

From the Executive Board:

While the latest Royal Cross issue was in press earlier this week, questions came to your president about an announcement of the official formation of “The Episcopal Community of the Daughters of the King.” The repeated question being asked is, “Is this effort sponsored or blessed by the elected leadership of the Order, since three Council members are listed as members of the Circle of Leadership?” The answer is that the Council (other than those who are members of the Circle) were not consulted or informed of the offers being made until we received the information in our mailboxes. Of course the offers they make are consistent with the Order’s goals in general: new chapters, leadership training, and resources for members. However, these are functions that are available through our elected leadership. Diocesan presidents initiate new chapters—that is part of their responsibility. Master’s Fund grants are available to Provinces that want to provide leadership training. At DOK retreats and assemblies, speakers and workshops are offered to help individuals grow spiritually and share resources to strengthen chapters.

Consequently, we ask you to pray for guidance and discernment on the following questions. Is the Episcopal Community duplicating the efforts of the officers in your diocese or province? If so, it may be counterproductive. Secondly, if we are an Order, rather than an organization, should we not honor those we have elected (even when we disagree) and work with them rather than bypass them? Exclusion does not promote unity for all our members. Finally, are the efforts of “The Episcopal Community” rooted in a divisive political agenda promoted by disaffected members, or a sincere effort to strengthen the Order?

May Our Lord give you wisdom and understanding in these matters, for His sake.