

Church Representation Rules 1(2) (Appendix 1)



Christ Church Membership Covenant

APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OF THE PARISH OF VIRGINIA WATER

Full name .....

Full address .....

..... Post Code .....

I declare that

1. I am baptised and am aged 16 or over (or, become 16 on.....) \*

2. (a) I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and am resident in the parish.

Or (b) I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and, not being resident in the parish, I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

Or (c) I am a member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish.

Signed ..... Date .....

\* Those who become 16 during the next 12 months may complete the form, and become eligible to be entered on the Roll on their sixteenth birthday.

Tick only one of boxes 2(a), (b) or (c).

Easter is traditionally the time when we are challenged to respond to all that Jesus has accomplished for us in his death and resurrection. It was often the time when people were baptised and confirmed.

This Easter we are inviting everyone who considers themselves a member of Christ Church to put their name to a simple declaration to covenant, with God's help, to be a member of Christ's Church and Christ Church for the year ahead and work together to fulfil our vision. We believe this is how we can best grow together as followers of Christ.

Why a Covenant?

The Apostle Paul mentions two different types of commitment in 2 Corinthians 8:5: "First they gave themselves to the Lord; and then, by God's will, they gave themselves to us as well". You commit yourself to Christ for salvation and then you commit yourself to other Christians for membership in our church family.

The word fellowship (koinonia) means being as committed to each other as we are to Jesus Christ. We live as New Testament, or New Covenant believers, and so we commit ourselves to this Covenant with God.

Why these seven statements?

We have chosen these seven statements to reflect what it means to be a follower of Jesus. We believe that they reflect what the scriptures tell us about how we can grow together as Jesus' disciples.

Meeting God Daily: "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed." (Mark 1:35) "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:17)

Attending Church Weekly: "Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you." (Deuteronomy 5:12) "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)



**Taking the Small Group Challenge:** *“What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.” (2 Timothy 1:13) “In everything set them an example by doing what is good.” (Titus 2:7)*

**Using God Given Gifts:** *“From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” (Ephesians 4:16) “There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.” (1 Corinthians 12:4-5)*

**Stewarding God’s resources:** *“Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.” (Mark 12:43) “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

**Reaching out in Love:** *“Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.” (John 13:14-15) “But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” (Matthew 5:44)*

**Evangelistically Active:** *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20) “But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” (1 Peter 3:15)*

**Electoral Roll**

The Electoral Roll of the Church is the closest thing the Anglican Communion has to formal Church Membership. Its principal use is to enable members to vote at the ACM (Annual Church Meeting), and specifically to elect PCC and Deanery Synod members. However, it is also an important expression of the common life of the Church. Normally, the Electoral Roll is revised every year in preparation for the ACM.

**Christ Church Virginia Water  
Annual Membership Covenant**

**My Covenant**

By God’s Grace...

I will seek to spend time in each day with my Lord Jesus Christ, reading God’s Word and praying. *(Mark 1:35, Colossians 3:17)*

I will endeavour to meet with God’s people every Sunday. I will support our Church in our mission to know Jesus and make Jesus known. *(Deuteronomy 5:12, Hebrews 10:25)*

I am committed to growing together with others in the knowledge of and love for Jesus Christ. *(2 Timothy 1:13, Titus 2:7)*

I will use the gifts and talents God has given me to serve within the Body of Christ at Christ Church. *(Ephesians 4:16, 1 Cor. 12:4-6)*

I will faithfully steward the money God has given me, for his glory. *(Mark 12:43, 2 Corinthians 9:7)*

I will follow the example of my Lord Jesus Christ in reaching out in love to others. *(John 13:14-15, Matthew 5:44)*

I will take and create opportunities to share the Good News of how Jesus Christ died on the cross for us. *(Matthew 28:19-20, 1 Peter 3:15)*

By God’s Grace, this is my Covenant for the coming year.

**Name**.....

**Signed**..... **Date**.....