

St. James Armenian Church 834 Pepper Avenue Richmond, Virginia 23226 (804) 282-3818

July 30, 1993

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate Diocese of Armenian Church 630 Second Avenue New York, NY 10016

Dear Srpasan Hayr:

We hope that you are in receipt of our letter dated July 2, 1993. We are anxiously waiting for your approval of Father Tavit Boyajian as pastor of St. James Armenian Church in Richmond, Virginia.

Recently we talked with Father Tavit and he is most receptive to locating in Richmond.

We would like to emphasize the importance of Father Tavit's appointment to our community. Besides the normal duties of a priest, we are desperately in need of someone to bring back the young people to our church.

Our community consists of more than 150 young people who were at one time active in church. For the past several years we have not had the pleasure of their attendance. Unfortunately, we have seen membership and the activities of youth groups dwindle. We must have someone who understand their needs to bring them back. In order for us to survive, the young must return to our church. We know that the right person can bring them back. That is why we are most definite that Father Tavit is the person to help us achieve this goal.

Father Tavit has meet with our ACYOA members and agrees wholeheartedly that he can help with our endeavors. For these reasons, we ask that His Grace please give much consideration to appointing Father Tavit very soon to be our permanent pastor.

We anxiously await your response.

Prayerfully,

Search Committee

John Baronian, Chairman

Azniv Amirkhanian

Virginia Greene Linda Sharigian

Lilly Thomas

Parish Council

Carol Garabetian, Chairman

Dorian Barsamian

Tigran Amirkhanian

Henry Magarian

Aram Topjian