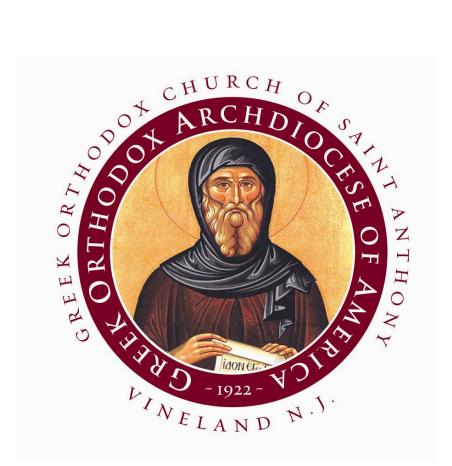
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY "THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ANTHONY"



Revised and approved by the General Assembly, September 2003.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ANTHONY ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟΥ



PAGE

430 WEST WHEAT ROAD . VINELAND, NEW JERSEY 08360

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY "THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ANTHONY"

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article I Article II AIMS AND PURPOSES......2 ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY......2 Article III Article IV Article V THE CLERGY......4 Article VI Article VII POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PARISH BOARD OF DIRECTORS......7 FISCAL YEAR, FINANCIAL REPORTS, AND BUDGETS......9 Article VIII Article IX BOARD OF AUDITORS......9 Article X Article XI THE ELECTIONS......10 VACANCIES ON THE PARISH COUNCIL AND BOARD OF AUDITORS.....12 Article XII POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICER.....12 Article XIII POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT......12 Article XIV Article XV Article XVI POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE TREASURER......14 Article XVII Article XVIII GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH......14 Article XIX Article XX Article XXI CONCERNING ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY......17 Article XXII



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY "THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ANTHONY"

ARTICLE I NAME

The parish shall be known as: The Greek Orthodox Church of St. Anthony of Vineland, NJ 430 West Wheat Road, Vineland, New Jersey 08360

ARTICLE II AIMS AND PURPOSES

- 1. The Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Anthony is organized exclusively for religious purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- 2. To edify the believers in the Orthodox Christian Faith and Traditions of our Holy Fathers and in Christian Orthodox morality through the ministering and appropriate teachings of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.
- 3. To educate our children in accordance with doctrines, canons, divine worship, customs and the religious and cultural heritage of the Greek Orthodox Church.
- 4. To promote the religious and moral life of our parishioners through the Word of God, instruction in Sunday school, religious books, and through the Ministries of duly ordained clergymen.
- 5. To teach them to appreciate and propagate the original language of the gospel by preserving it in the Divine Liturgy and in the sacramental life of the faithful and through the parochial and Sunday schools.

ARTICLE III ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY

1. The parish shall unreservedly and irrevocably recognize the ecclesiastical and spiritual authority of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America which canonically and historically is under the supreme jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.



- 2. The clergy of the parish shall mention in prayer the name of the Archbishop of North and South America.
- **3.** The parish shall conform to the decisions of the Clergy Laity Congress and the Archdiocese Council of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese only upon ratification of said decisions by majority vote of the members at a general assembly meeting provided that prior written notice is given the full membership, of said meeting.
- 4. The parish shall submit its annual financial reports to the Archdiocese.
- 5. The parish shall be represented at every Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress of the Archdiocese.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

- 1. All persons, eighteen years (18) of age or over, who were baptized according to the rites of the Greek Orthodox Church, or who were received into the church through Chrismation, who live according to the faith and canons of the church, and who agree to abide by the provisions of the By-Laws of this parish and regularly pay their financial support, (through Stewardship) shall be voting members thereof.
- 2. That all persons under 18 years of age who were baptized according to the rites of the church, or who were received into the church through Chrismation, who live according to the faith and canons of the Church, and who agree to abide by the provisions of the By-Laws of this parish shall be allowed to receive and participate in all the sacraments of the Church.
- 3. The priest and the parish council shall judge cases of indigence within the parish and determine the status of a member in good standing, financially and spiritually (at the Priest's discretion and according to the canons of the Greek Orthodox Church).
- 4. Any member shall be entitled to vote at meetings of this parish provided that any such member shall have been enrolled in the register of this parish for at least three (3) calendar months prior to the month in which said meeting is held, and provided further that any such member is in good standing by having his financial support (through Stewardship), as hereinabove and hereinafter in this Article provided, pledge for the twelve (12) calendar months immediately preceding the month in which said meeting is held.



- 5. Any member of another parish who moves into this parish shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the members of this parish, provided that any such member shall have been enrolled in the register of this parish and pledged through Stewardship to this parish for at least three (3) calendar months prior to the month in which said meeting is held, and provided further that any such member was a member in good standing (financially and spiritually)in his former parish for at least nine (9) calendar months prior to his moving into this parish and enrolling in the register of this parish.
- 6. Any member shall be entitled to be elected to any office in this parish provided such member is in good standing and shall have been enrolled in the register of this parish and shall be a member in good standing by having pledged through Stewardship, in accordance with this Article for the twelve (12) calendar months immediately preceding the month in which said election is held.
- 7. No salaried employee of the parish shall be eligible for election to office.
- 8. There shall be no minimum commitment for Stewardship. A signed pledge card shall be accepted as evidence of satisfying the financial support (Stewardship).

ARTICLE V THE CLERGY

- 1. The Priest of the parish is appointed by the Diocesan Bishop upon receipt of a petition by the Board of Directors of the Parish. The Parish Council shall determine the salary and other renumerations of the priest so appointed.
- 2. The assisting Priest or deacon is appointed in like manner by the Diocese in accordance with the conditions set forth in paragraphs one (1) of this article.
- 3. The appointment of the clergyman shall be considered permanent but the agreement to serve the parish ceases to be permanent if a clergyman is dismissed or suspended from the parish by disciplinary action of the Spiritual Court or if a clergyman is appointed to a higher position by the Archdiocese and by a determination for good cause made by the Parish Council.
- 4. The Priest shall take part in the meeting of the Parish Council and the general meeting of the membership as a non-voting member ex officio there of and may state for the record his opinion on the business transacted



- 5. The Priest shall have charge of matters of Divine Liturgy and worship and shall keep the registers of marriages, baptisms and funerals.
- 6. The Priest shall be accountable to the Archbishop for fulfillment of his sacral duties.
- 7. The Priest shall arrange with the Parish Council for the holding of holy services including the designation of the time of commencement and termination thereof.
- 8. The Priest and the Parish Council shall strive to promote the financial and spiritual well being of the parish by appropriately imparting to the congregation an awareness of its financial and spiritual obligations thereto. They shall also attend to the collection of the prescribed pledges accruing to the parish.
- 9. The Priest shall not absent himself from the Parish a single day without prior arrangements with the Parish Council and without prior written authorization of the Diocese.
- 10. In the event of illness while in the service of his parish, clergymen shall be compensated during such illness as determined by the Parish Council. Clergyman shall receive full pay during such illness for a period not to exceed 3 months
- 11. A Priest who is transferred or who leaves a parish for any reason shall turn over to his successor a list of all his duties, and will deliver to him the holy vessels, the registry books, and copies of the certificates of baptisms, marriages, and funerals. The departing priest will send a copy of this list to the Diocese.
- 12. A Priest shall receive from the treasury of the parish to which he is appointed his moving and traveling expenses thereto only to the extent approved by the Parish Council. In the event of transfer the Priest is entitled to receive his salary up to the last day of service in the parish.
- 13. Every Priest is entitled to at least fifteen (15) days vacation annually with full pay after written permission has been obtained from the Diocese and after an agreement has been reached with the Parish Council.
- 15. Every Priest is obligated to be a member of the Clergymen Pension Fund of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and to submit thereto the necessary fees of membership.
- 16. In the event of any disagreement between a Priest and his assisting clergyman, the Priest shall refer such disagreement to the Archdiocese.



<u>ARTICLE VI – USE AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY FUNDS, GIFTS,</u> <u>BEQUESTS AND DEVISES.</u>

- 1. The Parish shall have absolute title to and control of all its real and personal property in accordance with the present By-Laws and the Laws of the State of New Jersey
- 2. The Parish Council shall have no power to purchase, mortgage, sell, lease, assign real property or otherwise encumber without the consent of two thirds (2/3) of the members present at a General Assembly meeting and provided a quorum is present. The members of the parish must be notified by mail fifteen (15) days prior to such a General Assembly of the agenda, date, time and place of such meetings. A copy of said notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the entrance of the church at least fifteen (15) days prior to the said meeting.
- 3. In the event of dissolution of this parish, the real and personal property thereof shall devolve to the Archdiocese which may make the same available to the nearest duly organized parish for the benefit of the Greek Orthodox communicants in that area.
- 4. Title to all property, real or personal or of any nature, whatever, shall be used only to serve the needs and purposes of the parish. The care, control and management thereof shall be committed to the Parish Council.
- 5. All special gifts, bequests and devises shall be administered by the Parish Council in one or more special funds or trusts in keeping with the intent and purpose of the donor thereof.
- 6. All the funds of the parish shall be deposited in one or more accounts in the name of the parish in one or more banks chosen by the Parish Council, and may be drawn there from by checks, drafts or warrants upon the signature of the treasurer and president solely for the obligations and the purposes of the parish. Should either the treasurer or President or both be unavailable, such funds of the Parish may then be withdrawn upon the signature of any two other officers of the Parish.



<u>ARTICLE VII – POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PARISH BOARD OF</u> <u>DIRECTORS</u>

Upon the adoption of the first Constitution and By-Laws, the first election took place on the second Sunday of December, 1978, at which time eleven (11) members were elected to the Board of Directors and three (3) members were elected t the Board of Auditors.

- 1. The Parish Council shall consist of 11 Parish Council members elected within the first 15 days of December for a term of two (2) years, and shall have charge of the administrative and secular affairs of the parish as well as, the Priest, as an ex officio member thereof. The election of Directors shall be a "staggering" system; six (6) directors to be elected during even-numbered years and five (5) directors to be elected during odd-numbered years.
- 2. It shall be the duty of the Parish Council to conduct the affairs of the parish fulfilling the aims and purposes of the church in accordance with this Constitution and By-Laws, canons, discipline, regulations of the Archdiocese and in accordance with the statues of the State of New Jersey
- **3.** The Parish Council shall summon the assembly of the members of the parish.
- 4. The Parish Council will convene regularly on or before the fifteenth (15th) of each month on church property and hold special meetings, whenever the priest, the president, or five members of the Board deem it necessary. The presence of six (6) members of the Board during the duration of the entire meeting will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- 5. The Parish Council shall keep the roll of the parish membership up to date and shall post a list of the members in good standing in a conspicuous place in the church at least thirty (30) days before the elections.
- 6. The Parish Council shall appoint special committees from its own membership and from the members in good standing from the parish. These committees shall be concerned with educational and other matters and fulfill duties designated by the Parish Council.
- 7. The Parish Council shall supervise:
 - a. The program and the activities of the parish
 - b. The work of the committees appointed by them
 - c. The faithful application of the By-Laws
 - d. The regular fulfillment of all the financial obligations through Stewardship of the parish as stated herein



- e. The administration of the Greek and Sunday schools including JOY, GOYA, and YAL.
- 8. The Parish Council shall collect the revenues of the church issuing receipts for same and shall pay by check the salaries of the employees of the parish and all other parish expenses.
- 9. A. The Parish Council may buy, sell, lease, or mortgage property of the parish only after two thirds (2/3) of the members have authorized this action at a general assembly called in accordance with provisions outlined in Article VI.

B. Parish Council handles all matters of the parish in accordance with the By-Laws state herein. It is authorized to assume obligations to the extent of \$10,000.00 for each special occasion. For larger sums, it must have approval of the general assembly of the parish, except as provided elsewhere herein.

- 10. The Parish Council shall submit annually to the Archdiocese the financial statements and annual report. Copies of the Parish Council and Auditors reports shall be kept in the archives of the parish.
- **11. The Parish Council shall determine all parish matters within its jurisdiction.**
- **12.** The Parish Council will submit all spiritual or clerical matters to the Spiritual Court of the Archdiocese for disposition.
- 13. The Parish Council concerns itself with all matters pertaining to the Greek and Sunday schools and church. It appoints and releases all paid employees and determines their salaries. School programs, text books and educational materials, shall be those approved by the Priest and Parish Council in conjunction with the Board of Education of the Archdiocese.
- 14. The Parish Council shall acquire the necessary implements and material for divine services and shall be responsible for order during these services.
- 15. The Parish Council shall attend the divine services regularly, thereby setting the example of devout fulfillment of one's religious duties.
- 16. Upon the expiration of their term, the Parish Council members shall surrender to the succeeding Board all parish records including membership lists, minute books, check books, journals and all records of financial data of the parish.



- 17. The regular monthly meeting of the Parish Council shall be open to the members of the parish. A member of the parish may participate by written request, or, by special permission of the chairman of the Board, and be allowed to voice his opinion on a particular matter.
- 18. All voting will be by roll call and so recorded by name by the secretary in the minutes. Minutes of all Parish Council meetings shall be made available to any member upon request.

ARTICLE VIII FISCAL YEAR, FINANCIAL REPORTS, AND BUDGETS

- 1. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- 2. The Parish fiscal year shall commence on January 1st and end December 31st.
- 3. The retiring Board shall submit a detailed itemized and audited financial report of all income and expenses for the preceding year at the regular assembly meeting in February, and a copy thereof shall be submitted to the Archdiocese.
- 4. The Parish Council shall submit a semi-annual (6 months) June and December audited financial report of all income and expenses to the General Assembly and a copy of such report be given to the members at each General Assembly meeting.



ARTICLE IX BOARD OF AUDITORS

- The Board of Auditors consisting of three (3) members will be elected at the Fall General Assembly meeting and will be elected for a term of one (1) year. The Board of Auditors has the following rights and duties:
 - a) To audit all the accounting books and parish records at any time.
 - b) The Parish Council shall make the accounting books and parish records available to the Auditors, at any time requested by the Auditors.
 - c) The reports for the general assembly shall be deposited for safe keeping in the office of the parish together with previous Board of Auditors' reports.
 - d) The Board of Auditors shall audit all parish financial reports.

ARTICLE X BOARD OF ELECTIONS

- 1. The Board of Elections shall consist of three (3) members in good standing, not members of the current Parish Council or previous year Auditors, who shall be elected at the Fall meeting of the General Assembly prior to the elections, and they shall convene at least thirty (30) days before the elections, for the purpose of organizing itself and electing a Chairman and Secretary.
- 2. The Board of Elections, in co-operation with the Parish Council, shall check the list of eligible candidates and shall check the list of all eligible members to vote in the forthcoming elections. The Board of Elections shall hold and supervise the elections.
- 3. A member of the Board of Elections, who agrees to serve as such, is not eligible to be a candidate for office, unless he resigns from the Board of Elections at least twenty (20) days before the elections.

ARTICLE XI THE ELECTIONS

1. The Election Day for the Parish Council must fall within the first 15 days of December. Nominations for members of the Parish Council shall be accepted by the Board of Elections in writing signed by one or more members in good standing and countersigned by the nominee. The Board of Elections shall also accept a written request from any member in good standing who desires to place himself/herself in nomination.



- 2. The list of candidates shall be prepared and announced at least one week prior to Election Day.
- 3. The list of candidates shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the church at least one week before the elections and this list shall also be sent with a written notice of the elections to all those members eligible to vote. The time and place of the elections as well as the list of the candidates shall be made known to the voters at least one week before the election.
- 4. Each member who has pledged his/her financial support through Stewardship and who aspires to become a candidate for election to office may submit to the secretary of the parish prior to the elections a written notice of such intention.
- 5. A regular member of the community already enrolled in the parish registry, but who has neglected his/her financial support, may cast his ballot in the election as long as he fulfills his/her financial pledge through Stewardship even on the day of elections, but prior to commencement of balloting.
- 6. In order to have the right to vote every new member of the parish must have been enrolled in the registry of the parish at least three months prior to the election. In order to have the right to be elected to office he/she must have been enrolled therein at least six (6) months prior to the elections.
- 7. The election shall be held at a place specified in advance by the Board of Elections on church property, and shall be executed by secret ballot. The ballots will be deposited in a sealed box. The election will begin at 12:30 P.M., and end at 5:00P.M. on the same day. Absentee ballots may be utilized in cases of illness, excessive distance involved, and in such exceptional cases approved by the Board of Elections.
- 8. The election shall be entered in the official book of the parish, showing the number of votes cast for each candidate and signed by the members of the Board of Elections. The candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected for the ensuing term. In case of equal votes a new Election shall be held within ten (10) days for those candidates receiving the same number of votes. Within five days after the final results of the election the secretary shall forward results of the election to the Archdiocese.
- 9. A salaried employee of the parish cannot serve as a voting member of the Parish Council, Board of Auditors or the Board of Elections.



10. On the Sunday following the election a special ceremony will be held upon the termination of the Divine Liturgy at which time the newly elected members of the Parish Council will take the oath of office before the entire congregation of the parish. The oath will be given by the Priest and will be repeated by the newly elected Parish Council members on the first Sunday after receiving the letter of Ratification from the Diocesan Bishop (Archdiocese)

11. The following shall be the Oath of Office:

"I _____(name)_____due solemnly swear that I shall uphold the dogma, teachings, traditions, holy canons, worship, language and moral principles of the Greek Orthodox Church, as well as the Constitutional Charter, Discipline and Parish By-Laws of St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church and that I shall faithfully and sincerely fulfill the duties and obligations of the office to which I have been elected. So Help Me God."



ARTICLE XII VACANCIES ON THE PARISH COUNCIL AND BOARD OF AUDITORS

- 1. Any vacancy or vacancies on the Parish Council and Auditors shall be filled from the list of candidates who received the next highest number of votes in the last election. In the absence of such candidates, the office or offices shall be filled from the members of the parish, who are in good standing.
- 2. Following a resolution of the Parish Council to such effect a member thereof shall be relieved of his duties when he has been absent from the Parish Council meetings without justification cause for more than three (3) consecutive regular monthly meetings.

ARTICLE XIII POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- 1. At its first meeting following election, under the Chairmanship of the Parish priest, the Parish Council shall elect by secret ballot its officers: The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 2. The remaining Parish Council members will meet with the newly elected Parish Council members by the call of the out going president or in his absence by the vice president, secretary or the treasurer in that order, and for the purpose of electing its officers.
- **3.** A copy of the By-Laws will be given to each new Parish Council member and assigned a specific committee by the President of the Parish Council for the preceding year.

ARTICLE XIV POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT

- 1. To call meetings of the Parish Council and the general assemblies of the membership of the parish after consulting with the Parish Council.
- 2. To preside over meetings of the Parish Council
- 3. To preside over debate.
- 4. To present the agenda of the meeting.
- 5. To lead the discussions, to rule upon motions, to submit questions to a vote, to give the floor to the speakers or refuse to recognize those who



speak out of order and to adjourn the meeting and to do whatever may be necessary for the orderly transaction of the business.

- 6. To sign the minutes of the meeting, correspondence and documents together with the secretary of the Parish Council and to sign checks jointly with the treasurer.
- 7. To supervise the operations of the office personnel and the conditions of the treasury.
- 8. To appoint committees for the purpose of carrying out such duties as he/she may assign them.
- 9. To utilize Roberts Rules of Order during such meetings.

ARTICLE XV POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall have all the powers and duties of the president whenever he/she acts in place of the President.

ARTICLE XVI THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

- 1. To have custody of the Parish Seal.
- 2. To attend all the meetings of the Parish Council and the general assemblies, and to keep the minutes of the meetings.
- **3.** To keep the official correspondence, membership records and all other records of the parish.
- 4. To cosign with the president all documents of the Parish.
- 5. To turn all records over to his/her successor in good order and by receipt.
- 6. If necessary, a salaried clerical secretary may be hired by the Parish Council who shall not, however, have a vote or voice in the said Council.
- 7. He shall obtain a surety bond in such amount as ordered by the Parish Council for the protection of the parish funds, the premium of which shall be paid out of the parish treasury.



ARTICLE XVII POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

- **1.** The treasurer shall collect parish funds and deposit the same in the name of the parish with depositories selected by the Parish Council.
- 2. He/she shall keep a separate record of the revenue and expenses of the parish.
- 3. He/she shall sign checks jointly with the president, or if the President is unavailable, then with any two (2) of the other officers of the Parish Council
- 4. He/she shall obtain a surety bond in such amount as ordered by the Parish Council for the protection of the parish funds, the premium of which shall be paid out of the parish treasury.
- 5. He/she shall turn over everything pertaining to his/her office at the conclusion of his/her term to his/her successor in good order upon proper receipt.
- 6. He/she shall be responsible for the preparation of the financial statements of the parish and present them to the Board of Auditors for audit.
- 7. To maintain an active membership roster of the Parish.

ARTICLE XVIII GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH

- 1. Regular general assemblies of the members of the parish shall be held two (2) times a year. Special assemblies (general) shall be held when considered necessary by the Parish Council, Priest, President or by 25% of the members in good standing of the Parish who shall submit a signed petition for this purpose to the Parish Council
- 2. A General Assembly shall consist of the members of the parish in good standing. The members having the right to vote therein shall be those members of the parish who have pledged prior to the general assembly. A regular member of the community, who is already enrolled in the parish register, but who has neglected to pay his financial obligation through Stewardship, may pay the same up to the day of the general assembly and thus participate therein. All new members shall have the right to vote at the general assembly of the parish if they have been members in good standing prior to the date of the General Assembly.



- 3. General Assemblies of the Parish shall be called and held at least two (2) times a year.
- 4. The members will be summoned to the general assemblies by a written notice sent to all the members therein. The notice shall be mailed at least ten (10) days before the General Assembly and it shall include the agenda.
- 5. The powers and duties of the General Assemblies:
 - a. It shall keep an attendance register which all those present shall sign after their identity and qualification has been checked by the parish secretary or in his absence by a member of the Parish Council appointed by the president.
 - b. It shall keep a record of the minutes signed by the assembly chairman and the assembly secretary.
 - c. The General Assembly shall have a quorum when the number of the members of the parish present constitute at least twenty five (25%) percent of the total eligible members entitled to vote at the previous election. In the event a quorum is not present, a new General Assembly will be called and held within three (3) weeks and it will be deemed as having a quorum regardless of the number of members present with the exception of matters pertaining to purchase, sale, or encumbering of Parish property, in which case a quorum of members shall be required. A written notice if this meeting, which shall include the agenda shall be mailed at least seven (7) days before the meeting to all members.
 - d. It shall be called to order by the president of the Parish Council who will declare the meeting open for the transaction of business, preside over it and close the same.
 - e. The secretary shall read the minutes of the previous meeting, which shall be corrected or approved as read.
 - f. It shall take up and dispose of any old business which has not been disposed of at the previous meeting and any new business brought before it by any of the members.
 - g. It shall elect such representatives as may be required to represent the parish from time to time and provide them with appropriate credentials and financial assistance as determined by the general assembly.
 - h. All power and authority not delegated to the Parish Council shall reside with the assembly.



ARTICLE XIX DISSOLUTION OF THE PARISH

- 1. Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of Cumberland County, New Jersey, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.
- 2. When it is determined by the Parish Council that the parish is incapable of supporting itself and wishes to be dissolved, a General Assembly of the members of the parish shall be called and if three-fourths (3/4) of the existing members in good standing confirm such determination, the Archdiocese shall dissolve the parish and dispose of its property in the manner provided for in Article VI of these by-laws.

ARTICLE XX REVISION & AMEMDMENT OF CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

In order to revise or amend this Constitution and By-Laws the following shall be done:

- **1.** A copy of the proposed amendments and revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be formally submitted in writing to the secretary of the Parish.
- 2. The secretary of the Parish Council shall call a special Constitutional Meeting within sixty (60) days of receiving the revisions.
- 3. The secretary shall send a copy of all proposed amendments and notice of the Constitutional Meeting to the membership of the parish at least ten (10) days prior to the day of the meeting.
- 4. At the Constitutional and By-Laws Meeting the questions will be resolved by two thirds (2/3) majority of the members attending and voting. The general rules governing assemblies will prevail except that the quorum for a Constitutional Meeting shall be not less than twenty-five per cent (25%) of the total eligible members entitled to vote at the previous election.
- 5. Any technical errors, clerical mistakes or similar errors not in conflict with this Constitution shall be corrected by vote of the general assembly



within one year after the adoption of this Constitution and By-Laws by a majority vote.

6. This Constitution and By-Laws shall take effect upon full approval of the General Assembly

ARTICLE XXI CONCERNING ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY

The community recognizes the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Archdiocese, being adherent to the faith, worship, canons, dogma and teachings of the Greek Orthodox Church, but in local and layman matters it (the Community) shall remain independent and self-governed under the guardianship of the Archdiocese Patriarchate.

ARTICLE XXII PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Questions of parliamentary law, not herein expressly provided for shall be determined according to Robert's Rules of Parliamentary procedure.

