

*Rec'd
8-29-95*

4578 GREGORY ROAD · DEXTER, MICHIGAN 48130 · 313-426-3404 · FAX: 313-426-3404

*attached
to mailing list
sent to Keith*

April 28, 1995

His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Primate
Eastern Diocese, Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY. 10016-4885

Your Eminence:

I trust your recent trip to Armenia was fruitful and productive. It is good to have you back with us.

I have several issues I would like to discuss with you. They are as follows:

- 1.) Enclosure of updated mailing list, Ann Arbor Armenian Community
- 2.) Change in Parish Council
- 3.) Status of visiting clergy to Ann Arbor Community
- 4.) Recommendation of Deacon Michael Ohanesian to Deacon-in-Charge of Ann Arbor Armenian Community

Enclosure of updated mailing list

Per your letter of March 17, 1995, I am pleased to enclose an updated mailing list of the Ann Arbor Armenian Community. I apologize for sending it past the required deadline. I have not made any differentiation between dues paying and non dues paying as we are a mission parish and have not yet completed the task of establishing such a list.

Change in Parish Council

In an effort to build a more involved community, The Parish Council has asked Manuel Hirachian to join our council. Manuel has been in the community for many years. He is an active participant in our community and also brings a fresh perspective to the group. Since we are a council approved and blessed by you, I would like to ask your approval/blessing upon this appointment. We are still seeking to add additional members to the council and will keep you updated on its progression. I would also like to mention that John Kazanjian has asked to take a leave of absence from the council. As you know, he is diligently pursuing ordination to the Deaconate and feels the best use of his limited free time would be to pursue his education in this field.

*OK
accept ✓*

Status of visiting clergy

We have been in communication with Der Diran Papazian and have put together a list of tentative dates for him to visit us. They are as follows:

June 25
July 23
August 27

September 24
October 15
November 5

We may not get all of these dates as Der Diran is extremely busy but he has at least allocated part of his schedule to us. In discussing the financial burden placed upon us with a visiting clergyman, Deacon Michael mentioned a conversation he had with you in January when driving you to the airport regarding the possibility of the Diocese subsidizing part of Der Diran's stipend. I would like to know whether this is a real possibility or not. Please advise us on this matter so we may solidify our arrangements with Der Diran.

Recommendation that Deacon Michael Ohanesian be appointed as Deacon-in-Charge of Ann Arbor Community

As you know, Deacon Michael has been faithfully serving our community for the past several years. As his role has evolved over the course of these years, Michael has shown excellent form and sincerity in the performance of his duties. He has visited the sick, comforted the sad, and consoled the grieving. On top of that he has served on our council, and lead our Sunday services. Furthermore, he has done all of this while serving the Lansing community in similar capacities, and holding down a full time job, all at the same time.

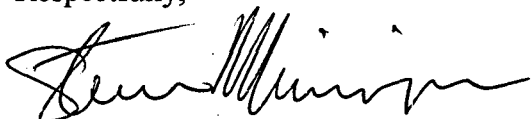
I am sure you are aware of what he does, otherwise you would not be actively considering him and taking steps towards his ordination for the priesthood.

My recommendation that Michael be officially appointed as Deacon-in-Charge of the Ann Arbor Community comes on behalf of the entire Parish Council. We do not know what your plans for Michael will be if and when he becomes ordained. We have assumed (at least in the short term) he will be doing what he is currently doing except with greater authority. In anticipation of this, we would like to ease into the transition of his foreseen new role. We see this as a win-win situation because as a community we are in need of spiritual guidance (which Michael brings). Michael's benefit would be that of encouragement. He would see the support of his Diocese and those around him. That in turn would further motivate him towards excellence. The benefit then, to the Diocese, is obvious.

Since Fr. Diran is in charge of attending to the spiritual needs of the Ann Arbor community, Michael's role as Deacon-in-Charge is essential to the community's well-being and the Diocese's benefit.

I have attempted to cover alot of ground in this letter. Thank you very much for your consideration in these matters. If you would like to contact me, you may do so by calling me at (313) 426-3404, or writing me at the above address.

Respectfully,



Steven Mangigian
Chairman