

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

MYSTICAL ROSE SODALITY AND THE SECONDARY PATRONAGE OF ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH PAYSON, ARIZONA

The Mystical Rose Sodality is a lay community of women of St. Philip the Apostle Church, integrated into the United States National Federation of World Federation of Christian Life Communities, one of the oldest surviving lay spirituality movements in the Church; a spirit-filled renewal movement of the Post-Conciliar Church.

The General Principles of the Christian Life Communities, finally and definitively approved by Pope Paul VI on May 31m 1971, abrogated the common rules of 1910.

“The aim of the Christian Life Communities is to form a people for service to develop and sustain men and women, adults and youth in their commitment to the service of the church and the world in every area of life: Family, work, professional, civil, and ecclesial... each Christian Life Community is formed with similar ideals of people who are willing to work together, and each community organizes itself to meet the demands of vital Christian living for its members.” (Pt. 1 #3 Gen. Princ.)

“The Spirituality of Christian Life Communities is centered on Christ and on Participation in his Pascal Mystery; it draws from the Sacred Scripture, the liturgy, the doctrinal development of the Church, and God’s self-revelation in the needs of our times....It recognizes especially the necessity of personal prayer and Spiritual direction as indispensable for seeking and finding God in all things.” Pt. 1 #4 Gen. Princ.)

“Since the Spirituality of our group is centered on Christ, we see the role of Mary in relation to Christ; We venerate the Mother of God in a special manner and we rely on her intercession in fulfilling our vocation.” (Pt. 1 #8 Gen. Princ.)

BY-LAWS OF THE MYSTICAL ROSE SODALITY

The name of this association shall be the Mystical Rose Sodality of St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church in Payson, Arizona.

Article - Purpose

The Mystical Rose Sodality is a community of women members who seek continued personal development that is spiritual, apostolic and human. They strive to imitate Mary in love and service of Christ by loving and serving others using as guidance the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

Article III – Membership Section 1

Membership in the Sodality is open to any woman who is a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church and agrees to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Sodality. Before membership is granted, the member must be fully informed by orientation as to the works and purpose of the Sodality; she must make application which must be approved by the Pastor as Spiritual Director; be formally received and have her name entered into the Permanent Register of the Sodality.

Section 2

The formal reception of new members should take place at least once a year but if applications are numerous, more frequent reception can take place at the decision of the Pastor and Officers.

Section 3

Transfers of Sodalists from other Sodalities into The Mystical Rose Sodality are made by the acceptance of her transfer by the Priest/Spiritual Director and the Board. And by entering her name permanently in the Sodality records.

Section 4

After membership is conferred, all remain members unless they freely withdraw. Whoever shows clearly that she is no longer willing to assume the Christian Life of the Sodality and abide by the laws may be invited to withdraw.

Article IV - Officers

Section 1

The Officers of this organization shall be the Spiritual Director (Priest/Pastor); Prefect/President; Vice-Prefect/President; Secretary and Treasurer and any Officer deemed necessary for its function.

Section 2

The Board consists of the above-mentioned Officers and Chair People of Standing Committees. The Board shall meet prior to the general meetings, if necessary.

Section 3

Prior to the June meeting, the outgoing officers should meet with the incoming officers to provide a smooth transfer of records and duties.

Article V – Duties of Officers

Section 1

The Spiritual Director (Priest/Pastor) participates in the life of the Sodality; is responsible for Christian Development, for doctrinal and pastoral concerns and for proper harmony of the group.

Section 2

The Prefect/President shall preside at regular and board meetings, represent the Sodality before other organizations, formulate and execute programs with the cooperation of the Board and appoint committee chair people with the approved consensus of the officers. She shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Section 3

The Vice Prefect/President shall assist the Prefect/President in carrying out programs of the Sodality. She shall perform the function of the Prefect/President when the Prefect/President is absent

Section 4

The Secretary shall take and record the minutes of the regular and board meetings of the Sodality. She shall attend to all correspondence and keep a permanent record of Sodality membership. All minutes and membership records are to be in permanent, hardcover, loose-leafed books.

Section 5

The Treasurer shall collect and record all Sodality funds and expenditures. She makes out a request form and submits that to the Parish Financial Director for payment. The receipts are kept by the Treasurer. Petty Cash is not to exceed \$200. All expenditures from petty cash must be accompanied by a paid receipt and accounted for appropriately. All records of funds and expenditures must be kept in a permanent book. Two members of the Sodality shall audit the petty cash account at the end of the current officer's term.

Section 6

Standing and special committees shall be established as needed and their duties designated by the Board and Director. (See Sec.2 for chair people appointments)

Article VI – Election of Officers

Section 1

Election of Officers shall be by ballot, if necessary, and take place at the regular meeting in May. A majority vote of those present is necessary for election. Installation shall take place on the first Saturday in June during the Mass of first Saturdays observed by the Sodality. New officers preside at the first meeting in June. No officer may be re-elected to the same office more than once in succession. Officers will hold office for a term of one year when elected—from June until installation the following year. Should an office be vacated during the year, the following procedure takes place: The Prefect/President position is filled by the Vice-Prefect/President; any other elected official's office is filled by appointment by the Board with the approval of the Director.

A slate of Officers shall be prepared by the nominating committee of five preferably consisting of a Past Prefect/President, two past officers and two nominees from the general membership whose appointment is announced at the April meeting. This committee shall meet prior to the May meeting to select a slate of officers. The Director shall approve the slate. Nominations from the floor may be made with the advance approval of the Director and the person to be nominated. NOTE: The Prefect/President cannot be an ex-officio member of the nominating committee.

Article VII - Meeting

Section 1

The general business meeting is on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M. The meetings consist of spiritual, intellectual, apostolic and social acumen. The Board meets prior to the general business meeting, if necessary.

Article VII – Meetings (Cont.)

Section 2

The first Saturday of each month is observed as a Corporate Mass and Communion day for all Sodalists.

Section 3

The first Saturday in May is a Corporate Mass and Communion day with a breakfast following Mass for members and invited guests

Section 4

Suggested Order if Business

Call to Order	Old Business
Rosary and Pledge of Allegiance	New Business
Scriptural Reading	Announcements
Reading of Minutes and Correspondence	Special Programs
Treasurer's Report	Comments of Spiritual Director
Report of Standing Committees	Adjournment
Report of any Special Committee	Closing Prayer
Treasurer's Report	

Article VIII – Committees

Section 1

The Prefect/President shall appoint all chair people of committees.

Section 2

HOME OR PHONE VISITATION - Call or visit Sodalists who are ill or in the hospital or a retirement home.

SANCTUARY – Provides for dusting of the Church and care of Altar linens.

MEMBERSHIP/TELEPHONE – informs members of meetings, first Saturday Corporate Mass and any special event. Encourages membership in the Sodality, acts as a welcoming committee at meetings. Keeps an updated membership list..

PUBLICITY - Prefect informs Sodalists and parishioners of activities through the Parish Bulletin. Chairperson of an event handles publicity to the secular press or other advertising of the event. Notice should be placed on the outside bulletin board of the Church.

Article VIII – Committees (Cont.)
Section 2

SOCIAL ACTION – organizes volunteers for refreshments following meetings. Is in charge of funeral receptions when requested.

CRAFT AND BAKE SALE – organizes all events for the Craft and Bake Sale, usually in November,

MAY CORPORATE MASS COMMUNION – seeks a suitable restaurant or organizes catering and presents findings to the membership in April for a vote, takes reservations and prepares a program or speakers for the occasion.

Article IX – Amendments
Section 1

The By-Laws of the Mystical Rose Society shall not conflict with the General Principles of the Christian Life Communities.

Section 2

Amendments to these By-Laws must be submitted in writing and voted on at a general meeting after notice of said amendment has been duly given to the whole membership and the Director. A 2/3rds vote of the members present is necessary to amend.

Article X

Roberts Rules of Order Revised is used as reference for all parliamentary procedures.

Revised October, 2008