

**THE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH, NORTH AMERICAN SYNOD
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. NICHOLAS
4806-A TALINA WAY
HOUSTON, TX 77041
713-690-1973**

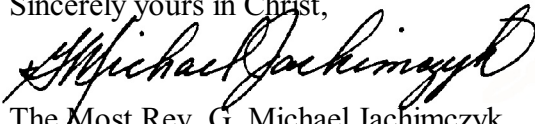
The Eastern Orthodox Christian Church, N.A. Synod, recognizes that Marriage is a Sacrament which was instituted by Christ as a means of expressing God's love and grace through the community of man. The marriage bond is one in which two souls choose to live in one life. This marriage bond is recognized between two individuals who are currently single and not held by this bond with any other individual.

In preparation for the acceptance of this union, The Eastern Orthodox Christian Church, N.A. Synod, requires those seeking this union to complete application and a period of interview with the pastor of the local church. The interview process includes one meeting with the couple together where they would express their intentions and desires of this union. A second and third meeting with each individual separately where each person could further discuss their meaning and purpose behind this decision and what this decision will mean for them and for the family they create. Finally, a meeting or series of meetings where the couple would bring together their beliefs and desires, as previously discussed under the direction of the church pastor, for a better understanding of the marriage bond and how that relates to their situation. It is at these final meetings that the actual date of the union will be set by the couple and the pastor.

The Eastern Orthodox Christian Church, N.A. Synod, does not charge a fee for any of the sacraments it is asked to give but a donation to cover the costs involved in this process toward union and to serve as a commitment on the part of the couple to complete the exchange they are requesting of the pastor is requested of the couple. This donation, \$200.00 for a simple service and \$250.00 for a service within the Divine Liturgy, is made in two payments, 50% to secure the date and commitment of the couple and 50% one week prior to the services. If extensive travel is involved, outside Harris county, travel expenses are also covered by the couple. Completion and submission of the attached application is an acceptance of the terms put forth herein.

We look forward to meeting with you and serving you in this process of completing your sacramental union. Please call us at 713-690-1973 if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



The Most Rev. G. Michael Jachimczyk
Archdiocese of Saint Nicholas

