

The text of an Act executed on February 2, 1927 at New York City, N.Y., USA By:

"THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS OF THE AMERICAN RUSSIAN DIOCESE OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH"

ESTABLISHING

"THE HOLY EASTERN ORTHODOX CATHOLIC AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA"

Known as

+"THE AMERICAN ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCH"+

"Now we, the Synod of Bishops of the Dioceses of the American Russian Jurisdiction, believing ourselves called of Christ and moved of the Holy Spirit in behalf of Holy Church and her children in America, and being fully authorized through the above Letter by the highest Authority in the Church to which we owe and maintain strict obedient loyalty;

"we hereby, on this 2nd. day of February in the year 1927, charge one of our number, His Eminence, the Most Reverend Aftimios, Archbishop of Brooklyn, with full responsibility and duty of caring and providing for American Orthodoxy in the especial sense of Orthodox Catholic people born in America and primarily English-speaking or any American residents or parishes of whatever nationality or linguistic character or derivation not satisfactorily provided with proper and canonical orthodox Catholic care, ecclesiastical authority, teaching and ministrations of the Church or who may wish to attach themselves by the properly and legally provided means to an autonomous, independent, American Orthodox Catholic Church. And to that end, that he may discharge the duty and responsibility laid upon the Church and by us on him, we do hereby permit, empower, authorize and direct the said Archbishop of Brooklyn to found, organize, establish, head, conduct, control, and maintain a distinct independent and autonomous branch of the orthodox Catholic Church to be known and legally established and generally recognized as **"The Holy Eastern Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church in North America"** with provisions that (1) such newly-established

Orthodox Catholic Church shall be and forever remain in all respects truly Orthodox Catholic in the sense of the Fathers, Councils, Canons, and Tradition of the Historic Undivided Church still existing in the several Patriarchates and Autonomus Churches of the one Holy Orthodox Catholic Apostolic Eastern Church, and still be in full communion and Orthodox Catholic brotherly fellowship with, but only with, Orthodox Catholic Churches, Clergy and Faithful, maintaining and strictly observing the full content and form of sound, undefiled Eastern Orthodox Catholic Doctrine, Traditions, Canons, Discipline, Order and Sacramental Communion; and

(2) in as much as it is derived from the canonically founded by the Church of Russia through the primary and sole Orthodox Catholic Missionary and evangelistic efforts of the Russian Church in America and fully recognizes the primacy and canonical exclusiveness of the Russian jurisdiction and hierarchy in America, throughout the first century of its existence in the new World, the newly-established Holy Eastern Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church in North America, while entirely autonomous and independent in its organization, constitution, administration, jurisdiction, and authority, shall preserve at all times its brotherly and filial relationship to the Orthodox Church of Russian represented in Russia by the Patriarchal Authority of Moscow and All Russia and in America by His Eminence, metropolitan Platon, and his canonically established and recognized successors as Archbishop of the American Jurisdiction of the Patriarchate of Moscow and All Russia. Further: We do hereby, on this 2nd. day of February, 1927, elect and give order for the Consecration of the Very Reverend Leonid Turkevitch to be Bishop in the newly-founded Holy Eastern Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church in North America as assistant to its Governing head, His Eminence, the Most Reverend Aftimios, Archbishop of Brooklyn, and by him to be appointed to such position or See as the Holy Eastern Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church in North America by its Constitution or By-Laws may provide or erect

for the first assistant Bishop under its Primate. May God prosper and Bless this work in His Name and to His Glory. Amen.

Issued under our hands and seals in the City of New York, on the 2nd. day of February in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Twenty Seven.

PLATON,

Metropolitan of North America

AFTIMIOS

Archbishop of Brooklyn

THEOPHILUS

Bishop of ~~Alaska~~

ANPHILONY

Bishop of Alaska

ARSENY

Bishop of Winnipeg

ALEXY

Bishop of San Francisco