



ՍՈՒՐԲ ԵՐԵՄՈՒԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՆԱՅԱՍԱԿՆԵԱՅՑ ԵԿԵՂԵՉԻ
HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

RIGHT REV. VAZKEN KESHISHIAN, RECTOR
RECTORS OFFICE 964-3286

PARISH OFFICE 924-6514
AUDITORIUM 923-0081

His Eminence The Primate
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
President of The Diocesan Council
Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016

May 14, 1980

Your Eminence:

The Parish Council of Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Toronto and its Diocesan Delegates met at an emergency meeting on April 21, 1980, to discuss matters of grave importance and of far-reaching consequences with regard to the authority of this Parish Council.

On that day we were apprized of the unilateral decisions taken by the Diocesan Council, without prior consultation with our Parish Council, on its meeting of April 18, 1980, concerning entirely local issues. This fact caused great dismay and consternation to all of our members, upon which our chairman, Mr. Barkev Khojajian, felt compelled to announce his resignation from the Parish Council.

The matters which we refer to are: First, the April 24 commemoration by our ACYOA chapter which we suggested they do the following day, a Friday, which is their regular gathering day. Second, the wedding of Dr. Sevadjian, upon which we expressed our stand in our cable of April 24, 1980, addressed to you, which you unfortunately did not reply as yet. Dr. Sevadjian, a member of Holy Cross Church, was welcome in our church, but his marriage would have been certified by Holy Trinity Church, which is the proper procedure. The third item was the question of Deacons' duties at the altar.

...2



ՍՈՒՐԲ ԵՐՈՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՆԱՅՅԱՏԱԿՆԵԿՅՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՉԻ
HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

RIGHT REV. VAZKEN KESHISHIAN, RECTOR
RECTOR'S OFFICE 964-3286

PARISH OFFICE 924-6514
AUDITORIUM 923-0081

...2

It seems to us that the Diocesan Council has failed to recognize and direct local issues and bodies to the Parish Council, and has instead proceeded to rule on such matters and thus bypassed the proper consultative process with the Parish Council.

It is the unanimous opinion of this Parish Council and that of our Diocesan Delegates that the Diocesan Council has caused irreparable damage to the credibility of this local executive body, rather than enhancing and supporting its mission in the administration of daily parish affairs.

We therefore anticipate that in the future you will respect the administrative authority of this elected body and that you will make every effort to establish a more positive rapport between us.

With the assurance of our sincerest wishes, we remain,

H. Shishmanian
Secretary

Yours truly.

S. Tchilingirian,
Acting Chairman

Parish Council of Holy Trinity Armenian Church
Toronto, Canada