65.75 52.05 169.29 200.00 548.77 497.75 57.98 63.61 11.97 41.09	
Add: Excess of cash receipts over cash disbursements		3,163.66
CASH IN BANKS - DECEMBER 31, 1963		\$5,580.90

### CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN ARMENIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963

CASH IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1962		\$	316.84
Sale of textbooks and pictures In Lieu Of Flower donations Appropriation from Parish Council Gift from AGBU	261.85 152.25 96.00 500.00 300.00		
CASH DISBURSEMENTS: Teacher's salary Books and school supplies Copy machine Gifts Picnic expense Teachers Dinner expense Appropriation for Kindergarten Pictures Miscellaneous	480.00 287.11 191.85 40.00 22.43 30.47 100.00 23.00 23.78		
Add: Excess of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements			111.46
CASH IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1963		\$	428.30
CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN KINDERGARTEN STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND CASH DISBURSEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1963			
CASH RECEIPTS: Donation from Executive Board		\$1	00.00
Offerings: Kindergarten Birthday		1	20.13 1.00
Total cash receipts		_2	21.13
CASH DISBURSEMENTS: Supplies Juice, cookies, paper cups, etc. Total cash disbursements		_	6.44 35.00 41.44
CASH IN BANK - DECEMBER 31, 1963		<u>\$1</u>	79.69

#### NOMINATIONS

Presented by the Nominating Committee:

George P. Keurajian, Chairman Vahram Boyajian

Dennis Papazian

### CANDIDATES FOR PARISH COUNCIL (5 to be elected)

- Arthur Boudakian
   Mihran Joboulian
   Adam Karapetian (Incumbent)
   Harry Kezelian (Incumbent)
   Edward B. Korkoian (Incumbent)
   George Mashlakjian (Incumbent)
   Michael Minassian

- Henry Nazarian
   Sarkis Soultanian
   Richard Vahratian

#### DIOCESAN DELEGATES

(Elected in 1963 - For Four Year Term)

- 1. Martin Apkarian
- Deacon Ara Haig
   Edward B. Korkoian
- 4. Edward Mardigian
  5. Deacon Daniel Shahan

#### AUDITING COMMITTEE

(Elected in 1963 - For Two Year Term)

- 1. Richard H. Simonian, Chairman
- 2. Albert Semonian
- 3. Albert Mardirosian



St. John's Armenian Church

22001 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Detroit, Michigan Permit No. 2494