

February 10, 1982

Reverend Father Arsen Barsamian  
St. James Armenian Church  
834 Pepper Avenue  
Richmond, Virginia 23225

Dear Reverend Father:

We are in receipt of your letter dated December 11, 1981 regarding the participation of delegates to the Diocesan Assembly if parish dues have not been paid for two consecutive months during the calendar year.

Your letter was presented to the Diocesan Council and their previous decision remains in effect that non-participation of delegates is not the issue but rather decisions and elections of parish assemblies.

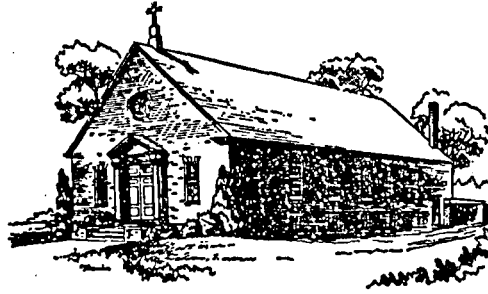
The Council's understanding of the directive dated September 11, 1981 is that delegates can participate in the Diocesan Assembly irrespective of non-payment of dues. However, approval of parish assembly decisions and elections will be subject to non-payment dues policy.

Yours respectfully,

Frank Avakian Stoneson  
Executive Director

FAS:lh

*St. James*  
**Armenian Church**  
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REV. FR. ARSEN BARSAMIAN  
PASTOR

RES. 705 WESTRIVER DRIVE 23229  
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December 11, 1981

Mr. Frank Avakian Stoneson, Executive Director  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of No. America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Stoneson,

In reference to your letter dated September 11, 1981 concerning Diocesan Assesments, questions arose in my mind as to the eligibility of present delegates now serving on various committees and also prospective candidates to be chosen for committees to be elected upon at the 80th Annual Diocesan Assembly.

For example, due to reasons which I stated at the 79th Annual Diocesan Assembly, my parish was in arrears for more than a two month period this year. Herewith this made all representatives from the Richmond Community ineligible to participate at the 80th Annual Diocesan Assembly.

Since our Annual Parish Assembly (as all others) will not take place until the end of January or the beginning of February, 1982, the letter requesting dispensation from the Diocese can not be sent until sometime in February and the answer can not be anticipated before March.

It seems that it will be only after receiving the approval of the Primate and Diocesan Council as stipulated in the decision last Assembly that those of us in the Diocese who are in/or were in delinquency will be eligible to again function for what we were elected; and all prospective candidates whose parishes are/or were in the arrears delinquency situation are ineligible to be candidates until the aforementioned approval and confirmation has been received.

If this being the case, it seems that until an affirmative response is received from the Diocesan Office sometime in March, all members of existing committees whose parishes had been/or are in arrears for more than two months are automatically ineligible; and only persons whose parishes having fulfilled the financial requirements during the course of the year, are presently eligible for candidacy to office.

I would appreciate a clarification on this matter as to whether this is correct or not.

With Holy Season's Greetings and best wishes,

I remain sincerely yours,

Rev. Fr. Arsen Barsamian

# Nominating Committee

cc. The Rev. Fr. Housig Bagdasian  
Pastor, St. Mary Armenian Church  
202 West Mount Pleasant Avenue  
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Mr. Garo Garibian  
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