

# THE ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

1980

PASTOR and PARISH COUNCIL

## THE 1980 PASTOR'S REPORT

It has been nineteen years that I have had the privilege of serving you as the Pastor of this Church. They have been 19 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 a.m. to noon, with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and a sermon. During the year, we had as guest celebrant Archbishop Torkom Manoogian on Palm Sunday when we celebrated the anniversary of the consecration of the Church. I had invited the following to speak after our Badarak: Dr. Puzant Torigian, Louise Kalemkerian, Vasken Ohanyan, Charles Casale, and Father M. Simon. On Father's Day I had a dialogue with my daughter, Laurie, on "Family First".

**SACRAMENTAL SERVICES:** During the year, 23 baptisms were performed (compared to 24 last year); 21 marriages were blessed (16 the previous year); 19 funerals took place (12 last year). Of the 21 weddings, nine couples were Armenian, and mostly from the Middle East.

At this time, let us remember our dear, departed members: Zabel Attarian, mother of Edmund, Verkin Berberian and Eileen Barsamian. She was one of the organizers of the Avak Society and remained active with them until her illness. She also assisted in preparing our Mahs. Samuel Proodian, husband of Satenig Frances and father of Armen, Edward, and Linda Karalian. He was a former parish council member of Holy Cross Church of New York and a devoted member of St. Thomas. Ralph Stepanian, husband of Ann and father of Rosanne Saxenian and Richard. He was one of the charter members of the Avak Society. He was a diligent and conscientious worker for the Avaks. John Zoraian, husband of Betty. He was a devoted member of our Parish. George Shahinian, husband of Shakae, father of Sheryl, Sandra, Sharon and Laura, and brother of Antranig. He was a charter member of St. Thomas and served two terms on the parish council. He was the founder of the Sevan Dance Group. George was the recipient of the 1979 "St. Thomas Armenian Church Award". Vahram Parsekian, husband of Angel and father of Annette Fahmian. Vahram was the first elected chairman of the Avak Society and remained active with them until his illness.

We shall also remember Levon Hagopian, father of Mrs. Margaret Minassian; Elizabeth Kontchagulian, mother of Mrs. Sona Doudoukjian; Menag Bendian, father of Jack Bendian; Haiganoush Olga Parseghian, mother of George, Richard, Edward, Armen, Masis, Haig and Vahan and Mrs. Margo Keurajian; Mary Atchoukian, sister of Mrs. Rose Halebian; Nicholas Topjian, husband of Marie and father of Artemis Nazarian.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** As ex-officio president of all church organizations, I attended most of the meetings. I directed and advised and, in many cases, helped in implementing decisions. I attended the Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly in Washington, D. C. during the last week-end of May. I took part in the consecration of Holy Resurrection Church of New Britain, Conn., the dedication of St. Hagop Church of Westchester, N.Y., and celebrated Divine Liturgy at St. Joachim & St. Anne, Palos Heights, Ill. I participated in the program and services of the first Caspar Kasparian Memorial Retreat. George Mekenian is Chairman of the Diocesan Budget Committee, and Victor Arzoomanian and I are serving on the committee. I am a representative from the Diocese to the National Council of Churches and am serving on their governing board and nominating committee. In July, I was called to a convention of clergy who graduated from the Seminary of St. James Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

**PUBLICATIONS:** We have published the Bergen Beacon Monthly and put out flyers for our various affairs. Each month our Beacon is mailed to our college students residing on campus. A special thanks to Mary Ann Saraydarian for editing our Beacon. Sandra Alpino has been setting the type for us for the Beacon. Dikris Malool has been most helpful in assisting with the typing, addressing, and various other office work whenever called upon.

We also thank Mrs. Lucy Chakmakian for her time and efforts for making the "Mahs" for us every Sunday.

We thank Mr. & Mrs. Antranig Shahinian and Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bashian, Co-Chairmen of Bazaar '80. Our very successful Bazaar broke all previous records, both financially and socially.

THE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

This year under the guidance of our President and religious leader, The Rev. Arnak Kasparian, the Parish Council managed the activities of our parish and our church complex in an effective manner. Through the cooperation of the members of our parish, the leaders of our parish organizations, and the dedicated efforts of the individual members of our Parish Council, the year 1980 was another successful one for our parish. While making improvements to our church, and without curtailment of our services, we managed to stay within our proposed budget for the year and at the same time managed to substantially improve the financial position of the parish. We congratulate and thank you for your support in allowing us to surpass our yearly goal again in a professional and productive manner.

<i>NAME</i>	<i>OFFICE</i>	<i>ASSIGNMENT</i>	<i>LIAISON</i>
Peter Jangochian	Chairman	-----	-----
Leon Nigohosian	Vice Chairman	-----	Men's Club
Ronald Kenderian	Secretary	-----	ACYOA Srs.
Albert Papazian	Asst. Secretary	Pledges	Sunday School
Vahan Barsamian	Treasurer	-----	Couples Club
Moses Kazanjian	Asst. Treas.	Buildings & Grounds	-----
Virginia Parseghian	-----	Supplies, Purchase Custodial Service	Women's Guild
Samuel Demirjian	-----	Narthex, Sacraments	Armenian School
Charles Doudoukjian	-----	Bookstore	Avak Society
Virginia Malajian	-----	Files	Choir
Jack Hajinlian	-----	Rentals	ACYOA Jrs. ACSA

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Parish Council scheduled most of their meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Church Annex. During the months of July and August, the council met only once per month. The meetings, presided over by Der Arnak, were held in a business-like manner. All areas of parish business were discussed, and action was taken where required.

The members of the council devoted time, service, and conducted the affairs of the parish with a deep sense of the responsibility entrusted to them by the parish. The harmonious relationship of the members of the council towards each other, contributed to the efficient conduct of the business of the parish.

The meetings of the Parish Council were open to the members of our parish upon their request. Leaders of various parish organizations, committee chairpersons, Delegates, and other members of our parish attended the meetings during the year to discuss matters of interest,

and to be briefed by the Parish Council. The Parish Council also communicated with the membership through the church paper, The Bergen Beacon, where the Chairman of the Parish Council continued to write his monthly message to the members of the parish.

Another means of communication instituted this year, were the name plates that the members of the council wore on their lapels each Sunday to identify them as members of the Parish Council. Too often a member who is not familiar with the members of the council, would be at a loss to find an individual council member during services or parish activities. Future councils are encouraged to continue the custom of wearing the name plate so that members of the parish will be able to readily communicate with the members of the Parish Council.

#### PARISH COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

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MEMBERSHIP - Again this year, June Kashishian and members of her committee continue to have a low key drive for members. The assignment of greeters every Sunday morning during services continues to be an effective method of greeting members and meeting prospective new members. The Coffee Social after services is also a means to reinforce the greeting at the door of the church. Members who have not been with us for a long period of time can catch up and new faces can be made welcome to the parish.

This year there was a net gain of seven individual members in our parish for a total of 487. There was a net loss of one family for a total of 266. The number of members that moved out of our parish area is for the most part responsible for the modest gain in membership.

We thank June Kashishian and her committee for their continued efforts in the area of membership

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS - This year Moses Kazanjian was assigned buildings and grounds as his area of responsibility on the Parish Council. Moses carried out his responsibilities in a very efficient and professional manner. The duties involved include proper maintenance of the total church complex. Below are listed the improvements and repairs made during the year.

- a. The bridge that was badly in need of repair has been repaired. The cinderblocks on either side of the brook have been anchored with cement and steel rods, and the blacktop around them has been resurfaced. The supports of the bridge have been replaced and worn planks have been replaced.
- b. Grading, removal of rock, and seeding of area of church grounds adjacent to Clinton Avenue.
- c. Repair and remounting of St. Thomas Church sign that was damaged by vandals.

- d. Repair and replacement of the front door of the parsonage that was damaged by vandals.
- e. Railing similar to that which is found at the entrance of the Church Annex is on order for placement at the front steps of the church.
- f. New kitchen appliances have been installed, including two confectioners ovens, new range and main oven, new dishwasher and booster heater. Funds for the new additions to the kitchen have been provided by the Women's Guild.
- g. Increased high intensity lighting on the 9w side of the church complex has been installed. This lighting illuminates a side of our church complex that is particularly vulnerable to vandals.
- h. Emergency lights have been mounted in the auditorium, and the hall of the Church Annex. In the event of a power failure, these battery powered lights will automatically illuminate areas in which they are mounted.

Plans, programs and recommendations for the coming year include the following.

- a. Plans being drawn up for the enclosure of the area outside the vestibule of the Church Annex. This would be a good heat conservation measure, and make the area of the vestibule usable for various functions during the Winter season.
- b. Resurfacing driveway to kitchen area and driveway to parsonage.
- c. Grading of picnic area adjacent to brook, and landscaping of Fuhrmann Grove area of church grounds.
- d. The addition of an auxiliary heating system for the Church Annex.
- e. Installation of an alarm system for the church complex to include intrusion and fire alarms.

The problem of storage space and additional classroom space is still acute within our church complex, and various means of alleviating the situation are under discussion.

We thank Moses for the time and effort that he has given to this very important area of Parish Council responsibility.

SACRAMENTS AND NARTHEX - Samuel Demirjian is responsible for the coordination of items necessary for religious services, church etiquette, memorial services, collection of monies for weddings, baptisms, etc. He continues to handle this very necessary area of responsibility with care and dedication. Sam is always there and on the job on Sunday morning, and thanks to him things run smoothly and without a flaw.

SUPPLIES AND CUSTODIAL SERVICES - Virginia Parseghian is in charge of our housekeeping responsibilities, and the ordering of various supplies both for housekeeping and food services at the various affairs such as picnics and bazaars. Virginia continues to administer this area in an excellent fashion. Virginia anticipates the requirements of all our church functions, and special needs are taken care of as soon as she is informed of their nature.

Assisting Virginia on a full-time basis again this year is our custodian, Garo Arakelian. The condition of our church has never been better when it comes to housekeeping, and that is a tribute to the dedication of Garo. Garo is responsible for many repairs to the church complex, and has saved us hundreds of dollars in costs for outside contractors.

We thank Virginia for the dedicated manner in which she has seen to the good appearance of our church complex.

PLEDGES - Albert Papazian is again responsible for the pledge program of our church. This time consuming task has been refined by Albert to the extent that it is a smooth running and efficient operation. Albert devotes many hours at home posting pledges and keeping track of all donations by members. Accurate and complete quarterly reports must be mailed to all our members. It is a task that requires a great deal of tact and attention to detail. Albert deserves our thanks for a task that he continues to accomplish in an exemplary manner.

RENTALS - Jack Hajinlian is responsible for coordinating the church calendar and rentals of the church hall. It is Jack's responsibility to see that there is no conflict in the dates of the various functions of the church organizations. He must also deal with the public and the members of our parish with good business sense, and patience. This difficult task has been accomplished by Jack in his first year on our council. All parish organizations are reminded that they should inform Jack of all planned activities. Thank you Jack for a job well done.

SECRETARY - Ronald Kenderian has served his second year as Secretary of our Parish Council. Ronn is retiring from the Parish Council this year. We thank Ronn for his services to the Council and the Parish.

TREASURER - Vahan Barsamian served again as the treasurer of the Parish Council. This most difficult and time consuming task has been handled by Vahan in an exemplary manner. Vahan has been diligent in his management of the cash flow of the day to day operations of the parish and the records required. Vahan is the man that you don't see every Sunday, but he is there behind the scene, in the Parish Council room well beyond the regular hours of the service. His attention to detail and his dedication to this most important responsibility is appreciated by all

of us. Vahan was assisted in his task by Moses Kazanjian who served as our Assistant Treasurer.

Alice Arzoomanian again served as a bookkeeping assistant to the treasurer. This most important task was accomplished by Alice with care and diligence. We thank Vahan, Moses, and Alice for their efforts in our behalf.

Charles Doudoukjian again served as our liaison to the Avak Society and our Bookstore. We thank him for his efforts in their behalf.

Virginia Malajian served as our liaison to the Choir. In addition Virginia was assigned the task of keeping track of all resolutions and motions passed by the council. Virginia is retiring from the council this year and we thank her for her time and efforts.

AUDITING COMMITTEE - Grace Hagopian, Dikris Malool, and Hagop Jebajian, members of the Auditing Committee, audited the financial records of the Parish Council and church organizations this year in a diligent and business like manner. They are to be commended for their attention to detail and a task accomplished so well.

AFTER CHURCH SOCIAL - Again this year each Sunday after church services, a coffee social was held. Amy Jamgochian and her committee of volunteers brewed coffee and created a pleasant atmosphere during which members, potential members, and friends gathered to chat. We thank Amy and her committee for those pleasant moments.

BOOKSTORE - Sona Doudoukjian again served as Chairlady of the Bookstore. This service to our parish makes available to the members many books and records of interest to Armenians from various sources. We thank Sona, her husband Charles, and the members of her committee for this service.

CASPAR M. KASPARIAN MEMORIAL FUND - In accordance with the by-laws of the fund accepted by the Parish Assembly last year, the Parish Council appointed Lillian Kasparian, Zaven Dadekian, George Mekenian, and Joseph Kalemkerian as directors of the fund. The fund sponsored youth from our parish at the St. Nerses Retreat, and it also conducted a retreat of its own this past year.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE - The Parish Council established a Cultural Committee for our parish under the Chairmanship of Mr. Hagop Vartevarian. The purpose of the committee is to sponsor cultural events in our parish and community. The first event sponsored by the committee is the Dikran Jamgochian concert scheduled for March 28, 1981.

PARISH COUNCIL SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES - The Parish Council has been responsible for the following social functions this past year.

1. TWENTY THIRD ANNIVERSARY DINNER - March 30, 1980  
General Chairman, Victor Arzoomanian  
Awards: St. Thomas Award - Edward Daghljan  
Organist Susan Shamamian, Deacon Krikor Anoushian, and Sub Deacon Armen Basmajian.

2. EDWARD BASHIAN TESTIMONIAL DINNER - May 4, 1980  
Sponsored by St. Thomas Church, Holy Cross Church, and the Evereg Fenesse Society. Chairman for St. Thomas, Victor Arzoomanian. Given on the occasion of the award of the Order of St. Gregory by the Catholicos to Edward Bashian.
3. MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC - May 26, 1980  
General Chairman, John Zakar
4. ONE WORLD FESTIVAL - September 6-7, 1980  
General Chairman, Haig Varjian
5. GET-TOGETHER PICNIC - September 14, 1980  
General Chairman, Peter Jamgochian
6. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - December 6-7, 1980  
Co-Chairpersons, Edward and Arax Bashian  
Antranig and Alice Shahinian
7. CAR RAFFLE - January 1, 1981  
General Chairman, Zaven Pooosikian.

All of the above functions were successful and enjoyable affairs. One success followed another, and in the case of the Annual Bazaar, a new record was set. To name all the people involved in making each affair a success would require a volume of large proportions. We congratulate the Chairpersons of the events and express our sincere appreciation to all those who contributed their efforts to make our year a success.

#### INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

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Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bashian donated two beautiful oriental rugs to be used at the altar of our church. They have also donated \$5000.00 as part of a pledge of \$10,000 to be used towards a trust fund to be established for our church in 1981. We thank them for their continued and generous support of our parish. We take this opportunity again to congratulate Edward on his receipt of the Order of St. Gregory medal from our Catholicos, Vasken I..

Mr. Haig Tashjian has donated a commissioned painting by the Artist, Levon Mnazakanian. The painting will depict St. Thomas and will be placed above the votive candles at the rear left of the nave of our church. Mr. Tashjian has also donated the sum of \$9,000 to be used for the purchase of an I.B.M. Typesetting Machine for our Beacon and other church publications. We thank Mr. Tashjian for his continued generosity.

Roxie Daghlian has donated a lecturn for our altar on the occasion of Edward's receipt of the St. Thomas Award.

Betty Papazian has donated a lecturn for our altar in memory of her husband, Edward Papazian.

Irene Kasbarian has donated an enameled gold plated censor in memory of her parents.

Raymond and Dikris Malool have given the censor stand situated by the organ. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the donors to



our parish for their generosity. No gift is too small in the eyes of God, when it is given from the heart with faith and love.

ST. THOMAS SECRETARY - Dikris Malool continues to give her time and services to our church in the role of secretary. It is not easy to take time away from your family and spend it at the church doing all the many time consuming tasks that should be carried out by a full time secretary. Yet, this year as in the past Dikris cheerfully gives of herself both at church and at home, doing those things that are so necessary to the conduct of the everyday business of the parish. We appreciate your dedication to your church Dikris and thank you for all your efforts.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Lucy Chakmakian who continues to make the Mahs for our Sunday services, and donates the ingredients. Mrs. Chakmakian has always donated her time and efforts to our church whenever she has been called upon and we deeply appreciate it.

We would like to call attention to the efforts of Mr. Krikor Anoushian, who cleans the altar linens of our church and spends many hours of his time caring for our altar. Krikor is no stranger when it comes to service to our church. For many years he has served as Deacon during services. We thank Krikor for his continued service to our church.

Every Sunday, two members of our parish assist the treasurer of the Parish Council during services when they are needed. Their services are both welcome and needed on those occasions when there is an unusual or large volume of work. Michel Azmirly, a former treasurer of the Parish Council has assisted with advice, and filled in for our treasurer when he was away. Tish Basmajian has helped in almost any capacity that was needed. We thank both Michel and Tish for their efforts on the part of the parish.

OUR RELIGIOUS LEADER - Throughout all our deliberations and work, Der Arnak has presided over and lead us during the year. Each Parish Council from year to year is almost a new beginning. As members change, so does the character of the council. Der Arnak provides the continuity and the wisdom of his years of service to our church to guide us. Der Hayr and Yeretzgin Violet through their dedication to our parish have guided us to our present success.

With his sense of humor and quiet diplomacy, Der Arnak can often accomplish what often seems to be an impossible task. Through his many contacts in the other religious institutions of Tenafly, Der Arnak has created an atmosphere of good will that is a benefit to both the community and St. Thomas. We thank you Der Hayr and Yeretzgin.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

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Listed below are recommendations which we would like to refer to the 1981 Parish Council for their consideration and further action.

- a. Make an effort to re-establish the ACYOA Seniors.
- b. Set up a committee to increase the membership of the church.
- c. Continue with planned improvements to our Church Complex.

- d. Explore means by which additional storage and classroom space may be made available to the parish.
- e. Continue to increase religious adult activities.
- f. Reorganize the Memorials Committee under the jurisdiction of the Parish Council.
- g. Encourage inactive members of our parish to return to active participation.
- h. Get as many people involved in Church activities as possible.

## CONCLUSION

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We are proud of our accomplishments during this past year. We have tried to serve the parish to the best of our ability. Many evenings and much extra time has been spent by members of the 1980 Parish Council. We have tried to be sensitive to the needs and desires of the parishoners. One overall motive has guided our deliberations, to be of service to our church.

Our Church Organizations are healthy, and their efforts this year have been successful. Our parish functions have been characterized by continued success. We wish to thank you the members of the parish for the success that you have earned through your generous efforts, time, and devotion.

Under the leadership of Der Arnak, and other devoted members of our parish family, 1981 will be a year that St. Thomas again surges ahead. We shall not be satisfied with things as they are, for that leads to mediocrity. We are confident in the future of St. Thomas Church. May God bless you all.

Peter A. Jamgochian

Ronald Kenderian

Rev. Arnak Kasparian

Parish Council Chairman

Secretary

President.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS FOR GEORGE SHAHINIAN MEMORIAL FUND

PURPOSE OF THE FUND - To provide full or partial scholarships and other funding to primarily further the cultural education of the youth of St. Thomas, and in exceptional cases youth of St. James Armenian Church Parish of Watertown, Massachusetts.

ADMINISTRATION - Shall be by a 5-member board of directors, consisting of the pastor (president-ex-officio), Chairman of the Parish Council or his or her designee, and three other members appointed by the Parish Council. At least three members of the board shall be current members in good standing in the parish. The directors shall serve for a term of three (3) years upon appointment by the Parish Council.

ASSETS - Shall consist of the donations and any earnings therefrom made in memory of George Shahinian and any future donations made, solicited, or raised by the parish or the board of directors. The board shall endeavor to preserve the principal to the greatest degree possible. This mandate, however, shall not deter assistance in an especially noteworthy or deserving case, with the approval of the Parish Council. Income from principal may be reserved for scholarships or other funding, for no more than two calendar years before converting to principal.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. To deposit or invest the funds in secure, responsible assets designed to provide a high rate of return with a commensurate potential for preservation of value
2. To take measures to preserve the principal from inflationary erosion
3. To seek, screen, and select candidates for scholarships, cultural, and educational programs and activities or projects for funding, and to determine the amount of award.
4. To make annual reports to the Parish Council at such times as suggested by the Parish Council, and to take cognizance of their recommendations.
5. To annually elect, from the board members, a chairman, secretary and treasurer. To maintain minutes and financial records.
6. To develop procedures to facilitate administration of the fund and the awarding of scholarships and other grants.
7. To uphold the by-laws of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, and the laws of the United States of America.

Approved by Parish Council:  
January 13, 1981

Approved by Parish Assembly:

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH OF TENAFLY, N.J.

Adopted at the Annual Parish Assembly, Sunday, February 8, 1981

A Charter to a Board to be known as the Board of Trustees is hereby granted for the following purposes and under the following terms and conditions:

A. PURPOSE

1. To act as trustee and manager of special funds of the parish.
2. To serve as a source of revenue for the construction of major (\$5,000. or more) new facilities, construction of capital improvements, and/or repair or replacement of major (\$5,000 or more) capital improvements to the existing building, equipment and grounds.
3. To serve as a repository of reserve funds not required for the annual operation of the parish.
4. To serve as a repository of special donations.

B. COMPOSITION

1. The Committee shall be composed of seven (7) members. In addition, the Parish Council President and Chairman shall be members ex-officio. Each member shall have an equal vote. The Parish Council shall present to the Parish Assembly nominees to the committee for their approval.
2. The term of service of the members shall be seven (7) years. For the first term only, beginning in 1982 and each year thereafter, one member's term of office shall expire. Each member's term shall initially be determined alphabetically from one (1) to seven (7) years. Beginning in 1982, each member appointed shall serve a full seven year term.
3. The Committee shall elect its own officers for the purpose of expeditiously executing its functions.
4. Meetings shall be held a minimus of once each quarter of the year.

C. POWER AND DUTIES

1. The Committee is to maintain suitable and complete accounts of all its activities.
2. The Committee is to manage the trust fund, investing, investing in savings accounts and United States Securities with a maximum of 20% of the fund in common stock of the highest quality only with a prohibition not to invest in new issues.
3. The Committee shall provide an annual financial report to the Parish Assembly and Parish Council at such times as the Parish Council may suggest.

4. The Parish Assembly may authorize the expenditure of these funds for buildings, equipment, and grounds, or for any other purposes in accordance with the diocesan by-laws.
5. The Committee shall operate under Roberts Rules of Order and a quorum shall consist of more than 50% of the committee members.

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The Parish Council presents the following nominees to the Board of Trustees for the approval of the Parish Assembly:

1. Mr. Edward Bashian
2. Mr. Nazar Nazarian
3. Mr. Roupen Saddler
4. Mr. Haig Tashjian
5. Mr. Antranig Shahinian
6. Mr. Vay Najarian
7. Dr. Haroutiun Mekhjian

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RESOLUTION BY THE PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Annual Parish Assembly convened February 8, 1981, directs the Parish Council to set up a committee to explore the possibility of expansion of the present church auditorium to provide additional space in the auditorium as well as additional storage and classroom space. The Parish Assembly further directs the Parish Council to report its findings to the Assembly when they are complete.

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1980

BANK BALANCES JANUARY 1, 1980

Checking Account		\$ 10,473.13
Savings Account		<u>45,360.28</u>
Total		55,833.41
1980 Income	\$ 158,383.12	
1980 Disbursements	<u>132,898.77</u>	<u>25,484.35</u>
Total Cash-December 31, 1980		<u><u>81,317.76</u></u>

BANK BALANCES DECEMBER 31, 1980

Checking Account	11,451.85	
Savings Account	<u>69,865.91</u>	
Total Checking & Savings		<u>81,317.76</u>

- NOTE 1. The Bazaar checking account balance of \$11,028.41 at December 31, 1979 and \$20,376.59 at December 31, 1980 is not included in the above Financial Summary.
2. The \$10,603.00 balance in "Loan and Exchange" is due from the following \$9053.00 Car Raffle \$1500.00 Kasparian Fund and \$50.00 payable in 1979.
3. The mortgage balances are as follows:

	<u>DECEMBER 31, 1979</u>	<u>DECEMBER 31, 1980</u>
CHURCH	\$ 101,880.28	\$ 85,482.27
PARSONAGE	<u>13,052.01</u>	<u>11,898.71</u>
	<u>\$ 114,932.29</u>	<u>\$ 97,380.98</u>

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY  
BUDGET AND INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1979  
AND  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1980 & 1981

	PROPOSED 1981	ACTUAL 1979	ACTUAL 1980	BUDGET 1980
<u>PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS</u>				
1. Pledge Receipts	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 30,257.55	\$ 31,593.85	\$ 32,000.00
2. Plate & Candles	7,000.00	5,458.09	6,910.29	6,000.00
3. Christmas Offering	1,000.00	1,152.00	641.00	1,500.00
4. Easter Offering	1,900.00	1,499.00	1,855.00	1,800.00
5. Prayers	200.00	85.00	195.00	200.00
<u>SACRAMENTS</u>				
1. Baptisms	800.00	1,180.00	735.00	1,400.00
2. Weddings	1,200.00	980.00	1,170.00	1,500.00
3. Funerals	1,300.00	490.00	1,240.00	500.00
4. Requiems	2,100.00	2,115.00	2,085.00	2,200.00
<u>AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS</u>				
1. Women's Guild	8,500.00	7,010.00	9,000.00	8,000.00
2. Avak Society	1,000.00	1,000.00	900.00	1,000.00
3. Couples Club	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4. Acyoa	1,000.00	—	1,000.00	500.00
5. Men's Club	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
<u>CHURCH AFFAIRS</u>				
1. Bazaar	38,145.00	16,193.56	35,062.00	30,000.00
2. Memorial Day Picnic	5,000.00	4,008.22	4,288.62	4,000.00
3. Fall Picnic	1,000.00	2,884.28	550.33	2,500.00
4. Anniversary & Cake	5,000.00	5,297.08	4,234.46	5,000.00
<u>DONATIONS</u>				
1. In Lieu of Flowers	7,000.00	7,901.65	6,920.00	6,000.00
2. Altar Flowers	1,000.00	385.00	990.00	500.00
3. Memorial Fund	3,000.00	1,045.00	2,935.00	1,000.00
4. Fuhrmann Memorial	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
5. Christmas Greetings	1,300.00	655.00	1,285.00	1,000.00
6. Other Donations	2,000.00	1,372.10	15,000.00	1,500.00
<u>OTHER INCOME</u>				
1. Car Raffle	8,000.00	11,644.18	9,000.00	10,000.00
2. Interest	7,500.00	2,140.43	3,687.04	3,000.00
3. Bookstore	2,000.00	1,086.25	2,207.45	1,200.00
4. One World Festival	500.00	(55.31)	490.25	800.00
5. Hall Donations	2,500.00	2,315.00	2,335.00	2,500.00
6. Miscellaneous Income	1,300.00	10,637.99	1,298.52	3,000.00
7. Kasparian Fund	—	7,163.00	3,374.31	—
8. Trust Fund	—	—	5,400.00	—
9. Exchange	—	50.00	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$146,245.00</b>	<b>\$127,950.07</b>	<b>\$158,383.12</b>	<b>\$130,600.00</b>

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY  
BUDGET AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1979  
AND  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1980 & 1981

	<u>PROPOSED</u> 1981	<u>ACTUAL</u> 1979	<u>ACTUAL</u> 1980	<u>BUDGET</u> 1980
<u>SALARIES, FEES &amp; BENEFITS</u>				
1. Clergy Salary	\$ 17,295.00	\$ 16,580.96	\$ 16,264.04	\$ 16,845.00
2. Parsonage Expenses	2,700.00	2,125.10	2,269.38	2,500.00
3. Clergy Car Expenses	3,000.00	2,469.03	2,530.97	2,600.00
4. Custodial Salary	10,500.00	9,880.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
5. Custodial Car Expenses	2,500.00	—	1,500.00	1,500.00
6. Visiting Clergy	600.00	250.00	—	300.00
7. Other Fees	4,600.00	3,820.00	3,820.00	4,000.00
8. Payroll Taxes	4,500.00	2,249.56	1,948.38	4,200.00
9. Employee Benefits	4,750.00	3,074.42	5,011.12	3,500.00
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>				
1. Telephone	700.00	628.22	675.36	650.00
2. Stationery, Printing, Postage	3,000.00	2,255.61	1,931.21	2,500.00
3. Candles, Flowers	700.00	512.40	237.60	700.00
4. Bookstore	2,000.00	1,048.83	3,082.29	1,500.00
5. Paperware, Other Supplies	3,500.00	3,132.21	2,858.06	3,500.00
6. Activities	3,000.00	2,500.04	1,905.65	2,500.00
<u>ASSESSMENTS</u>				
1. Diocesan Dues	17,500.00	12,556.00	17,486.10	17,500.00
<u>EDUCATIONAL</u>				
1. Sunday School	1,000.00	794.79	235.65	1,000.00
<u>CHURCH BUILDING EXPENSES</u>				
1. Mortgage Payments	27,400.00	24,543.12	27,087.09	24,500.00
2. Utilities:				
A. Gas & Electric	15,000.00	11,777.67	11,417.70	13,000.00
B. Water	500.00	279.93	247.00	300.00
3. Insurance	6,000.00	5,500.02	4,029.24	6,000.00
4. Repairs, Maintenance	5,000.00	4,323.32	2,124.69	5,000.00
5. Grounds Care, Snow Removal	1,000.00	354.00	250.00	1,000.00
6. Fuhrman Memorial	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
7. Bldg. Equipt. Grounds, Improve.	7,000.00	3,346.05	2,060.00	3,500.00
8. Miscellaneous	2,000.00	3,247.29	2,824.24	1,505.00
9. Loan & Exchange	—	—	10,603.00	—
Total	<u>\$146,245.00</u>	<u>\$117,748.37</u>	<u>\$132,898.77</u>	<u>\$130,600.00</u>



REPORT ON 1980 DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

(Submitted at Special Parish Assembly, June 20, 1980)

The Diocese of the Armenian Church held its 78th Annual Diocesan Assembly during the weekend of May 29-31 in Washington, D.C., hosted by the St. Mary parish of that city.

145 Delegates from throughout the Diocese were present. The St. Thomas Parish was represented by Diocesan Delegates Arthur Azarick, Victor Arzoomanian, George Mekenian and Joseph Kalemkerian, Rev. Fr. Arnak Kasparian and Parish Council Chairman, Peter Jamgochian.

The delegates heard the message of His Holiness, Vasken I, who was unable to be present due to personal problems. The Diocesan Primate, His Grace Archbishop Torkom Manoogian delivered his Annual Report, in which he stressed the need for more clergymen in the Diocese, and presented his new plan for training young men for the priesthood.

The delegates heard a report on the proposed Diocese of Canada. The Diocesan Council indicated that steps have been taken with plans to establish a separate Diocese of Canada in the near future.

Time was spent discussing the Diocesan Endowment Fund and the estate of the late Haik Kavookjian. Reports were also given on the ACYOA Summer Camp and the St. Nersess Seminary.

The subject of Armenian Church Unity was presented to the delegates and a resolution was approved which stated, "that the Assembly reaffirms its commitment to the unity of the Armenian Church in the United States and encourages further dialogue and communication between the By-Law committee of the Diocese and the Separated Brethren."

The Annual Budget of \$1,074,500 was submitted and approved. The St. Thomas Parish has been assessed \$15,140 for 1980. This sum is the seventh highest amount out of thirty seven parishes.

A proposal by the St. Thomas Church was approved, calling for the appointment of a clergy stipend review committee which should submit a comprehensive program for implementation at the 1981 assembly.

In conjunction with the Diocesan Assembly, meetings were also held for Sunday School Teachers, Armenian School Teachers, ACYOA, and Ladies Guilds. Parishioners of St. Thomas attending those sessions were Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian, Hagop Jebejian, Martha Saraydarian, Marriane Saraydarian, Queenie Tashjian, Silva Der Stepanian, Rose Mekenian, Lillian Kasparian, Lilly Ajemiam, Michael Kasparian and Lisa Kasparian.

The 1981 Diocesan Assembly will be held in early May in Watertown, Mass.

submitted by  
Joseph Kalemkerian

CASPAR M. KASPARIAN MEMORIAL FUND

The Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund was established in 1979. The purpose of the fund is to provide scholarship assistance for the young people of the St. Thomas parish to attend religious study conferences, retreats and other educational activities in the church.

During July and August the Board of Directors awarded scholarship assistance to thirteen young people, ages 15-20 to attend the ten day St. Nersess Summer Study Programs at the Ouzoonian House in New Rochelle, N.Y. The participants were given the opportunity to learn more about the Armenian Church while at the same time were given the opportunity of enjoying the fellowship of other young people like themselves from other Armenian communities in the U.S.

Those who attended were the following: Nancy Arzoomanian, Lance and Laureen Berberian, Suzanne Demirjian, Gregory Ekizian, Paula Iskenderian, Lisa Kasparian, Thomas Kasparian, Stephen Mekenian, Leon Nigohosian, Glenn Poosikian, Robin Poosikian, and Karen Saraydarian.

During the weekend of Oct. 17-19, the Fund sponsored a retreat for 10th - 12th graders at the Carmel Retreat House in Mahwah, N.J. The theme of the weeken was "You Gotta Believe", and was led by Rev. Fr. Dajad Davidian, pastor of the St. James parish in Watertown, Mass., and assisted by our pastor Rev. Fr. Arnak.

The Fund contributed to the participation of each teenager, who learned also about the spirit of Christian love and service examplified by Caspar Kasparian. The participants were Nancy Arzoomanian, Douglas Chakmakina, Suzanne Demirjian, Gregory Ekizian, Suzanne Iskenderian, Christine Jamgochian, Thomas Kasparian, Andrew Martin, Stephen Mekenian, George Saraydarian, Karen Saraydarian, Richard Stoneson, Craig Tashjian, Roger Tashjian, and Rita Tchalikian. Chaperones accompanying the group were Lillian Kasparian, Rose Mekenian and Joseph Kalemkerian.

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Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund - 1980 Financial Report

Fund Balance - December 31, 1979.....	\$ 7,163.00
1980 Donations .....	1,982.50
1980 Income (Interest).....	881.81
1980 Expenses:	
a. St. Nersess Seminar Scholarships ( \$487.50)	
b. Kasparian Retreat	
Costs.....(\$1,060.00	
Reimbursements.... 510.00	
Net .....	( \$550.00)
	(1,037.50)
Fund Balance - December 31, 1980 .....	\$8,989.81

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Board of Directors: Fr. Arnak Kasparian, president, ex-officio; Joseph Kalemkerian, chairman; Lillian Kasparian, secretary; George Mekenian, treasurer; Zaven Dadekian, advisor.

## ACYOA JUNIORS REPORT - 1980

Officers - September 1980 - June 1981

Chairman - Stephen Mekenian  
Vice Chairman - Gregory Ekizian  
Recording Secretary - Suzanne Demirjian  
Corresponding Sec'y. - Lisa Ohanesian  
Advisors - Miss Joanne Daghlian & Dr. Gary Dadaian  
Treasurer - Craig Tashjian  
Ass't. Treasurer - Leon Nigohosian  
Publicity - Nancy Arzzoomanian  
Phone Squad - Melissa Arzrouni

### Calendar of Events -

- Friday  
September 12      The 1980-81 officers were elected at a Get-acquainted Cookout & Organization Meeting sponsored by the Parish Council and planned by an appointed committee. Miss Nancy Basmajian, Diocesan Executive Director of the ACYOA Juniors, was a special guest.
- Sunday  
September 21      Dedication of Officers during church services and later Executive Meeting.
- Friday, October 3      Bowling Party prior to Meeting.
- Saturday  
October 25      Hosted Regional Junior ACYOA Planning Committee Meeting called by Miss Nancy Basmajian, Mrs. Rose Mekenian arranged luncheon.
- Wednesday  
November 12      Theater Party to New York to see WEST SIDE STORY. Men's Club provided transportation.
- Friday  
November 28      Meeting with Deacon Michael Chevian as guest speaker.
- Sunday-November 30-Bake Sale after church services.
- December 5, 6, 7      Bazaar participation - ACYOA Game Room & Booth. Project headed by Gregory Ekizian & Stephen Mekenian. NOTE: Major donated items were a rug by Bashian's and card/records by Stoneson's.
- Friday  
December 12      Progressive Dinner. The families of Thomas Kasparian, Karen Saraydarian, Barbara Garjian, & Suzanne Demirjian hosted this year, and other parents drove.
- Wednesday  
December 24      Christmas Eve Services by ACYOA assisted by Der Hayr, Mrs. Rose Mekenian, Miss Susan Shamamian, Michael Kasparian, Laura Seferian, Leon Nigohosian, and our alumni readers. Yerezgin Violet handled refreshments. The plate collection this year was for the Jerusalem Seminary.
- Friday, January 9      Spaghetti Supper & Meeting. Alyssa Ouzoonian chaired the event.
- January 24-25      Ski Trip to Vermont arranged through Ski-O-Rama was cancelled because of insufficient reservations. Craig Tashjian, Melissa Arzrouni, and Gregory Ekizian helped with this project.

Future plans include a Valentine Party on February 14 to which we are inviting ACYOA Juniors & friends from the Metropolitan region (parents are assisting with arrangements), a service project for Ouzoonian House, serving at the St. Thomas Anniversary Dinner, Cosmos game, if possible, picnic & beach party, meetings and other activities to be announced.

A Regional ACYOA Juniors Sports Weekend in the NY-NJ area in the spring is being planned by a regional committee. Several ACYOA Juniors attended the Hye Myrtzoom Weekend in Massachusetts in May. We have maintained contact with the Diocesan Executive Director of ACYOA Juniors as needed.

Comments:

Many thanks to all the ACYOA Juniors who have been helping with and participating in our activities this year. We have been averaging 30 members each time we get together. We have a mailing list of over 50 names, and new members are always welcome. Copies of our mailing list and out tentative calendar of events for the year were distributed in the fall. We have been having an activity or program along with our business meetings and following our meetings with refreshments, and we have been gratified with the results.

Our special appreciation to our advisors, Miss Jo Anne Daghlian and Dr. Gary Dadaian, for the time, assistance, and guidance they have so generously provided us in our endeavors.

A word of thanks also to Der Hayr and our Parish Council, especially Mr. Jack Hajinlian, our Parish Council Liaison, for their cooperation and help.

We are very grateful, also, to all our parents and other parishioners who have supported and encouraged us in our activities this year.

Financial Report

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Checking Account Balance			
Forward, 9/80	\$		\$2025.25
Dues	81.00		
Bake Sale	61.45		
Savings Account in River			
Edge closed out*	600.99		
Bazaar	638.24	\$ 289.15 (\$349.09 net)	
Theater Tickets	360.00	362.00 (-\$2.00)	
Mailing Expenses		16.32	
Regional Luncheon		48.15	
Meeting Refreshments		37.01	
Miscellaneous Expense		6.00	
Donation to Church**		<u>1000.00</u>	
	<u>\$1741.68</u>	<u>\$1758.63</u> (-\$16.95)	
Balance, December 31, 1980			\$2008.30*

\*In January, 1981, we opened a Savings Account at First National State Bank - County in Tenafly and transferred \$1500.00 to it.

\*\*We plan an additional donation to the church this spring.

## ARMENIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL REPORT - 1980

The Armenian Language is an integral part of our Parish teaching children of Armenian background the basics of their language and instilling pride and knowledge of their ethnic heritage. The School's success depends on the efforts of many - our Director, Sylva Der Stepanian; our dedicated faculty; the Mother's Committee; our Parish Council Liaison, Sam Demirjian; Der Hayr's guidance and encouragement; and the parents who faithfully bring their children each week.

The Mother's Committee holds Halloween, Christmas and Easter parties for the children each year. There is an annual Talent Show which highlights our children's poetic and musical attributes. The School sponsors an Annual Armenian Christmas Dinner and Program, a Hantes and graduation in May, a booth at the Church Bazaar, representation at the Diocesan Convention, and this year will initiate an adult language class.

### FACULTY

Miss Sylva der Stepanian	Miss Ann Maybalian	Mrs. Olympia Jebejian
Mrs. Seta Jebejian	Mrs. Arpine Vartivarian (Adult Class)	Miss Joyce Tamesian -(Dance)
Mrs. Ani Nahabedian	Mrs. Ani Mardirosian	Miss Sylvie Der Khorenian
Mrs. Queenie Tashjian	Mrs. Shake Torigian	(Aide)

### COMMITTEE

Ani Capan - Chairman	Mary Ann Saraydarian Treasurer-Advisor
Martha Saraydarian Co-Chairman-Advisor	Marion Babigian

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance from 1979 (Spring)		\$4984.50
	<u>Income</u>	
Tuition (58 x \$50.)	\$2,900.	
Bazaar	625.	
Donations	30.	
Armenian Christmas Dinner	462.	
Hantes	150.	
		4167.00
	<u>Expenses</u>	
Salaries for Faculty (9@ \$20. x 31 weeks)	\$5,580.	
Textbooks (Diocese)	585.	
Supplies (Teaching materials)	75.	
Storage Cabinets	360.	
Diocesan Assembly (4 teachers)	400.	
Parties	250.	
Transportation	150.	
Gifts	150.	
		(7550.00)
Estimated balance for June 1980		\$1601.50

AVAK SOCIETY - 1980

Officers:

Chairman	Anoush Poosikian
Vice Chairman	Nish Ohanesian
Rec. Secretary	Anne Stepanian
Cor. Secretary	Alice Shakarjian
Treasurer	Helen Avedisian
Asst. Treasurer	Zephyr Bandazian
Refreshments	Haig Markarian and Bertha Poosikian
Sargeant at Arms	George Avedisian, Zareh Darakjian
Advisors	Becky Avakian, Vartoohi Halebian, Diane Nakashian

Membership as of December 31, 1980 - 200

TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	
Balance on hand 12/31/79			\$1475.79
Membership Dues /	\$ 624.00		
Weekly Dues	1382.10		
Contributions	282.00		
Interest on Savings Account	105.08		
Profit Stevensville Trip	188.38		
Profit Mothers' & Fathers' Day Luncheon	185.59		
Profit Valentine Luncheon	78.00		
Profit Elberon Trip	55.00		
Profit Carousel Trip	28.00		
Profit Wildwood,NJ trip	<u>183.00</u>		3111.15
			4586.94
Refreshments		\$962.02	
Supplies		15.86	
Memorial Donations & Gifts		190.00	
St. Thomas Church		1277.87	
Christmas Luncheon		248.67	
Maintenance Man		<u>15.00</u>	<u>2709.42</u>
Balance on hand 12/31/80			\$1877.52

12/31/80

Provident Savings Bank	\$1555.95
Midlantic Bank (checking)	218.82
Bergen State Bank (checking)	2.75
	<u>\$1777.52</u>
Advance deposit to White Beauty Resort for June 1981 Trip	100.00
	<u>\$1877.52</u>

## ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH CHOIR REPORT - 1980

The officers for the past year were: Chairman, Mary Sanossian; Vice Chairman, Ara Martin; Corr. Secy., Elise Poosikian; Rec. Secy., Osanna Soukiassian; Treasurer, Arthur Azarik; Advisors: Rose Mekenian, Susan Shamamian.

We held a very successful Cheoreg-Lahmajoon Sale in the spring. The membership made the Cheoreg but the Lahmajoon was bought on consignment.

On Theophany and during Lent, a representative group of choir members went to the Armenian Home for the Aged to celebrate Badarak. The Armenian members of the Home were very pleased with our presence and we in turn came away pleased for having given some happiness to these Senior Citizens.

Susan Shamamian has served as our organist this past year with faithfulness and devotion for which we are deeply grateful.

Armen Basmajian, Jerry Kuyamjian and Charles Casale have been serving as deacons at the altar. We are again thankful for their tireless efforts.

Attending the Choir Convention in Racine, Wisconsin, Edward Daghlian represented St. Thomas at this Med-West Parish. We still aspire to host the Convention in Tenafly. Enthusiasm and drive are being exerted to the members to make this endeavor a reality.

Our Liaison, Mrs. V. Malajian has kept in touch with us and we are grateful for her concern.

We thank the Parish Council and the members of our Church for their continued support and we hope we will continue to attempt to fulfill their inspirational needs in the celebration of the Holy Badarak.

Edward Daghlian  
Choir Director

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1980

Balance on hand January 1, 1980		\$398.21
1980 Income		
Easter Cake & Lahmajoon Sale and plate collection	890.40	
Total Income	890.40	
1980 Disbursements		
Kupelian Lahmajoon Bill	425.00	
Flowers	25.00	
AACCA plate	100.00	
AACCA robes	130.00	
Total disbursements	680.00	
Income over disbursements		<u>210.40</u>
Balance on hand January 1, 1981		\$608.61

## ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH COUPLES CLUB REPORT - 1980

An election was held in June and the following officers were elected:

Chairman	Paul Pinajian	Corr. Sec'y.	Elsie Poosikian
Vice Chairman	Sarkis Aramian	Treasurer	Ronald Poosikian
Rec. Sec'y.	Gladys Fenarjian		

Our Club Hostess was headed by Marion Kahaumjian.

Some of the programs during the year were Keff Nite, Military Bridge, Bowling, Handwriting Analysis, and a visit to N.Y. to see the Antranig Dance Group.

This year we envision 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 Armenian Church with chairmen for the "Wheel" at the Bazaar. We look forward to a more successful year in 1981.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	
Balance as of Jan., 1980	\$		706.43
Keff Nite Party	1,196.00	\$934.92 (\$261.08 net)	
Membership Dues	60.00		
Miscellaneous: Postage		236.85	
postage, food, etc.		500.00	
donation to church - 11/3/80			
Totals	\$1,256.00	\$1,671.77	(415.77)
Balance on hand - December 31, 1980			\$290.66

### AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT - 1980

We, the Auditing Committee, have audited the books and records of the Parish Council and its Organizations, except the Women's Guild and found all entries properly entered and substantiated. This year the Auditing Committee advised some of our organization treasurers the basic procedures for the record keeping for their books.

We make the following recommendation: the Car Raffle account should be incorporated into the Men's Club report.

Grace Hagopian  
Hagop Jebejian  
Dikris Malool



## THE MEN'S CLUB REPORT - 1980

The Men's Club in 1980 continued with encouraging turnouts and future plans for 1981 indicate an even better year.

This past year we had a joint Wine & Cheese tasting party with the Women's Guild, a Monte Carlo Nite, the annual softball & picnic outing, and our traditional Christmas Party. This past year we again sponsored our Junior Boys & Girls Basketball Teams with uniforms and entry fees.

Our major commitment for 1980-81 is to assist the Junior ACYOA in any way that they may need our help. In November we were asked to supply cars and driver's so that they could see a Broadway play. We stand ready to offer any help that may be asked of us.

Our plans for 1981 include a trip to Atlantic City, a weekend in the Catskills, a summer picnic, dinner meetings and topped off with our annual Christmas Party. This year promises to be the most active one yet.

Chairman	Paul Kahaumjian
Vice-Chairman	Jerry Keosayian
Rec. & Corr. Secy.	Krikor Khorozian
Treasurer	Jack Ekizian

### TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	
Balance on hand 1/13/80			\$472.42
Membership Dues	\$ 125.00		
Sports Outing	80.00		
Wine Tasting Night	97.00	\$ 150.00	
Monte Carlo Night	743.80		
Men's Club Picnic Permit		30.00	
Raffle and Prizes	131.50		
Memorial Day Picnic Deposit		600.00	
Reimbursement of Deposit	600.00		
Sports Uniforms & Entry Fees	25.00	600.00	
Christmas Party	2064.00	1896.00	
D.J. Christmas Party		150.00	
Christmas Party Raffle	77.00		
Donation (In lieu of flowers)		50.00	
Postage		10.00	
Collation		31.76	
Totals	<u>\$3943.30</u>	<u>\$3517.76</u>	<u>\$425.54</u>
Balance on hand 12/31/80			\$897.96

Note: Five cancellations for Christmas party = \$216.00 will bring balance of January statement to \$681.96

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - 1980

### A. CHURCH SCHOOL

The Church School began its academic year on September 14, with an enrollment of approximately 120 students, divided into ten classes, plus Nursery. Classes are held from 10:30 to noon on Sunday morning, concurrently with the Divine Liturgy. The students' courses of study include the Faith, doctrine and teachings of the Armenian Church, Biblical history, Armenian Church history and Christian living. Regular church attendance and reception of the Sacraments is at the center of the Church School program.

The special discussion/seminar for 11th-12th grades continues to be an important way to keep the interest of most of our recent graduates in their Church. The Lending Library for students and parents provides books to enhance learning at home and help parents in their roles. To this end, our newsletter DAY BY DAY helps families grow together in their Faith. The informal "Lunch with the Pastor" sessions have helped our students and Der Hayr come to know each other better.

Teacher education sessions have been conducted individually with the staff members to help them increase their own knowledge about the Church, and provide suggestions for effective teaching. In January a group of students, teachers and parents made a pilgrimage to St. Vartan Cathedral in New York City, where they attended Divine Liturgy, received a tour of the Diocesan Complex and met the Primate. In April, several students from the Church School participated in the Martyrs' Day program conducted for the young people of the metropolitan area.

As in previous years, the students bought gifts and foodstuffs for needy families at Christmas. This program helped our youngsters realize better the true spirit of Christmas giving. Also helped was an Armenian family in Weehawken, whose father was disabled in a holdup just before Christmas.

Annual events of the Church School include the Christmas Program and Luncheon, Christmas and Easter Communion breakfasts, a Paregentan Party, and Graduation and Reception. The Parents' Committee ably coordinated these activities. We are thankful for the cooperation of the entire parish family which ensures the success of these events.

### B. ADULT EDUCATION

During this year several programs for the adults of our parish were undertaken. During the Lenten season, a six session Bible-exploration program was conducted, entitled "How the Bible Came to Be". Response was so favorable to the sessions that the group chose to pursue more in-depth Bible Study.

A study of St. Mark's Gospel began in April, intending to be completed by the end of June. The group is still reading and studying St. Mark, meeting every Thursday evening from 8:00 to 10:00 pm. The enthusiasm of the 12-15 members of the Bible Study is very high, and the group will continue to meet to study and learn more about the Bible after finishing St. Mark.

Two programs for parents were held during the year as well. In February, Dr. Gloria Durka of the Graduate School of Religion of Fordham University, spoke to a group of more than 60 members on "The Christian Family in Crisis?" Her presentation was enthusiastically received. In October, another Christian educator, Phyllis Contino, spoke to parents on "Family Communication". Other similar programs are planned for the future.

Church School Staff:

Nursery	Stephen Jarahian; Suzanne Iskenderian, Assistant
Kindergarten	Suzanne Ekizian & Alin Papazian; Nancy Arzoomanian, Asst.
First Grade	Adrienne Tenbekjian
Second Grade	Cheryl Parseghian & Ruth Esperian
Third-Fourth Grade	Bunny Mateosian; Gregory Ekizian, Assistant
Fifth Grade	Sona Damergy
Sixth Grade	Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian; Christine Jamgochian, Asst.
Seventh Grade	Carol Partin
Eighth-Ninth Grade	Virginia Parseghian
Tenth Grade	Joseph Kalemkerian; Stephen Mekenian, Assistant
Eleventh-Twelfth Grade Seminar	Gary Dadaian
Secretary-Treasurer	Jeanette Ekizian
Librarian	Elsie Poosikian
Parents' Committee	Ellen Kenderian, Gladys Fenarjian, Marilou Pinajian, Sandra Alpino

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand January 1, 1980 \$ 200.03

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Offerings	482.82		
Lenten Offerings	167.50		
Luncheon Donations	217.00		
Donations	255.00		
Cathedral Trip	79.50		
Donation Diocese		165.00	
Luncheon-Diocese		50.00	
Luncheon-Communion		20.00	
Luncheon-Christmas		173.07	
Supplies, Books & Postage		313.42	
Cathedral Trip (Bus Company)		110.00	
Heritage Trip (Bus Company)		110.00	
Heritage Tickets		36.00	
Speaker		50.00	
Day By Day		10.00	
	<u>\$1,201.82</u>	<u>\$1,037.49</u>	
Balance on hand December 31, 1980			<u>\$ 364.36</u>

## WOMEN'S GUILD REPORT - 1980

Co-Chairmen	Alicia Demirjian and Mary Chookazian		
Vice Chairman	Margaret Varbedian	Treasurer	Margaret Varbedian
Rec. Sec'y.	Mary Varteressian	Advisors	Lillian Kasparian
Corr. Sec'y.	Anna Zakar		Virginia Parseghian
Asst. Sec'y.	Sona Doudoukjian	Asst. Treasurer	Artemis Nazarian

### Standing Committee Chairmen:

Program	Alyce Parseghian	Publicity	Margaret Tatoian
Membership	Sona Doudoukjian	Historian	Margaret Minassian
C.W.U.	Ann Markarian	Social Service	Queenie Tashjian
Hospitality	Adele Jibilian	Sunshine	Bertha Vanishkhan
Devotional	Ann Markarian	Gourmet Club	Lillian Kasparian
Sunday Coffee	Amy Jamgochian		Virginia Parseghian
Bridge Club	Violet Ouzoonian	Old Age Home Volunteers	Violet Ouzoonian

In 1980 the Women's Guild meetings have been held on every third Tuesday of the month, being followed by a joint program with the Men's Club. We are happy to say that we have had a good attendance and enjoyed the social hour after the programs.

During this year the Women's Guild was instrumental in starting a volunteer group for the Armenian Home for the Aged in Emerson, with the participation of other Guilds in the area. The group visits the Home once a month and entertains the residents. Arrangements have been made with a florist to send a corsage for the women and a boutonniere for the men when they celebrate their birthday. They also receive a birthday card written in Armenian.

As usual, our annual Cotillion was the Gala event of the year and a financial success.

One point that deserves special mention, is the acquisition of new stoves, convection ovens and dishwasher for the St. Thomas kitchen. A Cuisinart Food Processor was also purchased. All this was possible thanks to the funds accumulated during the tenure of the past and present Executive Boards.

Another highlight of the year was a Membership Luncheon honoring Charter Members who received a silver cross stick-pin for their continuous membership.

The activities of the Women's Guild have been quite numerous, some of them are mentioned as follows:

Luncheon for General Parish Assembly; Wine and Cheese Tasting Party; Lenten Luncheon; visit to Armenian Home for the Aged on Maundy Thursday; participation of members in Fellowship Day with Church Women United; Tennis Party; preparation of baked goods and manning booths at Memorial and Get-Together picnics; Memorial Dinner for George Shahinian; Group Orientation meeting for Volunteers of Old Age Home; visit to ASID Decorator Showcase; Bus Trip to Princeton University Museum and Doris Duke Gardens; Blood Drive; Coachlight Dinner Theatre Party; Annual Christmas Luncheon at Le Chateau.

At our monthly meeting we had; lectures on wine, nutrition, investments, stocks and bonds, hypnosis and other subjects.

The Gourmet Club met every second Wednesday of the month and as usual very interesting new recipes were presented and tried.

Our delegates to the Diocesan Assembly were Lillian Kasparian and Rose Mekenian.

Also, this year, we made arrangements to sponsor a student at the St. Tarkmanchatz Secondary School in Jerusalem.

We have met and paid our 1980 pledge of \$8,000.00 to St. Thomas Armenian Church.

WOMEN'S GUILD REPORT - 1980

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand January 1, 1980 \$1,019.22

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Cotillian	\$28,631.41	\$18,275.50	
Interest on Savings Account	463.29		
Dues	240.00		
Donations	195.00		
Saints Day	180.00		
Lenten Lunch	988.30	883.88	
Bus Refund - Rockland	50.00		
Gourmet	385.50	220.11	
Tennis Party	914.00	458.07	
Transfers from/to savings	9,175.14	5,000.00	
Designer Showcase	192.00		
Princeton Bus Trip	592.00	495.31	
Refund - Parish Council	58.00		
Wine Tasting	150.00	205.08	
Bridge Club	108.00		
Candlelight Theater Party	1,386.00	1,176.00	
Christmas Party	1,440.00	1,428.00	
Refund of loan - Parish Council		250.00	
Armenian Heritage Collection		100.00	
Membership Tea		171.87	
Visit to Emerson Old Age Home		88.38	
Diocese for students		75.00	
Candy for Bazaar		101.49	
Outdoor plants & lights		32.15	
Binghamton Racquet Club		100.00	
Refreshments		113.18	
Luncheon for clergy		15.00	
Rockland Coach - Bus trip to Princeton		50.00	
In lieu of flowers		125.00	
Postage		119.23	
Saints Day Luncheon		98.00	
St. Thomas Armenian Church		8,000.00	
Church Women United		40.00	
Kitchen Equipment - Ovens, Plumber & Electrician		4,598.94	
Cost of checkbook/bank stamp		17.62	
Misc.		30.28	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Totals	\$45,148.64	\$42,268.09	
Net Amount - Receipts over disbursements			<hr/> 2,880.55
Balance on hand - December 21, 1980			\$3,899.77

