



THE ORDER OF
THE CROSS OF
CHRIST





Established by the Synod of Bishops of the Old Catholic Confederation, the Order of the Cross of Christ is the highest ecclesiastical decoration of the Old Catholic Confederation. The Order is awarded *motu proprio* by the Primate of the Old Catholic Confederation upon faithful lay persons and clergy distinguished by their outstanding service and philanthropic commitment to the Church. An ecumenical award, the Order of the Cross of Christ may be conferred upon any baptized Christian who professes the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed.

The Feast day of the Order is September 14, the Great Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross. On the Saturday after this feast, the Order holds its annual Liturgy and Investiture for the Conferral of the Order on new members and promotions, followed by a white tie dinner.



OFFICERS OF THE ORDER

His Grace, The Most Rev. Craig J. N. de Paulo, Ph.D., D.D.
Primate

His Excellency, The Rt. Rev. Charles F. C. Tobin, S.T.M.
Grand Prior

TBA
Grand Chancellor

His Excellency, Dr. Johan van Overbeke, C.C.
Grand Commander

TBA
Lieutenant for the Mid-Atlantic United States



RANKS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Order is conferred in three classes: Third Class, Second Class and First Class. Third Class members are awarded the decoration as a Neck Badge (for men) or the Ribbon (for women). Second Class members are awarded the decoration as a Neck Badge (for men) or the Ribbon (for women) with the Silver Breast Star. First Class members are awarded the Gold Breast Star and the Sash. The rosette of the Order is sky blue with a silver chi rho cross (for second class) and a gold chi rho cross (for first class).







PROTOCOL FOR DECORATIONS

General Guidelines

It is acceptable to wear military and civil decorations at state and other prestigious ceremonial functions providing the invitation specifically calls for them. The traditional wording in North America is *White Tie* or *Evening Dress*. Protocol for wearing decorations is governed by the various bodies which issue them. Generally speaking, most organizations in English-speaking countries follow the same basic guidelines shown below. In all cases, if a man has more orders than the guidelines permit to be worn at once, he should wear the most senior orders.

White Tie (Evening Dress)

- broad riband (sash) with badge may be worn over the appropriate shoulder or replaced by a shortened riband (see photo on right); either type is positioned over the waistcoat and under the tailcoat
- up to four stars may be worn on the left breast of the tailcoat
- one neck badge suspended on a miniature ribbon of an order may be worn just below the bow tie
- miniature badges of orders, decorations and medals are worn on a metal bar on the coat's left lapel



Black Tie (Dinner Jackets)

- one star may be worn on the left breast of the jacket
- one neck badge suspended on a miniature ribbon of an order may be worn just below the bow tie
- miniature badges of orders, decorations and medals are worn on a metal bar on the jacket's left lapel



Morning Dress

- up to four stars may be worn on the left breast of the coat
- one neck badge suspended on a full-width ribbon may be worn under the shirt collar
- full-size badges of orders, decorations and medals are worn on a metal bar on the coat's left lapel



Business Suit

- The rosette of the Order may be worn on the left lapel of the business suit every day, if one wishes, or to attend a function of the Order.
- On some occasions of the Order when the event calls for a business with Orders, the neck badge is worn with one breast star.

Special Liturgical Celebrations

- For special liturgies of the Order, installation of a bishop, funerals of bishops and members of the Order, the robes of the Order are worn.



