THE

BISHOP'S

SERVICE

BOOK

PART III

1994/1997/2002/2005
USDAOC, ed.

ELEVATION OF AN ARCHIMANDRITE

At the Divine Liturgy, at the Entrance with the Gospel Book, the one who is being installed as an Archimandrite is brought by two protodeacons, or two deacons, into the centre of the Temple, where the bishop stands (*but if the bishop is not himself serving, they bring epitrachil, cuffs, and omophor to him, who vests himself where he is standing*). *He bows from the waist three times to the bishop, and coming to the bishop, he bows his head.*

The bishop, *sitting, blesses him three times upon the head, with his hand. If the one to be elevated is not yet an Abbot, those prayers of institution are first read, but if the one to be elevated is an Abbot, those prayers are not read.*

And standing, ***the bishop puts his hand*** *on the head of the one who is being elevated.*

And the protodeacon says :

Protodeacon : Command, Master.

And the bishop *says in a loud voice :*

THE GRACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THROUGH OUR HUMILITY, PROMOTES YOU TO BE AN ARCHIMANDRITE OF THE VENERABLE HABITATION OF ____N____ (NAME OF DEDICATION).

He lays his hand *on the head of the Archimandrite and he exclaims :*

AXIOS. (He is worthy.)

And the singers respond, singing :

Response : Axios. Axios. Axios. (*He is worthy*)

If the Archimandrite is to receive the mitre, ***the bishop*** *blesses him with his hand, and the mitre, and it is put on his head. Then they enter the Altar through the Royal Doors with the clergy, according to custom.*

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, ***the bishop*** *gives the pastoral staff to the Archimandrite* (*or Abbot*)*, saying :*

TAKE THIS STAFF ; AND WITH IT, ESTABLISH, AND RULE YOUR FLOCK, SEEING THAT YOU MUST ANSWER FOR THIS TO OUR

LORD GOD, ON THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT.

Then the bishop *exhorts him, and his flock.*

This service, as presented here, is clearly offered only for archimandrites who are truly and actually shepherds of communities.

If the candidate be only a titular archimandrite, the community could not be named, nor could the pastoral staff be given.

The mitre is often given only in association with the prestige of the community over which the Igumen is an Archimandrite.

[THE END OF ELEVATING AN ARCHIMANDRITE]