

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Nineteen hundred and sixty-eight was a busy year for St. Mary's Parish. Your Parish Council did its best to meet the challenges of the year and to keep parish activity moving forward. We have done our best. Now it is time for a new Parish Council to take up the responsibilities.

The Parish Council has given of its energy, time and personal money on many occasions during the year in order that the many parish events we have all shared in could take place. Also individual Parish Councilmen hosted visiting priests during the four months we were without a permanent pastor.

We will not catalog a list of the accomplishments nor of the shortcomings of the past year. It was an unusual year insofar as visiting dignitaries for our parish and the Washington Armenian community.

We were sorry to see the departure of our former pastor, Father Paren Avedikian and we wish him well in the pursuit of his studies.

We welcome Surpazan Papken to his dual posts in Washington as Primate's Legate and spiritual leader of our parish.

Both in the successes and in the disappointments experienced in the past year the Parish Council has mirrored the abilities and church devotion of the total parish. The nine members of the Council merely represent the whole parish and need the help of auxiliary bodies and every parishioner in bringing success to parish endeavors. When some event is successful you can be certain parish support was high.

Without naming names, the Parish Council expresses its thanks to those who gave over and above their share in helping in the work of our church. At the same time we must note that some parishioners do less than their share. If St. Mary's is to realize its full potential as a strong parish in our Diocese those who have done much in the past but who are not doing a great deal now must renew their commitment to the Church; those who have never done their share must roll up their sleeves; those who are working hard now must continue their contribution.

A successful family is made up of members who do their share. Our parish family must expect the same from each member.

Caspar Kasparian  
Parish Council Chirman

The Parish Financial Reports prepared by the Church Treasurer, Edward Onanian, are contained on the following pages.

January 26, 1969

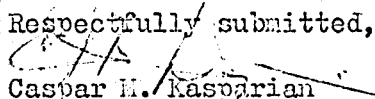
REPORT OF DIOCESAN DELEGATE TO THE APRISH ASSEMBLY

On May 3-4 1969 I had the honor and pleasure to represent our church at the annual Diocesan Assembly in the newly consecrated Mother Cathedral in New York City. This year the delegates had the unique and historic opportunity to participate in an assembly which was presided over by His Holiness Vasken I, Catholicos of All Armenians. I believe that all of the delegates were moved by this appearance and participation in the assembly of His Holiness. Also the fact that the assembly was being held in a magnificent new cathedral made the occasion a memorable one.

The delegates listened to reports and approved a budget of \$133,600 for 1968. The expenses in 1969 were \$111,963. As you see the financial obligations of our diocese continue upward as must be the case if we as a church are going to continue living and growing.

I introduced a resolution that the Bureau of the Census count Armenians as a ~~separate~~ separate entity in the 1970 Census. This was approved and the Primate sent a telegram to the Director of the Bureau of the Census. He received a reply from the Director that the Bureau will give the Diocese a count of all persons who indicate that they spoke Armenian in their homes. This will give a good figure for the total Americans of Armenian descent in America. Appropriate publicity campaigns will be conducted in late 1969.

No expenses were charged by me to the church. It has been a pleasure and honor to represent our church.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Caspar H. Kasparian