

MEMORANDUM

ECCLESIAL ASSOCIATION WITH THE “CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS” AND RELATED ORGANISATIONS

Former members of this communion under the leadership of a bishop who has been deprived of faculties for disciplinary cause have recently established an entity calling itself the “Catholic Apostolic Church of the Holy Cross” with an attendant “Order of Maria Rosa Mystica”. These persons have been engaged in an aggressive campaign of proselytisation towards members of our communion and its associated Orders with the intention of persuading them to secede to this schismatic and invalid group, from which we have clearly dissociated ourselves.

This communion has long believed that it is important that when ecclesiastical differences occur, it should maintain dignity in its public statements and treat those persons concerned with respect. It will not sink to the level of personal attacks or insults, believing such behaviour to be inherently un-Christian. Our public Ad Clerum and the confidential internal Pastoral Letter circulated to members of our communion recently are statements of fact that, while they rightly censure conduct that is unacceptable to our communion, are principally concerned with giving a plain account of what has happened and the steps we have taken as a result. We consider that the official documents we have circulated are a full response to the situation, and do not intend to enter into further discussion on these matters. All this is part of our determination that the focus of our communion should be upon the Sacraments and the mission of the inner church, and not upon personalities or disputes.

The schismatic nature of these new entities and the immoral behaviour they appear to condone, causes us to require that members of EADM should have no contact with them in a church context. While we make no such provision in respect of continuing friendship and possible pastoral support for those involved should they seek it from members of our communion, we would ask that the proper boundaries are observed so that any contentious church matters can be dealt with by us in an appropriate and considered way.

FOR THE COUNCIL OF THREE

7 June a.d. 2011

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