

## Ann Arbor Armenian Church Անն Արբոր Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցի P.O. Box 130464 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113

3695 Frederick Drive Ann Arbor, MI 48105

December 11, 1996

His Eminence Archbishop Khasag Barsamian, Primate Diocese of the Armenian Church of America Eastern Diocese 630 Second Avenue New York, NY 10066-4885

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## Your Eminence:

I am writing to give you an update on our land acquisition situation and to request your approval of two additional members to our Parish Council.

In regard to purchasing land, the lot we originally looked at seems not to be the best situation due to some public health concerns. However, we have found affordable land in a much more desirable section of Ann Arbor and may be moving towards a purchase. We are very committed to either finding a building or land in the next year. We will keep you informed of future developments.

On behalf of the Council, I request that you appoint Shanin Uzucan and Richard Berberian to join us as leaders of this community. Both of these men have already show a willingness to serve the church. For this reason, we believe they are well suited to serve in formal leadership positions.

Mr. Berberian is from Texas and is a senior at the University of Michigan. He hopes to serve as a college liaison as well as serve the community through his musical gifts.

Mr. Uzucan has diligently served the community helping Deacon Michael set up our altar for each service and is seriously training to be a deacon. Hopefully, during your next visit to the area you will be able to ordain him.

Since we are on the subject of servants of the church, may I once again implore you to consider ordaining Deacon Michael Ohanesian to the priesthood? Deacon Michael continues to serve our community and Lansing as well, with love, enthusiasm and wisdom. His interpersonal communication skills have helped to build our membership, and his drive and vision help to keep us on track to meet our objectives. Please give very serious consideration to our request. This community is in need of him as our priest. We believe a leader who has already done the work to build a church community is deserving of this high honor.

Prayerfully and respectfully yours.

John Sarkis Ohanian

Chairman,

Ann Arbor Church Council