

# THE ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH 1985 ANNUAL REPORT

## PASTOR and PARISH COUNCIL

### THE 1985 PASTOR'S REPORT

Another year has ended, marking 24 years of my service to St. Thomas Armenian Church. I have seen numerous changes in our Parish during those years. New faces have come forward to enlarge our St. Thomas family; at the same time we must never forget those who are no longer with us. This year we are going to celebrate the 21st anniversary of the building of the Church Sanctuary and God willing, we shall dedicate our new facilities in March.

A hearty "thank you" to the church organizations, and all the untiring members of our Parish. Each organization has submitted its own report, and our Parish Council Chairman, Peter Ajemian has acknowledged their services in his report; therefore I shall report mainly on the sacramental and pastoral activities of this past year.

WORSHIP SERVICES: Divine Liturgy was celebrated every Sunday except one, when the Jashou Service was offered by the deacons while I was vacationing. A special prayer service for the success of the Reagan-Gorbachev Summit was held on November 10, and a service of thanksgiving for our deacons and altar servers was held on the Feast of St. Stephen, December 22. Special thanks to Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian for his continued dedication in the preparation of acolytes and altar servers.

During the year we had the following guest celebrants: Archbishop Torkom Manoogian on the Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church; Rev. Arshen Ayyazian, on May 19; Rev. Mardiros Chevia, June 23; Rev. Carnig Hallajian on Nov. 10.

SACRAMENTAL SERVICES: During the year 21 baptisms were performed (30 last year); 22 marriages were blessed (23 the previous year); 8 funerals took place (23 the year before).

At this time let us remember our dear departed members: Michael Sarkisian, Leo Bazikian, Assadour Akmakjian (father of Rosine Hovsepian), Souren Mekenian, Charles Garabed Pelloian (father of Ann Aljian), Aghavne Guendjoian (mother of Alice Zarifian), and Oursa Dagavarian.

ADMINISTRATIVE: As ex-officio President of all church organizations, I attended many of the meetings. I directed and advised and, in many cases helped in implementing decisions. I attended the Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly in Bayside, New York, in May. I represented our Diocese at the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ, once in Chicago in May, and a second time in November, in Fort Worth, Texas. It is interesting to note that out of five delegates from our Diocese to the National Council of Churches, two are from our parish, myself and Louise Kalemkerian. I am a member of the Board of Directors of St. Nersess Seminary since its inception, and presently serve as the Secretary of the Board.

PUBLICATIONS: We have published the Bergen Beacon monthly and prepared flyers for our various affairs. Each month the Beacon is mailed to our college students residing on campus. A special thanks to Mary Ann Saraydarian for editing our Beacon.

This year there has been more enthusiasm shown by our parishioners to volunteer and accomplish projects. This is due to our Parish Council, particularly to the leadership of Peter Ajemian. Peter has been a God-sent at the crucial time of our expansion project. He has brought wisdom, humor, drive and maturity. He has been a person who does not seek recognition in any way. Thank you, Peter for all your endeavours.

### THE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The year 1985 was a significant milestone for the St. Thomas Armenian Church. After more than 3 years of initial planning, our Renovation and New Building Project became a reality. Our Building Committee had to climb many hurdles, namely with the Town, County and State levels involving EPA standards, along with securing building materials that were unavailable. However we will be close to finishing our project at the time of our Annual Parish Assembly. Along with the above mentioned problems, and the desire to fulfill the additional needs of our Parish, we will exceed our approved budget of \$900,000.00. Although pledges totalling \$750,000.00 have been made to date, additional pledges are essential so that we can pay-off our Construction Loan. To date, a very good percentage of our parishioners have met their pledges, while a small group have not. The Parish Council wants everyone to be part of this Project, because St. Thomas belongs to everyone. Remember, no contribution in any form can ever be too BIG or too SMALL.

The following represents your Parish Council for the year 1985:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>LIASON</u>
Rev. Arnak Kasparian	President	
Peter Ajemian	Chairman	
Virginia Victoria	Vice Chmn., Rentals Calendar, Custodial & Supplies	Sunday School
Arax Parseghian	Secretary	Women's Guild Book Store
Grace Hagopian	Treasurer	ACYOA Jr. & Sr.
Lucy Nakashian	Asst. Treasurer	Armenian School
Karakian Bedrosian	Fund Raising Membership Asst.	
Paul Kahaumjian	Pledge Asst.	Men's Club
Eli Karalian	Membership Asst.	Avak Society
Gerald Keosayian	Bldg. & Grounds Chairman	Building Committee
Richard Papazian	Membership Chairman	Choir
Edward Parseghian	Pledge Chairman	

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS & COMMUNICATIONS

The Parish Council met on every second and fourth Tuesday of each month as scheduled. Sunday attendance by members of the Council was good because of the roster system initiated by our Narthex Director. All of our meetings started on time and were well attended. The Parish Council meetings were presided over by the President, Rev. Arnak Kasparian, and conducted by the Chairman, Peter Ajemian. The Council meetings were always open to interested individuals including Delegates, Trustees, and Parish related organizations.

Events held by St. Thomas Armenian Church and the  
related organizations during the year 1985

Jan. 5	Armenian Christmas Eve Services and Supper
Jan. 6	Armenian School Dinner & Program
Jan. 7	Armenian Christmas at Emerson Home
Jan. 27	Parish Assembly, 1st Session
Feb. 3	Parish Assembly, 2nd Session
Feb. 17	Sunday School trip to St. Vartan Cathedral for Paregentan
Feb. 15-16-17	A.C.Y.O.A. Jrs., Sports Weekend
March 1	World Day of Prayer at St. John the Theologian, Women's Guild
March 6	Women's Saints Day at Diocese
March 7	Diocesan Regional Conference at St. Thomas
March 8	Lenten "Fish & Chips" Dinner - Women's Guild
March 16	Spiritual Renewal at Holy Martyrs Armenian Church
March 20	Arutiun Papazian Concert bus trip to Carnegie Hall
March 23	Women's Guild Bus Trip to New York to view play
March 31	20th Anniversary of Consecration of St. Thomas Dinner (Nazar & Artemis Nazarian - St. Thomas Award)
April 4	Holy Thursday Services & Fellowship Table at Emerson Home
April 13	St. Thomas Cotillion & Ball - Women's Guild
April 6	Easter Eve Services and fellowship
April 27	Special Commemorative Badarak of 70th anniversary of genocide, followed by "madagh"
April 28	Bus trip to St. Vartan Cathedral for a Special Commemorative Badarak of the 70th anniversary of Armenian Massacres. "Madagh" followed services.
May 3	Church Women United May Fellowship Luncheon, Sponsored by St. Thomas Women's Guild
May 27	Memorial Day Picnic & Car Raffle - Men's Club
June 9	Sunday Church School graduation and reception
June 16	Men's Club picnic - Pascack Brook Park
June 18	Joint Shish-Kebab dinner. Women's Guild and Men's Club
Aug. 18	Bus trip to St. Nersess Seminary open house and grape blessing
Sept. 22	Teacher Dedication and registration for new students
Sept. 25	Bus ride to Lake Mohonk - Women's Guild
Oct. 30	Special Cultural Program on Gomidas - Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. Sponsored by Women's Guild
Nov. 12	Women's Guild Membership Tea. Mary Ann Saraydarian's house
Nov. 22-23-24	Kasparian Fund Retreat at St. Nersess.
Nov./Dec.	Fruit & Nut Sale - Women's Guild
Dec. 7-8	St. Thomas Annual Christmas Bazaar
Dec. 11	Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon at Archer's Restaurant
Dec. 20	Men's Club Christmas Party - Mediterranean Restaurant
Dec. 24	American Christmas Ever Service - A.C.Y.O.A.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank the following for their efforts in Leadership, Fund Raising and Service to the St. Thomas Armenian Church for the year 1985 . . .

A.C.Y.O.A. Juniors - Tania Mekhjian, Chmn.  
A.C.Y.O.A. Seniors - Lori Kalemkerian, Chmn.  
20th Anniversary Dinner & Mortgage Burning - Albert Victoria, Chmn.  
Anniversary Dinner Cake Sale - Dr. Harout & Shake Mekhjian  
Armenian Churches Sports Assoc. - Michael Kenajian, Chmn., Douglas Martaian



Lucy Nakashian, Asst. Treasurer, Also serves as liaison to the Armenian School. Lucy can be counted to carry out any assignment given to her in a conscientious manner.

Karakian Bedrosian, Dund Raising, has initiated some new ideas in the Parish Council. Unfortunately, his recent business schedule has kept him out of town, and we wish him well.

Paul Kahaumjian, Asst. Pledge, also serves as liaison to the Men's Club. Paul has been an asset to the Parish Council, a hard worker, and is not afraid to take on projects no matter how big they are.

Eli Karalian, Membership, also serves as liaison to the Avak Society. Eli on short notice this year took over a booth at the One World Festival for our Church. It is needless to say he came out with a profit. Keep up the good work Eli.

Gerald Keosayian, Bldg. & Grounds, has been a productive member to the Council. A professional engineer by trade, Gerald has been helpful with the new Building Project.

Richard Papazian, Membership, also serves as liaison to the Choir, Richard has been very active in getting new members, and is always ready to take on any projects that come up.

Edward Parseghian, Pledges, always does a good job keeping up with the complex job of pledges. With contacting everyone in our Parish, Eddie always uses tact and comes out a winner for St. Thomas. Keep up the good work Ed.

Rev. Arnak Kasparian, our Pastor and President of the Parish Council, has had another good year for the St. Thomas Armenian Church. Despite the more than 9 months of renovation and new construction, we held 35 events both in and outside of the Church as indicated in the calendar of events. With his many years of experience Der Arnak was able to help with many ideas that will be helpful in our building project. We wish him continued good health and success in all of his endeavours.

In closing we would like to thank all of our parishoners for their support and understanding of the inconvenience caused during this difficult year with the construction project. We have a lot to look forward to in the coming years with our new facilities. Let us all join hands and build a better St. Thomas Armenian Church for the future.

For the Parish Council;

Rev. Arnak Kasparian

President

Peter Ajemian

Chairman

Arax Parseghian

Secretary

## DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY REPORT

The 83rd Annual Assembly of the Diocese of the Armenian Church took place in Bayside, N.Y., May 2-4 hosted by the Holy Martyrs Armenian Church. Approximately 150 delegates representing 45 parishes were present.

The St. Thomas parish was represented by Rev. Fr. Arnak Kasparian and Diocesan Delegates Victor Arzoomanian, Michel Izmirly, Peter Jamgochian, Lillian Kasparian and Joseph Kalemkerian. Prior to the assembly, Father Arnak attended the two day clergy conference which took place at Cathedral College in Douglaston, N.Y.

The delegates elected the following officers for the assembly: Dr. Dennis Papazian, chairman; Dr. Raffi Hovannessian, assistant chairman; and Dr. Garo Garibian, secretary.

Among the major issues discussed by the delegates were the High-Rise Project, Regionalization, Church Unity and Youth Ministry.

The High-Rise Project is a study on the possible construction of a multi-story complex above the present Diocesan Office Building. It would not alter the Cathedral or the plaza and would provide the Diocese with a substantial revenue. The assembly authorizes the High-Rise committee to persue the feasibility study further.

Regionalization is a pilot project currently in a trial period in New England. It was cited as a successful role model for other areas that could benefit from the implementation of regionalization.

Unity discusssions are currently at a standstill. The delegates voted to continue all efforts towards unity.

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Elected to a new term on the Diocesan Council were Rev. Fr. Karekin Kasparian, Sarkis Bedevian, Daniel Dorian, Zarvin Kasparian, Edward Onanian, Very Rev. Ghevont Samoorian, Very Rev. Baret Yeretizian and Arthur Mardigian. George Mekenian from the St. Thomas parish was elected to a ten year term as a member of the Diocesan Board of Trustees.

During the three days several department workshops were held for the Women's Guild, A.C.Y.O.A., Church School and Armenian School. A number of St. Thomas parishioners were present for those meetings.

At the Armenian School Workshop, the Primate Archbishop Torkom Manoogian honored St. Thomas parishioner Queenie Tashjian for 25 years of service to the Armenian School. During the Women's Guild conference the delegates voted to form an ad hoc committee to structure by-laws for a newly organized Women's Guild Central Council.

The Annual Assembly Banquet was held at Cathedral College in Douglaston, N.Y. and the Hon. Edward I. Koch, the Mayor of New York City was the guest of honor and received the "Friend of Armenians" award. The 84th Assembly is scheduled to be held in May in Racine, Wisconsin

Joseph Kalemkerian, Diocesan Delegate

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH

MEMORIAL DONORS - DECEMBER 31, 1985

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donors Name</u>	<u>Earmarked for</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Aug.	Araxie Pichigian	Front main door	\$ 500.00
Dec.	Verkin & Jack Berberian		5,000.00
	Vahan & Eileen Barsamian		3,000.00
	Edmond Attarian		5,000.00
	Michael Fuhrmann		1,000.00
	Memorial Plaque replacemnt		<u>2,150.00</u>
			\$ 16,650.00

The Memorial Committee is comprised of the following:

Chairman:	Edward Bashian	Members:	Vahan Najarian
Secretary:	Michel Izmirly		Peter Ajemian
			Frank Stoneson

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ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH

A.C.E.F. LISTING - DECEMBER 31, 1985

<u>Donor's Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Edward Bashian Family Fund	2,000.00
Caspar Kasparian Memorial Fund	14,000.00
Anoush F Kavazanjian/Kassabian	1,035.00
Dr. H. & S. Mekhjian	5,000.00
Arthur & Dorothy Otchy	1,200.00
St. Thomas A.C.E.F.	2,875.00
George Shahinian Memorial Fund	20,486.00
Martin (Sonny) Tashjian Fund	6,285.00
Total	\$ 52,881.00

The above names and the amount received from Victor Arzoomanian, Executive Director of A.C.E.F. Fund.

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1985

BANK BALANCES AND OTHER BALANCES Jan. 1, 1985

Checking account	\$ 14,229.00	
Savings Account	3,285.00	
Investment "Repo"	47,000.00	
A.C.E.F. Diocese	<u>52,881.00</u>	

Total 117,395.00

1985 Receipts 183,724.00

1984 Disbursement 148,869.00

Excess Cash after disbursements 34,855.00

Total Cash Dec. 31, 1985 152,250.00

BANK BALANCES AND OTHER BALANCES Dec. 31, 1985

Checking Account	12,086.00	
Savings Account	3,474.00	
Investment Repo	83,209.00	
A.C.E.F. Diocese	<u>52,881.00</u>	

Total Balances Dec. 31, 1985 152,250.00

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ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH TRUSTEES - 1985

Chairman: Edward Bashian

Members: Michel Ismirly, George Mekenian, Haroutune Mekhjian, Vahan Najarian, Nazar Nazarian, Rupen Saddler, Antranig Shahinian and Haig Tashjian.

During 1985, the members of the Board of Trustees held one meeting.

The Trustees, being substantially members of the Building Committee, have participated actively in, endorse and support the work of enhancing the physical facilities of our Church.



ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1986  
BUDGET AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEARS 1984 & 1985

	PROPOSED 1986	ACTUAL 1985	BUDGET 1985	ACTUAL 1984	BUDGET 1984
<u>SALARIES, FEES &amp; BENEFITS</u>					
1. Clergy Salary	\$ 25,800	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	\$ 23,800	\$ 23,800
2. Parsonage Expense	3,400	3,389	4,000	3,780	4,000
3. Clergy Car Expense	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300
4. Clergy Insurance	3,700	3,700	3,100	3,067	3,000
5. Custodian Car Expense	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,250	3,250
6. Custodian Salary	13,700	12,700	12,700	12,200	12,200
7. Secretary	10,000	8,454	8,000	1,778	10,000
8. Visiting Clergy	800	825	600	-	600
9. Other fees					
A. Director of Christian Education	3,500	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
B. Choir Master	1,200	1,020	1,000	1,020	1,000
C. Organist	1,100	900	900	900	900
D. A.C.Y.O.A. Advisor	-	-	-	-	-
10. Payroll Taxes	5,000	6,235	3,100	3,063	3,000
11. Employee Benefits	2,200	2,158	1,800	1,706	2,600
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>					
1. Telephone	1,500	2,091	1,200	1,149	1,200
2. Stationery & Postage	7,000	6,676	7,500	7,239	5,800
3. Candles & Flowers	600	536	1,300	1,207	2,100
4. Bookstore	1,000	971	1,900	1,881	1,500
5. Paperware & Supplies	2,500	621	2,200	2,165	1,500
6. Activities	2,000	1,834	2,200	2,195	3,200
<u>ASSESSMENTS</u>					
1. Diocesan Dues	20,000	21,500	20,000	23,111	20,000
<u>EDUCATIONAL</u>					
1. Sunday School	2,000	1,580	2,000	907	2,000
2. Armenian School	1,000	-	1,000	-	1,000
3. St. Nersess Seminary	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
<u>CHURCH BUILDING EXPENSES</u>					
1. Mortgage Payments	50,000	2,066	29,800	33,580	27,300
2. Utilities					
A. Gas & Electric	35,000	15,401	25,000	22,181	16,000
B. Water	400	261	300	223	400
3. Insurance	15,000	9,741	8,000	3,760	4,500
4. Repair, & Maintenance	15,000	4,722	7,000	6,835	6,000
5. Snow Removal	1,000	480	1,000	400	600
6. Memorial	-	214	1,000	-	9,000
7. Loan & Exchange	-	-	-	7,872	-
8. Miscellaneous	2,600	2,694	500	424	9,000
9. A.C.E.F.	-	-	-	1,125	-
Total	\$ <u>237,300</u>	\$ <u>148,869</u>	\$ <u>185,200</u>	\$ <u>180,618</u>	\$ <u>185,750</u>

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1986  
BUDGET AND INCOME FOR THE YEARS 1984 & 1985

	PROPOSED 1986	ACTUAL 1985	BUDGET 1985	ACTUAL 1984	BUDGET 1984
<u>PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS</u>					
1. Pledge Receipts	\$ 47,200	\$ 46,781	\$ 45,000	\$ 43,772	\$ 40,200
2. Plates & Candles	8,900	8,495	8,500	7,863	7,000
3. Christmas Offering	2,200	2,186	2,100	2,035	1,300
4. Easter Offerings	2,800	2,815	2,200	2,135	2,400
5. Prayers	600	605	500	490	600
<u>SACRAMENTS</u>					
1. Baptism	1,500	1,450	1,500	1,480	2,100
2. Weddings	3,800	4,770	2,800	2,795	1,700
3. Funerals	500	600	500	1,010	500
4. Requiems	3,100	3,060	3,300	3,315	3,300
<u>AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS</u>					
1. Women's Guild	11,400	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
2. Avak Society	2,000	-	1,500	1,500	1,500
3. A.C.Y.O.A.	-	-	500	-	500
4. Men's Club	17,000	12,300	13,000	13,000	13,000
<u>CHURCH AFFAIRS</u>					
1. Bazaar	50,000	31,642	34,000	33,787	38,000
2. Memorial Day Picnic	6,000	5,996	3,000	1,015	3,000
3. Anniversary Cake	10,000	10,936	5,800	5,793	4,100
4. Oriental Rug Sale	25,000	-	12,000	11,000	21,000
<u>DONATIONS</u>					
1. In Lieu of Flowers	8,000	8,030	9,000	9,003	6,200
2. Altar Flowers	1,300	1,313	1,600	1,615	1,400
3. Memorial Fund	10,000	16,650	5,000	5,650	10,000
4. Holiday Flowers	1,100	960	1,200	1,225	800
5. Christmas Greetings	1,300	1,248	1,200	1,238	1,700
6. Other donations	4,500	4,561	2,700	2,655	2,200
7. A.C.E.F.	1,100	-	-	1,125	8,000
<u>OTHER INCOME</u>					
1. Interest A.C.E.F. & Repo	4,000	4,519	12,000	13,689	16,000
2. Bookstore	1,000	606	1,200	1,169	2,000
3. One World Festival	1,000	930	-	1,438	1,400
4. Hall Donation	10,000	885	4,000	3,820	5,200
5. Loan & Exchange	-	1,292	-	7,872	-
6. Miscellaneous	2,000	2,094	2,100	2,292	3,300
Total	\$ 237,300	\$ 183,724	\$ 185,200	\$ 192,781	\$ 207,400
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ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH BUILDING COMMITTEE CASH REPORT

November 1982 to December 31, 1985

Checks Received:

Pledges	\$ 402,499.00
Loan from First Fidelity Bank	200,000.00
Loan from Trustees	150,568.20
Interest from Investmen	21,799.30
Affairs	4,535.22
Jokes	49.41
Profit Sharing	100.00
Cake Sale	<u>6,817.00</u>

Total Deposit \$ 786,368.13

Disbursement:

Building Expansion "Contract"	\$ 609,005.00
Kitchen Equipment	20,698.00
Water Retention	16,196.20
Interest Expense	1,554.79
Prof. Luder, Avakian, Ziegler, Hurban, Lyon	50,635.00
Permits	2,508.98
Stationery and Postage	655.07
Affairs	5,126.16
Heating S &tem	32,906.10
Railing	4,400.00
Payment to Trustees	15,568.20
Telephone System	<u>1,125.60</u>

Total Disbursement \$ 760,379.10

Cash Balance after Disbursement 25,989.03

Investment -

Bank Balance \$ 25,989.03

Pledges 761,035.00

Received 402,499.00

Balance to be received 358,536.00

CASPAR M. KASPARIAN MEMORIAL FUND

The memorial fund was established in 1979 with the purpose of providing scholarship assistance for the youth of St. Thomas Parish to attend religious stud (conferences, retreats and other educational activities in the church.

During the summer 17 youngsters were awarded scholarship assistance by the Board of Directors to attend the St. Nersess Summer Study Program in New Rochelle, New York. Some of the participants were attending for the first time. While attending these conferences the young people receive the opportunity to learn more about the Armenian Church while also having the opportunity of sharing their St. Nersess experience with youngsters from other Armenian communities in the United States and Canada. During the past six years our fund has assisted over 90 youngsters from our parish in this manner.

The sixth annual retreat for junior high age young people was held during the weekend of Nov. 22-24 at the Ouzconian House of St. Nersess Seminary. Eleven youngsters from our parish participated, six of whom were attending for the first time. The retreat was led by Fr. Mardiros Chevian, Rector of the Seminary, Fr. Arnak was present on Friday evening fielding questions from the young people.

The participants attended Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning in the Seminary Chapel. The celebrant was Fr. Mardiros, with all of the youngsters receiving Holy Communion.

The retreat provided the Jr. High students an opportunity for Christian fellowship and growth in a relaxed and comfortable setting. The fund contributed to the participation of each teenager.

Those attending the retreat were Daniel Babigian, Eric Barsamian, Claudine Bogosian, Melanie Damergy, Crissy Derderian, Ara Hallajian, Marian Jebejian, Maral Kazanjian, Tracy Kashishian, Gregory Papazian and Thomas Papazian. Chaperoning and cooking for the weekend was done by Mrs. Lillian Kasparian and Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian assisted by Mrs. Rose Mekenian and Mr. George Mekenian.

Members of the Board of Directors are, Father Arnak Kasparian, President Ex-officio; Zaven Dadekian, Deacon Joseph Kalemkerian, Lillian Kasparian and George Mekenian.

FINANCIAL REPORT

1985 Activities	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
Interest from principal	*		
Donations	\$ 540.00		
1985 St. Nersess Scholarships		\$ 730.00	
1985 Fall Retreat		522.09	
Miscellaneous		11.00	
	<u>\$ 540.00</u>	<u>1,263.09</u>	
Net (Donations + Income Less Expenses)			(723.09)
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<u>Assets on December 31, 1984</u>			
Armenian Church Endowment Fund		14,000.00*	
Checking Account (1st Fidelity Bank)		<u>2,955.88</u>	16,955.88
<u>Assets on December 31, 1985</u>			
Armenian Church Endowment Fund		14,000.00	
Checking Account		<u>2,232.79</u>	16,232.79
<u>Changes in Assets</u>			
Principal		540.00	
Operating Funds		<u>(1263.09)</u>	
		<u>(723.09)</u>	

\* Income for 1985 to be remitted in 1986

ARMENIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT - 1985

The Armenian Language School is an integral part of our Parish, teaching our children the basics of their language and instilling pride and knowledge of their ethnic heritage. The School's success can be credited to the efforts of its Superintendent, Sylva Der Stepanian; its dedicated faculty; the Mother's Committee, Lucy Nakashian, our Parish Council liaison; and the parents who faithfully bring their willing children to class each week.

The School annually sponsors an Armenian Christmas Dinner and program, a hantes and graduation in June, a booth at the Church Bazaar, representation at the Diocesan Assembly, holiday parties for the children, visits to the Diocese, participation in the April 24th, 70th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The students also entertained at the Palm Sunday anniversary dinner and two of our students presented a talk to the Women's Guild on their visit to Armenia. A special class has been inaugurated especially for non-Armenian speaking students with an emphasis on conversation. Our successful Club (after-school lunch activities) has temporarily been inactive due to the Building Expansion.

At its Armenian Christmas Dinner, the School has established the George Shahinian Award for Perfect Attendance, the Edward Bashian Award for Achievement in Armenian History, the Rupen Saddler Award for Armenian Reading, and this year, the Dr. Harout and Shake Mekhjian Armenian Spelling Award.

FACULTY

Nursery: S. Jebejian	Pre-K: S. Yumusacikyan	K - A. Nahabedian
1 - Q. Tashjian	2 - A. Mardirosian	3 - M. Zokian
4 - L. Jambazian	5 - M. Tashjian	6 - M. Hajakian
7 - O. Jebejian	Conv: H. Mangasarian	Alumni Aides
Mother's Comm: A. Capan, M. Babigian, S. Yavru-Sakuk		
Treas.: Mary Ann Saraydarian		

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance from June 1985 \$ 1,079.06

INCOME

Tuition 65 x \$75.00 Regular		
4 x \$75.00 Conversation	\$ 5,175.00	
Mekhjian Endowment	419.59	
Shahinian Endowment	500.00	
Donations	1,250.00	
Bazaar	780.00	
Memorial Donation-Elize Barsoumian	180.00	
Armenian Christmas Dinner	5,784.00	
Hantes (Estimated)	750.00	
		14,658.59

EXPENSES

Salaries (11x31 weeks x \$25.00)	8,525.00
Diocesan Book Store	994.70
Armenian Christmas Dinner	2,931.54
Building Fund Donation	2,000.00
Holiday Parties	236.40
Baikar Subscription	40.00
Supplies	90.48
Fliers-Publicity	190.25
Bus-Taranto	165.00
	15,233.37

ESTIMATED BALANCE - JUNE 1985 \$ 604.28

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - 1985

### A. Church School

The Church School began its academic year on October 6, one month later than usual because of the building expansion, with an enrollment of approximately 97 students (compared to 98 last year.) The students are divided into 10 classes. Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 10:30 to noon, concurrently with the Divine Liturgy. The students' courses of study are prescribed by the Diocese, and include the Faith, doctrine and teachings of the Armenian Church, Biblical study and history, Armenian Church history and Christian living. Regular church attendance and reception of the Sacraments is at the center of the Church School program.

One of the goals of the Church School is to help its young people develop into worshipping members of the Armenian Church. To further this end, the students in grades 5 and up regularly sing with the choir during the Badarak, to familiarize them with the hymns and songs of our worship. Students of the eighth, ninth and tenth grades read the Old Testament Scripture lessons during the Christmas Eve and Easter Eve services.

The ST. THOMAS SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS, a publication of the fifth grade class continued to be produced, under the direction of teacher Douglas Martaian.

Three young people received their Diocesan graduation diplomas in June, upon completion of all the requirements for graduation, including a year of service to the parish. Two of these young people continue to serve the parish as co-teachers in the Church School.

The Church School is blessed with dedicated teachers who try to provide our children with a firm Christian foundation, specially by their own example. Their devotion deserves the thanks and gratitude of the entire St. Thomas family. The staff meets periodically for meetings. Six staff members participated in the Department of Religious Education regional workshop in November, and several participated in a special D.R.E. program for teachers in May at Holy Martyrs Church.

For more than ten consecutive years, the students have been buying gifts and food-stuffs for needy families at Christmas. This project is coordinated through the Division of the Youth and Family Services of the state of N.J. Food stuffs were also collected in April and May, and again prior to Thanksgiving and were given to the Center for Food Action in Englewood.

A trip to the Emerson Home for the Armenian Aged took place in March, allowing the children to meet with some of the residents. The students sang some Badarak songs, prayed and worshipped with the residents, and then socialized with them before returning to St. Thomas.

A program to train youngsters to serve as acolytes during the Divine Liturgy continued throughout the year. At present, 6 boys and three girls in grades 5-8 serve on a regular rotation.

Annual events of the Church School include Armenian Christmas Eve luncheon/supper, Easter Communion breakfast, Pot Luck Supper, Christmas program, bus trip to St. Vartan Cathedral for Poon Paregentan, and graduation reception. Parents of the children coordinated these various events. We are thankful for the cooperation of the entire parish family which ensures the success of these events.

## B. Adult Education

The Bible study group met on a weekly basis from January to June. The resumption of their sessions in the fall was delayed because of the building construction. The group explores and studies our Christian faith based upon the Holy Scriptures, as it finds its expression in the Armenian Church.

The newsletter DAY BY DAY continued to serve as a means of helping families learn and grow together in their Faith. DAY BY DAY is mailed to all members of St. Thomas. Another periodical, AVEDIS, a mini-magazine for adults, was made available to all church School families and any other interested parishioners.

Louise Kalemkerian, Director of Religious Education

### CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent	Louise Kalemkerian
Kindergarten	Alin Papazian and Tania Mekhjian
First Grade	Vicky Natale
Second Grade	Irene Khoroizian and Suzanne Iskenderian
Third Grade	Marilou Pinajian and Stephanie Ekizian
Fourth Grad	Thomas Merjanian
Fifth Grade	Douglas Martaian
Sixth Grade	Stephen Jarahian
Seven Grade	Sona Damergy
Eighth-Ninth Grade	June Kashishian
Tenth Grade	Lori Kalemkerian
Eleventh Grade/Advisor	Yeretsgin Violet Kasparian
Sec'y/Treas.	Jeanette Ekizian

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance on hand 1985			\$ 373.04
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	
Offerings	395.22		
Lenten Offerings	64.42	65.00	
Food	50.00	336.28	
Unicef	86.90		
Torigian Award	100.00	100.00	
Donations	100.00		
Skating & Bowling	200.00	409.20	
Postage		119.31	
Entertainment-Clown		35.00	
Supplies		58.15	
Misc.		14.50	
	\$ 996.54	\$ 1,137.44	
Balance in Bank			\$ 232.14



ST. THOMAS MEN'S CLUB REPORT - 1985

Chairman:	Ara Pekmezian	Membership:	Paul Pinajian
Vice Chmn.:	Mike Fenarjian	Publicity:	Matthew Keshishian
Record. Secy.:	Artie Azarik	Corr. Secy:	Arman Ajamian
Treasurer:	Jack Ekizian		

The past year has been one of significant activity and accomplishment in the Club's history. The most recent priority was to hopefully perform a miracle with a "Johnny on the Spot" work force to prepare the Church Hall and new kitchen facilities for the annual Bazaar. There was a great deal of energy and quick responsiveness devoted to this demand. Time was short but the Men's Club we're on the move and this miracle was indeed accomplished. The task involved removing and carting away of the old floor tiles, removing curtains, drapes, the moving of heavy kitchen equipment, relocation of cooking stove, mopping, cleaning, vacuuming, broom, dust pan, shoveling, setting-up tables and chairs, sterilizing the new kitchen and I can go on.

Those of you who participated, I personally say thank you and there were some who were not Men's Club members. In addition, members were motivated by the Raffle Booklet Chairman to sell booklets at \$10.00 each. We also asked for donations for the Wheel of Fortune Prize Booth and finally a donation BAR was set-up. All proven dollar profits by sales and donation, another plus for the Men's Club . . . . . Bravo . . . . .

Activities, Programs, Special Events and Accomplishments - 1985

Our Club provided the Chairperson for the St. Thomas Annual Memorial Day Picnic and annual car raffle-1985 Audi 5000S fully equipped. Three engraved plaques were presented, one for our Sports Representative and the remaining two for the Church Basketball Team Coaches. Cotillion booklet donation, Men's Club Catskill sports week-end, Men's Bowling Team, Men's Club Family Picnic, Sponsorship of all Church Youth Sports Activities, Fund Raiser sales of Calligraphy name and address stamps, half and half raffles, arranged special invited guest speakers "Five Armenians Go For Mt. Ararat", trimming of landscape shrubs and trees on Church grounds, Annual Men's Club Christmas Party in addition our monthly meetings with cooking and cleaning, etc.

Lastly, as 1985 has drawn to a close and so my two year term as Chairman. I would like to take a moment to thank all of you for the excellent help and support you've given me. As always we face new challenges for the year ahead and look forward to continued success with the St. Thomas Men's Club.

TURN PAGE FOR FINANCIAL REPORT . . . . .

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1984

\$ 818.77

	Income	Expenses
Membership dues	540.00	
Postage		90.00
Dinner Meetings	1,004.00	921.50
Name and Address Stamps	1,270.00	391.50
Men's Club Bowling Donation to St. Thomas	500.00	500.00
Half and Half Raffle	830.00	78.00
Men's Club Picnic	111.00	100.00
Bergen County Parks Comm.	40.00	60.00
St. Thomas ACYOA Sports Activities		1,457.00
Women's Guild Cotillion Ad		100.00
Men's Club Memorial Flowers		25.00
Men's Club Awards		79.80
Christmas Party	1,915.00	1,897.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 6,210.00	\$ 5,700.30

Balance on hand Dec.31, 1985

\$ 1,328.47

CAR RAFFLE

Sale of tickets	\$ 30,000.00	
Savings Acct. and Interest	631.82	
Purchase of Car		\$ 18,350.00
Printing of tickets		80.00
License for raffle		205.00
Turned over to St. Thomas		11,800.00
Balance in Savings as of 7/5/85		196.82
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 30,631.82	\$ 30,631.82

WOMEN'S GUILD REPORT - 1985

Executive Board Officers: (Elected)

Chairman: Violet Kasparian  
Vice-Chairman: Alyce Parseghian  
Rec. Secy.: Mary Ann Sara Qarian  
Corr. Secy.: Paula Keosayian

Treasurer: Sonia Takoushian  
Asst. Treas.: Shakae Shahinian Fuhrmann  
Member: Anna Maksian  
Member: Seta Jebejian  
Member: Sonia Tashjian

Standing Committee Chairpersons: (Appointed)

Bridge: Hermine Ajemian  
C.W.U. Bertha Vanishkhian  
Devotionals: Marion Babigian  
Emerson Home Violet Ouzonian  
Historian: Dikris Malool  
Hospitaliy : Seta Izmirly

Programs: Alyce Parseghian  
Membership: Sona Doudoukjian  
Publicity: Martha Saraydarian  
Soc. Serv.: Queenie Tashjian  
Sun. Coffee: Margaret Minassian  
Sunshine: Martha Conway

Eight regular monthly meetings were held during the year, generally on the third Tuesday. The Executive Board convened as needed. Activities and programs for the year included:

Fish and Chips Supper  
28th Annual Cotillion  
Bus Trip to Mohonk  
Christmas Luncheon  
Holiday Fruit & Nut Sale  
Reception for Der Mardiros Chevian

Membership Tea  
"Life of Gomidas" lecture by His Grace,  
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Joint Bar-B-Q with Men's Club  
Theater Party to New York

Our members participated in Church Women United activities during the year; we also participated in the Women Saints Day at St. Vartan Cathedral. Two lovely tables of refreshments were prepared and served to the residents of the Emerson Home following services on Holy Thursday and on Christmas. Our members also take an active leadership role in providing "birthday" celebrations for the residents of the Home.

Once again we fulfilled our 1985 pledge to St. Thomas Armenian Church in the amount of \$9,000.00, and continued to support a student at the St. Takmanchatz School in Jerusalem. \$10,000.00 was given by the Women's Guild to the Building Fund.

Refreshments were provided for the Sunday School and the Armenian School Students at Halloween. Our members were instrumental in the success of the annual Bazaar and manned the Gourmet Booth at the Memorial Day Picnic. Members Prepare and serve coffee following church services for the Fellowship Hour.

Our delegates to the Diocesan Guild Conference at Holy Martyrs included Yeretzgin Violet Kasparian, Rose Mekenian and Alyce Parseghian.

We had 150 members in 1985, including 1 new member.

Our thanks and appreciation to each of our members and friends for their continued cooperation and support in our efforts to perpetuate the Guild traditions of fellowship and service.

WOMEN'S GUILD TREASURER'S REPORT - 1985

Balance on Hand, January 1, 1985

\$ 3,303.12

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>
St. Thomas Pledge		\$ 9,000.00
Building Fund		10,000.00
Dues/Membership Tea	\$ 1,260.00	89.50
Meeting Refreshments		128.57
Emerson Home Visits		17.30
Postage/Stamps/Flyers		201.39
Speaker January Meeting		50.00
Transferred from IMM	17,000.00	
Publicity		10.00
Theater Party - La Cage	1,750.00	1,523.00
Misc. Film/Prints		95.59
Gourmet Session/Gift		32.30
Holiday Fruits & Nuts	4,348.75	2,972.70
Saints Day	224.00	224.00
Fish'n Chips Dinner	1,276.50	695.07
Papzian Concert	175.00	235.00
Interest Income IMM Transferred	211.45	
Sept. Bus Trip	880.00	831.70
Gomidas Lecture	75.00	29.82
Sunday Coffee		50.11
Church Women United - 5th Decade		100.00
Church Women United Dues		50.00
Church Women United-Misc. Spring Luncheon	13.50	38.50
Delegates Registration Fee		10.00
St. Takmanchatz School 1984-85 Student Fee		75.00
Der Mardiros Reception		164.35
Fr. Dajad 25th Anniversary		114.25
In lieu of flowers - Mrs. Garabedian		25.00
Halloween - Church children		75.73
Interest Income Checking	244.64	
Christmas Luncheon	2,650.00	2,363.17
Misc.	50.00	
Misc. Payment stopped		25.00
Misc. Insufficient Funds		18.00
	<u>\$ 30,158.84</u>	<u>\$ 29,245.05</u>

Balance on Hand December 31, 1985

\$ 4,216.91

Insured Money Market

Balance on Hand January 1, 1985

8,958.09

\$ 8,958.09

Cotillion Income

10,000.00

Interest Income

781.05

\$ 19,739.14

Transferred to Checking

17,000.00

Balance on Hand December 31, 1985

\$ 2,739.14