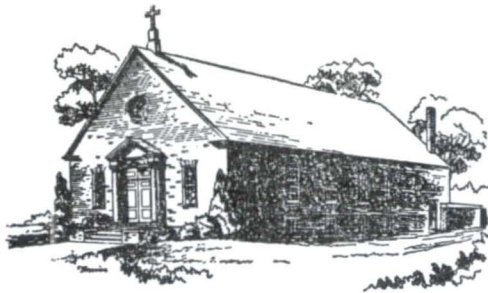


St. James
Armenian Apostolic Church
PATTERSON AND PEPPER AVENUES
RICHMOND, VA. 23226
PHONE 282-3818



REV. FR. ARSEN BARSAMIAN
PASTOR

RES. 705 WESTRIVER DRIVE 23229
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Religious-Educational - 1969 Pastoral Report - Der Arsen.

The Divine Liturgy service was celebrated every Sunday except the one Sunday that I was at the Diocesan Assembly and I was called upon to celebrate it there on that day. The Sundays that I had the broken arm, I was able to perform a Morning Service. I took no vacation this summer when I was deeply involved in trying to remedy the Sunday School situation; ACYOA Assembly; and the work with 4 new boys on the deacon parts. In addition Vigil Service (Husgoom) was performed on Wednesdays or other opportune times during the Lenten Period. The Holy Week services were especially burdensome because of the limited help and the many preparations that are necessary for that week. A sermon was delivered every week and educational message or exhortation on certain occasions. I made the arrangements for those Sundays when a guest speaker or preacher was invited. I continued my work with the boys on the deacon's part and am presently starting 4 more boys teaching them the deacon's part. I am also teaching the young deacons the Taniel which I hope will be ready by Easter Eve.. I worked with the choir at their rehearsals and administered Holy Communion to the Sunday School students 5 times last year. I helped students who were preparing reports on our church and national history by having special meetings with and loaning books. ^{then sometimes} ^{then as reference material.} I was personally involved in preparing the programs for many of the affairs making the announcements, writing letters, acting as Master of Ceremonies, etc. This is quite exhausting especially after doing service when many of the choir members were absent and delivering sermons. I was called on several occasions to give the invocation such as PTA meetings.

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Sacraments

Weddings - 1 Baptism - 5 Confirmation - 1 Funeral - 5

Pastoral Visitations

I made many visitations all of which related to our church. People sought advice and guidance on various matters and the visitations to the sick and bereaved were often and as regular as feasibly possible.

Meetings

Regular meetings with all the church affiliated organizations; one joint meeting with the Parish Council of Washington; Diocesan Assembly; ACYOA Constitutional Assembly in Detroit and The Annual ACYOA Assembly which our chapter hosted; special Sunday School meetings during the course of the summer months; meetings which the Primate held with our church organizations. Not only did I preside over most of these meetings but did much of the preparing and work evolving from them. Sometimes lectures were given at some of these such as to the Ladies Aid and ACYOA Groups.

Publicity

The Sevan Newsletter with special Easter & Christmas Bulletins. I was heavily involved in practically all of the announcements not only doing the Armenian but also the English. Articles and pictures were sent to local newspapers and diocesan publications publicising activities in our church and I handled correspondence on matters ~~pertainig~~ ^{pertainig} to the church