
ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE AMERICAS

PUBLIC PROCLAMATION OF THE CHURCH REGARDING RESTRUCTURING OF OPERATIONS (FUNCTIONALITY) AND RELATED MATTERS MADE THIS THE 24th DAY OF OCTOBER 1997 (New Calendar)

For an extended period of time many matters regarding the functionality of the Church have been left unattended. This proclamation addresses these matters as determined in Synod of the Church held the middle weeks of October, 1997. The actual minutes of the Synod are part of the Church records, and are available as such to the Clergy of the Jurisdiction and those having need determined by the Synod to be reasonable.

PROCLAMATION OF THE SYNOD OF OCTOBER, 1997

In open Synod during the middle two weeks of October, 1997, attended in person by Archbishop John J. Lehanan of Louisiana, Bishop Andres Giron of Guatemala, and by proxy which was later confirmed by written approval of the Synodal action by Bishop Augustinus (John A.) Corcoran, the following actions were taken:

I. Name: The name of this Church and Jurisdiction is hereby changed to ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE AMERICAS, the Church releasing any other name by which this Church has been known and any social or organizational name associated with any such other name.

II. Composition of the Synod: The Synod has, since May, 1997, consisted of five Bishops. Another Bishop has been believed by some to be a Bishop of this Church. Correspondence by this other Bishop to two Bishops of this Church and the Synodal Notary, dated 6 September 1993, and signed by this other Bishop, and a declaration by this other Bishop, of the same date, to the same individuals, and signed by this other Bishop, clearly state he is not a member of this Church. Copies of these documents are attached, but are censored to delete any identifying information and certain privileged or private matters which in no manner effect this other Bishop's statement that he is not a member of this Synod.

Inquiry was made to this other Bishop in October, 1996, as to whether he wished to join the Synod, and hence, the Church. This other Bishop indicated in the affirmative, but his joining was never voted upon by the Synod.

In the beginning of the year 1997, the presiding Bishop of this Church informed various members of the Synod, that this other Bishop had withdrawn from this Jurisdiction. In actuality, this other Bishop did not have to withdraw, having never been admitted into the Synod, but his withdrawal compounds and confirms he is not a member of the Synod.

Jurisdictional Canon requires a Bishop who is to be received into the Church be honorably released from his current Church. There was no release received for this other Bishop.

The Synod therefore has but five members.

III. Metropolitan Primate: The office of Metropolitan Primate is hereby retired. The Synod may resurrect that office at will.

IV. The Church confirms its adherence to those matters decreed to be dogma by the seven councils of the entire Church. Those matters which have not been decreed as dogma by such a Council, and those matters which


have not been decreed as false by such a Council, such as the concepts of The Immaculate Conception, the Assumption, the existence or non existence of Purgatory, the level of awareness of the Soul at and after death, are beyond the capacity of this Church to make a dogmatic proclamation upon, have been the subject of theological discussions for in excess of a thousand years without resolution, resulting in such matters therefore having the status of permitted personal beliefs until such time as the entire Church, in proper Council or other proper form, shall decree thereupon.

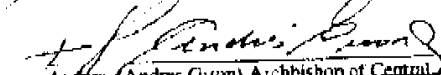
V Bishop Andres Giron of Guatemala is appointed and is now Archbishop of Central America

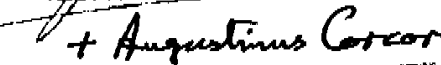
VI. All members of the Clergy of this Church, without regard to rank, shall have ten days from the date hereof within which to sign and date a copy hereof and return said document to the Synodal Offices thereby agreeing to conform herewith, after which time all who have not so done shall be released from faculty with this Church without further notice. All so released may apply for readmission in the normal manner

VII. Reformation of Canons Any Canon of this Church not in total conformity herewith is hereby revised so-as-to conform herewith, the Synodal Notary being hereby instructed to present the appropriate revision to the Synod in a timely manner.

VIII Notice: The Synodal Notary is instructed to make public proclamation of the actions of the Synod, in such a manner as to not readily identify any individual not an original signatory thereto, in an attempt to not harm any individual emotionally or in any manner what-so-ever.

 Date: October 21, 1997
John (John) Lehman, Archbishop of Louisiana

 Date: October 21, 1997
Andres (Andres Giron) Archbishop of Central America

 Date: October 22nd, 1997
Augustinus (John A. Corcoran), Bishop

 Date: October 21, 1997
Paul, Synodal Notary (Rt. Rev. Lee Mc Collesier), Mitered Archpriest