



The Holy Ascension Armenian Church

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1241 Barnum Avenue, Bridgeport, Conn. 06610 Tel. 333-8475

February 20, 1972

Pastor
Rev. Fr. Guregh Kalfayan

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 1971

At the annual Parish Assembly Meeting, which was held on February 28, 1971, the following were elected as new members of the 1971 Parish Council:

Mr. Ralph Trapasso	Dr. Berdj Harabedian
Mr. Berch Khachadourian	and
Mr. Richard Kalfaian	Mr. George Maljanian.

Much to our regret, Mr. Harry Magazian, who was elected in 1970 for two years, resigned on April 6, 1971. Therefore, Mr. Robert Jezairian, having had the next highest number of votes in the election, joined the present Parish Council for a one year term.

At our first Parish Council meeting, which was held on March 29, 1971, the following officers were elected:

Dr. Berdj Harabedian, Chairman
Mr. Berch Khachadourian, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ralph Trapasso, Recording Secretary
Mr. Richard Kalfaian, Corresponding Secretary
Mr. Jack Demirjian, Treasurer
Mr. George Maljanian, Vice-Treasurer.

Meetings were held regularly every two weeks, and a total of twenty-nine meetings were held during this period.

On April 21, 1971, a special combined meeting with all the auxiliaries was held and a "calendar of events" for the coming year was prepared. To date, the following affairs sponsored by the Parish Council have taken place:

Armenian Martyrs' Day, April 25th
Annual Church Picnic, August 1st
Special Movie Night, Sept. 11th
Farewell Party for the Etmekjians, Dec. 16th
and finally, St. Vartanantz Day Celebration, which took place on Feb. 6th of this year. The church name day affair was organized by the special 40th anniversary committee.



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Upon taking office, we were faced with many financial difficulties, and on June 28th, 1971, we were compelled to hold a special parish assembly. A motion was passed at that meeting that a collateral loan of \$ 3,500.00 be arranged. This was done on July 23, 1971 through the Peoples Savings Bank.

In evaluating the cause of our financial problems, we discovered two major contributing factors. One, the special donations which were received in previous years were not received this year. Second, the motion which was made at last year's Parish Assembly meeting to deposit \$ 2,000.00 into the Savings Account. This was done in April, 1971.

Needless to say, the repairs of the church were not initiated.

However, I believe that all these problems had a positive effect. First, we realized the value and necessity of a Pledge Committee. And then, it became obvious that we should mainly depend on our own financial resources.

As a result, a new pledge committee was formed at the special parish assembly meeting. The members are:

Mr. Vahe Derounian
Mrs. Theresa Harabedian
Mr. Andrew Tarajian
Mr. Vartan Umaner

Their activity will be reported later today.

It pleases me very much, however, to inform you that \$1,000.00 already has been paid toward the collateral loan.

The Parish Council, realizing the importance of communication among the parishioners, took the initiative to compile and republish the monthly church bulletin. Since October, 1971, Pari Loor is being printed and mailed regularly.

Also, on a rotating system, every Sunday there are two parish council members present to serve you and the church needs.



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In conclusion, I am sure you will all agree with me when I say, that despite the financial difficulties, the parish council has done what they could to help keep the community together in a peaceful, and harmonious fashion.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank all the parishioners and auxiliary bodies who had faith in us, and helped financially, morally and physically to fulfill our duties to the best of our ability.

Thank you,

B. Harabedian M.D.

Dr. Berdj Harabedian
Chairman, Parish Council, 1971