



**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 simplify this process, our parish has developed an *Application for Parish Membership* form.

The form assists the Parish Council and both prospective and returning members by

- Using a simple standard format for the written application
- Providing clear and consistent advice about 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 continue to confess their sins and receive Holy Communion at least once a year.

Completion of the *Application for Parish Membership* form each year helps ensure 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 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 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:*

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

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 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 have read the Diocesan *Code of Conduct* (available at <https://tinyurl.com/3pf289ss>) and agree to comply with it.

Name (Please PRINT)

Signature

**PARISH COUNCIL USE ONLY**

Annual Dues

Paid

Receipt

Resolved

Secretary