

Whereas JMJ Tampa Bay, Inc. (“JMJ”), an entity currently incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida, is and remains a voluntary association of families called by the Holy Spirit to homeschool their children consistent with the values, virtues, and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church under the Papal authority of the Bishop of Rome, and, whereas, the primary focus and purpose of JMJ is and remains the moral and spiritual support of the mother, within said families, the following Bylaws are hereby adopted as the governing rules and regulations of JMJ:

SECTION I: PURPOSE, STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. The main purpose of JMJ is to provide support for homeschooling mothers and aid them in their effort to fulfill their vocation as Catholic wives and mothers. At the same time we will provide support and social opportunities to their families and come together as a Catholic Community. This is done through the different activities offered to the group.
2. At the heart of our group lies The Holy Spirit. Our Communion with Him makes us one with each other and equips us with untold Graces. JMJ is not merely a social network, but an extension of the mission of Christ and His Church.
3. We believe in the mystery of one God in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the teachings, traditions and doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. We have as our foundation, and the guiding principle of all our activities, fidelity to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, and allegiance to our Pope, the Bishop of Rome. We affirm the authority of the Magisterium in all issues of faith and morals and submit our obedience to the same.

SECTION II: GOALS

4. The goals for JMJ are:
 - to build a faith centered community that supports the homeschooling mother, not only as an educator, but as a wife and mother.
 - to contribute to the spiritual and intellectual development of our children by sponsoring both whole-group and age-targeted activities, such as field trips, classes/programs, and community service projects;
 - to build a strong social base (grounded in the Catholic Faith) by providing members (both adult and youth) with a variety of stimulating social opportunities;
 - to work to ensure the group’s viability, unity and well-being by seeking and welcoming members who will respect and support the JMJ community, its purpose, statement of faith, goals, and core values;
 - to ensure that our Catholic identity permeates all group classes, activities, service projects, procedures and policies.

SECTION III: MEMBERS, SERVICE COUNCIL, ADVISOR

5. JMJ shall consist of the “Members.” A “Member” is defined as the mother for each dues-paying family. In extraordinary circumstances, and with the approval of a majority of the Service Council, another member of the family may be granted all rights and privileges inhering in Membership, except serving on the Service Council.
6. The everyday activities of JMJ shall be governed by the Board of Directors of JMJ which shall be known as the Service Council (“the Council”). The Council shall consist of five Members (“Council Members”). Those five Members currently serving as the Council as of the adoption of these Bylaws shall remain in their current positions until they resign or are removed.
7. The Council shall consist of a Chair of Ministries, Vice Chair of Ministries, Secretary of Membership, Treasurer, and Secretary of Faith Enrichment.
8. Any individual wishing to become a Member shall complete an application for membership. The Council shall either approve or deny each application for membership. Notice of the approval or denial of an application shall be given via an e-mail address provided by the applicant. No application will be accepted or considered unless a valid e-mail address is provided. The Council may deny an application for any reason or no reason and shall not be required to provide an explanation for any such denial.
9. Upon approval of an application, a Member shall be required to sign a Membership Agreement. Each Member shall be assessed annual dues the amount of which will be determined by the Council.
10. Once approved, Membership may, at any time and for any reason, be revoked at the discretion of the Council. Any dues or fees paid by a Member whose membership has been revoked may be refunded, in full or in part, at the discretion of the Council.
11. Communication by the Council to the Members shall be via e-mail. Each Member shall receive such communication at the e-mail address provided in their application for membership. Members are constructively on notice of any such communication.
12. The Council must be notified in writing of any change in a Member’s e-mail address. The absence of such notice shall not negate the effectiveness of any communication provided at the previous e-mail address.
13. JMJ shall also be served by a Spiritual Advisor (“Advisor”). Such Advisor shall be elected by a majority of the Council. To be eligible for election as Advisor, an individual must be a duly ordained priest or deacon of the Roman Catholic Church.

SECTION IV: MEETINGS

14. Meetings of all Members shall be held at least on an annual basis. The Meetings shall occur at a place and time determined by the Council. Members shall be notified of Meetings via e-mail as provided above. Such notice shall be provided no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled meeting.
15. Additional meetings of all Members shall be held as deemed necessary by the Council. Members shall be notified of the time and place of such additional meetings via e-mail .
16. The Council shall meet as often as necessary to conduct the business of JMJ.

SECTION V: ELECTION OF SERVICE COUNCIL MEMBERS

17. A Council Member who no longer wishes to serve in their current position shall notify the Council in writing of their intent to resign.
18. Upon receipt of such notice and after prayerful discernment, the Council, including, when practicable, the resigning Council Member, shall elect a successor to the resigning Council Member. Such election shall be by a simple majority of the Council Members.
19. No individual shall be eligible for election who is not a dues-paying Member of JMJ and a practicing member of the Roman Catholic Church.
20. In the event that the Council is unable to elect a new Council Member by a simple majority, the Council shall cease consideration of a replacement for no less than fourteen (14) days and no more than thirty (30) days to allow the Council Members an opportunity for prayer and reflection and, if desired, consultation with the Spiritual Advisor. If, after such a period for prayer and reflection, the Council is still unable to elect a new Council Member via majority vote, the Chair of Ministries shall choose from among those candidates having already received the vote of at least one Council Member.
21. Upon election to a Service Council position, the new Council Member shall be required to sign a Statement of Faith.
22. Should a Council Member be unable to fulfill the obligations of her position pending election of a replacement, the Chair of Ministries may appoint a Member to fill that position on an interim basis. Such interim Council Member shall be eligible for election to fill that position permanently.

SECTION VI: REMOVAL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

23. A Council Member is subject to removal under circumstances including, but not limited to, misconduct in office, embezzlement, theft, fraud, malfeasance, or co-mingling of funds or assets.
24. Removal may only occur upon unanimous agreement of the other four Council members.

SECTION VII: MINISTRIES

25. The Council may from time to time form such committees (“Ministries”) as they deem necessary to carry out the functions of JMJ. Upon the formation of any Ministry, the Council shall appoint a Member to act as chairperson (“Coordinator”) of said Ministry.
26. The Council shall provide each Ministry with a written charter detailing the objectives and functions of that Ministry. Such charter shall specify the number of persons who may serve on that Ministry and shall also specify whether that Ministry shall be comprised only of Members or whether one or more persons serving in that Ministry may be a non-Member.
27. The Council may charter a Ministry for a specific function or limited period of time or for an indefinite period at the discretion of the Council. The Council may revoke by majority vote a Ministry’s charter at any time and for any reason.
28. The Coordinator of any Ministry may appoint as many persons to assist in that Ministry as specified by the Ministry’s charter, including, if permitted, non-Members.
29. The Coordinator shall furnish a report of the Ministry’s activities to the Council as often as directed by the charter but no less than annually.

SECTION VIII: Communications

30. The Council may provide for the availability of a JMJ Website (“Website”) to disseminate information to Members. At the Council's discretion the website may provide items and services of general interest and assistance to JMJ Members.
31. The Website may, at the discretion of the Council, include message boards or discussion forums for use by Members.
32. The Council may restrict a Member’s use of the Website or deny a Member access to the Website if the Council determines that a Member has misused or abused any services or activities provided on the Website. Such misuse or abuse of the Website may be grounds for revocation of Membership at the discretion of the Council.

33. All of the above will also apply to any other electronic means of communication provided by the Council (for example Yahoo groups email list).

SECTION IX: AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

34. A Council Member may at any time propose an Amendment to these bylaws. Upon unanimous approval of a proposed Amendment by the Council, such Amendment shall be presented to the Membership.
35. Such presentation shall be by conspicuous posting of the proposed Amendment on the JMJ Website, such posting to include the time, date, and method for such vote as determined by the Council.
36. Upon approval of a majority of Member votes cast, a proposed Amendment shall become part of these bylaws and shall become effective at a time specified by the Council but no later than at the next annual meeting after the vote becomes final.

SECTION X: DISSOLUTION

37. Upon any dissolution of JMJ, any property or assets held by JMJ shall be distributed as provided below.
38. All obligations and liabilities shall be paid first.
39. Any remaining property or assets shall be distributed to a charity or charities as determined by the Council.