## Who Is a Metropolitan?

The Catholic Church in the United States has 32 provinces.

Each province is made up of dioceses that are grouped together.

A province
has one archdiocese
plus one or more dioceses.


The other dioceses in the province are referred to as suffragan dioceses.

The archbishop of the archdiocese, also known as the metropolitan, presides over the province.

With the new law set down in
Vos estis lux mundi, a metropolitan may be authorized by the Holy See to undertake responsibilities for investigating reports involving bishops pertaining to sexual abuse in the Church.

