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GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF BRISTOL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL LOWER ASHLEY ROAD, EASTON, BRISTOL BS5 0YL



POLICY

Payment of Church Sacrament Fees and fee deductions





Version Control

Issue Date	Version Number	Issued by
31 st January 2024	1	The Trust Committee





Policy of the Greek Orthodox Community of Bristol Charitable Trust with regards to :-

(i) the payment of Church Sacrament Fees and fee deductions

The Trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Bristol Charitable Trust have confirmed that deductions from church fees for marriages, christenings etc. are not authorised by the Trust.

This has been discussed with and relayed to Father Anastasios to kindly action on behalf of the Trust.

Accordingly, deductions or extra payments from these Church fees for the parish priests, chanter or church helper attending these events cannot be made. If parishioners wish to give a voluntary private gift to priests, chanter volunteers or church helper volunteers, as a "thank you" or "tip" for the service, then that is a separate matter for them privately.

Where these events have already been agreed and payment already made by parishioners, then they would go ahead, but no new deductions are to be made.

We remind everyone that as per the Archbishop's directive, no priest should be handling church funds. This is for the protection of our priests.

The only specific, authorised deduction from a church fee will be to settle the Archdiocese's fee for such events. This deduction and payment would be made by the Community Treasurer only.

Therefore, for all future weddings, christenings etc. to be booked, all church fees are to be taken either by internet banking with parishioners being given the Church's bank details then and there or made as a card payment on the church's card machine. Cash is only to be accepted rarely and as a last resort and must be handed to the Community Chairman or Treasurer as soon as possible, without deduction. Receipts are always to be given. This is the required process.

The Trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Bristol Charitable Trust

31 January 2024



