



Armenian Apostolic Church of America
138 East 39th Street, New York, New York 10016

Volume XX, Number 3 — September 1997

Preparations Complete for Visit of Catholicos Aram I His Holiness's 40-day Pontifical Visit Will Begin in NY-NJ Metro Area



Catholicos Aram greets Pope John Paul II at the Vatican last January. The two church leaders signed a common declaration following their official meetings to "give thanks to God who has allowed them to deepen their spiritual fraternity in Jesus Christ and their pastoral and evangelical vocation in the world. The meeting has offered a privileged opportunity to pray and reflect together, and to renew their commitment and common efforts for the unity of Christians."

The parishes of the Eastern Prelacy are geared up to give His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, a hearty welcome upon his arrival in New York on October 1, beginning a forty-day pontifical visit which will take the Cilician Catholicos to parishes on the U.S.'s east coast, mid-west, and Canada.

His Holiness is arriving from Lebanon via Geneva and London on Wednesday, October 1, where he will be greeted by clergymen serving the Eastern Prelacy headed by His Eminence Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, the Prelate, representatives of the three area churches, and an honorary committee. His Holiness will be accompanied by his Staffbearer, Very Rev. Khoren Doghramajian.

His Holiness's first pontifical visit to the Eastern Prelacy will be marked with church services, meetings, receptions, luncheons, given in his honor by the United Nations, various embassies, and a host of ecumenical leaders including Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches; the Archbishop of New York, John Cardinal O'Connor; the Archbishop of Boston, Bernard Cardinal Law; the Archbishop of Washington, James Cardinal Hickey; the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan; the Archbishop of Chicago, Archbishop Francis E. George. As Moderator of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches—the highest elected office of that body—His Holiness is a well-known and respected leader internationally. During his stay in the metro area he will also visit the area day schools, old age homes, and the offices of the Armenian Missionary Association.

During Catholicos Aram's visit to Boston, he will meet with the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomeos I who will come to St. Stephen's Armenian Church where the two church leaders will confer and participate in a prayer service. [See separate article on this page—Ed.]

During the duration of the visit Divine Liturgies will take place in New York, Washington, Detroit, Boston, Toronto, and Montreal, and Granite City where the community's new church will be consecrated.

Brashapar Service in NY

His Holiness's first major event in New York will be the Brashapar Service on the night of his arrival, Wednesday, October 1, which will take place at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, 221 East 27th

(Continued on page 4)

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I and Catholicos Aram Will Meet in Boston

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, the 270th successor to the Apostle Andrew and spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians, will meet with His Holiness Aram I on Tuesday, October 28 during the Catholicos's visit to the Boston area. The Ecumenical Patriarch will also be visiting the U.S., providing this opportunity for the two religious leaders to meet.

The Patriarch of Constantinople is called Ecumenical because he is the leader of all—more than 17—orthodox churches. He enjoys high prestige throughout the world.

The Patriarch will come to St. Stephen's Armenian Church in Watertown, Massachusetts, where he and Catholicos Aram will meet and preside over a thanksgiving prayer service. Faithful from all of the parishes in the New England area are expected to be on hand to welcome Patriarch Bartholomew to St. Stephen's.

His Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew was born on February 29, 1940, and attended primary schools in Imvros and

(Continued on page 7)



During a visit to the United States last summer Catholicos Aram met with President Clinton at the White House. During the meeting the President noted that special ties link America and Armenia and pledged his commitment to continue to assist Armenia as it works to build lasting independence, peaceful relations with its neighbors and prosperity. He also expressed his best wishes for every success with the upcoming celebration of the 1700th anniversary of the official proclamation of Christianity in Armenia. His Holiness Aram presented the President with the Great Cross medal in recognition of Mr. Clinton's ongoing efforts to foster peace in the Middle East and his commitment to strengthening Armenia's independence and democracy.

Prelacy Executive Council Maps Programs For 1997-98 During Two-Day Seminar

The Executive Council of the Eastern Prelacy held its annual seminar at the Prelacy headquarters July 24-25 to review and implement the resolutions of the recently concluded National Representative Assembly and to plan its one-year program.

The two-day meeting was chaired by Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, Prelate, and attended by all ten members of the executive and religious councils, as well as the Vicar General of Canada, the newly consecrated Bishop Khajag Hagopian.

The Executive Council officers and members for the 1997-98 year are as follows: Chairman, Onnic Marashian; Vice chairman, Hratch Zadoian; Secretary, Harout Chitilian; Treasurer, Hagop Kouyoumdjian; Assistant Treasurer, Bedros Tashjian; and Dr. Jean Arakelian and Jack Mardoian, advisers. The Religious Council elected its officers as follows: Chairman, Very Rev. Anoushavan Tanielian; Secretary, Rev. Nerses Manoogian; Advisor, Rev. Gomidas Bagsarian.

The Council heard reports from the executive director of the Religious Education Council (AREC) Deacon Shant Kazanjian; the executive director of the Armenian National Education Council (ANEC), Mrs. Gilda Kupelian; the chairman of the Pontifical Visit Steering Committee, Mr. Sarkis Ohanessian, accompanied by Mrs. Iris Papazian, editor of the Prelacy's *Outreach Magazine* and head of the steering committee's public relations effort; and chairman of the building committee, Mr. Vahe Amirian.

Following is a list of the decisions and planned activities for the forthcoming year:

Pontifical Visit of H.H. Catholics Aram I

The Council noted with satisfaction the progress of the preparations undertaken by the National Steering Committee of the Pontifical Visit and by local reception committees in each of our large and small communities and the enthusiasm shown by the faithful for Aram Vehapar's first pontifical visit to the Eastern United States and Canada. The visit will last from October 1 to November 10. Archbishop Ashjian, the Prelate, and Steering Committee chairman Sarkis Ohanessian, along with the local reception committees, are feverishly working to assure the success of the visit.

The Executive Council is happy to note that World Council of Churches representatives, the Roman Catholic dioceses, the Greek Orthodox hierarchy in North America and other inter-denominational and ecumenical groups are also getting ready to officially welcome Catholicos Aram and are planning meetings and receptions in his honor. It is also worthy of note that a 120-member choir, led by Very Rev. Father Meghrig Parikian, is now rehearsing to sing the Yegmalian liturgy,

OUTREACH

A publication of the

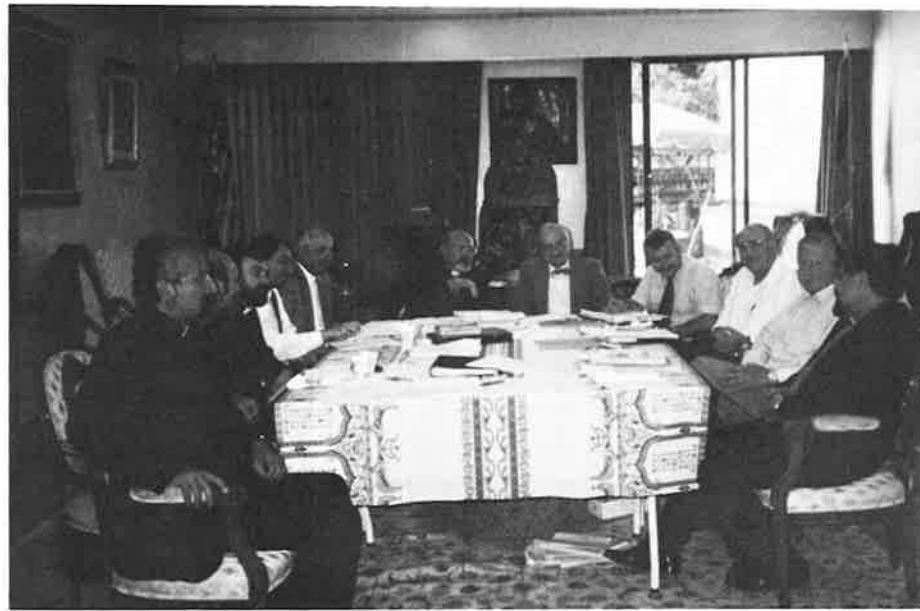
Armenian Apostolic Church of America
Eastern United States and Canada
138 E. 39th Street, New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 689-7810 Fax: (212) 689-7168

Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, Prelate

Iris Papazian, Editor

Mardiros Minas-Haftvani, Business Manager

OUTREACH (USPS 426-490) is published monthly, with the exception of a combined June-July-August issue by the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America, 138 E. 39th Street, New York, NY 10016. Unsolicited manuscripts are welcome; please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America. Send all correspondence to the above address to the attention of the Editor. Printed in the United States of America. Periodical rate postage paid at New York, NY 10016. Postmaster: Send address changes to OUTREACH, 138 E. 39th Street, New York, NY 10016. ISSN: 10643087



Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian and the members of the Prelacy's Executive Council during the annual seminar meeting which took place at the Prelacy offices in New York on July 24 and 25.

when Aram Vehapar celebrates Mass at the Grace Church at 10th Street and Broadway in Lower Manhattan at 2 p.m. on October 5.

The theme chosen by His Holiness of "Renewing Our Commitment on the Threshold of the 21st Century," is seen by the Council as particularly relevant to the mission of this Prelacy and complements the program of parish growth and development adopted by the recently concluded National Representative Assembly.

The Executive Council is confident that despite adverse commentaries and misinterpretations about His Holiness's visit, our parishioners will enthusiastically welcome him and take part in the religious services that he will conduct and the public functions that will be given in his honor in all our churches. The Council is certain that His Holiness's visit will immensely contribute to the spiritual revival of the faithful in America and strengthen the mission of the Armenian Church on these shores. It is our hope that all Armenians in America, without exception, will attend these functions and hear His Holiness's sermons and his pontifical message, which surely will be an appeal for love and unity via the faith of our fathers.

Religious Education

The Council heard the report of Armenian Religious Education Council's executive director Deacon Shant Kazanjian, who was accompanied by AREC chairman Gostan Charkhutian, detailing the methods by which our parishes can further develop their Sunday School and Bible education programs. He stressed that AREC will focus on these two programs as their primary areas of concern, with particular emphasis on parishes that do not, as yet, have a regularly functioning Sunday School program. AREC will hold teacher training seminars in several parishes and provide religious education materials to parishes that request such aid. In parishes with already flourishing Sunday Schools, AREC will work with the pastor and boards of trustees to extend the Sunday School curriculum up to the level of Grade 11.

The AREC director also reported that the 10-day summer session of St. Gregory of Datev Institute, held again this year at St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, PA, had 84 registered students and 10 staff members. The \$325 registration fee for room/board/tuition covered one-third of the expenses per student. Another one-third was borne by the Prelacy through special funding by parish and Prelacy Ladies' Guilds, and the remaining one-third was covered by the churches that patronized this worthy undertaking.

The Council noted with satisfaction that the Datevatsi summer session, offering teenagers a ten-day intensified schedule of religious education at five different grade levels, was again filled to capacity this year

and has become one of the most popular and most successful youth programs of the Prelacy. AREC has plans underway to again host a reunion of St. Gregory of Datev alumni in New York over the Thanksgiving weekend later this year.

AREC is planning regional adult Christian education seminars in Detroit, Worcester, and Philadelphia, and a general one at the Prelacy.

Armenian Language Education

The Executive Council also reviewed the activity of the Armenian National Education Council, which is responsible for coordinating and developing Armenian language schools throughout the Prelacy. ANEC is a joint venture of both the Prelacy and the Armenian Relief Society and is now headed by Mrs. Gilda Kupelian, as executive director, and John Ouligian as chairman.

Mrs. Kupelian, who was accompanied by ARS representative Maryann Bonjouklian, informed the Executive Council of ANEC's plans to hold a language teachers' training seminar at Sts. Vartanantz

Church in Ridgefield, NJ, and will continue its emphasis on uniform curriculum development.

ANEC will also host a student festival during Aram Vehapar's visit to New Jersey on October 4, and regional seminars in Boston and Chicago later in the year.

ANEC's projects for the upcoming year also include the publication of a completely revised and updated edition of the *Armenian Historical Atlas*, edited by Dr. Michael Papazian; the resumption of courses at Siamanto Academy on September 13; encouraging all the parishes of the Prelacy to host book fairs and other educational program that benefit the entire community.

Religious Council Concerns

The Religious Council, which had met earlier in the day, presented to the Executive Council the results of its deliberations. Among them:

- Setting minimum standards for improving the living conditions of pastors.
- Appointment and reassignment of priests replacing those who have expressed their intention to retire.
- Recruitment of suitable candidates for the priesthood.
- The manner of participation by our Prelacy in the celebrations of the 1700th anniversary of the official adoption of Christianity in Armenia.

The Executive Council approved the recommendations of our Prelate and the Religious Council for the assignment of Very Rev. Yeghishe Manjikian to the St. Gregory parish of Vancouver, B.C.; and newly ordained Rev. Emmanuel Vartanian to St. Illuminator's Cathedral of New York City. The Council also learned that His Holiness Catholicos Aram had made available to the Prelacy the services of Rev. Navassart Mardoian. While also discussing vacancies and new assignments for Sts. Vartanantz Church in New Jersey, St. Sarkis Church in Dearborn, Michigan, and Sts. Vartanantz Church in Providence, the Council deferred final action on these parishes at this time.

The Executive Council passed a resolution asking the Religious Council to submit by November 22, 1997, specific recommendations to implement the NRA's Resolution for an active campaign to recruit American- and Canadian-born candidates to serve as priests in our Prelacy.

(Continued on page 7)

Armenian Cultural Month BOOK FAIR

October 10-11-12, 1997

sponsored by the Armenian Prelacy Bookstore

Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church
461 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, NJ

Friday, October 10
7:30 p.m.

Religious Services in Memory of the Holy Translators

8:30 p.m.

Presentation of *Artsakh: A Photographic Journey*
by Hrair Hawk Khatcherian

This newly published book will be presented by Dr. Haikaz Grigorian
The author will be present to autograph copies of the book

For information contact the Prelacy Bookstore:
212-689-7810

Ս. Թադէի Ուխտագնացութիւն Նախագահութեամբ Արամ Ա. Կաթողիկոսի

Սուրբ Թադէի ուխտագնացութեան մէջ եզակի թուական մը եղաւ Շաբաթ, 19 Յուլիս 1997ը, որովհետեւ, առաջին անգամ ըլլալով մեր պատմութեան մէջ Կաթողիկոս մը անձնապէս կը մասնակցէր եւ կը նախագահէր ուխտաւորութիւնը: Եզակի էր նաեւ քաղմահագար ժողովուրդի մասնակցութեամբ, ինչպէս նաեւ յարակից ձեռնարկներով, որոնք եկան աւելի հարուստ ու լայն տարողութիւն տալու Ս. Թադէի ուխտագնացութեան:

Յիշեմք, թէ Ս. Թադէի վանքը կը գտնուի պատմական Արտագ գաւառին մէջ, այժմու Թուրքիոյ եւ Իրանի սահմաններու խաչմերուկին վրայ:

Թարիզէն, Վեհափառն ու շֆախումբը, Ուրբաթ, 18 Յուլիսին կէսօրէ ետք մեկնեցան միանալու սիրեցեալ հայրենակիցներուն, անոնց ուխտակից եւ աղօթակից դառնալու համար: Ժամը 7:30-ին, վանքի շրջապատի բարձունքներուն, հազարաւոր հայրերին, վրանները լարած, ցնծութեամբ դիմաւորեցին հայոց Հայրապետը եւ առաջնորդուեցան տանար, կանոնական աղօթք արտասանելու:

Ատրպատականի կաթողիկոսական փոխանորդ Հայր Սուրբը՝ Նշան վրդ. Թօփուզեան, խօսք ատար մաղթելով որ Վեհափառին ուխտը Աստուած ի կատար ածէ:

Վեհափառ Հայրապետը իր պատգամին մէջ գնահատեց հաւատացեալներու խունկերով ներկայութիւնը եւ անոնց ջերմեանդութիւնը: Ս. Թադէի նահատակութեան սրբավայրին մէջ հրաւիրեց, որ աղօթանուէր կեանքով մեր ժողովուրդի պատմական երթը զօրանայ, առաջնորդուի հաւատով եւ կորովով: Անմիջապէս տեղի ունեցաւ աջահամբոյր: Աւելի ուշ, վանքի պարիսպներուն տակ, Ատրպատականի Կոմիտաս քառասուն երգչախումբը հայոց Հայրապետին երգեց հոգեւոր եւ ազգային ընտիր երգեր:

Վեհափառ Հայրապետը իր գնահատանքի եւ օրհնութեան խօսքով դիտել տուաւ, որ հայ կեանքն ու պատմութիւնը իր տառապանքներով եւ յաղթանակներով, աղօթքով եւ մաքառումներով երգի ու ձայնի վաւերական մարմնացումն է եղած դարեր շարունակ, եւ այսօր հայ ժողովուրդը կը շարունակէ երգով ապրիլ եւ ստեղծագործել: Ուշ գիշերին կատարուեցաւ հսկման խորհրդաւոր արարողութիւն եւ հաւատացեալները նախապատրաստուեցան յաջորդ օրուան սուրբ հաղորդութեան:

Շաբաթ, 19 Յուլիս, առաւօտեան ժամը 8ին, տեղի ունեցաւ ժամերգութիւն եւ հաւատացեալները լեցուցին տանարն ու շրջափակը եւ ճիշդ ժամը 10:15ին, Վեհափառ Հայրապետը հոգեւոր բարձրաստիճան եկեղեցականներով, ուխտաւորներու քաղմութեամբ եւ երգչախումբի ընկերակցութեամբ, ուղղուեցաւ հանդիսաւոր, սուրբ եւ անմահ պատարագ մատուցելու:

Վեհափառը, իր պատգամին մէջ, խօսելով մարդկայեալ Աստուծոյ առաքելութեան՝ իր անձը համայն մարդկութեան ընծայելու



A view of the St. Thaddeus Monastery in Iran where pilgrims journeyed for the annual St. Tadeh Holiday in July. His Holiness Aram I attended and presided making this the first time in history that a Catholicos has participated in this annual pilgrimage.



Colorful banners welcome His Holiness to the Monastery.



Aram I blesses the faithful at St. Thaddeus Monastery with the relic of St. Thaddeus.

գաղափարին մասին, վեր առաւ առաքելներու քրիստոսատիպ գործունէութիւնը եւ ի մասնաւորի Սուրբ Թադէոսի Հայաստան աշխարհին լոյս բերելու եւ լոյս ըլլալու իրողութիւնը, ընդգծեց որ հայութիւնը ըմբռնեց թէ «Գողգոթայի ճամբան, Քրիստոսի ճամբան, յարութեան ճամբան է, իր հայրենիքով, Արցախով եւ Սփիւռքով ապրեցաւ առաքելատիպ՝ արեւան վկայութեան ճամբան»: Իր պատգամը փակեց վերջիջելով շարականագրի բառերը, ուղղուած Ս. Թադէոս Առաքելին, զինք բնորոշելով կեանքի նշանաւոր գնացարհ, լոյսի աղբիւր, հօր աշտարակ եւ նահատակ բարի Քրիստոսի:

Պատարագի աւարտին կատարուեցաւ ջրօրհնէք, որմէ ետք, մեծ թափօրով եւ շարականներու երգեցողութեամբ՝ տանարէն դուրս եկան եւ Ս. Ստեփանոսի աջով Վեհափառ Հայրապետը օրհնեց քաղմահագար հաւատացեալները:

Կէսօրին տեղի ունեցաւ եաշկերոյթ, ի պատիւ Վեհափառ Հայրապետին, որուն ընթացքին կաթողիկոսական փոխանորդ Հայր Սուրբը շնորհաւորեց Վեհափառը եւ շֆախումբի անդամները, որոնք իրենց ուխտագնացութեամբ առաւել փայլ տուին այս պատմական օրուան: Վեհափառ Հայրապետը իր կարգին յատկապէս գնահատեց Հայր Նշանն ու թեմական իշխանութիւնը, այս ուխտագնացութիւնը լուսապէս կազմակերպած եւ հիւրընկալած ըլլալուն համար:

Վեհափառ Հայրապետն ու շֆախումբը Թարիզ վերադարձան երեկոյեան ժամը 6ին, մամբու ընթացքին կանգ առնելով Տղմուտ գետի եզերքը, Աւարայրի դաշտին վրայ:

Կիրակի, 20 Յուլիսի առաւօտուն, Վեհափառ Հայրապետը իր շֆախումբով մեկնեցաւ Ս. Ստեփանոս Նախավկայի վանքը, որ կը գտնուի Արաքս գետի ափին, Նախիջեանի դիմաց: Այստեղ սուրբ եւ անմահ պատարագ մատուցեց եւ քաղմեց Բերիոյ Թեմի առաջնորդ Սուրէն արք. Գաթարոյեան: Ճաշէն ետք, Վեհը եւ իր շֆախումբը առիթն ունեցան այցելելու Արաքս եւ Տղմուտ գետերու միացման վայրը, հոն գտնուող հայոց հին գերեզմանատունը, Ս. Աստուածածին եկեղեցին, ինչպէս նաեւ պատմական այլ եկեղեցիներ ու վայրեր:

Կէսօրէ ետք, Վեհափառ Հայրապետը իր շֆախումբով վերադարձաւ Թարիզ եւ ուշ գիշերին, օղանաւով մեկնեցաւ Թեհրան:

Երկուշաբթի, 21 Յուլիսի առաւօտուն, Արամ Ա. Կաթողիկոս հանդիպում ունեցաւ Իրանի Իսլամական Հանրապետութեան գերագոյն ղեկավար՝ Այաթոլլահ Խամենէի հետ: Այս աննախընթաց ու եզակի հանդիպում մըն էր, որովհետեւ Այաթոլլահ Խամենէին յաջորդը եւ Իրանի գերագոյն ղեկավարը նկատուող Այաթոլլահ Խամենէին երբեք հանդիպում չէ ունեցած պետական ղեկավարներու, ինչպէս նաեւ քրիստոնեայ հոգեւոր պետերու հետ:

Pontifical Visit Will Begin October 1 in New York

(Continued from page 1)

Street, New York City, at 7 p.m., where the pastor Archpriest Moushegh Der Kalousdian and board members will welcome His Holiness to the Cathedral on behalf of the entire metro area. The Hrashapar Service will be followed by a reception where the faithful will have the opportunity to personally meet and greet His Holiness.

Buses leaving from the area churches and the Armenian Center in Woodside are available. For information please contact St. Illuminator Cathedral, (212) 689-5880; St. Sarkis Church, (718) 224-2275; Sts. Vartanantz Church, (201) 943-2950.

Pontifical Divine Liturgy

The historic Grace Church at Broadway and 10th Street in New York City will be the site of the inspiring Pontifical Divine Liturgy, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 5. His Holiness will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and deliver the Sermon. Attendants are His Grace Bishop Moushegh Mardirossian, Prelate, Western Prelacy, and His Grace Bishop Khajag Hagopioian, Vicar of Canada, Eastern Prelacy. Confessor is His Eminence Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian. The Liturgy will be sung by the 125-voice Shnorhali Choir, organized specifically for this visit by Very Rev. Meghriq Parikian.

Aside from the history and beauty of this majestic building, the Grace Church was selected because of its ties to the early Armenian community in New York: the first Armenian Divine Liturgy to be celebrated in New York City took place at Grace Church in August 1889. The Grace Church was designed by James Renwick, Jr., and was consecrated in 1846. Its founders were important leaders of the time and the church itself signified the first real growth of the Episcopal Church in the United States following the Revolution. The Church seats 900 people and it is expected to be filled to capacity as the faithful from the metro area, as well as many communities to the north and south, come to hear Aram Vehapar's message.

Grand Banquet

The seven-day visit to the metro area will culminate with a Grand Banquet which will take place Sunday evening at the Plaza Hotel, 5th Avenue and Central Park South at 6:30 p.m. Because of limited seating at this event it is strongly advised that reservations be made early. Tickets are \$100 per person. For information about the banquet contact Dr. Luisa Kubikian, (516) 248-2955.

Open Forum for Young Adults

His Holiness's visit to the metro area is filled with many events. Thursday and Friday, October 2 and 3 the Catholicos has a packed schedule of ecumenical visits and meetings. Friday evening His Holiness will be the honored guest at an Open Forum for Young Adults which will take place at St. Illuminator's Cathedral at 7:30 p.m. Young adults are encouraged to attend and to meet the Catholicos who is acknowledged internationally to be one of the Church's most knowledgeable and articulate leaders. For information please contact Deacon Shant Kazanjian, (212) 689-4481.

Student Festival

On Saturday, October 4 at 3 p.m. a Student Festival with the participation of the area's Saturday and Day Schools, will permit the Catholicos the opportuni-



2009—Grace Church, New York.

The Grace Church in New York City will be the magnificent setting for the first Divine Liturgy of Aram Vehapar's Pontifical Visit to the Eastern Prelacy, Sunday, October 5, at 2 p.m. Appropriately, the first Armenian Divine Liturgy to be celebrated in New York took place at this church in August 1889—108 years ago. This rendering of the Church is from a 1908 picture postcard which came to us through the eagle eyes of Dr. Luisa Kubikian, who is a member of the National Steering Committee and also co-chair with Dr. Aram Cazasian of the Banquet in New York.



Catholicos Aram during one of his many ecumenical meetings.



ty of meeting young students of the area. The Festival will take place at the Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest, New Jersey. Students have been preparing through the summer months in anticipation of performing for His Holiness. For information contact Ms. Gilda Kupelian, (212) 689-7231.

Visit to Sts. Vartanantz

Immediately after the Student Festival, His Holiness and Entourage will go to Sts. Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, New Jersey, for a Vespers Service and public reception beginning at 7 p.m. A local committee and the pastor, Very Rev. Nareg Alemezian, have prepared a program of welcome for the Vehapar. New Jersey Armenians are invited to attend and to have the opportunity of meeting and speaking with the Catholicos.

Opening of St. Illuminator's Day School

On Sunday morning, 11 a.m., His Holiness will preside at the opening of the renovated St. Illuminator's Day School and Center in Woodside, New York. The New York community has worked for many years to realize this expansion of the school and it is especially gratified that the conclusion of the renovation coincides with His Holiness's visit.

St. Sarkis Church

The individual visits to each of the area's three churches will conclude with Aram Vehapar's visit to St. Sarkis Church in Douglaston, New York, where a Hrashapar Service will take place on Monday, October 6, 7:30 pm, providing the community of Queens and Long Island the opportunity to meet the Catholicos. Working with their pastor, Very Rev. Anoushavan Tanielian, the St. Sarkis committee is prepared to give His Holiness an appropriate welcome to their community.

His Holiness Aram I (Keshishian) was born in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1947, where he studied at the Cilician See's Seminary and the Near East School of Theology and the American University of Beirut. He pursued graduate education at the Ecumenical Institute of Bossey, Oxford University, and Fordham University, from where he earned two Masters Degrees and a Doctorate of Philosophy.

His Holiness is a prolific writer with eleven published books in Armenian and English and numerous articles. A special volume of selected essays is being published on the occasion of his first pontifical visit to the Eastern Prelacy and will be available during his visit.

Upon leaving the New York area His Holiness will visit the communities in Philadelphia, Washington, Granite City, Chicago, Waukegan, Racine, Detroit, Troy, North Andover, Worcester, Whitinsville, New Britain, Indian Orchard, Providence, Boston, and the Canadian communities of Vancouver, Cambridge, Toronto, Laval, and Montreal. [See page 8 for schedule]. ❖

A young admirer presents flowers to His Holiness during one of the several pontifical visits His Holiness has taken since his election two years ago.

**Catholicos Aram I Will Visit Parishes in United States and Canada
Under General Theme: "Renewing Our Commitment on the Threshold of the 21st Century"**



*His Holiness Aram I
Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia*

His Holiness Aram I is the spiritual leader of the Holy See of Cilicia of the Armenian Apostolic Church. He was consecrated as the Catholicos of Cilicia on July 1, 1995, after serving as Primate of the Armenian Orthodox community in Lebanon for 15 years.

Catholicos Aram I was ordained a celibate priest in 1968 and obtained the title of "Vartabed" (doctor of the Armenian church) in 1970. He received his episcopal ordination in 1980.

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1947, His Holiness Aram I studied at the Cilician See's Seminary in Beirut and the Near East School of Theology (Lebanon) before attending the American University of Beirut. Catholicos Aram pursued his graduate education at the Ecumenical Institute of Bossey (Switzerland), Oxford University (England), and Fordham University (New York) earning two Masters Degrees and a Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D). His major areas of specialization have been philosophy, systematic theology and Near Eastern Church history.

Catholicos Aram I has authored numerous articles in English, French, and Armenian as well as 11 books of which seven have been written and published in English. Some of his latest works include *With the People* (in Armenian), *Orthodox Perspectives on Mission* (in English), *The Incarnation of the Gospel in Cultures: A Missionary Event* (in English), and *Nerses the Gracious and Church Unity* (in English). His Holiness has also lectured on Armenian and theological subjects in the Armenian Seminary and Haigazian University.

His Holiness Aram I is the first Orthodox and the youngest person to be elevated to the highest elected position in the World Council of Churches (WCC). He was elected as the Moderator of the Central and Executive Committees of this global ecumenical body in 1991. His Holiness is one of the founding members of the Middle East Council of Churches that was established in 1974. In his position as the General Secretary for Ecumenical Relations of the Cilician Catholicate, he has participated in the Nairobi (1975), Vancouver (1983) and Canberra (1991) General Assemblies of the World Council of Churches.

Besides his responsibilities in the WCC, Catholicos Aram has been a member of the Oriental-Orthodox-Eastern Orthodox Dialogue; a founding member of Orthodox-Evangelical Dialogue; a member of the Standing Committee of Pro Oriente, a Roman Catholic ecumenical foundation; and Honorary President of World Religion's Museum Foundation.

During the first year of his pontifical ministry as the Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia, His Holiness has made pontifical visits to Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Cyprus, Greece, and Western United States. He has met with Patriarch Shenouda III (in Cairo), Patriarch Parthenios (in Alexandria), Patriarch Hazim (in Damascus), Patriarch Zakka (in Damascus), Patriarch Sfeir (in Lebanon), Patriarch Hakim (in Lebanon), Patriarch Hayek (in Lebanon), Patriarch Aleksy (in Moscow), Archbishop Khrysostomos (in Cyprus), Archbishop Seraphim (in Athens), and Pope John Paul II (in Vatican). He has also met with the presidents of Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Cyprus, Greece, Armenia, and the United States.

His first visit to the Eastern United States and Canada will begin October 1, 1997, and continue through to November 10, 1997.



17th Centenary Meeting in Etchmiadzin: Front row, H.B. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Patriarch of Jerusalem; H.H. Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians; H.H. Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia; Archbishop Karekin Kazanjian, Patriarch of Constantinople.



Russian Patriarch Aleksy I presents medal to Catholicos Aram I during Moscow meeting.



Catholicos Aram greets Levon Ter-Petrosyan, President of Armenia. Catholicos Karekin I in center of photo.

**For Information about the Pontifical Visit
Contact the Prelacy, 212-689-7810**

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I and Catholicos Aram Will Meet in Boston

(Continued from page 1)



Constantinople. He graduated from the Theological School of Halki at Constantinople in 1961 and was ordained a deacon in the cathedral of his birthplace on August 13, 1961, by his elder, Metropolitan Meliton and took the name Bartholomew.

After fulfilling his military obligations as an officer in the Turkish army, Patriarch Bartholomew pursued post graduate studies on a scholarship from the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the Institute of Eastern Studies of the Gregorian University in Rome and earned his doctorate. He pursued further studies at the Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, Switzerland, and the University of Munich, specializing in ecclesiastical law.

When he returned to Constantinople in 1968, Patriarch Bartholomew was appointed assistant dean of Halki Theological School and, in 1969, was ordained a priest at the school's chapel by Metropolitan Meliton. A few months later, Patriarch Athenagoras elevated him to the position of Archimandrite.

In 1972, when Dimitrios I was elected Ecumenical Patriarch, he established his patriarchal office and named the young Archimandrite Bartholomew as its director. He promoted him the following year to Metropolitan of Philadelphia after consecration as a bishop. Patriarch Bartholomew remained in charge of the patriarchal office until his promotion to Metropolitan of Chalcedon in January 1990.

In March 1974, a synodical seat was left vacant with the death of Metropolitan Dorotheos of Pringiponnisos, and the Holy Synod voted Metropolitan Bartholomew to fill that seat. Since then, and until his election to Ecumenical Patriarch, he continued as a member of the Synod, contributing to its responsible and holy work and to the many synodical committees.

Following the death of Metropolitan Meliton, Patriarch Bartholomew was unanimously elected to succeed as Metropolitan of Chalcedon. He was enthroned on January 14, 1990.

The Patriarch is a prolific writer and in addition to Greek he speaks English, Turkish, Italian, Latin, French and German.

He is a founding member of the Society of Law of the Eastern Churches of which he served as vice chairman for many years. From 1975 to the present, he has been a member of the Committee of Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches (WCC), serving as its vice chairman for eight years.

His All Holiness has represented the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the general conferences of the WCC: 4th at Uppsala, Sweden (1968); 6th at Vancouver, Canada (1983); and the 7th in Canberra, Australia (1991). At the latter he was elected to the WCC Executive and Central Committees. ♣

St. Gregory of Datev Institute Sponsors 11th Summer Program



Students and staff of the 11th annual St. Gregory of Datev Institute Summer Religious Studies Program.

Eighty teens and young adults plus eleven staff members gathered for the 11th St. Gregory of Datev Institute Summer Religious Studies Program at the St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson, Pennsylvania, July 4-13, 1997, under the leadership of the Very Rev. Fr. Anoushavan Tanielian, Vicar-General and Chairman of the Religious Council of the Prelacy and Pastor of St. Sarkis Armenian Church in Douglaston, New York.

Organized by the Armenian Religious Education Council (AREC), the Institute is a faith-based youth-oriented intensive program of studies over a four-year period (one week each year). Upon completion, students may return for postgraduate classes. The goal of the Institute is to challenge and instruct the youth to live a Christ-centered life—which means to partake of the life of the Church. A byproduct of the gathering is to have the youth enjoy a lively fellowship with other Armenian Christians.

The four levels of study plus the postgraduate classes all take place concurrently. Students from each level receive 25-30 hours of instruction. In addition to 5-6 hours of educational sessions a day, the communal life of the Institute includes morning and evening worship services, common meals, recreational and social activities. This year the Institute had 31 first-year students, 16 second-year students, 7 third-year students, 7 graduates, and 19 postgraduate students.

Through worship, lectures, workshops, Bible studies, and group discussions, the Institute's curriculum touched on all the essential elements of Armenian Christianity. This included what we believe, what we celebrate, how we pray, and ways in which we may implement and live out the Gospel in an age of disbelief.

A weekend retreat (July 4-6) preceded the regular week-long program, to which over 50 of the 80 participants attended.

The instructors were: Very Rev. Fr. Anoushavan Tanielian, Very Rev. Fr. Shahe Panossian, Very Rev. Fr. Nareg Amezian, Rev. Fr. Dr. Mesrob Tashjian, Rev. Fr. Antranig Baljian, Rev. Fr. Nerses Manoogian, Rev. Fr. Khatchadour Boghossian, Rev. Dn. Shant Kazanjian, Rev. Dn. Antranig Azarian, Dr. Hovaness Hovanessian, Dr. Arsen Mekaelian. Prof. Peter Cowe, and Dr. Vahan Kouyoumdjian were guest lecturers.

The Prelacy wishes to thank the staff, the guest lecturers, and the counselors of the Institute for their invaluable services; the Pastors and Boards of Trustees of the following churches who provided a \$200 scholarship for each community-sponsored participant: St. Gregory the Illuminator Church (PA), Sts. Vartanantz Church (NJ), St. Sarkis Church (NY), St. Gregory Church (Indian Orchard, MA), St. Stephen's Church (CT), St. Stephen's

Church (Watertown, MA), St. Asdvadzadzin Church (Whitinsville, MA), Sts. Vartanantz Church, (RI).

Many thanks also to the parents who entrusted their children to the Institute for a week of spiritual formation; to the Pastors and Boards of Trustees of St. Gregory the Illuminator Church of Philadelphia and Sts. Vartanantz Church of Ridgefield, New Jersey, for their generous hospitality; to Mrs. Martha Mekaelian of Illinois for securing numerous resources for the Institute; to Mrs. Asdghig Kazanjian of Philadelphia for providing delicious Armenian food on various occa-

sions during the Summer Program; to the following organizations and individuals for their donations: The Prelacy Ladies Guild (\$3,500), the National Association of Ladies' Guilds (\$1,500), ARS Ardemis Chapter of Philadelphia (\$500), Mr. and Mrs. Jack Apelian, Mr. and Mrs. Artoun Hamalian, Mr. and Mrs. Vartan Karakelian, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Khatcherian, Mr. and Mrs. Varujan Kuredjian, Mr. and Mrs. Noubar Megerian, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Nalbantian, Mr. Hrach Shehirian, Mrs. Jeanette Oundjian. ♣

Ordination in New Jersey



Sts. Vartanantz Church in Ridgefield, New Jersey, was the site of the ordination to the priesthood of Deacon Alexander Vartanian. The Service of Calling took place Saturday evening, July 26, with the ordination and Unction the following day, Sunday July 27. His Eminence Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian was the ordaining Bishop with V. Rev. Nareg Amezian as the sponsor. The celebrant of the Divine Liturgy was V. Rev. Meghrik Parikian. The new priest, who took the name Emmanuel, will be assigned to serve St. Illuminator's Cathedral in New York City. A luncheon followed the Divine Liturgy in honor of the newly ordained priest and his family.

Executive Council Seminar Meeting (continued from page 2)

1700th Anniversary of the Adoption of Christianity in Armenia

Discussing the Religious Council's presentation of the Prelacy's plans and expectations for the upcoming 1700th Anniversary celebrations of the establishment of Christianity in Armenia, the Executive Council, considering the international and pan-Armenian nature of this anniversary, decided to appeal to all the dioceses in North America (both of the Mother See and the Cilician See) to join in commemorating this anniversary together and to spare the Armenian Church and the faithful the sad spectacle of individual celebrations. Per decision of the Executive Council, our Prelate was asked to contact the primates and prelates of Canada and the U.S. in the hopes that all Armenian Apostolic Church communities in North America will be able to work together to celebrate this anniversary.

Meanwhile, the Council also decided to appoint a Prelacy-wide steering committee to better define the scope of activity within our Prelacy for the 1700th anniversary. Appointments to this committee will be completed in one month or so. Within the Prelacy, the committee will focus on programs that will allow our communities to better understand the sacraments and traditions of the Armenian Church, while also promoting clergy exchanges, pilgrimages, publications, videos and other program that will enhance the general awareness of the Armenian Church amongst all people.

Specifically, the four-year program will include:

- Conferences in New York, Boston, Washington, Chicago, Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto on Armenian church architecture, contemporary history, Armenian liturgy and history of Cilician Armenia and the Cilician See.
- Seminars of spiritual nature on the Armenian Apostolic faith, its sacraments, saints, and its legacy.
- Republication of the "Vehamayr" Gospel in Yerevan.
- Sponsor the production of 20 half-hour videos dealing with the sacraments of the Armenian church, traditional feast days, and children's presentations.
- Sponsor a performance of one of Donizetti operas whose protagonist is the Armenian prince Baghigdos from Malatia.

100th Anniversary of the Church in North America

The Council also discussed the upcoming 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first Armenian Church in North America and ways by which this milestone can be celebrated in our communities in 1998. Our Prelate has agreed to undertake the work required to host a conference next year to celebrate this anniversary.

Parish Development Problems

In addition to pastoral appointments, the Council also reviewed programs focusing on the development of existing and outreach parishes. It determined that although the regional boards of trustees seminars held in the last two years were successful in discussing topics of general concern within a region, the focus of our activity should change this year to greater stress the needs of individual parishes, especially in the small and mid-size communities.

The Council will exert greater effort in working with individual parishes, focusing on solutions that are more likely to benefit the individual parish. It was decided to send small teams of Council members to visit these parishes. The following churches were considered for such visits: Troy, Laval, Bethesda, Niagara Falls, North Andover, Whitinsville, Worcester, Indian Orchard, Fort Lauderdale, Toronto.

As for requests from various new and as-yet unorganized communities for Prelacy help to set-up outreach parishes, the Council decided to respond selectively to such requests and organize new parishes and try to meet their spiritual needs.

The Executive Council notes with regret that despite efforts of the Prelate and the Council to defuse a tense situation by the existence of two church properties next to each other, the Ocala (Florida) community today presents a sad spectacle. The Council was gravely concerned over reports that Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate, has gone ahead and consecrated a Diocesan church (St. Sarkis) in Ocala, despite an understanding that no consecration would take place, by either side, until the existing local intra-parish problems were resolved. In an effort to abate tensions, our Prelate continued to maintain his position that he could not consecrate an Armenian church right next to another Armenian church, a development that would further damage the reputation and standing of the Armenian Church in America.

Administrative Unity Talks

Despite obstacles to the administrative unity process in the Eastern United States—such as the Ocala affair, misstatements in the majority report of the Diocesan representatives to the Diocesan Assembly in May, and continuing efforts to discredit the upcoming pontifical visit of H.H. Aram I to our Prelacy churches and communities—the Executive Council unanimously decided to proceed, consistent with the resolution of the NRA in May, with the appointment of an administrative by-laws unity committee for the coming year and to charge that committee to go ahead in a manner consistent with NRA resolutions on this matter.

Clergy Retreat

The annual Surpots Ghevontians clergy retreat will be celebrated in North Andover's St. Gregory Church on February 17, 1998. Lectures on the general theme of pilgrimages will be given by Rev. Archpriest Dr. Mesrob Tashjian on "The Role of Pilgrimages in Christianity—A Biblical Approach"; Bishop Khajag Hagopian on "Armenian Pilgrimage Sites"; Rev. Nerses Manoogian on "Customs and Traditions of Pilgrim Travels"; and "Pilgrimage Shrines of the Christian World" by Rev. Khachadour Boghossian.

Religious Feasts and Anniversaries

The Religious Council has proposed that the following list of religious feasts and anniversaries be made available to all our parishes, inviting them to celebrate these events:

- Assumption of the Holy Virgin, Aug. 17
- Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Sept. 7.
- The Feast of St. George, Sept. 28.
- Feast of the Holy Translators, Oct. 11.
- Feast of the Protomartyr and First Deacon Stepanos, Dec. 28.
- Requiem service of all deceased pastors, Feb. 15, 1998.
- Ghevontians, Feb. 17, 1998.
- Sts. Vartanantz Day, Feb. 19, 1998.
- Poon Paregentan, Feb. 22, 1998.
- Requiem service for deceased members of the ARS, Feb. 22, 1998.
- 10th anniversary of the Karabagh Movement, Feb. 22, 1998.
- Pilgrimage to Antelias, Lebanon (March 24-30), and to Armenia (March 31-April 7).
- 83rd Commemoration of Martyrs' Day, April 24, 1998.
- Green Sunday, Environment Day, April 26, 1998.
- Clergy Conference on eve of NRA, May 19, 1998.
- National Representative Assembly, May 20-22, Boston.
- 80th anniversary of Independence of the First Republic of Armenia (May 28) to be celebrated on May 31, 1998.

The Prelacy will also encourage and help sponsor special ethnic days next year in selected communities, such as Van (Jan. 24), Daron (Jan. 31), Garin (Feb. 7), Sepasdia (Feb. 21). Those who wish to participate in these programs are requested to get in touch directly with the Prelate.

Relief Projects in Armenia and Artsakh

The Executive Council also reviewed the scope and level of activity of the outreach work which the Prelacy continues to undertake in Armenia and Artsakh and the work of the Prelacy office in Yerevan. The Council has decided for the upcoming year to continue the Prelacy assistance to 750 orphans and 50 widows and parents of martyred freedom fighters; helping the needy elderly in both Armenia and Artsakh; offering merit scholarships to 12 university students; and encouraging both our parishes and concerned Armenians and others to continue their support of these undertakings.

Next summer, the Prelacy will organize a special sponsored youth program giving the opportunity to Armenian teenagers and young adults in the United States and Canada to spend one to three months in Armenia in constructive service and work-related activities.

The Prelacy will also continue to support the United Armenia Fund and the All Armenia Fund. It will also continue to help publish the works of selected teachers, writers and other intellectuals who under

present conditions in Armenia are deprived of the means to publish their creative works.

New Publications

Works that are set for publication next year include the Archives of Martyred Bishop Ardag Sumpadian (700 pages); Archives of Catholicos Sahag II Khabayan of the Great House of Cilicia (400 pages); a volume by Armenag Manougian on the martyred clergy in Armenia, who lost their lives during the Stalinist purges in the 1930s; a history of the Village of Garpi by Armen Assatrian; and a pictorial volume on Western Armenia, entitled "Exiles of the Past, Heirs to the Future."

Raffle

The Prelacy is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Bedros Tashjian, a member of the Executive Council and of the Sts. Vartanantz parish of New Jersey, as the chairman of this year's Prelacy raffle. Mr. Tashjian will work with five regional raffle vice-chairmen and the chairmen of the local parish boards of trustees to help insure the success of this direly needed funding for the 1998 budget. ✦

Three Things to Do With Stock:

If you own stock that has grown in value, you can:

1. Sell it, and pay the capital gains tax.
2. Keep it, and have your executor pay estate tax.
3. Transfer it to a charitable trust, and:
 - save a lot of taxes.
 - receive lifetime income at an attractive rate, and
 - help the Armenian Church

For information write or call:

Prelacy Endowment Fund
138 E. 39th Street, New York, NY 10016
212-689-7810

Armenian Young Adults

(ages 18-35)

are invited to an

OPEN FORUM

with

HIS HOLINESS ARAM I

Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia

This is a unique opportunity to meet the Catholicos and discuss *spiritual* and *ethical* issues of our times. As the Moderator of the Central and Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches (WCC), His Holiness is one of the most influential religious leaders in the world today.

St. Illuminator's Armenian Apostolic Cathedral
221 East 27th Street, New York City

Friday, October 3, 1997, at 7:30 p.m.

Informal dinner and social to follow

Do not miss this extraordinary historic event! The Forum will be His Holiness' only formal meeting with the youth in this area during his first visit here as Catholicos.

For additional information call

Armenian Prelacy: 212/689-7810
Sts. Vartanantz Armenian Church: 201/943-2950
Nvair Kadian-Belerian: 201/343-3119
Hrair Berberian -- New York University: 718/261-6339
Joy Hovsepian -- Rutgers College: 908/878-0813
Shahe Keshishian: 201/599-9156
Hripsime Mkrtychyan -- Queens College: 718/937-1191
Vicken Yegparian -- Columbia University: 908/244-3984

HOSTED BY THE PRELACY OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA



His Eminence Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, Prelate, is pleased to announce

The First Pontifical Visit of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia

**His Holiness will arrive in New York on Wednesday, October 1
He will remain in the New York–New Jersey Metropolitan area through to October 7**

**We invite the Faithful of the Armenian Church to Welcome His Holiness upon his arrival
at St. Illuminator's Cathedral, 221 East 27th Street, New York City, October 1, 7:00 p.m.
where a Hrashapar Service and Public Reception will take place.**

Public transportation is being arranged by the three metropolitan area churches.

Buses will depart from various points at 6 p.m.

For information contact:

St. Illuminator's Cathedral (New York, NY) — 212-689-5880

St. Sarkis Church (Douglaston, NY) — 718-224-2275

Sts. Vartanantz Church (Ridgefield, NJ) — 201-943-2950



PONTIFICAL DIVINE LITURGY

**His Holiness will Celebrate the Divine Liturgy on
Sunday, October 5, 1997 at 2 p.m. at the**

Grace Episcopal Church, Broadway and 10th Streets, New York City

In 1889 the first Armenian Liturgy celebrated in New York took place in this historic church



GRAND BANQUET

Sunday, October 5, 1997, 6:30 p.m.

The Plaza, 5th Avenue and Central Park South

Limited seating — early reservations are encouraged (see separate ad for details)

Other Metro area public events include:

**Friday, October 3, 7:30 pm: Open Forum with His Holiness for young adults
St. Illuminator's Cathedral, New York City**

Saturday, October 4, 3:00 pm: Student Festival, Northern Valley Regional High School, Demarest, NJ

Saturday, October 4, 7:00 pm: Vespers Service and Public Reception, Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, NJ

Monday, October 6, 7:00 pm: Hrashapar Service and Public Reception, St. Sarkis Church, Douglaston, NY

His Holiness will depart from New York on October 7 and visit the following communities:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| October 7–8 | St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Philadelphia, PA |
| October 9–10 | Holy Cross Church, Bethesda, MD (Washington DC) |
| October 11–12 | St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, Granite City, IL (Consecration) |
| October 14–15 | All Saints Church, Glenview, IL (Chicago) |
| October 16 | St. Paul Church, Waukegan, IL |
| | St. Hagop Church, Racine, WI |
| October 17–20 | St. Sarkis Church, Dearborn, MI (Detroit) |
| October 20 | Holy Cross Church, Troy, NY |
| October 22 | St. Gregory Church, North Andover, MA |
| October 23 | Holy Trinity Church, Worcester, MA |
| | St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Whitinsville, MA |
| October 24 | St. Gregory Church, Indian Orchard, MA |
| | St. Stephen Church, New Britain, CT |
| October 25 | Sts. Vartanantz Church, Providence, RI |
| October 25–28 | St. Stephen's Church, Watertown, MA (Boston) |
| October 29 | St. Gregory Church, Vancouver, BC (Canada) |
| Oct. 30–Nov. 2 | St. Asdvadzadzin Church, Willowdale (Toronto, Canada) |
| October 31 | St. Nishan Church, Cambridge, Ontario (Canada) |
| November 3 | Ottawa |
| November 5 | Sourp Kevork Church, Laval (Canada) |
| November 4–10 | Sourp Hagop Cathedral, Montreal (Canada) |

Watch for More Details

**The Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America.
Eastern United States and Canada**

