

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH
OF WESTCHESTER

SUNDAY SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT 1988

The Sunday School had a total enrollment of 27 students for the year 1987-88. Although this figure reflects a decline from a high of 46 pupils in 1984, we are encouraged by the group of faithful parents who bring their offspring regularly to learn the faith of their fathers from our beautiful new curriculum texts provided by the Department of Religious Education of the Diocese. Our teachers are devoted to our children and not only come regularly to teach, but also donate money towards the support of our two sponsor children and very often make out-of-pocket expenditures for classroom supplies. The Sunday School teachers are: Yerezgin Dawn Kasparian and Lillian Boyajian who serve as Co-Superintendents, Denise Arakelian, Sue Ashjian, Mike Pisani, Beatrice Postian and Richard Vradian.

The Sunday School staff was instrumental this year in asking for and implementing a Family Worship Sunday each month. The 2nd Sunday of the month is proving to be very satisfying for students, parents, teachers and parish alike. The "short Badarak" allows students the opportunity of taking part in the entire service as well as having Der Hayr teach various aspects of the Badarak. Our pupils also take part in the liturgical duties such as passing out books, receiving & giving the "voghchooy", passing the plate, reading the Bible lesson of the day and distributing the "mas". Our older students also serve at the altar.

This year we started using pledge envelopes so that our children may become familiar with the concept of regular giving. Monies collected, together with proceeds from our cake sale were used to meet our obligations towards our two adopted children: Aida Aintablian, who is at the St. Tarkmanchanz Secondary School in the Armenian Patriarchate, Jerusalem and Ronica Chandinga, who lives in Zimbabwe, Africa, and is helped through Save The Children. Our school year runs from September through the end of June. We end each school year with our finances in balance.

Again this year the Sunday School was happy to provide a family Christmas Eve group reading and carol singing pagaent. This December 24th gathering is very well attended by all our parishioners and is looked forward to by children and grownups alike.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Boyajian
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Co-Superintendent