

**Speech by HE Sir Anthony Bailey, KGCN, OBE, GCSS,  
Delegate for Great Britain and Ireland & Magistral Delegate for  
Inter-Religious Relations of the SM Constantinian Order of St George**

**on the occasion of the investiture of**

**The Most Rev Kenneth Nowakowski, Bishop of the Eparchy of  
New Westminster of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church**

**Cathedral of the Holy Family in Exile, 22 Binney Street, London W1K 5BQ**

**13 September 2015**

Your Serene Highness,

Your Excellencies,

My Lord Bishops,

Reverend Fathers,

Ladies and Gentlemen

As Magistral Delegate of the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St George I am delighted together with members of the Delegation to be here with you today - surrounded as we are by the magnificent setting of this Cathedral Church of the Holy Family in Exile – which in many ways is the ever present beating heart of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic community in Britain.

May I use this opportunity to greet in special way my good friend and confrere and your Bishop The Right Reverend Hlib Lonchyna and the other members of the clergy for the warmth of their welcome.

Throughout today's mass which comes just two days before Roman Catholics and the Constantinian Order celebrate the great Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, I could not help but appreciate the deep and multifaceted richness of our Catholic faith and the historic part played by the Ukrainian Greek Catholic community within this global family and especially here in this country.

My thoughts and prayers, like those of so many millions, were focused on the Ukrainian people who at this time see their beloved homeland under occupation and annexation and with the ongoing associated political turmoil.

I remembered too the great struggles which your community suffered after the Second World War. And like so many others I reflected on the ongoing plight of the refugees forced out of Syria and other nations and the need for all of us in this country to step up, as this country always has, and offer the hand of Christian friendship and Christian solidarity in their time of need.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before we commence in honouring the man of the moment Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, allow me a few moments to tell you a little about the organisation I lead in Britain.

The Constantinian Order is one of the most ancient and internationally recognised Roman Catholic Orders of Knighthood in existence today. It is an Order, which from its earliest origins has resolved to work for the glorification of the Cross and the propagation and defence of Faith.

Today, the Order manifests these principles through charitable and humanitarian assistance, and focused on those most vulnerable in society. The Constantinian Order together with the multi-faith Royal Order of Francis I, undertakes spiritual, humanitarian, hospitaller, charitable initiatives across the United Kingdom, wider Europe, the Commonwealth and the world.

Uniquely, among Catholic orders, the Order also plays a significant role across the world in furthering inter-religious understanding between the followers of all faiths and of none. We remain true to our Roman Catholic heritage yet proud of its diversity and its work, which brings Catholic, Orthodox, Anglicans, Protestants, Muslims and Jews among others closer together.

We are pleased to include among our members over 60 Catholic Cardinals and Archbishops, two Archbishops of Canterbury, the heads of the Syriac, Russian and Greek Orthodox Churches together with Muslim and Jewish national leaders. It also includes the current Prince and Grand Master of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and the Cardinal Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulture.

The Order is fully recognised by successive decrees of the President and Government of the Italian Republic and other governments and maintains Consultative Status at the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, I am here on behalf of HRH The Duke of Castro, Grand Master and the Order's Grand Prior, HE Cardinal Renato Raffaele Martino, the Proto Deacon of the Holy Roman Church.

We gather to recognise the significant and worthy merits of The Most Reverend Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, who has travelled from Canada together with friends and family to be invested into the Constantinian Order today.

Bishop Kenneth was instrumental in founding the Ukrainian Catholic Church's official charitable organisation, Caritas Ukraine, where he oversaw its charitable works, including the development of hospitals, home care projects and the establishment of the eparchial branches of the charity.

He is also a member of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' Commission for Ecumenism and Inter-Faith relations and has worked tirelessly to promote more deeper and meaningful ties between faiths.

Bishop Kenneth's worthy efforts to promote the principals of our Christian faith, to defend the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and to further charitable

endeavour in favour of those less fortunate in society in Ukraine, Canada and the wider Commonwealth are among the reasons why the Grand Master has passed a decree in Rome confirming your admittance into the Order.

It is therefore my honour in the name of His Royal Highness and His Eminence The Cardinal to invite you Bishop Kenneth to receive this miniature, rosette and diploma confirming your appointment to the high honour, rank and dignity of an Ecclesiastical Knight Commander of Grace of the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St George.

Thank you.