



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ORIENTAL/ROMAN CATHOLIC CONSULTATION HOLDS THREE-DAY MEETING IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK--The eighth meeting of the Oriental Orthodox/Roman Catholic Consultation (USA), co-sponsored by the four member-Church hierarchies (Armenian, Coptic, Ethiopian, and Syrian) and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops was held at the Seamen's Church Institute here, September 9-11.

The meeting was co-chaired by Most Rev. Mar Athanasius Y. Samuel of the Syrian Orthodox Church and Auxiliary Bishop J. Francis Stafford of Baltimore, representing the Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs Committee of the NCCB.

The meeting opened with the presentation of a paper on "Words of Institution, Words of Epiclesis in Western Thought and Practice" by Father Aelred Cody, O.S.B., of St. Meinrad Archabbey, Indiana. Papers were also given by Rev. Dr. Gabriel A. Abdelsayed of the Coptic Church ("The Eucharistic Liturgies of the Coptic Orthodox Church: A Search for the Anamnesis and Epiclesis") and by Abp. Yesehaq Mandefro of the Ethiopian Church ("The Structure and Practice of the Ethiopian Church Liturgy"). Each of the papers was followed by discussion.

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2/Consultation

Preliminary discussions were held on points of Eucharistic agreement.

During the meeting members of both committees attended the Ethiopian Orthodox Divine Liturgy celebrated by Abp. Mandefro in the chapel of the Inter-Church Center of the National Council of Churches.

Participants in the meeting, in addition to the two episcopal co-chairmen, were Abp. Tiran Nersoyan (Armenian Church), Abp. Yesehaq Mandefro (Ethiopian Church), Very Rev. K.M. Simon, Rev. John P. Meno (Syrian Church), Rev. Gabriel A. Abdelsayed (Coptic Church), Rev. Arten Ashjian, Rev. Michael Buttero, and Rev. Arnak Kasparian (Armenian Church).

Roman Catholic participants included Professor Thomas E. Bird (City University of New York), Father Aidan Kavanagh, O.S.B. (Yale University), Father Aelred Cody, O.S.B. (St. Meinrad Archabbey), Father Gabriel Duffy (Washington, D.C.), Father Sarhad Hermiz Jammo (Detroit), Father Edward Kilmartin, S.J., (the University of Notre Dame) Father John F. Long, S.J. (John XXIII Center, New York City), Father Robert F. Taft, S.J. (Pontifical Oriental Institute, Rome), and Father Joseph Witmer, Associate Director of the secretariat of the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs.

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