

or 1/8 of the people really thinking he was the proper man for it. The people were in uncertainty as to who ought to be the bishop in Milan and a young boy called out "hey make Ambrose bishop" and the thought that the governor should become the bishop was something entirely new but the people heard it and immediately requested it. Here is a man who by character and by administrative ability is such as would make an ideal bishop. Soon others called "Ambrose for Bishop - Ambrose for Bishop". Ambrose had never thought of such a thing because he had devoted his life to Administration but when he heard the calls and heard the cry of the people and felt it was the call of God to him to become bishop. The more he thought of it the more he thought, here expressed in this way which he could not resist. was a call from God ~~coming in a way he had not even thought of~~. So Ambrose accepted the call, he was not a church officer at all, but accepted the call to become Bishop of Milan. Immediately he took the large fortune which he possessed, set aside a portion as an endowment to support his sister (he had one sister) but had no one else in his immediate family, the rest of the money he had, he immediately gave away to the poor. He got a leading Christian from Rome to come up there to give him special instruction in Christian doctrine and in study, laid aside all of his fine garments as a governor of the province and set to work to become the best possible bishop and leader of the Christians in Milan. Ambrose established a name for himself so that today many who if they would name the four greatest leaders in ancient church history, would name Ambrose among the four. Now there might be some arguments on that but I don't think there can be any arguments to name the ten greatest leaders in ancient church history and Ambrose is one of the ten. He is one of the men who influenced the christian church as much as any other leader in the church. He is one who by distinctive character, by his devotion to what he considered to be the truth, by his wise influence on other people, exerted a very important influence on the whole history of Christianity ever since. I believe that today if you go into Italy and go to the R. C. churches in Italy, you will find that the services in most of the churches will be just about identical in order of service, and singing etc. which was established in the middle ages and which was established