

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY ASCENSION
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DELEGATE'S REPORT

The 81st Annual Diocesan Assembly of the Armenian Church of America was held on May 5th, 6th, and 7th, 1983 in Palos Heights, Illinois.

Of the one hundred and thirty-one (131) confirmed delegates, one hundred and one (101) were present. After the 80th annual Assembly minutes were read and approved, Father Untzag Nalbandian, the Armenian secretary of the Assembly read the message of his Holiness, Vazken I, Catholicos of all Armenians.

The officers of the Assembly were elected. The Primate delivered his address and a memorial prayer for all deceased delegates concluded the first session of the Assembly.

On May 6th, various committees, new Diocesan Council Members and the Board of Trustees were elected.

Col Victor Arzoumanian, director of the Armenian Church Endowment Fund reported the total assets, at the present time, amount to \$ 2,700,000.00. ~~He projected an approximate amount of \$ 6,000.00 for the year 1983.~~

Father Mampre Kouzian, Chairman of the Diocesan Council, read the Diocesan Council report for 1982.

Judge John Najarian, chairman of the Diocesan Unity By-Law Committee, informed the Assembly that "dialogue is being continued in 1983, but without much success".

The 1983 balanced budget of the Diocese in the amount of \$1,453,500.00 was proposed. This was put in to a motion and passed.

On May 7th, reports of the proposals committee were reviewed. The following by-law amendments were passed:

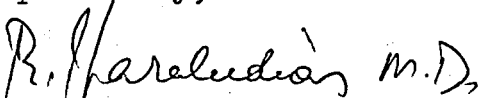
- a) The Diocesan Council shall consist of eleven (11) instead of ~~seven~~ members, of which four (4) shall be clergymen and seven shall be laymen.
- b) The copy of the budget of the Diocese must be sent to the delegates and local parish councils at least one month before the annual assembly.
- c) A sum of \$ 25,000.00 to be provided for the theological education of students preparing to serve as clergy in the Diocese.
- d) To establish a mandatory five day training program for the clergy. Each parish shall assume the cost of travel, lodging and meals for the Pastor.

Delegate's Report, continued

e) St. Nerses Seminary should have stronger and closer ties with the Diocese and should make annual reports to the Diocesan Assembly.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on May 7th, 1983. It was decided that the 1984 Diocesan Assembly be held in Fairlawn, New Jersey.

Respectfully,


Dr. Berdj Harabedian
Diocesan Delegate