

THE ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

1978

PASTOR and PARISH COUNCIL

THE PASTOR'S REPORT

It has been seventeen years that I had the privilege of serving you as the Pastor of this Church. They have been 17 wonderful years for me and for my family. I thank God and my family of St. Thomas for that.

I am happy to report that by the grace of God we have completed another fruitful year. Our thanks go to the church auxiliary groups and special commendation goes to our Parish Council for their fine cooperation and work. Each group has submitted its report separately. I will report to you mainly about the sacramental and pastoral activities of the past year.

WORSHIP SERVICES have been conducted every Sunday from 10:30 am to noon, with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and a sermon. During the year, we had as guest celebrants: Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan, on the occasion of our anniversary of the consecration of the Church; we also had Rev. Nerses Babourian on Sunday, October 22 when our Pastor was invited to Hartford, Conn. Father Arnak celebrated Badarak at the Home in Emerson twice, on the Armenian Christmas Day and on Maundy Thursday of the Holy Week. On Good Friday we, the seven Churches of Tenafly, had a joint service and procession from church to church.

SACRAMENTAL SERVICES: During the year, 27 baptisms were performed (compared to 28 last year); 18 marriages were blessed (18 the previous year); 17 funerals took place (14 last year). We shall cherish the memories of Majak Nakashian, Rose Atoragalian, Nerses Kupelian, and Albera Constantine. We shall also remember the following whose families are active members of our Church: Vart Bagdasarian, mother of Aram Bagdasarian, and Flora Zamamian, mother of Alice Shahinian.

ADMINISTRATIVE: As ex-officio president of all church organizations, Fr. Arnak attended and presided over all the meetings. He directed and advised and, in many cases, he helped in implementing decisions. He attended the Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly in Detroit, Michigan during the first weekend in May.

PUBLICATIONS: Fr. Arnak published the Bergen Beacon monthly and put out the flyers for our various affairs. Each month our Beacon is mailed to our college students residing on campus. Special thanks to Mary Ann Saraydarian for editing, to Bedros and Iris Papazian for setting the type of the Beacon and of some special flyers and giving them their professional touch, and to five friends who alternately do the printing. Our mailing list is approximately 950 addresses. Dikris Malool has been most helpful in assisting with typing, addressing, and various other office work whenever called upon.

We also thank Mrs. Lucy Chakmakian and her helpers from Avak Society who make sure that we have "mahs" every Sunday.

A very special tribute must be paid this year to the efforts of our Chairman, Victor Arzoomanian, who is an experienced leader in organizing and delegating responsibilities. It is a joy to work with him. He has retired now, but working harder for St. Thomas.

On this occasion I would like to mention our very successful Bazaar financially and also as a vehicle of good fellowship. We thank Victor and Alice Arzoomanian, the co-Chairman, for their great achievement.

THE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

We are happy to report that 1978 provided St. Thomas Armenian Church a year of accomplishment.

Under the guidance of our Religious Leader, Rev. Arnak Kasparian, the Parish Council effectively managed the activities of our beautiful Church to successful conclusions. These achievements are identified throughout our Annual Report. They were made possible through the combined efforts of our Parish Council, Chairpersons of our Church Organizations, Chairpersons of our committees, members of the Choir, members serving on the Altar, and our Parishioners who supported our programs by giving of their time, their services, and their generous donations. We congratulate and thank you for your support in allowing us to surpass our yearly goal in a professional and productive manner.

OFFICERS and ASSIGNMENTS for the TWENTY-FIRST PARISH COUNCIL

OFFICER	ASSIGNMENT	LIAISON
Victor Arzoomanian Chairman	- - - -	- - - -
Caspar Kasparian Vice-Chmn.	Membership	Choir
Peter Jangochian Secretary	Rentals	A.C.Y.O.A.
Albert Papazian Asst. Secy.	Pledges	Sunday School
Vahan Barsamian Treasurer	- - - -	- - - -
Samuel Demirjian Asst. Treas.	Narthex Coordinator	Armenian School
Leon Nigohosian - - - -	Sacraments	Women's Guild
Virginia Parseghian - - - -	Supplies, Purchases	- - - -
Albert Victoria - - - -	Custodial Service	Avak
Greg Tenbekjian - - - -	Buildings & Grounds	- - - -
Charles Doudoukjian - - - -	Stewardship	Couples Club
	Picnics Coordinator	Men's Club
		Bookstore

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS and COMMUNICATIONS

The Parish Council scheduled most of their meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at the Church Annex. Meetings were also held at the homes of Victor and Alice Arzoomanian on April 11 and Masis and Virginia Parseghian on July 18, a total of 19 meetings.

The meetings were held in a business-like manner. All areas of Church matters were discussed and action taken where required.

The members of the Parish Council took pride in the work they accomplished. They devoted time, services and gave financial aid with a sense of dedication and willingness to serve.

The Parish Council meetings were open to our members. Chairpersons of Church Organizations, Committee Chairpersons, Delegates and other members attended our meetings during the year to discuss matters of interest, share ideas and to be briefed by the Parish Council. This type of personal communications made for a more comfortable relationship between the Parish Council and the members of the Parish. We urge future Parish Councils to continue this practice which furthers a better understanding, is informative, and allows the Parish Council to make sound decisions by knowing what the members require.

The Parish Council also communicates with the membership through the Church paper, The Bergen Beacon, where the Chairman of the Parish Council gives his monthly message to the members of the Parish.

PARISH COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS and RELATED ACTIVITIES

MEMBERSHIP - Caspar Kasparian and members of his committee continue to have a low key drive for new members. Their best method of gaining new members has been after Church during the Coffee Social where new faces are approached and asked to join our Church.

The Membership Committee had a Pot Luck Dinner on April 12. Although not many new members joined, the affair was a social success.

The assignment of Greeters in the lobby of the Church each Sunday is the responsibility of the Membership Committee. The practice of greeting members and friends each Sunday morning serves a dual purpose. It gives us an opportunity to be hospitable to our members and friends and also to meet prospective new members.

A total of 20 new members joined our Church in 1978. We have a total membership of 475.

Caspar Kasparian is also the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. In this capacity he has assisted the Chairman in an effective manner. Caspar is a valued member of our dedicated team of workers. We thank Caspar and his family for their whole-hearted support to St. Thomas Armenian Church.

BUILDING & GROUNDS - Albert Victoria's assignment is to insure that our total Church complex is maintained properly. With the help, time, and funds available Albert has improved our Church facilities in an efficient manner.

Areas where improvement is required have been identified. They are being taken care of in order of priority. Some of the highlights of our improvements this year are as follows:

a. After years of struggling with outdated and unreliable heating system controls, the Parish Council authorized a heating contractor to replace the controls. The system which cost approximately \$7,000. has been installed and is in process of being "fine tuned". The Parish Council is seeking a qualified heating maintenance firm to begin a proper on-going maintenance program throughout the year. We feel the cost of the new heating system and the yearly contract maintenance cost is vital and well worth it. It will help to control our monthly heating costs and also give us heat when we require it. We thank Caspar Kasparian, Albert Victoria, Ara Jilajian, and Nish Ohanessian for the time and expertise they devoted to this project to its successful conclusion.

b. At no cost to our Church Der Hayr was able to talk to a Building Contractor to fill the south side of our Church grounds with dirt fill. The Contractor also brought in bulldozers to level off after the fill was put in. The cost of a project like this would have been in excess of \$7000. We got it free, thanks to Der Hayr and a God loving Contractor.

There is no doubt that St. Thomas Armenian Church complex is better maintained, looks better, and will continue to improve with the dedication and services of the Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee-- Mr. Albert Victoria.

SACRAMENTALS & NARTHEX COORDINATOR: A new member to the Parish Council is Samuel Demirjian, an auto mechanic by trade, and fortunately for St. Thomas a dedicated and devoted member of the Parish Council. Samuel performed his given tasks for his given responsibilities which included coordination of items necessary for religious services, church etiquette, record keeping for altar flowers, memorial services, collection of monies for weddings, baptisms, etc. He handles this responsibility with care, love, and affection. He was at his post each Sunday morning making certain everything was in order for Church Services. In addition he greeted and made pleasantries to our Parishioners and friends who attended Church. We are thankful that Sam found time to be a member of the Parish Council. He is an asset and hopefully we pray that he will continue to serve in this capacity for many years to come.

SUPPLIES & CUSTODIAL SERVICES - Virginia Parseghian is responsible for our housekeeping and food serving supplies, surveillance and management of our housekeeping needs and for the control of the people required to maintain these services.

In all areas of her responsibilities she has done a professional job. The cleanliness of our Church complex is at its highest. We can contribute this achievement to Virginia's management.

Assisting Virginia on a full time basis is our new Custodian, Garo Arakelian. Garo was hired in May 1978. We are very happy with the talents of this dedicated individual. With the guidance of Virginia, Garo has been keeping our facilities clean and maintained the best it has ever been.

We congratulate Virginia and express our appreciation for the many hours she has devoted to her assignment.

PLEDGES:- Albert Papazian continues to conduct the Pledge program of our Church with dedication, dignity, and with the confidentiality it demands. This outstanding individual accomplishes the task of increasing monies received through the Pledge program each year without the help of anyone. He has a delicate job that takes many of his hours each week to properly administer. Albert's program is as follows:

- a. Posts weekly pledges
- b. Mails quarterly statement with an accompanying letter encouraging Parishioners to keep pledges current or to increase them.
- c. Makes personal phone calls or written contact to recover delinquent pledges.

Albert's assignment is a difficult one. He accomplishes it with class. We commend him for it.

RENTALS: - Peter Jamgochian, our Secretary, has an additional responsibility, that of coordinating the scheduling of events and the rentals of our facilities. This assignment is most difficult. It requires patience, good business sense, and an ability to deal effectively with the public and our members. Peter has these ingredients.

We thank Peter Jamgochian for an effective and smooth operation. We also thank Peter for his services as our Secretary this past year.

TREASURER: - Vahan Barsamian, Treasurer of the Parish Council, has managed the funds of this Church in an exemplary manner during the past year. Vahan prepares a monthly financial statement and presents it to the Parish Council. The work load of the Treasurer requires a permanent assistant to help keep the financial records in good order. For this reason and to insure continuity between new Treasurers each year a bookkeeping position will be added. The requirements for this new position are being finalized by Michel Izmirly and will be presented to the Parish Council for approval.

We thank Vahan for taking time from his household chores to serve as our Treasurer. His assignment was most difficult, but Vahan did it in a first class manner.

AUDITING COMMITTEE: - Michel Izmirly, Andrew Sahagian, and Artemis Nazarian, members of the Auditing Committee, audited the financial records of our Church Organizations during the year in accordance with the recommendations of the last Parish Assembly.

We thank Michel Izmirly, Andrew Sahagian, and Artemis Nazarian for their professional services and advice.

MEN'S CLUB REORGANIZED

Jack Bendian was asked by the Chairman of the Parish Council to reorganize the Men's Club into a productive organization. This he did in a magnificent manner. The Men's Club is now one of our family of dynamic Church Organizations. They have dedicated their efforts towards the youth of our Church. -- a worthy purpose. We congratulate Jack Bendian and the members of the Men's Club and wish them a long and happy future at St. Thomas. The Annual Report of the Men's Club appears under "Organizational Reports".

ST. THOMAS PUBLICITY CHAIRPERSON

The Parish Council is happy to announce the appointment of Susan Shamamian as the Publicity Chairperson for St. Thomas Armenian Church. Susan's assignment does not conflict with the Publicity Chairpersons of any of our Church organizations. These Publicity Chairpersons will continue to do business as it pertains to their respective organizations.

RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER

Because of pressure of a new civilian job assignment, Frank Stoneson asked the President of the Parish Assembly, Rev. Arnak Kasparian, to accept his request for resignation. Der Hayr accepted Frank's resignation with regret and on the promise that both he and his wife, Susan, would continue to be active in our Church organizations. This they have been doing. Susan is very active with the Women's Guild and Frank with the newly organized Men's Club.

A letter of appreciation and thanks was sent to Frank for his work as Parish Council Chairman for the years 1976 and 1977.

Greg Tenbekjian filled the term of office left void by Frank's departure.

BOOKSTORE

The Bookstore is managed by Sona Doudoukjian. Under Sona's able direction the Bookstore has increased its volume of business so much that it required another bookcase to store the books. We thank Sona for her interest and her desire to serve our members who wish to purchase books after Church each Sunday.

We also thank Charles Doudoukjian for helping with the Bookstore, and an able assistant to Samuel Demirjian each Sunday morning.

YOUTH ATTEND ST. NERSESS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY SUMMER PROGRAM

Three ACYOA Juniors attended a nine day summer course at St. Nersess Theological School, New Rochelle, N.Y. The Parish Council shared the expense for this course which was well received by Alyssa Ouzoonian and Michael and Lisa Kasparian who attended. These young members of our Church gave a short talk on their activities to members of the ACYOA Juniors and the Women's Guild at a meeting held at St. Thomas in Sept. Through the efforts of these young adults we expect more of our ACYOA Juniors to attend the next summer program sponsored by ST. NERSESS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

AFTER CHURCH COFFEE SOCIAL:

Each Sunday after Church Services Alicia Demirjian and her committee have coffee brewed and ready to serve for our Parishioners and friends who wish to socialize in the lobby of our Church. This mini social is well attended and makes for a happy place where friends meet and talk.

We thank Alicia Demirjian, Chairman, and her committee which includes Tish Basmajian, Jack Ekizian, Theresa Martin, Mary Chookazian, Marion Babigian, Susan Stoneson, Lillian Kasparian, Araxe Arkell, Alice Hallajian, Margaret Minassian, Sona Doudoukjian, and Violet Ouzoonian.

CHURCH LENDING LIBRARY

Something new is being started at St. Thomas--a Lending Library, under the supervision of Sonia Tashjian. Sonia has recently purchased over \$600 worth of rare books written in English on Armenian subjects which make for interesting reading by our enthusiasts. The Library will be open in the very near future after a few details are worked out.

We thank Sonia Tashjian for her interest and expertise in this operation. A warm round of applause is in order to Mr. & Mrs. Vay Najarian for their generous donation in making the purchase of the books possible.

A.C.Y.O.A. SENIORS

Our A.C.Y.O.A. Seniors started off to a flying start and then suddenly it crashed. Although we are saddened by this turn of events, we are still confident that we can get this vital organization active again.

We thank Ralph Goomrigian, Frank Stoneson, Harry Chakmakian, Kim Goomrigian, Edward Arzoomanian, Ronald Demirjian, Ronald Chakmakian and others for their sincere efforts to make this a going organization. We are making plans to start once again. We pray that the A.C.Y.O.A. Seniors will again be one of our productive Church Organizations.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM

A series of Bible Study Programs for adults was conducted in April and May. We recognize the need for further religious education programs for adult parishioners and hope that the response will be enthusiastic.

ARSONIST STARTS FIRE AT ST. THOMAS

On August 28 an arsonist started a fire in our Church complex. The damage was in excess of \$9000.

We wish to thank Albert Victoria for coordinating all matters pertaining to the damage and cost of repairs. He did an outstanding job in a most tedious and time consuming assignment.

Thank you, also, to Nish Ohanesian for his help and time in making the extensive electrical repairs.

PARISH COUNCIL SOCIAL FUNCTIONS and ACTIVITIES

The Parish Council has been responsible for the following social functions this past year. All other functions by Church Organizations are reported by their respective Organization reports.

1. 21st ANNIVERSARY DINNER March 19, 1978

This annual dinner was a tremendous social and financial success. We thank Zaven and Elise Pookikian for co-chairing this important function. Honored at the Dinner, where over 300 attended, were Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian and Arthur Azarik who were given the "St. Thomas Award" for outstanding contribution to St. Thomas for past years. Der Arnak was given a silver bowl in recognition of his 30 years as an Armenian Priest. Our honored guests were Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan and U.S. Congressman Andrew McGuire.

We wish to thank George Shahinian who was Chairman of the Cake Sale for this affair. Through George's personal efforts over \$4200 was donated. This was the highest amount we have ever received during our Anniversary Cake Sale.

2. MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC - May 30

Congratulations are in order to Greg and Adrienne Tenbekjian for co-chairing the Memorial Day Picnic at our Church Grounds which was attended by over 1500 members and friends for a day of fun, good food, fellowship and an afternoon in the sun. We realized over \$4600 profit for this venture. We thank Greg and Adrienne and their committee members for a tremendous job.

3. ONE WORLD FESTIVAL - September 9 and 10

Paul and Marion Kahaumjian represented St. Thomas Armenian Church at the One World Festival sponsored by the Diocese. St. Thomas was responsible for manning the soda booths.

We thank Paul and Marion and their committee for doing a commendable job under trying conditions.

4. "GET TOGETHER PICNIC" - September 17

This successful picnic was chaired by two newcomers to our Parish, Steve and Susan Jarahian. Over 1000 happy Parishioners and friends attended the picnic which realized over \$2000 profit. It was another outstanding affair enjoyed by those who attended.

We thank Steve and Susan and their committee for making this possible.

5. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - December 2 and 3

The Annual Christmas Bazaar is the highlight of our year's activities. It gets our members involved, has more activity, attracts more people to our Church, and realizes the most profit than any other function during the year. The 1978 Bazaar was no exception. We did it again through the all out support of our members and friends who

responded to our requests for their services, time, and donations. Our gratitude and thanks to the members of our committees and supporters who have contributed to this most successful and profitable affair that netted over \$23,000 for St. Thomas. Victor and Alice Arzoomanian co-chaired the 1978 Bazaar.

6. MERCEDES-BENZ AUTO RAFFLE - December 31

Zaven Poosikian, the perennial Chairman of the Mercedes-Benz Automobile Raffle, had another successful raffle for 1978. This raffle was the second most financially productive venture during 1978. What makes this unusual is that it is accomplished mostly by one person, Zaven Poosikian. Through his personal salesmanship he was able to sell 300 raffle tickets and \$100 a ticket.

We commend Zaven for this tremendous accomplishment. We also thank the many members and friends who participated. The winner of the Mercedes-Benz for 1978 was Dr. Haig Garjian. We wish him and his family happy and healthy days with this beautiful car.

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

DONATION OF NEW ADDRESSOGRAPH - Mr. and Mrs. Haig Tashjian gave a generous donation \$1500 for the purpose of purchasing a new addressograph. We thank Haig and Adrienne for this donation and for their continuing support to St. Thomas.

LAWN MOWER DONATION - We can thank Mr. Rupen Saddler for purchasing a new power lawn mower for our grounds. Mr. Saddler has been a most generous supporter of St. Thomas and we thank him for his all out support.

MR. & MRS. N. NAZARIAN PLEDGE \$100,000 - The largest donation ever pledged to St. Thomas was made by Nazar and Artemis Nazarian for the purpose of building a new auditorium for our Church. The members of St. Thomas are most grateful to this generous couple who have devoted their lives for the benefit of Armenians. How fortunate we are to have them as members of St. Thomas Armenian Church. In this report you will read more about the new building plans and the enthusiasm shown by our members in this exciting building venture.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER SERVES SIX YEARS - We thank Leon Nigohosian who has served six years on the Parish Council for his dedication and services during his term of office. Not only did Leon serve on the Parish Council, but he and his wife, Elsie, have been active in other organizations and committee assignments for the good of St. Thomas. We know that Leon and Elsie will continue to serve St. Thomas in a faithful and outstanding manner. We appreciate their support.

ST. THOMAS SECRETARY - We are most grateful to a dedicated, experienced, and talented member of our Church who serves as our Secretary, Dikris Malool. This responsibility takes

the better part of some afternoons, evenings, and weekends. Actually, this position should be fulltime, yet Dikris does it without remuneration. She is timely, effective, and willingly accepts all assignments with enthusiasm. Dikris, you have earned the praises of all members of St. Thomas for your services as Secretary and for your other activities in our Church organizations. Thank you.

ASSISTANTS TO THE TREASURER - During each Sunday we can depend on two devoted members of our Church to assist the Treasurer in the Parish Council Room. Tish Basmajian, who has helped almost every Parish Council member in any capacity they wished him to serve. The other member is a former Parish Council member and the Chairman of the 1977 Annual Christmas Bazaar -- Michel Izmirly. Michel not only assists the Treasurer, he also was the Assistant Chairman of Bazaar '78. In both capacities he excelled. We thank both Tish and Michel for their efforts in the behalf of St. Thomas.

OUR RELIGIOUS LEADER - A special thanks is in order to our Der Hayr, Father Arnak Kasparian, who with his wife, Yeretzgin Violet, have devoted themselves to the good of St. Thomas. Most of the successes we have had these past years can be attributed to our Religious Leader and his wife.

It takes leadership to reap rewards and meet objectives. Der Hayr has the knack of finding and then selecting these leaders; motivating them, and then give them his support. You can easily see that Der Hayr has done his work well when you see the many achievements made by our organizations. Thank you Der Hayr and Yeretzgin.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Each Parish Council prepares the next Parish Council with a list of recommendations for the improvement of St. Thomas. This list is helpful and gives the next Parish Council a guide and goals to accomplish for the improvement of our Church facilities, organizations, and religious activities. Listed below are recommendations which we would like to refer to the 1979 Parish Council for action:

- a. Appoint an adult leader or leaders to reorganize the A.C.Y.O.A. Seniors.
- b. Make a concerted effort to increase the membership of our Church.
- c. Continue to make improvements on the facilities of our Church and Church complex. Specific items have been identified.
- d. Increase tempo of Religious Adult Activities. Make an effort to gain more attendance.
- e. Continue to attract more qualified teachers, administrators for our Sunday School. Also, make a concerted effort to increase the membership.
- f. Support the Building Committee in its effort to build our new auditorium.
- g. Appoint a Chairman for Memorials. This could be in conjunction with the Building Committee.

- h. Get as many people involved in Church activities as possible.
- i. Improve upon the Greeter Program. Appoint a member other than a Parish Council member to be in charge of this program.

CONCLUSION

We are proud of our accomplishments this past year. Our goals were set high and we met them with a sense of satisfaction. We all worked hard, we devoted extra hours, and we took a positive approach.

Our Church Organizations are healthy and continue to support our objectives in a highly efficient manner.

The leadership of Father Arnak gave us the inspiration and guidance to exceed our objectives. 1979 is the year in which St. Thomas will surge ahead. We are confident that our new building venture will get more people involved, there will be more activity, and we will all gain by this concerted effort to improve St. Thomas Armenian Church.

May God bless you all.

Victor V. Arzoomanian
Parish Council Chairman

Peter Jangochian
Secretary

Rev. Arnak Kasparian
President.

AUDITING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

We have examined the Statement of Revenue and Expenses for the year ended December 31, 1978. Our examination was made in accordance with the requirements of the Armenian Diocese of North America and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and auditing procedures as we considered necessary in these circumstances.

In our opinion this Statement of Revenue and Expenses fairly presents the results of the operation of St. Thomas Armenian Church and its auxiliary organizations. The Auditing Committee

Andrew Sahagian, Michel Izmirly, Mrs. Artemis Nazarian

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT - On Fri., June 2, 1978 a committee convened for the purpose of examining the feasibility of expansion of the Church Hall building. Officers elected to serve on that committee were Edward Bashian and Vay Najarian, Co-chairmen, Dr. Haroutune Mekhjian, Treasurer, Rupen Saddler, Asst. Treasurer, and Virginia Victoria, Secretary.

After subsequent meetings to thoroughly study the problems, the committee felt there was a strong need for expansion.

Architect Edward Ludders, who was responsible for our present Church structure, was invited to attend these meetings.

On Dec. 12 a special Parish Assembly met to study in depth the ramifications of this project. After a full discussion, motion was made and seconded authorizing the expenditure of \$10,000 for the development of preliminary plans for the project. Upon completion of these plans, the project will be presented to another Parish Assembly for approval.

PROPOSALS PASSED AT THE 1978 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

AS EXCERPTED FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ASSEMBLY FEB. 12, 1978

There was considerable discussion as to whether there were sufficient Parish Council members present and on duty on Sunday mornings to fulfill Parish Council responsibilities in the vestibule, in the church, and in the Parish Council office. The consensus seemed to be that the number should be increased. A clearer delineation of tasks appropriate to elected Parish Council members and those which might be performed by former Parish Council members, parish elders, or designated other persons was recommended.

George Mekenian moved that the Auditing Committee review the records of the Parish Council and all church organizations every six months with the guidance of the Parish Council Treasurer. Motion was seconded and passed. Paul Varbedian recommended that if we follow this practice, perhaps we should have four members on the Auditing Committee so that the members can work in teams of two. Rose Mekenian suggested that for this year at least, the Alternate Auditor might fulfill this function. Chairman Ouzoonian asked that the Auditing Committee also follow up on the motion passed at the 1977 Annual Parish Assembly that the Auditing Committee in consultation with the Parish Council devise a financial statement format to be used by all our church organizations to insure uniformity in the annual financial reports.

The proposal submitted by the Parish Council that the chairmen of all church organizations be members of St. Thomas Armenian Church was explained by Frank A. Stoneson. There was considerable discussion on this item interspersed with various motions. Caspar Kasparian moved it be resolved that "This Assembly recommend to each organization within the church that at least the Chairman of that organization be a member of St. Thomas Church". The motion was seconded. Victor Arzoomanian moved that this resolution be tabled and the Parish Council review this whole matter. The motion to table was seconded and then defeated. Caspar Kasparian later amended his motion to the following: "This Assembly directs the Parish Council to inform each of the bodies of this church that the Parish Assembly recommends that the chairman of all organizations be a member of St. Thomas". The motion was seconded. George Mekenian proposed an amendment to this motion to delete the word "recommends" and substitute "directs that beginning with their next election". The amendment was seconded and passed. The final amended resolution which read, "This Assembly directs the Parish Council to inform each of the bodies of this church that the Parish Assembly directs that beginning with their next election, the chairman of all organizations be a member of St. Thomas" was voted upon and passed.

A proposal that the Nominating Committee shall obtain the consent of all candidates prior to submitting a slate for election was put into the form of a motion, seconded, and passed.

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY '78

The Seventy-Sixth Annual Diocesan Assembly was convened in the St. John Armenian Church of Greater Detroit on May 4-5-6th. The sessions were attended by 168 voting members which included our pastor, Fr. Arnak Kasparian; Parish Council Chairman, Victor Arzoomanian; Delegates, Arthur Azarik, Caspar Kasparian, George Mekenian, and Joseph Kalemkerian. The sessions opened on Thursday afternoon, May 4th with Archbishop Torkom Manoogian presiding. After the preliminaries had been conducted, the assembly elected Khachadour Kazarian of Providence, and Caspar Kasparian of St. Thomas to serve as the chairman and vice-chairman.

The major order of business was the re-election of Archbishop Torkom Manoogian to his fourth term as Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church. The Diocesan Council Report was reviewed and numerous questions were asked concerning Church Unity, a possible Canadian Diocese, the Armenian Church Endowment, ACYOA, Diocesan Publications, Parish Assessment procedures and the St. Nersess Theological School. A report was given summarizing the 2-day clergy conference that had preceded the Diocesan Assembly. Fr. Arnak attended with his fellow clergymen at a retreat center in Detroit. It was proposed that next year one day will be devoted to a conference, and the other to a religious retreat.

Numerous proposals and amendments were submitted, but none of any substance was sustained. It was reported that a Diocesan-wide membership drive will be held during October. The St. Thomas Parish will be notified shortly of the plans for this campaign.

George Mekenian, Treasurer of the Diocesan Council, assisted in the hearings on the proposed 1978 Budget, which was approved by the delegates. The 1978 Diocesan budget is \$632,000.

In conjunction with the Diocesan Assembly, day long meetings were held by the Armenian School, ACYOA, Council for Religious Education and Ladies' Guild. These sessions were attended by St. Thomas representatives, Anne Azarik, Mary Barikyan, Louise Kalemkerian, Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian, and Shake Torigian.

The 1979 Diocesan Assembly will be held in the newly consecrated Armenian Church of St. Vartanantz in Chelmsford, Mass., hosted by the parishes of Chelmsford, Lawrence and Haverhill, Mass.

At the Diocesan Assembly Banquet on Saturday evening, Mr. George Bashian of Long Island was awarded the Diocesan Man of the Year Award. The eminent British historian and author, David Marshall Lang, was honored as a "Friend of the Armenians."

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1978

BALANCE JANUARY 1, 1978

CHECKING ACCOUNT \$ 4,282.55

SAVINGS ACCOUNT 33,694.58

\$37,977.13

1978 INCOME \$125,594.73

1978 DISBURSEMENTS 117,940.15 \$ 7,654.58

TOTAL CASH DECEMBER 31, 1978 \$45,631.71

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1978

CHECKING ACCOUNT \$ 12,411.86

SAVING ACCOUNT 33,219.85

TOTAL CHECKING & SAVING \$45,631.71

NOTE: 1 THE BAZAAR CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE OF \$1,544.12 AT DECEMBER 31, 1978 AND \$3,960.88 AT DECEMBER 31, 1977 IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE FINANCIAL SUMMARY.

2 A DONATION OF \$1,000.00 TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE COUPLES CLUB IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE FINANCIAL SUMMARY.

3 NO INCOME HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE DIOCESE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1978 FOR THE ONE WORLD FESTIVAL. THE AMOUNT SHOWN REPRESENTS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ESTIMATED INCOME \$700.00 AND OUR EXPENSES \$105.00. THE ESTIMATED \$700.00 WAS DEDUCTED FROM OUR DIOCESAN DUES.

4 THE MORTGAGE BALANCES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

	<u>DECEMBER 31, 1978</u>	<u>DECEMBER 31, 1977</u>
CHURCH	\$118,478.99	\$134,191.39
PARSONAGE	<u>14,143.71</u>	<u>15,177.13</u>
	<u>\$132,622.70</u>	<u>\$149,368.52</u>

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY
BUDGET AND INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1978
AND
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1979

	ACTUAL <u>1977</u>	ACTUAL <u>1978</u>	BUDGET <u>1978</u>	PROPOSED <u>1979</u>
<u>PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS</u>				
1. PLEDGE RECEIPTS	\$26,910	\$28,446	\$28,000	\$30,300
2. PLATE & CANDLES	4,630	5,098	5,000	5,100
3. CHRISTMAS OFFERING	1,443	1,476	1,700	1,700
4. EASTER OFFERING	1,843	1,687	2,000	1,800
5. PRAYERS	245	325	300	400
<u>SACRAMENTS</u>				
1. BAPTISMS	845	1,315	1,000	1,400
2. WEDDINGS	1,105	1,400	1,000	1,500
3. FUNERALS	225	640	300	600
4. REQUIEMS	1,235	1,500	1,200	1,500
<u>AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS</u>				
1. WOMENS' GUILD	8,000	8,100	8,000	8,000
2. AVAK SOCIETY	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000
3. COUPLES CLUB	1,000	1,000	1,200	1,200
4. ACYOA	-	-	500	300
5. MEN'S CLUB	-	500	-	500
6. BUILDING COMMITTEE	7,000	-	-	-
<u>CHURCH AFFAIRS</u>				
1. BAZAAR	20,152	24,623	20,000	25,000
2. MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC	4,806	4,486	4,000	4,500
3. ANNIVERSARY CAKE	2,471	4,547	3,000	3,500
4. FALL PICNIC	1,856	2,330	1,500	2,000
<u>DONATIONS</u>				
1. IN LIEU OF FLOWERS	3,956	4,036	4,000	4,000
2. ALTAR FLOWERS	535	840	600	700
3. MEMORIAL FUND	7,000	500	2,500	1,000
4. FUHRMANN MEMORIAL	500	500	500	500
5. CHRISTMAS GREETING-BEACON	495	790	600	1,000
6. OTHER DONATIONS	2,463	11,117	2,500	5,000
<u>OTHER INCOME</u>				
1. CAR RAFFLE	13,300	13,092	14,000	12,000
2. INTEREST	1,190	1,525	1,300	2,500
3. BOOKSTORE	736	950	1,000	1,000
4. ONE WORLD FESTIVAL	885	595 (3)	1,000	700
5. HALL DONATIONS	2,116	2,151	2,000	2,500
6. MISC. INCOME	555	1,026	500	6,000
TOTAL	<u>\$118,697</u>	<u>\$125,595</u>	<u>\$110,200</u>	<u>\$127,200</u>

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY
BUDGET AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1978
AND
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1979

	ACTUAL <u>1977</u>	ACTUAL <u>1978</u>	BUDGET <u>1978</u>	PROPOSED <u>1979</u>
<u>SALARIES, FEES & BENEFITS</u>				
1. CLERGY SALARY	\$13,700	\$14,700	\$14,700	\$16,000
2. PARSONAGE EXPENSES	1,716	2,116	3,000	2,500
3. CLERGY CAR EXPENSE	2,000	2,200	2,200	2,400
4. VISTING CLERGYMEN	100	275	200	300
5. JANITORIAL FEES	3,617	9,388	4,000	13,000
6. OTHER FEES	3,640	3,820	4,000	4,000
7. PAYROLL TAXES	1,003	1,164	1,100	1,400
8. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,824	2,630	2,000	2,700
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>				
1. TELEPHONE	585	558	600	600
2. STATIONARY, PRINTING & POSTAGE	1,116	1,613	1,500	2,000
3. CANDLES & FLOWERS	233	620	250	700
4. BOOKSTORE	183	1,474	800	1,200
5. PAPERWARE & OTHER SUPPLIES	2,857	2,723	2,500	3,000
6. ACTIVITIES	1,637	2,761	1,800	3,000
<u>ASSESSMENTS</u>				
1. DIOCESIAN DUES	11,262	15,854	12,000	17,500
<u>EDUCATIONAL</u>				
1. SUNDAY SCHOOL	967	530	500	750
<u>CHURCH BUILDING EXPENSES</u>				
1. MORTGAGE PAYMENTS & PRINCIPAL INT.	24,543	24,543	24,500	24,500
2. UTILITIES:				
A. GAS	6,554	12,028	13,000	13,000
B. ELECTRICITY	4,498	-	-	-
C. WATER	152	128	150	150
3. INSURANCE	4,620	4,977	5,000	5,500
4. REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	1,254	9,630	3,000	6,500
5. GROUNDS CARE & SNOW REMOVAL	1,139	598	2,000	1,000
6. GUHRMANN MEMORIAL	-	-	800	3,000
7. BLDG., EQUIP., & GROUNDS IMPROVE	23,181	1,536	19,000	2,000
8. MISC.	-	2,074	-	-
TOTAL	<u>\$112,381</u>	<u>\$117,940</u>	<u>\$118,600</u>	<u>\$127,200</u>

NOTE: THE FORMAT OF THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN REVISED TO CONFORM TO THE FINANCIAL REPORTS REQUIRED BY THE DIOCESE. ACCORDINGLY, SOME STATISTICS HAVE BEEN RESTRUCTURED.

A.C.Y.O.A. REPORT - 1978

Chairman	Michael Kasparian	Rec. Sec'y.	Rita Tchalikian
Vice Chmn.	Robert Najarian	Program Dir.	Gail Varbedian
Treasurer	Susan Sahagian	Publicity	Alice Saraydarian
Corr. Sec'y.	Nancy Arzoomanian	Advisor	Mrs. Phyllis Donigian

The year started with the successful ski trip to Vernon Valley. Our Mother's Day Dinner and Program was a first with the "Gong Show Armenian Style" in which our acting members participated.

We saw "Dracula", a Broadway play; we are making plans to see "Death Trap" in 1979. During the year we went to Great Adventure and Jones Beach.

At our Sept. meeting our guest speaker was Kyn Gdanian, a student at St. Nersess Seminary. Der Hayr spoke at one of our Fall meetings; a lively question and answer period followed.

We'd like to thank all those parents who so willingly showed their hospitality by sharing their homes with us for the Progressive Dinner. A special thank you to Mrs. Vahan Najarian for hosting our party.

Bazaar '78 was also a successful event where we realized a favorable profit.

Thanks to Mrs. Rose Mekenian and Susan Shamamian for their assistance for the Christmas Eve Service which was well received by all who attended. We passed a special plate that night for the needy Armenians in Lebanon. Approximately \$300 was received.

Future plans include a ski trip, a shore trip, and, hopefully, a retreat at St. Nersess Seminary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance in checking account Dec. 31, 1977		\$ 47.73
	INCOME	EXPENSES
Dues	\$ 91.00	
Closing of joint a/c with Holy Martyrs	415.00	
Balance of Bazaar '77	373.19	
Bazaar '78 net receipts	362.83	
Mother's Day Dinner	734.33	
Spaghetti Dinner	260.00	
Ski Trip	178.60	
Beattlemania ticket receipts	265.50	
Miscellaneous	26.78	
	-----	2,707.23
Postage		46.00
Refreshments		27.00
Phone		20.00
Great Adventure		251.50
Jones Beach		68.32
Miscellaneous		40.00

		452.82
Balance in checking a/c Dec. 31, 1978		\$2,302.14
Savings a/c balance Dec. 31, 1978	\$510.82	

ARMENIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL REPORT 1978

The purpose of the St. Thomas Armenian Language School is to teach children of Armenian background, the basics of their language and heritage. Our school's success depends on the efforts of many-- our Director, Sylva der Stepanian, our dedicated faculty, and the Mothers' Committee; our Parish Council Liaison; Der Hayr's guidance, and the parents who faithfully bring their children each week.

The Armenian School is involved in numerous activities throughout the year. The Mothers' Committee holds Halloween, Christmas, and Easter parties for the children. There is an annual Talent Show which highlights our children's poetic and musical attributes. In addition, the Armenian School sponsors an Annual Armenian Christmas Dinner, a Hantes and graduation in May, and has a booth at the Bazaar.

FACULTY

Miss Sylva der Stepanian	Mrs. Shake Torigian
Mrs. Seta Jebejian	Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian
Mrs. Rosine Hovsepian	Mrs. Olympia Jebejian
Mrs. Queenie Tashjian	Mrs. Ani Hallajian
Miss Joyce Tamesian (Dance)	Mrs. Seta Nalbandian
	Mrs. Sira Guylekjian

AIDES

Deanna Donikyan	Silvie Der Khorenian
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COMMITTEE

Ani Capan	Chairman
Martha Saraydarian	Co-Chairman/Advisor
Mary Ann Saraydarian	Treasurer/Advisor
Martha Conway	Terry Martin
Alicia Demirjian	June Kashishian
Verken Berberian	Bunny Mateosian

TREASURER'S REPORT

	INCOME	
Balance from 1978 (Spring)		\$2,000.00
Tuition (70 @ \$35.)	\$2,450.00	
Books	350.00	
Bazaar	506.00	
Armenian Christmas Dinner	500.00	
Hantes (Anticipated)	400.00	
Raffle " "	500.00	
	-----	6,706.00
	EXPENSES	
Salaries for Faculty	\$3,000.00	
Books (Diocese)	650.00	
Supplies (teaching materials)	600.00	
Gifts	100.00	
Miscellaneous	75.00	
	-----	4,425.00
Estimated Balance for June, 1979		\$2,281.00
	(estimated for June 1979)	

AVAK SOCIETY OF ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH 1978

The Avak Society is a senior citizens group organized in 1972. We now have a membership of 192. The group meets each Thursday. The dues are \$3.00 a year and a 50¢ charge for coffee and cake each week. It's do as you like; some play cards, some knit, and some just enjoy chatting. We all look forward to seeing each other and many lovely friendships have been formed. We have about 90 people every week.

We have many things planned during the year. We make trips to the shore, mountains, and also shows and luncheons. We have a wonderful worker, Helen Avedisian, who is in charge and does a great job.

We are also active in helping at the various functions the Church has and always make the choereg. Our members also make the "Mahs" for the Church.

We gave a donation of \$1287.00 this year, and besides, made over \$750.00 at our booth for the bazaar. Our ladies helped in making the pagharch, cheoreg, kufta, yalanji, and soojuk. Mrs. Guendjoian made and donated all the yalanji, and the Avaks donated all the cheoreg which was made under the leadership of Angel Parsekian. We made aprons and hats for the bazaar.

We sincerely hope that we have been helpful in our own little way to the St. Thomas Armenian Church.

Chairman	Aram Nalbandian	Treasurer	Helen Avedisian
Vice Chmn.	Anoush Poosikian	Asst. Treas.	Zephyr Bandazian
Rec. Secy.	Anne Stepanian	Publicity	Nish Ohanesian
Cor. Secy.	Alice Shakarjian	Advisor	Michael Avakian
Refreshments	Haig Markarian--Vahram & Angel Parsekian, Assistants		

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1978 \$1005.00

	INCOME	EXPENSES
Membership Dues	\$ 606.00	
Weekly Dues	1262.35	
Cake Sale	15.22	
Contributions	610.00	
Bank Interest	34.32	
Profit on: Radio City Trip & Lunch.	157.17	
Duke Gardens Trip	2.00	
Mother's Day Lunch.	354.30	
Atlantic City Trip	55.44	
Stevensville Trip	41.60	
Club Bene Trip	29.40	
Christmas Party	127.05	
	- - - -	3294.85

Refreshments	707.43
Supplies	95.87
Memorial Donations	60.00
St. Thomas Church	1287.06
Telephone	.90
Gifts	50.00
Father's Day Luncheon	261.19
Garden State Art Center Trip	20.00
Maintenance Man	25.00
	- 2507.45

Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1978 (Provident Sngs. Bank 883.30, Midlantic Bank 876.35, Bergen State Bank 32.75) \$1792.40

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH CHOIR REPORT - 1978

St. Thomas Parish can be proud of its Choir because of the increased and steady attendance of its members during this past year. Not only have most of its members attended more often, but several new members have joined our group.

Rehearsals resulted in a greater participation during Holy Week Services. We were all richer in inspiration in singing the Lenten Sharagans.

Altar servers were Deacon K. Anoushian, Sub Deacons Armen Basmajian and John Malool, Stole Bearers Caspar Kasparian, Joseph Kalemkerian, and George Mekenian. We welcome two new altar servers, Berj Feredjian and Robert Nicolian, both experienced, fine gentlemen; and we are fortunate to have them as part of our Church family.

Our organist, Susan Shamamian, continues her duties as our accompanist with her usual enthusiasm. We thank all of the above for their ardent and devoted work.

Choir members again accompanied Der Hayr to the Emerson Home for the Armenian Aged during the Christmas season and during Lent.

Delegates to this year's convention were: Edward Daghlian, Rose Mekenian, Armen Basmajian, Mary Sanossian. Host Church was St. James of Watertown, Mass. where acquaintances were renewed with our former Parish Priest, Der Hayr Dajad and Yeretgin Rosemary. Once again the group sessions and meetings imparted a wealth of information and knowledge that we will profit from. The next convention is even nearer to home--Hartford, Conn. and we all look forward to some day hosting the Choir Convention here at Tenafly.

Our Cake Sale was a success and netted us a profit in our treasury to allay some expenses.

Our thanks to Caspar Kasparian, our Liaison, and the Parish Council as well as our parishioners whom we serve in the manner we know best: singing, and hoping we enhance the services for our parishioners so that they may attend Church in an atmosphere of prayerful devotion.

Edward Daghlian
Choir Director

TREASURER'S REPORT

	INCOME	EXPENSES	
Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1978			\$102.50
Choir Offering Plate	\$ 58.00		
Cake Sale	<u>72.05</u>		130.05
Flowers		\$ 37.50	
Choir Books		15.00	
Association of Armenian Church Choirs		58.00	110.50
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1978		<u> </u>	\$122.05

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH COUPLES CLUB REPORT - 1978

The St. Thomas Couples Club has grown again this year to include 45 couples, with dues of \$5.00 per couple per year. The year 1978 was a financial and social success for our club.

This was also the year of our transition to our new by-laws which were proposed and approved in 1977. An election was held in January to elect officers for a six month interim. Chairman Steve Jarahian, Vice Chmn. Paul Kahaumjian, Treas. John Soovajian, Rec. Sec'y. Kathi Arakelian, Corr. Sec'y Vivian Hovsepian.

At our June meeting we held our first annual June election and the following were elected:

Chairman Paul Kahaumjian	Corr. Sec. Vivian Hovsepian
Vice Chm. Mary Lou Pinajian	Treas. John Soovajian
Rec. Sec. Kathi Arakelian	

Our program chairperson and newsletter was prepared by June Kashishian, and our Club hostess was headed by Elsie Poosikian.

At our March meeting we enjoyed an International Dinner prepared by all our members, and on other evenings we had a Bunko Night, professional Hustle instructions, and a lecture by Leon Nigohosian on some legal aspects of real estate buying and the importance of having a will.

During the summer we held a barbecue and tennis party. Also, in the summer we were busy with our committees for our raffle and Keff Nite which climaxed on Oct. 14. Our Keff Nite guided by June Kashishian and raffle by Paul Kahaumjian was a success.

Our year ended with a well attended Christmas Party which we enjoyed with an evening of games and visit from Santa, and a delicious hot buffet.

This year we vision a new spirit in our organization, not only in membership, but also a closer tie in friendship. We are very proud that our Couples Club provided St. Thomas with chairmen for their two annual picnics and One World Festival. We look forward to a more successful year in 1979.

TREASURER'S REPORT

	INCOME	EXPENSE
Membership Dues	\$ 200.00	
International Dinner	30.00	\$ 15.00
Tennis Party	426.50	437.50
Hustle Dance	40.00	100.00
Keff Nite	1760.00	1556.21
Raffle	978.00	
Christmas Party		91.93
Postage, Newsletter & Printing		189.27
Collation	241.50	115.84
Miscellaneous		63.88
Balance in Savings 1977	569.21	
Donation to St. Thomas		<u>1000.00</u>
Totals	<u>\$4245.21</u>	<u>\$3559.63</u>
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1978		\$685.58

ST. THOMAS MEN'S CLUB REPORT - 1978

Chairman	Jack Bendian	Corr. Sec'y.	Paul Kahaumjian
Vice Chairman	Arthur Azarik	Rec. Sec'y.	Vahan Parseghian
Treasurer	John Soovajian	Sports Rep.	Michael Kenajian

Our Men's Club was re-organized March 15, 1978. We had an encouraging turnout of 25 men at our first meeting; as of Dec. 31 we have 40 active members.

During the year our activities which are directed towards the youth of our Church consisted of a Sports Award Recognition Nite when we presented to our athletes a certificate and honored them with a buffet and dance donated by the Men's Club.

We attended a baseball game at Yankee Stadium, a football game at West Point, and a night at the races at the Meadowlands. A Red Cross Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) demonstration highlighted one of our fall meetings. Our First Annual and very successful Christmas Party was held at The Golden Plough Restaurant in Paramus on Dec. 15. We also had the pleasure of donating new uniforms for our boys' basketball team.

Our plans for the coming year include a Disco Dance for the ACYOA members, a Knicks Basketball Game, a fund raising dance, our 2nd Annual Sports Award Nite, and, finally, a family picnic.

TREASURER'S REPORT

	INCOME	EXPENSE	
Membership Dues	\$ 190.00		
Sports Outing	793.50	\$ 642.50	
Christmas Party	1120.00	921.65	
Collation	49.00		
Donation (uniforms, Am. Heart Assoc.)		193.35	
Postage		18.77	
Miscellaneous		29.09	
	-----	-----	
Totals	\$2152.50	\$1805.36	
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1978			\$347.14

32.36\$

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT - 1978

The Church School began its new year on Sept. 10 with an enrollment of 130 students divided into eleven classes. The Nursery/Child Care Program continues to be an important addition to the Church School curriculum. Classes are held from 10:30 to noon on Sunday mornings. The students' courses of study include the Faith, Doctrine, and Teachings of the Armenian Church, physical history, Armenian Church history and ethics. Regular Church attendance and reception of the Sacraments is at the center of the Church School program.

Students increased their participation in parish worship by leading two special written evening services; Church School students also read the Scripture lessons at the Easter Eve Service.

A group of 75 students, teachers, and parents made a pilgrimage to St. Vartan Cathedral and the Diocesan Center in Jan. and special audience with our Primate. It was a memorable occasion for all who participated.

Nine students completed their course of study and graduated in special services Nov. 19; four have volunteered their assistance to the Church School. The Staff participates in teacher education programs conducted regularly; St. Thomas Church School hosted a special Diocesan Workshop entitled "Knowing Your Church" in April.

As in previous years the students again made and bought gifts at Christmas time for needy families in Bergen County. This program has helped our youngsters understand better the true spirit of Christmas.

Annual events of the Church School include the Fall Pot Luck Dinner, Christmas Program, Christmas and Easter Communion Breakfasts, and Graduation and Reception. The Parents' Committee ably co-ordinated these activities. We are thankful for the cooperation of the entire Parish family which insures the success of our social events.

STAFF

Superintendent	Mrs. Louise Kalemkerian
Nursery/Child Care	Mrs. Victoria Ganan & Mrs. Dikris Malool
Kindergargen	Mrs. Suzanne Ekizian & Mrs. Alin Papazian
1st Grade	Mrs. Joyce Chilingirian, Susan Sahagian, Asst.
2nd Grade	Mrs. Adrienne Tenbekjian, Dana Donigian, Asst.
3rd Grade	Laureen Berberian & Lisa Saraydarian
4th Grade	Douglas Martin & Pamela Parseghian
5th Grade	Mrs. Sona Damergy
6th & 7th Grades	Mrs. Ruth Esperian & Vahan Parseghian
8th Grade	Joseph Kalemkerian & Michael Kasparian
9th Grade	Mrs. Vahan (Virginia) Parseghian, Lance Berberian, Asst.
10th Grade	Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian
Sec'y.-Treas.	Mrs. Jeanette Ekizian

WOMEN'S GUILD REPORT - 1978

Co-Chairmen Lillian Kasparian and Virginia Parseghian
Vice Chairman Margaret Varbedian Treasurer Artemis Nazarian
Rec. Sec'y. Rose Mekenian Advisor Mary Chookazian
Cor. Sec'y. Susan Stoneson " " " " Dikris Malool

Standing Committee Chairmen

Devotional Ann Markarian Historian Margaret Minassian
Social Service Queenie Tashjian Visitation
Membership Margaret Varbedian & Sunshine Eileen Barsamian
C. W. U. Katherine Halebian Hospitality Mary Chookazian
Publicity Susan Stoneson " " Dorothy Seferian
Sunday Coffee Alicia Demirjian

The executive body of the Women's Guild meets the last Wednesday of each month. Our monthly evening meetings are the second Friday of each month.

During this year, the executive body in its programs has tried to broaden the role of the Women's Guild within the Church and the community. We have added a Social Service Advisor to our Board. Another goal was to increase our membership. We now have 130 paid members.

Following is a listing of the activities that took place during the year in addition to our regular monthly meetings:

Armenian Christmas Day and Mother's Day visitations to the Home for the Armenian Aged in Emerson; showing of the film "Baghdasar Aghpar"; joint Lenten Supper and Service with the Sunday School; two bus trips, one to Peddlers' Village, Pa., and one to the Colinary Institute of America in New York; twenty-first Annual Cotillion; Tennis Party; Rummage Sale; Blood Bank Drive; Sew 'n Show Fashions, Furs, Luncheon; Queen for a Day Raffle; Membership Tea; Christmas Luncheon; lecture by Director of Mardiros Sarian Museum in Armenia; Communications Research Clinic (fund raising); participation in Memorial Day and Get-Together Picnics and the Bazaar; preparation of Parish Assembly Luncheon.

At our regular monthly meetings we have had guest speakers on nutrition, missionary work, an allergist, a graphologist, a watercolor art show and lecture, a "Ham Shoot" and an original Mother's Day play, written by and performed by our members.

We again supported a student through the Armenian Missionary Assoc. and also donated \$200 to the St. Nersess Theological School. We have met and paid our 1978 pledge of \$8,000 to St. Thomas Armenian Church.

The Gourmet Club meets the third Wednesday of each month. Membership totals 28. The Bridge Group meets the first Thursday of each month. Membership totals 20 women. Tavloo lessons were also offered.

Our delegates to the Diocesan Assembly were Anne Azarik, Rose Mekenian and Yeretzgin Violet.

Our members are actively participating in the activities for the Erevan Choral Society Spring Concert. Other plans for 1979 include a bus trip in the spring, a Lenten Luncheon, our twenty-second Annual Cotillion, and a Tennis Party.

WOMEN'S GUILD TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1978		\$2,016.21
	INCOME	DISBURSEMENTS
Cotillion	\$13,543.50	\$8,203.90
Fashion Show	2,741.00	1,430.47
Queen for a Day Raffle	2,160.00	326.40
Dues	565.00	
Bridge Club	768.00	9.95
Gourmet Club	485.00	167.51
Baghdasar Aghpar Movie	331.00	220.15
Lenten Supper	887.84	604.14
Lenten Luncheon	198.50	85.20
Tennis Party	681.00	371.21
Rummage Sale	414.20	14.46
Peddlers' Village Bus Trip	533.00	363.05
Culinary Inst. Bus Trip	784.00	819.75
Women Saints Day Trip (net)	62.00	100.00
Christmas Luncheon 1977 addition	100.00	10.82
" " " " 1978	966.00	996.82
Attarian Painting Sold	260.00	209.00
Communications Research Clinic	127.50	
Ham Shoot	36.00	24.63
Sale of Leftovers	12.60	
Miscellaneous	25.00	14.72
St. Thomas Armenian Church		8,000.00
Transfer to Oritani Savings		3,000.00
St. Nersess Arm. Theol. School		200.00
A.M.A.A. for Education		50.00
St. Thomas Library		100.00
Ferns & Decorations for Church		107.56
Church Women United		25.00
Emerson Home--Plants and Record		25.00
Refreshments for Sunday School		38.21
Parish Assembly Luncheon (net)		146.15
Meetings: Speakers, refreshments		213.48
Secretarial & Publicity Expenses		151.32
Postage		53.81
Membership Tea		64.97
Membership Lists		25.25
	-----	-----
Totals	\$25,681.14	\$26,172.93
		(491.79)

Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1978		\$1,524.42

Artemis Nazarian
Treasurer

STATE OF TEXAS

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
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Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1998

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