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Հրատարակութիւն Ամերիկահայոց Արեւելեան Թեմի Ազգային Առաջնորդարանի
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Volume VII, Number 9
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A PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP MESROB ASHJIAN
PRELATE OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA

Whereas, Seventy years ago, on April 24, 1915, began the martyrdom of more than ONE MILLION AND A HALF Armenian men, women and children, with an additional million uprooted from their ancestral homes and forced to seek refuge in the four corners of the earth; and

Whereas, This dreadful sacrifice of the Armenian nation in the cause of religious freedom, justice, and human rights serves to remind all mankind that both the spirit of good will and constant vigilance are necessary to avoid similar tragic occurrences of man's inhumanity toward his fellow man, and

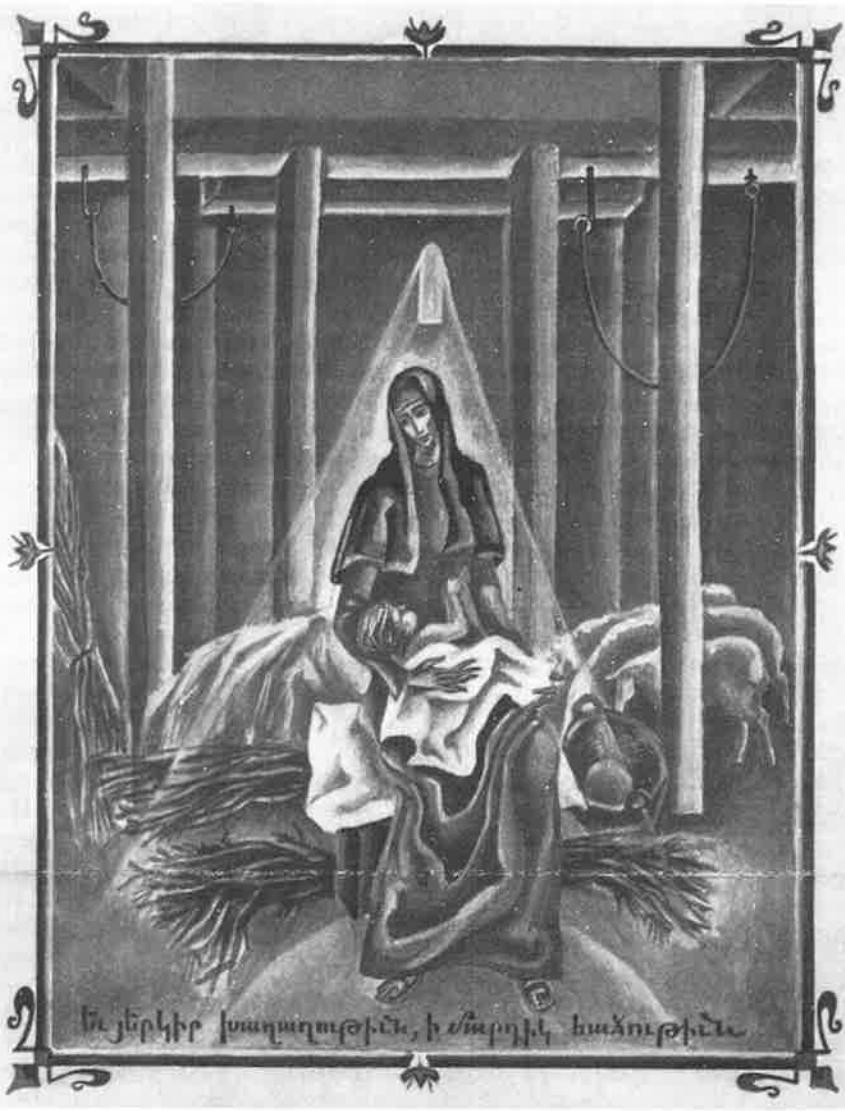
Whereas, The House of Representatives of the United States of America has resolved to designate April 24, 1985 as "National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man," especially referring to the one and one-half million people of Armenian ancestry who were victims of the genocide perpetrated in Turkey between 1915 and 1923,

It is, therefore, our sacred duty to honor the memory of the myriads of martyrs of 1915 and to pay tribute to the sacrifice of their lives. We pray that the grievous wrongs committed against the Armenian people be made known to the world and set right, so that the blood of the innocent will not have been shed in vain.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARCHBISHOP OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA, PROCLAIM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1985, AS ARMENIAN MEMORIAL DAY AND URGE THAT PROPER RECOGNITION BE ACCORDED TO THIS SOLEMN OCCASION.

Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian
Prelate of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America
New York, New York

September 26, 1984



THE NATIVITY
A contemporary miniature by Albert Yaralian.
"Loussamadian", Yeghivart, Etchmiadzine, 1979

ԿԱՂԱՆԴ

1985 թ. պիտի յատկանշուի իրրեւ վերապրողներու հաւաքի տարի. նոյնպէս իրրեւ քուակամ մը՝ երբ պիտի յիշուին բոլոր անոնք, որոնք որքանոցներու մէջ կեանքին բացուեցան, եւ մեզի նոր կեանք տուին: «Մանկութիւն չունեցան» անոնք, եւ ահա, 1985-ի սեմին, այդ մանկութիւն չունեցող մարդոցմէ մէկուն մէկ սրտատուչ պատմութիւնը ի սէր եւ ի յարգանք Որբանոցի սերունդին: Մ. Խ.

Կաղանդի պէս օր մըն էր: Նոր տարի չէր, Զատիկ ալ չէր, բայց կայծակի արագութեամբ տարածուեցաւ լուրը շէնքէ շէնք, սենեակէ սենեակ: Կաղանդ պիտի ունենայինք: Կաղանդ ունենալ՝ կը նշանակէր տոպրակի վերածուած գուլպայ մը, մէջը շաքար, ընկոյզ, չամիչ ու թերեւս նաեւ թաշկինակ մը: Կաղանդը այս անգամ ո՛չ Մայրիկին նուէրն էր եւ ոչ ալ Հայրիկին: Դուրսէն, ուրիշ քաղաքէ մը մէկը եկած էր ու իրեն հետ բերած Կաղանդը:

Որոշ կերպով իմացուած էր, թէ այցելուն նշանաւոր մէկն էր, շատ մը գիրքեր գրած էր եւ միշտ կը խնդար ու կը խնդացնէր: Այս կէտը կրկնապէս համակրելի կը դարձնէր անծանօթ բարերարին դէմքը. մենք անհամբեր կը սպասէինք Շաքար թրուան:

Շաքար եկաւ: Ումբուած էին բոլոր շէնքերու որբերը, առանց բացառութեան: Հազարներու բազմութիւն մը խոնուած էր ամէն կողմ, մինչեւ պատուհանները եւ կողմնակի սենեակները: Ծակատը, բեմին առջեւ տեղաւորուած էին մանկապարտէզի փոքրիկները: Մեր ետեւ մեծ աղջիկներն էին, նոյնպէս շարքով նստած տախտակէ նստարաններու վրայ: Մնացեալները ոտքի էին, իրարու սեղմուած:

Բեմին վրայ շարքով նստած էին Մայրիկները եւ քանի մը ակնոցաւոր ամերիկացի օրիորդներ: Կեղծոնը Հայրիկին սեղանն էր, երկու կողմերը երկու պարապ աթոռներով:

Հայրիկը բեմ մտաւ կողմնակի դռնէ մը, ընկերակցութեամբ իրեն պէս սեւ հագուած մարդու մը: Ժխորը աստիճանաբար դադարեցաւ: Հայրիկը եւ հիւրը գրաւեցին պարապ աթոռները: Լուռութիւնը կատարեալ էր:

Կը սպասէինք, որ հիւրը ոտքի ելլէ ու խօսի անմիջապէս: Բայց Հայրիկն էր, որ խօսեցաւ: Մեզի համար բոլորովին անհասկնալի բաներ ըսաւ հիւրին մասին, եւ ձեռքի թուղթին նայելով, յաջորդաբար բեմ կանչեց արտասանողներու եւ երգողներու անվերջանալի շարք մը: Ընդհանրապէս տղաքը կ'արտասանէին, իսկ աղջիկները կ'երգէին: Բոլորն ալ մեծերէն էին: Մանկապարտէզէն մէկ արտասանող միայն կար, ձերմակ Արսէնը, որ

(Շար. էջ 2)

ԽՕՍՔ ԵՆՈՐՀԱՒՈՐԱՆՔԻ

ԱՄԱՆՈՐԻ, ՍՈՒՐԲ ԾՆՆԴԵԱՆ ԵՒ ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱՅԱՅՏՆՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՏՕՆԵՐՈՒՆ ԱՌԹԻ ՄԵՐ ԶԵՐՄԱԳԻՆ ԵՆՈՐՀԱՒՈՐՈՒԹԻՒՆՆԵՐՈՒ ՈՒ ՍՐՏԱԼԻՑ ՄԱՂԹԱՆՔՆԵՐԸ ԿԸ ՅԱՅՏՆԵՆՔ ՄԵՐ ՀՈՎԻՒՆԵՐՈՒՆ, ԵՐԵՍՓՈՒՍԱՆԵՐՈՒՆ ԵՒ ՀՈԳԱԲԱՐՁՈՒԹԵԱՆՑ, ԿԻՐԱԿՆՕՐԵԱՑ, ԸՆԲԱԹՕՐԵԱՑ ԵՒ ԱՄԷՆՕՐԵԱՑ ՎԱՐԺԱՐԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ ՏՆՕՐԷՆՈՒԹԵԱՆՑ, ՈՒՍՈՒՑԶԱԿԱՆ ԿԱԶՄԵՐՈՒՆ ԵՒ ՈՒՍԱՆՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ, ԹԵՄԻՍ ՄԷՁ ԳՈՐԾՈՂ ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ, ՄՇԱԿՈՒԹԱՅԻՆ, ԲԱՐԵՍԻՐԱԿԱՆ, ՄԱՐԶԱԿԱՆ, ԵՐԻՏԱՍԱՐԴԱԿԱՆ ԿԱԶՄԱԿԵՐՊՈՒԹԵԱՆՑ ԵՒ ՄԵՐ ՀԱՐԱԶԱՏ ԺՈՂՈՎՈՒՐԴԻ ԲՈՂՈՐ ԶԱՒԱԿՆԵՐՈՒՆ:

ԹՈՂ ԽԱՂԱՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԻԾԽԱՆԸ ԱՌԱՒԵԼ ՍԷՐ, ԵՂԲԱՅՐԱԿԱՆ ԱՆԿԵՂԾ ՈԳԻ ԵՒ ԳՈՐԾԱԿՑՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՈՒ ՆՊԱՏԱԿԱՍԼԱՑ ՎԵՐԵԼՔԻ ՏԵՍԻԼՔ ՊԱՐԳԵՒԷ ԲՈՂՈՐԻՍ: ԿԸ ՄԱՂԹԵՆՔ, ՈՐ ՄԵՐ ԵՂԵՆԻ ԵՕԹԱՆԱՍՈՒՆԱՄԵԱԿԸ ՀԱՆԴԻՍԱՆԱՑ ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ՄԻԱՍՆԱԿԱՆՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՏԱՐԻ, ԵՒ ՄԵՆՔ ՀԱՄԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ԾԻԳԵՐՈՎ ԳՈՐԾԵՆՔ ՄԷԿ ԱԶԳԻ ԵՒ ՄԷԿ ՀԱՅՐԵՆԻՔԻ ԻՏԷԱԼՈՎ ԵՒ ԱՐԱՐԱՏԵԱՆ ՀԱՄԱԽՄԲՈՒՄԻ ԳԵՐԱԳՈՅՆ ՏԵՍԼԱԿԱՆՈՎ:

ԵՆՈՐՀԱՒՈՐ ՆՈՐ ՏԱՐԻ ԵՒ ԲԱՐԻ ԿԱՂԱՆԴ
ՔՐԻՍՏՈՍ ԾՆԱԻ ԵՒ ՅԱՅՏՆԵՑԱԻ
ԶԵՁ ԵՒ ՄԵՁ ՄԵՐ ԱԻԵՏԻՍ

ԱՂՕԹԱՐԱՐ՝
ՄԵՍՐՈՊ ԱՐՔԵՊՍ. ԱՇԾԵԱՆ
ԱՌԱԶՆՈՐԴ
1.1.1985

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LADIES' GUILDS

The National Association of Ladies' Guilds is alive and doing well - with the Executive Council meeting regularly at the Prelacy. To date, we have had four productive meetings.

Following is a list of programs now in progress:

1. A NEW LOGO — Please resubmit new designs for a logo to be used on our letterhead and all official documents, etc. Entries will be judged by a panel of artists and their decision will be final. Deadline for this project is January 31, 1985. (Drawings will not be returned).
2. GUILD NEWSLETTER — putting together a newsletter is a monumental task. to start, a section of the OUTREACH will be devoted to the LADIES' GUILDS exclusively. The quality of a publication depends on input. Send us your news and articles of interest. Mail to Elizabeth Pilbosian, Corresponding Secretary, to the address given at the end of this report.
3. REGIONAL MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, PROJECTS — We need to know your thoughts or specific requirements for us to come up with a quality program that will benefit all chapters. Give us your ideas.
4. LADIES' GUILD MEMBERSHIP PIN — Would you like to see one made available? Let us know.
5. MEMBERSHIP LISTS — Revise and update your membership lists. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! Include name, address and phone numbers. Specify your current officers giving dates when their term expires. Please mail to the Corresponding Secretary. (If you are not now a Ladies' Guild member, why not join your local chapter?)
6. NATIONAL DUES — Dues are not assessed at this time. However, to defray the expenses of running a national organization, contributions will be gladly accepted, in any amount, from individual chapters. Please make checks payable to N.A.L.G. ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA and mail to Elizabeth Pilbosian at the address given below. At this time, we would like to thank THE LADIES' GUILD OF STS. VARTANANTZ CHURCH OF PROVIDENCE R.I. for their generous donation of \$500.
7. N.A.L.G. SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE — May 16 and 17, 1985 in Toronto, Canada. Submit your program suggestions to the N.A.L.G. Executive Council.

Your NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LADIES' GUILDS is prepared to work with you and to keep in touch regularly. We wish you success in all your endeavors. At this time, we wish each and every one of you,

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR ՇՆՈՐՀԱԽՈՐ ՆՈՐ ՏԱՐԻ ԵՒ Ա. ԾՆՈՒՆԻ

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OUTREACH

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ՎԱՂՈՒԱՆ ՀԱՅԵՐ

Կը թափառէր. որբանոցէն խուսափած ...
Ըմբոստ մ'էր ան: Չէր հանդուրժեր, որ կրկին
Դառնալէ ետք ծոցն ազգութեան գրկաբաց,
Խեղճ ու ողորմ ու անթրոնիչ տըւայտի՛ն ...:

Կը թափառէ՛ր ...: Յանկարծ, շեշտին հիացած,
Հայ մեծատուն մ'ըսաւ. — «Կ'ըլլա՞ս իմ որդին:
Քեզի ուսում. քեզի պերն կեանք, սիրոյ գա՛նձ ...
Կերպարանքիդ. տե՛ս, չի վայլեր ցնցոտին»:

Լրոնց տըղան՝ խածած շրթունքը դողող ...
Եւ երբոր ետ վանեց արցունքն ու կսկիծ,
«Ո՛չ, ըսաւ ան: Հայրս ալ հարուստ մըն էր ... Ո՛չ:

Պիտի մընամ ես որդեգիրն իմ ազգիս,
Լոկ ըլլալու համար անոր պարտական»:
Եւ աւելցուց. — «Գիտեմ ես պարտքըս վաղուան ...»:

ՎԱՀՐԱՄ ԹԱԹՈՒԼ

THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL (Cont. from page 2)

much love there had been between the two of them. She too, had questions in her own heart. When she turned to leave his room, Aramig thought he saw tears in his mother's eyes.

A little while after his parents and Yeranig left, the front doorbell rang. Looking out his bedroom window, Aramig saw Father Gregory's dark blue Chevy parked in front of the house. As fast as he could, Aramig raced down the stairs to open the door so that the young man who was the Pastor of Aramig's Church could enter.

"Orhnya Der", Aramig greeted the priest in Armenian as he had been taught in Sunday School, "Bless me, Father".

"May God bless you, Aramig", Father Gregory replied, also in Armenian, then continued in English, "I just stopped by to see if your parents need any help with anything..."

"Oh, they're not home right now, Der Hayr, they took Medzhayrig to the funeral home to finalize the arrangements, but they should be back soon."

"How's your Mom holding up; and the rest of the family?" the priest inquired.

"Pretty good," answered the boy. But something in the way the boy said it, alerted Father Gregory to the fact that perhaps everything was *not* all right.

"It sure is a shame that your grandfather had to die at Christmas, Aramig," the priest said in hopes of drawing the boy out, "it must be pretty difficult for someone your age not to celebrate Christmas."

"It's not so much the celebration, Der Hayr," answered the boy, "I can understand that out of respect for Medzhayrig's memory and not to be disrespectful to Medzhayrig and Mom, we really can't have a regular Christmas this year. What I don't understand is *why* Medzhayrig had to die, and why God took him *now*, at Christmas, which I thought was supposed to be a time of giving, not taking away. I've been praying to God for an answer, but so far He hasn't answered me."

"Aramig," said Der Hayr, "the reason you haven't gotten an answer *now* is because God has *already* answered that question and it's written down just as plain as can be for anyone to see. Do you have a Bible?"

"Sure, the one they gave me in Sunday School."

"Good, go get it and bring it here."
Aramig bounded up the stairs, happy that he was finally going to get an answer to his questions, but also a little doubtful about finding the answer in the Bible. When he returned, Der Hayr instructed him to turn to the Gospel of John, chapter three, verse sixteen.

"Get it!" announced Aramig enthusiastically after a few seconds of searching.

"Great!" replied Der Hayr, just as enthusiastically and added: "now read it. Out loud."

Aram read: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

"You see, Aramig," the Priest explained, placing his hand on the boy's shoulder and looking straight into his eyes, "all humans must die, but the Bible tells us that, even though this is the case, all human beings need not perish. Death is like a door through which one must step in order to claim the eternal life that God has promised to all those that believe in His Son. Thus, think of how meaningful your grandfather's death is because it has happened at Christmas time. For yesterday, dear Aramig, your Medzhayrig received the greatest gift that anyone could give: God's gift of eternal life. So, just as our Father in Heaven gave His Son out of Love for us all, so too did He, in love, give your grandfather the greatest gift of all."

Tears began forming at the corners of Aramig's eyes. Tears, not of grief, nor of sorrow, not of frustration nor of anger, but rather the pure and beautiful tears of joy and understanding. For indeed God had answered his questions. Medzhayrig was not dead at all, but rather, just starting out in the life that was given from God through Jesus. He remembered now what he had learned in Sunday School from his teacher, Mrs. Melkonian about God's great gift of everlasting life and salvation. He had forgotten that message in his grief, but now he realized that in this and in many other ways, God had answered his questions long before he had ever asked them.

Thus a little while later, after Der Hayr had left, Mom, Dad and Yeranig returned home to find not the morose and moping boy they had left, but rather a happy, joyous youngster who greeted them with hugs and cries of "Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas!"

"Are you all right, Aramig?" asked his worried mother, reaching out a hand to feel her son's forehead.

"Sure, Mom," Aramig answered, lithely ducking his mother's hand. "You'd be happy too if God had just answered your prayers."

Silence. Having all stopped talking at once, everyone just looked with disbelief at Aramig. His father was the one who finally broke the silence.

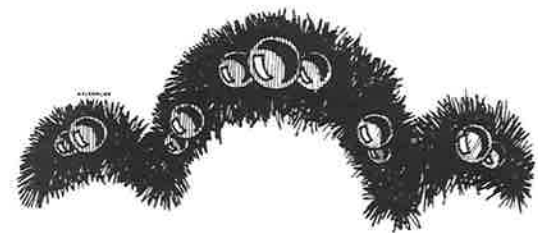
"Maybe you had better fill us in, son," requested his father gently and with great concern apparent in his loving eyes.

So Aramig told them all about Der Hayr's visit, their talk, the passage they had read together from the Bible, the insight he had gained from it and the lesson he had learned from it.

"And so," he concluded, "God isn't *taking* Medzhayrig away at all. No! He's *giving* him the gift He has promised to all of us, His *greatest* gift: the gift of His love, His saving grace and life everlasting."

When the boy had finished speaking, the whole family just seemed to move instinctively together of one accord. They began hugging and clinging to one another out of sheer joy at realizing the simple truth that had come from the boy's mouth; and at knowing and accepting the Good News of God's gift to all those who believe in His Son.

And so, Aram and his whole family knew for sure that Christmas would never be the same again. They would always remember that no matter what gifts they received, there was one special gift that God was saving for all of them. And that gift would be the greatest gift of all!



PARAGENTAN WEEKEND '85

A.C.E.C. WATERTOWN, MASS.



9th Annual Raffle Help Support Armenian Prelacy Programs

Programs that are vital to the continuation of Christian and Armenian Education need your support. This year, you once more keep these programs alive and growing by purchasing tickets for the Ninth Annual Raffle.

Raffle Drawing will take place on February 16th, 1985 during Paregentan Weekend, at the A.C.E.C. Watertown, Mass.

Donation: \$100

PRIZES

1st Prize	\$10,000
2nd Prize	\$ 3,000
3rd Prize	\$ 2,000
4th-10 Prizes	\$ 1,000

**Drawing on Saturday
February 16
Donation \$100**

**Tickets available from
Board of Trustees,
Delegates or local sources.**

General Chairman:
Mr. Harry (Khajag) Dombalagian
1 Colonial Road
Havertown, PA 19064
Tel.: (315) 449-3084

WASHINGTON COMMEMORATION OF SEVENTIETH TO SYMBOLIZE SURVIVAL AND REBIRTH



When hundreds of survivors and thousands of Armenians converge on Washington, D.C. during April 24-28, 1985, they will be witnesses and participants in an event which, by its scope and symbolic theme, is destined to become a unique record in the annals of Armenian history on this continent.

The miraculous *survival* and the marvelous *rebirth and renewal of the Armenian people* following the Genocide of 1915 will be the central theme which all the planned activities are designed to symbolize by their nature and by their substance.

This five-day spectacular under the auspices of the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America is organized by the Armenian National Committee and enjoys the full support and participation of many Armenian organizations. A large number of non-Armenian dignitaries have extended their support of these commemorative events by consenting to serve as honorary members of the *National Commemorative Committee*.

Activities and ceremonies for this marathon event will include cultural exhibits, film festival, rallies, visitations to congressmen and senators, prayers in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, lectures, seminars, concert, ecumenical service at the Arlington National Cemetery as well as a variety of other activities. Details of each activity will be provided through this column during the coming weeks and months.

The presence of the largest possible number of survivors at these commemorative activities will certainly provide a unique aura to the entire affair and will, at the same time, enhance their impact on the non-Armenian public as well as the media.

At this, a major turning point in the existence of the Armenian nation, the Seventieth Anniversary events have the potential of providing symbols of inspiration for our collective future.

November 20, 1984

THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRANITE CITY CHURCH GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE NEW MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING

The weekend of December first and second was a memorable time for the Granite City Church and the Saint Louis Armenian community. It wasn't only the thirtieth anniversary of the consecration of the St. Gregory Church and an occasion to look back on thirty years of life and service, but also, the beginning of a new era with the groundbreaking ceremony of the multi-purpose building. Immediately after the religious ceremonies, the people gathered at the Church Property for the Groundbreaking Ceremony. Present were: The Prelate, Archbishop Ashjian, city officials, dignitaries, and representatives of different organizations. Serpazan blessed the cornerstone and in a short speech congratulated the community for its endeavors. He pointed out that the first generation raised the Church, and the second generation is building the Church Center. He then pointed at the youngsters gathered around him expressing the hope that they in their turn will benefit from the facilities offered to them and progress in the future.

The multi-purpose building is the first phase of a major project to be developed on a 5.1 acre property in an area central to the Armenians living in Granite City, St. Louis, and Belleville.

The first phase will consist of 14,000 square feet of construction with a hall having a capacity of 600 people, classrooms, and a kitchen. The designing was done by a professional firm with great input from two devoted Armenians: Mr. Vazken Haroyan and Mr. Donikyan. The phases following the first include the construction of a new Church building and a Parish house.

At 2.00 p.m., the Prelate, whose visit was covered by both the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the Granite City Journal, was honored at a dinner in the Granite City Township Hall, where he spoke on the National Gathering of Survivors in Washington D.C. The gathering is scheduled for April 24-28, 1985 and will attract Armenians from all parts of the Nation.

During the banquet, some 15 members of the community were recognized for their thirty year services to the Church and Armenian Nation. The program of the day was enhanced by the artistic renderings of the youth of the community and especially the beautiful kids of the Armenian School. Indeed, it was a weekend of faith, love and hope.

For travel and hotel arrangements, please call our Washington office 1-800-3 ARARAT

The Prelacy of the
Armenian Apostolic Church of America
Presents:

PARAGENTAN V (MARDI GRAS) Weekend of February 15-17, 1985 A.C.E.C. — WATERTOWN, MASS.

*TREAT YOURSELF TO A PLEASANT WEEKEND
JOIN FELLOW ARMENIANS IN CELEBRATING
THE TRADITIONAL ARMENIAN PARAGENTAN*

Weekend Activities:

- **Art Exhibit** - Works of the late Vava Sarkis Kachadourian
- **Book Fair**
- **Armenian Video** - Bebo, Promise of Love, Tears of Happiness, Place Under the Sun, Kikor, Color of Pomegranade.
- **Traditional Davool-Zoorna**
- **Saturday Night Dance** - Carnig Mikitarian Ensemble. Surprize entertainment!
- **Prelacy Raffle Drawing**
- **Hamazkain Dance Group of Boston.**

*The Ladies' Guild of the
Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church
of America
Requests the Pleasure of Your Company
at the Tenth Annual Anniversary Celebration of
the
"Feast of Light"
on
Saturday, the Second of February
Nineteen Hundred Eighty Five
at
the Helmsley Palace
the Renaissance Suite and the Versailles Ballroom
455 Madison Avenue
New York City
Black Tie Optional Cocktails - 7:30 pm
Donation - \$100 Dinner - 8:30 pm
Per Person*