Ecclesiastical Heraldry of the Old Catholic Church in the United States
ECCLESIASTICAL HERALDRY

OF THE OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CANONS OF THE OLD CATHOLIC CONFEDERATION

Office of Heraldry and Protocol
Old Catholic Confederation
2015
COAT OF ARMS FOR DIOCESES AND VICARIATES

Archdiocese of the United States

(Suffragan) Diocese of New York
(Suffragan) Diocese of California

Vicariate of the U.S. Military Services
(of the Archdiocese of the United States)
Vicariate of Italy and Malta
(under the OCC Primate)

Vicariate of Great Britain and Ireland
(under the OCC Primate)
Archbishop Dr. Craig J. N. de Paulo, the current Primate of the Old Catholic Confederation and Archbishop of the United States, uses his own hereditary Arms (above) in an ancient Episcopal achievement with precious miter, crozier and cross in saltire (only used by the Primate). Archbishop de Paulo also uses his Arms in scarlet (reserved for the Primate) and in green (used by all archbishops and bishops).

Concerning ecclesiastical apparel, the Primate is the only bishop who wears the scarlet cord for his pectoral cross when in choir cassock.
PERSONAL COATS OF ARMS
FOR ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS

The canons regulating heraldry for the personal coat of arms for archbishops and bishops of the Churches under the canonical authority of the Synod of Bishops of the Old Catholic Confederation permit the use of lawful hereditary coat of arms. If a bishop does not have hereditary Arms, his coat of arms must be designed properly by an heraldic artist and approved by the Office of Heraldry and Protocol of the Synod of Bishops. All Diocesan and Suffragan bishops may impale their personal or hereditary Arms with the Diocesan Arms.

All archbishops and bishops use the precious mitre above their personal coat of arms, which may include a single crozier, or two croziers in saltire. The coat of arms for all archbishops and bishops may be rendered in full color or in episcopal green.

All archbishops and bishops are required to use their episcopal coat of arms also as a Seal for official documents.

This basic Episcopal achievement of the bishop’s coat of arms is required, but the heraldic artist is free to design the precious miter differently.
These are other examples of ancient Episcopal coats of arms showing various Dioceses from Germany. Notice that the shield of the coat of arms has taken different forms through the ages and in different countries. In the Old Catholic Confederation, Diocesan coat of arms only have the precious miter above the shield while the personal arms of bishops may also include the single crozier or two croziers in saltire.¹

Concerning ecclesiastical apparel, all archbishops and bishops are required to wear the choir cassock and the green cord for the pectoral cross.

PERSONAL COAT OF ARMS FOR A PRIEST SERVING AS VICAR GENERAL

When a priest is serving as Vicar General of a Diocese, he is entitled to use this achievement of his personal coat of arms (below) only while he is in office, unless he is already a Canon in which case he would use the achievement of a Canon. A bishop serving as Vicar General always uses his own personal Episcopal coat of arms. However, when a bishop is a Vicar General of a Diocese he may not impale his Arms with the Diocese he is serving. Only a Diocesan (or Suffragan) bishop may impale his Arms with the Diocese.
PERSONAL COATS OF ARMS FOR CANONS

In the Churches of the Old Catholic Confederation, there are Canons of the Metropolitan College of Canons of the National Cathedral in the United States, there are Canons of other respective Cathedrals, and Canon Chaplains to the Primate.

The College of Canons of the National Cathedral has Canons Residentiary and Honorary (Ecumenical) Canons. There may also be minor Canons that include other priests serving at the Cathedral who are in charge of the sacristy among other things, but minor Canons use the coat of arms of a priest.

(left) The achievement of a Canon of the Metropolitan College of Canons or a Canon of any other Cathedral. Honorary (Ecumenical) Canons are entitled to use the same. Canons of the Metropolitan College are entitled to wear purple piping on their cassock and purple *fascia*. In choir, they are make use of a black *mozetta* with purple piping and pectoral cross.

(right) The achievement of a Canon Chaplain of the Primate. A Canon Chaplain to the Primate is a distinct honor bestowed by the Primate *motu proprio* to a priest for some distinguished service. The Canon Chaplain of the Primate is entitled to wear the purple choir cassock with purple *fascia*. In choir, Canon Chaplains use a purple *mozetta*.
PERSONAL COAT OF ARMS FOR A DEAN

A priest who is serving as a Dean may use this achievement of his personal coat of arms (below) whether he is the Dean of a Deanery (territory), Dean of a House of Formation, or Dean of a Faculty at the university or seminary.
PERSONAL COAT OF ARMS OF A PRIEST

Any priest may use this achievement of his personal coat of arms (below) on his stationary, etc. If the priest holds a doctorate, the cord is intertwined with the color of the discipline of his degree.