

**32ND ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY  
ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
Sunday, February 2, 1997 following Church Service**

**AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Verification of Eligible Voters
3. Lunch & Voting
4. 31th Parish Assembly Minutes
  - a) Session I
  - b) Session II
5. Pastor's Report
6. Calendar of Events
7. Parish Council Report
8. Financial Summary
9. Approval of Proposed Budget for 1997
10. Audit Report (will be inserted February 2, 1997)
11. Old Business
12. New Business
13. Architectural & Facilities Mgmt. Committee
14. Building Maintenance
15. Church Grounds-Landscaping
16. ACEF Fund
17. Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund
18. Vahan Barsamian Memorial Fund
19. George Shahinian Memorial Fund
20. Martin "Sonny" Tashjian Memorial Fund
21. Peter Ajemian Memorial Fund
22. Organization Reports
  - a) ACYOA Jrs.
  - b) Avak Society
  - c) Choir
  - d) Christian Education (Sunday School)
  - e) Family Auxiliary of St. Thomas
  - f) Kirikian Armenian School
  - g) Mens Club
  - h) Women's Guild
23. Announcement of Election Results
24. Closing Prayer/Adjournment

**ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
31th PARISH ASSEMBLY  
SESSION I - SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 1996**

Chairman Leon Nigohosian opened the meeting with V. Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. V. Anoushian offering the opening prayer. He then asked Aram Setian and Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk to determine the existence of quorum (minimum of 50 paid-up members). It was determined that a sufficient number of paid-up members was present to establish a quorum.

Chairman Nigohosian stated that a complete list of those eligible to vote in the election and participate in the 1996 Parish Assembly meetings, was available for those wishing to examine it. He also notified those present that the Parish Assembly Annual Reports were available and were being distributed one per family. He also stated that the reports were required to be brought back the following week, February 4th, as duplicates would not be issued. Chairman Nigohosian thanked Secretary Madlen Setian for her excellent job in preparing last year's minutes of the Parish Assembly.

Chairman Nigohosian stated that the Parish Assembly meeting would be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws of the Eastern Diocese and guided by Roberts Rules of Order. He gave explicit instructions on how to be recognized if intending to address the Assembly.

Andy Ouzoonian made a motion to suspend the reading of the 30th Parish Assembly (1995) minutes until February 4. Dr. Levon Capan seconded and the motion was carried.

Nominating Committee Chairlady Marie Zokian presented the following candidates for Parish Council: Ann Ajemian, Arpie Arslanian, Dr. Levon Capan, Lusi Ezgilioglu, Zivart Gulian, Grace Hagopian, Ani Hamparsumian, Irma Saganda, Susan Shamamian, and Sirapi Yildiz; for Nominating Committee: Jeannie Amerkanian, Natalie Capan, Sylva Assadourian, Vicken Ezgilioglu, Aida Bozyan, Aida Kilerciyan, Manuk Camcikyan, Lucy Piligian and Mary Sanossian. Andy Ouzoonian called for a Point of Order. He asked when would nominations from the floor be held. Chairman Nigohosian replied that they would be held after the presentation of all the candidates. Mrs. Zokian continued presenting the candidates for Auditing Committee: Vicken Ezgilioglu, Hovsep Taktajian; for Parish Assembly Chairman: Leon Nigohosian, Harry Sanossian; for Parish Assembly Secretary: Martha Saraydarian. The Chairman instructed all candidates to stand in the front in order to be recognized. Chairman Nigohosian stated that the floor was open for nominations. Shakae Shahinian nominated Andy Ouzoonian for 1997 Parish Assembly Chairman. The Chairman asked Mr. Ouzoonian to come to the front to be recognized. He asked Parish Council candidates to see Haig Kupelian at the conclusion of the meeting for the purpose of having their pictures taken.

Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk made a motion to close the nominations which was seconded by Dr. Capan. The motion carried.

Andy Ouzoonian asked at what time the voting would commence on February 4. John Bashian made a motion to set the voting time on February 4, to begin at 12:00 Noon and end at 2:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Hovsep Taktajian. The motion carried.

Susan Shamamian made a motion to adjourn the January 23, 1996 meeting and it was seconded by Dr. Yavru-Sakuk. The motion carried.

Martha Saraydarian asked what time the meeting will start on February 4. Dr. Capan made a motion, seconded by Henry Hagopian, to start the business meeting on February 4 at 2:15 P.M. The motion was carried. Ann Ajemian announced that lunch would be served during the voting period on February 4.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 P.M. with a closing prayer delivered by Fr. Papken.

Respectfully submitted,

Madlen Setian  
Secretary 1996  
Parish Assembly

Leon Nigohosian  
Chairman 1996  
Parish Assembly

V.Rev.Fr. Papken  
Dz.V. Anoushian  
Pastor and President  
1996 Parish Assembly

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
31th PARISH ASSEMBLY  
SESSION II - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1996

Chairman Leon Nigohosian opened the meeting and announced the names of the officers. Himself as Chairman, V. Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. V. Anoushian, President, and Madlen Setian as Secretary. He then asked the present members to raise their hands to be counted in order to determine the existence of a quorum. A quorum was established. Chairman Nigohosian explained, in Armenian, that an Armenian interpreter was available if needed.

Fr. Papken delivered the opening prayer.

Chairman Nigohosian stated that the Parish Assembly Annual Reports were available, one per family. He instructed those present that the voting would commence at 12:00 Noon and last until 2:00 P.M. Those on line at 2:00 P.M. would still be entitled to vote. The business meeting would resume at 2:15 P.M. He also stated that a list of those eligible to vote in the election was available for inspection during the entire meeting. The Chairman declared a recess until 2:15 P.M.

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The meeting was reconvened by Chairman Nigohosian at 2:15 P.M. He reminded everyone about the availability of the annual reports, the revised Choir report and the Auditing Committee report. He thanked the Lunch Committee for their efforts and good job in serving lunch.

Chairman Nigohosian gave clear instructions on the protocol of being recognized when wishing to address the assembly. He then asked Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk and Aram Setian to ascertain the existence of a quorum. A quorum was established. Chairman Nigohosian asked Dr. Yavru to inform and remind all those remaining outside, who were eligible to vote, that the meeting is in session. Dr. Yavru complied.

V. Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. Vartabed Anoushian offered the opening prayer.

Chairman Nigohosian reminded everyone that the meeting would be held in accordance with the By-Laws of the Eastern Diocese and guided by Roberts Rules of Order.

Virginia Victoria made a motion to close the voting, seconded by Richard Saraydarian. The motion carried by a two thirds (2/3) vote.

Chairman Nigohosian noted that so far items 1 through 3 had been covered, and proposed that the order of the Agenda be modified with the following amendments:

that item # 18 be inserted after # 3 and would become # 3A,

that items # 4,5,6,7,8 would remain unchanged,  
that item # 19 would follow # 8, and be relabelled # 8 A,  
that item # 20 would be relabelled # 8 B,  
that item # 21 would be relabelled # 8 C,  
that item # 22 would be relabelled # 8 D,  
numbers 9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16, and 17, would remain unchanged,  
item # 23 would be renumbered # 18,  
item # 24 would be renumbered # 19,

items # 20 to # 24 are canceled, the purpose of which was to leave coverage of the Committee Reports till almost last, allowing more important items to be discussed first.

Susan Shamamian made a motion to change the agenda as indicated by Mr. Nigohosian. Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk seconded and the motion carried.

Ara Babigian requested to review the St. Thomas Membership List and he did so.

Chairman Nigohosian entertained a motion to dispense with the reading of last year's 1995 Parish Assembly Minutes if there were no questions or comments.

Haroutioun Diratzouian made a motion to dispense with the reading of last year's 1995 Parish Assembly Minutes. Sylva Torosian seconded and the motion carried.

Yg. Violet Kasparian raised a question about Library Funds located on page 27 of the report. Chairman Nigohosian replied that this issue would be discussed during the Auditing Committee's report.

Andy Ouzoonian made a Point of Order regarding additions or deletions to the minutes. Chairman Nigohosian asked again for any addition or deletions to the minutes. A motion was made again by Susan Shamamian to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Sylva Torosian seconded and the motion carried.

The Chairman invited V. Rev.Fr. Papken Dz.V. Anoushian to make his report. Fr. Anoushian took the floor and gave his report both in English and Armenian. He did not reiterate the written portion of his report, but offered his thanks to the Altar Guild for their care of the St. Thomas Altar, as well as sewing and maintaining the clergy and altar server vestments.

Fr. Papken highlighted the approximately \$62,000 surplus, the \$71,000 in the Building Fund and the substantial Emergency Fund. He emphasized the need for a surplus during the three "dry" summer months when parishioners are away and revenues are scarce. He also noted that last year's expenses were budgeted for \$299,000 and the actual expenses were \$263,000, which is quite a saving. He wholeheartedly thanked the Parish Council and all the other organizations for all their good work.

Susan Shamamian noted an error in the Pastor's Report in the first paragraph, second line. The amount should be \$71,550 and not \$7,000 as reported. Yg. Violet Kasparian noted that on the second page of the Pastor's Report, next to the last line, the word altar was misspelled with an E instead of an A. She also remarked that a Diocesan Report should be included.

Ara Babigian asked where the three figures, mentioned in the first paragraph of Pastor's Report came from. The Chairman replied that an explanation will given by Grace Hagopian, Treasurer. There were no comments on the Calendar of Events.

Chairman Nigohosian invited Parish Council Chairman Dr. Levon Capan to render his report.

Dr. Capan expressed his delight as he reiterated the \$62,000 surplus, the \$71,000 Building Fund and the Emergency Fund. He observed that expenses for 1995 were \$36,000 less than projected for in the budget, since \$263,000 was spent rather than the \$299,000 proposed. He attributed this to good revenues and frugal spending practices, especially in the kitchen area.

Dr. Capan extended his appreciation to all the people for their devoted work, and to the ladies who volunteer their time and services to the Altar Guild, kitchen work, administrative and office work, Armenian School and Sunday School. He also thanked the men for their personal contributions and for supporting their wives in their volunteer work, sometimes taking time away from their family life.

Dr. Capan thanked Fr. Papken for being the ideal clergyman, with wisdom and straightforwardness. He also conveyed his appreciation to the Parish Council for all their efforts and credited the Parish Council members for much of the success as a result of all their work.

Mr. Ara Babigian stated that the names and positions of all the Parish Council members were omitted from the report. Dr. Capan replied by mentioning all the names of the Parish Council members as follows:

Virginia Victoria	Vice Chairman, Sunday School Liaison
Grace Hagopian	Treasurer
Madlen Setian	Recording Secretary, Armenian School Liaison
Susan Shamamian	Correspondence Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary, Choir Liaison
Richard Saraydarian	Men's Club Liaison
Ann Ajemian	Women's Guild Liaison
Arpie Arslanian	Assistant Treasurer
Jack Torosian	Building Committee, Arcnitectural Management Facilities Liaison
Mari Camcikyan	Family Auxiliary and Avaks Liaison
Leon Nigohosian	Assistant Recording Secretary, Trustees Liaison

Albert Victoria asked if Dr. Capan or Fr. Papken would give a report on the Diocesan Assembly, since many serious financial matters were discussed. Dr. Capan replied that he had not prepared one, but since Mr. Victoria was also a Diocesan Delegate he could also report on the Diocesan Assembly. Mr. Victoria declined.

Yg. Kasparian asked why the Parish Council Chairman's Report is not signed by the Pastor/President or the Secretary since the report was made on behalf of all Parish Council members. Dr. Capan replied that this would be corrected in the future.

Violet Ouzoonian noted that under the Kasparian Fund Report on page 4, Lillian Chapien's daughter was not mentioned. She suggested the daughter be thanked, as well as the two sons, for the Kasparian Fund installation of the Closed-Circuit T.V. Dr. Capan replied that had he known Mrs. Chapien had a daughter he would have thanked also.

Chairman Nigohosian asked if there were any questions on the Board of Trustees Report. There were none.

Mr. Nigohosian stated that the next item to be discussed would be # 8 A (old #19) the Proposed Budget. He invited Grace Hagopian, Treasurer to the microphone. She explained that the \$12,000 out of the \$13,000 income from Women's Guild, was to meet their 1995 pledge, and \$1,000 was assigned towards their 1996 pledge.

Al Victoria questioned the line regarding the Stewardship Program in 1995 and 1996. Mrs. Hagopian replied that there was no income derived from it in 1995, but that it was a projected activity for the 1996 Budget.

Ara Babigian noted that under the Income section, the Men's Club is listed as having donated 0 to the church when they have undertaken the expense of the St. Thomas Sports Teams in the amount of \$3,048, and the payment was made through the Church Treasury.

Mrs. Hagopian replied that the monies were given back as exchange checks for the Men's Club to pay the expenses of the St. Thomas Sports Teams, which they had undertaken to do. This year the payment was made through the Church Treasury as an exchange. The Men's Club gave the exact amount of \$3,048 in return for which they received an exchange check to pay the Sports Teams expenses. [Instead of paying the Sport Teams expenses directly as done in the past, the Church Treasurer was given a check in the exact amount, for which she issued another in exchange, to pay the Sports Teams debts]. The Men's Club money was specifically earmarked for this expense and not as a donation to the church. Since there were no additional funds for church use, this, therefore did not constitute income to the Church.

Jack Ekizian stated that last year the Parish Assembly approved the practice of the Men's Club giving monies to the Church and the Church would disburse the money for their activities. Chairman Nigohosian stated that this body did not act on that question and that Mr. Ekizian should have examined last year's Minutes. Since last year's Minutes were presented without changes, and Mr. Ekizian had an opportunity to act when the Minutes were presented, and since he didn't seize that opportunity he, therefore, was precluded.

Chairman Nigohosian read from last year's Minutes and stated that there was nothing in the Minutes as to what Mr. Ekizian was alluding to. He stated that these were pre-spent dollars and did not come to rest in the Treasury.

Ara Babigian read a follow-up letter dated 2/23/95 from Dr. Capan on behalf of the Parish Council, in which the Parish Council maintains its position of allowing the Men's Club to continue to pay for the Sports Teams expenses as it wishes. However, there was to be a change in the transmittal of funds which had to be executed through the Church Treasury.

Dr. Capan intervened stating that the question is immaterial and that nothing is changed. In the letter cited from last year, he stated that Men's Club should continue to pay the Sports Team's expenses as they did every year in the past. This expense was never included in the Treasurer's Budget.

Jack Ekizian stated that the \$3,100, plus the \$500 fee from last year which the Men's Club paid should be considered as income since there is no obligation for the Men's Club to do this. He stated the Men's Club is doing this because the Parish Council doesn't have the funds for this purpose. He continued stating that this was something the Parish Council had asked the Men's Club to do and it is income to the Church. He asked why didn't the Men's Club get credit for it.

Sirvart Demirjian, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, noted that since there are no additional funds forthcoming from the Men's Club for church use, aside from the amount used for the Sports Teams, this was not considered income.

Varujan Arslanian noted that he was concerned about the insubordinate practices of the Men's Club and he reflected that their habits would possibly set a bad example to the other organizations within the church.

Al Victoria stated that exchange practices should be consistent throughout the Budget and with our accounting procedures. Chairman Nigohosian agreed stating that we have only one bookkeeping system. Hovsep Taktajian, Auditing Committee member, stated that it is sufficient that the amount is mentioned in the overall Annual Report.

Grace Hagopian clarified that the net income from the Bookstore was \$4,361, and \$52,046 from the Hall Rentals. Miscellaneous Income included a payment from the will of Vehanoush Keshishian.

Andy Ouzoonian asked about a provision being made in the Budget for St. Nerses Seminary. Mrs. Hagopian replied that last year it was removed from the budget.

Ara Babigian asked why the \$24,000 in the Architectural Maintenance Facilities Reserve Fund was not listed under 1995 Actual Expenses. Mrs. Hagopian replied that it was a transfer to the Reserve Fund and it appears under Exhibit C, Fund Balances.

Yg. Kasparian asked where had the amount of \$612, on page 34 under Library Fund come from. Mrs. Hagopian replied that it was interest from the ACEF Kasparian Fund.

Ara Babigian asked where had the three figures in the Pastor's Report come from. Mrs. Hagopian replied that the \$71,550 was listed on page 34, Exhibit C under Architectural Maintenance Reserve; the Money Market was part of Exhibit A, Cash and Investments the breakdown was \$27,829 in Money Market account, Investments of \$140,000 and Interest on Investments \$4,320 for a total of \$172,150; and that the \$61,478 is the surplus as listed on the actual section of the Budget. In answer to the question raised by Al Victoria, Mrs. Hagopian replied that the monies were invested in Certificate of Deposit accounts (CD's).

Andy Ouzoonian made a motion to donate \$2,000 under Educational and Good Works, for St. Nerses Seminary. The motion was seconded by Yg. Violet Kasparian. The motion was defeated. A discussion developed upon the merits of this proposal. Violet Ouzoonian expounded upon the merits of St. Nerses. Dr. Capan stated that St. Thomas must be prepared financially for an unpredictable roof expense at this time. Sirvart Demirjian noted that St. Nerses benefits young adults only. She suggested that more concern and funds be allocated to the Sunday School and Armenian School teaching younger students to prepare them for St. Nerses. Hovsep Taktajian suggested that each member should make a discretionary decision to make an individual donation. He set the example by pledging \$50 to St. Nerses. Madlen Setian, St. Thomas Kirikian Armenian School Liaison, stated that the Armenian School budget is only half covered by students' tuition. The remaining half is raised through fund raising. Although allocating to the Kirikian Armenian School by the Church would be more appropriate at this time than a donation to St. Nerses, the Armenian School is not requesting this in order not to burden the Church.

Andy Ouzoonian stated that St. Nerses is a worthwhile organization and it is not just a seminary but a Youth Program also. He called for a vote count on the motion of donating \$2,000 to St. Nerses. The vote was 15 for and 42 against. The motion was defeated.

Virginia Victoria made a motion to donate \$1,000 to St. Nerses. Al Victoria seconded the motion. The vote was 21 for and 49 against. The motion was defeated.

Chairman Nigohosian asked for a motion to close the discussion on this subject. The motion was made and was seconded. The motion to stop the discussion was carried by a two thirds (2/3) vote.

Chairman Nigohosian asked for a motion to adopt the Proposed 1996 Budget with a 5% plus or minus margin of adjustment to be left at the discretion of the Parish Council. Dr. Yavru-Sakuk made the motion, as stated, seconded by Hovsep Taktajian. Andy Ouzoonian made a motion to amend the motion on the floor to reduce the margin to 2 and 1/2%. Jack Charshafian seconded. The motion on the 2 1/2% margin was defeated.

Chairman asked for a vote on the 1995 Proposed Budget with a 5% plus/minus margin. Dr. Yavru again made the motion with a 5 1/2% margin as stated, seconded by Hovsep Taktajian. The motion carried.

Sirvart Demirjian reported on the Auditing Committee Report, item 8B (old item 20).

Yg. Kasparian asked if any funds were found in the Library accounts, and if Douglas Martaian, Shake Mekhjian, 1989 Church Treasurer John Dederian, had been questioned. Mrs. Demirjian replied that no one had any information. Douglas Martaian was present and was questioned about the matter. He replied he had no knowledge on the subject whatsoever. Virginia Victoria, Library Committee Chairman, also stated that no monies or records have been found anywhere in the Church regarding the Library, after an extensive search and questioning. Chairman Nigohosian stated that the 1989 Auditing Committee should have been performed its duties at the time, and that it was unfair to question the present auditors so long after the fact since no records are in existence.

Sirvart Demirjian stated that there previously was \$5,000 in the Board of Trustees account. That money has since been transferred and there is no record of it now.

Dr. Capan reported that the \$5,001 in the Board of Trustees bank account had been disbursed with two signatures. The money was transferred into a Non-St.Thomas ACEF account. Dr. Capan listed three improper acts which had been committed with this transfer: 1. The persons who signed the check in June 1995, were no longer Board of Trustees members since February of 1995; 2. This action was against the St.Thomas rule and policy which prohibits any expenditure over \$500 without the permission of the Parish Council; 3. Those officers did not have the right to deposit the money into a Non-St.Thomas account, when it belonged to St. Thomas. He stated that the Parish Council will try to recover the money.

Seta Izmirly read a portion of the 1993 Parish Assembly Minutes to show that Nazar Nazarian donated \$5,000 earmarked specifically for the purpose of paying off the mortgage. Since the mortgage was paid, Mr. Nazarian considered that the money was no longer needed and placed the money into the ACEF Fund.

Chairman Nigohosian asked by what authority was the check turned over to the ACEF. Mrs. Izmirly replied that one of the signatures on the check was Mr. Nazarian's, and since the money was originally donated by him he could do as he chose.

Dr. Capan stated that this was St. Thomas money, and he remembered that this money was not earmarked as claimed by Mrs. Izmirly. It was donated so as to balance the Budget. He also stated that regardless whether the funds were earmarked or not, the Parish council should have been consulted and asked for its approval.

Ani Capan indicated that Mr. Varujan Arslanian also had donated \$5,000 and asked who could ascertain if the \$5,001 Board of Trustees fund placed in the ACEF Fund came from Varujan Arslanian's donation or from Nazar Nazarian's donation. She stated that the money could have been Mr. Arslanian's money. Fr. Papken replied that it very well may have been.

Varujan Arslanian stated that at the same Parish Assembly in 1993 when Mr. Nazarian donated 5,000 for the Building Fund, he, Mr. Arslanian, also donated \$5,000 toward the Board of Trustees for future expenses. Mr. Arslanian asked to know the names of these persons so that he can officially demand the money. Fr. Papken reassured Mr. Arslanian that the Parish Council is working on the matter, will try to recover the funds in question, and the matter will hopefully be resolved.

Mrs. Demirjian proposed that old canceled checks, records, and bank account statements from all St. Thomas organizations be kept on Church premises after the completion of each year. Hovsep Taktajian made a

motion that all organizations, upon the end-of-year audit, turn over all old records to the Parish Council to be archived at Church. Varujan Arslanian seconded the motion. Martha Saraydarian asked what problems have occurred to institute such a measure. Hovsep Taktajian replied that the whole Library Fund issue would have been avoided by this measure. Chairman Nigohosian asked on a vote on the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Nigohosian asked if there was any Old Business to discuss. There was none.

Chairman Nigohosian moved on to New Business.

Dr. Capan addressed the assembly with concerns about a movement in the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church to change the practices and traditions of the Church, including the language, appointing or ordaining women deacons and priests, etc. He stated that a group of committed members had drawn up a resolution maintaining the sanctity of the Divine Liturgy as it has been for the past 1700 years through many difficulties and sacrifices. He brought this Resolution in the form of a proposal to the Parish Assembly and stated that if voted upon and accepted, the Resolution would be forwarded to the Primate of the Eastern Diocese, the Catholicos of All Armenians and the Diocesan Assembly.

Chairman Nigohosian read aloud the Resolution in its entirety. A copy of the Resolution is attached to these Minutes.

Dr. Capan made a motion to present this Resolution to the Diocesan Assembly as a proposal. Dr. Yavru seconded. Al Victoria asked if Dr. Capan was objecting to the conduct of the service being in English. Dr. Capan replied that this is an Armenian Church and it will remain an Armenian Church. Mr. Vahan Soukiassian commented that "if they want to change the church, then they have to change the Church of Jesus Christ." Susan Shamamian asked if the Confession, Homily, Bible Readings, Sacraments, and Epistles would be in English. Chairman Nigohosian proposed amending the Resolution to include small sections in English. Dr. Capan stated that he opposed any modifications at present. Jack Charshafian stated that many young Armenians are leaving the church because of inter-marriages and that the Badarak is too long and that most people only stay for 20 minutes. Virginia Victoria interpreted the Resolution that Dr. Capan would like the Badarak to stay the same as it is in our Church, i.e. the Divine Liturgy would be all in Armenian, but the Homily, Epistles and Confession would continue to be both in English and Armenian. She suggested that the language in the Resolution be written more clear. Fr. Papken mentioned that recently the Presbyterian Pastor stated that members are leaving that church; when asked why, since their service is in English, the Presbyterian Pastor replied that leaving was the norm and the language was not the issue. Violet Ouzoonian stated that it is the responsibility of the parents to bring their children into the Armenian Church and keep them there. Fr. Papken made a note in reference to inter-marriages. He stated that once someone is married in the Armenian Church they become part of the flock. Samuel Demirjian noted that the Divine Liturgy books are both translated and transliterated into English and it is very easy for an English-speaking person to follow the Badarak in these books. He stated, while sobbing, that over the centuries Armenians have lost everything except our Armenian language. After a discussion about changes in the Church, the danger of the youth leaving, and English services, Chairman Leon Nigohosian concluded the discussion with an example of the American educational system which at one time had been number one in the world. He stated that standards and requirements were lowered years ago and students were offered a choice of taking easier courses. The result was that they were educated at a lower standard and the rank of the American education system was substantially lowered in the world. He maintained that we must raise the standards we hold our children to.

Chairman Nigohosian called for a vote on the resolution, with the modifications orally mentioned. The measure was carried unanimously.

Varujan Arslanian stated that he had a dream and a fond wish to have all parishioners join together, hand in hand, and that togetherness should prevail.

Dr. Capan stated that there was a St. Thomas Board of Trustees meeting in October during which several trustees raised the issue that the Board of Trustees is no longer a necessary organization. Dr. Capan reported that all members had been contacted and that 9 out of 11 trustees were in agreement with the recommendation to dissolve.

Arpie Arslanian, Board of Trustee member, made a motion to dissolve the St. Thomas Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Mari Camcikyan. Susan Shamamian stated the Board of Trustees organization was established by the Parish Assembly and only that body can dissolve it. The Chairman called for a vote on the motion to dissolve the Board of Trustees. The motion carried with one vote against.



There were no questions on the ACEF, Architectural and Facilities Management Committee, the Building Committee, Church Grounds, or the Caspar Kasparian Fund.

Mrs. Hagopian made a correction to the Vahan Barsamian Fund on page 9. The amount listed should be \$1,174 and not 1,147. The balance is \$370 as of December 31.

The Shahinian Fund Balance On Hand as of 12/31/94 is \$1,238, and the Balance On Hand as of 12/31/95 is \$1,728.

There were no questions about the Tashjian Fund, ACYOA Juniors, or Avaks.

Ms. Shamamian reported that the first half of the Choir Treasurer's Report was inadvertently left out. She made a motion of insert the corrected financial Choir Report, seconded by Sirvart Demirjian.

There were no questions on Christian Education or Family Auxiliary.

There was a correction made to the Kirikian Armenian School's Treasurer's Report. The amount under salaries should appear as ( \$730 x 34 ) and not ( 4730 x 34 ). Also the figures have been reversed for postage and cabinets. The correct numbers are \$130 for postage and \$900 for cabinets.

There were no questions on the Men's Club Report.

Violet Ouzoonian, Chairman of the Women's Guild on behalf of Mary Ann Saraydarian, former Women's Guild Chairman, stated that World Day of Prayer held in February of 1995 was omitted from the report and must be inserted. The chairperson of the event was Yg.Violet Kasparian, the leader was Queenie Tashjian and Fr. Papken presided.

Chairman Nigohosian called for a motion to be made specifying next year's Parish Assembly meetings. Andy Ouzoonian made a motion that next year the Parish Assembly meeting first session be held on the last Sunday in January, and that the second session be held on the first Sunday in February. Hovsep Taktajian seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Nigohosian invited Marie Zokian, Nominating Committee Chairman to announce the results of the election.

Mrs. Zokian announced the names of the following winners: For Parish Council: Ann Ajemian, Arpie Arslanian, Levon Capan, Grace Hagopian, Susan Shamamian, alternate Zivart Gulian; for Nominating Committee: Jeannie Amerkanian, Sylva Assadourian, Aida Bozyan, Aida Kilerciyan, Lucy Piligian; Auditing Committee: Hovsep Taktajian; Parish Assembly Chairman: Leon Nigohosian; Parish Assembly Secretary: Martha Saraydarian.

Chairman Nigohosian congratulated the winners and thanked the Nominating Committee.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Virginia Victoria, seconded by Albert Victoria. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned with a closing prayer being said by V. Rev.Fr. Papken Dz. V. Anoushian.

Respectfully submitted,

Madlen Setian  
Secretary 1996  
Parish Assembly

Leon Nigohosian  
Chairman 1996  
Parish Assembly

V.Rev.Fr.Papken  
Dz.V. Anoushian  
Pastor and President 1996  
Parish Assembly

## PASTOR'S REPORT

It is with a great sense of pride and accomplishment that I report to you today that our spiritual and financial aspects at St. Thomas Armenian Church are indeed very strong.

Undoubtedly it has been a pleasure and privilege for me to have served as Pastor of St. Thomas Armenian Church for more than five and a half years now. Ours is one of the largest parishes in the Diocese, with a multitude of programs and endeavors. As your shepherd, I have welcomed the tremendous challenge presented by such a growing and diversified flock, and thank God for the strength He has given me to carry out my pastoral and leadership duties. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Dr. Levon Capan, Parish Council Chairman, and to our very capable Parish Council members for all their dedicated and effective efforts.

My heartfelt thanks go to our Parish Council Chairman, Dr. Levon Capan, the Parish Council members and Diocesan Delegates, as well as to all our organizations and event chairpeople for their devoted service to St. Thomas this past year. Also, I wish to express deep appreciation to the countless volunteers who assisted in all areas and made such a special contribution to our success.

Listed below are highlights of the activities, projects and efforts in which I was involved in 1996:

**WORSHIP SERVICES:** The Divine Liturgy was conducted regularly every Sunday, according to the traditions and canons of the Armenian Church. I am pleased to report that our Deacon, stole-bearers, altar servers and choir also participated weekly with me in Morning Services prior to the Holy Liturgy and have steadily been increasing their a knowledge of church rituals. In addition, I am conducting a Deacons' Program.

**SACRAMENTAL SERVICES:** All sacramental services were performed in accordance with the rites, rituals and canons of the Armenian Church. During this past year, 33 baptisms, 11 marriages and 12 funerals took place.

**SPECIAL SERVICES:** Special services and feast days for the Nativity and Revelation of Christ our Lord (Armenian Christmas Eve and Day), Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter Eve and Day, Transfiguration, Assumption of St. Mary, the Mother of God, and Exaltation of the Holy Cross were all properly and conscientiously conducted as per our Church Calendar. On December 24, a special service was held on the occasion of St. Stepanos dedicated to all the Deacons of the Church, in addition to the traditional Christmas Eve services in English. For the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross a special service was held and was extremely well attended. On this occasion, as on Easter Sunday, the services were attended by overflow crowds. I am delighted that the congregation filled the church on all the other feast days as well.

**HOSPITAL & OLD AGE/NURSING HOME VISITATIONS:** Hospital visitations to the sick were done regularly, whenever we had knowledge that someone was ill. I also visited the sick and elderly at the Emerson Old Age/Nursing Home at least once a month. Services were held and Holy Communion was given there on Armenian Christmas and Holy Thursday.

**PUBLICATIONS:** The NOR TAR, our monthly St. Thomas publication, has been well received and contains parish news as well as educational and cultural material. Many thanks to all our writers for their contributions, and special appreciation to my capable Editorial Board: Madlen E. Setian, Managing Editor, and Seta Yavru-Sakuk, Graphic Arts/Illustrator. This year we realized approximately \$3,600 dollars in income from the solicitation of advertisements in the NOR TAR, through the efforts of Seta Yavru-Sakuk. This income has partially offset its publication cost since 1992. My heartfelt thanks to her for her dedicated service to our church newspaper.

**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN** has been published weekly to inform our faithful of important events, scriptures and liturgical information.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Our Sunday School continues to thrive under the leadership of Mrs. Shnorig Bashian, Director, and her dedicated staff of teachers. Their time and effort are truly appreciated. During their scholastic year I attended and supported all their events.

**KIRIKIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL:** The Armenian School also continues to flourish under the leadership of Mrs. Ani Capan, Superintendent, and her excellent faculty members. Their time and effort are truly appreciated. During their scholastic year, I supported and attended all their programs.

**HOME BLESSINGS:** I have personally blessed many homes, thus getting to know my wonderful, good and pious parishioners and their families.

**COUNSELLING, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & BIBLE STUDY:** My pastoral activities this year have included family counselling and religious education. I am always eager and available to be of assistance to all members of our flock in times of personal need or misfortune.

**CHURCH CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS:** All our church clubs and organizations are very important to St. Thomas. They have my unequivocal support, and I have attended their special functions. The Women's Guild, Men's Club, Family Auxiliary of St. Thomas, ACYOA, Avak Society, Choir, Sunday School and Kirikian Armenian School are the pillars of our parish, and they are the key to uniting us all into one family. I applaud them and all their wonderful members.

**YOUTH PROGRAMS:** I am especially grateful for the sincere and hardworking young people we have in our parish. Our Sunday School and Armenian School students and ACYOA members are our future church leaders, so it is imperative that we provide them with the best possible Christian-Armenian training and foundation at St. Thomas. During the past year our youth have been a true credit to us, serving on the altar, assisting at important parish events such as the Anniversary Dinner, Memorial Day Picnic and Bazaar, participating in religious services at Easter and Christmas, and enthusiastically "pitching in" whenever called upon. How inspiring it was to see young people of all ages and from all our church groups participating together on December 24th, when we celebrated American Christmas Eve with special all-English church service! I have made it a priority to support and encourage them in every way possible and truly appreciate the enthusiasm with which they have responded. I am committed to promoting and expanding our youth programs in the future, both religious and recreational.

In conclusion, my past year at St. Thomas has been most gratifying. And I believe that there is tremendous potential here, as evidenced by the record-breaking crowds that have been present at our religious services and events the past year.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS:** This year has been an especially successful year for St. Thomas Armenian Church both spiritually, morally and financially.

**FALL DINNER-DANCE:** The Fall Dinner-Dance which took place in October was a very successful fundraiser for St. Thomas. My heartfelt thanks to the youthful chairpersons, Miss Diana Bozian & Paul Bourghol, and their committee, for all their efforts.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE:** 1996 came to a grand finale with a gala New Year's Eve Dinner-Dance on December 31st that glowed with fellowship and good cheer. What a magnificent occasion it was for our church family to usher in the New Year! Heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Ani Capan, Mrs. Seta Yavru-Sakuk, Mrs. Sylva Torosian and their committee members.

**PALM SUNDAY ANNIVERSARY DINNER/MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC &**

**CAR RAFFLE/FALL BAZAAR:** I am glad to report that all annual events have been maintained and successfully continued during 1996. My heartfelt thanks to Dr. & Mrs. Bedros & Seta Yavru for chairing the 31th Anniversary Palm Sunday Dinner, to Dr. & Mrs. Harout & Shake Mekhjian for underwriting the entire expense of the Memorial Day Picnic, to Mr. & Mrs. Nerses & Sirvart Demirjian for chairing the Memorial Day Picnic, to Mr. Jack & Silva Torosian for chairing the Car Raffle, and also Mari & Manuk Camcikian for chairing the Annual Fall Bazaar. God Bless them all!

**CAKE SALE:** Sincere thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Alex and Vesna Markarian for chairing the St. Thomas Palm Sunday/Anniversary Cake Sale, and Mr. & Mrs. Krikor and Irene Khoroizian for chairing the Bazaar Cake Sale.

**THE BOOKSTORE OF ST. THOMAS:** I would like to express my gratitude to Mrs. Sirvart Demirjian for her unselfish dedication and service in upgrading and maintaining the bookstore in a financially stable and organized condition.

**CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE:** During the past year the Cultural Arts Committee chaired by Mrs. Lucy Piligian planned and carried out a number of events, all of which were very successful and drew large crowds. Special thanks to Mrs. Lucy Piligian, Chairman, for her wonderful work.

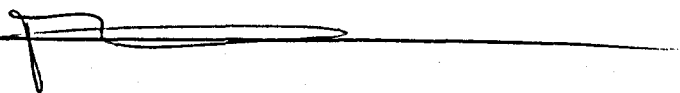
**SHUSHI DANCE ENSEMBLE OF ST. THOMAS:** Sincere thanks to choreographer Seta Kantarjian and Seta Yavru-Sakuk for their service and dedication to Shushi Dance Ensemble of St. Thomas.

**FR. PAKKEN SPECIAL PROJECT/CHURCH ARTIFACTS:** The Fr. Papken Special Project/Church Artifacts Program involves obtaining donations from the faithful in our parish to be used towards the maintenance and replacement of worn vestments and altar cloths, or obtaining artifacts and other items which the church has lacked in its sacristy and other activities. Toward this end, a group of ladies has been formed for sewing and constructing the vestments, altar cloths etc., under the direction of Mrs. Ani Capan. Mrs. Capan and all the ladies serve voluntarily. They have worked continuously and regularly week after week to sew and complete the items needed. My sincere and heartfelt thanks go to them for their dedication and love for our church. I encourage our parishioners to contribute toward this program since there are still many items we need.

**ELLIS ISLAND AWARD:** On behalf of the Parish Council, the parishioners of St. Thomas and myself, I would like to congratulate Dr. Haroutioun Mekhjian for having received the most prestigious Ellis Island Award of the U.S.A. May God grant him and his lovely, kind and capable wife Shake Mekhjian and children peace and happiness in life.

**SPECIAL THANKS:** I would like to sincerely thank Dr. Levon Capan, Chairman of the Parish Council, for all of his help, guidance, experience, and steadfast support to me during this past year. His exemplary faith and dedication towards the Armenian Church and the Armenian Nation has strengthened me in my calling. Special thanks also to Deacon Bedros Sarkissian, stole-bearer Levon Altiparmakian, stole-bearer Dr. Levon Capan, stole-bearer Bedros Yavru-Sakuk, stole-bearer Andrew Martaian and Altar Servers Tavit Cakirdas and Viken Demirjian, who voluntarily came to serve upon the Holy Altar on Sundays and other occasions. Moreover, heartfelt thanks to Manuk Camcikian, Aram Setian, Haroutioun Diratzouian, Andy Ouzoonian, Murat Halajian and all those volunteers whose names have not been mentioned here, for their sincere dedication to St. Thomas.

Prayerfully,  
Very Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. V. Anoushian



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 1996

January	5	Scripture Reading by Children. Armenian Christmas Eve Services
	6	Armenian Christmas Services Kirikian Armenian School Christmas Dinner
	9	Badarak & Christmas Services at Armenian Home for the Aged in Emerson
	20	Annual A.C.S.A Youth Dance
	21	Women's Guild Tea for Cotillion Debs
	26	Auxiliary of St. Thomas Tavloo Tournament & Pot Luck Dinner
February	28	Parish Assembly I Session
	4	Parish Assembly II Session
March	18	Musical Concert & Recitation
	9	Women Saints Day Celebration
April	31	Palm Sunday Anniversary Dinner
	4	Great & Holy Thursday-Vodun Luvah-Washing of the Feet Services Khavaroom Easter Service at the Emerson Home for the Aged
May	5	Great & Holy Friday-Taghoom-Burial Services
	6	Scripture Readings by Children. Easter Eve Services.
	7	Easter Service-Zadeeg
	27	39th Annual Cotillion & Ball sponsored by Women's Guild
	27	A.C.Y.O.A. Spring Dance
	27	Memorial Day Picnic & Car Raffle
	31	Spring Youth Dance-Vartanantz Asbed
	June	1
July	2	St. Thomas Sunday School Graduation & Fellowship Memorial Service for deceased Women's Guild members
	5	Women's Guild Spring Luncheon & Fashion Show
	7-17	Pilgrimage to Armenia sponsored by Women's Guild
	23	Kirikian Armenian School Annual Hantes & Graduation
	28	Women's Guild & Men's Club, End of Year Bar-B-Que & General Meeting
	14	Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ-Vartavar
	17	Women's Guild Blood Drive
August	18	Feast of the Assumption of the Holy Mother of God-Blessing of Grapes
September	10	Adult Armenian Conversation Classes
	15	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross-Khatchveratz
	21	Chess School for Children
October	2-Dc.4	Armenian Dance Instruction for Adults-Shurch Bar
	5 & 6	Book Fair
	12	Kef Night - Auxiliary of St. Thomas
	16	Women's Guild 39th Annual Membership Tea
	20	Crop Walk for Hunger
	27	Services at St. Vartan Cathedral with His Beatitude Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
November	9 & 10	Annual Bazaar
December	22	A.C.Y.O.A. Youth Dance
	4	Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon at White Beeches Country Club
	15	American Christmas Dinner and Program - Sunday School
	24	St. Stepanos & American Christmas Eve Services
	28	Youth Dance-Knights of Vartan
	31	New Years Eve Celebration - Auxiliary of St. Thomas

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

We completed another successful year at the Saint Thomas Armenian Church. We closed 1996 with a surplus of \$99,264.00, and we are starting 1997 with an operating fund of more than \$315,000. The major accomplishment of the year is the replacement of the building roof. Our restricted building fund, which reached almost \$100,000, was used to pay this major expense. Several parishioners, but especially Mr. Ouzounian, Mr. Diratzouian and our PC member Mr. Jack Torosian, have spent substantial effort and time on this project. We like to thank them and wish that God gives them the strength and patience so they serve their church for great many years to come. We believe that this time our roof is properly fixed and hopefully we will not have any trouble with it for the next couple of decades, although the roof of the Sanctuary is likely to need a major repair within a few years, because it is almost 30 years old. As I have been stating for the past several years, our success is a direct result of the genuine interest, dedication and hard work of the members who do not spare any effort to come forward with their invaluable help. The Parish Council once again expresses its sincere and immense gratitude and appreciation to all those who helped the church last year. Here I also would like to express my thanks to each Parish Council member, and to the members of all church committees for their help that, without a doubt, was a result of substantial sacrifices. This year again the Parish Council would like to express its special thanks to the Pastor, Very Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. V. Anoushian, whose strong faith in Christianity, honest and straightforward character, brave personality, sincere love for the Armenian nation, and countless efforts to preserve the Armenian church tradition, have been a great influence and inspiration to us. Thank you, Hayr Sourp, for being an excellent guiding light for us. With all your fine qualities, you continue to exemplify the model Armenian clergyman. We also like to state here that, the late Mr. Harry Bostanjan, a long time parishioner of Saint Thomas left a bequest in the amount of \$ 30,000 to our church. We received the money in November. The PC decided to place a plaque in the church as a token of appreciation. Likewise as in the past two years the church will have a annual memorial service for him. God bless the soul of Mr. Bostanjan.

### REPORT OF FUNCTIONS

**Anniversary Dinner:** The traditional Anniversary Dinner was held on Palm Sunday. This year the recipient of the Saint Thomas award were Mr. and Mrs. Harry and Mary Sanossian. As we all know the Sanossian couple have been example parishioners and choir members. They do not miss a Sunday to attend the choir and they are present in every choir rehearsal. We also like to thank the Sanossian couple for their donation last May. The affair was superbly organized by Dr. and Mrs. Bedros and Seta Yavru-Sakuk. As usual, the A.C.Y. O. A. Juniors worked as servers; their enthusiastic efforts were deeply appreciated by everyone. The cake sale for this event was organized by Mr. and Mrs. Alex and Vezna Markarian.. The total profit was \$12,325.00. Thanks to Seta, Bedros, Vezna and Alex and everyone on their committees.

**Memorial Day Picnic:** This year again Mr. and Mrs. Nerses and Sirvart Demirjian chaired the annual picnic. As always it was a very successful and enjoyable event owing to the concerted effort and hard work of the Chairmen and members of the Picnic committee. The total profit was \$11,551. Thanks to Demirjians and all those who helped them.

**Car Raffle:** As in the past several years Mr and Mrs Hagop and Silva Torosian again organized the car raffle. Hagop's hard work again showed in the impressive result. People from St. Thomas and other parishes supported the project for the raffle of a JEEP Cherokee. The net profit was \$22,550. Thanks to Hagop and Silva not only for the car raffle, but also for their vital help on other projects.

**Kef Night:** October marks the time for the "Kef Night" at Saint Thomas. This year the affair was organized by a vey special people; our youth to whom we will turn over the administration of this church in not a very distant future. Yes, our young adults/young professionals under the direction of Ms. Diana Bozian, Ms. Talar Sesian and Mr. Paul Bourghol did a marvelous job in organizing this succesful event. The profit was \$5766. Our heartfelt thanks to our youth, our only hope! ABRİK.

**Bazaar:** Owing to the tremendous support of parishioners, friends and the public, this year again the Bazaar was a a success. Manoog and Mari Camcikians and their committee organized this affair. The cake sale for this event was undertaken by Mr. and Mrs. Krikor and Irene Khorozian. The yield from the Bazaar was approximately \$31,500. Thank you so much Camcikians and Khorozians and the Bazaar committee members.

**New Year's Eve:** This year Ani Capan, Sylva Torosian and Seta Yavru were the chairladies of the New Year's Eve celebration. The guests at this successful affair had a very pleasant and happy evening; The net profit for the church was more than \$18,000. Much thanks to Ani, Seta and Sylva.

### Administrative Events:

**Personnel:** Ms. Armine Aksay is our new secretary and has been working for the church since July. She is also our choir member for the past 6 months. The beautiful soprano voice that you hear on Sundays during the BADARAK is from her. She also held Armenian Dance Classes for adults. Our custodian who worked with us for about a year was released on January 1, 1997. Several custodian candidates have been interviewed and we are confident that an appropriate person will be hired soon.

**Return of improperly deposited Board of Trustees Fund from ACEF:** As we have informed the parishioners during the last Parish Assembly meeting, \$5001,04 remaining in the Board of Trustees fund was improperly transferred into an irrelevant ACEF fund by two members of the dissolved Board of Trustees. After several communications, the ACEF returned this fund to Saint

Thomas church treasury.

**Hall Rentals:** Intense work for increasing rentals yielded a gross annual rental income of \$ 48,659; the net income was \$42,123. Our sincere thanks to Ms. Mari Tashjian who is singlehandedly responsible for the increase in rental income for the past several years. As it was established by the PC last year, a 20% discount is provided for Hall rentals to those who have been dues-paying members for the last 2 consecutive years.

**Building Insurance:** Compensation in the amount of \$ 81,750 has been received for various damages caused by severe winter in the past few seasons.

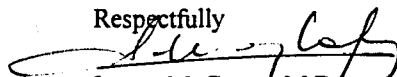
**Purchase of a fax machine and a printer:** The fax machine had to be replaced because it became dysfunctional . The office also was in need of a printer which was purchased during the summer. Mr. Aram Setian, who very generously donates his time and effort in managing computer related problems in the office, shopped around and bought us an excellent and relatively inexpensive printer. Thank you so much, Aram. Here we also would like to extend our thanks to Madlen Setian who not only informs her husband about the technological needs of the church, but also utilizes these devices at maximum efficiency to prepare the Nor Tar with Seta Yavru-Sakuk, to perfect our computerized accounting system and to help in the secreterial work of the Parish Council. The latter work is also shared by Ms. Susan Shamamian, Virginia Victoria and Mr. Leon Nigoghosian. Our heartfelt thanks to them too.

**Armenian Language Classes:** With the initiation of Mr. Sam Demirjian about two years ago, an Armenian Language Class was organized. Later Mrs. Eileen Barsamian offered her help in organizing this class. With the combined efforts of Mr. Demirjian and Mrs. Barsamian and the help of accumulated money from the Barsamian Fund, the class turned out to be a great success. This year is second active year teaching these classes. And we are confident that the demand for the continuation of these classes will continue for many years to come. Thank you, Sam and Eileen.

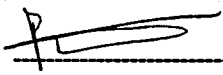
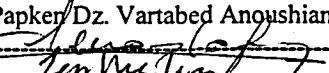
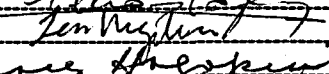
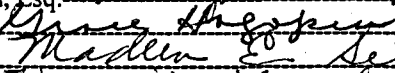
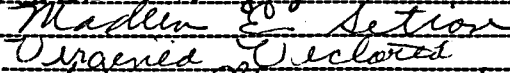
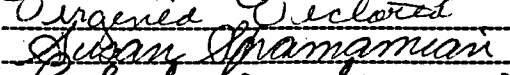
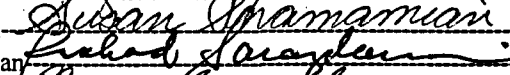
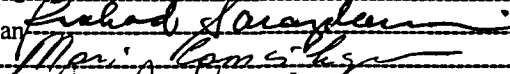
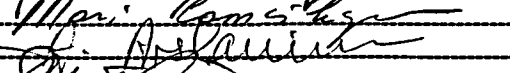
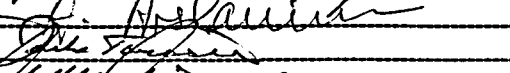
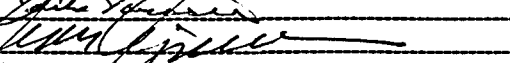
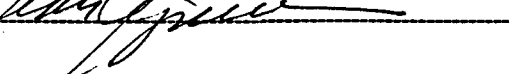
**Bookstore:** After Mrs. Sirvart Demirjian graciously accepted the operation of the bookstore the annual profit increased from \$700 to over \$4000. Of course, Nerses and Vicken also bring their help to Sirvart every Sunday. Thank you so much, Demirjian family and God bless you.

With God's help and your generosity, 1996 was far better than 1995. Once again we, the members of the Parish Council, would like to thank you, and wish that 1997 brings each one of you health, happiness and success.

Respectfully

  
Levon M. Capan, M.D.

**Parish Council Members:**

- Very Reverend Father Papken/Dz. Vartabed Anoushian  Pastor and President
- Levon M. Capan, M.D.  Chairman
- Leon Nigoghosian, Esq.  Vice Chairman, Recording Secretary
- Grace Hagopian  Treasurer
- Madlen Setian  Assistant Treasurer, Recording Secretary
- Virginia Victoria  Recording Secretary
- Susan Shamamian  Corresponding and Recording Secretary
- Richard Saraydarian  Member
- Mari Camcikian  Member
- Arpi Arslanian  Member
- Jack Torosian  Member
- Ann Ajemian  Member

**Liaisons to Committees and Organizations:**

- V. Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. V. Anoushian \_\_\_\_\_ A.C.Y.O.A. Juniors
- Virginia Victoria \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday School
- Ann Ajemian \_\_\_\_\_ Womens Guild
- Susan Shamamian \_\_\_\_\_ Choir
- Richard Saraydarian \_\_\_\_\_ Men's Club
- Mari Camcikian \_\_\_\_\_ Avak Society
- Madlen Setian \_\_\_\_\_ Kirikian Armenian School
- Jack Torosian \_\_\_\_\_ Architectural and Facilities  
Management Committee
- Mari Camcikian \_\_\_\_\_ Family Auxiliary of St. Thomas

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Organizations for their efforts, service, leadership and fund raising for the benefit of Saint Thomas church in 1996:

- ACYOA Jrs. Kim Karagosian and Gareen Hamalian
- Architectural and Facilities Management Committee - Mr. Al Victoria
- Kirikian Armenian School - Ani Capan, superintendent
- Avak Society - Jack Hajinlian, chairman
- Basketball Coaches- Douglas and Andy Martaian
- Book Store - Sirvart and Nerses Demirjian
- Choir Director and Organist - Susan Shamamian
- Choir Chairman: Marie Zokian
- Saint Thomas Altar Guild
- Family Auxiliary of St. Thomas - Ani Capan, Silva Torosian and Mari Camcikyan
- Women's Guild - Mrs. Violet Ouzoonian
- Men's Club - Mr. Matthew Keshishian, esq.
- Sunday School - Mrs. Shnorhig Bashian
- Anniversary Dinner - Dr. and Mrs. Bedros and Seta Yavru-Sakuk.
- Anniversary Dinner Cake sale chair - Mr. and Mrs. Alex and Vezna Markarian
- Picnic - Mr. and Mrs. Nerses and Sirvart Demirjian
- Car Raffle - Hagop Torosian
- KefNight - Young Adults/Young Professionals of Saint Thomas, especially Diana Bozian, Talar Seseitian, Paul Bourghol
- Bazaar - Mr. and Mrs. Manoog and Mari Camcikian
- Bazaar Cake Sale- Mr. and Mrs. Krikor and Irene Khorozian
- New Year's Eve - Ani Capan, Silva Torosian and Seta Yavru-Sakuk
- Nor Tar - Madlen Setian and Seta Yavru-Sakuk
- Roof Project- Mr. Andy Ouzounian, Mr. Hagop Torosian, Mr. Haroutioun Diratzouian
- Tavloo Tournament - Mr. and Mrs. Hagop and Zivart Gulian
- Cultural Committee- Mrs. Lucy Piligian
- Shushi Dance Ensemble of Saint Thomas- Mrs. Seta Kantardjian (Artistic Director) and Seta Yavru-Sakuk
- Adult Armenian Conversation Class- Mrs. Eileen Barsamian, Mr. and Mrs. Sam and Alicia Demirdjian
- Building Maintenance- Hagop Torosian
- Building Repairs- Manoog Camcikian

### 94TH ANNUAL DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY MEETING

This year the Diocesan Assembly was hosted by the Saint Sahag Mesrob Armenian Church of Wynnewood, Pennsylvania in the first week of May. The hallmark of this year's assembly was the designation of 1996 as a Youth Year. Many speeches, panel discussions and plans for future activities focused at the issue of movement of the youth to the church. It was agreed by everyone that the family plays the most important role in directing the youth to the church. In addition to this, the importance of the Parish and the Diocese was emphasized. Several youth members were arranged to come to the meeting and give their feelings about youth involvement in the church. They asked Parish members to volunteer and support the youth.

During His address, the Primate informed the participants that all Parishes except four are without a pastor. The Primate also said that the Clergy from the Prelacy can now participate in our church baptismal, matrimonial and funeral ceremonies after securing permission from the Diocese.

The following officers were elected to various committees:

**Board of Trustees:** Helen Mardigian

**Nominating Committee:** Richard Norsigian, Karen Kazarian, George Nahabedian, Rev. Varoujan Kabarajian, Oscar Tatiosian.

**Auditing Committee:** Karen Derderian, Dean Shahinian, Arthur Mardigian

**Proposals Committee:** John Amboian, Rev. Father VazkenKouzouian, Sahag Sahagian, Aram Hintlian, Connie Kasparian

This year 3 bylaw amendments and 7 proposals were submitted.

Proposal #1 was about naming the cathedral, that will be erected in Yerevan in commemoration of 1700 anniversary of Armenian Christianity, as Saint Trdat. The proposal was tabled.

Proposal #2 was about an allocation of not less than \$5000.00 in the Diocesan budget to cover all or a portion of a retired

clergymen's travel and hotel expenses necessary to attend the Annual Clergy Conference and Diocesan Assembly. The proposal passed.

Proposal #3 was about including a separate line item on the Revenue and Income page of the Annual Diocesan Financial Report of all expenses incurred by the participation of our Diocese and its representatives in all ecumenical inter-church activities including th NCC. The proposal was carried.

Proposal #4 was about allowing the use of only the interests of all unrestricted bequests for the Diocese's general operating expenses. The proposal was found out of order.

Proposal #5 was about rescinding the annual 1% Youth Ministry assessment to all parishes in the Diocese. The proposal was defeated.

Proposal #6 was about Diocesan Assembly directing the Diocesan Council to establish a comprehensive Technology Policy and Guideline for the implementation of a common network involving telecommunication and computer hardware and software within the Diocese and the Parishes. The proposal passed.

The proposal #7 was about the request of the Diocesan Assembly, in the spirit of church unity, that the Prelates of North America refrain from organizing communities or consecrating any new Churches under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Great House of Cilicia, unless and until they determine that unity is not reasonably foreseeable. This proposal was tabled.

The Diocesan Budget was presented by Mr. Haig Dadourian, the treasurer of the Diocesan Council. As of this year new accounting rules are introduced and the new format of presenting financial report for nonprofit organizations is somewhat difficult to understand. Mr. Dadourian touched upon several issues regarding Diocesan finance including the renovation of the Diocesan Complex, bookstore writeoffs and collection of assessments. Many churches are not able to pay their assessments; approximately 16 parishes are in arrears of their dues of about \$250,000. The Saint Thomas Church is not among these churches; in fact this is the fifth consecutive year that the Saint Thomas Church paid its dues completely on a timely basis.

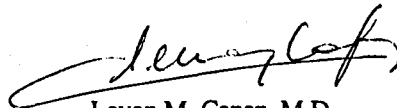
During the budget discussion it was emphasized that the Catholicos asked to establish a \$25000 annual fund to be sent as Etchmiadzin Louma. A motion was passed that this amount will be raised from parishes which comes to about \$3.50 per dues paying member. The annual Louma will be effective immediately and be sent to the Etchmiadzin for this year.

The Unity Committee report was given by Mr. Zaven Kasparian, the chairman of the Unity Committee. He gave a brief history of efforts of the Unity Committee. No progress has been achieved in this regard because no response has been received to the last letter sent by the Diocesan Unity Committee.

Next year the Assembly will meet in Cleveland, Ohio and will be sponsored by the Saint Gregory of the Nareg Church. Other future Assemblies will be held as follows:

1998 New York Saint Vartan

1999 Watervaliet, New York



Levon M. Capan, M.D.  
Chairman, Parish Council



## St. Thomas Armenian Church

### 1997 Budget

#### Income

	<u>1997 - Proposed</u>	<u>1996 - Actual</u>	<u>1996 - Proposed</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Pledges	50,000	47,238	54,000
Plate	7,200	7,272	8,500
Candles	3,000	2,826	3,000
Prayers	6,500	6,641	6,500
Yughakin - Christmas	2,500	2,035	3,000
Yughakin - Easter	1,500	1,195	2,000
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>70,700</u></b>	<b><u>67,207</u></b>	<b><u>77,000</u></b>
<b><u>Sacraments</u></b>			
Baptisms	7,500	7,850	5,000
Weddings	2,000	2,000	2,500
Funerals	1,000	1200	1,200
Requiems	5,000	4,855	5,000
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>15,500</u></b>	<b><u>15,905</u></b>	<b><u>13,700</u></b>
<b><u>Auxiliary Organizations</u></b>			
Women's Guild <small>(1995 - \$1,000 posted to 1996) (1996 - \$5,000 posted to 1997)</small>	12,000	16,000	12,000
Avak Society	1,000	500	1,500
Men's Club	0	0	0
Men's Club Sports Program- Funds are earmarked for basketball teams.	4000	3,286	0
ACYOA' Juniors	1,000	1,000	600
Family Auxiliary:	700	640	0
Kef Night	10,000	5,766	10,820
New Year's Eve - Net Income \$ 17,427 <u>625</u> Pending Reflected in Jan. 1997 \$ <u>18,052</u> Net Profit	<u>15,000</u>	<u>(1,817)</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>43,700</u></b>	<b><u>25,375</u></b>	<b><u>34,920</u></b>
Includes \$ 555 from 1995 Bazaar Ck. Acct. Excludes \$1493, 1996 Bazaar Bookstore Income.			
Bazaar	35,000	32,037	33,000
Memorial Day Picnic	12,000	11,551	10,000
Palm Sunday Dinner	4,500	4,540	5,000
Palm Sunday Cake Sale	7,000	6,785	6,500
Other Affairs	1,000	0	1,000
Parish Council Special Events	1,000	0	1,000
Stewardship Program	0	0	5,000
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>60,500</u></b>	<b><u>54,913</u></b>	<b><u>61,500</u></b>

	<u>1997 - Proposed</u>	<u>1996 - Actual</u>	<u>1996 - Proposed</u>
<b><u>Donations</u></b>			
In Lieu of Flowers	9,000	9,121	12,000
Altar Flowers	1,000	1,115	800
Memorial Donors	500	0	500
Holiday Flowers	500	1,046	400
Christmas Greetings	300	0	200
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>11,282</b>	<b>13,900</b>
<b><u>Other Income</u></b>			
Bookstore	10,000	11,232	10,000
Car Raffle	20,000	22,550	15,000
Hall Rentals	60,000	48,659	50,000
Nor Tar	3,000	3,620	1,500
Investment Interest			
Smith Barney Govt. Fund	1,135		
First Union Bank CD	<del>559</del>		
	1,694		
	1,800	1,694	5,000
Interest St. Thomas ACEF	1,200	1,191	1,000
Interest on Checking Account	700	735	
Interest on Savings - (Smith Barney Money Fund )	8,200	8,014	
Insurance Settlement	0	81,751	0
Misc. Donations	2,500	10,991	2,250
Income From Estates ( Bequest from H. Bostanjian's Estate)	0	30,000	
Misc. Income	2,000	7,100	2,000
Income from Cultural Activities	0	7,461	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>109,400</b>	<b>234,998</b>	<b>86,750</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>311,100</b>	<b>409,680</b>	<b>287,770</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
<b><u>Salaries &amp; Benefits</u></b>			
Clergy Salary (Includes two years unused vacation)	50,000	57,694	50,000
Clergy Benefits FICA	3,750	3,750	3,750
Clergy Benefits IRA	2,000	2,000	2,000
Parsonage Repairs	1,000	2,633	500
Parsonage Water	200	170	200
Parsonage Telephone	1,000	1,000	1,000
Parsonage Gas & Electric	2,000	2,095	2,000
Clergy Auto Expenses	3,000	3,357	3,000
Clergy Auto Lease	3,900	3,905	3,900
Clergy Auto Insurance	1,600	1,558	2,000
Clergy Health Insurance	5,000	5,483	4,500
Salaries-Custodian	20,000	19,347	18,720
Salaries-Secretary	22,500	19,708	18,200
Salaries-Christian Education	5,000	5,000	5,000
Salaries-Choir Director & Organist	5,000	5,000	5,000

	<u>1997 - Proposed</u>	<u>1996 - Actual</u>	<u>1996 - Proposed</u>
Payroll Taxes	3,200	3,391	3,200
Workman's Compensation	1,400	1,022	1,400
Visiting Clergy	1,500	1,400	1,500
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>132,050</b>	<b>138,513</b>	<b>125,870</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Telephone	4,500	4,535	3,500
Office Supplies	2,000	1,836	1,000
Candles	1,200	1,124	1,000
Flowers	750	700	1,000
Computer Supplies & Maintenance	1,000	1,972	1,000
Computer Equipment	500	789	0
Print Office Stationary	250	1,425	0
Men's Club Sports Program	4,000	3,286	0
Print Nor Tar	5,500	6,050	5,500
Actual 1996 \$ 6,050 includes \$1,100 from 1995 (invoices for two 1995 issues paid in 1996.)			
Print Annual Reports *See Parish Assem. Exp.	0	0	500
Print - Misc. (Pledge Env.)	400	379	400
Postage - Affairs - Office	500	341	600
Postage - General Mailing	500	616	1,500
Postage - Nor Tar	1,500	1,709	1,500
Bookstore Expenses	7,000	7,229	7,000
Hospitality	250	193	100
Lease Coopy Machine ( Up to 1995 only.)	0	0	0
Supplies Copy Machine	2,500	1,955	2,700
Rental Expense	5,000	3,431	7,000
Hall Rental Advertising	3,000	3,105	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>40,350</b>	<b>40,675</b>	<b>34,300</b>
<b>Assessments</b>			
Louma - Etchmiadzin	1,000		
Diocesan Dues	31,000	30,637	32,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>30,637</b>	<b>32,000</b>
<b>Educational &amp; Good Works</b>			
Sunday School	500	500	500
World Wide Charity (CASP)	400	1,200	400
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>900</b>
<b>Church Building Expenses</b>			
Architectural Maintenance Reserve	24,000	24,000	24,000
Utilities, Gas & Electric	27,500	27,282	26,000
Utilities, Water	600	597	1,000
Insurance- Building	22,000	21,599	18,000
Repairs, Church & Halls	6,500	3,367	5,000
Repairs, Electric & Plumbing	3,000	265	2,000
Repairs, Air Conditioning & Heating	4,000	1,806	2,000
Maintenance, Lawn & Grounds	3,700	3,740	3,700

	<u>1997 - Proposed</u>	<u>1996 - Actual</u>	<u>1996 - Proposed</u>
Maintenance, Pest Control, A/C, Heating	1,500	1,789	2,000
Maintenance, Snow Plowing	1,500	2,280	2,800
Ground Beautification ( \$720 spent from reserve)	1,000	178	500
Furniture Maintenance	250	450	0
Maintenance, Building	1,000	1,373	1,000
Supplies - Garden & Grounds	250	386	100
Supplies - Building	1,500	1,202	2,000
Supplies - Kitchen	2,500	3,434	1,000
Supplies - Church	500	1,262	500
Memorial Window	200	329	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>101,500</b>	<b>95,339</b>	<b>91,600</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
Diocesan Assembly - Delegates	100	96	500
Contingencies	0	0	500
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,864	1,500
Parish Assembly Expense	600	592	600
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>3,100</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>309,500</b>	<b>310,416</b>	<b>287,770</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>99,264</b>	
<b>Total Gross Income</b>		<b>409,680</b>	
*Architectoral Maintenance \$24,000 is in reserve.			

**ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**DECEMBER 31, 1996**

**ASSETS:**

Current Assets (Exhibit A)	<u>320,889</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>320,889</u></b>

**LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES:**

Current Liabilities (Exhibit B)	6,236
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**FUND BALANCES:**

Fund Balances (Exhibit C)	<u>314,653</u>
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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b><u>320,889</u></b>
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*We would like to gratefully thank and acknowledge Michael Halajian, CPA, for his professional assistance in the accounting of St. Thomas Armenian Church in 1996.*

*Special thanks also to Laureen Karanfilian, CPA, for the preparation of the St. Thomas Payroll Tax Forms for 1996.*

<b>ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH</b> <b>EXHIBITS</b> <b>DECEMBER 31, 1996</b>
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**Exhibit A - Current Assets**

Cash in Bank - Operating	30,605
Cash in Investments - CD Smith Barney	195,000
Cash in Investments - Money Market - First Union	28,389
Cash in Investments - Gov't Funds - Smith Barney	51,886
Cash in Investments - Money Fund - Smith Barney	12,334
Other Assets	<u>2,675</u>
<b><u>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>320,889</u></b>

**Exhibit B - Current Liabilities**

Rental Security	5,000
Diocesan Dues Payable	0
Payroll Taxes	<u>1,236</u>
<b><u>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>	<b><u>6,236</u></b>

**EXHIBIT C - Fund Balances**

Church Fund Balance	251,994
Reserve - Ajemian Fund	281
- Caspar Kasparian Fund	0
- Architectural Maintenance Fund	35,582
- Religious Articles	9,072
- Capan Roof Reserve	7,680
- Saddler Memorial	1,000
- Shushi Cultural Group	2,500
- Shahinian	2,114
- Sabounjian	0
- Barsamian	834
- Cultural Affairs	1,500
- Markarian	650
- Kasparian Library	946
- Ground Beautification	<u>500</u>
<b><u>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</u></b>	<b><u>314,653</u></b>

**ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES  
&  
FUND BALANCES  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1996**

**INCOME:**

Income from Operations	( Exhibit D)	67,207
Sacraments	( Exhibit E)	15,905
Auxiliary Organizations	( Exhibit F)	25,375
Church Affairs	(Exhibit G)	54,913
Donations	( Exhibit H)	11,282
Other Income	( Exhibit I)	<u>234,998</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b><u>409,680</u></b>

**OPERATING EXPENSES:**

Salaries & Benefits	(Exhibit J)	138,513
Operating Expenses	(Exhibit K)	40,675
Assessments	(Exhibit L)	30,637
Educational & Good Works	(Exhibit M)	1700
Church Building Exp.	(Exhibit N)	95,338
Other Expenses	(Exhibit P)	<u>3,553</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>310,416</u></b>

**NET INCOME** **99,264**

<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE AS OF 1/1/96</b>	240,130
<b>CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE</b>	<u>74,523</u>
<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE AS OF 12/31/96</b>	<b><u>314,653</u></b>

**ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH**  
**EXHIBITS - (Continued)**  
**December 31, 1996**

**EXHIBIT D**

**INCOME**

Pledges	47,238
Plate	7,272
Candles	2,826
Prayers	6,641
Yughakin - Christmas	2,035
Yughakin - Easter	<u>1,195</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>67,207</u></b>

**EXHIBIT E**

**SACRAMENTS**

Baptisms	7,850
Weddings	2,000
Funerals	1,200
Requiems	<u>4,855</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>15,905</u></b>

**EXHIBIT F**

**AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS**

Women's Guild	16,000
Avak Society	500
Men's Club	3,286
Young Adults of St. Thomas (ACYOA Seniors)	0
ACYOA Juniors	1,000
Family Auxiliary of St. Thomas	640
Kef Night	5,766
New Year's Eve- <i>Net Profit \$18,052 reflected in 1997</i>	-1,817
Mother's Day	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>25,375</u></b>

**EXHIBIT G**

**CHURCH AFFAIRS**

Bazaar (Includes \$555 left from 1995 in Bazaar Acct.)	32,037
Memorial Day Picnic	11,551
Palm Sunday Dinner	4,540
Palm Sunday Cake Sale	6,785
Other Affairs	0
Parish Council Special Event	0
Stewardship Program	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>54,913</u></b>



<b>ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH</b> <b>EXHIBITS (Continued)</b> <b>December 31, 1996</b>
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**EXHIBIT H**

**DONATIONS**

In Lieu of Flowers	9,121
Altar Flowers	1115
Memorial Donors	0
Holiday Flowers	1046
Christmas Greeting	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>11,282</u></b>

**EXHIBIT I**

**OTHER INCOME**

Bookstore	11,232
Car Raffle	22,550
Hall Rentals	48,659
Nor Tar	3,620
Investment interest (Gov't Fund & Bank CD's)	1,694
Interest - St. Thomas ACEF	1,191
Interest on Checking Account	735
Investment Interest (Smith Barney Money Fund)	8,014
Insurance Settlement	81,751
Other Donations	10,991
Misc. Income	7,100
Income From Estates (Bequest from H. Bostanjan's Estate)	30,000
Income - Cultural Activities	<u>7,461</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>234,998</u></b>

**ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH**

**EXHIBITS - (Continued)**

**December 31, 1996**

**EXHIBIT J**

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

**SALARIES & BENEFITS**

Clergy Salary (Includes 2 yrs. unused vacation pay.)	57,694
Clergy Benefits FICA	3,750
Clergy Benefits IRA	2,000
Parsonage Repairs & Maintenance	2,633
Parsonage Water	170
Parsonage Telephone	1,000
Parsonage Gas & Electric	2,095
Clergy Auto Expenses	3,357
Clergy Auto Lease	3,905
Clergy Auto Insurance	1,558
Clergy Health Insurance	5,483
Salaries - Custodial	19,347
Salaries - Secretarial	19,708
Salaries - Christian Education	5,000
Salaries - Choir Director & Organist	5,000
Payroll Taxes	3,391
Workman's Compensation	1,022
Visiting Clergy	1,400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>138,513</u></b>

**EXHIBIT K**

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

Telephone	4,535
Office Supplies	1,836
Candles	1,124
Flowers	700
Computer Equipment	789
Computer Supplies	1,972
Men's Club Sports Program	3,286
Print NOR TAR ( Includes 2 payments for two 1995 issues).	6,050
Print Annual Report (See Parish Assem. Exp.)	0
Print - Office Stationary & Other	1,425
Print - Misc. (Pledge Env.)	379
Postage - Office	341
Postage - General Mailing	616
Postage - NOR TAR	1,709
Bookstore Expense	7,229
Hospitality & Other	193
Supplies Copy Machine	1,955
Rental Expense	3,431
Hall Rental Advertising	3,105
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>40,675</u></b>

**ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH**  
**EXHIBITS - (Continued)**  
**December 31, 1996**

**Exhibit L**

**ASSESSMENTS**

Diocesan Dues	30,637
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>30,637</u></b>

**Exhibit M**

**EDUCATIONAL & GOOD WORKS**

Sunday School	500
World Wide Charity (CASP)	1200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>1700</u></b>

**Exhibit N**

**CHURCH BUILDING EXPENSES**

Architectural Maintenance Fund	24000
Utilities - Gas & Electric	27,282
Utilities - Water	597
Insurance - Building	21,599
Repairs - Church & Halls	3,367
Repairs - Electric & Plumbing	265
Repairs - A/C & Heat	1,806
Maintenance - Lawn	3,740
Maintenance - Pest Control	1,789
Maintenance - Snow Plowing	2,280
Maintenance - Building	1,373
Ground Beautification ( \$720 disbursed from Reserve)	178
Furniture Maintenance	450
Supplies - Garden	386
Supplies - Kitchen	3434
Supplies - Building	1,202
Supplies - Church	1262
Memorial Window	<u>329</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>95,339</u></b>

**Exhibit P**

**OTHER EXPENSES**

Diocesan Assembly	96
Contingencies	0
Miscellaneous	2,864
Parish Assembly Expense	<u>592</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>3,552</u></b>

\* Architectural Maintenance 24,000 is in reserve.

\*\* Ground Beautification Reserve:

Balance Forward	720
Donation M. Fuhmann	<u>500</u>
Total	1220
Expense	<u>720</u>
Balance in Reserve	500



## CASPAR KASPARIAN MEMORIAL FUND

The St. Thomas Armenian Church Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund was established in 1979. The Charter approved by the annual Parish Assembly stated that the purpose of this fund is "To provide full or partial scholarships to primarily further the religious education of the youth of St. Thomas, and in exceptional cases, full time seminary students of the diocese of the Armenian Church or youth of Holy Cross Parish of New York and St. Mary Parish of Washington, D.C." In addition the Fund also provides financial assistance to the St. Thomas Christian Education Department, sponsors retreats for Sunday School teachers and provides full or partial scholarships for St. Thomas Christian children to attend the Diocesan St. Vartan Summer Camp.

The Current Members of the Board of Directors are:

Very Rev. Fr. Papken Anoushian	President Ex-Officio
Lillian Chapiian	Chairperson
Dr. Levon Capan	Vice-Chairperson
Henry Hagopian Jr.	Treasurer
Albert Victoria	Secretary
Leon Nigohosian	
Michael Kasparian	
David Kasparian	

Respectfully Submitted  
Mrs. Lillian Chapiian  
Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund

## CASPAR M. KASPARIAN MEMORIAL FUND - FINANCIAL REPORT 1996

January 1, 1996 Opening Balance	5,924.61
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	
A.C.E.F. Income	<u>3,839.66</u>
	9,764.27
<b><u>DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>	
Gift for Rev. Doudoukjian	<u>108.14</u>
	<u>108.14</u>
<b>BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996</b>	<b><u>\$9,656.13</u></b>

Respectfully submitted  
Lillian Chapiian

## VAHAN BARSAMIAN MEMORIAL FUND

The Vahan Barsamian Memorial Fund was established in 1986 as an endowment fund with the ACEF of our Diocese. At present there is \$6,000 in the Fund, with a total of \$4,000 of interest having been received by St. Thomas Church to date.

The Fund seeks to encourage the advancement of the art of Armenian conversation for adults sincerely interested in learning to speak our unique language. The Board of Directors of the Fund are comprised of the members of the Barsamian Family and the Parish Council appointees.

This is the second year that the interest from this Fund has been used to underwrite the expenses of the St. Thomas Adult Armenian Conversation Classes at St. Thomas. Two sessions were held every Tuesday evening for eight weeks each: Spring Session from March 12 thru April 30 from 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm and Fall Session from September 10 thru October 29 from 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm.

These language classes required five teachers for an average semester student count of 40 students who were taught at five levels, from basic to advanced conversation. The teachers who participated are: Mrs. Araxie Diratzouian, Mr. Haroutioun Diratzouian, Mrs. Rosine Hovsepian, Mr. Aren Jebejian, Mrs. Seta Jebejian, Mrs. Anjel Torosian and Mrs. Arpi Vartivarian. Due to the enthusiastic response by students and teachers, the Fund will continue to support the Spring and Fall sessions in 1997. Committee members who administer these conversation classes are Sam and Alicia Demirjian and Eileen Barsamian.

**VAHAN BARSAMIAN MEMORIAL FUND - FINANCIAL REPORT - 1996**

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Principal at ACEF			6,000.00
Balance on hand January 1, 1996			370.00
Mr. Edmund Attarian	500.00		
Mrs. Angel Torosian	320.00		
Mrs. Rosine Hovsepian	160.00		
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Pekmezian		200.00	
Student Registration (\$20 per student-Fall Session)	720.00		
Conversation Tapes	20.00		
Teachers' Salaries		1,600.00	
Expenses (Books, teaching materials, Xeroxing, etc.)		231.00	
ACEF int. in 1996	<u>375.00</u>		
	\$2,665.00	<u>\$1,831.00</u>	
<b>BALANCE ON HAND DEC. 31, 1996</b>			<u>\$834.00</u>

Respectfully submitted,  
Eileen Barsamian

**GEORGE SHAHINIAN MEMORIAL FUND**

The St. Thomas Armenian Church George Shahinian Memorial Fund was established in 1980 with the sum of \$20,586.00. The charter stated the purpose of this fund is: 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, to provide funding for cultural and educational projects of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America; and to provide funding for the Camp Nubar of the AGBU of America, Inc.

Since the inception of the George Shahinian Memorial Fund it has generated an income of \$20,491.18. The current members of the Board of Directors are The Very Rev. Fr. Papken Anoushian (President Ex-Officio, and Dr. Levon Capan (Chairman of Parish Council).  
Shakae Shahinian  
Sandra Shahinian Leitner  
Andrew Shahinian

**GEORGE SHAHINIAN MEMORIAL FUND - FINANCIAL REPORT - 1996**

Principal at ACEF		20,586.00
Balance on hand as, Dec. 31, 1995		1,718.42
ACEF Interest, October 1996		<u>1,286.62</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		3,005.04
 <u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>		
May, 1996 - CASP	400.00	
June, 1996- Shushi Dance Ensemble	<u>500.00</u>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	900.00	
 <b>BALANCE ON HAND, DEC. 31, 1996</b>		 <u>\$2,105.04</u>

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shakae Shahinian

## MARTIN SONNY TASHJIAN MEMORIAL FUND

The Martin Sonny Tashjian Memorial Fund was established on December 29 1982 with the Armenian Church Endowment Fund of the Diocese. Purpose of the fund is to provide funding for sports activities and towards the needs of the youth at St. Thomas Armenian Church. As of December 1996 the balance in the account is **\$8,635**. For the past nine years, the interest accrued has been given to the St. Thomas Basketball Team to pay for the rental of our hall for their annual Sports Dance. The Board of Directors of the Fund is comprised of members of the Tashjian Family and Parish Council appointees.

## PETER AJEMIAN MEMORIAL FUND

The Peter Ajemian Memorial Fund of \$5,000 was established and deposited in the Armenian Church Endowment Fund (ACEF) after the demise of Peter Ajemian Sr. on January 1, 1993.

The purpose of the Peter Ajemian Memorial is for a Scholastic Scholarship to be given to a Son, Daughter or Grandchild of a current dues paying member of the St. Thomas Armenian Church, Tenafly, N.J., and currently attending a Collage or University in pursuit of an undergraduate or graduate degree as full time student, has scholastic ability, and is active in Community activities, and in need of financial assistance

The first Peter Ajemian Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$450 (interest accrued from the fund of this program) was presented to Miss Siranoush Dervogormacyan of Cliffside Park, N.J. on Sunday, June 30, 1996, by Hayr Soorp Papken Anoushian and Mrs. Ann Ajemian.

The Directors of the Peter Ajemian Scholarship Committee are:

Very Rev.Fr.Papken Anoushian - President Ex - Officio	
Mrs. Ann Ajemian, Chairperson	Mrs. Deborah Greenip
Dr. Levon Capan, P.C. Chairman	Mr. Jack Berberian
Dr. Peter J. Ajemian	Mr. Henry Hagopian

A stained-glass memorial window (St. Peter) donated by Ann Ajemian and her family in memory of the late Peter Ajemian Sr. designed by Seta Yavru-Sakuk, was installed over the center door of the St. Thomas sanctuary entrance and blessed during church services by Very Rev.Fr. Papken Anoushian on Sunday March 17, 1006, in the presence of family and friends.

## PETER AJEMIAN SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Principal at ACEF			5,081.25
1994 ACEF Interest	337.50		
1995 ACEF Interest	312.50		
<b>Total Interest Accrued</b>			<u>650.00</u>
			5,731.25
June 1996 Scholarship		450.00	
<b>BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/96</b>			<u>5,281.25</u>

Respectfully submitted  
Ann Ajemian

## A.C.Y.O.A JUNIORS - 1996 CALENDAR

January	19	"Rock and Jock" basketball game at Greek Church
February	17	Nets vs Knicks basketball game
March	29	Meeting
April	19	Meeting
May	17	Spring Dance
	24-27	Boston Sports Weekend
June	30	Meeting (elections)
August		Board meeting with Hayr Soorp
September	13	Meeting
	15	Bake Sale
	22	Car Wash
	29	Car Wash Rain Date
October	18	Halloween Dance
November	9-10	ACYOA Jrs. work at Bazaar

December 17 Bake Sale  
 7 Visit to Emerson Armenian Old Age Home  
 20 Meeting/Lecture about Armenian Christmas  
 21 Ari's Restaurant lunch  
 24 Christmas Eve singing

Chairladies Gareen Hamalian, Kim Karagozian  
 Secretary Tamar Kherlopian, Tina Steele, Lucy Tovmasian  
 Treasurer Berj Khatchadourian

**A.C.Y.O.A. JUNIORS TREASURER'S REPORT - 1996**

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance on hand as of January 1996			3,213.76
Nets tickets	521.00	780.00	
Sports Nite Greek Church		174.15	
Mailings - Stamps/supplies		179.66	
Old Age Home Visits		87.23	
Palm Sunday Church Donation		1,000.00	
D.J. Spring Dance		300.00	
Spring Dance	1,450.00	168.58	
Bake Sales	241.00		
Dues	5.00		
Bazaar	48.00		
Sports Weekend - Bus surcharge/chaperon		443.34	
New Checkbook charge		59.99	
D.J. Fall Dance		300.00	
Fall Dance	<u>1,110.00</u>	<u>184.31</u>	
	3,375.00	3,677.26	
<b>BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996</b>			<b><u>\$2,911.60</u></b>

Respectfully submitted  
 Berj Khatchadourian-Treasurer

**AVAK SOCIETY SENIOR CITIZENS - TREASURER'S REPORT - 1996**

**OFFICERS:**

Chairman Charles Sarajian  
 Secretary Arax Berberian  
 Treasurer Charles Sarajian  
 Asst. Treasurer Zephre Bandazian

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance as of 4/29/96 (Midlantic Bank)			2,838.54
Membership 4/29/96 (43)	129.00		
Weekly dues	1,903.00		
Donation - Violet Ouzoonian	80.00		
Misc. Income	<u>39.46</u>		
	2,151.46		<u>2,151.46</u>
			4,990.00
Refreshments		1,481.45	
Choreg Expenses (Bazaar Donation)		67.40	
St. Thomas Church		<u>500.00</u>	
		2,048.85	<u>2,048.85</u>
<b>BALANCE - ORITANI BANK, CHECKING ACCT. as of 12/18/96</b>			<b><u>\$2,941.15</u></b>

Respectfully submitted  
 Charles Sarajian, Chairmen - Treasurer



## ST. THOMAS CHURCH CHOIR REPORT

Chairman: Marie Zokian  
Vice-Chairman: Ara Martaian  
Treasurer: Andrew Martaian  
Recording Secretary: Mary Sanossian  
Corresponding Secretary: Araxie Diratzouian  
Advisors: Jeanie Amerkanian  
Susan Shamamian/Parish Council Liaison  
Choir Director/Organist: Susan Shamamian

The St. Thomas Choir was pleased to welcome four new members in 1996. Once again, we enjoyed a very busy and edifying year enhanced by a true spirit of camaraderie within our group.

Susan Shamamian, our Director/Organist, continued to hold rehearsals regularly, teach us additional hymns and special services, and enthusiastically lead us every Sunday in singing the Morning Service and Divine Liturgy. A special achievement this year was our increased proficiency in presenting the numerous, extremely difficult "sharagans" that comprise the lengthy Holy Week services.

Our conscientious Choir Chairman, Marie Zokian, and her dedicated Executive Board set a fine example with their excellent attendance record at services and rehearsals. We are, indeed, fortunate, to have many members who not only sing and come to practice cheerfully, but are always ready and willing to lend their voices at weddings, wakes and funerals upon request. Participation in such sacraments has resulted in gracious donations from the families involved and augmented our treasury.

Assisting our Pastor on the altar during the year were Deacon Bedros Sarkissian and Altar Servers Levon Altiparmakian, Tavit Cakirdas, Dr. Levon Capan, Vicken Ezgilioglu, Andrew Martaian and Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk, as well as numerous young boys who are trainees and some who served as candle-holders.

During Lent three talented ladies (Araxie Diratzouian, Shnorhig Minassian and Marie Zokian) of our organization sponsored a Tahini Bread Sale to benefit the Choir and were responsible for making a sizeable profit, with the assistance of Sales Manager Ann Cravotta. We thank them for their hard work and are grateful to the many parishioners who supported this endeavor.

It has been a long-time tradition at St. Thomas for our Choir members to accompany our Pastor on his Armenian Christmas and Easter visits to the Armenian Home for the Aged in Emerson, NJ, and this year was no exception. With tears in our eyes, we sang the Divine Liturgy and brightened the day of the many appreciative residents there. Also, we annually contribute part of the proceeds from our Easter Sunday Plate Collection to the Association of Armenian Church Choirs of America (AACCA) to assist with its many worthwhile programs. St. Thomas is one of the largest donors to this annual appeal by the AACCA.

A highlight of 1996 was the 50th Annual Assembly of the AACCA, which took place October 24-27 at St. Vartan Cathedral in New York City. Susan Shamamian and Levon Altiparmakian served as delegates this year, representing our Choir and Altar Servers, respectively. Members from St. Thomas also sang in the multi-parish Choir for the Divine Liturgy that was celebrated on Sunday of that weekend by His Beatitude, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Patriarch of Jerusalem and pioneer of the AACCA, who was the honored guest of the AACCA at this historic event.

We were delighted that devoted Choir members Mary and Harry Sanossian were honored this year as recipients of the St. Thomas Award for their long-term service to the church. They also represented the Choir as Managers of the popular Ice Cream Booth at our parish's Annual Bazaar in November. Congratulations, Mary and Harry!

In December several members of our Choir, along with students from the Kirikian Armenian School of St. Thomas, were invited to participate in the Christmas Concert sponsored by the Diocese at St. Vartan Cathedral, under the direction of Maestro Khoren Meikhanedjian. It was a privilege for us to be part of this unique holiday event. Our fundraising effort directed toward the eventual purchase of a painting for the Votive Candle area in the rear of our church progressed substantially in 1996 and will continue in 1997. When adequate monies are raised, we will formally commission the renowned artist Levon Mnazakanian for a painting of St. Gregory of Narek to complement his two other masterpieces that currently grace the sanctuary of St. Thomas Church.

**ST. THOMAS CHURCH CHOIR - FINANCIAL REPORT - 1996**

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>DISBURSEMENT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
<u>BALANCE 12/31/95</u>			\$ 1,925.80
*St. Thomas Armenian Church (In lieu of Flowers- Manuk Capan)		\$25.00	
*Donation from Mr. & Mrs.Nazar Nazarian (Satenig Nazarian Wake & Funeral)	\$200.00		
*American Express Gift Cheque for Sanossian (St. Thomas Award)		\$102.50	
*Easter Sunday Choir Plate Collection	\$321.00		
*Tahini Bread Sale Profit	\$751.00		
*Choir Member's Donations toward Sanossian's Gift	\$110.00		
*Choir Supplies		\$62.52	
*AACCA 1996 Assembly Booklet Ad		\$100.00	
*1996 Choir Day Plate Offering for AACCA		\$175.00	
*Donation from Mary Tashjian in memory of Jeanette Tashjian	\$100.00		
*Group Choir/Altar Servers Photo Expenses for AACCA 50th Anniversary Booklet		\$64.83	
*Delegate Expenses for AACCA Assembly (Oct.24-27,1996)		\$330.00	
*Donation from Shake Torigian for Torigian - Salibian Wedding	\$250.00		
*Donation from Nadiroglu/Dammers Wedding	\$250.00		
*Donation from Delimelkonoglu/Matatyian Wedding	\$250.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,232.00</b>	<b>859.85</b>	
<u>BALANCE 12/31/96</u>			<u>\$ 3,297.95*</u>

\* Earmarked for acquisition of painting of St. Gregory of Narek for Votive Candle area in church.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The mission of St. Thomas Sunday School is to teach the children and youth of this parish to love God; to worship Him; to serve Him; and to live for Him.

This is accomplished by teaching them about our Christian faith, the Badarak, the Bible, our Saints, and how to live the Christian life on a daily basis. To accomplish this, we use the Bible and the curriculum textbooks published by the Diocesan Department of Religious Education.

The devoted staff members are: Tamar Kherlopian (year of service), Jean Karagosian, Kimberly Karagozian, Gareen Hamalian, Diane Bairamian, Diane Markarian, Douglas Martaian, Sona Aris, John Bashian, and Shnorig Bashian.

Additional special activities include the following: Crop Walk for Hunger (\$400), UNICEF Trick or Treat (\$247.45), Church Bazaar (\$1600), Christmas Dinner and Program, Poon Paregentan Pizza Party, Easter Communion breakfast with the Kirikian Armenian School, Year-End Pizza Party, and our Graduation/Reception. This past year in August 1996 on Assumption of Mary, we held our first summer picnic. The entire church was invited and it turned out to be a great success.

All the students partake of Holy Communion once a month. During the other Sundays we attend Badarak at different parts in order to experience the whole Badarak. We thank God for giving us another year to serve Him. We also thank our beloved Parish Priest Very Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. Vartabed Anoushian for his spiritual guidance and advice. We also thank our devoted Parish Council members, the Caspar Kasparian Memorial Fund committee, and the parents of our Sunday School students for their generous support and cooperation.

A special thanks goes to our devoted teachers for their faithfulness in coming regularly in order to teach our students about our Christian faith and church.

Last but not least, a special thanks to our precious students who give us the pleasure of serving them by coming to Sunday School on a regular basis.

There is no better way to end than with our Lord's words: "Let these children come unto me." Indeed, through the Sunday School, St. Thomas Church is helping our children come to Him. We are grateful for the opportunity to part of His mission.

Submitted by Shnorig Bashian  
Sunday School Superintendent

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - TREASURER'S REPORT 1996**

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1996			1,494.46
Registration	1,260.00		
Sunday School Offering	436.25		
Donation	615.00		
Bibles	135.00	135.93	
Supplies		368.93	
Textbooks		226.45	
Telephone		133.13	
Postage		127.70	
Graduation	35.00	409.78	
Gifts&			
Children & Teacher's Parties		1,186.83	
Miscellaneous		141.28	
Christmas Dinner	1,335.00	984.00	
Lenten Dinner	<u>210.00</u>	<u>210.00</u>	
	4,026.25	3,924.03	
<b>ENDING BALANCE DEC. 31, 1996</b>			1,596.68

**FAMILY AUXILIARY OF ST. THOMAS**

The Family Auxiliary of St. Thomas was founded in May, 1994. It is an organization where every member of the family is welcome. The main objective is to regularly bring together all household members in a family atmosphere and at the same time to assist St. Thomas Armenian Church whenever help is needed. The spirit of friendship and belonging to St. Thomas is fostered on these occasions as the whole family is involved.

The Family Auxiliary held the following activities during 1996:

The September Fall Kef Night and December 31, New Year's Eve celebration were both a financial and social success. Members of the Family Auxiliary also participated in the Palm Sunday Dinner, the Memorial Day Picnic and the Annual Bazaar.

The proceeds from Kef Night was \$5,766.

The proceeds from the New Years Eve Dinner Dance was \$17,427.12

The organization is open to all parishioners. Everyone is welcome to attend. The officers are: Ani Capan-Chairperson, Sylva Torosian-Co-Chairperson, Mari Camcikyan-Treasurer, Ani Barsamian-Secretary, Mari Kucukyan-Publicity, Ayda Kilerciyan, and Irma Saganda-Advisors.

**FAMILY AUXILIARY OF ST. THOMAS - FINANCIAL REPORT - 1996**

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Opening Balance			257.77
Fall Dinner Dance	5,766.00		
New Year's Eve Party	17,427.12		
Turned over to St. Thomas		<u>23,193.12</u>	
	<u>23,193.12</u>	23,193.12	
<b>BALANCE ON HAND</b>			<u>\$257.77</u>

## KIRIKIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL

Language is the ingredient which connects time past with time present and future. The knowledge of language is a vital link to keeping a proud and noble culture alive for generations to come. Toward that end, the Kirikian Armenian School strives to instill in its students a love and pride of knowledge in their ethnic heritage.

Enrollment this year reflects the fact that several families have moved from this area. Classes range from nursery to seventh grade. Due to a growing need, there are bilingual classes, one for English speaking students and another for bi-lingual students, in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grades. All children must take a reading and spelling test at the end of each year. The seventh graders have to pass a comprehensive three hour test to graduate, and an optional Armenian History test of 100 questions to qualify for an award. Every grade must also take a standardized test from the Diocese to go on to the next level. Also, an incentive gift is given to encourage promptness.

Trophies or certificates are given at the annual Hantes and Graduation for the following achievements: George Shahinian Award for Perfect Attendance, the Edward Bashian Award for Armenian History, the Rupen Saddler Award for Armenian Reading and the Dr. Harout and Shake Mekhjian Armenian Spelling Award.

The Kirikian Armenian School has a paid faculty and other expenses are as noted in our financial report. Funds are raised entirely by the School. Most of these monies are derived through tuition. However, the Mothers' Committee augments income through the Bazaar Booth, Annual Armenian Christmas Dinner, Luncheons, End of Year Hantes, the publications of our cookbook (750 cookbooks have already been printed with a 3rd printing ordered), and many other events. We are also deeply grateful for the help our benefactors continually give us.

The special events of the past year included:

1. An Armenian Christmas dinner in January
2. Vartanantz Day and Poon Paregentan celebration in February.
3. In April, participation during Easter Week Services
4. Easter Communion Breakfast.
5. Commemoration of Martyrs Day
6. In May, annual Spring Brunch for parents and friends.
7. Year end Hantes in June
8. Opening of the school in September.
9. Celebration of Soorpotz Tarkmanchats at the Diocese.
10. Trip to the United Nations
11. Hokehankisd and Fellowship commemorating the Anniversary of the Earthquake in Armenia.

Faculty: Ani Capan, Hourig Broukian, Mari Kuruzian, Ani Kecoglu, Queenie Tashjian, Seta Yavru-Sakuk, Sossi Salbashian, Marie Zokian, Margaret Sinanian, Maro Hajakian, Siranus Gulbenkian, Nazig Sestetian, Araxi Diratzouian, Mari Camcikyan, Sirvart Demirjian, Mary Tashjian, Shnorig Bashian, Nina Terzian.

### KIRIKIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/95			21,249.10
Salaries (\$735 X 35 weeks) X 18 teachers		25,725.00	
Tuition (86 X 180)	15,480.00		
(4 X 50)	200.00		
Tuition Refund		150.00	
Bus Khirimian & School	2,915.00	2,895.00	
St. Vartan Bookstore		1,357.50	
St. Thomas Bookstore		295.50	
Armenian Christmas Dinner	5,930.00	2,519.00	
Donations: Mekhjian ACEF, Shahinian ACEF			
Memorials etc.	1,432.50		
Spring Brunch	1,340.11		
Annual Bazaar Booth	1,583.41		
Hantes	1,280.00	357.13	
Postage		502.79	
School Supplies		257.24	
Scarves	102.00	68.00	
Chess	240.00	145.00	
Candy Sale	4,589.50	2,189.39	
Pictures	280.00	130.28	
Graduation Gowns	270.00	261.00	
Christmas Party - Students		<u>210.31</u>	
	<u>35,642.52</u>	<u>37,063.14</u>	

**BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1996**

**\$19,828.48**

**These Figures Reflect Approximated Expenses For Activity From January 1 - December 31.**

**The School Year Is From September 1 - June 30.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Ann Saraydarian, Treasurer

## MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL REPORT

We began 1996 with the election of officers and designation of committee heads. They are:

Chairman	Matthew Keshishian
Vice President	Dick Keurajian
Recording Secretary	Vahan Parseghian
Corresponding Secretary	Arman Ajamian
Committee Heads:	
Cooking	Paul Kahaumjian
Entertainment	Ohon Melikian
Membership	Art Azarik
Sunshine	Charlie Sarajian
Fruit Sale	Zaven Poosikian
Christmas Party	Jack Ekizian
Basketball Dinner	Paul Kahaumjian
Belmar Outings	Zaven Poosikian
Super Bowl Party	Matthew Keshishian
Picnic	Arman Kazanjian
	Dick Donigian
	Greg Sahajian

During the year we had 10 meetings which consisted of dinners, followed by a guest speaker and a general membership meeting. The majority of our meetings are held in the Church Hall, however some are held at restaurants. Highlighting some of our meetings: March is our annual corn beef and cabbage dinner under the leadership of Ara Pekmezian. April's meeting is our annual dinner for the members and coaches and officials of the Church Basketball leagues. The dinner was headed by Paul Kahaumjian, chaired by our chairman, with Hayr Soorp Papken Anoushian handling of the presentation of gifts to each participant and coaches. Charlie Sarajian arranged for a dinner and night at the Meadowlands Race Track in the beginning of May and Zaven Poosikian set up our visit to Belmar at the end of May. In June with had a joint shish kabob dinner with Women's Guild and concludes the first part of the year with our annual picnic in July in Pascac Brook Park, anchored by Dick Donigian. In September we had another trip to Belmar and in November we had our annual fruit sale which was led by Zaven Poosikian and George Movesian. We concluded the year with joint Christmas party with the Men's Club from St. Vartanantz Church, with appreciation to Nubar Boyajian and Paul Pinajian.

### MEN'S CLUB TREASURER'S REPORT - 1996

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance on Hand			\$2,594.76
Membership Dues	870.00		
Postage		121.00	
Dinner Meetings	2,055.00	1,521.16	
Fruit Sales 1995	43.00		
Fruit Sales 1996	6,462.00	3,991.75	
Super Bowl 1996	112.00		
Men's Club Picnic Park Fees		25.00	
Cotillion Ad		125.00	
Awards to Players & Coaches		149.57	
Turned Over to Parish Council		2,020.00	
Gym Rentals-Basketball team expense			1,266.00
Donations	500.00		
Gifts to Speakers		15.00	
Get Well Cards and Postage		7.00	
	-----	-----	
	10,042.00	9,241.48	
<b>BALANCE ON HAND</b>			<b><u>\$3,395.28</u></b>

Less Reserve for Basketball Gym Rentals for November, December, January, February and March. The Bills Come in 1997.

## WOMEN'S GUILD 1996 ANNUAL REPORT

**President**

Very Rev.Fr. Papken Dz.V. Anoushian, Pastor

### EXECUTIVE BOARD (ELECTED)

	<u>January 1 - June 30, 1996</u>	<u>July 1 - December 31, 1996</u>
Chairwomen	Violet K. Ouzoonian	V. K. Ouzoonian
Vice Chairwomen	Lorraine Khatchadourian Irene Khorozyan & Hersik Allaverdian	I. Khorozyan & H. Allaverdian
Corresponding Secretary	Marion Babigian	Silva Asadourian
Recording Secretary	Susan Avakian-Stoneson	Rotating Basis
Treasurer	Seta Izmirly	Seta Izmirly
Church Women United Advisors	Yeretzgin V. Kasparian	Yeg. V. Kasparian Shnorig Minassian Sylva Torosian
Advisor & Publicity Nominating Committee	Mary Ann Saraydarian May Simsarian, Arax Palakian & Virginia Victoria	Mary Ann Saraydarian Olympia Jebejian, Seta Jebejian & Vesna Markarian

### STANDING COMMITTEES (APPOINTED Same except where noted)

CASP	Sona Demergy	
Cotillion Chairwomen	Seta Yavru-Sakuk	Shake Torigian & Ann Ajemian Shoghig Kherlopien
Debs & Escorts	Sona Demergy & Beverly Hajinlian	
Historian	Mary Varteresian	
Hospitality	Elizabeth DeLuca	
Mahs	Araxie Diratzouian	
Membership	Sona Doudoukjian	
Parish Council Liaison	Ann Ajemian	
Parliamentarian	Rose Mekenian	
Phone Squad	Joan Bogosian & Marion Kahaumjian	
Photographer	Adrin Kucukyantirian	
Social Services:		
Blood Drive	Queenie Tashjian & Mari Camcikian	
Emerson Home	Queenie Tashjian, Betty Zorayan & Arax Parseghian	
Sunshine	Celia Martaian	
Ways & Means	Martha Saraydarian	

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 9	Armenian Christmas Service & Breakfast, Home for the Armenian Aged
January 19	CWU Program
	W.G. General Meeting & Program by Mr. Krikor Markarian, Antique Dealer
January 21	CWU Blanket Sunday
21	Cotillion Mother & Daughter Tea at Shake Mekhjian's Home
25	Emerson Home, Birthday Celebration, Betty, Queenie, Arax
February 1	Condolence visit to Pauline Pekmezian loss of Dad
11	Sona & Charles Doudoukjian's son Gregory ordained into priesthood
12	Investigating of Photographer for Cotillion Adrin Kucukyantirian
	Cotillion Invitations sent out Gladys Fenarjian & Marilou Pinajian
16	Cancellation of Women's Guild Meeting because of snow
23	WGGM & Program presented by Yeretzgin Mary Ashjian
March 1	CWU, Yeg. V. Kasparian chairwomen, Betty Zoraian reader
6	Meeting at Tamcrest - menu Seta Yavru, Irene Khorozyan
9	Armenian Women Saints Day Regional Lenten Luncheon, Martha Saraydarian
15	WGGM & inspiring Program presented by Father Papken Anoushian
April 2	Rehearsal at church with debs & escorts, Sona Demergy & Beverly Hajinlian
4	Holy Thursday service & communion breakfast at Emerson Home
8	Executive Board Meeting at Seta Izmirly's Home
15	Meeting at Diana Markarian's home co-chair Alicia Demirjian for June Luncheon

- 17 Cotillion rehearsal at Tamcrest Country Club for debs & escorts
- 19 WGGM & Program by Hasmig Demerjian (Thanks to Olympia Jebejian)
- 20 Attended day-long session on "Prayer" by W.G. of St. Stepanos, Elberon, N.J.
- 24 Confirm Reservations at Tamcrest Country Club Vivian Stepanian & Ann Ajemian
- 27 Cotillion Booklet success thanks to M. A. Saraydarian, V. Victoria, S. A. Stoneson
- May 3-5 Attended 10th Annual W.G. Assembly in Wynewood, Pa.
- 3 CWU May Fellowship Day Luncheon at Presbyterian Church
- 7 CIA Tour & Lunch: Grace Hagopian, Lorraine Khatchadourian & Madlen Setian
- 16 WGGM & Program by Yeg. Roberta Kochakian
- 22 Tulip Painting for June luncheon, Elise Poosikian, artist
- 27 Car Raffle Tickets for Church Picnic, Rima Amirsaleh distributor for W.G.
- 31 Gift wrapping at Martha's house for June luncheon
- June 2 Requiem Service Committee: S. Doudoukjian, H. Ajemian & M. Hajjar
- 5 Lovely pool-side luncheon & fashion show at home of Martha Saraydarian
- 28 Barbecue with Men's Club, Meeting & Program by Suzanne Demirjian Akian
- July 9 Executive Board Meeting at church
- 17 Blood Drive, Queenie Tashjian
- 30 Fun at the shore
- September Met with Haig Tashjian, received artifacts and 17 piece Nativity grouping
- 11 Executive Board Meeting
- 20 WGGM & Plant Exchange
- October 16 Membership Tea, Marion Kahaumjian & Shnorik Minassian
- 21 Bazaar Project decorative plates Alice Goulazian & Betty Zoraian
- November 1 CWU Program in Englewood
- 4-10 Bazaar: A. Balakian, O. Soukiassian, A. Palakian, M. Camcikian, A. Ajemian
- 13 Recuperation Visit to Mary Varteresian
- 15 WGGM & Gourmet Program: I. Khorozian, S. Minassian & Z. Baydar
- 18 Condolence visit to Yeg. V. Kasparian, loss of mom
- 25 Executive Board Meeting at church
- December 4 Christmas Luncheon at White Beeches, Joan Bogosian

Under the CASP Program, we are continuing to sponsor a young girl and now have a new boy, as the previous boy "has been taken home by his mother". St. Tarkmanchatz Secondary School in Jerusalem is also in receipt of our support.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our Women's Guild has had a very successful year only because of the efforts of each and every one of those who gave untiring of themselves. You are sincerely appreciated.

We thank our Mahs Chairwomen, Araxie Diratzouian and her efficient committee for their devotion in providing us with Mahs each Sunday.

In addition to the Emerson Home, we have visited nursing homes where our members now reside. We pray that God's will be done and these dear people do not suffer greatly. Please call Betty, Queenie or Arax and join in when a visit is made to our "shut ins".

We remembered our departed member, Alice Goulian and she is in our prayer.

Virginia Victoria has been diligent in delivering food that you have placed in our basket at church to the Center For Food Action in N.J. A recent letter from them states how our "support makes a tremendous difference". Please continue to donate canned goods, etc., to this worthy cause.

Our January program with Diana Markarian, son, Ara, and husband, Krikor, who is an antique dealer, was a most interesting and educational evening. Snowed out on February 16th, but on the 23rd Yeg. Mary Ashjian's video from Kharabagh and her experiences during World War II were absorbing. From Hayr Soorp's inspiring discussion on "Women and the Bible", to Yeg. Roberta Kochakian's knowledgeable presentation as a gemologist, to the gold medal recipient Hasmig Demirjian for her extraordinary cake decorating, to the "Ins and Outs of Investing in Municipal Bonds" by Suzanne Demirjian Akian, our programs continued to be enhanced by a group of very talented people.

The festivities for the Cotillion started with the Mother & Daughter Tea held in January at Shake Mekhjian's lovely home. Nine debs and 14 escorts participated enjoying numerous parties, which lasted even into summer. The success of the Cotillion is due to the interest of the parents, to the young people, to friends and relatives and to our committee. The following committee people responsible for our success were: S. Yavru, M.A. Saraydarian, V. Victoria, S. Demerjian, B. Hajinlian, V. Stepanian, M. Saraydarian, G. Fenarjian, M. Pinajian, A. Ajemian, S. Izmirly, I. Khorozian, J. Keshishian, A. Kucukyantirian, S.A. Stoneson, Richard and Gregory Saraydarian.

Winter Weather really lived up to its name in '96, but this did not deter the preparations for our Women's Saints Day Commemoration in March. Martha Saraydarian chaired the Lenten luncheon. Chefs were: Mary Barikian,

A. Diratzouian, S. Minassian. Assisting them were: Aida Bozian, Zarmine Baydar, B. Zorayan, M. Hart, S. Karalian, I. Saganda, M. A. Saraydarian, H. Yakoubian. The morning church service was conducted by Hayr Soorp, along with Susan Shamamian, Dr. L. Capan, Osanna Soukiassian, S. Yavru, G. Hagopian, V. Victoria. The following people helped to make the afternoon portion memorable: S. Shamamian, S. Torosian, M. A. Saraydarian, Eileen Barsamian, I. Khorozian, Bertha Poosikian, A. Kucukyantirian, H. Allaverdian, L. Khatchadourian, K. Khatchadourian, R. Mekenian, L. Karalian, A. Palakian, M. Hajjar and S. Shahinian.

For our pool-side luncheon and fashion show at Martha Saraydarian's charming home, it was decided to serve hors d'oeuvres by the pool with a buffet luncheon indoors. Co-chairwomen were Alicia Demerjian and Dina Markarian with assistance from A. Ajemian, H. Allaverdian, M. Chakmakjian, M. Hajjar, L. Khatchadourian, C. Martaian, E. Poosikian. Models were E. Barsamian, S. Kherlopian, H. Kherlopian, A. Kucukyantirian, A. Mekhjian, Madlen E. Setian, S. Shahinian and S. Yavru. It was a bright, sunny day, the raffle prizes were lovely, our gals did the finery complete justice and in all, it was a very successful event.

Marion Kahaumjian & Shnorik Minassian did a splendid job for our **Membership Tea**. The Executive Board and Standing Committees provided the food. It was not only delicious but appealing and coordinated perfectly with the decorations. Committee members were: A. Demirjian, S. Markarian, H. Allaverdian, J. Bogosian, A. Diratzouian, J. Ekizian, M. Minassian, T. Sarajian, O. Soukiassian & B. Zorayan. Superb entertainment on the piano was by the young and talented Tamar Asadourian. Araxy Gokberk, W. G. Central Council Liaison led the inspirational service as Z. Baydar and M. V. Hajjar took part. Additional new members unable to attend were Lucy Maserjian, Rose Cravotta & Hasmig Nishanian.

A thank you to Haig Tashjian for donating the lovely **artifacts** and ceramic **Nativity grouping** to our Guild. These pieces were displayed at our Membership Tea. The 17 piece ceramic Nativity grouping was displayed during the Christmas Season and will remain at St. Thomas. A few artifacts remain and are for purchase. Please call me if you are interested.

The ladies worked very hard for the success of our **Bazaar**. Our projects were the **White Elephant** booth which Arax Balakian and O. Soukiassian co-chaired with assistance from: S. Kapakjian, Q. Tashjian, A. Keshian, S. Shahinian, B. Zorayan, D. Markarian, R. Garjian, A. Berberian, S. Takoushian, S. Tashjian, Kim Karagosian, R. Derderian, A. Davoudian, L. Aroosian, S. Balakian. Arax Palakian ran the **Boutique** booth with help from Silva Nazar, S. Torosian, L. DeLuca, C. Shamamian, A. Davoudian, S. Takoushian, M. Simsarian, E. Dinkjian, B. Zoraian, O. Jebejian. Mari Camcikian was overall chairwoman and A. Ajemian ran the **Gourmet** booth.

Those who attended our November Meeting and stayed for our **Program** were delighted by the outcome. Shnorik Minassian demonstrated her baking talents using a cake rolled into a log, which could be modified for different holidays. Z. Baydar explained how to perfect a farina cake. I. Khorozian demonstrated how to warm and then form raw cheese into string cheese. Their samples were delicious.

Our **Christmas Luncheon** was held at the White Beeches Country Club. This day was special, thanks to Joan Bogosian and her able committee M. Hajjar, L. Khatchadourian, A. Kucukyantirian, C. Martaian & S. Tashjian. We all felt the holiday spirit thanks to the committee and Rose Mekenian who led us in song and to dear Lucy Dabagian from St. Leon's who played the piano so willingly.

**Additional appreciation to :** Very Rev.Fr.Papken Dz.V.Anoushian; The Executive Board and Standing Committees again; Grace Hagopian, CIA trip and much more; to Maral Hajjar for not only the W.G. list; to Margaret Lawlor for being Sunshine gal for a while; M. Setian for Nor Tar reminders; Artemis Arslanian Helping with her piano; to those of you who attend our functions and who are supportive. Lastly, I must thank Lorraine Khatchadourian for her proofing most of my work.

Respectfully submitted  
Violet K. Ouzoonian, Chairwomen  
Women's Guild of St. Thomas Armenian Church



**WOMEN'S GUILD FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1996**

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance on hand 1/1/96			4,549.07
Dues	1,500.00		
Interest Income	110.74		
Cotillion Booklet	9,310.00		
Cotillion	31,640.00	30,401.90	
Postage		440.50	
Refreshments		140.59	
In Lieu of Flowers		75.00	
St. Thomas Pledge (1996)		11,000.00	* 1,000 Prepaid in 1995
St. Thomas Pledge (Prepayment 1997)		5,000.00	
Membership Tea	240.00	126.17	
Misc.	83.00	78.17	
Christmas Lunch (1995)	20.00		
Christmas Lunch (1996)	4,692.57	3,822.34	
Culinary Inst. Trip	2,460.00	1,626.18	
Women's Saints Day - Lenten Lunch	2,202.75	1,957.00	
November Gourmet Meeting	99.00	19.35	
Blanket Sunday	75.00	75.00	
Emerson Home	132.00		
Hokehankisd	515.00	18.00	
C.A.S.P	320.00	500.00	
June Fashion Show-Lunch	2,752.00	1,079.05	
Dues-Church Women United		100.00	
St. Tarkmanchatz School		100.00	
Sunshine		146.52	
Dues Women's Guild Central Council		270.00	
Women's Guild - Book Bags		175.00	
Women's Guild - 4 Delegates - Registration		48.00	
Plates for Bazaar		65.52	
Printing of Checks		57.65	
Bank Charges		44.00	
	<u>56,152.06</u>	<u>57,365.94</u>	
Income 1996	56,152.06		
Balance on Hand 1/1/96	<u>4,549.07</u>		
	60,701.13		
Expenses '96	<u>57,365.94</u>		
<b>BALANCE 12/31/96</b>			<u><b>\$3,335.19</b></u>