

AMERICAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
Office of the Metropolitan-Primate

4806 - A Talina Way  
Houston, TX 77041

Whether you are a deacon, deaconess, or priest who is coming to us for incardination from another jurisdiction or you are seeking to begin your ministerial priesthood with us, we ask all applicants to complete this form for our records.

All applicants must have completed a bachelor's degree or it's equivalent from an accredited school. Official transcripts of each undergraduate and graduate school must be submitted.

The applicant must have at least 18 credits of undergraduate philosophy/religious studies.

All applicants are to be willing to complete Theological studies at an accredited theological school.

Application is to be completed and signed.

Include a statement of Goals and Objectives.

Include brief autobiographical information giving the genesis of commitment to ministerial life.

Applicants must provide at least 3 recommendations on forms provided by us. The recommendations attest to the candidate's religious, moral and intellectual qualifications for ministry. If the candidate is married or in relationship, one additional recommendation should also come from this individual to confirm their acceptance of the decision of the candidate. Complete the top half of the recommendation forms and return them to the bishop's office.

An interview should be arranged, preferably in person, or on telephone with the bishop after the completion of the application.

Two recent wallet-size photographs of the applicant should also be included.

A fee of \$25.00 should also accompany the application.

# The American Orthodox Church

Office of the Metropolitan- Primate  
4806-A Talina Way  
Houston, TX 77041

## Application for Holy Orders

### Personal History

(Please type or print your responses!)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a U.S. Citizen: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Church Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Church affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Ordinations, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Official Positions of Church Leadership Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Name four to six books, excluding Scripture, which have had the greatest influence on you

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

Name four to six people, present or past who have had the greatest influence on you

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

### On a separate sheet of paper:

Briefly state your most deeply held religious and philosophical convictions.

List any humanitarian and/or spiritual project of humanitarian concern in which you have participated, stating what role you played in the project(s).

What do you consider to be the primary function of the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you consider to be the greatest challenge to religion in our time? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your chief motivation for seeking a life in Holy Orders? (You may answer on an additional sheet of paper). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Personal Information**

I have the following health challenges: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Emotional Challenges \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Personal Weaknesses \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Habits or addictions that might interfere with a life in the Priesthood? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have/have not been convicted of any crime.

I have/have not declared bankruptcy.

List any significant professional or career related experiences:

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list, in chronological order, any colleges and universities attended. Also, please arrange to have a transcript of your attendance sent to us:

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently married or in relationship? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your partner agree with your choice to apply to this ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

*(Your partner will also be asked to complete a Recommendation Form.)*

### Sacramental Status

To assure the validity of your potential priesthood, you must first have received the two sacramental initiations of Baptism and Confirmation (Chrismation) in a church of verifiable Apostolic Succession (Roman Catholic, Greek or other Orthodox, Anglican, Old Catholic etc.)

If you have been so baptized an/or confirmed, please complete the following as fully as possible:

Baptized (Date) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Church at  
\_\_\_\_\_(City, state) by \_\_\_\_\_ (Priest)

Confirmed (Date) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Church at  
\_\_\_\_\_(City, state) by \_\_\_\_\_ (Officiating Bishop)

If you have not been baptized and/or confirmed in a Catholic or Orthodox Church, please complete the following:

- I have never been baptized and now wish to be
- I have never been confirmed and now wish to be.
- I was baptized in \_\_\_\_\_ (Denomination) but to insure the validity of any Holy Orders I may receive, I wish to be prepared for conditional Baptism.
- I was confirmed in \_\_\_\_\_ (Denomination) but to insure the validity of any Holy Orders I may receive, I wish to be prepared for conditional Confirmation.

**HERE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD** and in the integrity of my Soul, I solemnly affirm the truthfulness of the information given in this Application.

**I FURTHER VOW TO REFRAIN** from supporting by thought, word, or deed any and all practices of spiritual domineering (sometimes called mental malpractice or black magic; any effort to control the thoughts or behavior of another by mental or psychic means), fetal abortion and the use of illegal mind-altering drugs and abuse of legal drugs.

**I HEREBY AUTHORIZE** the verification of any and all information contained within this application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT OUT AS MANY COPIES AS PER DIRECTIONS IN PAGE 1

American Orthodox Church  
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Recommendation Form

**Applicants:** Your name should be listed as it appears on your application form. Return this form with your application, we will mail this form to the recommender designated below. Please type or print clearly.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommender's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**To be read by applicant and recommender:**

The recommendation returned to the bishop is kept in strict confidence and is never made available to the applicant. If you, as a recommender, choose to allow the applicant to see your responses, you are free to send him/her a copy of your reply. By signing this letter, the applicant give his/her authorization to the completion of this recommendation.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**To be completed by recommender:**

We are considering the above named applicant for admission to our program in ministry. We are interested in his/her general character, stability and preparation for ministry. Compare this person to others you may know in this field. Please reply within 10 days.

Why would you recommend/not recommend this person for ministry in our church community?

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I have known this person for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

In what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_

	Outstanding	Excellent	Average	Below Avg.	Poor
Ability to listen to a person's needs.					
Ability to discern an appropriate response to a need.					
Ability to let a person grow as opposed to expecting a certain response.					
Ability to work as a team member in a ministry situation.					
Ability to grow and willingness to learn.					
Ability to set priorities in personal life as well as in ministry.					
Ability to assume leadership roles.					
Ability to understand and cooperate with Church authority.					
Breadth of general knowledge.					
English language ability: Oral communication					
Reading level					
Writing level					
Other Comments:					

Recommender's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for providing this information.

Please mail this form directly to:

The Most Rev. George Michael Jachimczyk  
American Orthodox Church  
4806-A Talina Way  
Houston, TX 77041