

•ETCHMIADZIN•
OFFICIAL MONTHLY OF HOLY ETCHMIADZIN
(SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 1988)

1. The congratulatory cable of His Holiness Vasken I to Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of CPSU, on the occasion of his election to the office of President of the Presidium of U.S.S.R.'s Supreme Soviet (10th October 1988) — (p. 3).

2. Cable of congratulations sent to His Holiness Vasken I on the occasion of His 80th birthday anniversary from these persons: His Holiness Pimen, Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church; His Holiness Ilya II, Patriarch-Catholicos of all Georgia; His Beatitude Yeghishe Derderian, Patriarch of the Armenians of Jerusalem; His Beatitude Shenorkh Galooslian, Patriarch of the Armenians of Turkey; His Grace Pit'rim, Metropolitan of Volokolomsk and Yuorev; His Excellency Mr. Constantin Kharchev, Chairman of the Council for Religious affairs of U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers; His Beatitude Theoclit, Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church; His Beatitude Maxim, Patriarch of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church; His Grace Robert Runcy, Archbishop of Canterbury; His Excellency Koono Payoola, Archbishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Estonia; His Excellency Logvinenko, President of the U.S.S.R.'s Baptist Christians; His Grace Alexis, Metropolitan of Leningrad and Novgorod; His Excellency Yoovenaly, Metropolitan of Krootitsky and Kolomensky; His Grace Alexander, Archbishop of Dmitrov; His Grace David, Metropolitan of Sookhoomy and Abkhazia; His Grace Nicolae, Metropolitan of Banat (Romania); Mr. Lucas Vischer, General Secretary of the Reformed Churches of Switzerland; Sheikh Ool Islam Pashazade; Mr. Mekertichian Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenian S.S.R.; Mr. S. Hakhoomian, Minister of Public Education of Armenian S.S.R.; Mr. E. Haykazian, permanent representative of Armenian S.S.R.'s government at Moscow; Mr. Victor Hambartzoomian, President of the Academy of Sciences of Armenian S.S.R.; Mr. S. Arevshadian, director of the ancient manuscripts house (Madenataran) of Yerevan; Mr. Roberto Gulbenkian, administrator of Caloosi Gulbenkian foundation (pp. 4—19).

3. Delivery of the Peace Medal to His Holiness Vasken I (20th September 1988). Addresses of Mr. H. Voskanian, President of the Presidium of Supreme Soviet of Armenian S.S.R.; of Mr. F. Sarkisian, Prime Minister of the Armenian S.S.R.; of Mr. S. Varianian, President of the Council of Religious Affairs of the Armenian Church; of Mr. G. Khandjian, member of the supreme Spiritual Council of Holy Etchmiadzin; of Archbishop Nerses Bozaballan, Chancellor of Holy Etchmiadzin and at

the end the word of thanks and blessing of His Holiness (pp. 20—27).

4. Solemn mass and patriarchal prayer in the Holy Cathedral on the occasion of the 80th birthday anniversary of His Holiness (25th September 1988). The texts of His Holiness' sermon, of the congratulatory speech of Metropolitan Filaret and the address of His Holiness Pimen, the Patriarch of all Russia (pp. 28—34).

5. Sooren Sh. Vanetsy—Short chronology about the life and activity of His Holiness Catholicos Vasken I (pp. 35—48).

6. The address of His Holiness during the meeting of the Holy See's congregation 10th October 1988) — (pp. 49—58).

7. The message of Archbishop Torgom Manookian, the primate of the Eastern diocese of the Armenians of U.S.A., given on the 12th May 1988, during the 86th annual diocesan assembly of the delegates (pp. 59—62).

8. The enlarged meeting of Holy See's Supreme Spiritual Council in the Patriarchal residence 26th September 1988) — (p. 63).

9. The ceremony of the Theological Academy's new school year (10th September 1988). Text of His Holiness' message of blessing (pp. 64—66).

10. Father Norayr Baghdassarian—Ordination of priest in the Holy Virgin church of Vartenis (16th September 1988) — (pp. 67—68).

11. The visit of a group of members of Armenian General Benevolent Union's Sydney branch to Holy See (19th September 1988) — (p. 69).

12. The visit to Holy See of Armenian students from Jordan who are studying in the high institutions of Armenia (20th September 1988) — (p. 70).

13. Divine liturgy services and sermons delivered in the Holy Cathedral and description of the church festivities in the Holy See during the months of September-October 1988 (pp. 71—72).

14. Diocesan news:

- a) News from the diocese of Shtrak (p. 73).
- b) News from the diocese of Ararat (pp. 73—74).
- c) Baptisms in the Armenian Church of Holy Resurrection in Moscow (p. 75).
- d) News from the Armenian diocese of Iraq (pp. 76—77).

15. Enthronement of the new Patriarch of Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Addis-Abeba (pp. 78—79).

16. Official visit of Mr. Constantin Kharchev to Geneva (5—9th September 1988) — (pp. 80—82).

17. Oecumenic meeting of young Christians in Odessa (29—30th September 1988) — (p. 83).