

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ALBANIAN
ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE IN AMERICA, INC

Amended at the Annual Assembly in Worcester, MA
on October 12, 2000

CONSTITUTION OF THE ARCHDIOCESE

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be "The Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America, Incorporated," hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "A.O.A.A., Inc." or as the "Archdiocese."

ARTICLE II

The Mission of the Archdiocese is

- A. To assure the preservation, strengthening, and propagation of the Eastern Orthodox Faith
- B. To promote a more active and more effective influence of the Eastern Orthodox Church and its teachings in the parishes and among their communicants
- C. To exercise over all of its component parts full canonical authority and such administrative powers as are prescribed by the by-laws in conformity with the Sacred Canons of the Orthodox Church, The Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, and the Agreement Between the Autocephalous Orthodox Church in America and the Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America, Inc., October 14, 1971.

ARTICLE III

Legal Status

- A. The Archdiocese derives its legal authority to function as a non-profit organization by virtue of a Corporate Charter issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, United States of America, as filed on December 16, 1956 and as subsequently amended.
- B. The Albanian Archdiocese preserves the unity of faith through its canonical ties with the Autocephalous Orthodox Church in America.
 - 1. Canonically, the Archdiocese is within the jurisdiction and authority of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America, an Autocephalous Church with territorial jurisdiction in North America.
 - 2. Administratively, the Archdiocese is and shall remain self-governing, having the right to legislate through the Archdiocesan Assembly, and to administer and conduct its religious, cultural, educational, and charitable affairs through its officers, duly elected by the Archdiocesan Assembly.

ARTICLE IV
Jurisdiction

The Albanian Archdiocese exercises jurisdiction over the parishes, auxiliary associations, missions, and other religious institutions composed of Orthodox Christians of Albanian origin or descent and such other Orthodox Christians who freely accept its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE V
Administration

- A. The Constitution and By-Laws define the organizational and administrative authority of the Archdiocese and its auxiliary organizations.
- B. Hierarchical authority within the Archdiocese is exercised by the Bishop. He shall administer the Archdiocese according to the Teachings and Sacred Canons of the Eastern Orthodox Church and in compliance with The Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, the Agreement Between the Autocephalous Orthodox Church in America and the Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America, Inc., and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Archdiocese.
- C. The highest legislative and administrative authority of the Archdiocese in all matters that do not belong solely or expressly to the Bishop shall exist within the Annual Assembly. The Annual Assembly shall meet once a year in regular session and as often as necessary in special session.
- D. The Archdiocesan Council is the executive body through which the Annual Assembly exercises its administrative powers. It shall meet as often as necessary, but not less than twice a year.

ARTICLE VI
Funds and Properties

- A. The Archdiocese, its parishes, and auxiliary organizations may acquire real and personal property, generate income, establish funds, accept donations, testamentary legacies, and subsidies.

- B. No properties as held herein can be sold, mortgaged, or otherwise alienated without the written permission of the Archdiocesan Council.
- C. Cemetery properties, icons, vestments, or other articles used in the celebration or performance of divine services shall not be sold, mortgaged or otherwise alienated.

ARTICLE VII
Amendments

This Constitution and By-Laws as well as the Uniform Constitution of the Parishes may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those certified delegates present at any Annual Assembly or Special Assembly provided a draft of the proposed amendment(s) shall be included with the official notification of the calling of the Assembly.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I The Bishop

Section A

The Bishop exercises all hierarchical authority within the Archdiocese. He is a member of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America and shall have the duties and prerogatives granted him by the Sacred Canons of the Orthodox Church and the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America. The Bishop shall oversee the religious life of the clergy, faithful, parishes, auxiliary organizations, and all other religious institutions that are under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese.

Section B

By virtue of his episcopal consecration and canonical appointment, the Bishop possesses full hierarchical authority within the Archdiocese. The Bishop of the Archdiocese

1. Shall expound Orthodox Faith and Morals and guide his flock in accordance with the Teachings of the Church, and will issue pastoral letters to the clergy and the faithful
2. Has the right of initiative and authoritative guidance in all matters concerning the life of the Archdiocese
3. Distributes to all churches the Holy Chrism consecrated by the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America, (hereafter "the Metropolitan")
4. Provides the churches with the Holy Antimensia which he may also withdraw in all cases of departure from the Teachings and Sacred Canons of the Orthodox Church
5. Shall ordain Orthodox seminary graduates to the Diaconate and Priesthood for the service of the Archdiocese. Candidates otherwise qualified must receive the approval of the Holy Synod
6. Shall appoint and transfer parish priest and other parish clergy within the Archdiocese
7. Shall make canonical visits to the parishes of the Archdiocese
8. Shall erect parishes, missions, and chapels within the Archdiocese
9. Shall consecrate Antimensia and churches and erect permanent altars
10. Bestows honors upon and elevate in rank any person under his jurisdiction, in keeping with the established practice of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America
11. Serves as president of The Archdiocesan Court.

Section C

The Bishop shall also have the authority to:

1. Convene and preside over Annual or Special Assemblies and the Archdiocesan Council
2. Administrate the offices of the Archdiocese
3. Appoint a Chancellor at his discretion to assist him with the administration of the Archdiocese
4. Represent the Archdiocese in its external relations
5. Sign all official documents of the Archdiocese.

Section D

In order to fulfill his episcopal ministry, the Bishop shall be entitled to adequate financial support from the Archdiocese and an official residence and household.

Section E

The Election and Installation of the Bishop

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Bishop, a new Bishop shall be elected by the Special Assembly called expressly for that purpose.

Section F

The office of the Bishop of the Archdiocese shall be declared vacant by the Holy Synod in the event of the death of the Bishop, his voluntary retirement, medically certified incapacity, transfer, or deposition by due canonical process. The Holy Synod's declaration of the vacancy of this office shall be communicated by the Metropolitan to the Archdiocesan Council.

1. For a declaration of medical incapacity, the written concurrence of three medical doctors shall be required. The three doctors shall have been approved by the Archdiocesan Council.
2. Deposition by due canonical process shall follow the procedure established in The Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, Article XI, Section 7.

Section G

The request for a medical examination or for a determination of the existence of grounds to initiate the process for a canonical deposition shall be made by the Archdiocesan Council to the Holy Synod, with the approval of the Annual Assembly or of the Special Assembly convened for this purpose. The Archdiocesan Council shall be convened for this purpose by the Secretary of the Archdiocesan Council or, in his or her absence, by the lay vice-chairperson.

Section H

In the case of a canonically declared vacancy in the office of Bishop, the Metropolitan shall act as or appoint as temporary administrator of the Archdiocese a Bishop of the Orthodox Church in America. The affairs of the Archdiocese shall be conducted by him in conjunction with and respecting the rights of the Archdiocesan Council as provided in this constitution. The temporary administrator shall cease to function as such and shall have no authority over the Archdiocese upon the canonical appointment of a new Bishop.

Section I

Having received the official notification from the Metropolitan, the Archdiocesan Council shall announce the vacancy in the office of Bishop, inviting those desiring to become candidates to present their credentials to the Council within three (3) months from the date of the announcement of said vacancy.

Section J

1. The candidate for the office of Bishop must satisfy all the requirements of the Holy Canons pertaining to this highest of all ecclesiastical offices. In addition, it is preferable that he have completed a course of study in a Graduate School of Orthodox Theology and that he be conversant in the English language.
1. If he is not already a Bishop, he can be nominated only from among the monastic or celibate clergy or laymen.
2. If at the moment of his nomination he a layman or a celibate or widowed priest, he shall pronounce at least the first monastic vows (rasophoria).

3. Diocesan Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America shall not be candidates for nomination by the Archdiocesan Council.

4. If the candidate is not a citizen of the United States of America, he shall declare his intention to become a citizen in his statement of intention for candidacy and shall take immediate steps to become a citizen upon his election.

Section K

Three months after the announcement of the vacancy, the Archdiocesan Council shall forward the names and relevant documents of all candidates to the Metropolitan for the purpose of canonical examination by the Holy Synod. The candidates and their credentials shall be reviewed by the Holy Synod which shall then approve three candidates to be presented for election by the Archdiocesan Assembly.

Section L

Immediately upon receipt of the names of those candidates who have been approved by the Holy Synod, the Archdiocesan Council shall call into session the Special Assembly. The notice to the delegates stating the purpose of the Special Assembly shall also include the names of the approved candidates. The temporary administrator or, in his absence, the Lay Vice-Chairperson shall preside over the Special Assembly.

Section M

Only those names of candidates approved by the Holy Synod shall be presented to the Special Assembly for consideration. No nominations for the office of bishop shall be made from the floor.

Section N

In the sessions of the Special Assembly convened for the purpose of electing a Bishop, two-thirds (2/3) of all certified members of the Special Assembly shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum cannot be established, the Special Assembly shall be adjourned for a period of thirty (30) days after which a quorum shall consist of a simple majority of all certified delegates.

Section O

No candidate for the office of Bishop may preside over a session of the Special Assembly convened to elect the Bishop.

Section P

The first order of business of the Special Assembly shall be the introduction of all candidates, at which time each candidate must reaffirm his intention of candidacy. After the candidates have been presented to the delegates, they shall be escorted from the assembly hall.

Section Q

All voting shall be by secret ballot. The delegates shall write the name of only one (1) candidate on their ballots.

Section R

For election, a candidate must receive a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all ballots cast. In the event that there are two (2) or more candidates and none receive a majority vote, the name of the candidate receiving the least number of votes shall be eliminated from the next ballot. This procedure shall be followed until a single candidate receives a two-thirds majority. If, after repeated balloting, no candidate receives a majority vote, the meeting may be adjourned by a two-thirds majority vote of the certified delegates. The Archdiocesan Council shall notify the Metropolitan that no candidate has been elected and shall then initiate plans to reconvene the Special Assembly within thirty (30) days.

Section S

Should a candidate receive the required two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast, the presiding officer may entertain a motion from the floor for the candidate's unanimous election by acclamation.

Section T

Upon the election of a candidate, the presiding officer may appoint three (3) delegates to inform the Bishop-elect of his election, and to escort him into the assembly hall.

Section U

Within thirty (30) days of the election of the new bishop, the presiding officer of the Special Assembly will notify the Metropolitan of the election of the Bishop-elect for confirmation of the election by the Holy Synod, also forwarding to him the minutes of the Special Assembly. In the case that the Bishop-elect has not yet been consecrated as a Bishop, the temporary administrator of the Archdiocese shall ask the Metropolitan to set a date for the purpose of consecrating him.

Section V

The consecration (if the Bishop-elect is not yet a Bishop) and the installation of the new Bishop shall take place in the Archdiocesan Cathedral on a date determined by the Metropolitan, the Bishop-elect, and the Archdiocesan Council.

ARTICLE II

The Annual or Special Assembly

Section A

The Annual Assembly shall be comprised of the Bishop or, in the case of a vacancy in the office of Bishop, the temporary administrator, the Chancellor, active clergy assigned to Archdiocesan or parish duty, the eight (8) Officers of the Archdiocesan Council*, four (4) Council Members elected from St. George Cathedral, the chairperson of each parish, four (4) lay delegates from St. George Cathedral, two (2) lay delegates elected by the membership of each parish.

****The eight (8) Officers of the Archdiocesan Council are further identified on Page 14 Section S #2.***

Section B

The lay delegates shall be elected by their respective parish members at the semi-annual, annual or at a special meeting convened for this purpose.

Section C

Lay delegates to the Annual Assembly shall be certified at the beginning of the Assembly by a committee of three (3) members of the Archdiocesan Council, one of whom shall be the General Secretary of the Council.

Section D

In the event that the certification of a lay delegate is contested, or in the event of a substitution by a parish, the committee will present the matter at the beginning of the opening session to the Annual Assembly which shall then decide upon the acceptance or rejection of the delegate by vote.

Section E

The presiding officer of the Annual Assembly shall be the Bishop, or the temporary administrator. A Chairperson shall be elected by majority vote to conduct the meeting.

Section F

The Annual Assembly shall meet annually at a time and place determined by the previous Annual Assembly. Special Assemblies shall be convened, as deemed necessary, at a time and place determined by the Bishop or temporary administrator in conjunction with the Archdiocesan Council.

Section G

The Annual Assembly shall be called into session by the Bishop. In the event that the office of Bishop is vacant as defined in Article I Section F, the temporary administrator, provided for in Article I, Section H, shall call the Annual Assembly into session. In this case, the temporary administrator shall also act as presiding officer.

Section H

Notification of the convening of the Annual Assembly or of the Special Assembly shall be by letter sent to each member of the clergy and to the chairperson of each parish council and to other duly authorized delegates. Notification shall be by first-class mail not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for said meeting. The notice must include the date, time, and place of the meeting, as well as the agenda.

Section I

The agenda of any Annual or Special Assembly shall be determined by the Bishop in conjunction with the Archdiocesan Council, except in those cases when a Special Assembly is convened for the express purpose of electing a new Bishop.

Section J

Matters for inclusion in the agenda may be submitted through parish boards to the Archdiocesan Council not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Assembly.

Section K

The Annual or Special Assembly may elect a recording Secretary who shall record the minutes of the meeting. The presiding officer may also appoint a parliamentarian and other officers as deemed necessary for the orderly administration of the meeting.

Section L

The Annual or Special Assembly shall be considered legally constituted when two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates authorized by the parishes and certified by the committee named in Section C, are present. If the required number of delegates is not present, the opening session will be convened the next day when the required number necessary to constitute a quorum shall be one-half (1/2) of the certified delegates.

Section M

Voting at Annual or Special Assemblies may take place in any of the following manners:

1. Raising of hands
2. Secret Ballot
3. Roll call
4. Consent without objection.

Section N

A simple majority may choose to use a secret ballot or roll call in all voting.

Section O

In all cases involving the buying, selling, mortgaging or other alienation of Archdiocesan properties a roll call vote shall be required. In such cases a two-third (2/3) majority of certified delegates shall be required.

Section P

Voting by proxy shall be not be permitted in the deliberations of the Annual or Special Assembly or of the Archdiocesan Council.

Section Q

All meetings of the Annual or Special Assembly shall be open to members and special guests; except in those instances when a simple majority of the delegates shall decide by vote that the meeting be held in executive session. No minutes shall be taken while the Assembly is in executive session. However, any decisions made shall be announced in the subsequent open session at which time they shall be formally voted upon and introduced into the minutes of the Assembly.

Section R

The minutes of the Annual or Special Assembly shall be prepared by the secretary and the official text forwarded to the offices of the Archdiocese not later than thirty (30) days from the date of the convening of the Annual or Special Assembly. The minutes of the Assembly shall be approved at the following session.

Section S

The following are within the sole competence of the Archdiocesan Annual or Special Assembly:

1. Election of the Bishop
2. Election of the following officers of the Archdiocesan Council who shall serve for a term of one (1) year, not to exceed five (5) consecutive years:
 - a. Lay vice-Chairperson
 - b. General Secretary who shall be a clergyman
 - c. Lay Treasurer
 - d. Lay Comptroller
 - e. four (4) Trustees of the Archdiocesan Council
3. Election of three (3) Members of the Theological Student Fund Committee

4. Election of a Clergyman and a Lay Representative to the Metropolitan Council
5. Appointment of an Administrative Committee of the Archdiocesan Cathedral as provided in Art. IX, Section E.
6. Examination and approval of the reports of activities of the Archdiocesan Council and all other organizations affiliated with the Archdiocese.
7. Examination and approval of the Archdiocesan Budget.
8. Buying, mortgaging, selling, or other alienation of Archdiocesan property of any kind, nature, or description.
9. Contracting mortgages or any other debts pertaining to Archdiocesan property.
10. Providing material means for the proper functioning of the Archdiocese.
11. Creation or dissolution of religious or educational institutions affiliated with the Archdiocese.
12. Approval of the constitutions and by-laws of the auxiliary organizations belonging to the Archdiocese or the parishes.
13. Amending of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Archdiocese.
14. Establishing policy in external relations of the Archdiocese with the approval of the Bishop.
15. Establishing and assessment of dues and other contributions of the parishes of the Archdiocese.

ARTICLE III

The Archdiocesan Council

Section A

The Archdiocesan Council shall be comprised of the Chairman, who shall be the Bishop or, in the case of a vacancy in the office of Bishop, the temporary administrator, a Lay Vice-Chairperson, a General Secretary who shall be a clergyman, a Lay Treasurer, a Lay Comptroller, four (4) Representatives elected by the membership of the Archdiocesan Cathedral, four (4) Trustees elected by the Annual Assembly, the active Clergy of the Archdiocese, the Chairperson of the Parish Council or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairperson of the Parish Council.

Section B

The Archdiocesan Council has the following functions:

1. To convene the Special Convention in the event of a canonically declared vacancy in the office of Bishop for the purpose of executing the necessary formalities for the election, consecration, and installation of a new Bishop.
2. To propose amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Archdiocese.
3. When necessary, to authorize the parishes to buy, lease, and sell real estate, and to contract mortgages, in conformity with other provisions of these By-Laws.
4. To study and recommend the creation of new parishes and to determine their respective areas of jurisdiction, subject to ratification at the Annual or Special Assembly.
5. To acknowledge petitions of priests and parishes wishing to come under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese, subject to approval of the Bishop and the ratification by the Annual or Special Assembly.
6. To examine blueprints and authorize construction of new churches as necessary.
7. To initiate and supervise the general activities of the Archdiocese under the guidance of the Bishop.
8. To hire and establish the salaries of Archdiocesan employees. To provide for the financial support of the Bishop in keeping with By-Laws Article I, Section D.
9. To maintain an inventory of all Archdiocesan property.
10. To prepare an annual budget and to suggest to the Annual Assembly the means of meeting it.
11. To provide for and to supervise the official publications of the Archdiocese.
12. To recommend to the Bishop the bestowal of honors upon, and elevation in rank of, those persons under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese, including the following
 - a. Knight of Saint George
 - b. Herald of Saint Constantine
 - c. Standard Bearer of Holy Illyria
13. To appoint delegates to represent the Archdiocese as necessary.
14. To supervise the financial operations of the Archdiocese and of its auxiliary organizations and institutions.
15. To provide for the maintenance of the Archdiocesan archives in the Archdiocesan offices.

Section C

No meeting of the Archdiocesan Council shall be called without a two (2) week written notice to the members of the Council. Such notice shall include the date, time, place, and agenda of the meeting. This notice may be waived by the consent of a simple majority of the members of the Council. A meeting of the Archdiocesan Council shall be convened upon written request of the seven Council members. A quorum for any meeting of the Council shall consist of a simple majority.

Section D

Decisions of the Archdiocesan Council may be made by referendum and the polling of the members of the Archdiocesan Council may be by letter, telegram, electronic transmission, or special ballot. The results of such referendum shall be recorded in the minutes of the subsequent meeting of the Archdiocesan Council.

Section E

Chancellor

The Chancellor shall conduct all duties assigned to him by the Bishop and as recommended by the Archdiocesan Council and Assembly.

Section F

Lay Vice-Chairperson

The Lay Vice-Chairperson's duties include the following:

1. Establishes the agenda for all council meetings with the approval of the Bishop
2. The Lay Vice-Chairperson, or his designate, presides over the meetings of the Archdiocesan Council in the absence of the Bishop.

Section G

General Secretary

In addition to performing the duties of the secretary at the Annual or Special Assembly, the General Secretary of the Archdiocesan Council shall:

1. Transmit the minutes of the Annual or Special Assembly and the Archdiocesan Council meetings to the Bishop, Chancellor, Council and Parishes.
2. Sign all documents as required.
3. Perform the duties incumbent upon him as the result of a vacancy in the office of the Bishop or the Chancellor.
4. Record the minutes of the Archdiocesan Council.
5. Perform other duties as assigned by the Bishop, Chancellor or the Archdiocesan Council.

Section H

Treasurer

The Treasurer, under the supervision of the Bishop, Chancellor and the Archdiocesan Council, administrates the financial operations and assets of the Archdiocese. The Treasurer shall:

1. Maintain the financial records of the Archdiocese, in accord with standard and accepted bookkeeping practices.
2. Receive and pay out funds in accordance with the directives of the Archdiocesan Council.
3. Present a financial report at every meeting of the Archdiocesan Council and at the Annual Assembly or Special Assembly.
4. Make available to the Archdiocesan auditors all financial records in his or her possession or under his or her control.
5. Prepare an annual budget for presentation to the Council.
6. With the approval of the Archdiocesan Council, delegate certain duties to Archdiocesan employees.
7. Maintain a current inventory of all Archdiocesan properties, both real and personal.

Section I
Auditors

The Archdiocesan Council shall appoint three (3) persons who shall serve as auditors. The auditors shall:

1. Conduct audits of the financial records and assets of the Archdiocese as often as they see fit, but not less than once a year.
2. Verify the report of the Treasurer prior to the meeting of the Annual Assembly.
3. Physically inspect all Archdiocesan properties, both real and personal, as a part of their annual audit.

Section J
Mediators

The Archdiocesan Council may designate certain persons from the Council as mediators who act under the guidance and supervision of the Bishop. Said mediators study problematic situations within the Archdiocese and report upon them to the Archdiocesan Council.

Section K
Resignation of Archdiocesan Council Officers

Any officer may resign by giving written notice to the Bishop and to the Archdiocesan Council, which resignation shall be effective at the time specified therein unless another time is fixed by vote of the Archdiocesan Council. Any officer may at any time be removed without cause by majority vote of the Annual or Special Assembly.

Section L
Honorary Members

The Annual Assembly may designate certain individuals as honorary members of the Archdiocesan Council. Honorary members shall not possess the right to vote.

ARTICLE IV

Auxiliary Archdiocesan Organizations

The Annual Assembly may authorize the functioning of auxiliary organizations of the Archdiocese.

1. Such auxiliary organizations may operate under their own constitutions and by-laws provided they are in compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Archdiocese and shall not function as separate legal entities.
2. These organizations are to follow the spiritual directives of the Bishop.
3. They may receive and administer gifts, funds, and properties.
4. The relationship of any auxiliary organization within the Archdiocese shall be utilized only for the promotion of religious, charitable, educational, or cultural purposes.

5. The assets of any auxiliary organization shall be used only for religious, charitable, educational, or cultural purposes.
6. Upon the dissolution of an auxiliary archdiocesan organization, its funds and properties shall revert to the general fund of the Archdiocese.

ARTICLE V

Affiliated Institutions

Affiliated institutions such as monasteries, libraries, charitable homes, schools, cemeteries, and other similar ecclesiastical entities may be maintained and operated by the Archdiocese.

1. The Bishop or his designate shall oversee the activities of all affiliated institutions.
2. With the approval of the Archdiocesan Council, such institutions may be chartered as separate legal entities.

ARTICLE VI

The Feastday of the Archdiocese

The annual Feastday of the Archdiocese shall be celebrated on April 23 of each year in commemoration of Saint George the Great Martyr.

ARTICLE VII
Archdiocesan Chancery Office

The Chancery Office of the Archdiocese shall be located in Boston, Massachusetts.*

*Currently located at 523 East Broadway South Boston, MA 02127

ARTICLE VIII
The Archdiocesan Seal

The Official Seal of the Archdiocese is marked with a double-headed eagle with a crown on each head and a cross between them, the words "Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America, Incorporated," around it; beneath, the place and date of its founding, "Boston, Massachusetts, July 26, 1919."

ARTICLE IX
The Archdiocesan Cathedral

Section A

The Archdiocesan Cathedral shall carry the name of Saint George as patron saint of the Albanian people from time immemorial.

Section B

Saint George Cathedral shall be the seat of the Bishop of the Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America.

Section C

Orthodox Christians who accept the jurisdiction of the Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America and who have attained the age of eighteen (18) years and who accept the canonical authority of the Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America, its constitution and by-laws, and who satisfy the dues or pledges as established from time to time, shall be entered upon the membership roll of Saint George Cathedral upon the approval of the Archdiocesan Council, and shall have the right to vote, the right of electing and being elected and the right to participate in the affairs of Saint George Cathedral.

Section D

The members of Saint George Cathedral shall hold an annual meeting, to be held in Boston at such time and place as fixed by the Archdiocesan Council. No specified quorum shall be required at this annual meeting. The meeting shall be called for the purpose of the following:

1. To elect four (4) members to serve on the Archdiocesan Council.
2. To elect four (4) member delegates to the Annual Assembly.
3. To conduct any other business as deemed necessary.

Section E

The Annual Assembly shall appoint the following to serve as the Administrative Committee of the Archdiocesan Cathedral under the supervision of the Bishop and the Archdiocesan Council:

1. Officers of the Archdiocesan Council;
2. The four members elected to the Archdiocesan Council by the membership of the Cathedral
3. The four members elected by the membership of the Cathedral to serve as delegates to the Annual Assembly.

ARTICLE X

Effective Date

The Archdiocese and its member parishes shall be governed by the written Constitution and By-Laws and by the Uniform Constitution of the Parishes of the Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America, Incorporated, upon adoption by the Annual Convention on July 4, 1971, and as (herein) amended in accord with said Constitution and By-Laws.