

REPORT OF DIOCESAN DELEGATES TO THE 1970 PARISH ASSEMBLY OF  
ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN CHURCH OF WASH DC, JAN 25, 1970

Bishop Papken and the two delegates, George Juskalian and Caspar Kasparian, attended the 67th annual assembly of the Diocese at the St. James Church, Watertown, in May 1969.

At the opening session 104 delegates, clergy and lay, were present; later during elections, 116 delegates were present.

The following major topics were discussed:

St. Hersess Seminary (Chicago). The Cuzoonian House is used on a part-time basis as required for religious conferences, meetings, workshops, etc. All seminarians under the St. Hersess program are attending the St. Vladimir Seminary in New York City. Deacons Kasparian and Haksoudian are giving Armenian course training to the students. (Note: Deacon Kasparian has recently been appointed as counsellor/director of the Armenian students at St. Vladimir.)

Educational Consultant. A motion was passed to hire an educational consultant to direct the religious educational work of the Diocese (\$9000).

(Such a position has not been filled to date to our knowledge.)

Membership Age. An amendment to the by-laws was passed permitting 18-yr. olds to become voting members of parishes except that 21 yrs. will be the minimum age for holding office in the parish.

Primate's Term of Office. An amendment to the by-laws was presented to extend the present 4-yr. term to 10 yrs. When it was evident the amendment would not pass, Washington D. C. proposed extending the term to 6 years. The assembly did not approve either proposal, although the 6 year proposal made by us failed only by two or three votes.

"Orthodox" in our Church Name. A proposal not to use the word "Orthodox" in connection with our church name was referred to the Primate.

Stipends to Clergy. The following guidelines for minimum stipends to clergy were passed with the recommendation that they be used by the parishes:

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Celibate</u>
Small	\$5600	\$5000
Intermediate	6200	5600
Large	7000	6200

In addition: \$1600 housing allowance for married clergy  
\$1200 housing allowance for celibate clergy  
\$750 for car expenses  
1/2 of the clergy insurance premium  
3 weeks vacation per year not to include trips to  
Diocesan or Clergy assemblies and ACYOA assemblies.  
Parishes are to pay the clergy's expenses in connection  
with the Diocesan Assembly

Diocesan Elections: The following were elected:

Diocesan Council

Very Rev. Arzoomanian (North Philadelphia)--4 years  
Rev. Dajad Davidian (Racine now Watertown)--4 years  
Rev. Levon Arakelian (Diocese) 2 years to fill the  
unexpired term of Rev. Hallajian who resigned from the  
Council.

Dr. James Etmekjian (Hartford) 4 years  
Mr. Crosby Goshgarian (Watertown) 4 years  
Mr. Edward Bashian (Tenafly) 4 years

Diocesan Trustee

Mr. Harry Tatosian (Holy Cross, NYC)

Administration of the Armenian Church. A proposal was passed to ask the  
Catholics to create and implement a written directive defining the  
jurisdictional structure of the Church for the purposes of uniform  
guidance and administration of the church.

Next Assembly in North Philadelphia. The 1970 Assembly will be held in the  
Holy Trinity Parish, Philadelphia.

Diocesan Budget. 1968 expenses were \$174, 134; income was \$144, 335,  
including a \$5000 donation from the AGBU for educational purposes. The  
approved 1969 budget was for \$197,000. This included the following:

Salaries.....	\$98,000
Building Maint. & Repair.....	38,000
Publications.....	22,000
Primate's Legate (Wash DC).....	500*

\*Washington DC attempted to increase the \$500 allowance to \$1000 and we were  
assured by the Diocesan treasurer that an additional \$500 would be available  
if the Primate's Legate needed it.

The above items include all the major topics of discussion at the Assembly.

The Diocesan Delegates from Washington paid their own expenses in  
connection with the 1970 Assembly.

We ask the members of St. Mary's if they have any specific issues or  
proposals they wish us to discuss at the next assembly. We also ask  
your opinion if we should attempt to bring the assembly to Washington in  
1971 or 1972.

Caspar Kasparian

George Juskalian