

Precedent for Married Catholic Priests and Bishops

We need to be gently reminded that there is a precedent for married priests and bishops to be received into the Latin Rite of the Church. Bishop Salomão Barbosa Ferraz was a Roman Catholic priest who left the Church jurisdiction to join the Brazilian Apostolic Catholic Church (ICAB). He was consecrated by Archbishop Carlos Duarte Costa for the ICAB in 1945. In 1958 he was reconciled with the Catholic Church (during the pontificate of Pope Pius XII). The Vatican appointed him Titular Bishop of Eleuterna. Although married, Bishop Ferraz was later appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Rio de Janeiro by Pope John XXIII. Pope Paul VI appointed Bishop Ferraz to serve on a commission of the Second Vatican Council. He was never re-consecrated by the Roman Church, not even conditionally (*sub conditione*). He was with his wife while serving and functioning as a Bishop of the Church of Rome. Bishop Ferraz died in 1969 and was buried with the full honors accorded a Bishop of the Church of Rome.

