



# Institute for Eastern Christian Studies

Office of the Archbishop Metropolitan  
3634 White Bear Ave  
St. Paul, MN 55110  
Institutepecs.com (763) 516-8068

January 13, 2024

My dear faithful Catholics,

I am so happy to share with you that we are the TRUE CATHOLIC FAITH. In today's world, there is much confusion and many different religious groups so it is important for one to understand the background of each religious organization and so I want to share with you who we are.

We are the Catholic Church which includes the Roman Catholic and the Greek Catholic Church which makes up both East and West (the whole Catholic Church). This jurisdiction is bi-ritual, which means we offer the traditional Latin Mass (Tridentine) and the Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy (we are doing what has been done since the time of the Apostles). In the Catholic Church there are 24 rites (1 West and 23 East).

Our jurisdiction was established by Joseph Cardinal Slipyj with the cooperation of Melkite Greek Catholic Patriarch Maximos V Hakim as a union of Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic Bishops. It was established to work towards one united Ukrainian jurisdiction as a bridge between East and West.

His Beatitude +Amvrosij is an Archbishop Metropolitan with jurisdiction. His Metropolitan Province is North America, South America and dependencies (includes priests in Africa and other parts of the world). Archbishop Ambrose was ordained a priest in 1974 in the Ukrainian Catholic Church under Patriarch Josyf Cardinal Slipyj, and consecrated a bishop in 1976.

He was consecrated a Metropolitan September 26, 1976 at our Cathedral in Chicago by more than a dozen bishops. The bishops included five Ukrainian and Melkite Greek Catholic Bishops and the rest were canonical Ukrainian Orthodox bishops in communion with Cardinal Slipyj. Three of those bishops were the three who consecrated the last Archbishop Exarch of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria. A letter exists in the Cathedral archives from Patriarch Nicholas VI of Alexandria recognizing the canonical status of Metropolitan Archbishop +Amvrosij. A Metropolitan who did not enter into communion with Cardinal Slipyj, later became the Ukrainian Patriarch of Kiev. We have a letter from him, Patriarche Mystyslav of Kiev, recognizing Metropolitan Archbishop +Amvrosij as Primate of this jurisdiction. This status is also confirmed in secular law by the Office of the Secretary of State of Illinois.



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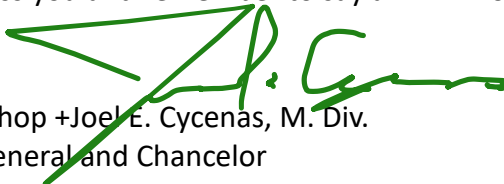
Canonically, bishops have to be consecrated by three bishops (to ensure validity) and because he was consecrated by more than 12 bishops this reassures us that he is truly valid.

Cardinal Slipyj ordered Archbishop Ambrose to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Tridentine Rite to traditional Catholics. This was WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL OF POPE JOHN PAUL II, whom the Metropolitan Archbishop met in 1976 when he accompanied Patriarch Maximos V Hakim to the Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia and Karol Cardinal Wojtyla was a guest there.

Archbishop Ambrose received authority by Cardinal Slipyj to be a Metropolitan Archbishop who has jurisdiction to provide all Sacraments including ordaining priests and consecrating bishops. Archbishop Ambrose has Papal Privilege as an Archbishop with jurisdiction whereas independent traditional bishops throughout the world are auxiliary bishops. Clergy who are accepted into this Orthodox Greek Catholic bi-ritual jurisdiction by His Beatitude, an Archbishop, canon lawyer, with Papal Privilege, are then given permission to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Tridentine Rite or in the Byzantine Rite.

That is who we are. We are providing valid Sacraments to those who are interested in receiving them from us as we are representing the Church that Jesus Christ began when he was with his Apostles. We welcome all.

God bless you and remember to say a DAILY Rosary,

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Chorbishop +Joel E. Cychenas, M. Div.  
Vicar General and Chancellor