



**russian orthodox
church of
saint panteleimon
gosford**

ABN 98 562 088 123

Application for Parish Membership

ABOUT PARISH MEMBERSHIP AND THIS APPLICATION FORM

The rules governing parish membership are set out in the Normal Parish By-Laws (“the By-Laws”) of the Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia. Paragraph 12 of the By-Laws stipulates that any person wishing to become a member of a parish must make a written application to the Parish Council. To facilitate this process, our parish has developed an *Application for Parish Membership* form.

The form assists both the Parish Council and prospective members by

- Employing a simple standard format for the obligatory written application
- Providing clear and consistent advice to prospective members with regard to the obligations of a parish member
- Gathering information necessary for the Parish Council to properly consider the application

A person may become a member if they

- are an Orthodox Christian
- have reached the age of 18 years
- pay the established membership dues
- make their confession and take Holy Communion not less than once a year, and
- tend to the moral and economic welfare of the parish

The By-Laws make it clear that membership dues must be paid annually and that parish members must confess their sins and receive Holy Communion at least once a year. In view of this, members are also asked to complete the *Application for Parish Membership* form upon annual renewal of membership. Completion of the *Application for Parish Membership* form each year has the added benefit of ensuring that parish records are up-to-date and that personal details remain correct.

The annual membership fee is \$30.00. Membership is granted for a calendar year; that is, from January to December. New members gain the right to vote only after 6 months of membership. Those new members who transfer membership from another parish of the Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia may vote immediately.

The By-Laws indicate that parish members may lose voting rights if they

- enter into a marriage-like relationship without the blessing of the Church
- are engaged in ignoble business, or
- are convicted of criminal offences

Parish membership may be lost if a parish member

- is found disloyal to the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia and to their parish;
- deliberately neglects Church rules and obstructs lawfully adopted resolutions of the parish meetings and the instructions of the Church Parish Council;
- has violated the good order and decorum in the church
- is found to be engaged in some ignoble occupation.

Any concerns that individual members may have with regard to their voting rights or membership should be discussed with the parish priest.

The information that you provide on this form will not be released to anyone without your prior consent.

PART A

YOUR DETAILS

This information is required so that we can keep in touch with you.

Title (Mr, Mrs, Dr etc)

Surname

Given name

Residential address

Postal address (if same as Residential, write 'As Above')

Telephone numbers

Home

Mobile

Email address

This information is required as a condition of parish membership.



Date of birth

This information is optional, but will help us observe a day of spiritual significance to you.

Name day

PART B

WHAT TYPE OF APPLICATION ARE YOU MAKING?

1. An application to become a **new member** of the parish  Go to **Part C**
or
2. An application to **renew membership** of the parish  Go to **Part D**

PART C

PREVIOUS PARISH MEMBERSHIP

This information will help us determine your voting rights at parish meetings.

Were you a member of another parish of the Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia immediately prior to making this application?

- No  Go to **Part D**
- Yes  Which parish?

Parish name

PART D

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

This information is optional. It may help us to assist you in case of an emergency.

Name

Relationship to you

Residential address

<input type="text"/>
POSTCODE

Telephone numbers

Home

Mobile

PART E

DECLARATION

I confirm that I am an Orthodox Christian and that the information provided here is complete and correct.

I understand that as a parish member I must

- pay the established membership dues
- make my confession and receive Holy Communion not less than once a year, and
- tend to the moral and economic welfare of the parish

I recognise that I may lose my right to vote at parish meetings or be deprived of parish membership if I

- enter into a marriage-like relationship without the blessing of the Church
- engage in ignoble business
- am convicted of criminal offences
- am found disloyal to the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia or the parish;
- deliberately neglect Church rules and obstruct lawfully adopted resolutions of parish meetings and the instructions of the Parish Council
- violate good order and decorum in the church

I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the *Diocesan Policy and Procedure for addressing Inappropriate Behaviour*, and agree to comply with it.

Name (Please PRINT)

Signature

PARISH COUNCIL USE ONLY

Annual Dues

Paid

Receipt

Resolved

Secretary