

Notes on the Rites of the Metropolitan Archdiocese

We are using the Roman Catholic rites. The only rite that is different is the Mass which was written by ++John Robert and edited somewhat by +++David Leon Cooper. It is definitely "Roman derived." The pope, as "Holy Father of Rome, the Successor of St. Peter" is named during the Mass along with each of the Eastern Orthodox patriarchs as well as the "Metropolitan Archbishop David Leon."

Roman rites for administration of the sacraments are used.

The Roman Catholic missal may be used for readings and prayers during the Mass. We strike out the filioque from the Nicene Creed. I will not go into the history here except to say that it was forced in by Charlemagne against the vehement opposition of Pope Leo III. Orthodox side with Pope Leo III. The filioque was never included in the Nicene Creed by the Fathers who wrote it. Our lectures on the www.apostolicconfraternity.com site are helpful for clarity.

(Our Roman Catholic friends are allowed by the Vatican to omit the filioque when they are in Mass with Orthodox.)

With our Mass we allow prayers from the Roman Catholic missal for the Mass or customized ones written by the local bishop. We are open to following the customs and preferences of the faithful flock. We will also allow prayers from the Anglican Mass to be included if preferred. (After all, Benedict the XVI has now allowed all of the Anglican rites to be used by Catholics from that tradition! Can we do less?)

If you are getting the feeling that we have one foot in the Roman camp and the other in the Eastern Orthodox camp, you are starting to understand what Western rite Orthodox Catholicism is. We are Orthodox in faith, Roman in rites.