



# Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania

P.O. Box 1769

Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania 16066-1769

Website: [www.ocadwpa.org](http://www.ocadwpa.org)

Diocesan Hierarch  
*Most Rev. MELCHISEDEK*  
Telephone: 724-776-5555

Diocesan Chancellor  
*VRev. William J. Evansky*  
Telephone: 724-266-5009

**TO: ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH AND W PA (OCA) - Clergy / Parish Councils**  
**FROM: Archpriest William J. Evansky, Chancellor**  
**DATE: 26 September 2023**  
**SUBJ: ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY – 4 NOVEMBER 2023**

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The 2023 Archdiocesan Assembly of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania (Orthodox Church in America) will be held at the St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral (8290 Thompson Run Road, Allison Park, PA 15101) on Saturday, November 4, 2023. The day will begin with a Divine Liturgy celebrated at 9 AM by the archbishop and assigned clergy. (*A note to the clergy: I will issue liturgical assignments later for those who will be vesting - please bring gold vestments. Clergy not receiving that notification should come to the Liturgy prepared to receive Holy Communion in the appropriate vestments for your clerical office.*) Attendance by all diocesan parish priests is expected by the diocesan hierarchy; any parish priest unable to attend must inform His Eminence in advance specifically why he will be absent. A light brunch will be served in the church hall following the completion of the Liturgy; the first plenary session will begin in the nave of the church after brunch and delegate registration is completed and an accurate delegate count is verified. A full meal will be served after the first plenary session.

Please note the following applicable statute of the Orthodox Church in America as approved at the OCA All-American Council of 2015. (*Note: The entire text of the updated OCA Statute that became effective 11-1-2015 is available for reference at [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org).*)

## **Article IX**

### **Section 5: Requirements for Representation at the Diocesan Assembly**

Every parish in the Diocese which has remitted all financial obligations determined by the All-American Council and all financial obligations determined by previous Diocesan Assemblies is entitled to representation as outlined in Section 2.d-e of this Article. The parish shall assume the expenses incurred by its delegates in attending the Assembly.

### **Section 7: Election and Accreditation of Delegates**

The lay delegates of the Diocesan Assembly must meet the following requirements to be elected and accredited:

- a. Be elected by a Parish Assembly or by the Parish Council in accordance with the requirements and procedures established for such an election in Diocesan or Parish Bylaws;

- b. Be a Parishioner in accordance with Article XII, Section 5;
- c. The elected delegates shall be accredited to the Assembly in accord with procedures and documentation established by the Diocesan Authority; and
- d. The Parish Priest shall submit the proper documentation to the Diocesan Authority. If the parish or mission has no Parish Priest the District Dean shall oversee the election and submit the documentation. The delegates from a theological institution, if laymen, shall be accredited by the appropriate authority of the institution.

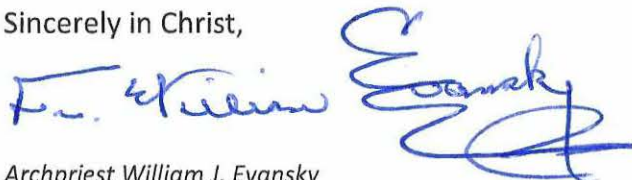
Attached is a sample certification letter for your reference. Please prepare a form for the delegate and a separate one for each alternate and observer. Please prepare the letter on parish stationery, including the required signatures and imprint of the parish seal. Please include the check (made payable to the "Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and W PA") with the certification form(s) and mail the material to our Cranberry Township post office box address so that it is received no later than October 31, 2023. Also enclosed in this mailing is the Parish Registration Form with information concerning registration fees for the Assembly. Archdiocesan Council members planning to attend should notify me via email no later than October 31 as well.

The Assembly agenda and reports for the Assembly will be sent as attachments via email by me to the clergy/laity included on my diocesan email group list as they become available by the authors. (Please update your email address with me if necessary.) Anyone needing a paper copy of those materials instead of an electronic version must notify Administrative Assistant Omelan Mycyk at the Chancery in advance of the Assembly so a postal mailing can be done. No postal mailing will be sent when requested within one week of the Assembly date; the packet will be available for pick up at the registration desk that morning at the Assembly. A very limited number paper copies will be available on the day of the Assembly in Allison Park.

Please call my Ambridge parish office (724.266.5009) or email me ([frbill158@verizon.net](mailto:frbill158@verizon.net)) if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely in Christ,



Archpriest William J. Evansky  
Chancellor  
Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and W PA (OCA)

**ARCHDIOCESAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023  
--- REGISTRATION FORM ---**

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**Please be sure to include your check(s) together with both the  
"registration" and "certification" forms.**

**Please make check(s) payable to:**

**"Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western PA"**

**and mail to:**

**Archdiocesan Assembly / Archdiocese of Pgh. & W. PA**

**P. O. Box 1769**

**Cranberry Township, PA 16066-0769**

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**PARISH NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY/TOWN:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Registration Fees:**

**Lay Delegate - \$50.00**

**Alternate Delegate - \$45.00**

**Observer/Guest - \$40.00**

**ARCHDIOCESAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023  
--- CERTIFICATION/VERIFICATION FORM ---**

We hereby confirm, that at a meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_ (date),

the parish of \_\_\_\_\_ (name of parish),

city/town: \_\_\_\_\_ state: \_\_\_\_\_ zip: \_\_\_\_\_,

which is a parish belonging to the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western  
Pennsylvania (Orthodox Church in America), and stipulate that:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(printed name of person)

was duly elected/approved as a \_\_\_\_\_  
(delegate / alternate / observer)

to the Archdiocesan General Assembly of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and  
Western Pennsylvania (OCA) which will be held at St. Alexander Nevsky  
Orthodox Cathedral (OCA), 8290 Thompson Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA  
15237-6347 on Saturday, November 4, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of parish rector)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of parish council president/warden)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of parish secretary/recording secretary)

**{PARISH SEAL AFFIXED}**