



ORTHODOX CHURCH OF AMERICA - УАОС
(Tomos of 1924)

APC – Apostolic Orthodox Church

Vocations – Ministry of Service
Formal Application

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY)



I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name _____
LAST FIRST: BAPTIZED (GIVEN) MIDDLE

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Citizenship _____ NOTE: If naturalized USA or Canadian citizen, please give date and court of naturalization (or Citizen of what other Country) _____

Please attach to this application, **copies of the following documents**. Information regarding several of these areas will be asked in the following sections. If you cannot provide any of the requested documents, please provide an explanation on Page 4 or on a separate paper attached to this application:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Birth Certificate | Spouse’s Baptismal Certificate (if married) |
| Baptismal/Chrismation Certificate | Children’s Baptismal Certificates |
| Marriage Certificate | Spouse’s Letter of Support (if married) |
| Copy of Divorce Decree (if applicable) | Military Discharge (if applicable) |
| A list of parish memberships/jurisdictions throughout your lifetime | Certificates of Ordinations (from Orthodox & non-Orthodox Denominations) (list Ecclesiastical Honours/Distinctions) |
| Current parish/jurisdiction membership and Priest’s and/or Hierarch’s name | Resume of secular work/Church experience (minimum last ten years) – if Retired or Disabled please give all particulars |
| Copies of records/transcripts of high school, college and graduate education (list any achievements in school) | Record of health examination completed within the last year signed by your doctor |
| Driver License and Social Security Card | |

Please have the following **letters of recommendation** included in this application or sent in separately:

- Your current Hierarch or Parish Priest (if possible) – and/or “Letter of Dismissal” (if applicable)
- Another Clergyman (Orthodox or non-Orthodox) who personally knows you
- Three (3) friends or relatives who have know you for at least three (3) years
- Your current/or past employer, manager or supervisor (from secular employment)
- One other person of your choosing who has known you for more than ten (10) years
- (Optional) A person within another non-Orthodox church to which you have belonged

Please include a brief personal history of your life within (or outside) the Church. In particular, describe what leads you NOW to apply for service and any aspirations or goals you may have that are leading you to request and fulfill Holy Orders or Monastic Vocation within the Church. **Complete the “MY PERSONAL HISTORY” on Page 6.**

II. EDUCATION

SCHOOL NAME:

YEARS ATTENDED

DEGREE RECEIVED

High School _____

Undergraduate _____

Post-Graduate _____

Theological _____

Languages (indicate primary) _____

V. HEALTH

Do you have any physical disability or illness which might prevent you from working or fulfilling your ministry of service within the Church? Yes No If "Yes," please describe on Page 4.

Are you currently taking medications regularly? Yes No If "Yes," please name the medication(s)

Do you have a history of chemical abuse? Yes No If "Yes," please describe on Page 4.

Do you have a history of psychological/mental illness? Yes No If "Yes," describe on Page 4.

III. MARITAL STATUS

MARRIED

CELIBATE

DIVORCED

WIDOWED

MONASTIC

If married, is this your first marriage? Yes No

Have you ever contracted a civil marriage? Yes No If "Yes," explain:

If divorced, explain:

Spouse name _____ Is this their first marriage? Yes No If "No," explain:

Spouse birth date _____ Place _____

IV. MILITARY STATUS

Have you ever served in the Armed Forces? Yes No

Present classification _____

Country _____ Branch _____ Years _____

Rank _____ Discharged _____

VI. EMPLOYMENT AND PERSONAL HISTORY

NB: The resume included with the application should also note any and all professional certifications and associations you have or belong to.

Have you ever been detained, held, indicted, or summoned into court as a defendant in a proceeding? Yes No
If "Yes," list the nature of the offense or violation, the name and location of the court or place of hearing, and the penalty imposed or other disposition of each case on Page 4 or on a separate page attached to the application.

Have you failed a criminal background check? Yes No If "Yes," explain on Page 4.

Are you now, or have you ever been, a member of any Masonic or secret organization? Yes No If "Yes," explain on Page 4 or on a separate page attached to the application.

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No If "Yes," explain on Page 4 or on a separate page.
(PLEASE NOTE: being convicted of a crime DOES NOT always exclude an applicant from Clerical Orders)

VII. ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

If you have been ordained to any type of clerical orders (Bishop, Priest, Deacon, Deaconess, Sub-deacon, Pastor, Minister, member of a Religious Order, etc.) please fill in the appropriate blanks below.

Sub-Diaconate (date) ____/____/____ Place _____

Bishop / Superior _____

Jurisdiction _____

Assignment _____

Diaconate (date) ____/____/____ Place _____

Bishop / Superior _____

Jurisdiction _____

Assignment _____

Priesthood / Pastor / Minister (date) ____/____/____ Place _____

Bishop / Superior _____

Jurisdiction _____

Assignment _____

Monastic Vows (date) ____/____/____ Place _____

Ecclesiastical Rank(s) _____

Monastery _____

Other Orders (date) ____/____/____ Place _____

Have you ever transferred from one jurisdiction/denomination to another? Yes No If "Yes," please explain the circumstances and reasons for each transfer on Page 4 or on a separate page attached to this application.

Have you ever held any offices (including teaching positions) within a Church? Yes No

Office _____ Date _____ Place _____

What position(s) do you presently hold within your parish/jurisdiction? (if applicable) _____

VIII. ADDITIONAL UNDERSTANDINGS AND AGREEMENTS

I understand & accept that my submitted application for **Vocations – Ministry of Service** in no way implies or guarantees that I will eventually be ordained to any rank in the Orthodox Church of America. The discretion to ordain lies solely within the competence of the Metropolitan and/or Hierarchs of the Church.

Your signature: _____

I understand & accept that, if I am ordained, there is no guarantee that I will be assigned to my present Parish (if currently serving in a specific parish) or that I will always remain assigned to my present parish. My well-being, the well-being of my parish, and/or the well-being of the Church may dictate that I serve elsewhere. The responsibility to assign clergy rests with the Metropolitan and/or Hierarch.

Your signature: _____

I understand & accept that, if I am ordained a Sub-Deacon/Deacon/Deaconess, I may not be eligible for subsequent ordination to the Diaconate/Priesthood – or – if I am ordained a Priest, I may not be eligible to subsequently be elected and/or consecrated as a Bishop. My education and training may not be considered adequate for Priestly formation and ministry or to the Hierarchy, and if I desire Priestly ordination, I must fulfill all the requirements necessary for Priestly ordination as the Metropolitan and/or Hierarch instructs me to do.

Your signature: _____

I understand & accept that serving as a Bishop, Priest, Deacon/Deaconess, Sub-Deacon or Member of a Monastic Religious Order in a parish of the Orthodox Church of America, it **may not** be a paid position, and that I am offering my services to the Church and to my local parish *gratis*. I am not seeking ordination for any financial consideration whatsoever. No promises have been made to me regarding remuneration or position in the Church.

Your signature: _____

I understand that the Orthodox Church of America follows the strict Apostolic Doctrine of the Early Undivided Church of the Seven Ecumenical Councils. Men and Women may be admitted to the Holy Diaconate and Men **only** may be admitted to the Sacred Priesthood. Marriage is **NOT** an impediment to Holy Orders.

Your signature: _____

Attestation and Confirmation of Applicant

Country of _____

State/Province of _____

County/City of _____

BEFORE ME, A NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR SAID STATE/PROVINCE, PERSONALLY APPEARED _____,

WHO BEING DULY SWORN, CERTIFIES THAT THE FACTS AND INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN THIS FORMAL APPLICATION FOR MINISTRY OF SERVICE – VOCATIONS, TO THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF AMERICA, IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF THE APPLICANT'S KNOWLEDGE.

Applicant's Signature _____

(Printed Name) _____

SWORN TO BEFORE ME AND SIGNED IN MY PRESENCE THIS _____ DAY OF _____

IN THE YEAR OF OUR BLESSED LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST _____.

(Notary Public) PRINTED NAME & ADDRESS OF NOTARY:

(Official Seal Affixed Here)

There is a one time *non-refundable* registration fee of \$35.00 USD to cover administrative printing costs and postage. This should be submitted, along with the completed application, to the Vocations Director in the form of a check or Money Order made payable to the *Orthodox Church of America*.

PLEASE COMPLETE & PRINT APPLICATION – MUST HAVE YOUR ORIGINAL SIGNATURE ~ AND ~ BE MUST BE CERTIFIED BY A NOTARY Return by *Certified Mail* to:

Vocations Department
Orthodox Church of America
P.O. Box 687
New Albany, Ohio 43054
USA

614-352-7918