

ANNUAL REPORT

1997



Holy Cross Armenian Church

UNION CITY, N. J.

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HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

UNION CITY, N.J.

AGENDA FOR PARISH ASSEMBLY

FEBRUARY 8, 1998

1. Prayer and Opening of Meeting
2. Election of Assembly Officers
3. Election: 5 Parish Council
 3 Auditing Committee
 3 Nominating Committee
4. Pastor's Report
5. Parish Council Report
6. Report of Church Organizations
7. Report of Auditing Committee
8. 1998 Budget
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Closing Prayer

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

UNION CITY, NJ

1996 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

February 2, 1997

The annual Parish Assembly meeting was convened immediately following Church Services. The Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. Nubar Dorian, conducted the meeting. Mr. Dorian asked for nominations for chairman and secretary for the Parish Assembly. Mr. Nubar Dorian and Ms. Alice Bozoyan were unanimously elected to their respective positions.

The meeting was adjourned to the Church Center and reconvened at 1:15PM, after lunch which was served by the Women's Guild. Our Pastor, the Very Rev. Vazken Karayan, presided as President.

After the opening prayer by Hayr Soorp, the Chairman requested a motion to close the voting. A motion was made, seconded and passed to close the balloting at 1:30 PM.

The Chairman dispensed with the reading of the minutes from last year's meeting and invited Father Karayan to present his report. Mr. Dorian noted that this was the largest assembly in quite some time giving credit to our pastor.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Due to the presence of many non-English speaking parishioners, Hayr Vazken explained the rules and voting procedures in Armenian. Hayr Soorp thanked Mr. Dorian and all the members of the Parish Council for their wisdom, knowledge and dedication. He later reported the activities of each church organization and praised the hard work and dedication of each chairperson and his/her group.

Hayr Soorp expressed appreciation to all those who were instrumental in organizing the banquet in honor of his elevation to the degree of Dzayrakooyin Vartabed. Sincere gratitude was extended to His Beatitude Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Patriarch of Jerusalem, for his approval for the elevation and His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate, for bestowing the rank of Dzayrakooyin Vartabed.

He attended all the meetings of the Women's Guild and brought encouragement to the members. The Guild is headed by dedicated member, Diana Burggraf, for whom he extended his heartfelt gratitude.

Hayr Soorp complimented Carolina Ak and Tanya Gullep for a job well done with the ACYOA in coordinating and their group activities and membership. The activities included chocolate sales and an ice-skating trip to Rockefeller Center followed by a pizza party. Fifteen members took part on this memorable day. These youngsters are "climbing the ladder of life step by step."

The Parish Council decided to have the church paper, VISION, printed every other month. The quality and the content continues to improve. Hayr Soorp thanked Mr. Richard Tarzian who donated the printing of the VISION.

Hayr Soorp indicated also that the Sunday Bulletin that he prepares has been accepted by the parishioners as being spiritually enlightening and enjoyable to read.

Continuing his report, he expressed words of appreciation to the Deacons, especially Hagop Hovsepian, Archdeacon, and Ann Dadaian, Choirmaster. This year the Choir has added two young members.

Regarding the Armenian School, Hayr Soorp contacts the parents by mail and phone reminding them of the importance of sending their children to Armenian School. Appreciation was expressed to the entire teaching staff of the school. The irregular service of the bus problem has been solved by having the parents form a car pool. Hayr Soorp commended them for their dedicated service which also helps the school financially.

Speaking about the Sunday School, he said that parents were contacted by letter as well as by personal phone calls and visits - all of which were in vain. All of these efforts were either forgotten or ignored. He stressed that parents must realize that it is their responsibility to bring their children. Ms. Sylvia Bozoyan was deeply commended and appreciation was expressed for her many years of dedication and her firm belief that has kept the Sunday School open.

He closed his report by stating that he actively participated in Clergy Meetings by attending meetings in different parishes. He was a member of committees honoring both Catholicos Karekin I and His Beatitude Torkom Archbishop Manoogian. He also participated in the Divine Liturgy held at St. John the Divine Cathedral and St. Vartan Cathedral.

Home visitations brought parishioners closer to God and church. Many have become members and attend church on a regular basis. Our church attendance every Sunday is more in ratio when compared to other churches.

REPORTS

The Parish Council Report as well as the Reports of the Women's Guild, Armenian and Sunday Schools, Choir, Senior Citizens, had been already distributed to the members for their review. An addition was made to the Parish Council Report under Acknowledgments to include: Thanks to Mr. Hagop Balian for the work he did on the renovations of the Church Office.

Treasurer's Report: The Parish Council Treasurer, Mr. Harold Azmelian, went through the detailed report of the Council and answered all questions relating to it.

Auditing Committee Report: Mr. Armen Kalbian, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, reported that in line with audit and accounting principals, the Committee found all reports to be in order and commented on the outstanding job all organizations had done.

Dr. Ed Sahagian made a motion to accept all the reports as presented and amended. Motion was seconded and passed.

NEW BUSINESS

The following items were discussed under New Business:

MAINTENANCE: Mr. Andy Avedesian, chairman of the Maintenance Committee, reviewed the expectations for the current year as follows:

1. Fire and smoke alarm systems for church and parish house.
2. Plexiglass covering on the stained glass windows in the church

A motion was made and seconded and passed to accept both suggestions.

Additional renovations that were presented:

1. Audio system for church and center
2. Iron fence be scrapped and painted
3. Railing for center of stairs in front of church

MAINTENANCE (cont...)

Parish Council suggested the following renovations for the Church Center:

1. Lowering the ceiling
2. Complete change of lighting system
3. New windows and curtain

The Parish Council will consider all the above proposals at their Parish Council meetings.

ENDOWMENT FUND: As in prior years the Holy Cross Endowment Fund Committee distributed its detailed activity report to all members present. Mr. Harold Azmelian, the Chairman of the Fund, noted that during 1996 the interest and dividend income of the Fund was \$94,653.24 out of which \$50,000 was transferred to the Parish Council treasury to offset the short fall in the church's 1996 budget. He also read from the report that the total value of the Fund was \$1,462,462.99 as of December 31, 1996, and asked that members review the report containing the whole list of donors since the Fund's inception along with the list of C.D.'s, Mutual Funds, unit trusts, corporate bonds, government securities and stocks which comprised the Endowment Fund position as of December 31, 1996.

Before introducing for adoption a resolution to legally formalize the Endowment Fund to an Endowment Trust, Mr. Azmelian gave a brief history of the Fund beginning with the late Mr. Lud Shahbazian's proposal at a prior Annual Assembly to start an Endowment Fund with Harold Azmelian to supervise the Fund. After the motion was passed, Mr. Shahbazian promised to donate a certain number of shares of Mass. Investors' and PSEG. With the Estate of the late Mrs. Mason's donation of \$5,000.00 the Fund started to grow. When the Endowment Fund grew to some \$250,000.00, Mr. Azmelian informed the 1988 Annual Assembly that he no longer wanted to be a committee of one and asked that Mr. Armen Kalbian and Mr. Philip Arpiarian join him as permanent members of the Endowment Fund to report each year to the Assembly regarding the Fund's progress. This motion was unanimously approved and the Fund Committee thereafter each year distributed a written report of its activity.

ENDOWMENT FUND (cont...)

After explaining the reasons for legally formalizing the Endowment Fund, Mr. Azmelian stressed that the original conditions of the Fund will remain. The same, namely the interest and dividends only would be available for church needs and the general guidelines for investing would be 75% top quality bonds with maturity of 2 to 8 years; 20% in long-term government maturity Bonds and only 5% in managed stocks for growth, with Messrs. Azmelian, Kalbian and Arpiarian as the three permanent members of the Trust.

Before voting on the motion, Mr. Azmelian answered all the questions raised, most important of which were the following:

Question: Was legal counsel consulted by the Committee?

Answer: Yes, the move is perfectly legal and desirable as it does not change any of the conditions of the Endowment Fund under which it operated since its inception. It merely finalizes it.

Q.: If one of the members of the Trust resigned, became non-functional or died, what procedure would be used for the vacancy?

A.: As in all Endowment Funds - including our Diocesan Endowment Trust, the remaining members will appoint an individual knowledgeable in investments and familiar with security strategies and more importantly who is also a dues-paying member of the Holy Cross Armenian Church.

Q.: Why can't the Assembly vote for vacancies when they occur?

A.: A person who while very popular and active in church affairs could be elected and be ignorant of Fund strategies or the financial markets and thus be of no value to the Trust. As indicated before, the Endowment Funds are self-perpetuating bodies and fill vacancies as permanent members.

ENDOWMENT FUND (cont...)

- Q.: Mrs. Alice Yigitkurt asked why the Trust membership could not be expected to have on or two more members added to the Trust and moved that the Assembly adopt this motion .
- A.: Expanding the number of our Trust would cause some problems with regard to the decision making process on how best to proceed. All Trusts consult either a market specialist or a security's firm for making proper investment recommendations. Our Trust is fortunate to have such a specialist who charges almost nothing to the Trust - last year his fee was \$150.00 - and as you note his recommendations on our prudent investments have been unprecedentedly fruitful. Besides, the Diocesan Endowment Fund which tops our by millions and millions have only a handful of members. For our Trust, the committee feels three is an adequate number of members.

After Mr. Azmelian's presentation the Chairman of the Assembly entertained a motion to adopt the trust as presented by Mr. Azmelian. After it was moved and seconded with no more discussion, the Chairman called for a vote. The results were as follows:

31 in favor of adoption
11 against adoption
14 abstentions

The remaining members left the meeting prior to the discussion of the Endowment Fund.

The Chairman declared the motion passed and hereafter our Endowment Fund will become a Trust with the official name of Holy Cross Armenian Church Endowment Trust.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Asked if parish members wanted a Christmas Party next year. Ms. Mary Shalakian suggested everyone be invited and charge a nominal fee. Mr. Philip Arpiarian suggested we no use the church funds for the party. Mr. Zack Aparkian gave the members a check with reality in sating that we were losing track of what Christmas was all about. He said that "this was good-will party."

Motion was made and seconded to have a Christmas Party next year. Motion accepted overwhelmingly to have a Christmas Party with the understanding that a fee be charged.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: The Church pays in excess of \$9,000.00 a year in Diocesan Dues. Sixty percent of this is marked as membership dues. Motion was made and seconded to raise the present membership dues from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per year for 1997. Motion was passed. This fee would be one sum which will apply to seniors as well as students over the age of 18. Anyone that has already paid \$25.00 for 1997 will be asked to pay the remaining amount.

ELECTION RESULTS:

The Nominating Committee submitted the elections results as follows:

For Parish Council:

Zack Apkarian
Andy Avedesian
Alice Bozoyan

Ann Dadaian
Zaven Hovsepian
Mary Shalakian

ALTERNATES
Philip Arpiarian
Satenig Karagosian

For Nominating Committee:

Diana Burggraf
Arax Karagosian
Zaven Hovsepian

For Auditing Committee:

Lucy Bozoian
Satenig Karagosian
Gladys Abahoonie

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 PM. Hayr Soorp thanked the outgoing members of the Parish Council for their dedicated and loyal service to the church: Philip Arpiarian, Dr. Ed Sahagian, Arto Can and Harold Azmelian. The meeting was closed with a prayer by our Pastor.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Bozoyan
Secretary

Very Rev. Vazken Karayan
Pastor

Nubar Dorian
Chairman

**HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
UNION CITY, NJ**

**PARISH COUNCIL REPORT
1997**

The Parish Council and Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan, Pastor and President of the Parish Council, met ten times and held 2 special meetings (January 28 and May 13).

Parish Council elected the following members on February 11, 1997, to serve as the Executive Committee:

Chairman	Zack Apkarian
Vice Chairman	Yetkin Pashalian
Treasurer	Alice Yigitkurt
Assistant Treasurer	Alice Bozoyan
Secretary	Mary Shalakian

On March 4th, Alice Yigitkurt resigned as Treasurer due to lack of time. Mary Shalakian was elected as Treasurer and Sylvia Bozoyan became Secretary.

Upon Zack Apkarian's resignation on May 6th due to personal reasons, Nubar Dorian was elected (May 13th) Chairman of the Parish Council for the balance of the year.

The present Executive Committee:

Chairman	Nubar Dorian
Vice Chairman	Yetkin Pashalian
Treasurer	Mary Shalakian
Assistant Treasurer	Alice Bozoyan
Secretary	Sylvia Bozoyan

The following committee chairpersons were appointed by the Chairman:

VISION	Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan / Ann Dadaian
Maintenance / Renovation Bazaar	A. Avedesian / Zaven Hovsepian Alice Yigitkurt / Mary Shalakian / Zack Apkarian
Raffle (50/50) Membership	Zaven Hovsepian Ann Dadaian / Mari Can / Arpena Sbarbaro
Picnic Christmas Party	Yetkin Pashalian / Arto Can Mari Can

1996 PARISH ASSEMBLY - The minutes of the Parish Assembly held on February 2, 1997, are included in the Annual Report. The following issues were voted for this year:

- a. Christmas Party - A Christmas Party will be held this coming December.
- b. Voting Members - Membership dues were raised to \$50. per person.
- c. Forming of Endowment Trust Fund - The Endowment Fund Committee (Harold Azmelian, Armen Kalbian and Philip Arpiarian) recommended that our Church Endowment Fund be formalized and become a Trust with exactly the same conditions as our present members. Harold Azmelian, Armen Kalbian and Phillip Arpiarian. This recommendation was accepted approving the formalization of our Endowment Fund to an Endowment Trust Fund.

CHURCH PROPERTIES - Andrew Avedesian, Zaven Hovsepian and Pablo Taura, caretaker, continually monitored the condition of the Church, the Church Center, and the Parish House. During the year the following repairs, renovations and additions took place:

1. Church
 - audio system was installed
 - security system was installed
 - new locks on main door and Annex door

2. Parish House
 - new lock on office door
 - new file cabinets (2) and shelves (2)

3. Church Center
 - new doors put at the "old" Center building
 - audio system was installed
 - new microphones (2 hanging and 1 for the podium)
 - new hot water boiler

4. Church Grounds
 - sidewalk in front of Church around the tree was repaired

* * *

HOLY CROSS NAME DAY BANQUET - On Sunday, November 16, 1997, our Church celebrated Holy Cross Name Day with His Eminence Khajag Archbishop Barsamian, Primate, as the celebrant during Divine Liturgy. Following the Badarak, the ordination the "Tbirs" (acolytes) took place. His Eminence bestowed the four minor orders upon Caroline Ak, Tanya Gullep, Sayat Kuyumcu, Bernard Yigitkurt and Alen Yilmaz. During the Banquet at the Church Center several pillars of Holy Cross Church were honored: Philip Arpiarian, Andrew Avedesian, Harold Azmelian, Diana Burggraf, Ann Dadaian, Nubar Dorian, Zaven Hovsepian, Armen Kalbian and Mary Shalakian. Banquet Chairman, Apraham Boghossian, Co-Chairman, Migirdich Yigitkurt and all the committee members made this unforgettable event a huge success.

PICNIC - The kitchen not being available along with the grounds on Sunday, June 1 at St. Leon's Church in Fair Lawn, we were not able to have our Church picnic. Hopefully, we will continue to have picnics every year following the tradition of holding it on the first Sunday in June.

BAZAAR - The Bazaar, held on October 31 and November 1, was both successful socially as well as financially due to the hard work of chairlady, Alice Yigitkurt, and co-chairman, Apo Boghossian. The Women's Guild contributed a great deal of time, effort, and expertise for its success as well.

RAFFLE - Zaven Hovsepian, chairman, did a superlative job in attending to all the details of the raffle and once again 300 tickets were sold and the Church's income was in excess of \$14,000. Following the success of the previous years, the raffle was held during our annual Bazaar. We also owe our gratitudes to the efforts of all those who helped sell these tickets: Philip Arpiarian, Harold Azmelian, Apo Boghossian, Arto Can, Charles Genjian, Armen Kalbian, Charles Shenloogian, and Alice and Migir Yigitkurt.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - Due to a busy schedule, a Christmas party was not held this year.

VISION - Our pastor, Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan, as editor of the VISION, with the assistance of Ann Dadaian once again have done an outstanding job in preparing the VISION. The new format of the VISION, printed every two months, continues to be very appealing and extremely well received by the readers. Hayr Soorp, responsible for the success of the VISION, is commended for a job well done .

SUNDAY BULLETIN - Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan prepared the Sunday Bulletin which was distributed every Sunday to those attending Church services. The contents of the Bulletin was extremely well received by our parishioners as it was full of material of great interest to our community. Our pastor deserves high marks for doing such a magnificent job.

ARMENIAN SCHOOL - Alice Yigitkurt served as Superintendent along with Sela Nazarian, Maggie Nazarian and Haygan Cehreçi as teachers. Full details are being submitted to the Parish Assembly Annual Meeting under the Armenian School Report.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan and Sunday School Superintendent Sylvia Bozoyan, continue to encourage parents to bring their children to Sunday School with some success. In addition to Sylvia Bozoyan, the teaching staff consisted of Caroline Ak, Philip Arpiarian (Spring semester), Tanya Gullep, and Diane Pekmezian (Fall semester).

* * *

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan, the Parish Council and the entire church community respectfully acknowledge our Primate, His Eminence Khajag Archbishop Barsamian, for his diocesan leadership and for presiding over our Holy Name Day celebration.

Parish Council thanks Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan, our pastor, who during the past year gave us continued spiritual leadership and attended to the needs of the Parish. He continually made home visitations and brought in more members who are attending Church services.

The Parish Council acknowledges the dedication and services of all its parishioners for the enrichment of our Church and extends special thanks and gratitude to the following:

The Deacons: Hagop Hovsepien for his leadership and diligence; Mardiros Barsamian, Hacik Sariminassian, John Hovsepien, and Krikor Kureeren.

The Choir Members: Ann Dadaian, choirmaster; Arpena Sbarbaro, assistant choirmaster; Caroline Ak, Mary Can, Haygan Cehreçi, Lucy Ganguzza, Jeanette Garabedian, Charles Genjian, Tanya Gullep, Arthur Manoukian, Sr., Victoria Sariminassian, and Isabelle Yigitkurt.

The Organist: Mary Shalakian, our organist, has once again demonstrated her love for the Church by serving as organist without financial remuneration and deserves the full gratitude of our community.

The Women's Guild Chairlady Diana Burggraf and all Guild members who have consistently provided their services to make the Bazaar successful and also for their generous financial contributions.

Ann Dadaian who tirelessly serves as the Parish Secretary in addition to her responsibility as Choir Master.

Andrew Avedesian and Zaven Hovsepian for assuming the responsibility of supervising the extensive maintenance and repairs we had this year. The time and effort they put into this work is highly commendable.

Mary Shalakian for acting as treasurer . . . most likely the most time consuming task for the administration of the Church.

Sylvia Bozoyan for her excellent keeping of our Parish Council minutes and preparing the annual Parish Council Annual Report as well as for her dedication to the Sunday School.

Richard Assoian who undertook the printing of the annual Christmas Card in memory of Anne Hachadoorian.

Richard Tarzian who donates the printing of our Church publication of the VISION.

Arax Chirkinian and Virginia Hajeian for co-chairing the Christmas Card project and the mailing of the VISION.

Harold Azmelian and his committee for their continuous hard work to administer our Endowment Trust Fund.

Women's Guild members for their help in the Church office whenever called upon.

Diana Burggraf, Diramayr Barsamian, Takouhi (Sultan) Çan, Sultan Ipeksi, Vartouhi Kucukyan, and Aghavni Pashalian for donating and making the "mahs."

Choir member, Arthur Manoogian, for preparing the mahs for distribution every Sunday.

Diana Burggraf for coordinating "after Church" Fellowship Hour.

Andrew Shashoyan for his volunteering to act as the Church photographer whenever called upon.

Nubar Dorian, Chairman of the Parish Council, for his leadership.

. . . And to all the Parishioners who faithfully serve the Holy Cross Armenian Church by their support and confidence in the Parish Council.

Respectfully submitted,

PARISH COUNCIL

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
ENDING BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1997

RECEIPTS 1997	\$185,307.69	
DISBURSEMENTS 1997	<u>\$166,673.00</u>	
RECEPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	\$18,634.69	
	<u>\$52,268.97</u>	
BALANCE DEC. 31, 1997		<u>\$70,903.66</u>

PARKING LOT FUND	\$9,555.00	
UNRESTRICTED FUND	<u>\$61,348.66</u>	
		<u>\$70,903.66</u>

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FOR THE YEARS ENDING 12/31/97-96

	1997	1996
RECEIPTS:		
Membership, Dues, Pledges & Envelopes, Plate collections.	\$17,266.00	\$16,689.96
DONATIONS:		
Christmas	\$3,275.00	\$4,300.00
Easter	\$5,100.00	\$5,705.00
Christmas Card	\$3,375.00	\$1,720.00
Women's Guild	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
Senior Citizens	\$500.00	\$500.00
Other Donations	\$670.72	\$2,244.00
Renovation Fund	\$2,350.00	\$600.00
AFFAIRS:		
Bazaar:		
	(96 Profit \$ 6,494.76)	
	(97 Profit \$ 7,501.37)	\$9,844.00
Picnic		
	(96 Profit \$ 3,960.37)	
	97 No Picnic	\$0.00
50/50 Raffle		
	(96 Profit \$14,404.88)	
	(97 Profit \$14,436.00)	\$29,500.00
Communion Bkst	(97 Loss \$ 107.28)	\$264.00
Elevation Dinner	(96 Profit \$ 207.49)	\$272.00
Name Day Dinner	(97 Profit \$ 13,326.84)	\$8,547.00
	\$20,075.00	
OTHER INCOME:		
In Lieu of flowers	\$12,380.00	\$4,405.00
Hokehandkists & Prayers	\$6,245.00	\$4,180.00
Candles & candelabra	\$3,416.00	\$2,670.44
Christenings	\$275.00	\$200.00
Weddings	\$0.00	\$0.00
Funerals	\$1,300.00	\$950.00
Interest & dividends	\$891.97	\$1,095.34
Center rental	\$160.00	\$180.00
Altar Flowers	\$185.00	\$245.00
Vision	\$65.00	\$140.00
Missionary Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$150.00
Insurance recovery	\$0.00	\$808.88
Armenian School Tuition/Hantess	\$2,020.00	\$2,255.00
Endowment Fund Interest	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Exchange Account	\$150.00	\$450.00
	\$185,307.69	\$169,695.48

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEARS ENDING 12/31/97-96

	1997	1996
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Salaries, Travel & Housing	\$55,701.92	\$51,727.04
Social Security Tax	\$461.00	\$277.80
Diocesan Dues & Looma	\$13,356.00	\$8,984.00
Insurance	\$5,255.60	\$5,007.00
Gas, Electric & Water Church/Pasrish House and Church Center Expense (excluding insurance)	\$17,166.45	\$10,507.07
Building Maintenance & Improvements *	\$28,481.03	\$42,139.73
Office Expense	\$4,809.24	\$3,140.02
Auto Expense	\$0.00	\$7,346.32
Telephone	\$2,219.77	\$1,163.70
Church Supplies	\$997.55	\$1,070.55
Honorarium & Gifts	\$1,300.00	\$2,500.00
Flowers, Altar, Palm, Easter, Christmas	\$1,161.02	\$798.41
Donation St. Nersess Seminary	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Donation St. James Seminary	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Donation F.A.R.	\$0.00	\$625.00
Donation Palisade General Hospital	\$0.00	\$600.00
<u>Expense of Affairs:</u>		
Bazaar	\$2,342.63	\$2,595.35
Picnic	\$0.00	\$2,236.92
50/50 Raffle	\$15,064.00	\$15,695.12
Church Socials	\$675.46	\$1,006.14
Communion Breakfast	\$371.28	\$279.29
Christmas Party	\$0.00	\$1,160.00
Elevation Dinner	\$0.00	\$8,339.51
Holy Cross Day	\$6,748.16	\$0.00
Armenian School	\$7,395.92	\$12,284.18
Miscellaneous *	\$3,165.97	\$1,055.89
Exchange Account	\$0.00	\$450.00
	\$166,673.00	\$194,270.13

<u>Miscellaneous:</u>	
Cable	\$304.15
Convention Expense	\$1,126.82
Fr. Oshagan	\$100.00
Piano Tuning	\$80.00
Safe Deposit Box	\$55.00
Funeral Fund	\$1,500.00
	3165.97

<u>Building Expense:</u>	
New Locks	\$2,864.07
Audio Systems	\$9,241.50
Alarm system	\$1,990.00
Maintenance	\$3,442.75
New Boiler	\$7,500.00
New Water Heate	\$442.71
Sidewalk repair	\$3,000.00
	\$28,481.03

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
PROPOSED PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 1998

ANTICIPATED INCOME	1997	1998
Membership, Dues Plate & Pledge	\$16,000.00	\$20,000.00
Holiday Donations	\$10,000.00	\$8,500.00
Christenings, Weddings & Funerals	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
In lieu of flowers	\$4,500.00	\$6,000.00
Hokehankisds & Prayers	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00
Dividends & Interest	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Net proceeds from affairs (Bazaar, Raffle Etc.)	\$25,000.00	\$28,000.00
Other donations (Auxiliary Organizations)	\$16,000.00	\$16,500.00
Candles & Candelabra	\$2,600.00	\$3,500.00
Christmas Greetings	\$1,800.00	\$3,000.00
Center rental	\$200.00	\$0.00
Renovation Fund	\$10,000.00	\$3,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Armenian School (Tuition/Affairs)	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	\$100,100.00	\$105,000.00

ANTICIPATED EXPENSE:

Diocesan Dues & Looma	\$13,000.00	\$15,000.00
Salaries, travel, housing & honorariums	\$56,000.00	\$59,000.00
Insurance	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00
Armenian School	\$8,000.00	\$18,000.00
Utilities	\$25,000.00	\$18,000.00
Building improvements	\$50,000.00	\$20,000.00
Office supplies, postage, etc.	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00
Office machine repair/replacement	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
Telephone	\$1,100.00	\$2,500.00
Church supplies	\$1,500.00	\$1,200.00
St. Nersess Seminary	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
St. James Seminary	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$7,500.00	\$5,800.00
	\$175,600.00	\$154,500.00

178,000.00

PASTOR'S REPORT

1997

During the past few years we served our utmost, implementing number of changes and improvements within the Holy Cross Armenian Church parish. Through God's grace and with the cooperation and assistance of our dedicated parishioners, positive changes and improvements bear fruits. Our mission is to do the right and good things. We thoroughly enjoy the overwhelming support and respect of the vast majority of our parishioners. We extend our earnest appreciation to our faithful, talented and generous parishioners who with their time, finance and talent contributed a great deal to our advancement, progress and success.

CHURCH: We are proud to announce that during our pastorate as we have witnessed our church attendance and membership has noticeably soared. New faithful parishioners are attending and participating in our church services and social activities. Our Sunday services were conducted promptly and efficiently. During our three weeks vacation we were still available to serve and conduct services. During our pastorate 5 acolytes have been newly ordained. We extend our sincere appreciation to the deacons, choir members, and organist's dedication, devotion and commitment by participating in the Badarak faithfully every Sunday. □

OFFICE: Without a full-time secretary, we made every effort to be available in our newly renovated church office from Tuesday to Saturday. Due to pastoral responsibilities such as funerals; grave blessings; hospital, Old Age home and Hovnanian School visitations; Women's Guild meetings and luncheon; clergy meetings and other church related services and celebrations, we were not able occasionally to be present during office hours. We had the privilege and honor to attend Governor Christine Todd Whitman's inauguration as well as religious services, celebrations or conferences accompanying His Eminence or representing the Primate and the Diocese in an official capacity. □

PARISH COUNCIL: As president of the Parish Council, every first Tuesday of the month we attended Parish Council meetings. With our humble experience we supervised the meetings. Despite our different opinions our meetings were productive and fruitful. It was a pleasure to work with Mr. Nubar Dorian, chairman, who with his wisdom, experience and intellect conducted the meetings and contributed a great deal for the success of the church. It is needless to say that the parish is blessed with qualified, dedicated and committed Parish Council members who once again put their hearts and souls for the progress and welfare of the church and the community. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our genuine appreciation to outgoing Parish Council members and congratulate in advance, incoming members. Gradually and eventually we will make every effort to climb the ladder of success. □

WOMEN'S GUILD: As pastor, we periodically attended Women's Guild meetings, whenever possible, to provide guidance, assistance and support. We also took time to offer presentations on different church related topics and subjects. As in the past, once again this year, we graciously acknowledge their generous donation of \$ 16,000.00 For their tremendous and outstanding God pleasing mission they certainly deserve our blessings and sincere appreciation. □

MESROBIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL: Our primary and ultimate aim was and will be to provide the best linguistic and cultural education to our students. For years we took the initiative to teach religious and cultural courses every Saturday. In addition we also taught topics related with contemporary moral and ethical issues such as drugs, violence, communication, relationship, prayer, love, respect, honesty, peer pressure, greed, etc. Students' overwhelming positive reaction, enthusiasm and participation were remarkable. Through our efforts we increased our student enrollment. We deeply appreciate the dedication and outstanding commitment of superintendent Alice Yigitkurt and the teaching staff: Haiganush Cehreci, Sela Nazarian, Maggie Nazarian and assistant, Lena Khorozian. We also extend our gratitude to those who provided car pool for students. □

SUNDAY SCHOOL: As pastor and teachers, our mission is to impart the best Christian education to our children so they can grow spiritually in Christian manner and follow Christ's footsteps. This past year our Sunday School enrollment fluctuated. Not because we lack in our responsibilities, but because of the parents who come with endless excuses. Countless times we contacted parents urging them to bring their children to Sunday School. This year we are fortunate to have an experienced Sunday School teacher, Diane Pekmezian, join our Sunday School staff. Thanks to our talented, committed and dedicated Sunday School Superintendent, Sylvia Bozoyan, our Sunday School doors are wide open. She certainly deserves our sincere and deepest appreciation and applause for her superb and outstanding job. □

CLERGY MEETINGS: Almost every other month we attended clergy meetings in different parishes to discuss about the past and the future of the Armenian Church. During these clergy meetings, cultural, spiritual, pastoral, canonical, doctrinal, administrative and financial issues are discussed. The lack of the youth and faithful within the Armenian church is the grave concern of the clergy. These meetings were not only enlightening and informative, but also gave an opportunity to share our grave concerns in order to improve the quality of life in each and every parish community. This year we have been nominated by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, primate and elected by the clergy to chair the clergy conference in Cleveland, Ohio, where four consecutive days almost forty clergy participated from different states. □

PASTORAL VISITATIONS: For pastoral visitations we have been invited by many parishioners on both good or bad, happy or sad occasions - such as baptisms, birthdays, graduations, sweet sixteen's, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, home and store blessings, funerals and karasoonks. During our pastoral visitations our aim and goal was: a) To emphasize the mission of the Armenian Apostolic church and their vital role as well as to participate and contribute as parishioners in the church's life. b) To urge families to attend Church services, enroll their children in Mesrobian Armenian and Sunday Schools. c) To instruct and remind them that the success and the perpetuation of this divine and sacred institution depends and lies solely on them and to enroll them as church members. Not responding to our visitation requests due to their busy schedule and personal reasons, some families were contacted by phone. At times, some pastoral visitation requests were unfortunately either, canceled, postponed or simply neglected. Occasionally we accommodated parishioners by visiting them during business hours in their place of work. The purpose was to inform them that we were aware and concerned about their absence from Church.

Hospital and Nursing Home visitations were our priority and were made periodically upon request and voluntary. We visited patients at their convenience providing them with Prayers, Holy Communion, Pastoral and Spiritual counseling. We made sure to schedule our monthly visitation to the Armenian Old Age Home in Emerson, NJ conducting morning services, delivered homilies and gave Holy Communion. The faithful, on numerous occasions, brought to our attention that our pastoral visitations were uplifting, encouraging, and fruitful. We didn't hesitate to provide our pastoral and spiritual care for those who were eager and willing to seek assistance and guidance during emotional, physiological, financial, and spiritual times. We graciously acknowledge those who expressed their appreciation and made positive comment and remarks in person and in writing. □

VISION & Sunday Bulletin - Our official newspaper, **VISION**, is a bridge to communicate and convey pastoral messages and to inform about community activities to our parishioners in English and Armenian as the quality and the content have been improved. Our informative and enlightening **VISION** and Sunday Bulletin are appreciated by all. We humbly and proudly acknowledge and appreciate compliments and the generous donations from our parishioners as well as our friends. □

A.C.Y.O.A. - This year our A.C.Y.O.A. was active and preoccupied with scripture readings, chocolate and ice-cream sales, few social programs and etc. On several occasions they had the opportunity to socialize. Their activities included trips to Rockefeller Center in New York City to ice-skate, to the Diocese, and to the performance of the French **NAVASART** Dance Group accompanied by pastor - Fr. Vazken Karayan, Apo Boghossian, Alice Yigitkurt, Richard & Diane Pekmezian, and Sylvia Bozoyan.

Dance Group: The **AGHTAMAR** Dance Group has become a branch of social programs under the auspices of the Holy Cross Armenian Church. They presented a spectacular selection of dances at the Holy Cross Name Day Celebration. □

Youth Group: During our pastoral visitations to newlywed's houses, we urged them to come to Church. We are proud to announce that with the prior consent of the Parish Council, we took the initiative to organize a youth group under the auspices of the Holy Cross Armenian Church. The Youth Group consists of approximately 20 members - both young couples and singles. The objectives of this group will be as follows: a) To prepare By-laws; b) Increase their membership; c) Organize cultural and social activities; and d) Contribute to the Church and schools.

We are confident that the members of this Parish Assembly will approve and welcome them as well as support, encourage and provide assistance to them for their future endeavors. □

RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL & SOCIAL EVENTS

Bible Study - For the past few months, we were in the process of initiating and organizing an adult Bible Study Class. Selected topics to be discussed are: History and culture of Israel; Eighth century prophets' life and messages; God's revelation, His role in the history of man and His plan for the salvation of humanity; the life, sacrificial mission and miracles of Jesus Christ; and the life and mission of early Christians and St. Paul the Apostle of the Gentiles.

Holy Cross Name Day Celebration & Ordination - On Sunday, November 16th, Holy Cross Name Day was celebrated with His Eminence Khajag Archbishop Barsamian as the celebrant during Divine Liturgy. Following the Badarak, His Eminence bestowed the four minor orders upon 5 youth members during the ordination of the "Tbirs" (acolytes). During the Banquet at the Church Center several pillars of our Church were honored.

Banquet Chairman, Apraham Boghossian, Co-Chairman, Migirdich Yigitkurt and all the committee members made this unforgettable event a huge success. On this occasion, a souvenir booklet was prepared. □

Bazaar and 50/50 Raffle - Bazaar and Raffle were extremely successful due to Chairlady, Alice Yigitkurt; Co-chairman, Apraham Boghossian and Raffle chairman, Zaven Hovsepian. With an outstanding attendance, guests enjoyed both evenings' entertainment, food, warm atmosphere and each other's company. The Women's Guild with its chairlady, Diana Burggraf, contributed a great deal of time, effort, and expertise for its success as well. □

During our pastorate we did the following

- 1) To conduct and supervise the church services and sacraments
- 2) Fulfill and meet spiritual and pastoral needs of the parishioners
- 3) Get aquatinted with old and new parishioners
- 4) Initiate a new and healthy relationship and communication with parishioners
- 5) Cement and strengthen the bridge between church and the faithful
- 6) Increase church membership
- 7) Improve, strengthen and support both Sunday and Saturday schools
- 8) Organize and supervise trips and programs for reinstated A.C.Y.O.A.
- 9) Make every effort to reach out to our faithful
- 10) Support Women's Guild and Senior Citizens
- 11) Ordain Acolytes
- 12) Renovate the Church and office and received new equipment & furniture for the office.
- 13) Purchase of Ecclesiastical items
- 14) Received a large-screen TV donated by the Women's Guild and a VCR
- 15) Installation of a new audio system both in the Church and Center
- 16) Received a donation of a dozen new Acolyte Robes, (Shabigs)
- 16) Initiate Bible Study class
- 17) Organize an Adult Youth Group
- 18) Adopt a dance group
- 19) Increase religious, cultural and social activities
- 20) Provide adult education
- 21) Reform the *VISION* and Sunday Bulletin
- 22) Provide lecture series
- 23) Provide videos of cultural and religious topics.
- 24) Installation of Alarm System in the Church as well as installing safety locks to the Church, Annex and office doors.

Respectfully submitted,

Fr. Vazken Karayan, Pastor

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

UNION CITY, N.J.

WOMEN'S GUILD ANNUAL REPORT

1997

General Membership Meetings were held on the third Wednesday of each month with the exception of July and August. Prior to each meeting and the scheduled program a cake and coffee hour was held. Our Executive Committee meetings, when necessary, were held prior to the general membership meeting.

This year's Executive Committee members were:

Chairperson	Diana Burggraf
Vice Chairperson	Bertha Najarian
Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary	Satenig Karagosian
Treasurer	Arax Karagosian
Membership	Ann Chopoorian
Publicity	Mary Kharpertian
Advisors:	Gladys Abahoonie
	Diana Affsa
	Isabel Keshguerian

Standing Committees:

Flea Market	Isabel Keshguerian
Sunshine/Hospitality	Gladys Abahoonie
Rummage and/or Clearance Sales	Rose Sahagian and Diana Burggraf

The Women's Guild continues to actively participate in all Parish functions. Our successful FLEA MARKETS are organized by Isabel Keshguerian with the assistance of Arax Karagosian and Mary Kharpertian at the refreshment tables; Bertha Najarian and Gladys Bagdasarian stocking the pantry with staples for the refreshment counter. Of course, our dear Areknaz Sarajian who is always available for all our needs especially the special lunches she prepares for our working girls. The Women's Guild tables are set up and merchandise sold during the Flea Market dates or whenever help is available and we can set up and open the lobby store. The following girls have been a great help during set-ups or sales of merchandise: Victoria Bohajian, Diana Burggraf, Gladys Bagdasarian, Grace Genjian, Kay Keshishian, Louise Kevorkian, Lucy Nalbandian, Bertha Najarian, Isabel Keshguerian, Miss Virginia Shenloogian, Rose Sahagian and Arpena Sbarbaro. A special thank you is in order to Victoria Bohajian, Isabel Keshguerian and Rose Sahagian for their bi-lingual assistance during these sales. Also thank you, Isabel and Gregory Keshguerian for enduring all the telephone calls from vendors for Flea Market reservations.

The commitment and dedication of our Women's Guild proved itself again by the successful CLEARANCE SALE held certain days during July and August chaired by Rose Sahagian and Diana Burggraf. The merchandise and manpower donated helped us net over \$3,487.15. Arrangements were made and the remaining unsold articles were picked up by the Goodwill for which they were very appreciative. Thank you for all the volunteers that helped during this project, especially on some of those real hot days..

Under the auspices of the Women's Guild Central Council, with the approval of the Parish Council, the Guild sponsors a boy by the name of Karen Grigorian, born in Yerevan on May 10, 1987. We will sponsor Karen until he reaches the age of eighteen (18) years at \$200.00 each year.

We continue to support our Project Share whereby members and parishioners are urged to fill food baskets which are then distributed through the Division of Youth and Family Services to needy families with children.

Our Lenten Luncheon, held on February 12, 1997, was a success, and it was nice sharing this day with our members, parishioners and friends from some of our sister Guilds.

We wish to thank Hayr Soorp and Ann Dadaian for always being there when we needed any typing or flyers prepared.

Members of our Guild attended and supported the Women's Saints Day of the Armenian Church commemoration under the auspices of the Women's Guild Central Council which was held on March 8, 1997, at St. Mary's Church, Livingston, NJ. The sale of tickets for this affair was handled by Arax and Satenig Karagosian. We now have been informed that the Union City Women's Guild will be the host guild at this year's Saints Day which will be held March 14, 1998. We hope our members, parishioners and sister guilds will support us.

On June 18, 1997, we held our closing luncheon at the Ari's Restaurant. It was nice having Hayr Soorp, Diramayr and Dirahayr Barsamian and Diramayr Victoria Bohajian with us. Gladys Abahoonie and Diana Affsa handled our reservations.

As usual, the month of October is the Guild's busy month:

On October 19th, we celebrated the Guild's 63rd Anniversary. On this occasion we honored Lillian Aramian for 25 years of service; Ann Boghosian, Lucy Bozoian, Margaret Kalfaian and Diane Leone for ten years; Takouhi Can and Bella Kashian for five years. Hokehankisd Prayers were offered for the souls of all our departed members who had served faithfully and with dedication for the success of the Women's Guild. At this time we presented the Parish Council a check for \$10,000.00. A special "thank you" to Arax Hajeian Chirkinian and Virginia Hajeian for handling the correspondence and mailing with respect to the 63rd Anniversary.

On October 20th, Satenig Karagosian arranged a trip to the Show Boat in Atlantic City, which again was a delightful and successful trip.

Still continuing with the month of October, our ladies worked very hard preparing all the food and delicacies enjoyed by all who attended our Bazaar. At this time recognition and appreciation must be expressed to all our members. Even though Areknaz Sarajian wasn't up to kitchen duty, whenever we had any questions or needed any guidance, she was always there for us. We cannot forget our dear parishioners, Mrs. Takouhi Bozoyan and Mrs. Veron Mzrakian who worked and helped us tremendously in making the Bazaar a financial and social success. Again our dear Guild member, Mrs. Takouhi Can with all her friends helped make the Manti which she donated for sale at the Bazaar. These wonderful ladies also made all the delicious pastries, which were a sight to be seen and tasted, sold at our Gourmet tables so beautifully set up by Mary Shalakian and her helpers. Thank you ladies one and all.

Our thanks to Isabel Keshguerian for handling the two visitations to the Armenian Home for the Aged in Emerson where birthday cards and corsages are presented to the residents having birthdays during the respective month. Our expression of appreciation to the Takouhi Bozoyan who prepared the delicious pastry that was served to everyone at the Home.

Our thanks to Rose Sahagian for handling the Members Only Flea Market during November.

In the spirit of the season, on December 17th we met at the Holly Park Café, formerly Memories, in Fort Lee. It's always a pleasure having Hayr Soorp Vazken with us. Reservations were handled by Satenig and Arax Karagosian.

All the projects undertaken by the Women's Guild are successful because of the faithful devotion of the Guild members who give of their time and energies to our Church and Guild. We closed the year giving the Parish Council an additional check for \$6,000.00. This brings a total donation for the year 1997 of \$16,000.00

On closing this report we are sorry to mention that this year we lost three of our faithful and devoted members who helped make the Women's Guild a success --- Kay Derderian, Nector Kalustian and Margaret Kalfaian. Margaret because she was ill for many years was not able to be an active member, but Kay and Nector were very active and devoted to our Church and Guild. They will be missed greatly. May God rest their souls in peace.

The following is a Calendar of our Activities for 1997:

January	6	Armenian Christmas Badarak - served breakfast
	22	Membership Meeting at 12 noon
February	2	Annual Parish Assembly - Women's Guild served Lunch
	10	Cooking date for Lenten Luncheon - 10AM Center
	12	Lenten Luncheon - 12:30PM at Center - \$12.00
	16	Snow Date for Lenten Luncheon - After Church Services at Center - \$12.00
	19	Membership Meeting - 12 Noon
March	26	Snow Date - Membership Meeting
	8	Women's Saints Day at St. Mary Church, Livingston, Arax and Satenig Karagosian in charge of reservations
	12	Membership Meeting - 12 Noon
	15	Flea Market - First of Season
	19	Snow Date - Membership Meeting
	21	Choreg Making for Palm Sunday - 10AM Center
	23	Palm Sunday - Choreg Sale
	27	Holy Thursday - Church Service and Communion - Guild will serve lunch at Center after Church Services
April	30	Easter Sunday - Will appreciate donation of colored eggs
	5	Flea Market
	16	Membership Meeting at 12 noon

May	10	Flea Market	
	11	Mother's Day	
	14	Membership Meeting a 12 noon	
	21	Visitation to Armenian Home for the Aged Contact Isabel Keshguerian	
June	7	Last Flea Market of Season	
	18	Closing Luncheon at Ari's Restaurant	
July and August		Designated days during these months for sales of clothes, etc.	
September	13	Flea Market	
	17	Women's Guild Membership Meeting - 12 Noon (Light Lunch to be served)	
October	29	Choreg Making Session - 10AM - 50 lbs for Bazaar	
	2	Tourshi Session	
	4	Flea Market	
	8	Keuffeh Session - Church Center - 10AM	
	9	Keuffeh Session - Church Center - 10AM	
	15	Membership Meeting at Center - 10AM Choreg Session - hold meeting while "dough rises" (50 lbs Bazaar - 10 lbs 63 rd Anniversary on 10/19/97)	
	19	Presentation of names for Nominees for November election Women's Guild 63 rd Anniversary - Members will receive Holy Communion. Pins will be awarded; Hokehankisd Prayers will be said for deceased Guild members; Refreshments will be served.	
	24	Visitation to Armenian Home for Aged - Contact Isabel Keshguerian	
	29	Yalanchi - bottle Tourshi	
	31	Bazaar begins - Prepare Leuleh Kebab - 10AM	
November	1	Bazaar/Raffle Drawing - Prepare food at 10AM.	
	8	Flea Market	
	12	Membership Meeting - 12 Noon Executive Committee Meeting at 10:30AM Election of Officers	
	16	Church Banquet (Holy Cross Name Day)	
	18	Set up for Members Only Flea Market	
	19	Set up for Members Only Flea Market	
	20,21 &22	Members Only Flea Market	
	28&29		
	December	13	Flea Market
		17	Closing Luncheon - Holly Rock Café, Fort Lee

Respectfully submitted,

DIANA BURGGRAF
Chairperson

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	28&29		
	December	13	Flea Market
		17	Closing Luncheon - Holly Rock Café, Fort Lee

Respectfully submitted,

DIANA BURGGRAF
Chairperson

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
WOMEN'S GUILD - FINANCIAL REPORT
1997

Balance - December 31, 1996 \$ 2,202.86

INCOME:

Dues	\$ 679.00	
Flea Markets (8)	10,501.25	
Members Only Flea Market (2)	135.00	
63rd Anniversary Memorium Donations	2,145.00	
Clearance Sale	3,487.15	
Atlantic City Trips	339.00	
Choreg Sale (2)	538.19	
Lenten Luncheon	732.42	
Closing Luncheon	70.40	
Miscellaneous	<u>74.35</u>	<u>18,701.76</u>

TOTAL INCOME AND OPENING BALANCE \$20,904.62

DISBURSEMENTS

Transfer of funds to Parish Council	\$ 16,000.00	
In Lieu of Flowers	275.00	
Postage & Mailing	219.45	
Dues to Central Council	146.00	
Souvenir Booklet Advertising (Name Day)	200.00	
Child Sponsorship in Armenia (CASP)	200.00	
Meeting Refreshments	210.38	
Table Cloth Cleaning	150.00	
Christmas Gift to Caretaker	100.00	
Memorium Donations	50.00	
Condolences Booklet & Hokehankids	50.00	
Miscellaneous	<u>71.53</u>	<u>\$17,672.26</u>

BALANCE - DECEMBER 31, 1997 \$ 3,232.36

TOTAL ASSETS

Checking Account - Hudson United Bank		\$ 3,062.06
Petty Cash		164.82
Bazaar Account		<u>5.38</u>
		<u>\$ 3,232.26</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Arax Karagosian
Treasurer

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
UNION CITY, NJ

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT
1997

The pupils attend Church services from 10:15 - 10:45 A.M. Then assembly is conducted from 10:45 - 11:00 A.M. followed by class session from 11:00 - 12 Noon.

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Nursery, Kindergarten, First, Second and Third	8	Sylvia Bozoyan
Fourth, Fifth and Sixth	3	Caroline Ak / Tanya Gullep
Seventh, Eighth and Ninth	5	Philip Arpiarian (Spring Semester) Diane Pekmezian (Fall Semester)

The staff consists of 4 teachers and treasurer, Alice Bozoyan.

Average weekly student attendance - 40%
Average weekly student offering - \$ 11.00

Parents must take a more vital role in making sure their children attend Sunday School every week and come on time to ensure proper religious education.

1997 Events

January	Christmas Holy Communion & Breakfast
February / March	Lenten Offering Collection
March	Easter Holy Communion & Breakfast Easter plants & candy were presented to students.
June	Closing Exercises
September	Opening Day & Registration
December	Christmas Party - Gifts & candy were presented to each student.

Sunday School Report (cont.)

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

VIDEO PROGRAM - It continues to create enthusiasm as the students are absorbing religious educational lessons.

LENTEN OFFERING COLLECTION - Students participated in the Lenten Collection sponsored by the DRE.

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

Our heartfelt thanks to our pastor, Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan, who continually plays a vital role by encouraging and stimulating the students.

Our sincerest thanks to Hayr Soorp for his spiritual leadership, guidance, support, care, and interest in our Sunday School.

Special thanks are also extended to

- Diane Pekmezian for joining the Sunday School staff (October) with her enthusiastic and dynamic personality
- the teachers for their dedication, commitment, and diligence
- all those who prepared and served the Christmas and Easter Communion breakfasts
- our dear parents for bringing their children for religious education.

Respectfully submitted,

Sunday School Staff

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
FINANCIAL REPORT
1997**

CASH BALANCE - January 1, 1996 **\$ 1,535.44**

RECEIPTS

Sunday Collections / Offering	345.00
Lenten Collection	<u>60.00</u>
	\$ 405.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Lenten Donation	\$ 60.00
Books	\$ 107.00
Advent Calendars	\$ 31.25
Christmas Expenses	\$ 266.55

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS **\$ 464.80**

CHECKING INTEREST **\$ 31.76**

CASH BALANCE - December 31, 1997 **\$ 1,507.40**

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Bozoyan
Treasurer

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

UNION CITY, N.J.

SENIOR CITIZENS ANNUAL REPORT

1997

The Executive Committee of the Senior Citizens consists of:

Chairperson
Treasurer & Secretary
Advisor

Bertha Najarian
Satenig Karagosian
Alice Najarian

Weather permitting, our Senior's Group meets every Tuesday in the Church Annex from approximately 11AM to 3:30 PM. Our membership has decreased due to illness, moving out of the area, etc. We still have a small congenial group meeting to play cards, exchange friendly greetings and enjoy refreshments.

Please come and join us to make the day an enjoyable one; we would welcome more members.

Our organization wishes to thank our dedicated members for their continued support, attendance and contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

SATENIG KARAGOSIAN
Secretary

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

UNION CITY, N.J.

SENIOR CITIZENS FINANCIAL REPORT

1997

Balance - December 31, 1996 \$716.45

INCOME

Admissions	\$282.75	
Dues Received	54.00	
Cakes Sold	4.25	
Interest on Savings Account	<u>23.45</u>	<u>364.45</u>

TOTAL INCOME AND OPENING BALANCE \$1,080.90

DISBURSEMENTS

Donations to Church	600.00	
Meeting Expenses	39.50	
Christmas Gift - Caretaker	<u>20.00</u>	<u>659.50</u>

CASH BALANCE - December 31, 1997 \$421.40

TOTAL ASSETS

Bank Savings Account	\$385.75
Cash on Hand	<u>35.65</u>
	<u>\$421.40</u>

Respectfully submitted,

SATENIG KARAGOSIAN
Treasurer

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

UNION CITY, N.J.

CHOIR ANNUAL REPORT

1997

The Church Choir continues to serve our Church every Sunday faithfully throughout the year.

We wish to acknowledge and thank the services of our Choirmaster, Ann Dadaian and Assistant Choirmaster Arpena Sbarbaro, as well as our very dedicated organist, Mary Shalakian; our Deacon Hagop Hovsepian and Deacon Mardiros Barsamian and Stolebearers, Hacik Sariminasyan, John Hovsepian and Hagop Kradjian and to all our choir members: Victoria Sariminasyan, Arthur Manoukian, Sr. Marie Can, Lucy Ganguzza, Jeanette Garabedian, Caroline Ak., Tanya Gullep, Haygan Cehreci, Charles Genjian, and Isabelle Yigitkurt.

We always encourage and welcome all those interested in singing in the choir to participate and join us.

Our special thanks for the continued support of our Pastor, Very Rev. Vazken Dz. Vartabed Karayan, the Parish Council and all our parishioners who continued to encourage us.

Respectfully submitted,

CHOIR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

UNION CITY, N.J.

CHURCH CHOIR FINANCIAL REPORT

1997

Balance - December 31, 1996		\$1,690.21
<u>INCOME</u>		<u>-0-</u>
TOTAL INCOME PLUS OPENING BALANCE		\$1,690.21
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>		
Get well gift to member	40.00	
In Lieu of Flowers	25.00	<u>65.00</u>
CASH BALANCE - December 31, 1997		<u>\$1,625.21</u>

Respectfully submitted,

HACIK SARIMINASYAN
Treasurer

