



C.O.C.A.

Christian Orthodox Council of Akron

Annunciation
Archangel Michael
Presentation
St. Demetrius
St. Elia

St. George
St. Mary
St. Nicholas
St. Thomas
St. Herman

STANDING RULES

I. ANNUAL AFFAIRS

- a. Council and Orthodox Christian Women may have an installation dinner annually, date and site to be determined by Council.
- b. Council may have a combined Orthodox service on the Sunday of Orthodoxy. The net proceeds from this service shall be divided with the Orthodox Clergy Association, the Council, and Orthodox Christian Women.
- c. Council may sponsor an annual picnic.
- d. Council may sponsor an annual dance.
- e. Council may sponsor an annual charity event.

II. TREASURY

- a. Council Treasurer shall deposit all monies into the Council checking account and disburse checks designated by Council.
- b. Council may designate surplus funds to be invested, i.e., CD's, Money Market Funds, etc.

III. PUBLICITY

- a. Council shall pay for the cost of a newspaper ad for Eastern Orthodox Easter, and any ads or information on Eastern Christian Orthodoxy.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Council to offer condolences in any determined manner upon the death of a clergyman, members of Council, and others as determined by Council, the cost not to exceed \$100.00.

Revised: 9/2023

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX COUNCIL OF AKRON

Article 1 Name and Objects

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Christian Orthodox Council of Akron.

Section 2: The objects of the Council shall be:

- a. To promote religious, social, physical, civic, educational, moral, and recreational instructions for its members and their families and conduct the same according to the teachings of the Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Holy Canons, traditions and regulations of the Holy Eastern Orthodox Church.
- b. To provide, promote and advance closer fellowship among members of the Eastern Orthodox Churches of the greater Akron area.
- c. To study and render assistance toward the solution of any problems of mutual interest of the member churches.
- d. To establish and publish dates of religious and social events of the various churches and to render support to said events.
- e. To assist our priest by encouraging regular and greater church attendance and to promote joint Eastern Orthodox services on various appropriate dates.
- f. To receive, hold and disburse gifts, bequests, and funds arising from all sources.

Article II Powers

Section 1: If requested, Council shall be in an advisory capacity to its member churches rendering suggestions and recommendations.

Article III Revenue

Section 1: The revenue of this organization shall consist of monies from projects, sources, or activities approved by Council.

Article IV Delegates or Representatives

Section 1: Each member parish shall be entitled to four (4) lay delegates or representatives and a Parish Priest for each Council meeting.

Section 2: Any Council member that fails to conform to the Constitution and By-Laws may have his/her membership revoked or suspended by unanimous action of the other members of the Council.

Section 3: The presence of delegates from at least four (4) member parishes shall constitute a quorum.

Article V Election of Officers

Section 1: The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee thirty (30) days prior to the meeting designated for election of officers.

Section 2: A slate of candidates for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be presented. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the designated election meeting.

Section 3: Voting shall be by ballot or any method as determined by Council. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for the election of officers.

Section 4: An officer is elected for a term of one (1) year.

Article VI Officers

Section 1: The officers of the Council shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and shall be members of the Executive Board.

Section 2: Each officer shall be an active member in good standing in their respective parish.

Article VII Duties of Officers

Section 1: President- The President shall preside at all meetings of the Council and Executive Board; shall be the Chief Executive Officer exercising general supervision of the work and activities of the Council.

Section 2: Vice President- The Vice President, in the event of the inability of the President to perform the duties of the office, shall assume the duties of the President. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Board or Council.

Section 3: Secretary- The Secretary shall record the conduct of the business affairs of the Council and perform such duties as are specified by the Executive Board and Council.

Section 4: Treasurer- The Treasurer shall receive all funds of the Council, shall deposit them in the official depositories, and shall disburse same by order of Council. The accounts and books shall at all times be open to inspection by Council, Executive Board or auditors appointed by Council. The Treasurer shall report to Council at all meetings; the Treasurer shall be bonded.

Article VIII Vacancies of Offices

Section 1: In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall become President for the unexpired term.

Section 2: In the event of a vacancy of Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, the Council shall elect a qualified member delegate of the Council to the vacant office.

Article IX Executive Board

Section 1: There shall be an Executive Board composed of the Spiritual Advisor, President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall have full administrative authority in all matters involving the Council.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall meet at such times and place as determined by Executive Board action or by the President.

Section 3: Four (4) members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4: In the event of a need for emergency monies, there will be a \$250.00 limitation with the approval of the Executive Board.

Article X Spiritual Advisor

Section 1: The Spiritual Advisor of the Council shall be designated to be one of the priests belonging to the Akron Orthodoxy Clergy Association. Appointment of the Spiritual Advisor will be made by the Clergy Association.

Article XI Meetings

Section 1: There shall be monthly meetings from September to June and special meetings as determined by the Executive Board or a majority of Council members. The annual planning meeting shall be held in the month of May. The meetings shall be held at such time and place as determined by Council.

Section 2: At any Council meeting, delegates from each member parish shall be entitled to one (1) individual voting privilege per delegate.

Article XII Committees

Section 1: Special committees shall be appointed by the President whenever it may be deemed necessary or advisable by a majority of the Executive Board or by direction of the Council.

Article XIII Finances and Accounting

Section 1: The fiscal year of the Council shall begin on June 1 each year.

Section 2: The Treasurer shall install and insure the maintenance of an efficient system of accounting.

Section 3: All disbursements shall be made solely by voucher checks, which shall show the payees, service rendered or material purchased and the amount of payment. All voucher checks shall be signed by any two (2) of the four (4) Executive Officers.

Article XIV Audits

Section 1: The Executive Board shall provide for the audit of the books of account at least once each year or as the Board deems necessary. The annual audit shall be done before June 1st.

Section 2: For the June meeting, the auditing committee shall provide an auditor's financial report of the receipts and expenditures for the previous fiscal year.

Article XV Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

- Section 1: Bylaws consistent with the Constitution shall be enacted and may be amended from time to time as provided in Section 3 of this Article or, in an emergency, at a meeting of the Council by a unanimous vote of the delegates and priests of member churches present and voting.
- Section 2: Proposed amendments to the Bylaws to be voted upon at a meeting shall be received by the Secretary at least Thirty (30) days prior to such meeting, except as set forth in Section 1 of this Article.
- Section 3: The Secretary shall send a copy of all proposed amendments to the Council Members, not later than thirty (30) days prior to the day of the meeting.
- Section 4: An amendment may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates and priests of member churches present and voting.

Article XVI Dissolution of Council

- Section 1: Dissolution of this Council shall be by a unanimous vote of its members. The time of dissolution shall not be prior to one (1) year from the vote to dissolve Council.
- Section 2: Any individual church seceding from the Council, in writing, shall waive any and all claims and rights to funds held by the Council.
- Section 3: Said Council is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions or organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
- Section 4: No part of the net earnings of the Council shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons. Except that the said Council 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 Section 3 hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Council shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation 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 these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Also, (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 5: Upon the dissolution of the Council, the Executive Board shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all liabilities of the Council, dispose of all assets of the Council in such manner, or to such organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Executive Board shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by making some donations to other qualifying Section 501 (c) (3) Organizations as determined by the majority vote of the Council.

Article XVII Parliamentary Authority

Section 1: “Roberts Rules of Order” (latest edition) shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the guideline of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Council.