



THE HOLY ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF BOSTON

His Eminence, Metropolitan Ephraim of Boston

METROPOLITAN EPHRAIM'S POSITION On Imparting the Holy Mysteries to Laypeople of Other Traditional Orthodox Jurisdictions

Following the tradition and practice of the holy confessor, St. Philaret, Metropolitan of New York, I will give holy communion to any layman who:

- 1] Is a traditional Orthodox Christian.*
- 2] Follows the traditional calendar of the Church.
- 3] Has a bishop who is canonical and Orthodox and recognizes me as being a canonical and Orthodox bishop.
- 4] Endorses the *Declaration of the Clergy [attached]*.
- 5] Has no other impediments to receiving holy communion.

I feel this is my *obligation* in order to further unity among the traditional Orthodox Christians.

If the layman in question has a parish of his own jurisdiction nearby, I would tell him to go there for communion, just to avoid misunderstandings, until the time we are officially in communion with these other traditional Orthodox Christian Synods.

*Definition of a "traditional Orthodox Christian:" an individual who follows the Julian calendar and considers ecumenism a *condemned* heresy. (E.g., the Synod of Cyprian of Fili and associates do *not* consider ecumenism as a condemned heresy [despite the Anathema of 1983] and therefore do not qualify as traditional Orthodox Christians. They consider the new calendar State Church of Greece a canonical entity!)

