

To His Eminence, Archbishop Gregory of the Genuine Orthodox Church of America
Buena Vista, Colorado
USA

Dear Archbishop Gregory

Greetings in the Lord!

I am Metropolitan Ambrose (Moran), Prince of Serbia. I was born in New York City 3 January 1949 where I reside at present. My father Joseph and my mother Leora are royalty of the house of Dolgorouky of Russia, which married into the Serbian Orthodox royal house of Anjou, which is the direct line of the royal house of St. Sava of Serbia. Therefore, my lineage is both Ukrainian and Serbian, and we were recognized as royal princes of Serbia by Peter II, who was my godfather.

I was baptized & chrismated by Archbishop Nicholas of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church on January 5, 1953 by triple immersion. My Godparents were H. M. King Peter II of Yugoslavia and the Grand Duchess Olga Beata (Dolgorouky).

A summary of my education is as follows:

- 1974 B.A. Empire State College, State University of New York
- 1976 D.D. Ukrainian College, Rome
- 1978 M.A. Eastern Studies Theology, Fordham University (RC)
- 1978 M.A. General Theology, Maryknoll Seminary (NY, RC)
- 1979 New York State certified School Administrator and Supervisor (Hofstra)
- 1982 M.A. School Psychology, Beacon College, Washington, DC
- 1983 Ph.D Clinical Psychology, Educational Administration, Beacon College
- 1984 Ph.D Clinical Psychology – Columbia Pacific University, California
- 1985 New York State Certified School Psychologist

My monastic history is as follows: I was made Rassaphor monk in 1964 at the age of 17 by then Archbishop Saint John Maximovitch in Manhattan. This occurred in conjunction with two of my aunts from the Royal House of Serbia who knew Archbishop John from when he lived in Serbia. At their request, Saint John consecrated me to God at this early age. I was tonsured little schema by Archbishop Nicholas of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in 1973. I was tonsured great schema on Mount Athos, Greece, in the Skete of Prophet Elias, in 1976.

I was ordained to the diaconate in 1973 by Archbishop Nicholas of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. I was ordained to the priesthood by the same bishop in 1974 whilst I was attending College. I was consecrated bishop in the Holy Protection Cathedral in Chicago in 1976 by Metropolitans Gregory and Gennady, and the Holy Synod of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church. I was elevated to the rank of Archbishop in 1983 by the Ukrainian Synod. The following year I was made exarch of the Patriarchate of Alexandria under Nicholas VI, as well as Epitropos of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem under Diodoros I.

Although I have been an old-calendarist all my life, I acknowledge that I have been in communion with Ecumenists even though I despise this heresy. Following the death of Metropolitan Gregory in 1985, I succeeded him as president of the synod of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church. Following the deaths of the older hierarchs, I found the younger bishops to be extremely ecumenical who ordained without my permission other ecumenically minded clergymen to the episcopacy. I could not in good conscience remain with them, and therefore left them in 1989. No one followed me, except some of the elder clergymen, who eventually retired because of illness.

Three years ago, about the time my mother passed away, I started searching for true Orthodox bishops with whom to enter into communion.

I repent of any ecumenical activities, whether wittingly or unwittingly. On a few occasions, I participated with the Metropolitans of the Bulgarian Church and the Serbian Church as well as other non-Orthodox clergymen in ecumenical gatherings; but I did not pray with them.

I considered joining the Russian Church Abroad. However, when they joined the Moscow Patriarchate, that was no longer an option.

In my search for true Orthodox Christians, I visited St. Markella's Cathedral in Astoria, NY and met with Metropolitan Pavlos and Bishop Christodoulos, both of whom strongly encouraged me to join them. They notified Archbishop Chrysostom II (Kiouisis) in Athens and he also agreed that I should join their synod and reside with them in their monasteries in New York State. I, however, cannot in good conscience do this since they agree with the Cyprianite views that permit them to give communion to new calendarists.

I desire to end my life in communion only with true Orthodox Christians. I wish to be received into communion with Your Eminence. I wish to work in America with Your Eminence, Archbishop Gregory, to help You build the Church of Christ. I will accept any corrective procedure that You deem necessary.

The unworthy servant of Christ,

+Archbishop Ambrose

P.S. I am a Prince of Serbia. I was the spiritual protector of the Orthodox royal family of Saint Savva. I performed the royal weddings of Prince Alexi in 1989 at Madrid, which happened in exile. I baptized and chrismated their child named Prince Nicholas in 1990, also at Madrid.
