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CONSTITUTION

of the Parish of the INTERCESSION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN
of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church
in Strathfield West, New South Wales

INTERPRETATION

In this Constitution, unless specifically stated to the contrary, the following words and expressions shall have the respective meanings hereinafter assigned to them, that is to say :

- a. "The Church" shall mean the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church, abbreviated UAOC;
- b. "The Diocese" shall mean the Diocese of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church in Australia and New Zealand (abbreviated UAOC);
- c. "The Governing Bishop" shall mean the Governing Bishop of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church in Australia and New Zealand;
- d. "The Consistory" shall mean the executive body of the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church in Australia and New Zealand;
- e. "The Governing Authorities of the Diocese" shall mean the Consistory, the Diocesan Council and the Diocesan Synod of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church in Australia and New Zealand;
- f. "The Parish" shall mean the Parish of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church in Australia, Sydney, New South Wales;
- g. "The Brotherhood and Sisterhood" shall mean a church organisation of parishioners which functions under the supervision of the Parish Priest.

INTRODUCTION

The faithful united in the Parish for the glory of the Holy Consubstantial and indivisible Trinity with the blessing of The Lord adopt this CONSTITUTION for the purpose of:

- a. study of the Holy Scriptures and the Commandments of Jesus Christ;
- b. study, preservation and practising of the traditions and customs of the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church;
- c. endeavouring to adopt the spiritual and moral guidance of the teachings of Christ and Christian morals;
- d. joint confession and dissemination of the faith; and
- e. carrying out religious educational and charitable functions in conformity with any laws existing in Australia regarding religious denominations and to administer the parishes property and assests.

1. NAME

1. This Parish shall be known to Church and civil authorities under the name of "The Parish of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church in Sydney, New South Wales" Short title: The Parish of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin UAOC in Sydney.

2. The Parish shall function in the metropolitan area of Sydney in the State of New South Wales.

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

3. The Parish is a constituent part of the Australian and New Zealand Diocese of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church. This jurisdictional status and the complete ecclesiastical and religious subordination may not be altered without the consent in writing of the Governing Bishop and of the Governing Authorities of the Diocese.
4. In all religious and ecclesiastical matters the Parish is subordinate to the Governing Bishop of the Diocese. In economic matters and matters of internal administration the Parish, whilst observing all requirements of the Diocesan Constitution, has the right of independent action subject to this Constitution.
5. The Parish Priest is the ecclesiastical guardian and counsellor of the Parish.
6. For the purpose of administration the Parish shall elect at the General Meeting of the Parish Members a Parish Council which shall act in accordance with this Constitution and the directives of the Diocesan Council.
7. The Parish shall maintain the Parish Church and ensure its proper arrangement in accordance with the ecclesiastical orthodox rite and Ukrainian traditions; shall maintain the Parish Clergy (Priest and Deacon), the psalmodist, the precentor-conductor, and assist them in the performance of their assigned ecclesiastical duties; shall maintain the church choir, parish school; shall render assistance to the needy in the first place its own members; arrange lectures and presentations on religious topics, and also concerts of ecclesiastical music.
8. The Holy Orthodox Church of the Parish shall be used for the purpose of joint prayers, performance of religious rites, and for the preaching of the Word of God in accordance with the rules of the Holy Apostolic Orthodox Church. It may not be used for any other non-ecclesiastical purpose.
9. The Parish Church may not be sold, transferred to another church institution, closed down, or designated for demolition, except with the permission of not less than three quarters of the total number of the financial members of the Parish and the permission of the Governing Bishop in office at that time and the Governing Authorities of the Diocese.

3. MEMBERSHIP

10. All orthodox Ukrainians, 18 years of age or older, may become members of the Parish provided they declare in writing their wish to become parish members, to abide by the Parish Constitution, to accept the obligation to support the Parish materially, to fulfil Christian obligations (regularly attend Divine Services, go to confession and receive Holy Communion at least once a year), and to participate in the ecclesiastical parish life. Minors are sponsored by their parents or guardians.
11. Admission of new members is decided by a Meeting of the Parish Council in concurrence with the Parish Priest. The names of the new parish members and the names of the members of their families shall be entered by the Parish Council in the Register of the Parish Members. Members of the Parish are those faithful whose names are listed in the Register of the Parish Members.
12. Parish members shall pay annual membership fees and may vote at any Parish Meeting and stand for election to any parish office provided they are not in arrears with the parish membership fees (i.e. are fully paid up). The amount of the membership fees and the due

date are determined by the Parish General Meeting. Minors up to 18 years of age pay no membership fees.

13. Every Parish Member has the right to leave the Parish by submitting to the Parish Council a written declaration to that effect.
14. Persons who have resigned their parish membership voluntarily or who were expelled from the Parish shall forfeit all rights and privileges of parish membership and all rights to any parish property. They shall have no right whatsoever for the refund of any moneys paid by them as membership fees or any donations.
15. A Parish Member who has been found guilty by the Parish Council of a violation of this Constitution, or of failing to meet the obligations of an orthodox Christian, or of causing by his actions harm to the Parish and the Church may be expelled from Parish Membership by the resolution of the Parish Council.
16. A resolution to expel a Parish Member must be confirmed by the General Parish Meeting. The expelled Parish member has the right to attend Divine Services, to perform religious rites and to receive Holy Sacraments. The expelled member shall have the right of appeal to the Governing Bishop and the Governing Authorities of the Diocese, whose decision shall be final.
17. Any Parish Member whose membership fees are in arrears for more than two years shall automatically forfeit his membership. On payment of all outstanding membership fees the member's rights are restored by the resolution of the Parish Council.

4. GENERAL PARISH MEETING

18. The General Meeting of the financial Parish Members is the highest governing body of the Parish.
19. General Meeting may be:
 - a. Annual General Parish Meeting; and
 - b. Extraordinary General Parish Meeting
20. The Annual General Parish Meeting shall be held once a year not later than three months after the end of the financial year of the Parish. One half or more of all financial Parish Members shall constitute a quorum at any Parish Meeting. If there is no quorum at the appointed time the Meeting shall be adjourned for one hour after which time those financial Parish Members who are present at the Meeting shall constitute a quorum and the Meeting shall have the authority to deal with all matters other than those covered by paragraphs 9 and 102.
21. The Annual General Parish Meeting shall be convened by the Parish Council with the concurrence of the Parish Priest. The Parish Council shall notify the Parish Members of the venue, date, time, and the agenda of the General Parish Meeting at least thirty (30) days in advance. All financial Parish Members shall be notified personally in writing. It is desirable to announce the date, time, and venue of the General Parish Meeting in Ukrainian press.
22. The Annual General Parish Meeting shall be declared open by the Parish Priest or, on his directive, by the Chairman of the Parish Council or other member of the Parish Council. In special cases the Parish Meeting may be declared open by a representative of the Governing Bishop or of the Governing Authorities of the Diocese.

23. The Annual General Parish Meeting shall commence and conclude with a prayer recited by a priest or, in the absence of a priest, by a person declaring the Meeting open or the chair person of the Meeting.

24. The General Parish Meeting elects a Presidium to preside over the Meeting, comprising a chair person and two minute secretaries. The Parish Priest shall be the Honorary Chairman of the Parish Meeting. The minutes of the Parish Meeting are recorded in Ukrainian.

25. The General Parish Meeting shall carry all resolutions by a simple majority of votes in a show of hands or a secret ballot. Each financial Parish Member has one vote. Proxy votes are not allowed.

26. The Parish Meeting shall be conducted in accordance with the accepted practice in the conduct of meetings.

27. Members of the Presidium of a Parish Meeting may take part in the deliberations and are entitled to vote. In the event of a deadlock where voting is equal the Chair Person shall have a second or casting vote.

28. Only the financial Parish Members shall have the right to attend a General Parish Meeting. Other persons may attend a General Parish Meeting with the approval of a simple majority of the present financial Parish Members. Any such persons admitted to the Meeting may take part in the deliberations of the Meeting but he or she shall have no vote.

29. The Annual General Parish Meeting shall:

- a. receive, discuss, and confirm (or approve) the reports of the Parish Council and the committees (if any committees are functioning within the Parish) for the past financial year of the Parish;
- b. discuss and resolve all important parish matters;
- c. elect when necessary the candidate of the Parish Priest or a candidate for priesthood;
- d. elect the Parish Council, the Supervisory Board, the church warden, and the deputy church warden;
- e. elect committees as required;
- f. discuss and approve the annual parish budget;

and determine the amount of annual membership fees.

30. The Annual General Parish Meeting may consider matters which were not included in the agenda but have arisen in the course of the Meeting and require resolution by the Meeting.

31. All resolutions carried by a General Parish Meeting shall be read back and recorded in the minutes of the meeting before the conclusion of the meeting.

32. A report on the Annual General Parish Meeting and the minutes of the Meeting signed by the chair person and the secretaries of the Presidium, and the Parish Priest shall be submitted to the Governing Authorities of the Diocese not later than four weeks after the Meeting. If the Governing Authorities of the Diocese refuse on certain grounds to confirm the General Meeting, then a second General Parish Meeting shall be convened to consider and remove the grounds for refusal of confirmation of the preceding General Parish Meeting.

33. The Extraordinary General Parish Meeting shall be convened when the need arises.

34. The Extraordinary General Parish Meeting shall be convened in any of the following circumstances:

- a. when so resolved by the Parish Council;
- b. when required by the Parish Priest;

- c. when required by the Supervisory Board;
- d. when directed by the Governing Bishop or by the Governing Authorities of the Diocese; and
- e. when requested in writing by not less than two thirds of all financial Parish Members.

The Extraordinary General Parish Meeting shall be convened and conducted in the same manner as the Annual General Parish Meeting. The Extraordinary General Parish Meeting may deal only with matters for which it was convened.

- 35. The minutes of the Extraordinary General Parish Meeting shall be submitted to the Governing Authorities of the Diocese for information and confirmation.

5. PARISH PRIEST AND CLERGY

- 36. The office of the Parish Priest may be held only by a priest of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church appointed by the Governing Bishop on the recommendation of the Diocesan Council with the concurrence of the Parish Council. The Parish may recommend, through the Parish Council, a candidate for the Parish Priest, however, the final decision in this matter rests with the Governing Bishop in concurrence with the Diocesan Council.
- 37. The Parish Priest shall be the Honorary Chairman of the Parish Council and the first counsellor of the Parish in all ecclesiastical matters, and as such he participates in all meetings of the Parish Council and General Parish Meetings. If it is the wish of the General Parish Meeting, the Parish Priest may be elected the Chairman of the Parish Council.
- 38. In matters of canons and his pastoral duties the Parish Priest shall be subordinate to the Governing Bishop and the Diocesan Council and shall submit to them report on his work.
- 39. The duties of the Parish Priest shall include:
 - a. to celebrate regularly the Divine Services and to administer the Holy Sacraments to the faithful in accordance with the Dogmas, Canons, rites, and traditions of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church;
 - b. to enlighten, counsel, comfort, and visit members of the Parish;
 - c. to oversee all cultural and educational activities within the Parish and the upbringing of the young people on the basis of Christian morality;
 - d. to maintain the Parish Register of Births, Marriages, and Deaths of the Parish Members, and the Parish Chronicle;
 - e. to direct the work of the Parish clergy and of the church assistants;
 - f. to maintain a register of confessants; and
 - g. to represent the Parish before the ecclesiastical and civil authorities.
- 40. Any disagreements between the Parish Priest and the Parish Council or the Parish Members, which cannot be resolved within the Parish, shall be referred for a decision to the Governing Bishop or the Governing Authorities of the Diocese. Their decision in the matters in dispute shall be binding on both parties involved in the disagreement. An appeal against such decisions may be made to the Diocesan Synod whose decisions shall be final.
- 41. The responsibilities of the Parish Members towards the Parish Priest are as follows :
 - a. to defer to him as their spiritual pastor and counsellor; and
 - b. to assist him in performance of his pastoral duties.

6. PARISH COUNCIL

- 42. The executive body of the Parish shall be the Parish Council elected from the Parish Members by the General Parish Meeting. Every person elected to the Parish Council must be aware of

and conscientiously carry out their duties, be known for their dedicated work within the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church, be devout and moral, be a regular participant of Divine Services, have unblemished reputation, and enjoy the respect and trust of the Parish Members.

43. The Parish Council shall consist of nine members (male and female) and two reserve members as follows:
- a. Chairman
 - b. Deputy Chairman
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Property Manager
 - f. Public Officer
 - g. Two Members and two reserve members.

The General Parish Meeting separately elects the Chairman of the Parish Council and then the remaining eight Members of the Parish Council and two reserve members. The Church Warden and Deputy Church Warden also are elected separately. The Church Warden is a Member of the Parish Council with full voting rights.

44. To facilitate the co-operation and co-ordination of activities of the Parish chair persons of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood shall be ex-officio members of the Parish Council with full voting rights.

45. The Parish Council shall be elected for the term of one to three years, depending on local conditions. The term of office of the Church Warden, the Deputy Church Warden and the Supervisory Board shall be the same as that of the Parish Council.

46. Members of the Parish Council or of the Supervisory Board must not be closely related.

47. The first meeting of the Parish Council following the General Parish Meeting shall assign duties to all members of the Parish Council. The duties of Members of the Parish Council are defined by regulations approved by the Diocesan Council. In the event of a vacancy on the Parish Council due to a resignation or a temporary absence, illness or dismissal of a Member of the Parish Council, that vacancy is filled temporarily or permanently by the first and then the second reserve member.

48. Members of the Parish Council or the Church Warden who fail to perform their duties or misuse their authority, having been found guilty of the charges, may be relieved of their duties and dismissed from the Parish Council by a resolution of the Parish Council or the Supervisory Board before the expiry of their term of office. Persons relieved of their duties or dismissed from the Parish Council have the right of appeal to the General Parish Meeting, the Governing Bishop or the Diocesan Council. Changes in the membership of the Parish Council require confirmation by the Diocesan Council.

49. The Parish Council shall manage all administrative, economic, financial and other affairs of the Parish, except those affairs which are the responsibility of the Parish Priest.

50. The Parish Council has the right to purchase, to build, to alter, to maintain, to preserve, and to lease the real estate of the Parish. It shall take care of all means necessary for normal development of the Parish.

51. The Parish Council has the right to appoint committees for various purposes. Such committees are responsible to the Parish Council and act in accordance with its directives and

guidelines. The Parish Council has the right to disband such committees after they have achieved the objectives for which they were appointed.

52. The Parish Council shall manage, either directly or through its committees, cultural, and educational activities of the Parish. These activities of the Parish, particularly amongst the children and young people, shall be conducted under the supervision of the Parish Priest.
53. The Parish Council shall conduct charitable work through its committees and in co-operation with the Brotherhood and Sisterhood, assist needy members of the Parish and other needy persons who may apply for assistance.
54. The Parish Council shall manage the financial affairs of the Parish in accordance with the Constitution, the resolutions of the Parish Meetings, and the approved budget.
55. The Parish Council shall maintain the register of the Parish Members, all Parish books, accounts, and files, except those kept by the Parish Priest. All internal administration and correspondence of the Parish with the Governing Authorities of the Diocese and with Ukrainian organisations is conducted in Ukrainian on letterhead paper bearing the name and the address of the Parish in Ukrainian and in English. All correspondence with civil and government authorities is conducted in English.
56. The Parish Council shall supply everything necessary for the celebration of the Divine Services, shall care for the adornment of the church premises, and shall render all-round assistance to the Parish Priest in carrying out the duties of his office.
57. The Parish Council is not authorised to interfere with the directives of the Parish Priest concerning his ecclesiastical, pastoral or teaching duties. In such matters the Parish Priest may be directed by the Governing Bishop or the Diocesan Council. With the concurrence of the Parish Council the Parish Priest may be assigned by the Diocesan Council to perform pastoral duties in another place.
58. All parish documents (contracts, titles) shall be lodged for safe-keeping with the bank of the parish. Photo-copies of such documents shall be kept by the secretary of the Parish Council.
59. The meetings of the Parish Council shall be held when required, but at least once a month, to resolve all current affairs. Half the members of the Parish Council, if including the Chairman or his deputy, present at the meeting shall constitute the quorum.
60. Every member of the Parish Council shall be notified in writing by the secretary of the date, time and venue of the meeting of the Parish Council at least ten (10) days in advance, unless the Parish Council introduces an alternative notification procedure. The meeting shall receive reports from the Chairman, the secretary, and the treasurer. Other members of the Council report as required. Minutes of the preceding meeting of the Parish Council shall be read and confirmed.
61. Meetings of the Parish Council are declared open and are presided by the Chairman or, in his absence, by the Deputy Chairman. In exceptional cases a Parish Council meeting may be convened on the instruction of the Governing Bishop or the Governing Authorities of the Diocese. All resolutions of the Parish Council are carried by a simple majority vote of the present members. In the event of a tied vote the person chairing the meeting shall have a casting vote.
62. If the Parish Priest did not attend a meeting of the Parish Council, it is the duty of the Chairman to inform the Parish Priest of the resolutions carried at the meeting. The secretary shall provide the Parish Priest with a copy of the minutes of the meeting.

63. A member of the Parish Council shall forfeit the rights of a Council member if he or she:
a. has failed to attend three consecutive meetings of the Council without a valid excuse;
b. has been suspended by the Parish Council in the membership of the Parish;
c. has resigned from the office; and
d. has been unable to carry out the duties of the office because of an extended illness or for any other reason.

64. Any member of the Parish Council is eligible for election to any Parish Council office for the next term.

65. The Parish Council shall regularly contribute to the treasury of the Consistory of the Diocese the Parish church dues as determined by the Diocesan Synod and meet other financial obligations determined by the Diocesan Council.

66. The Parish Council shall submit every year to the Diocesan Council an annual report on the status of the Parish and its activities.

17. SUPERVISORY BOARD

67. The Supervisory Board is the supervisory body of the Parish which functions in the period between General Parish Meetings. The Supervisory Board shall consist of three members and two reserve members elected by the General Parish Meeting for a term from one to three years. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board shall be elected separately. Members of the Parish Council are not eligible for election to the Supervisory Board and vice versa.

68. The Supervisory Board shall carry out an examination of all financial affairs of the Parish at least once a year, not later than two weeks before the date of the General Parish Meeting. In special cases the Supervisory Board may carry out an examination of the affairs of the Parish on request of:

- a. the Governing Bishop,
- b. The Governing Authorities of the Diocese,
- c. the Parish Priest, or
- d. the Parish Council.

69. The Supervisory Board shall:

- a. verify adherence of the Parish Council to the budget determined by the General Parish Meeting;
- b. audit the cash book, the accounts, and the income and expenditure records;
- c. audit cash held by the treasurer and verify correspondence of expenditure with the receipts;
- d. audit economic records and files of the parish;
- e. audit the register of the parish members; and
- f. audit the inventory records and check the condition of the parish property.

70. The Supervisory Board shall maintain general supervision of the work of the Parish Council.

71. The Supervisory Board shall produce a report on the work carried out by the Board, with recommendations for improvements in the economic activities of the Parish. A copy of the report shall be provided to the Parish Council.

72. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board or his deputy shall report on its activities to the General Parish Meeting and shall move for the acceptance of the retirement of the Parish Council.

73. The Supervisory Board has the right, when the need arises, in the interests of the Parish or the Church as a whole, to suspend individual members of the Parish Council, if they consciously neglect their duties assigned to them by the Parish Council, or if they act contrary to the resolutions of the General Parish Meeting or of the Parish Council, and disobey directives of the Diocesan Council.
74. If the Supervisory Board suspends more than one third of all members of the Parish Council, an Extraordinary General Parish Meeting shall be convened to endorse the suspensions by the Supervisory Board and to elect a new Parish Council.

8. CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

75. A church organisation may operate within the Parish provided its Rules or Constitution has been verified and endorsed by the Parish Priest and the Parish Council, and confirmed by the Governing Bishop.
76. The Parish Council shall support church organisations which assist the Parish to achieve its objectives.
77. The primary organisations of the Parish shall be the Brotherhood and Sisterhood, the national and cultural societies, and the youth organisation.
78. All income of parish organisations shall be used in the first instance to meet the needs of the Church, the Parish and for charitable objectives.
79. Representation of the Parish externally and all fund raising activities shall be conducted by parish organisations only with the approval of the Parish Priest and the Parish Council.
80. In the event of dissolution of a parish organisation all its property, funds, and all records and files shall be handed over to the Parish Council.

9. REGISTRATION OF THE REAL ESTATE OF THE PARISH

81. All real estate of the Parish, the church, buildings, land and other assets are the property of the Parish and shall be legally registered in the name of the Parish, if the Parish has been incorporated under Associations Incorporation Act or other appropriate Act, according to the laws of the State, or in the name of the Trustees of the Parish.
82. If required, Parish Trustees, five in number, shall be elected by the General Parish Meeting for the term of five years. The rights and responsibilities of the Trustees shall be defined and legally formalised by a Deed of Trust.
83. The property of the Parish shall remain registered in the name of the Trustees until the Trustees have been relieved of their duties and responsibilities by the General Parish Meeting. The Trustees act in accordance with the directives of the General Parish Meeting and the Parish Council.
84. The General Parish Meeting may replace any Trustee during the five year term of office, however, the grounds for any such replacement must be stated.
85. The Parish Council, and not the Trustees, shall be the master of the parish assets, and it shall be responsible to the Parish Members for the proper management of the parish assets: payment of due rates and taxes, maintenance of buildings, renewal of insurance policies, sale or leasing of parish premises and other management activities.

86. In the event of sale of parish property the Trustees shall be responsible for the proceeds of the sale, but they shall dispose of any funds under instruction of the Parish Council in accordance with the directives of the General Parish Meeting.

87. The Parish may incorporate under the Associations Incorporation Act or other appropriate Act.

10. PARISH ASSETS

88. Parish assets, real estate and other property is the property and is under the control of the Parish for its purposes and for the use of its members, as a component of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church.

89. No parish property may be divided amongst the Parish Members.

11. PARISH FUNDS

90. All income received by the Parish and all funds of the Parish shall be used exclusively to meet the needs of the Parish arising from its aims and objectives. No funds of the Parish may be distributed amongst the members or the office bearers of the Parish as bonuses, dividends, or in any other form of income distribution.

91. The funds of the Parish consist of:

- a. donations;
- b. collections;
- c. income derived from sales of candles, religious literature, and other religious articles;
- d. annual membership fees;
- e. fees for rites and services;
- f. funds raised by subscriptions for special purposes such as acquisition of property, education, etc; and
- g. income derived from functions.

92. The expenditure from parish funds shall include:

- a. the stipends of the Parish Priest, clergy and church assistants, and remuneration of teachers and employees of the Parish;
- b. general parish needs;
- c. maintenance expenses of parish property and buildings;
- d. subsidies for the Governing Authorities of the Diocese;
- e. charity; and

other objectives in accordance with resolutions of General Parish Meetings.

93. All income and expenditure of the Parish shall be duly recorded in appropriate accounts. If required by state laws, financial records in English shall be submitted to appropriate authorities.

94. All moneys which belong to the Parish and all moneys received by the Parish shall be deposited in the parish banking account, preferably with a Ukrainian co-operative. All withdrawals from the parish bank account shall be signed by not fewer than two members of the Parish Council appointed by the Parish Council. The treasurer shall be one of the appointed signatories. All expenditure shall be authorised by the Parish Council before the Treasurer may incur the expenditure.

95. It is desirable that, for the purpose of more exact accountability, all financial expenditure be performed by means of cheques.

96. The Parish Council shall produce an annual financial report with appropriate clarification of individual paragraphs, and shall table the report at the General Parish Meeting. The financial report shall be signed by the Chairman or Deputy Chairman and the Treasurer of the Parish Council.

12. PARISH SEALS

97. The Parish Seal shall be of circular shape and inscribed around the periphery with the name of the Parish and Diocese in Ukrainian and in English. The Seal of the Parish Priest shall be of circular shape with the outline of the cross in the middle and inscribed around the periphery with the name of the Parish and Diocese in Ukrainian and in English.
98. The Parish Seal shall be kept in the custody of the Chairman of the Parish Council. The Seal of the Parish Priest shall be kept in the custody of the Parish Priest for application to official documents issued by him in his ecclesiastic capacity, namely the Certificate of Baptism, Marriage Certificate, official extracts from the Parish register, and to pastoral references issued and signed by the Parish Priest. The Parish Seal may be applied to internal or external documents signed by the Parish Priest or by the Chairman and the Secretary of the Parish Council.
99. A rubber stamp bearing the name and the address of the Parish shall be used for authentication of tickets for parish functions and internal fund raising activities.

13. ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

100. If an amendment of the Parish Constitution is required, the Parish Council shall submit the proposed amendment with the supporting argumentation for consideration of the Diocesan Council. The Diocesan Council submits the proposed amendment or alteration with its comments for consideration and approval by the next scheduled or an Extraordinary Diocesan Synod.
101. Changes and alterations to the Constitution come into force on their approval by the Diocesan Synod.

14. DISSOLUTION OF THE PARISH

102. Dissolution or liquidation of the Parish as an organisation may take place on the basis of a resolution of the General Parish Meeting adopted with the majority of not less than three quarters of the financial Parish Members present at the meeting with the required quorum being three quarters of all financial Parish Members. Such resolution comes into force after its confirmation by the Governing Bishop of the Diocese. The Parish may be dissolved by a state court order.
103. In the case of dissolution or liquidation of the Parish its assets after settlement of all outstanding debts and financial obligations must not be distributed among Parish Members or a group of Parish Members. All assets shall be placed at the disposal of the Diocesan Council after the resolution of the General Parish Meeting concerning the dissolution or liquidation of the Parish.

The church property of the Parish must not be handed over for any other objective, it shall be transferred into possession of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church.

**This Constitution was adopted and approved by the delegates of the
14th Diocesan Synod on 26 - 27 September 1997 in the year of our Lord.
(translation from the Ukainian language Constitution)**