



ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ԱՌԱՋՆՈՐԴԱՐԱՆ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ ԱՐԵՒԵԼԵԱՆ ԹԵՄԻՆ  
EASTERN PRELACY OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA

# National Representative Assembly

# 2018



St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church of Merrimack Valley,  
North Andover, Massachusetts

## ՏԱՐԵԿԱՆ ՏԵՂԵԿԱԳԻՐ ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ԵՐԵՍՓՈՆԱՆԱԿԱՆ ԺՈՂՈՎ  
NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY  
MAY 9-12, 2018  
ST. GREGORY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, NORTH ANDOVER, MA

**NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**2017 - 2018**



2017 National Representative Assembly  
All Saints Armenian Apostolic Church, Glenview, IL

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***Prelacy Clergy***

His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, Prelate  
His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar General  
Very Rev. Fr. Sahag Yemishyan  
Very Rev. Fr. Ghevont Pentezian  
Very Rev. Fr. Zareh Sarkissian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Antranig Baljian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Nerses Manoogian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Aram Stepanian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Daron Stepanian  
Rev. Fr. Sarkis Aktavoukian  
Rev. Fr. Bedros Shetilian  
Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian  
Rev. Fr. Hovnan Bozoian  
Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian  
Rev. Fr. Stephan Baljian  
Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian  
Rev. Fr. Torkom Chorbajian  
Rev. Fr. Mikael Der Kosroffian  
Rev. Fr. Kapriel Nazarian

***Outreach and Retired Clergy***

Rev. Archpriest Fr. Moushegh Der Kaloustian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Khoren Habeshian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Vazken Bekiarian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Zareh Sahakian  
Rev. Archpriest Fr. Gomidas Baghsarian

*Clergy Delegates*

Very Rev. Fr. Sahag Yemishyan  
Very Rev. Fr. Ghevont Pentezian  
Rev. Archpriest Antranig Baljian  
Rev. Archpriest Nerses Manoogian  
Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian  
Rev. Fr. Hovnan Bozoian  
Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian  
Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian  
Rev. Fr. Torkom Chorbajian  
Rev. Fr. Kapriel Nazarian

*(Two delegates to be elected by the Clergy Conference on May 9, 2018)*

***Non-Clergy Delegates***

*St. Illuminator's Cathedral, New York, NY*

Mrs. Melanie Mesrobian  
Mr. Dickran Kabarajian  
Ms. Sandra Melik Vartanian

*St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY*

Dr. Arthur Kubikian  
Mr. Harry Seoylemezian  
Mr. Antranik Boudakian  
Mrs. Nayda Voskerijian

*St. Hagop Church, Niagara Falls, NY*

(Two delegates not elected)

*Holy Cross Church, Troy, NY*

Mr. Ara Ashjian  
Mrs. Sossy Khachadourian

*Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ*

Mrs. Bea Movsesian  
Mrs. Marisa Mesropian Fisher  
Dr. Vahan Kouyoumdjian  
Richard Sarajian, Esq.  
Ms. Lynn Mahlebjian  
Mr. Zarmair Setrakian

*St. Stephen's Church, New Britain, CT*

Ms. Adrienne Dodakian  
(A second delegate not elected)

*Soorp Khatch Church, Bethesda, MD*

Mr. Sepooh Asatoorian  
Mr. Garbis Mouradian  
Mr. John Jerikian  
Mr. Hrant Jamgochian  
Mr. Aram Sarafian

*St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA*

Mr. Noubar Megerian  
Mr. Andrew Kzirian  
Mr. Hrant Jilozian  
Mr. Arthur Selverian  
Mr. Berge D. Miller  
Mr. Aram Hovagimian  
Mr. Jack (Vartan) Karakelian

*St. Stephen's Church, Watertown, MA*

Ms. Houry Daghljan  
Mr. John Daghljan  
Ms. Lucy Hoosian  
Mr. Chris Hajian  
Ms. Tamar Kanarian  
Mr. Ara Barsoumian  
Mrs. Mary Derderian

*St. Gregory Church, North Andover, MA*

Mrs. Sossy Jeknavorian  
Mrs. Rita Sarkissian  
Ms. Sharké Der Apkarian

*St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Whitinsville, MA*

Mrs. Barbara Berberian  
Mr. John Berberian

*Holy Trinity Church, Worcester, MA*

Mr. Richard Greenhalgh  
Mr. George Aghjayan  
Mr. Vasken Yaghmourian

*St. Gregory Church, Indian Orchard, MA*

Mr. Edward Garibian  
Ms. Ardemis Babaeghian Wallen

*Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI*

Mr. Vark Markarian  
Mrs. Alice Simonian Buratti  
Ms. Maral Khachadourian  
Ms. Nora Simonian  
Mr. Mark Phillips  
Mr. Stephen Mesrobian  
Ms. Beth Pilla

*St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI*

Mr. Toros Chopjian  
Mr. Ralph Kourtjian  
Mr. Michael Crane  
Mrs. Terri Koler  
Mrs. Simoné Topouzian  
Mr. Sebouh Sarkissian



*St. Paul Church, Waukegan, IL*

Mr. Zadeeg Haroian  
Mr. Mikhail Mekaelian

*All Saints' Church, Glenview, IL*

Mr. Ari Killian  
Mr. Artin Dermenjian  
Mrs. Susan Chitjian Erickson

*St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Granite City, IL*

Mr. Andrew Asadorian  
Mrs. Janet Haroian

*St. Hagop Church, Racine, WI*

Mrs. Shirley Saryan  
Mr. Vahan Mahdasian

**ՕՐԱԿԱՐԳ  
ՀՈԳԵԻՈՐԱԿԱՆԱՑ ՀԱՄԱԳՈՒՄԱՐԻ**

**ԶՈՐԵՔՇԱԲԹԻ, ՄԱՅԻՍ 9, 2018**

- 12:00 կ.ե.      Հաշ եկեղեցւոյ մէջ
- 2:00 կ.ե.      Բացման Աղօթք, Տ. Օշական Արքեպիսկոպոս, Առաջնորդ  
Դիւանի Ընտրութիւն  
Բարիգալուստի Խօսք, Տ. Ստեփան Քինյ. Պալմեան, Հովիւ  
Ողջոյնի Խօսք, Տ. Օշական Արքեպիսկոպոս, Առաջնորդ  
Ներկայացում Կրօնական Ժողովի Տեղեկագրին, Տ. Սահակ Ծ. Վրդ. Եմիշեան  
Ընտրութիւն երկու Հոգեւորական Երեսփոխաններու
- 3:30 կ.ե.      Դադար
- 4:00 կ.ե.      Թեմական եւ Ծխական Հարցեր  
Զնախատեսուած հարցեր  
Փակման աղօթք
- 5:00 կ.ե.      Երեկոյեան Ժամերգութիւն
- 6:00 կ.ե.      Ընթրիք

**ՕՐԱԿԱՐԳ**  
**ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ԵՐԵՍՓՈԽԱՆԱԿԱՆ ԺՈՂՈՎԻ**  
(Թեմա՝ Ծիսական Վերանորոգում)

ՀԻՆԳՇԱԲԹԻ, ՄԱՅԻՍ 10, 2018

**Ա. Նիստ (Ս. Միֆայել Ծուխ)**

11:00 կ.ա.      Լիակատար Նիստ  
Հրաւեր ի կարգ  
Բացման Աղօթք, Տ. Օշական Արքեպիսկոպոս, Առաջնորդ  
Նշանակում ժամանակաւոր դիւանի  
Ներկաներու ստուգում  
Զեկոյց լիագորագրերու մասին  
Ընտրութիւն Ընտրողական Յանձնախումբի  
Բարիգալուստի խօսք, Տ. Ստեփան Քհնյ. Պալմեան, Հովիւ  
Բարիգալուստի խօսք, Հայր Քէվին Տիլի, Հովիւ Ս. Միֆայել Ծուխի  
Բարիգալուստի խօսք, Պրն. Գրիգոր Աֆարեան, Ատենապետ  
Խօսք Ներկայացուցիչ Ամերիկայի Արեւելեան Թեմի

12:00 կ.ե.      Ճաշ (Ս. Գրիգոր Եկեղեցի)

**Բ. Նիստ (Ս. Միֆայել Ծուխ)**

1:15 կ.ե.      Լիակատար Նիստ  
Ներկաներու ստուգում  
Ընտրութիւն մնայուն դիւանի  
Օրակարգի հաստատում  
Հայրապետական Պատգամ Արամ Ա. Կաթողիկոս  
Պատգամ, Տ. Օշական Արքեպիսկոպոս, Առաջնորդ  
Զեկոյց Ազգային Ընդհանուր Ժողովի Մասին  
Ազգային Կրօնական եւ Վարչական Ժողովի Տեղեկագիր  
Հարցում-Պատասխան Ազգային Կրօնական եւ Վարչական Ժողովի  
տեղեկագրին մասին

Գնահատում Տեղեկագրի

3:45 կ.ե.      Դադար

4:00 կ.ե.      Ներկայացումներ (իւրաքանչիւրը 30 վայրկեան)  
Ծիսական մարդահամարի արդիւնքներ  
Կիրակնօրեայ դպրոցի քննարկման արդիւնքներ  
Երիտասարդներու Ծառայութեան ներկայացում

5:45 կ.ե.      Խմբանկար, Ս. Գրիգոր Եկեղեցի

6:00 կ.ե.      Պատարագ (Համբարձում)

7:00 կ.ե.      Ընթրիք (Ս. Գրիգոր Եկեղեցի)

9:00 կ.ե.      Վերադարձ դէպի հիւրանոց (Հովիտէյ Ինն, Թիւֆսալըրի)

Գ. Նիստ (Հովիտէյ Ինն, Թիւֆսպրի)

- 8:30 կ.ա. Լիակատար Նիստ / Ներկաներու ստուգում  
Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն
- 9:00 կ.ա. Ներկայացում Առաջնորդարանի Գործի Ծրագրին (30 վայրկեան)
- 9:30 կ.ա. Յանձնախումբերու նիստերու Կազմութիւն՝  
Ծիսական Զարգացում (Թամար Քանարեան)  
Կիրակնօրեայ Դպրոցներու Քննարկումի արդիւնքներ (Նայիրի Պալմեան-Պէլ)  
Երիտասարդներու Ծառայութեան տեղեկագիր (Անի Օվանէսեան)  
Առաջնորդարանի Գործի Ծրագիր (Ճէֆ Մարտոյեան)  
Կանոնագրութիւն  
Պիւտնէ եւ Հանգանակութիւն (Րաֆֆի Ուրլեան)
- 12:00-1:15 կ.ե. Ճաշ (Հովիտէյ Ինն, Թիւֆսպրի)
- 1:15 կ.ե. Ծարունակութիւն Յանձնախումբերու նիստերուն  
Ա. եւ Բ. նիստերու ատենագրութեանց հրապարակում
- 2:00 կ. ե. Դադար
- 2:15 կ.ե. Լիակատար նիստ / Ներկաներու ստուգում  
Յանձնախումբերու Զեկոյցներ (Ծիսական Զարգացում, Կիրակնօրեայ  
Դպրոցներ, Երիտասարդներու Ծառայութիւն եւ Առաջնորդարանի Գործի  
Ծրագիր)  
Զեկոյց Կանոնագրութեան Յանձնախումբի  
Սրբագրութիւն եւ Վաւերացում Ա. եւ Բ. Նիստերու Ատենագրութեանց
- 4:45 կ.ե. Երեկոյեան Ժամերգութիւն
- 5:45 կ.ե. Մեկնում Դէպի Ընթրիփ – Հիրասիրութեան Սրահ (Հէրրիս Փէլիըմ Ինն)
- 6:30 կ.ե. Ընթրիփ– Հիրասիրութիւն Հէրրիս Փէլիըմ Ինն պանդոկին մէջ

Գ. Նիստ (Ա. Գրիգոր Եկեղեցի)

- 8:30 կ.ա.    Լիակատար Նիստ / Ներկաներու ստուգում  
Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն  
Գ. Նիստի Ատենագրութեան հրապարակում  
Վեհափառ Հայրապետին ուղղուած նամակի ներկայացում եւ վաւերացում  
Զեկոյց Պիւտնէի Յանձնախումբի
- 10:15 կ.ա.    Դադար
- 10:30 կ.ա.    Լիակատար նիստ  
Սրբագրութիւն եւ վաւերացում Գ. Նիստի ատենագրութեան  
Ընտրութիւն Կրօնական (1) եւ Վարչական (4) ժողովի անդամներու  
Ընտրութիւն Առաջնորդի  
Եզրափակիչ խօսք եւ փակման աղօթք, Տ. Օշական Արքեպիսկոպոս, Առաջնորդ
- Կէսօր        Ճաշ

**AGENDA**  
**NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**THEME: Parish Renewal 2.0**

**Thursday, May 10, 2018**

**Session I (St. Michael Parish)**

- 11:00 a.m.      Plenary Meeting  
                    Call to Order  
                    Opening Prayer, Archbishop Oshagan, Prelate  
                    Appointment of Temporary Tivan  
                    Roll Call  
                    Credentials Report  
                    Election of Nominating Committee  
                    Welcome, Rev. Father Stephan Baljian, Pastor, St. Gregory Armenian Church  
                    Welcome, Father Kevin Deeley, Pastor of St. Michael Parish  
                    Welcome, Gregory Afarian, BOT Chairman  
                    Welcome, Representative of Diocese
- 12:00 p.m.      Lunch at St. Gregory Church

**Session II (St. Michael Parish)**

- 1:15 p.m.      Plenary Meeting  
                    Roll Call  
                    Election of permanent Tivan  
                    Approval of Agenda
- Message of His Holiness Catholicos Aram I  
                    Message of His Eminence, Archbishop Oshagan  
                    World Assembly Report  
                    Executive Council-Religious and Lay Councils' Report  
                    Questions on the Report of the Religious and Executive Councils  
                    Evaluation of Report
- 3:45 p.m.      Break w/refreshments
- 4:00 p.m.      Presentations (30 minutes each, including Q&A)  
                                Parish Census Results  
                                Sunday School Survey Results  
                                Youth Ministry Report
- 5:30 p.m.      Group Photo at St. Gregory Church
- 6:00 p.m.      Badarak (Hampartsoum)
- 7:30 p.m.      Dinner (at St. Gregory Church)
- 9:00 p.m.      Return to Hotel (Holiday Inn, Tewksbury)

**Friday, May 11, 2018**

**Session III (Holiday Inn, Tewksbury, MA)**

- 8:30 a.m. Plenary Meeting/Roll Call  
Morning Service
- 9:00 a.m. Presentation (30 minutes, including Q&A)  
Prelacy Action Plan
- 9:30 a.m. Formation of Panel Discussion Sessions  
A. Parish Development (Based on Parish Census – Facilitator, Tamar Kanarian)  
B. Sunday School (Based on Sunday School Survey – Facilitator, Nayiri Baljian Bell)  
C. Youth Ministry (Facilitator, Annie Ovanessian, Youth Ministry Director)  
D. Prelacy Action Plan (Facilitator, Jack Mardoian, Chairman, Prelacy Executive Council)  
E. By-Laws  
F. Budget and Fundraising (Facilitator, Raffi Ourlian, Treasurer, Prelacy Executive Council)
- 12:00 - 1:15 Lunch (at Holiday Inn, Tewksbury)
- 1:15 p.m. Panel Discussion Sessions Continue (and prepare report out)  
Minutes of Sessions I and II posted
- 2:00 p.m. Break w/refreshments
- 2:15 p.m. Plenary Session/Roll call  
Panel Report outs (Parish Development; Sunday School; Youth Ministry; and, Prelacy Action Plan)  
  
Report of By-Laws Panel  
Corrections to and Acceptance of Minutes of Sessions I and II
- 4:45 p.m. Evening Service
- 5:45 p.m. Depart to Banquet (Harris Pelham Inn by bus)
- 6:30 p.m. Reception/Banquet at Harris Pelham Inn

**Saturday, May 12, 2018**

**Session IV (St. Gregory Church)**

8:30 a.m.	Plenary Meeting/Roll call Morning Service Minutes of Session III posted Letter to Catholicos Presented and Approved Report of Budget Panel
10:15 a.m.	Break - coffee
10:30 a.m.	Plenary Meeting/Roll call Corrections to and Acceptance of Minutes of Session III Election of Religious (1) and Lay (4) Council Members Election of Prelate Closing Remarks and Benediction, Oshagan Srpazan
Noon	Lunch



# **ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA, EASTERN PRELACY RELIGIOUS AND LAY EXECUTIVE COUNCILS**

## **Annual Report 2017-2018**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Executive Council (Religious and Lay), of the Eastern Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America, under the leadership of our Prelate, His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan is pleased to present to you, as delegates of the National Representative Assembly, this Annual Report detailing our activities and that of the Prelacy's departments and affiliated bodies during the 2017/18 fiscal year.

During the past year, the Executive Council has made extra efforts to improve the Prelacy programs and to strengthen the mission of the church. His Holiness Catholicos Aram I had declared 2017 as a year of renewal. Consistent with that declaration, the topic of renewal was made the central theme of our National Representative Assembly last year. We have planned to continue that theme at this National Representative Assembly also, with particular emphasis on strengthening our Prelacy and parish religious and national educational programs, our Department of Youth Ministry which was established last year, our use of social media, and our perceived need to strengthen the religious and community work of our parishes.

During the past year, the Executive Council devoted a significant amount of its time in preparing a proposed Action Plan of this Prelacy and as our proposed plan for the renewal and development of all three prelacies of the Catholicosate of Cilicia in North America. Last October we submitted our proposed Action Plan to the Central Executive Council of the Catholicosate and to the Executive Councils of the Western Prelacy and the Prelacy of Canada for their review and comments. To date we have not received any response from the Catholicosate or the two Prelacies, to start implementing a coordinated plan of renewal of our church in North America.

During the past year, the Executive Council continued its work also in several other areas, which are detailed below.

### **II. THE PRELATE, THE VICAR GENERAL, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND STAFF**

#### **A. The Prelate**

During the past year, our Prelate, His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan continued to maintain a heavy schedule of work and travel, leading our clergy, the Prelacy offices, its councils, committees and churches, and frequently traveled to visit our parish churches or to attend important meetings or events both in the USA and abroad. A detailed list of his travels and meetings is presented in the appendix of this report.

#### **1. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination**

June 2017 marked the 50th anniversary of Archbishop Oshagan's ordination as a celibate priest of the Armenian Apostolic Church. That golden anniversary was celebrated on Sunday, October 29, 2017. That morning Archbishop Oshagan celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Il-

luminator's Cathedral in New York City and delivered the sermon. In the afternoon, a sold-out banquet was held at the Lotte New York Palace Hotel, with 280 guests in attendance, including members of Archbishop Oshagan's family – 20-strong from various parts of the world. Jack Mardoian, Esq., Chairman of the Executive Council was the Master of Ceremonies. Rev. Father Nareg Terterian, Pastor of St. Sarkis Church of Douglaston, NY and member of the Religious Council delivered the keynote address. A Pontifical Encyclical issued for that occasion by His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia, was read and presented to Archbishop Oshagan by His Eminence Archbishop Papken Tcharian, Prelate of Canada.

## **2. Conclusion of Tenure**

This year His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan is concluding the fifth term or the 20th year of his tenure as our Prelate. At this stage of his religious life, he has decided to retire from administrative responsibilities and fully devote his time to complete his translation work of the Bible and to continue publishing the series of Armenian hymns with European musical scores. Therefore, this year he will not be a candidate for re-election.

We take this opportunity to once again express our gratitude to Oshagan Srpazan for his many years of wise leadership. We wish him all the best in perfect health, for many more years to come.

## **B. The Vicar General**

His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, our Vicar General for the past thirteen years, continued his most valuable services both at the Prelacy offices and our parish churches at large. He maintained regular communications with our clergy and visited most of our parish churches during the past year. On behalf of the Prelate, he also attended many meetings and community events. As ecumenical officer of the Armenian Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia and our Prelacy in Eastern United States, he participated in a number of ecumenical meetings and events. A detailed list of his travels and meetings is presented in the appendix of this report.

## **C. Election of the Religious and Lay Councils**

During the last session of the 2017 National Representative Assembly, which was held on May 20, 2017, at All Saints' Armenian Apostolic Church of Glenview, IL, the following two religious and three lay council members were re-elected or elected:

- Very Rev. Father Sahag Yemishyan (elected)
- Rev. Archpriest Nerses Manoogian (re-elected)
- Ms. Karen Jehanian (re-elected)
- Mr. Raffi Ourlian (elected)
- Mr. Harry Seoylemezian (elected)

The elections were ratified by His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia. Subsequently, the two councils elected their officers as follows:

1. *Religious Council*
  - Rev. Archpriest Nerses Manoogian, Chairman
  - Very Rev. Father Sahag Yemishyan, Secretary
  - Rev. Father Nareg Terterian

## 2. *Lay Council*

Jack Mardoian, Esq., Chairman  
Ms. Karen Jehanian, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Susan Chitjian Erickson, Secretary  
Mr. Raffi Ourlian, Treasurer  
Mr. Veh Bezdikian  
Mr. Mark Phillips  
Mr. Harry Seoylemezian

Although the two councils are separate bodies as specified in our By-Laws, they regularly meet jointly as a single body under the presidency of the Prelate, His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan. Seven regular and one teleconference meetings were held jointly by the Religious and Lay Councils during the last twelve months. Also the Prelate, the Vicar General and the Religious Council separately held six meetings during the year.

Regular communications between the Prelate, the Vicar General, the Chairman of the Executive Council, the Prelacy Executive Director, and members of the Religious and Lay Councils were maintained frequently.

### **D. Office Staff and Administration**

During the past year the Prelacy office staff included:

Dr. Vazken Ghougassian	Executive Director
Archdeacon Shant Kazanjian	AREC Director
Very Rev. Fr. Zareh Sarkissian	AREC office
Dr. Vartan Matiossian	ANEC Director
Mrs. Annie Ovanessian	Youth Ministry Director
Mrs. Iris Papazian	Information and Public Relations Director
Mr. Gregory Dosttur	Communications Officer
Mrs. Sophie Khachatryan	Information Systems and Armenia Programs
Mrs. Mary Gulumian	Secretary and Desktop Publishing
Mrs. Rita Gragossian	Receptionist and acting Bookstore Manager
Yn. Annie Terterian	Accountant (part time)
Mr. Hrant Wahanian	Custodian

#### **Administration**

The Prelate and the Councils feel fortunate to have a dedicated and hard-working group of individuals serving the Prelacy. We all thank the members of the Prelacy Staff for their continued dedication to the work and programs that serve our parishes and faithful.

## **III. EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

### **A. The Catholicosate of Cilicia**

As always, direct communications were regularly maintained with the Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia. His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan frequently contacted His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, to consult with him on religious and national issues of great importance and to keep him updated about the work and the news of our Prelacy.

During the past twelve months, Archbishop Oshagan travelled to Lebanon on the following four occasions:

- June 2017, to attend meetings of the Central Religious and Executive Councils of the Catholicosate in Antelias.
- December 2017, to attend the World General Assembly of the Catholicosate.
- February 2018, to chair the meetings of the Central Religious Council of the Catholicosate
- April 2018, to join the entourage of his Holiness Catholicos Aram I at the opening ceremony of St. Krikor Narekatsi's statue at the Vatican and to attend the consecration service of four new bishops in Antelias.

### **1. World General Assembly**

The World General Assembly of the Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia convened on December 4-8, 2017, under the presidency of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia, with the participation of 130 clergy and lay delegates and guests, representing the twelve prelaties of the Holy See of Cilicia around the world. Along with Archbishop Oshagan, our Prelacy participated in the General Assembly with seven delegates and one youth representative.

The World General Assembly examined the four year reports of both the Central Religious and Executive Councils of the Catholicosate and made constructive recommendations for their future work. The Assembly also deliberated on religious and Armenian language education, social work, youth, advocacy of Armenian rights, renewal of our churches and co-operation between Armenia and Diaspora.

At the last session of the World General Assembly, Archbishop Oshagan and Dr. Drtad Manguigian from our Prelacy were re-elected as members of the Central Religious and Executive Councils respectively.

### **B. Relations with the Holy See of Etchmiadzin and the Eastern Diocese**

Cordial relations were maintained with the Holy See of Etchmiadzin and the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church in USA. Christmas and Easter correspondence was exchanged by Oshagan Srpazan with His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians. Also on four occasions during the past year, the Prelate had the opportunity to meet in New York with His Holiness, the Catholicos of All Armenians.

Archbishop Oshagan and His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, the Primate of the Eastern Diocese, met occasionally during the past year to discuss issues of mutual concern, on the Armenian Church and people, and our communities in the USA.

### **C. Ecumenical Relations**

During the past year, both the Prelate Archbishop Oshagan and the Vicar General, Bishop Anoushavan participated in various ecumenical events in the USA.

Between October 23 and 26, Archbishop Oshagan participated in "In Defense of Christians in the Middle East" (IDC) Summit in Washington D.C. and in some related services and events.

In his capacity as President of the "Christian Arab and Middle Eastern Churches Together" (CAMECT), Archbishop Oshagan hosted a meeting of that committee at the Prelacy on March 23, 2018.

In his capacity as the Ecumenical Officer in the United States for the Holy See of Cilicia, Bishop Anoushavan also participated in a number of ecumenical services during the past year.

#### **IV. OUR CLERGY, NEW ORDINATION AND CANDIDATES FOR PRIESTHOOD**

Besides the Prelate and the Vicar General, we currently have twenty two clergymen, of which seventeen are in active service and five are retired. Only one of our retired clergymen, Archpriest Vazken Bekiarian continues to serve as an outreach priest on regular basis.

Three of our clergymen in active service, namely Very Rev. Father Sahag Yemishyan, Very Rev. Father Ghevont Pentezian, and Very Rev. Father Zareh Sarkissian are members of the Religious Order of the Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia and are temporarily assigned by His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, to serve under our Prelacy. We are also very pleased to report that, Very Rev. Father Shnork Ashekian, another member of the Religious Order of the Catholicosate is recently assigned to our Prelacy by Catholicos Aram I and is expected to arrive from Lebanon very soon.

##### **A. New Ordination**

Two years ago, Archbishop Oshagan had recruited Deacon Bedros Manjikian, a new graduate from the Armenian Theological Seminary, as a candidate for priesthood. During the past two years, Deacon Manjikian continued his studies at the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon, got married and last September he was ordained as a priest in his native village of Kessab, Syria, by His Grace Bishop Meghrig Parikian, who renamed him Der Daniel. Hopefully, Der Daniel will arrive from Lebanon in the next few months.

##### **B. Candidates for Priesthood**

We are glad to report that currently we have the following two candidates for priesthood:

- Deacon Sarkis Ajemian, a graduate from the Armenian Theological Seminary, and since last year a student at the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon, who will be ready for ordination later this year or early next year.
- Deacon Hovhannes Selloumian, who graduated from the Armenian Theological Seminary last June and currently is a student at the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon. He will be ready for ordination in late 2019 or in early 2020.

#### **V. YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM**

Youth Ministry, has begun to evaluate, identify and modify materials as well as implement youth ministry initiatives throughout the Prelacy. Listed below are some of the key initiatives that we have been working on.

##### **A. Youth Ministry Materials**

One of the initial initiatives set forth by the youth ministry department was to identify a suitable youth ministry platform that would help engage and challenge our youth in their Armenian Apostolic faith. After exploring a variety of materials, Protestant, Orthodox and Catholic, the committee selected the YDisciple platform, a subscription based online portal, developed by the Augustine Institute's Formed network of resources. This small group, multimedia platform follows current youth ministry best practice standards in engaging young people in transparent and

challenging conversations about their faith and daily life choices. The committee edited thirty-two studies and modified eighteen study PDF's with their corresponding leader guides, parent and teen hand out sheets, to better align the content with our unique expression of faith. These edited materials provide roughly a year's worth of material for our youth yet represent a small segment of the available materials in the YDisciple library of resources. The committee hopes to continue editing the studies until all materials are revised and available for use by our youth groups.

## **B. Training**

With the revised materials on hand the youth ministry director, Mrs. Annie Ovanessian, was able to provide training of both the materials and the implementation process to available parishes. One online training was extended to St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA and three additional regional on site trainings were conducted for St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI; St. Hagop Church, Racine, WI; Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI; St. Asdvadzdzin Church, Whitinsville, MA; St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY; St. Illuminator's Church, New York, NY.

Of the seven fully trained parishes, four meet regularly; the other three are in the process of launching. It is worth noting several other parishes have reached out to express interest about the necessary steps to effectively launch their own youth ministry group. Of those inquires, St. Stephen's Church, Watertown, MA; Holy Trinity Church, Worcester, MA; and All Saints' Church, Glenview, IL all have actively begun the preliminary stages of training and hope to fully train and launch in the near future.

Supplemental materials, both for youth group facilitators and general youth ministry FAQ's were developed and continue to be available to those parishes that may find these resources helpful.

## **C. General Observations/ Assessments**

Based on feedback, we are finding on site/ in person trainings to be more effective than remote or online training. The collaborative interaction at the training sessions beyond the actual training materials, continues to enhance the training experience and provide a motivating framework from which to address unique parish dynamics.

In addition, establishing a local youth ministry committee has proven to be vital in the successful launch, implementation and overall vitality of the youth ministry program at the parish level. With the parish priest and youth ministry liaison, this local committee collectively can best navigate the various parish nuances and adapt the youth ministry objectives most effectively. Those communities that already have a youth ministry committee continue to see their youth more engaged and more committed not only to youth ministry but also to the general life of the church.

Overall, the feedback we continue to receive regarding the materials and the program objectives remains overwhelmingly positive. Below are some quotes from our youth ministry groups:

“The Youth Ministry program has brought new members to our parish and past members have been attending more regularly.”

“Teens find their youth ministry leaders to be another trusted adult in their lives with whom they can ask pointed questions about their faith and everyday life issues.”

“The youth (and I, their instructor) love the video interviews [of the platform]. Many kids, on multiple occasions, have told me the people in the videos seem “real” and not like actors. [Previously used materials were good], but the teens told me the videos seemed to “acted out” whereas YDisciple has a genuine feel to it. I agree.”

“The youth seems to enjoy the entire aspect of our sessions, which includes about 1/2 hour in the beginning of food/social time, and then the breakouts where they love the icebreakers and do also get engaged in the video discussions.”

“It is amazing to see the youth questioning their faith in a positive way and growing in their relationship with Jesus.”

“The youth are really enjoying the small group format.”

## **VI. ARMENIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL (AREC)**

AREC continues to develop, promote and implement, as well as provide support for various Christian educational programs and endeavors of the Prelacy. Below are highlights of its major programs.

### **A. St. Gregory of Datev Institute Summer Program**

The 31st annual St. Gregory of Datev Summer Program was held at St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, Pennsylvania, from July 2-9, 2017, with the participation of 33 students from 7 parishes. The program was directed by Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian. Sponsored and organized by the Prelacy’s Armenian Religious Education Council (AREC), the Institute offers a unique Christian educational program for our youth to enrich their knowledge of the Christian faith in a wholesome and nurturing environment, coupled with recreational activities and daily worship and prayer services.

The curriculum of the Institute is designed to be completed in four weeks (one week each summer). Students who complete the curriculum (four weeks) have the option to return for postgraduate classes. The classes for all five levels take place concurrently. Students receive basic instructions in the elements of the Christian faith—what we believe, how we celebrate our faith, ways to nurture our faith, how we should live our faith, all discussed in the context of the Armenian Church life and traditions. Last year, the Institute evaluated the curriculum and restructured the daily schedule. The Institute reduced the number of classes from 25 to 20, for each of the five levels.

The instructors of the Institute were: His Grace Bishop Anoushavan Tanielian, Very Rev. Fr. Sahag Yemishyan; Very Rev. Fr. Zareh Sarkissian, Rev. Fr. Antranig Baljian, Rev. Fr. Nerses Manoogian, Rev. Fr. Gomidas Baghsarian, Rev. Fr. Sarkis Aktavoukian, Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, Rev. Fr. Stephan Baljian, Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian, Dn. Shant Kazanjian, Dn. Vahan Kouyoumdjian, MD, Dn. James Haddad, Mrs. Maggie Kouyoumdjian and Mrs. Annie Ovanessian. The supervisors and counselors were: Dn. Harout Takvorian, Dn. Bedros Kalajian, Dn. James Haddad, Maggie Kouyoumdjian, Tamar Lakissian, and Annie Ovanessian. Resident nurse: Yn. Alice Baljian, R.N.

The Datev Summer Program is made possible through the collaborative efforts of the

Armenian Prelacy, clergy and lay instructors and leaders, parishes, parents, and a number of organizations and individuals. We express our thanks to the instructors and supervisors and counselors for their labor of love, and to the following individuals and foundations for their financial support and generous donations: the Pashalian Family Education Fund, the National Association of Ladies' Guilds (NALG), and the Artemis Chapter of the Armenian Relief Society (Pennsylvania).

The attached appendix lists the number of participants per community, per year, since the inception of the Institute (1987).

Plans are underway for the 32nd annual St. Gregory of Datev Institute summer program, scheduled to take place at St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, Pennsylvania, from July 1-8, 2018.

## **B. Religious Publications and Resources**

### **A Catechism for Adults on Baptism-Christmation**

Dn. Shant has written a catechism on Baptism-Christmation for adults, a resource for educators and for anyone interested in learning about the topic, especially young parents who are preparing for the baptism of their children. To be reviewed with His Eminence before publication.

### **Translation of the service of Baptism-Christmation**

Dn. Shant has prepared English translation of the Service of Baptism-Christmation of the Armenian Apostolic Church, the service that was approved by the synod of the bishops of the Armenian Church in 2014. This will accompany the catechism.

### **2018 Daily Bible Readings and Liturgical Calendar**

As in previous years, AREC prepared the Daily Bible Readings and the liturgical calendar for the year 2018 according to the donatsooyts of the Armenian Apostolic Church, which was posted on our website.

## **C. Community Programs**

### **Bible Study at the Cathedral**

Dn. Shant prepared and conducted a four-part Bible study on the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians at St. Illuminator's Cathedral in New York City in November 2017. The program was co-sponsored by St. Illuminator's. Over twenty people participated.

### **Prelacy Lenten Program (2018)**

The Prelacy's six-part Lenten Program took place on Wednesdays of Great Lent, from February 14 to March 21, at St. Illuminator's Armenian Apostolic Cathedral in New York City. The program included a short *Husgoom* service, an educational component and a table fellowship. The videotaped presentations were posted on the Prelacy's website and Facebook.

The roster of lecturers and their respective topics were: "Martyred for Christ: Proactive 'Manliness' or Spiritual Labor?" by Very Rev. Fr. Zareh Sarkissian, "A Life of Holiness" by Archpriest Fr. Gomidas Baghsarian, "From 'The War Within' to Independence: A Reflection on Romans 7:15" by Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian, "Church and Charity" by Rev. Fr.



Mesrob Lakissian, “‘Abide in my love’ – John 15:9” by Rev. Fr. Hovnan Bozoian, “Called to Freedom in Christ” by Dn. Shant Kazanjian (cancelled due to inclement weather). The Lenten Program was sponsored by the Prelacy’s Armenian Religious Education Council (AREC), the Prelacy’s Ladies Guild (PLG), and the Ladies’ Guild of St. Illuminator’s Cathedral.

### **Seminar on Soorp Badarak**

Dn. Shant Kazanjian conducted a 3-hour seminar on the Divine Liturgy (Soorp Badarak) at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church in Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, on Saturday, April 14, at the invitation of Rev. Fr. Bedros Shetilian and the Board.

## **VII. SUNDAY SCHOOL AUXILIARY COMMITTEE**

As an executive body, one of the Prelacy Council’s (Religious and Lay) main objectives is the education of our young generation. Today, one of the vital and imperative challenges is our Prelacy’s Sunday school program. The disparate Sunday school programs across the Eastern Prelacy is an undeniable challenge. The absence of a standardized Sunday school curriculum and the need for trained and qualified teachers hinder the mission of the Sunday school and the Christian education of our younger generation.

Therefore, to have an aligned and effective program, the Council made a decision to create a “Sunday School Auxiliary Committee” (SSAC).

The SSAC’s main tasks were to:

- a. Assess the current status of our Sunday schools attendance, programs, curriculums, and teachers through surveys and observations.
- b. Prepare and propose a Sunday school curriculum.
- c. Conduct and execute Sunday school teachers’ training programs.

The committee has completed the first part of its mission by sending out a special questionnaire and assessing the current situation and needs of our Sunday schools.

Through the Prelacy office on August 10, 2017, the committee sent out an online questionnaire to all the Prelacy’s parishes. Out of 18 parishes, the committee received data from 12. Below you can find the data summary and some highlights of the questionnaire.

### **Data Summary:**

#### **1. Enrollment/Attendance**

- The average Prelacy Sunday school has 38 students (range 0-100; median 41) for the year 2016-2017. Total Sunday School students number was 454.
- 50% of parishes report an enrollment decrease over the past 5 years while only 25% of parishes report an increase.
- On any given Sunday, the majority of Sunday Schools have >50% of students in attendance.

#### **2. Format & Curriculum**

- Most Sunday Schools offer classes beginning at the nursery level and ending at or after Grade 8.
- 50% of Sunday Schools offer an internship program.
- The average Sunday School meets about 30 weeks per year for about 1.5 hours each week (approx. 25 of those minutes are spent in Badarak).
- Most Sunday School lessons are not being taught from a standard curriculum.
- The “We Believe” and “David C. Cook” curricula are commonly used by Prelacy Sunday Schools.
- 25% of teachers use standard curriculum most of the time.
- 50% of teachers make up their own lessons most of the time.
- 25% of teachers do both.
- Sunday Schools offer a variety of special programs with a generally positive impact on the students.

### **3. Teacher Qualifications & Training**

- 84% of respondents report that it is difficult to find willing teachers and 75% of respondents report that it is difficult to find eligible teachers.
- However, the lack of sufficient staff has not diminished the importance of teacher eligibility criteria, as 67% of respondents say most current teachers have strong Biblical knowledge and strong knowledge of the Armenian Church.
- 67% of respondents say teachers are interested in training/development. However most Sunday School staff do not meet regularly for planning and training.

Having all these results and understanding the challenges and needs of our Sunday school, the SSAC then entered into the process of curriculum planning. Initial discussions involved trying to understand the most important characteristics and challenges when considering a new SS curriculum for Prelacy Sunday schools: necessary content, ease of use, adaptability/flexibility and user friendliness. After carefully examining several different SS curricula already in circulation, it was determined by this committee that no single existing curricula will sufficiently satisfy the broad and varied needs of our Prelacy’s Sunday schools, and therefore a new one would have to be developed from scratch.

The SSAC has decided to recommend at this time a “two-phased” approach to curriculum development. “Phase-one” involves creating a master list of 20-25 core topics for each specific grade (kindergarten-10) to learn in order to advance to the next grade. Teachers will be given the latitude to teach the topics any way they like (and in any order they choose) as long as the kids master the topics by the end of the school year. A list of trusted textual and internet resources will be compiled by the SSAC and provided to teachers as reference material to help them teach the core curriculum topics.

Through this initial approach, teachers will receive specific guidance as to what are the most important topics that need to be taught for each grade (with adequate resources for actual lesson preparation), thereby establishing some continuity through the entire SS program (not to mention discrete academic expectations) but having the flexibility to accommodate schools that lack uniformity throughout the grade levels.

Preparing the phase-one material is an achievable goal for the SSAC prior to the commencement of the 2018-9 academic year. After implementation, the committee can assess if SS teachers are

actually following these basic guidelines over the course of the next school year. If they are adhering to them, then the SSAC could consider “phase two”, which would be to organize the curriculum in greater detail, possibly even creating specific lessons for each of the core topics over time. Eventually, the curriculum matrix and associated lessons could then be organized on the Prelacy website on an online platform where all subject matter and every lesson can be easily accessed, modified, updated and expanded over time by AREC as needed.

## **VIII. ARMENIAN NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (ANEC)**

The Armenian National Education Committee (ANEC), a partnership between the Armenian Prelacy and the Eastern Regional of the Armenian Relief Society, has continued working throughout 2017-2018. The committee is formed by representatives from both organizations: Harout Misserlian (chairman), Dr. Asbed Vassilian, Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian, and Sossi Essajanian (now in Cyprus), from the Prelacy; Sonia Bezdikian, Lucine Karjian, Ani Mouradian-Panossian, and Lena Orangian, from the A.R.S.

### **A) 2017/2018 Activities**

1) After the successful release of the phrase books “Let’s Chat” (2016) and “Let’s Chat 2” (2017), two booklets in Armenian (both in Armenian characters and transliteration) and English, sponsored by Dr. Aram and Mrs. Seta Semerdjian, a third booklet in the series is currently in the phase of design.

The English section of “Armenian Language Matters,” a revised selection of columns published in the Armenian Language Corner of “Crossroads,” is also ready to start the publishing process.

Another booklet, “Pages of Armenian History,” with twelve short chapters (2-4 pages each), including maps and illustrations, is still in the process of writing.

2) The periodical conference calls with principals and teachers were resumed in October 2017, with participation of the ANEC director and members. The number of participating schools has varied from two to four, with an average to six to nine principals and teachers. The program is aimed at discussing educational issues, as well as airing and addressing school concerns.

3) A statistical report on schools in the academic year 2017-2018 was prepared. The total of students in the eleven Saturday schools and one day school under the jurisdiction of Prelacy is 779. Saturday schools have between 16 and 115 students. The number of students in the academic year 2016-2017 was 786.

4) The Siamanto Academy began on September 9, 2017, and it will have monthly sessions until June 2018 with nine (8) students. The sessions are held at the Hovnanian School (New Milford, NJ). Some students are graduates from Saturday schools; others are students who have not attended an Armenian school, and we also have a student recently arrived from Aleppo. The classes on subjects of history, culture, and current issues are held in Armenian, since all students are knowledgeable of the language.

The classes for each session of the Siamanto Academy are separately recorded in “The Siamanto Series” and posted online. The recording, in Armenian, includes bilingual Power Points and allows allocating less time for each topic and a more structured presentation.

5) ANEC has regularly contributed its two columns for “Crossroads,” namely, “This Week in Armenian History” (every week) and “Armenian Language Corner” (every other week), and also maintained its blog and its Facebook page.

### **b) Armenian as a Second Language Program**

After requests from various schools, ANEC established a committee of professional educators and current Saturday School teachers who have experience teaching Armenian as a Second Language to students.

The committee began in April 2016 by creating a structure for the program that included:

1. Standards and Benchmarks
2. Teaching Literacy/Supplemental guide
3. Materials and Resources to support the program

Initially, the team members had monthly conference calls to flesh out each portion of the comprehensive program. They used the Google Drive tool to file share and document all of their work. The committee’s communication has been through conference calls and emails. The members of the committee are Sossi Essajanian from New York City, Narineh Abrimian from Boston, and Silva Bedian from Chicago, with the support of Executive Director Dr. Vartan Matiossian.

Drawing from best practices in second language learning, the group completed a draft curriculum comprised of four goals that integrate language, communication, culture, and community. Within each goal are standards and benchmarks that are leveled from Introduction to Beginning, Developing, and Expanding. These levels are employed instead of age-based grade levels because:

- a) The youngest-aged student at each school may be different
- b) The number of hours of academic instruction varies from school to school; some schools may not be able to cover as much as others in a school year
- c) Students can be assessed and grouped according to ability rather than age

The program is created in a way that allows the teacher to tailor their lesson plans to their students’ ability level, and the flexibility to be used for more than one academic year, if required. So, for example, a school that meets 15 times in one academic year for 1 hour each time may use the Introduction level for several years, whereas, a school that meets for 3 hours a week for 40 weeks, may cover most of the Introduction level in one year. Of course, most of this is also dependent on the commitment of the students and their families and how quickly the students master the material.

The committee worked toward a launch of the program in September 2017. An outreach was made to schools to pilot the program and as of March 2018, the St. Stephen’s everyday school is the only school that may be in the process of making arrangements to start to use the program.

The newly created curriculum is written in both Armenian and English and consists of:

1. A teacher guide to implementing the program;
2. An overview of the entire program, summarizing standards and benchmarks for all four levels;
3. The detailed program goals and standards for each of the four levels (Introduction, Beginner, Developing and Expanding);
4. A list of resources for teachers.

The Committee plans to continue its work to:

1. Incorporate feedback received from schools and make any necessary changes to improve the curriculum
2. Provide teachers with the training needed to implement the program
3. Create resource books for teachers and workbooks for students at each level
4. Identify and encourage efforts to create additional resources such as audio books, apps, websites or children's books, and incorporate them into the curriculum
5. Build/create a baseline assessment that teachers can use for each level to gauge where the student is. This can be used in order to be more objective and allow the teacher to collect information and create targets.

## **IX. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

During the past year, the Council has continued the work which was initiated some four years ago to restate and present financial statements which both meet our internal requirements and also comply with generally accepted accounting practices required of not for profit organizations such as our Prelacy. We are pleased to report that, with the efforts of our current Treasurer, Raffi Ourlian, the capable assistance of our part time accountant, Yn. Annie Terterian, and our internal and external auditors, we have completed the work required to put our financial statements, including the financial statements of our endowment funds, in proper order. The financial statements are being sent to you under separate cover.

As you will see from a review of our financial statements, the Prelacy's general operating account has produced a surplus which has allowed us to pay down accrued interest charges on the internal debt drawn from our Endowment funds in past years. The generous donations made by our faithful and from all of our parishes has also allowed us to establish a restricted funds account for the benefit of our youth ministry and clergy training and recruitment programs. The funds currently held in these restricted accounts should allow us to help grow these programs in the coming years and not sacrifice program enhancements because of financial limitations.

We have also taken the necessary steps to fully restate our Endowment accounts to reflect earnings received during the past four years as well as distributions which have been made from these accounts. The co-mingled funds, which were the source of much of the initial problems, are now in proper order and have been reviewed by both our internal and outside auditors to insure their financial integrity. We have also revised the formula used for drawing on endowed funds in such a way so as to give us more predictability in the amount of funds available from our endowments on an annual basis and to make these determinations less dependent on the vagaries of the financial markets in any one year.

We have also been much more fully involved in meeting and working with our outside investment counsel to review our financial holdings and to more actively manage these accounts. Special thanks to Noubar Megerian for the work he has undertaken on behalf of the Council and for the Prelacy in this regard.

Despite the good news to report in this area of the Council's work during the past year, there is still a considerable amount of work to be done if the Prelacy is going to have the financial resources required to meet our program and personnel needs in the coming years. We are still overly dependent upon fundraising based upon particular events, such as the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Oshagan Srpazan's ordination this past year, to sustain our Prelacy programs. With the financial reporting issues our Prelacy has faced most recently now resolved, it is our hope that this year's NRA will devote serious attention to and address our fundraising needs so that we may continue to fulfill our mission as a church to our parishes and to the Armenian community.

Finally, you will note that although last year's NRA adopted a number of by-law amendments which dealt with financial reporting requirements, none of these by-law changes were implemented during the past year. The Council was not and will not be able to implement these changes until such time as the by-law amendments which were adopted are approved by the Executive Council of the Catholicosate, which approval has not occurred, as of the date of this report.

## **X. OUR PARISHES**

The Council continues to be encouraged by much of the spiritual and community work being done in our parishes. The youth ministry programs which were initiated this past year and the plans of a number of our parishes to increase their classroom and other space requirements and even, in some cases, to relocate their parishes, show an underlying strength of mission which bodes well for the future of many of our parishes and communities.

During the past year, the Executive Council addressed various issues and concerns which arose in our parishes, chief among which were the following:

### **A. St. Stephen's, New Britain, CT**

In recent years, per prior decisions previously taken by the Executive Council, the Board of Trustees of the St. Stephen's Church in New Britain has been a board appointed by the Executive Council and not one which was elected by the members of this parish. During the past year, as a result of the continuing efforts of our Prelate, Der Aram, and the local church community, the Council authorized the membership of St. Stephen's to hold a membership meeting and elect their own Board of Trustees. We are pleased to report that the membership of St. Stephen's has successfully elected a new Board and, under the spiritual guidance of Der Aram, has continued to make significant improvements in both the religious life of the New Britain community and in undertaking a number of improvements and repairs to the church and its building.

### **B. Sts. Vartanantz, Ridgefield, NJ**

In contrast to the good news from New Britain, there continue to be a number of problems associated with the management of the Sts. Vartanantz parish in New Jersey. The incumbent Board of Trustees were unable, without the direct involvement of the Council, to prepare and present financial statements which could be presented at a parish

general membership meeting. Membership in this parish had fallen considerably and the nominating Committee of this church was unable to nominate even a minimum number of members who were willing to serve as Board of Trustee members.

Although many within the Sts. Vartanantz parish have called upon the Executive Council to appoint a Board of Trustees for this parish, the Council has tried to work through these issues without resorting to an appointed Board as it is our belief that this church is better served by having its own elected lay leadership. Various minimum requirement demands and dates for compliance were sent to the Sts. Vartanantz Board in November, 2017. Some of these demands made of the Board and parish were met on a timely basis while others were not. As of the writing of this report, the Sts. Vartanantz board, is not yet in a position to call general membership meeting but it is our hope that the remaining issues will be resolved and this parish can proceed to hold a general membership meeting, elect a new Board of Trustees, and review the financial statements and proposed budget for this parish at an early date.

## **XI. THANKSGIVING AND REQUIEM SERVICES**

On Sunday, May 28, 2017, all the Prelacy parish churches offered prayers of Thanksgiving for the Republic of Armenia and blessed the Armenian tricolor flag on the occasion of the 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Armenian Republic (May 28, 1918) and the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the current Republic (September 21, 1991). Also requiem services were offered for the souls of the fallen heroes of the Sardarabad, Bashabaran, Gharakilise and the martyrs in the struggle of Artsakh.

On Sunday, June 25, 2017, our parish churches offered pontifical prayers and blessings on the occasion of the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the election and consecration of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia.

On Sunday, February 4, 2018, in conjunction with the Saints Ghevontians commemoration, the Prelacy parishes observed a special requiem service, in memory of the deceased clergy, who had served the Prelacy.

On Sunday, February 25, 2018, requiem services were offered in all our churches, in memory of the founders, all deceased members and benefactors of the Armenian Relief Society and the victims of Sumgait, Baku and Girovabad pogroms.

## **XII. CLERGY CONFERENCES**

The biennial joint clergy conference of the North American three Prelacies (Eastern, Western and Canadian) was hosted by the Prelacy of Canada in Montreal, on October 2-5, 2017. Under the presidency of the three Prelates; Archbishop Oshagan, Archbishop Moushegh and Archbishop Papken, thirty seven clergymen were in attendance. The main theme of the Conference was Renewal. Two lectures were presented by Rev. Fr. Nareg Terterian on “pre-and post-marriage counseling” and Prof. Karine Papazian-Zohrabian from the University of Montreal, on “Death and Bereavement”.

On the occasion of the feast of Sts. Ghevontiantz, on February 5-7, the annual clergy conference of our Prelacy, under the presidency of Archbishop Oshagan was hosted by the Holy Trinity Church of Worcester, MA. The main topic of the gathering was the Encyclical issued by His Holiness Catholicos Aram I, on the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian Republic of 1918.

### **XIII. COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **A. Prelacy Webpage**

The new design for our web page ([www.armenianprelacy.org](http://www.armenianprelacy.org)) that was launched last year received a positive response from users. It was generally thought to be easy to use especially taking into consideration the extent of the content available. The website presents useful information about the history of the Armenian Church, the Prelacy, the Prelate, as well as up-to-date news, photos, videos, and media posts of past and upcoming events.

Both AREC and ANEC are prominently featured with mini-sites. The communications department works closely with all Prelacy departments in the production of publications and videos, such as the Let's Chat series and the Siamanto lecture videos of Armenian history. Currently, the communications staff is working with the director of the Prelacy's Youth Ministry department to develop a comprehensive mini-site for the Youth Ministry program specifically geared for that age group.

The Online Bookstore was launched at the end of last year in an effort to increase interest and sales of bookstore merchandise.

The website makes every effort to facilitate online donations to the Prelacy safely and quickly through Paypal and related forms.

#### **B. Outreach and Crossroads**

*Outreach:* We have plans for two issues of *Outreach* during the year 2018, which marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Outreach*. One issue, currently in production, will be mailed in May. This issue is devoted to Archbishop Oshagan's twenty-year tenure as Prelate and his fifty years of service to the Church, with an extensive photo gallery from the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration that took place in October. The other focus of this issue is a listing of our donors for the 2017 calendar year and our various funds within our endowment fund that provide monetary support for vital programs. A second issue of *Outreach* will be published in early fall; this issue will focus on the 2018 National Representative Assembly and the election of a prelate.

*Crossroads:* Our weekly electronic newsletter continues to be published every Thursday. The most significant change in *Crossroads* is a new design and the greater use of visuals, including more photographs, more videos, more links to items of interest. The weekly Reflection series produced by the communications department is another regular addition to the *Crossroads* content. We continue to seek the support of our parishes in providing us with up-to-date email addresses of their parishioners. We also encourage all parishes to send us information and photographs of their events for use in *Crossroads*.

#### **C. Social Media**

Our presence on Facebook has significantly increased this past year and has been a very useful tool for presenting the news and work of the Prelacy and Parishes. Prelacy posts are frequently included in Facebook's newsfeed seen by large audiences. The weekly Reflections Series is a valuable addition to our Facebook posts and source of wide distribution. Our presence on Instagram is a newer initiative that is gaining more attention—a trend we hope to build upon.



## **D. Publications**

**1. *Diary*:** The Prelacy has been publishing an annual pocket diary since 1974. The 2018 Prelacy Diary was dedicated to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first independent Republic of Armenia of 1918.

**2. *The Gift of Service: The Jubilee of the ordination of Archbishop Oshagan*:** A 32-page booklet was prepared on the occasion of the celebration in October of His Eminence's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination. The booklet included messages from His Holiness, Executive Council, and extensive biography and photos of His Eminence's service, and listing of the generous donations received on this occasion.

**3. *Pontifical Encyclical, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence*:** His Holiness Aram I issued an encyclical marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Republic of Armenia of 1918. The text was translated and Armenian and English versions were provided electronically to our parishes and posted on our web page. The encyclical was read in all of our parishes.

**4. *Musical Armenia at 35*:** A special expanded booklet was published on the occasion of the 2018 Musical Armenia Concert that took place in March. The concert was the 35<sup>th</sup> Musical Armenia concert and the booklet included photos and program booklet covers from past concerts. The concert was dedicated to the memory of Rita Lulu Tatevossian a dedicated and long-time supporter of Musical Armenia.

**5. *A Journey of Faith*:** The 60-year history of the Prelacy has been an ongoing project. We are near completion. We anticipate a publication date during the autumn of 2018.

## **XIV. ARMENIA PROGRAMS**

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our charitable office in Armenia, officially registered as Metsn Nerses Charitable and Social organization, which is located at 6A Koriun Street, Yerevan. With a four member staff, including a director, a secretary, a part time accountant and an hourly basis assistant secretary, the organization continues its humanitarian services, to provide financial, material and social aid to orphans, orphanages, disabled veterans of Artsakh war and families of fallen soldiers.

During the past year, our charitable work mainly included:

### **A. Orphan's Program**

The Orphan Sponsorship Program, which was established in 1993, continues to be the central mission of our office in Armenia. During the past twenty-five years, almost \$3,000,000 of financial assistance, in the form of bi-monthly stipends has been provided to 2,285 children. Last year alone, through the generosity of 255 individual sponsors in USA, \$103,000 was distributed to 550 orphans. In addition, material aid, in the form of new shoes, clothing, school supplies and hygiene supplies has been provided to these children.

**B. Happy Family**

This program was established in 2008 by late Sarkis Arslanian and his family. The purpose of this program is to financially help first degree disabled veterans of Artsakh war and their families. Last year bi-monthly stipends totalling \$14,000 was distributed to the families of fifteen disabled veterans.

**C. Financial Aid to the Families of Fallen Soldiers**

Early last summer, the proceeds of a special plate collection in all our parish churches, totalling \$5,000 was distributed directly to the families of ninety five Armenian soldiers, who had fallen during the four day war of Artsakh in April 2016. Each family received 25,000 Armenian Dram.

**D. Datev Music School of Nor Malatya**

Last year we continued our sponsorship of Datev Music School of Nor Malatya, one of the most impoverished neighborhoods of Yerevan, by contributing \$3,600, to cover the costs of the brass ensemble of boys, who receive a few years of free musical education and training.

**E. Summer Camp**

For the eighth year in a row, Rev. Archpriest Aram Stepanian directed a summer camp in Armenia for children, most of whom are enrolled in our orphan sponsorship program.

About fifty children attended the summer camp, where they received daily instructions in Bible studies and the history and rituals of the Armenian church, along with sports, games and field trips.

**F. Distribution of Humanitarian Aid**

Through our Prelacy’s partnership with the Armenia-Artsakh Fund and Americares, during the past year, our office in Armenia received the following humanitarian aid for free distribution in Armenia and Artsakh:

– TOMS summer canvas shoes	20010 pairs
– TOMS winter boots	5000 pairs
– Hygiene supplies	120 boxes
– Reading and sun glasses	2000 pairs

TOTAL VALUE    \$183,928.00

During the next couple of months, our office in Armenia will also receive 30000 pairs of TOMS summer canvas shoes and 5000 pairs of TOMS winter boots with a combined total value of \$213,685.00.

**G. DVD on Armenia Programs**

Late last summer, an 18 minute DVD about our charitable programs was produced both in Armenian and English. On the eve of Great Lent this year, the DVD was sent to all of our parish churches with a directive to make arrangements to show it to their parishioners on a given Sunday during the period of the Great Lent and to encourage them to support these programs.

The same DVD was also sent to all the sponsors of our Orphan Sponsorship Program, in appreciation of their support.

Recently the Executive Council decided to dedicate a special day during the year, for our charitable programs in Armenia. The feast of Metz'n Nerses, which is celebrated in the month of June every year was considered the most appropriate date for this purpose.

#### **H. Audited Financial Report**

Last summer, we had an agreement with Baker Tilly Armenia, for auditing the Financial Report of the projects in Armenia, funded by our Prelacy. In late January, we received the first independent Auditor's Report for the calendar year 2017, from Baker Tilly Armenia.

### **XV. OTHER PRELACY PROGRAMS**

#### **A. Musical Armenia**

This year's Musical Armenia was held Sunday afternoon which allowed to have a reception at the Prelacy afterwards for the concert's donors and musicians. The concert took place March 18, 2018 at Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall at 2 p.m. This year's participants were prize-winning pianist Hrant Bagrazyan and composer Mary Kouyoumdjian with her seven performers.

We were very excited to present an Armenian woman composer this year. As a first generation Armenian-American and having come from a family directly affected by the Lebanese Civil War and Armenian Genocide, Mary uses a sonic palette that draws on her heritage, progressively blending the old with the new with a striking emotional power. The public gave a standing ovation to both presented artists.

This year's concert was the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Musical Armenia series. On that occasion, an extended booklet was printed with several photographs and information reflecting the history of this very successful concert series. This year's concert was dedicated to blessed memory of Rita Lulu Tatevossian, devoted supporter of Musical Armenia and long-time member of the Prelacy Ladies Guild. On that occasion, this year's concert received a very generous sustaining donation by Armen and Jeanette Avanesians, along with the support of our loyal donors.

A reception was held at the Prelacy after the concert, which allowed Bishop Anoushavan to thank the donors and musicians on behalf of Archbishop Oshagan. Next year's concert will be held on Sunday afternoon again, March 17, 2019.

#### **B. Fund for Syrian Armenian Relief**

The Fund for Syrian Armenian Relief has been part of our Prelacy's humanitarian work for the past six years. In 2012, as a result of the devastating war in Syria, the Prelate and the Executive Council initiated a special fundraising campaign for the Syrian Armenian Relief. During the ensuing five years, until March 2017, \$850,000.00 was raised and transferred to a fund set-up by His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia. Distributions from that fund were made to the joint committee of Syrian Armenian religious, political, social and charitable organizations, to provide critical humanitarian aid, including food, medicine, shelter and other essential needs to the People.

Last year, with the restoration of peace in Aleppo and other Armenian populated areas of Syria, a new phase in the Syrian Armenian relief started. Under the spiritual leadership of His Holiness Catholicos Aram I of the Holy See of Cilicia, plans are being made for reconstruction and rehabilitation in the near future. For that purpose, we have already raised an additional \$100,000.00. The fundraising work will continue.

### **C. Digitization of Prelacy Files**

The Prelacy collection of paper files are mostly placed in large filing cabinets and are partly contained in boxes. They include a minimum of half a million sheets of paper from the past 85 years. The first and only classification of these files were accomplished in 1989/90.

Currently a plan is being made to sort-out all these papers, to eliminate those which do not have any specific value or are duplicates and to digitalize and classify the rest both electronically and in paper form.

## **XVI. PARISH DEVELOPMENT**

### **A. Parish Insurance Program:**

The Executive Council along with Chris Parnagian has implemented a pooling insurance program. Many of our Prelacy churches were interested in a way to save money and ensure that all the churches have the correct insurance coverage that they need. Stephen Waldorf of Waldorf Risk Solution was chosen after interviewing different brokers to secure a master insurance program for the Prelacy and its churches. The insurance coverage survey that was sent to all the churches provided the Executive Council with a detailed analysis. It was discovered that some churches did not have the appropriate coverage and some were overpaying. This pooling program provides each church with their own liability and flood coverage which many churches did not have. To date, the Prelacy, the St. Illuminator's Cathedral of New York, and Sts. Vartanantz Church of Providence have been covered under this program and have seen significant savings.

The following reflect only a few of the significant advantages of this master program:

#### **Property coverage**

- A blanket limit of liability is afforded any one location, any single loss. An agreed amount endorsement makes up part of the policy wording and losses are not subject to a coinsurance clause. The cost to repair and or replace coverage Property will be paid on the basis of replacement cost, at the time of replacement, not the time of loss.
- Virtually all forms of loss are coverage including, but not limited to flood, windstorm, earthquake, the backing up of sewers and drains, burglary, robbery, vandalism, and theft of any real property that you own or are responsible for.
- Fine arts are covered not subject to a schedule of items
- Business interruption is afforded to include full payroll
- Personal effects coverage is afforded for each person on a worldwide basis

## **Liability**

Coverage extends to include the Parish, clergy, all employees, volunteers, students and those who act on your behalf. Coverage would be called upon to defend and indemnify you for allegations of personal injury and property damage as the result of your negligence. Coverage is written on a worldwide basis and to include the following:

- Liable, slander, defamation
- Malpractice
- Pastoral counseling
- Allegations of sexual abuse and or misconduct (separate policy and limit)
- Wrongful termination of employees, breach of contract, failure to promote (separate policy and limit)
- Theft of property and or negotiable instruments by employees

## **Excess Liability**

The Excess Liability follows the form of the primary limits. Coverage is written with a drop down provision. In the unlikely event that the primary aggregates were to ever become eroded to zero, this policy would drop into the primary position and continue to provide protection through the balance of the year.

We are looking to work with each Parish as their insurance program approaches the renewal. Prior to the renewal, we will be looking to reach out to each location with a proposal for your consideration. If any Parish would need more information on this exciting program, please contact Mark Phillips, Executive Council member at (401)935-9106 or mark@stsvartanantzchurch.org

## **B. National Representative Assembly Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document and video**

The EC embarked on a campaign to educate first-time NRA delegates. A set of questions addressing what delegates need to know before, during and after the meeting were prepared and posted to the Prelacy's website, posted to the St. Gregory of N. Andover NRA website, distributed in hard copy to delegates with their meeting package, and also distributed to Pastors and parishes as part of the meeting announcement.

The document explains the purpose of the NRA meeting, what delegates need to do to prepare, what they should bring along, why they were elected, how the meeting is run, what will be discussed as well as logistics issues. The document also discusses what is expected of delegates once they return to their parish. A video covering the same material was also prepared to accompany the FAQ.

## **C. Prelacy Parish Census**

In the autumn of 2017 an extensive and detailed census was distributed electronically to all parishes. The purpose of the census was to identify areas where parishes could assist each other, provide best practices and ideas on frequently encountered issues. The census requested information on parish life, parish statistics, parish programs and activities, growth or decline in parish activity and membership as well as future aspirations, parish strengths, areas of concern and what the parish needs from the Prelacy.

The census responses will be used as a benchmark for the Prelacy to also identify areas where it can assist and strengthen parishes through the programs it provides. There was nearly 100 percent participation in this census.

There will be a complete report and panel discussion on this topic, specifically how it relates to parish life, during the NRA. There will also be follow up with the parishes to refine and/or better understand some of the responses.

## **XVII. BUILDING RENOVATIONS**

The renovation of the Prelacy building has been an important issue for both the Prelate and the Prelacy Executive Councils for the past several years. During that time, various options have been considered, including a general renovation, expansion and renovation or complete demolition and reconstruction of the building.

Last summer, the Executive Council formed an advisory committee of individuals, with New York real estate expertise, to once again consider different possibilities and lend their individual perspectives as to the best course of action for the Prelacy building project.

Two meetings were convened at the Prelacy with the participation of six committee members. After adequate studies and discussions, the advisory Committee recommended the following two options:

- 1) Expand and fully renovate the existing building.
- 2) Sell the existing building and purchase a new site which will fully meet the Prelacy's needs.

The first option was already under our consideration for the past two years.

Therefore, currently a professional application is being prepared to obtain a variance from the New York Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) to allow the rear yard enlargement of the building.

## **XVIII. CONCLUSION**

This year represents the completion of Oshagan Srpazan's fifth and last term as our Prelate. During the twenty years of Oshagan Srpazan's wise leadership, with the very capable assistance of Anoushavan Srpazan as our Vicar, our Prelacy has been strengthened in many ways. One need only look to the various clergy who have been actively recruited and are currently serving in our parishes; the programs, most recently that of Youth Ministry, which the Prelacy has developed or enhanced during the past twenty years; and the numerous Prelacy publications, including the publication of a new *badarak* book, as the most obvious examples of the numerous benefits we have derived during Oshagan Srpazan's tenure as our Prelate. We thank both Oshagan Srpazan and Anoushavan Srpazan for their selfless and dedicated years of service to our Prelacy.

As we look forward to the election of a new Prelate, despite the numerous challenges which face our parishes and community, it is our hope that each of you, as delegates to this Assembly, remember, promulgate, teach, and continue the traditions of Christian faith and of service which have been the touchstones of our Prelacy during the past twenty years with Oshagan Srpazan as our Prelate. We welcome you to this year's National Representative Assembly and wish each of

you a productive week as we work together to strengthen the mission of our Armenian Church and community within this Prelacy.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rev. Father Nerses Manoogian, Chairman of the Religious Council**  
**Very Rev. Father Sahag Yemishyan, Secretary**  
**Rev. Father Nareg Terterian**

**Jack Mardoian, Chairman of the Lay Council**  
**Karen Jehanian, Vice Chairperson**  
**Susan Chitjian Erickson, Secretary**  
**Raffi Ourlian, Treasurer**  
**Veh Bezdikian**  
**Mark Phillips**  
**Harry Seoylemezian**

## **APPENDIX**



**SCHEDULE OF TRAVEL, PASTORAL VISITS AND MEETINGS OF THE PRELATE  
JUNE, 2017 – MAY, 2018**

- June 4            Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY. A surprise luncheon was served for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his ordination.
- June 8-22        Travelled to Lebanon. Met with His Holiness Catholicos Aram I and recruited Deacon Hovhaness Sellumian as a new candidate for priesthood under our Prelacy.
- June 25           Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator’s Cathedral, NYC.
- June 27           Held a meeting with the members of the newly formed Governance Committee for the renovation of the Prelacy building.
- July 2            Attended the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, NJ and presided over the forty days requiem service for Knar Apkarian, former principle of Nareg Saturday school.
- July 3/4          Attended the HOMENETMEN Olympics closing ceremony and banquet in Providence, RI.
- July 6            Presided over the funeral services of Mark Alashaian, a Board member of Sts. Vartanantz Church of Ridgefield, NJ.
- July 7            Paid a visit to Datev Summer Camp in Pennsylvania.
- July 9            Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- July 16           Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator’s Cathedral, NYC.
- July 21           Attended the ARS Eastern Region’s Annual Conference in Arlington, VA.
- July 23-30       Spent the whole week in Montreal, Canada, for the Bible translation project.
- August 6          Presided over the blessing of grapes and madagh of St. Stephen’s Church of Watertown at Camp Haiastan.
- August 12        Attended the Divine Liturgy and presided over the blessing of grapes and madagh at Holy Trinity Church in Worcester, MA.
- August 20        Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon and blessed the grapes at St. Asdvadzadzin Church of Whitinsville, MA.
- August 27        Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, NJ.
- Sept. 2/3         Attended the opening of AYP Olympics in Milwaukee, WI.
- Sept. 17          Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon and presided over the 83<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary luncheon at Holy Trinity Church, Worcester, MA.
- Sept. 19          Was present at the UN General Assembly to hear the address of President Serge Sarksyian. The same evening attended a reception in honor of President Michel Aoun of Lebanon, in New York.
- Sept. 21          Participated in the Thanksgiving Service for the Republic of Armenia at St. Vartan Cathedral in New York.

- Sept. 24 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral and presided over the Thanksgiving Service for the Republic of Armenia.
- Oct. 1 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- Oct. 2-5 With Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian and Archbishop Papken Charian, Prelates of Western Prelacy and Canada, presided over the Sts. Ghevontiantz joint clergy conference in Montreal of the three prelacies of Northern America, hosted by the Prelacy of Canada.
- Oct. 7/8 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy in Philadelphia, delivered the sermon and presided over the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet of St. Gregory the Illuminator Church.
- October 11 At the Prelacy, presided over the committee meeting of Pashalian Family Scholarship Fund. This year, for the first time in many years, the committee decided to not make any distribution, in order to restore the base capital of the Fund, which should be a minimum of \$150,000.00.
- October 15 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral and the opening of an exhibition by the painter Emma Gregoryan.
- October 19 Attended the funeral services of Khoren Nalbandian in New Jersey.
- October 22 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Stephen's Church of New Britain, CT, delivered the sermon and presided over the 92<sup>nd</sup> anniversary banquet of the church.
- October 23 Attended a luncheon at the residence of the Ambassador of Lebanon in Washington D.C., in honor of Patriarch Rai of the Maronite Church and Patriarch John X of the Antiochian Greek Orthodox Church.
- October 24 Attended an ecumenical service at St. Mathew Catholic church in Washington D.C. on the eve of the In Defence of Christians in the Middle East Summit.
- October 25 In the morning, attended the opening session of the IDC Summit. At noon attended a luncheon at the Embassy of Armenia in Washington D.C. with representatives of Armenian Organizations in USA. In the evening attended the formal dinner of IDC Summit, during which Vice President Mike Pence addressed the participants of the Summit.
- Oct. 26 Closing of the IDC Summit.
- Oct. 29 On the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of his ordination as a priest, celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon at St. Illuminator's Cathedral and addressed the guests at the Lotte New York Palace hotel's banquet hall in the evening.
- Nov. 4 Attended the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet of HOMENETMEN in Eastern USA in Mahwa, New Jersey.
- Nov. 5 Attended the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanants church in Ridgefield, NJ.
- Nov. 9 A private meeting in New York with H.H. Catholicos Karekin II of All Armenians in New York.
- Nov. 11/12 Attended the 53<sup>rd</sup> anniversary banquet of Soorp Khatch church in Bethesda, MD. The next morning celebrated the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon.
- Nov. 14 A dinner meeting with H.H. Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians in New York.

- Nov. 19, 2017 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the Sermon and presided over the anniversary banquet of Sts. Asdvadzadzin Church of Whitinsville, MA.
- Dec. 5-8 Attended the World General Assembly of the Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia in Antelias, Lebanon.
- Dec. 17 Attended the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanantz Church of Ridgefield, NJ.
- Dec. 24 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- Dec. 31 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church of Douglaston, NY.
- Jan. 6, 2018 Celebrated the Armenian Christmas Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. The same evening hosted at the Prelacy the traditional Armenian Christmas Reception.
- Jan. 7 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church of Douglaston, NY.
- Jan. 14 Attended the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanantz Church of Ridgefield, NJ
- Jan. 20-21 Presided over the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet –reception of St. Stephen's Church in Watertown, MA, blessed the new organ of the church and delivered the sermon.
- Jan. 23 Meeting with Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Bishop Anoushavan, Father Daniel Findikian, and Mrs. Margret Kirkostas, concerning the closing of the Armenian Anthropology Museum at Queens College.
- Jan. 25 A private meeting in New York with His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians.
- Jan. 27-28 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon and presided over the 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet of St. Gregory the Illuminator Church of North Andover, MA.
- Feb. 4 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- Feb. 5-7 Presided over the Sts. Ghevontiantz clergy gathering at Holy Trinity Church in Worcester, MA.
- Feb. 8 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon and attended the feast of Sts. Vartanantz luncheon with students of Hovnanian Armenian Day School at Sts. Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, NJ.
- Feb. 10-11 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon and presided over the luncheon at Sts. Vartanantz Church in Providence, RI.
- Feb. 12 Presided over the Funeral services of Rita Tatevossian, a long time dedicated member of the Prelacy Ladies Guild.
- Feb. 18 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- Feb. 20 - March 6 Traveled to Lebanon to attend the Central Religious Council's meeting.
- March 11 Attended the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanantz Church of Ridgefield, NJ, and held a meeting with the BOT.
- March 15 Attended a dinner at the Embassy of Armenia in Washington, DC, in honor of President Bako Sahakyan of Artsakh.
- March 17/18 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, delivered the Sermon and attended the luncheon and a spiritual concert by Onnik Dinkjian at St. Gregory Church of Granite City, IL.

- March 23 Hosted at the Prelacy the CAMECT (Christian Arab & Middle Eastern Churches Together) meeting to discuss the situation in Jerusalem and aid to displaced people in Syria and Iraq.
- March 24 Participated in a dinner at St. Stephen's Church of Watertown, MA, with the members of church affiliated bodies.
- March 25 Celebrated the Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Stephen's Church of Watertown, MA.
- March 27 With Bishop Anoushavan, visited the Armenian Home and Hovnanian Armenian Day School in New Jersey and performed the blessing of Home services.
- March 28 With Bishop Anoushavan visited the Armenian Home in Flushing, NY, and performed the blessing of Home.
- March 29 Performed Washing of the Feet and presided over Tenebrae service at St. Illuminator's Cathedral In NYC.
- March 30 Presided over the Good Friday Services at Sts. Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, NJ.
- March 31 Attended the Divine Liturgy on Easter Eve at St. Sarkis church, Douglaston, NY.
- April 1 Celebrated the Easter Divine Liturgy and performed the blessing of the new cross above the entrance of St. Illuminator's Cathedral in NYC.
- April 4-7 Travelled to Vatican to join the entourage of His Holiness Catholicos Aram I of the Holy See of Cilicia, at the opening of St. Krikor Naregatsi's statue in the Vatican garden.
- April 8-19 Travelled to Lebanon to attend the consecration of four bishops: Bishop Masis, Prelate of Kuwait, Bishop Sipan, Prelate of New Julfa, Bishop Mesrob, Prelate of the United Arab Emirates and Qatar and Bishop Torkom, Vicar General of the Western Prelacy.
- April 22 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. Following the Divine Liturgy, at the church hall attended a meeting with Razmig Arzoumanian, founder of Armenian Wounded Warriors Fund and Major Sargis Stepanyan, a triple amputated Armenian warrior from Artsakh. In the afternoon attended the Annual Armenian Genocide Commemoration at Times Square.
- April 24 Attended a Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, dedicated to the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide.
- April 26 Attended the Armenian Bar Association's inaugural public servants' dinner at the Yale Club in New York.
- April 28 Attended a reception in Philadelphia, organized by the Armenian Assembly, honoring Mr. & Mrs. Peter Vosbikian.
- April 29 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church in Douglaston, NY.
- May 4 Hosted a presentation by Helen Evans, curator of Byzantine Art at the Metropolitan Museum in New York, about the upcoming Exhibition of the Armenian Art in September, 2018.
- May 5/6 On Saturday, May 5, attended an exhibition and a concert marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Vartan Cathedral of the Armenian Diocese in New York. The following day, Sunday, May 6, attended a pontifical Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Holiness Catholicos Karekin II of All Armenians.

## **SCHEDULE OF TRAVEL, PASTORAL VISITS AND MEETINGS OF VICAR GENERAL JUNE, 2017 – MAY, 2018**

- June 4            Attended the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon and presided over the requiem service of Avedis Alashaian at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- June 10           Attended the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York.
- June 11           Attended the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Sarkis Church, and presided over the Graduation hantes of Suzan & Hovsep Hagopian Saturday school.
- June 15           Attended the Graduation hantes of Hovnanian Armenian Day school, NJ.
- June 18           Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- June 21           Presided over the first meeting of Archbishop Oshagan's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Committee.
- June 25           Attended the Divine Liturgy at Holy Cross Church, Troy, NY. Presented to Very Rev. Fr. Zareh Sarkisian a pictorial cross and attended a reception on this happy occasion as well as for his graduation from Holy Cross Seminary, MA.
- July 2            Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- July 2- 8          Attended Datev Institute's summer program in Elverson, PA.
- July 9            Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Gregory the Illuminator Church in Philadelphia, PA, and presided over the Graduation hantes of Datev Institute.
- July 16           With Archbishop Oshagan attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- July 23           Transfiguration. Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- July 26           Presided over the second meeting of Archbishop Oshagan's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Commitee.
- July 30           Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanantz Church.
- August 6           Attended the Divine Liturgy and presided over the requiem service of Mark Alashaian at Sts. Vartanantz Church, NJ.
- August 13          Assumption. Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. NYC. Following the liturgy attended the Church's annual picnic.
- August            20 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Hagop Church, Niagara Falls, NY. Presented certificates of merit to Dn. Albert Amato and Vartkes Mavisakalian.
- August 27          Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at Soorp Khatch Church, Bethesda, MD.
- September 15    With Bishop Shahe Panossian, Prelate of Lebanon, and Rev. Father Sarkis Sarkisian, chairman of the Religious Council, visited the newly built Armenian United College, which replaced six local Armenian schools in Bourdj Hamoud. This year, the school enrolles 750 students from Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Sept. 23           Delivered a lecture on church renewal at a conference for the Armenian Sunday school teachers, organized by the Religious Council of Lebanon.

- Sept. 24 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Forty Martyrs in Bourdj Hamoud, Lebanon.
- Oct 1 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- Oct 2-3 Attended the joint Clergy Conference of the three prelaties of North America in Montreal, Canada and celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Hagop Church.
- Oct 4 Presided over Archbishop Oshagan's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee meeting.
- Oct 8 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Sarkis Church, NJ. Following the liturgy, presented "Our Fathers Speak" series' new publications.
- Oct 15 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Vartanantz Church, NY. Following the liturgy, presented "Our Fathers Speak" series' new publications.
- Oct 22 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC. Following the liturgy, presented "our Fathers Speak" series' new publications.
- Oct 29 Attended Archbishop Oshagan's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration Divine Liturgy and banquet, In New York.
- Nov 5 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at All Saints' Church, Glenview, IL. Following the liturgy, presided over the 74<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Church.
- Nov 12 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy and ordained 10 acolytes at St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA.
- Nov 19 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Sarkis Church, NY.
- Nov 26 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Vartanantz Church, NJ.
- Nov 28 With Archpriest Antranig Baljian met His Beatitude Archbishop Nourhan Manougian, the Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem, in Watertown, MA.
- Nov 30 Presided over the funeral of Mrs. Keghanoush Kinosian, at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- Dec 1 Presented a new book "The Sins of the Fathers: Turkish Denialism and the Armenian Genocide", by Professor Siobhan Nash-Marshall, of the Mary T. Clark Chair of Christian Philosophy at Manhattanville College, NY.
- Dec 3 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Gregory Church, Granite City, IL. Presided over the 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary celebration of the Church. Presented Certificates of Merit to Sue Spetaro, Greg Hightaian, and Arthur Asadorian.
- Dec 10 Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI. Ordained Sub-Deacon Serj Garabedian. During the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet of the Church, presented Certificates of Merit to Ani Pilibosian Broglin, Arnold Kurtjian and Mary Bedikian. Following the banquet, presided over a spiritual concert performed by Onnig Dinkjian, accompanied by Ara Dinkjian on the organ.
- Dec 14 Received at the Prelacy Mr. Robert Avedisyan, Representative of Artsakh to USA, and Mr. Razmig Arzoumanian, founder of Armenian Wounded Warriors Fund.  
 – Also, attended the Middle East Airline's Christmas reception in NYC, and a reception at St. Illuminator's Cathedral in honor of Mr. Robert Avedisyan.

- Dec 16 Attended the Annual Gala Banquet of the Children of Armenia Fund (COAF) in NYC.
- Dec 17 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- Dec 24 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY. Following the liturgy, presided over St. Stephen the Protomartyr's (Deacon's) feast.
- Dec 31 Attended the New Year eve celebration at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, conducted a midnight Thanksgiving Service and with Der Nareg Terterian, visited the Armenian Iranian Society, in Little Neck, NY.
- Jan. 6, 2018 Celebrated the Armenian Christmas Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY. Following the liturgy, presided over the Christmas hantes of the Saturday School. In the evening, with Metro area clergy, attended the Blessing of Home (*Dnorhnek*) and reception at the Prelacy.
- Jan. 7 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. Following the liturgy, presided over a fundraising program for Armenian Wounded Heroes Fund, presented by Razmig Arzoumanian (CEO), in the presence of Mr. Robert Avetisyan, Representative of Artsakh to the United States.
- Jan. 13 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY. Following the liturgy, presided over a town Hall meeting.
- Jan. 19 Presided over the Funeral service of Dr. Haigaz Grigorian, a former NRA delegate and BOT member from Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- Jan. 20 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- Jan. 27 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- Feb. 4 With Archbishop Oshagan, attended the name day celebration of St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- Feb. 11 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- Feb. 15 Presided over the Funeral service of Bill Artin, BOT Chairman and former NRA delegate of St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA.
- Feb. 18 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, PA.
- Feb. 21 Attended the *Hûsgum* Service and the Prelacy Lenten Lectures series at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- Feb. 23 Attended the *Hûsgum* Service at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- Feb. 25 Attended the Divine Liturgy and presided over the Requiem service in memory of the victims of Baku, Sumgayit and Girovabad (1988), and for the souls of ARS Founders, deceased members and benefactors, at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- Feb. 28 Attended the *Hûsgum* Service and Prelacy Lenten Lectures series at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- March 1 Attended the AURORA Dialogues New York 2018 event at 9/11 Memorial & Museum, NYC.
- March 2 Presided over the Wake service of the late composer Vazken Mouradian at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.

- March 4 Attended the Divine Liturgy, delivered the sermon and presided over the 40<sup>th</sup> day requiem service of late Agavni Kasbarian at St. Illumiantor's Cathedral.
- March 7 Attended the *Hûsgum* Service and Prelacy Lenten Lectures series at St. Illumiantor's Cathedral.
- March 10 Attended a book presentation of Varujhan Voskanaian, a former member of the Parliament of Rumania, at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- March 11 Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- March 16 Following the Vesper Service, presented the recently reprinted book "The Pastoral letters" of Catholicos St. Nerses the Graceful. The book was reprinted in memory of Nerses Chitjian, former Chairman of Prelacy Executive Council.
- March 17 Attended a banquet in honor of President Bako Sahagian of Artsakh, in Washington, DC, organized by ANCA and the Armenian Assembly.
- March 18 Attended the Prelacy Musical Armenia 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary concert at Carnegie Hall. Following the performance hosted a reception for the artists at the Prelacy.
- March 23 With Archbishop Oshagan, attended Christian Arab and Middle Eastern Churches Together (CAMECT) meeting at the Prelacy.
- March 24 Attended a cultural event in memory of Hagop Garabentz, organized by Hamazkayin Cultural Association in Bethesda, MD.
- March 25 Palm Sunday. Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at Soorp Khatch Church, Bethesda, MD, and blessed the new organ of the Church.
- March 27 With Archbishop Oshagan, Prelate, and metro area clergy, visited Hovnanian School and Armenian Home, NJ. A *Dnorhnek* service was performed in both places.  
- Attended the 10 Virgins' Service at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- March 28 With Archbishop Oshagan, and metro area clergy, visited the Armenian Home, Flushing, NY.
- March 29 Holy Thursday. Celebrated the Divine Liturgy, presided over the Washing of Feet and Tenebrae services at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- March 30 Holy Friday. Presided over the Entombment Service at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- March 31 Easter Eve. Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.
- April 1 Easter. Celebrated the Divine Liturgy at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- April 6 Presided over Prof. Siobhan Nash-Marshall's "The Sins of the Fathers" book presentation at St. Illuminator's Cathedral.
- April 8 Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. Following the liturgy, attended the General membership meeting of the church and conveyed the message of the Prelate.
- April 13 Delivered a reflection on Prelacy media at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY.
- April 14 Attended the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Gala banquet of St. Sarkis Church Saturday School.



- April 15      Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY. Following the liturgy, presented the book of Prof. Siobhan Nash-Marshall "The Sins of the Fathers".
- April 18      Offered the opening prayer at the annual Capitol Hill Armenian Genocide Commemoration, in Washington, DC.
- April 19      Attended Mher Khachatryan's Art Exhibition in NYC.
- April 20      Attended a welcoming event at St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY in honor of Artsakh hero and world champion Sarkis Stepanyan.
- April 22      Attended the Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral. Following the Badarak a welcoming event took place in honor of Artsakh hero and world champion Sarkis Stepanyan.  
With Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, attended the 103<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide at Times Square, NY.
- April 24      With Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan, attended a Divine Liturgy at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, dedicated to the Holy Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide and participated in the rally to the Turkish consulate.
- April 29      Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.
- May 6        Attended the Divine Liturgy and delivered the sermon at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, NYC.

## **MEDALS, AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES OF MERIT**

### **A. Letter of Blessing**

St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA

### **B. Eagle of the Prelacy**

Mr. Noubar Yeremian (St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA)

### **C. Certificates of Merit**

Dn. Haroutiun Kazandjian (St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA)

Dn. Vartan Karakelian (St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA)

Mrs. Doreen Yeremian (St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA)

Mr. Michael Injaian (St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA)

Mrs. Arsine Oshagan (St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA)

Mrs. Rose Balian (Soorp Khatch Church, Bethesda, MD)

Mr. Ara Sahagian (Soorp Khatch Church, Bethesda, MD)

Ms. Hnazant Arabian (Soorp Khatch Church, Bethesda, MD)

Maestro Arsen Sayian (Soorp Khatch Church, Bethesda, MD)

Mrs. Gail D'Onofrio (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mrs. Ovsanna Ferejian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mrs. Hermine Ghadimian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mr. Edward Barsamian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mr. Armen Ardzivian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mr. Thomas Thomasian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mr. Manoug Gostanian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mr. Gourgen Grigorian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mr. Ara Artinian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Dr. Hagop Gorgissian (St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY)

Mrs. Karen Aykanian Demirjian (St. Stephen's Church, Watertown, MA)

Ms. Mary Ann Kazanjian (St. Stephen's Church, Watertown, MA)

Mr. Vartkes Mavisakalian (St. Hagop Church, Niagara Falls, NY)

Dn. Albert Amato (St. Hagop Church, Niagara Falls, NY)

Ms. Ani Broglin (St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI)

Mr. Arnold Kourjian (St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI)

Ms. Mary Bedikian (St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI)

Mr. Arthur Asadorian (St. Gregory Church, Granite City, IL)

Mr. Greg Hightaian (St. Gregory Church, Granite City, IL)

Ms. Lori Saucier (St. Gregory Church, Granite City, IL)

Ms. Sue Spataro (St. Gregory Church, Granite City, IL)

Ms. Adrienne Dodakian (St. Stephen's Church, New Britain, CT)

Ms. Nancy Moscofian (St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Whitinsville, MA)

Ms. Margo Montecalvo (St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Whitinsville, MA)

Mr. Joseph Montecalvo (St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Whitinsville, MA)

Ms. Joanne Khoury (St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Whitinsville, MA)

Archdeacon Ara Nalbandian (Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI)

Archdeacon Hagop Khatchadourian (Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI)

Archdeacon Mark Norigian (Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI)  
Archdeacon Sarkis Yepremian (Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI)  
The Armenian National Committee of Rhode Island

## **ORDINATIONS**

### **Sub-Deacons**

St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA  
Hovig Chapanian  
Kevork Artinian

St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI  
Serge Garabedian

### **Acolytes**

St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Whitinsville, MA  
Bryan Der Kosroffian  
Charles Whittlesey  
Vahan Der Kosroffian

St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA  
Adam Hox  
Alex Dardarian  
Armen Shirozian  
Haig Shamilian  
Haig Shirozian  
Hovig Chapanian  
John Kakoyan  
Joseph Barton  
Tomas Karakelian  
Xavier Yeremian

Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI  
Raffi Rafaelian  
Ryder Norigian

## **IN MEMORIAM**

During the past year we mourned the passing of the following supporters and members of our greater family:

Bishop Norayr Ashekian, member of the Religious Order of the Catholicosate of Cilicia.

Archpriest Nareg Sherikian, a priest who served under the Prelacy since 1963.

May 25, 2017, Knar Apkarian, former principle of Nareg Saturday school, Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.

July 1, 2017, Mark Alashaian, a Board member of Sts. Vartanantz Church of Ridgefield, NJ.

October 16, 2017, Khoren Nalbandian, NJ, a long time Prelacy supporter.

November 25, 2017, Keghanoush Kinosian, Prelacy benefactor, Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.

January 17, 2018, Dr. Haikaz M. Grigorian, former board member and a NRA delegate of Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ.

February 4, 2018, Rita Tatevossian, a long time and dedicated member of the Prelacy Ladies' Guild.

February 2018, Bill Artin, former board chairman and NRA delegate of St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA.

February 18, 2018, Vazken Mouradian, composer and recipient of Mesrob Mashtots Medal.

## P a r i s h   S t a t i s t i c s   –   M a y   2 0 1 6 - A p r i l   2 0 1 7

Church	Pastor	Dues Paying Parish	Members Mailing List	Sunday Schools Teach./Stu.	Armenian Schools Teach./Stu.	Baptisms	Weddings	Funerals	Budget
St. Illuminator's, New York, NY	Rev. M. Lakissian	280	1200	4/22	4/24	13	8	28	270,000
St. Sarkis, Douglaston, NY	Rev. N. Terterian	248	700	8/52	19/102	13	9	30	490,600
St. Hagop, Niagara Falls, NY	Rev. V. Bekiarian (visiting)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Holy Cross, Troy, NY	Very Rev. Z. Sarkissian (visiting)								
Sts. Vartanantz, Ridgefield, NJ	Rev. H. Bozoian	116	950	8/39	12/64	25	4	20	361,600
St. Stephen's, New Britain, CT	Rev. A. Stepanian			-/-	-/-				
Sourp Khatch, Bethesda, MD	Rev. S. Aktavoukian	342	700	-/-	15/86	9	3	10	282,000
St. Gregory, Philadelphia, PA	Rev. N. Manoogian	282	600	5/53	3/20	16	5	20	435,500
St. Stephen's, Watertown, MA	Rev. A. Baljian	454	750	14/115	49/299	23	11	41	674,665
St. Gregory, North Andover, MA	Rev. S. Baljian								
St. Asdvadzadzin, Whitinsville, MA	Rev. M. DerKhosrofian	78	325	7/35	1/17	1	1	6	184,000
Holy Trinity, Worcester, MA	Very Rev. S. Yemishyan	100	300	2/12	1/10	2	1	6	167,000
St. Gregory, Indian Orchard, MA	Rev. B. Shetilian	67	200	2/11	-/-	1	-	1	94,300
St. Vartanantz, Providence, RI	Rev. K. Nazarian	451	790	7/58	7/32	15	8	26	421,500
St. Sarkis, Dearborn, MI	Rev. H. Kevorkian	425	927	6/48	5/25	21	6	26	429,600
St. Paul, Waukegan, IL	Rev. D. Stepanian	19	65	-/-	-/-	1	-	4	31,200
St. Gregory, Granite City, IL	Rev. T. Chobanian	56	200	3/10	1/2	1	1	6	95,000
All Saints, Glenview, IL	Very Rev. Fr. G. Pentezian	107	575	4/-	19/109	12	2	17	302,900
St. Hagop, Racine, WI	Rev. D. Stepanian	78	95	8/24	-/-	1	1	3	125,275

## P a r i s h S t a t i s t i c s – M a y 2 0 1 7 - A p r i l 2 0 1 8

Church	Pastor	Dues Paying Parish	Members Mailing List	Sunday Schools Teach./Stu.	Armenian Schools Teach./Stu.	Baptisms	Weddings	Funerals	Budget
St. Illuminator's, New York, NY	Rev. M. Lakissian	250	1200	3/11	5/27	20	6	32	272,241
St. Sarkis, Douglaston, NY	Rev. N. Terterian	248	700	16/92	19/92	19	11	23	476,600
St. Hagop, Niagara Falls, NY	Rev. V. Bekiarian (visiting)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Holy Cross, Troy, NY	Very Rev. Z. Sarkissian (visiting)	40	80	-/-	-/-	-	-	3	N/A
Sts. Vartanantz, Ridgefield, NJ	Rev. H. Bozoian	234	950	6/39	11/46	21	5	21	393,000
St. Stephen's, New Britain, CT	Rev. A. Stepanian			-/-	-/-				-/-
Sourp Khatch, Bethesda, MD	Rev. S. Aktavoukian	330	700	-/-	15/92	9	1	12	320,900
St. Gregory, Philadelphia, PA	Rev. N. Manoogian	271	600	5/39	3/18	18	5	14	419,100
St. Stephen's, Watertown, MA	Rev. A. Baljian	465	745	13/111	49/299	14	8	35	756,445
St. Gregory, North Andover, MA	Rev. S. Baljian	103	300	7/37	4/36	6	1	7	217,534
St. Asdvadzadzin, Whitinsville, MA	Rev. M. DerKhosroffian	79	320	3/30	1/16	3	1	8	233,680
Holy Trinity, Worcester, MA	Very Rev. S. Yemishyan	100	330	2/12	-/-	5	-	16	147,000
St. Gregory, Indian Orchard, MA	Rev. B. Shetlian	64	210	1/5	-/-	-	-	2	99,616
St. Vartanantz, Providence, RI	Rev. K. Nazarian	451	790	7/58	7/32	15	8	26	421,500
St. Sarkis, Dearborn, MI	Rev. H. Kevorkian	453	970	10/48	4/28	10	7	16	446,100
St. Paul, Waukegan, IL	Rev. D. Stepanian	18	65	-/-	-/-	3	-	2	29,800
St. Gregory, Granite City, IL	Rev. T. Chobanian	59	200	4/11	1/2	5	2	3	96,395
All Saints, Glenview, IL	Very Rev. Fr. G. Pentezian	163	575	4/10	17/108	15	6	13	302,900
St. Hagop, Racine, WI	Rev. D. Stepanian	74	90	7/23	2/8	1	-	3	109,575

**St. Gregory of Datev Institute Statistics (1987-2017)**

Year	Total # of participants	# of communities represented	Soupp Khatch (MD)	St. Gregory's (PA)	Sts. Vartanantz (NJ)	St. Sarkis (NY)	St. Illuminator's Cathedral (NYC)	St. Paul (IL)	St. Gregory (IL)	All Saints (IL)	St. Hagop (WI)	Arm Ch of LA / St. Sarkis (CA)	Holy Cross (NY)	St. Stephen (CT)	Sts. Vartanantz (RI)	St. Stephen (MA)	St. Gregory (N. Andover, MA)	Holy Trinity (MA)	St. Gregory (Indian Orchard)	St. Asvadadzain (MA)	St. Sarkis (MI)	St. Gregory (FL)	Holy Cross/St. Mary/other	Soupp Hagop (Montreal)	Soupp Nishan (Cambridge)	St. Asvadadzain (Toronto)	St. Gregory (BC)	France	Lebanon
1987	16	7	2	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
1988	18	10	1	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
1989	20	11	1	3	4	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	
1990	30	11	2	3	5	3	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
1991	46	11	1	6	12	5	4	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	
1992	55	12	2	10	13	8	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	8	1	1	0	0	
1993	56	12	1	7	14	9	0	2	0	0	0	3	4	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	8	1	1	0	0	
1994	72	15	2	12	19	13	1	2	0	0	0	3	5	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	1	1	0	0	
1995	56	11	2	10	25	7	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	4	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
1996	74	14	2	9	31	5	0	5	1	0	0	3	0	3	2	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	7	0	1	0	0	
1997	78	12	3	14	31	10	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	2	2	1	0	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1998	45	13	0	3	20	3	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
1999	67	13	0	8	20	11	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	1	9	2	0	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
2000	48	10	0	8	10	7	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
2001	66	13	2	10	13	7	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	1	7	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	
2002	72	11	0	9	17	14	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	7	1	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
2003	72	10	0	14	14	5	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	7	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	5	0	
2004	76	13	1	14	16	12	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	3	5	5	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	
2005	75	14	1	13	10	10	6	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	12	2	7	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	
2006	71	13	2	17	11	6	6	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	13	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
2007	75	14	4	14	15	3	8	5	0	0	0	1	0	2	11	3	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	
2008	72	10	5	8	15	6	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14	8	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2009	53	10	4	7	19	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2010	61	11	3	4	18	7	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	12	2	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2011	56	7	0	10	19	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2012	65	9	2	10	25	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
2013	68	10	4	12	23	16	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2014	41	8	1	4	22	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2015	48	13	0	4	24	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	2	0	
2016	38	8	0	0	27	7	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2017	33	7	0	0	23	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Participants per parish from 1987-2016</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>		

Over 530 individuals have attended the Summer Program since the inception of the Institute in 1987.

- o The last row represents the number of individuals that have attended the Program per parish since 1987.
- o Since the Institute is a four-year program, many of the participants have attended the program more than once, but that is not reflected here.
- o Parishes that are not shown have not had participants.