

## **The Church of Jesus Christ on the Way to Unity of the Faith and the Communion of the Holy Spirit**

**His Eminence Acad. Prof. PhD IRINEU POPA,  
University of Craiova,  
cabinetmol@yahoo.com**

### **Abstract**

The serving in the Church is acquired in Christ the Savior by the Apostles. The bishops received through the Apostles the grace of the priesthood from Jesus Christ and they have it passed to their successors through the sacrament of ordination to serve the Liturgy for the members of the Church, which, in turn, they are laically or universally priesthood holders.

Everything occurs within a divine order which is transposed into the ecclesial and this differentiation of the work of grace in the Church is that which produces the hierarchy of the Church. This must be viewed first as a servant hierarchy and then as a hierarchical authority. Any concept and exercise of authority in the Christian Church cannot have the spring than Christ, the Savior Himself, His Head and the Holy Spirit, as His Life. That can undoubtedly have as purpose solely the ministry of the word of God and the experience of the meeting with him in the Holy Eucharist for the salvation of the faithful members of the Lord's Mystical Body and Spirit's members.

Thus, the Episcopal College is not broken of the faithful, but every bishop is in a report of identity with the entire diocese and with the entire Church. Therefore, the teaching of a council may be rejected by the people or to be proved as heretical over the years.

On the other hand, the bringing together the bishops does not form a collective unit, based on the agreement of an authority divided between the bishops. As each bishop is the successor of all the apostles and each Eucharistic community is catholic, the council makes visible an organic unity and not one negotiable.