

## The Consecration of Bishops.

Words to be said are in this style: **All:** say these words.

*Instructions are in italics.*

*All bishops present should co-consecrate. Mass will be celebrated by the Consecrator and a priest only or alternatively by the consecrator and new bishop only. The Mass liturgy is included in this service order.*

*The insignia being presented to the new bishop should be blessed by the co-consecrating or assisting bishop just prior to the service. The insignia should be blessed in full view of the assembling congregation.*

### **Introductory Rites**

*A deacon (or sub-deacon) and priest process to the altar.*

*A sub-deacon or other suitable minister lights the candles and tends the altar during the entrance song. The priest welcomes the people and then says:*

**Priest:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**Priest:** I will go unto the altar of God: even unto the God of my joy and gladness.

### **Entrance song:**

*The Bishops and clergy process into the sanctuary, and take their places.*

**Priest:** Please stand, ....and let us all say....

**All:** I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the Lord. I will be glad and rejoice in you: yes, my songs will I make in your Name O Lord Most High. O send out Your light and Your truth, that they may lead me : and bring me to Your Holy Hill, and to Your dwelling. And that I may go unto the Altar of God, even unto the God of my joy and my gladness: and upon the harp will I give thanks to You, O God, my God. The Lord is in His holy temple: the Lord's seat is in heaven. The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament show His handiwork. O magnify the Lord our God, and worship Him upon His holy hill: for the Lord our God is holy. The Lord shall give strength to his people: the Lord shall give His people the blessing of peace. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and evermore shall be; World without end. Amen.

**Priest:** I will go unto the altar of God: even unto the God of my joy and gladness.

**People:** Amen.

**Priest:** Our help is in the Name of the Lord:

**People:** Who has made heaven and earth

**Priest:** Turn us again, O Lord, and quicken us:

**People:** That your people may rejoice in You.

**Priest:** Trust in the Lord for ever:

**People:** For our rock of ages is the Lord.

**Priest:** Please be seated....we say together the Confiteor...

### **Confiteor**

**People:** O Lord, you have made us to be immortal and made us in the image of your own eternity; yet often we forget the glory of our heritage and wander from the path of righteousness. But you O Lord have made us for yourself and our hearts are ever restless till they find their rest in You. Look with the eyes of your love upon our manifold imperfections and pardon all our shortcomings, that we may be filled with the brightness of the everlasting light and become the unspotted mirror of your goodness; Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Consecrator:** God the + Father, God the + Son, God the Holy + Spirit, bless, preserve and sanctify you; the Lord in His lovingkindness look down upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord absolve you from all your sins and grant you the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

*The assisting bishop, or other suitable minister may very briefly introduce the Mass of the day.*

### **First Censing**

*A deacon brings the censer to the bishop who blesses it saying quietly:*

**Consecrator:** Be blessed by the Holy Spirit + in whose honour you shall be burned.

*The bishop censes the altar, during which the Kyries and Gloria are sung or said:*

### **Kyries**

**Priest:** Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

**People:** Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison.

**Priest:** Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

### **Gloria**

*Gently bow at the underlined words*

**Deacon:** Please stand.....Glory be to God in the highest,

**People:** and on earth peace to all of goodwill. We praise You, we bless You, we worship you, we glorify You; we give thanks to you for your great glory, O Lord God, Heavenly King, Almighty God and Father. O Lord Christ, alone-born of the Father; O Lord God Indwelling Light, Son of the Father, whose wisdom mightily and sweetly orders all

things, pour forth your love; Your strength upholds and sustains all creation, receive our prayer; Your beauty shines throughout the whole universe, unveil your glory. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*The bishop returns the thurifer to the deacon and then says:*

### **Opening Prayer**

**Consecrator:** The Lord be with you:

**People:** And with your spirit

**Consecrator:** Almighty everlasting God, by whose spirit the whole church is made holy and governed, pour forth your sanctifying grace into the heart(s) of this (these) your servants who is (are) about be numbered among the shepherds and leaders of your church, that with pure heart and open mind they (he, she) may faithfully receive the plentitude of your Spirit; through Christ our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

*The people sit.*

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*The proclamation of God's Word is always centered on Christ, present through His Word. Old Testament writings prepare for Him; New Testament books speak of Him directly. All of scripture calls us to believe once more and to follow. After the reading we reflect upon God's words and respond to them.*

#### **First Reading - Isaiah 61:1-8**

*The reader goes to the ambo and reads the first reading, while all sit and listen.*

**Reader:** A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah:

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners, To announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God;  
To comfort all who mourn; to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes;  
To give them oil of gladness instead of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of justice; The planting of the LORD to show his glory. They shall rebuild the ancient ruins, the former wastes they shall raise up; And restore the desolate cities, devastations of generation upon generation.  
Strangers shall stand ready to pasture your flocks, foreigners shall be your farmers and vinedressers. You yourselves shall be called "Priests of the LORD," "Ministers of our God" you shall be called.  
You shall eat the wealth of the nations and in their riches you will boast. Because their shame was twofold and disgrace was proclaimed their portion; They will possess twofold in their own land; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

For I, the LORD, love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, an everlasting covenant I will make with them.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Priest or deacon:** Those that love Wisdom love life, and they that seek Her early shall be filled with joy. Teach me O Lord your statutes and I shall keep them to the end. Give me understanding and I shall keep Your law; yes, I shall keep it with my whole heart. The path of the just is as the shining light: shining more and more until the perfect day.

**People:** Amen.

### ***Responsorial Psalm***

*The deacon or cantor sings or says the Psalm, with the people making the response.*

**Deacon:** I waited patiently upon the Lord; he stooped to me and heard my cry.

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;

Many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

**All:** Behold; I come to do your will, O God.

**Deacon:** In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure, you have given me ears to hear you; Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, and so I said, “Behold, I come.

**All:** Behold; I come to do your will, O God.

**Deacon:** In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: ‘I love to do your will, O my God; Your law is deep in my heart.’” I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; Behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.

**All:** Behold; I come to do your will, O God.

### **Second Reading – Hebrews 5:1-10**

**Reader:** A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews:

Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for He himself is beset by weakness and so, for this reason, must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honor upon himself but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. In the same way, it was not Christ who glorified himself in becoming high priest, but rather the one who said to him: “You are my son; this day I have begotten you”; just as he says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days when he was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, declared by God high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### ***Alleluia or Gospel Acclamation***

*Stand. Jesus will speak to us in the gospel. We rise now out of respect and prepare for His message with the alleluia.*

**Choir:** Alleluia, Alleluia.

**People:** Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Choir:** In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son.

**People:** Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Meanwhile, if incense is used, the Priest puts some into the thurible. After this, the deacon who is to proclaim the Gospel, bowing profoundly before the Consecrator, asks for the blessing, saying in a low voice:*

**Deacon:** Cleanse my heart and my lips, O God, who by the hand of Your Seraph did cleanse the lips of the prophet Isaiah with a burning coal from Your altar, and in Your loving-kindness so purify me that I may worthily proclaim Your Holy Gospel; through Christ our Lord.

**Consecrator:** *(in a soft voice)* The Lord be in your + heart and on your + lips that you may worthily proclaim his gospel. In the name of the + Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy + Spirit.

*The deacon signs him/herself with the Sign of the Cross and replies:*

**Deacon:** Amen.

*The deacon then proceeds to the ambo, accompanied, if appropriate, by ministers with incense and candles and there says:*

**Deacon:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Deacon:** A reading from the holy gospel according to Saint John.

*The deacon makes the sign of the cross on the book, and forehead, lips and breast.*

**People:** Glory to you, Lord.

*Then, if incense is used, the deacon or priest incenses the book, and proclaims the gospel.*

## **Gospel – John 13:1-15**

**Deacon:** Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end. The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over. So, during supper, fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God, he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Master, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well." Jesus said to him, "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all." For he knew who would betray him; for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."

So when he had washed their feet and put his garments back on and reclined at table again, he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.

**Deacon:** This is the gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*The Deacon or Priest kisses the book, saying softly:*

**Deacon:** *(quietly)* May the words of the gospel wipe away our sins.

*The people are seated.*

## **The Consecration**

*The vestments and pontificalia for the Elected Bishop are arrayed in a suitable location, either upon a low altar or on a table on the Epistle side, in the Sanctuary. These are: Mitre, pectoral cross, stole, Episcopal ring, pontifical gloves, chasuble, prelatial alb, cincture, and crosier.*

*The Elected Bishop may be attended by two other Bishops or senior prelates, vested in cope and, if Bishops, the mitre. The Elect may also have a suitable number of Chaplains and other attendants vested in choir dress suitable to their rank.*

*A sermon may be said.*

*After the Sermon, the Consecrator moves to a chair before the altar and sits with the mitre and crosier. The Elected Bishop moves with attendants, to the Epistle side, and the assisting Bishop prepares to announce him or her to the Consecrator.*

**Assisting Bishop:** Most Reverend Bishop [*name*], our Holy Mother the Old Catholic Apostolic Church prays that you will raise this (these) Priest (s) here present to the order of the Episcopate.

**Consecrator:** Do you have the Protocol of Election?

**Assisting Bishop:** We have.

**Consecrator:** Let it be read.

*The Protocol of Election is now read, by the assisting bishop.*

*The Consecrating Bishop is seated before the altar, and the Bishop-elect is brought forward and kneels facing the consecrator.*

## **Homily**

*The consecrating bishop begins the homily, the first part directed toward the people:*

**Consecrator:** Dearly beloved, carefully consider to what sort of rank in the church our brother(s) (sister(s)) are about to be promoted. Our Lord Jesus Christ, sent by the Father so that He might ransom the human race, Himself sent into the world twelve apostles who, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, would preach the Gospel, and, gathering all nations into one sheepfold, would sanctify and govern them. Now in order that this office might continue to the end of time, the Apostles chose helpers, to whom they imparted – through the imposition of hands – the gift of the Holy Spirit received from Christ, by which the fullness of the sacrament of the Order is conferred. So, from generation to generation, that first tradition has been observed through a succession of bishops; and the work of our Saviour has persevered down to our time, and increased.

In the Bishop, surrounded by priests, our Lord Jesus Christ – Who was made High Priest for ever – is Himself present in your midst. For in the ministry of a Bishop, Christ Himself does not cease to preach the Gospel and to provide believers with the mysteries of the faith. Through a Bishop's gentle guiding service, our Lord Himself adds and associates new members to His body. And through a Bishop's wisdom and understanding, Christ Himself conducts you on the earthly pilgrimage to eternal happiness.

With a grateful and joyful heart, therefore, receive this our brother (s) (sister) – whom we elect to the Order by imposition of hands. Show him (them, her) honour as minister of Christ and dispenser of the mysteries of God, to whom is committed the testimony of truth of the Gospel and indeed the ministration of the Spirit and of justice. Be mindful of the words of Christ, speaking to the Apostles: “He that hears you, hears me; and he that despises you despises me; and he that despises me despises the One who sent me”. Now you; dear brother(s) (sister), chosen by the Lord: consider that you have been claimed from amongst all peoples, in those things which are of God. Indeed, the Episcopate is the name of a service, not of honour; and a Bishop should do more good than they should preside. For, according to the Master's injunction, whoever would be the greater, let them be inferior; and whoever is a leader; just as if they were a servant.

Preach in season and out of season; rebuke in all patience and doctrine. In prayer and the offering of sacrifice for the people committed to you, strive to obtain manifold grace from the fullness of the sanctity of Christ.

*The consecrating bishop continues the homily this time directed to the Bishop-elect:*

**Consecrator:** In the church entrusted to you, be a faithful dispenser, moderator, and guardian of the mysteries of Christ. Chosen by the Father to govern his household, be ever mindful of the good shepherd who knows His sheep and whose sheep know him, and who did not hesitate to lay down his life for his sheep.

Esteem all of those God has entrusted to you with a parental and fraternal charity: in the first place, priests and deacons – your partners in Christ’s ministry – but also the poor and the weak, as well as foreigners and strangers. Exhort the faithful, that they might labour with you in your Apostolic work; and may you not fail to hear them gladly. Moreover, may you have untiring care for those who have not yet been added to the one sheepfold of Christ, just as if they have been committed to you in the Lord. In the Catholic Church, united by the bond of charity, may you never forget that you have been joined to the Episcopate, so that you might gladly provide assistance to those churches in need. Attend, therefore, to the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit places you to govern the Church of God: in the name of the Father – whose image your present in the church; and in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ – whose office of teacher, priest, and pastor you exercise; and in the name of the Holy Spirit, who gives life to Christ’s Church and who strengthens our weakness by His power.

*The Consecrator, holding the Book of the Gospels open on his or her lap with both hands, with the lower part of the book turned towards the Elect, accepts from him or her the fulfillment of this oath, with the Elect still kneeling says:*

**Bishop-elect:** So help me God and these Holy Gospels of God.

*And touching the very text of the Gospels with both hands, then, not before, the Consecrator says:*

**Consecrator:** Thanks be to God.

*Then the Consecrator reads to the Elect and to the Assisting Bishops (seated in their places with the mitre) the following examination.*

## **EXAMINATION**

**Consecrator:** An ancient institution of the Holy Church commands that they who are to be consecrated Bishop should be questioned in the presence of the people concerning their purpose with regard to the faith to be kept and the office to be discharged. Therefore, dear brother/sister are you resolved to fulfil the office entrusted to us by the Apostles, and which is about to be committed to you through the imposition of our hands, with the grace of the Holy Spirit?



**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved to preach the Gospel of Christ faithfully and unceasingly?

**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved to keep the deposit of faith pure and intact, according to the tradition received from the Apostles, always and everywhere observed in the church?

**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved to build the body of Christ, His Church, and to remain in His unity with the Order of Bishops, the Episcopacy?

**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved to faithfully honour and respect the Blessed Apostles?

**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved – with your co-ministers, the priests and deacons – to cherish the Holy people of God as a devoted Guardian of them and to direct them on the path of salvation?

**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved to offer yourself to the poor, to strangers, and to all those in need, for the Holy and Merciful name of the Lord?

**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved as a good shepherd, to seek the wandering sheep and gather them to the Lord's sheepfold?

**Bishop-elect:** I am.

**Consecrator:** Are you resolved to call upon Almighty God unfailingly for His holy people, and to fulfil the office of high priest without ceasing?

**Bishop-elect:** I am, God being my helper.

**Consecrator:** Do you promise to serve The Old Catholic Apostolic Church diligently and in truth, in obedience to Christ and co-operatively with every other servant of this church?

**Bishop-elect:** I so promise.

**Consecrator:** May Our Lord who has begun a good work in you, God Himself, bring it to completion.

**All respond:** Amen.

**Consecrator:** (*standing, with hands joined and facing the people*) says:  
O you most beloved by us, let us entreat the benevolence of Almighty God, that, providing for the benefit of the Church, He might grant an abundance of His grace to this elect.

*The bishop-elect prostrates, head towards the altar.  
The litany is sung by all, the people remaining seated.*

### ***The Litany***

**All:** God the Father, seen of none,  
God the co-eternal Son,  
God the Spirit, with them One;  
Hear us Holy Trinity.

God eternal, mighty King,  
Unto You our love we bring,  
Through the world Your praises ring;  
We are Yours O Trinity.

Christ the Lord of life and light,  
Ruler of the starry height;  
Fount of glory infinite;  
You we worship, Master.

Mighty Lord we hail you here,  
Recognize your presence dear,  
Feel and know that you are near,  
Keeping thus your promise.

Though your face we cannot see,  
As of old of Galilee,  
Strong in faith with you in me,  
Ever-present Master.

From our forebears we have heard,  
Of the gift your hand conferred,  
We have proved the Holy Word;

Be that gift outpoured.

Though your form from earth has gone,  
Your apostles handed on,  
Sacramental benison;  
Be that blessing with us.

We this power would now convey,  
Strengthen then our hands we pray,  
Pour your might through us today,  
Hear us Holy Master.

Monarch at your feet we kneel,  
For your servant we appeal,  
Fill his/her heart with holy zeal,  
In your service, Master.

Lord of holy church the head,  
Mystic power upon him/her shed,  
By your love may he/she be led;  
Hear us Holy Master.

Link in mystic bond with you  
This your bishop that he/she be,  
From the world and self set free;  
By your power O Master.

May he/she stand before your face,  
Filled with love and heavenly grace,  
Grant him/her with the saints a place;  
Near you Lord and Master.

*The Consecrating bishop and assisting bishops rise. The consecrator takes his crozier in his left hand; holds it above the prostrate elect and says or sings alone:*

**Consecrator:** We beseech you hear our prayer,  
Bless + your servant prostrate there,  
Hold him/her in your loving care;  
Hear us Holy Trinity.

Hear your servants as they pray,  
Help this chosen one today,  
Bless+ and + hallow him/her for aye;  
Hear us Holy Trinity.

Pour your loving-kindness great,

On your chosen candidate,  
Bless + Him/her, + Hallow, + Consecrate;  
Hear us Holy Trinity.

*All the bishops and clergy kneel and everyone sings:*

**All:** God the Father, seen of none,  
God the co-eternal Son,  
God the Spirit, with them one;  
We are yours O Trinity.

*Once the litany has been sung, the Consecrating Bishop stands, and with hands extended says:*

**Consecrator:** Look favourably on our prayers, O Lord; and with the horn of priestly grace inclined over this your servant, pour forth the power of Your blessing upon him/her.

### ***The Imposition of hands and Prayer of Consecration***

*The elect is helped to their feet and approaches the consecrating bishop, who stands before the throne wearing the mitre; and the elect genuflects and kneels before them. The people stand.*

*The consecrating bishop lays hands upon the head of the elect, saying nothing, and breathes upon the top the elects' head. Replacing both hands upon the elects head, the consecrating bishop says:*

**Consecrator:** Receive the Holy Spirit, for the office and serving of a bishop.

*Then approaching in succession, all of the bishops impose hands upon the head of the elect, saying*

**Assisting Bishop:** Receive the Holy Spirit, for the office and serving of a bishop.

*The bishops remain around about the consecrating bishop until the Prayer of Consecration is finished, yet in such a way that the faithful may easily see the proceedings.*

**Consecrator:** God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of mercies and God of all consolation; Who dwells in the highest, yet regards lowly things; Who knows all things before they come to be; You, Who has given rules in Your church, through the word of Your Grace; Who from the beginning did predestine a race of just people from Abraham; Who appointed chiefs and priests, and Who did not abandon Your sanctuary without ministry; Whom it pleased from the beginning of the world to be glorified in these whom you have chosen:

*(all bishops together continue...)*

**Bishops:** And now, pour forth upon this elect Your power, which is from You: that governing spirit which You did give to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ; which Himself

bestowed upon the holy Apostles, who established the church everywhere as Your sanctuary, to the unfailing glory of Your name.

**All:** Amen

**Deacon admonishes:** please be seated.

*(except consecrator, elect and two deacons) The book of gospels is held – open over the head of the elect by the deacons during the following prayer:*

**Consecrator:** Father, Knower of hearts, grant to this Your servant, whom You have chosen for the episcopate, that they might shepherd Your holy flock, and might exhibit the high priesthood to You without ceasing, serving You night and day, so that they should constantly reflect Your merciful countenance and offer the gifts of Your Holy Church. By virtue of the Holy Spirit, grant that they may hold the power of the high priesthood – that of forgiving of sins – according to Your mandate; that they might distribute gifts according to your rule; and that they might loose every bond according to the power which You gave to the Apostles. May they please You in gentleness and with a pure heart, offering you a fragrance of sweetness through Your Son Jesus Christ, through whom glory, might and honour are Yours, with the Holy Spirit in the Holy Church, both now and for ever.

**All:** Amen.

*The deacons take away the book and hold it ready for the consecrator. All are seated. The consecrator resumes the mitre and assumes the linen apron, receives the cruet of sacred chrism from a server, and anoints the head of the elect who is kneeling before him.*

**Consecrator:** May God, who has made you a partaker of Christ's high priesthood, Himself fill you by this mystical anointing, and may He make you fruitful through an abundance of spiritual blessing.

*The Consecrator washes his or her hands and receives the book of gospels from the deacons and hands it to the elect saying:*

**Consecrator:** Receive the gospel and preach the word of god in all patience and doctrine.

*Then the deacon takes the book and returns it to its place.*

*The Consecrator places the ring on the finger of elects right hand saying:*

**Consecrator:** Receive this ring a seal of the faith: and, attired with a faith undefiled, blamelessly guard the spouse of God, the Holy Church.

*Then consecrator confers the mitre upon them saying:*

**Consecrator:** Receive the mitre. May the splendour of sanctity be evident within you, so that when the Prince of the shepherds shall appear you may deserve to obtain a noble crown of glory.

*Finally, the consecrator hands the pastoral staff saying:*

**Consecrator:** Receive this staff, as a sign of pastoral office; and attend to the entire flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as bishop to govern in the church of God.

*The new bishop is invited to be seated in the first place among the co-consecrating bishops. Then, the new bishop rises and receives the sign of peace from The Consecrator, and then the other bishops. The mass continues in the usual way...*

## **Statement of Faith**

*We all stand and say:*

**All:** We believe that God is love and truth and power and light, that perfect justice rules the world; that all his sons and daughters shall one day reach His feet, however far they stray. We hold the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of mankind. We know we serve Him best, when best we serve our fellow human beings. So shall our praise be set before Him and our people be at peace for evermore. Amen

**Deacon admonishes:** Please be seated.

*The new bishop presents offerings of bread, wine and candles to the consecrator. Then consecrator says:*

**Consecrator:** Draw near with your gifts and God will draw near to you with His

**New Bishop:** Amen.

*The bread and wine for the Eucharist is brought to the consecrator who gives these to a priest who prepares the altar for the sacred mysteries.*

**Consecrator:** From the rising of the sun until the going down of the same the Lord's name shall be magnified; and in every place incense shall be offered unto his name as a pure offering. There shall be heard in this place the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord.

*He offers the host and says:*

We adore you O God, who are the source of all life and goodness, and with true and thankful hearts we offer you this token of your own life-giving gifts bestowed upon us, for You are the giver of all.

*He pours wine and a little water into the chalice and says:*

According to immemorial custom, we now mix water with this wine, praying that we may ever abide in Christ and He in us.

*He offers the chalice and says:*

We offer to You O Lord this chalice with joy and gladness; may the worship we offer ascend before Your Divine Majesty as a sacrifice, pure and acceptable in Your sight; through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

## **Second Censing**

*The deacon brings the incense and the bishop censes the oblations and the altar in prescribed manner and says:*

**Consecrator:** As this incense rises before You O Lord, so let our prayer be set forth in Your sight. Let Your holy Angels encompass Your people and breathe forth upon them the spirit of your blessing.

*As the bishop returns the censer to the deacon he says:*

May the Lord enkindle in us the fire of His love and the flame of everlasting charity.

*The bishops, clerics, choir and people are censed. The people stand as the thurifer approaches them and bow before and after being censed, the people sit down afterwards.*

*During the censing, the consecrator recites the lavabo in low tone to himself.*

*Turning to the people he says:*

My brothers and sister, pray that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God Almighty.

**All:** May the Lord receive the sacrifice at your hands and sanctify our lives in His service.

**Celebrant:** We lay before You O Lord these Your creatures of bread and wine, in token of our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; for here we offer and present unto you our souls and bodies, to be a holy and continual sacrifice to You, that we, who are very members incorporate in the mystical body of Your Son which is the blessed company of all your faithful people. May hear that His most joyful voice ‘ Come unto Me, O you that be blessed of My Father, and posses the kingdom which is prepared for you from the beginning of the world’, through the same Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, throughout the ages of ages.

**All:** Amen.

*The bishops remove their zucchetos.*

**Consecrator:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** and with your spirit.

**Consecrator:** Lift up your hearts

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Consecrator:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is meet and right so to do.

**Consecrator:** It is truly meet and right and for our salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God: and that we should praise and bless and proclaim You in the Assumption of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, who conceived Your only begotten Son by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, and the glory of her virginity still abiding, gave forth to the world the eternal Light, Jesus Christ our Lord: through Whom, Angels praise Your Majesty, Dominations worship, Powers stand in awe. The heavens and the hosts of heaven with the blessed

Seraphim unite, exult and celebrate; and we entreat that You would bid our voices be heard with theirs, evermore praising You and saying:

## ***The Sanctus***

*All say the Sanctus:*

**All:** Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of Your glory; glory be to You O Lord most High. + Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**Consecrator:** Therefore, O most loving Father, we Your servants pray that through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to + Receive, to + Purify, and to + Hallow this oblation which we make unto You. We desire to offer this holy sacrifice for Your holy catholic Church; that it may please you to grant her peace, to watch over her and to bring her to unity and guide her throughout the world; likewise that it may please You to bless and keep all Your people, to give them increase of grace to bring forward the fruits of the spirit, to guide all nations into unity, peace and concord, and to endue their rulers with wisdom and understanding. We especially pray for N (Queen/President) and all that are put in authority under him (her); for all our bishops, clergy and faithful; and for those here present, whose faith and devotion are known to You. We also call to mind all those in this transitory life who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity (especially...). Likewise we offer it for all those of Your children who you have delivered from the burden of the flesh (especially...), that, freed from earthly toil and care, they may enjoy the felicity of Your presence, evermore praising You in word and deed, O God everlasting, living and true.

Consecrator: In this joyful sacrifice, we unite with Your holy Church throughout the ages. We lift our hearts in adoration of You, O God the Son, who is consubstantial and coeternal with the Father; In the mystery of Your boundless love, You sent forth Your own divine life into the universe, yet You are unchangeable and ever abiding in Yourself. Through Your eternal sacrifice; You continually uphold all creation, dying in very truth that we may live. You offered yourself as the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

*With his hands spread over the offerings he continues:*

So, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, we pray that You will look down on and accept these offerings, which we make unto You in obedience of the most blessed command of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray that You will + Bless, + Approve, and + Ratify them that they may become for us His most precious + Body and + Blood. Who on the day He suffered took bread into His holy and venerable hands, and with His eyes lifted up to heaven unto You, He + blessed, broke and gave it to His disciples saying : Take and eat this, for

**THIS IS MY BODY.**

*The Sanctus bell is rung three times*



In like manner, after He had supped, taking also this noble chalice into His holy and venerable hands, again giving thanks to You he +blessed it and gave it to His disciples saying Take and drink this, for

**THIS IS MY BLOOD.**

*The Sanctus bell is rung three times*

As often as You do these things; you do them in remembrance of Me.

*(Silence)*

*The following is sung to the tune of 'Abide with Me'*

**All:** Thee we adore, O hidden splendour thee,  
Who in thy sacrament dost deign to be,  
We worship thee beneath this earthly veil,  
And here Thy presence we devoutly hail.

**Consecrator:** Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we Your humble servants, bearing in mind the ineffable sacrifice of Your Son, the mystery of His wondrous incarnation, His blessed passion, His mighty resurrection, and His triumphant ascension; do make before your Divine Majesty the memorial which our Lord willed us to make, and we offer unto You this, the most precious gift which you have bestowed upon us: this pure + Host, this + Holy Host, this + glorious Host, the holy + Bread of life everlasting, and the + Chalice of eternal salvation.

This we present before you in token of our love and of the perfect devotion and sacrifice of our minds and hearts to You; and we pray that You will command Your Holy Angel to bear our oblation to Your altar on high, there to be offered by Him, who as the eternal High Priest, for ever offers Himself as the eternal sacrifice.

And as he has ordained that the heavenly Sacrifice shall be mirrored here on earth through the ministry of mortal beings, to the end that Your holy people may be knit more closely into fellowship with You, we pray for Your servant who ministers at this altar, that, meetly celebrating the mysteries of the most holy + Body and + Blood of Yours Son, that he may be + filled with Your mighty power and blessing.

Similarly we pray that You will sanctify Your people here present with these Your heavenly gifts, and through these mysteries You now + Hallow, + Quicken and + Bless them, that both in their hearts and in their lives they may show forth Your praise and glorify Your holy Name.

All these things we ask, O Father, in the name and through the mediation of Your most blessed Son, for we acknowledge and confess with our hearts and lips that + by Him all things were made, yes, all things both in heaven and earth; + with Him as the indwelling Life all things exist, and in + Him as the transcendent Glory all things live and move and have their being:

To whom with You, O mighty + Father, in the unity of the Holy + Spirit, be ascribed all honour and glory, throughout the ages of ages.

**All: Amen**

*The host and chalice are raised, and the Sanctus bell is rung three times.*

**Consecrator:** Instructed by Sacred Scripture and following the tradition of the Holy Church from old we now say:

**All:** Our Father, you are in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive them that sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Consecrator:** Here do we give unto You, O Lord, heartfelt thanks for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in the Blessed Virgin Mary and in all Your glorious Saints, who from the beginning of the world have been the choice vessels of Your grace and a shining light to many generations. And we + join with them in worship before Your great white throne, from which flows all love and light and blessing through all the worlds that You have made.

O Son of God, You show Yourself this day upon a thousand altars, and yet are One and indivisible, in token of Your great sacrifice we break This; Your Body... (*here he breaks the host in half over the Chalice and with it makes the sign of the cross three times...*) ...praying that by this action, ordained from old, Your +Strength, Your +Peace, and Your +Blessing, which You give us in this holy Sacrament, may be spread abroad throughout Your world; and as You, O Lord Christ, were made known to Your Disciples in the breaking of bread, so may Your many children know themselves to be one in You, even as You are One with the Father.

**All:** Amen.

**Consecrator:** The peace of the Lord be always with you....

**All:** ...and with your spirit.

**Consecrator:** O Lord, who in this adorable sacrament has left us a living memorial and pledge of Your marvelous love for mankind, and by this graciously draws us into wondrous and mystic communion with You, grant us so to receive the sacred mysteries of Your Body and Blood that our souls may be lifted into the immensity of Your love, and that, being filled with a high endeavour, we may ever be mindful of Your indwelling Presence and breathe forth the fragrance of a holy life.

**All:** Amen.

**Celebrant says:** Unto You, O Perfect One, the Lord and lover of mankind, do we commend our life and hope. For You are the Heavenly Bread, the Life of the whole world; You are in all places and endure all things, the Treasury of endless good and the Well of infinite compassion. Amen.

*Those in the sanctuary receive communion.*

**Consecrator:** + You that desire to partake of the Body and Blood of the Lord, draw near and receive this most holy sacrament.

*The people come forward for communion and the celebrant says to each:*

**Celebrant:** The +Body of our Lord Christ keep you in life eternal.

**Celebrant:** The +Blood of our Lord Christ keep you in life eternal.

*The bishops replace their zucchetos.*

*The communion being ended the consecrating bishop says (while the altar and elements are covered by servers):*

**Consecrator:** Under the veil of earthly things now we have communion with our Lord Jesus Christ; soon with open face shall we behold Him, and, rejoicing in His glory, be made like unto Him. Then shall His true disciples be brought be Him with exceeding joy before the presence of His Father's glory.

**All stand and say:** Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

**Consecrator:** The Lord be with you

**All:** and with your spirit

*(The people are seated)*

**Consecrator:** Let us pray; We who have been refreshed with Your heavenly gifts do pray, O Lord, that Your grace may be so grafted inwardly in our hearts that it may continually be made manifest in our lives; through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*The new bishop receives his mitre and staff and is led through the church by two of the bishops, blessing everyone. Afterwards, the consecrator imparts the blessing:*

**Consecrator:** The Lord be with You

**All:** and with your spirit.

**Consecrator:** Ite, missa est.

**All:** Deo gratias.

*The Consecrator gives the benediction:*

**Consecrator:** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son, Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the + Father, the + Son and the Holy + Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**All:** Amen.

*The new bishop offers this benediction:*

**New Bishop:** And may Almighty God bless all of you present here +Father, + Son, and Holy + Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

*(the people stand)*

*The new bishop pays homage to the consecrator:*

*Approaching the consecrator one step at a time, genuflecting and saying at each step:*

**New Bishop:** Ad Multos Annos; Ad Multos Annos; Ad Multos Annos.

*The consecrator offers the new bishop a salutation of peace, then the clergy process from the chancel while the servers extinguish the altar candles.*

**END of service.**

*Please pray for the New Bishop in the coming weeks and on each anniversary of this service and pray for the Old Catholic Apostolic Church each time you remember this service.*