

ST SERAPHIM ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

2012 MEMBERSHIP FORM

General Contact Information

Name: _____ Email _____ Cell phone _____
Spouse: _____ Email _____ Cell Phone _____
Is Spouse Orthodox: Yes ___ No ___ Birthday _____ Spouse Birthday _____
Address: _____ City: _____ St. _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Wedding Anniversary _____

Family Information *(Use back of form for additional children)*

Children

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

If a New Member *(Joined parish in the last year)* Previous Church Membership

Name of Church _____

City _____ St. _____

Financial Commitment to St Seraphim Cathedral

I am willing, God being my helper, to offer the first part of my income to the work of the Lord as a member of St Seraphim Cathedral. The standard of giving is the Tithe, the first 10% of my income to God. I will do my best to meet this standard of Christian giving. If I am unable to offer my Tithe, I will do my best to be a regular, generous, and cheerful giver to the Lord and St Seraphim Cathedral.

Spiritual Commitment to St Seraphim Cathedral

I am willing, God being my helper, to offer my daily prayers to the Lord, to pray for my brothers and sisters in Christ, and to pray for those who have no one to pray for them. I will participate in the liturgical life of the Cathedral, make the Sacraments of Holy Confession and Communion a regular part of my spiritual life and prepare properly to receive these Holy Mysteries frequently.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return in envelope provided and put into the candle desk slot.

**Membership in the Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of the South
St Seraphim Cathedral**

Definition of Membership of a Parishioner from the Uniform Parish Bylaws of the Diocese of the South

Article III

Membership

Section 1 Definition. Members of the Parish are those persons who:

- (a) have been baptized and chrismated, or otherwise canonically received, into the Church and who consciously uphold and profess the Orthodox Faith;
- (b) are regular communicants, that is, frequent participants in the Holy Mysteries of Confession and Communion. Members ideally partake of the Mysteries weekly, but in any case, no one can be a member of the Parish who fails to comply with this obligation at least once a year;
- (c) fulfill the financial obligations established by the Parish. All members are urged to make a yearly commitment for financial support of the Parish in the form of a pledge, the standard of which is a tithe (one-tenth) of their income; and
- (d) declare their intention to be members.

Section 2 Purposes of Membership .

Privileges and Obligations of Members. Following the Tradition of the Church, the purpose of membership in the Parish is to seek the knowledge of God and union with Him through Jesus Christ by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and to express that unity with God in Christ in all family, business, and social activities. Generally, this expression consists of an enlightened obedience to the teachings of the Orthodox Faith, and is manifested in regular attendance at the Parish's divine services, in frequent reception of the Holy Gifts of the Body and Blood of Christ, in regular cleansing of the soul through Confession, in care for the Parish property and buildings, in regular contributions in fulfillment of their financial commitment, and in doing everything possible to promote the Christian spirit of love, unity, and brotherly concern among the members of the Parish.

Section 3 New Members .

Any person who desires to become a member of the Parish and who is baptized and chrismated, or otherwise canonically received, into the Orthodox Church, must present himself to the rector or the priest-in-charge, who will inform him of the life and activities of the Parish.

When that person shall have received the Holy Mysteries of Confession and Communion, he shall then declare his intention to become a member of the Parish by means of a written declaration which the Parish shall provide for this purpose, and he shall then be accepted as a member and enrolled by the pastor and Parish secretary on the list of members.

Any person desiring to enter the Holy Orthodox Church and membership in the parish who is not baptized and chrismated or otherwise canonically received shall present himself to the rector or priest-in-charge to be instructed and received in accord with the Tradition and practice of the Holy Orthodox Church and the directives of the Diocesan Bishop.