

HIS HOLINESS KAREKIN II
Supreme Patriarchate and Catholicos of All Armenians
Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin

4 December 2010

Your Holiness

We, the chairpersons and representatives of the Armenian church communities in Great Britain and Ireland, would like to express our gratitude to Your Holiness for consecrating our Primate a Bishop of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

We bring to Your Holiness the warmest greetings of our church communities in Manchester, London, Cardiff, Birmingham and Dublin. On 20 November, the celebration of the first episcopal Divine Liturgy of Bishop Vahan and the public reception afterwards were historic events for our communities. Hundreds of faithful Armenians participated in the Divine Liturgy and more than 300 people attended the reception, which filled the hall to its full capacity. This was a testimony to the love and respect that Armenians throughout Great Britain and Ireland give to Bishop Vahan.

Indeed, we are happy and blessed to have His Grace Bishop Vahan Hovhannessian as our Primate. Since he assumed the position of Primate some two years ago, Bishop Vahan has revitalised our community and revived the Armenian Apostolic Church enormously. His Primacy has brought transformational changes not only to our communities, but to hundreds of individual Armenians, especially the youth, who have reconnected with the Church. The quality of programs and activities Bishop Vahan has undertaken have brought a new focus to the mission of the Armenian Church in Great Britain and Ireland. We look forward to enjoying his leadership for many years to come.

Under the leadership of Bishop Vahan, we believe that the vision of a Diocese of the Armenian Church in Great Britain and Ireland has become clearer. Working together with the Primate we hope that a Diocesan Bylaw for our Diocese will be in full accordance of the universal bylaws of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

Your Holiness, we continue to pray for your good health and vigour so that the Armenian Apostolic Church may continue to flourish under your visionary leadership for many decades to come.

Remaining humbly in the service of the Armenian Church.

With filial love and respect,

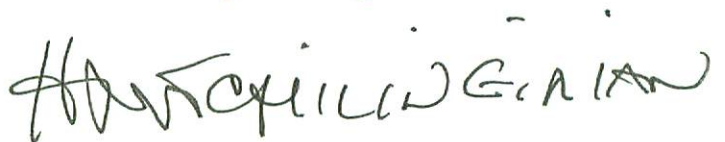
Holy Trinity Armenian Church Trust, Manchester



Wardens of Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Manchester



St. Sarkis Armenian Church Trust, London



St. Sarkis Church Pastoral Council, London

Cardiff, Mission Parish Council, Cardiff



Birmingham Mission Parish Council, Birmingham



Dublin Mission Parish, Dublin

