

The Old Catholic Church in the United Kingdom and America

(PART OF THE ONE HOLY CATHOLIC & APOSTOLIC CHURCH)



THE HAWKESYARD AGREEMENT

We believe that an essential element for good order in the world is freedom of religion. This is an implication of the Catholic Faith and Religion and of the universal nature of Christianity.

The liberty with which Christ has set mankind free can neither be given nor destroyed by any Government, Christian denomination or other religious institution. Furthermore, because of that inner freedom, we are solicitous that all mankind should have freedom in religious life and worship.

Every person therefore has a right to associate with others and to organize with them for religious purposes. This right includes freedom to form religious organizations, to seek membership in religious communities, and if so desired, to sever relationships with a religious denomination, movement or society. It requires that the rights of association and organization guaranteed by a community to its members include the right of forming associations for religious purposes. Furthermore every religious organization, formed or maintained in accordance with the liberty of individual persons, has the right to determine its policies and practices for the accomplishment of its chosen purposes.

Accordingly:

**We the College of Bishops of the now “well-established jurisdiction”
of the Old Catholic Church in the United Kingdom**

who form part of the One Holy Catholic & Apostolic Church, do exercise our right to establish two Religious Congregations under our protection

The Religious Congregations shall be known generally as the “Companions of Jesus” and shall offer membership to all who subscribe to our Statement of Faith and conform to the Canons of the Old Catholic Church.

The Order for women shall be known as:

The Companions of Jesus (Congregation of St Francis)

The Order for men shall be known as:

The Companions of Jesus (Congregation of St Benedict)

May God grant unto us His Grace and Heavenly Benediction now and for evermore. Amen.

Signed: This Twenty-fourth Day of April (*St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen*) in the
Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fifteen

+Geoffrey S Robinson

++ John Lycett

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Rt Rev'd Geoffrey S Robinson CJ DD

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Most Rev'd John A W Lycett CJ DD

