

Eastern non-Catholic Entering into Communion with the Catholic Church

When an individual belonging to an Eastern Christian church not in full communion with the See of Rome, is received into full communion of the Catholic Church, the candidate becomes member of the corresponding Eastern Rite Catholic Church (*see table below*). For example, a Ukrainian orthodox candidate becomes a member of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. An Orthodox Christian candidate seeking to become catholic may worship in the Latin rite Catholic Church, though his/her membership is with a particular eastern rite Catholic Church. *The Catholic Church believes that the ritual traditions of Eastern rite Catholics and orthodox Christians are significant and should be practised fully. (Cf. CCEO Can. 35)*

An eastern non-Catholic wishes to become a catholic must be enrolled in the respective Catholic Church. Therefore, for example, if the person was Russian orthodox, he or she is inscribed by law in the Russian Catholic Church sui iuris. To be ascribed to the Latin church or a different eastern Catholic Church, permission of the apostolic see is necessary if there is no Eastern Bishop in the territory or with permission of both the Eastern and Latin Bishop who have jurisdictions in the same territory (Cf. CCEO Can. 32).

Therefore no permission is needed for the Orthodox Christian candidate to become Eastern Rite Catholic; However, to become Latin Rite Catholic, there are 2 possibilities:

1. In the presence of the hierarchy of the Catholic Eastern Rite, the Latin Bishop of the diocese and the Eastern Rite Bishop would have to both approve the candidate becoming Latin Rite Catholic. Such a request must be done in writing.

The one wishing to transfer writes to his/her Eastern Bishop and the local Latin Bishop seeking permission to change Ritual Churches. These letters need to outline the reasons for the changing Churches. If both Bishop permit him/her to do so in writing, the one making the transfer before the Bishop or the Local Parish Priest or a Priest delegated by either of them, in the presence of two witnesses, makes a declaration that he/she is changing Ritual Churches. This is then noted in the baptismal register. A document should also be drawn up attesting to the transfer.

2. In the absence of the hierarchy of the eastern Church, a petition must be made to the Holy See requesting the candidate to enrol in the Latin Church.

Catholic Churches in full communion with the See of Rome and Eastern Christian Churches not in full communion with the See of Rome

This table lists all Catholic churches and the Traditions from which they come, as well as giving an indication of the major non-Catholic churches to which they are related. This does not attempt to be an exhaustive list in relation to the non-Catholic churches.

In both cases an attempt has been made to show (in brackets) some alternative names by which the same Church is known.

Traditions	Catholic Churches in full communion with the See of Rome	Eastern <u>Christian</u> Churches <u>not</u> in full communion with the See of Rome
Western (Roman)	Latin Catholic Church	Church of South India (CSI) (Non-St Thomas Christians)
Alexandrian	Coptic Catholic Church	Coptic Orthodox Church
	Ethiopian Catholic Church ('Gheez rite')	Ethiopian Orthodox Church
	Eritrean Catholic Church	Eritrean Orthodox Church
Antiochean (West Syrian)	Syrian (Syriac) Catholic Church	Syrian Orthodox Church
	(Syro-)Maronite Catholic Church	None
	Syro-Malankar Catholic Church	Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church St Thomas Christians:
		Indian Orthodox Church;
		Orthodox Syrian (Jacobite) Church; Mar Thoma Syrian Church;
		Malabar Independent Syrian Church of Thozhiyoor;
		Church of South India (CSI) (St Thomas Christians)
Armenian	Armenian Catholic Church	Armenian Apostolic (Orthodox) Church
Chaldean (East Syrian)	Chaldean Catholic Church	Assyrian Church of the East
		The Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East

	Syro-Malabar Catholic Church	St Thomas Christians:
		Syrian Malabarese Church; Syro-Chaldean Church
Constantinopolitan (Byzantine)	Albanian (Byzantine) Catholic Church	Albanian Orthodox Church
	Belarussian Catholic Church	Belarussian Orthodox Church
	Bulgarian (Byzantine) Catholic Church	Bulgarian Orthodox Church
	Georgian Catholic Church	Georgian Orthodox Church
	Greek (Hellenic) Catholic Church	Greek Orthodox Church (Greek speaking);
		Cypriot Orthodox Church
	Greek-Melkite Catholic Church	Greek Orthodox Church (Arabic speaking) Antiochian Orthodox
	Hungarian (Byzantine) Catholic Church	Hungarian Orthodox Church
	Italo-Albanian (Byzantine) Catholic Church	None
	Church of the Byzantines of the Diocese of Krizevci (Krizevci Catholic Church) (Byzantine Catholics in former Yugoslavia)	Serbian Orthodox Church
	Macedonian Catholic Church	Macedonian Orthodox Church
	Romanian (Greek) Catholic Church	Romanian Orthodox Church
	Russian Catholic Church	Russian Orthodox Church
	Ruthenian (Byzantine) Catholic Church	Ruthenian Orthodox Church; Orthodox Church in America (OCA) American Carpatho-Rusyn Orthodox Church
		Slovak Orthodox Church;

	Slovak (Greek) Catholic Church	Orthodox Church in America (OCA); American Carpatho-Rusyn Orthodox Church
	Ukrainian (Greek) Catholic Church	Ukrainian Orthodox Church; Orthodox Church in America (OCA)