
Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Independent/Old Catholic Church?

The Independent/Old Catholic Church has its roots in the Catholic Church of the Netherlands where in 1145, Pope Eugene III granted the diocese of Utrecht the right to elect and consecrate its own Bishops and clergy. That right was reconfirmed by the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215 and again by Pope Leo X in 1520. The Old Catholic Church reiterated its right at the First Vatican Council in 1870, because a good number of the Bishops did not agree with the Roman dogmatic declaration of Papal infallibility. It was at this time that the Roman Catholic Church invoked obedience to Papal Authority and officially replaced all those Bishops who would not agree to the Dogmatic Declaration of Papal Infallibility.

What is the Apostolic Catholic Orthodox Church and how is it connected with the Old Catholic Church?

The Apostolic Catholic Orthodox Church (ACOC) is a communion of persons and communities throughout the United States who gather for worship and public ministry outreach within the Old Catholic Christian apostolic tradition. The ACOC is renewal-oriented, in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council.

Does the Roman Catholic Church consider the sacraments of Old Catholics as valid?

When members of the Roman Catholic Church encounter Old Catholic Churches for the first time, they are often surprised to learn that Catholic denominations exist apart from Rome. Understandably, questions are raised about the validity of Orders and Sacraments administered by Old Catholics.

At the Vatican on 16 June 2000, Pope John Paul II ratified and ordered the publication of *Dominus Iesus*. This Declaration of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith was signed and published by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) in August of the same year. In this Declaration, the Roman Catholic Church recognizes the validity of Orders and Sacraments of Old Catholic denominations.

Please visit our website for more information about our community, our services, and for links to recommended reading:

www.spiritofhopecatholiccommunity.org

Spirit of Hope Independent Catholic Community

To our Eucharistic table – All are invited

December, 2009



**Mass is celebrated
Saturday evening
5:00 pm**

at

**St. Anne's Episcopal Church
2035 Charlton Road
Sunfish Lake, MN 55118**

**To schedule
a baptism, wedding, anointing, or funeral
contact Pastor Marty Shanahan
at 651-328-7723**

www.spiritofhopecatholiccommunity.org

Saturday, December 5

Presiding: Rev. Marty Shanahan
Lector: Ingrid Mattsson
Prayers of the Faithful: Bob Pirro

Saturday, December 12

Presiding: Rev. Marty Shanahan
Lector: Bob Pirro
Prayers of the Faithful: Tom King

Saturday, December 19

Presiding: Rev. Marty Shanahan
Lector: Wyatt Yeater
Prayers of the Faithful: Joyce Rother

Thursday, Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

Presiding: Rev. Marty Shanahan
Lector: Tom King
Prayers of the Faithful: Kelly Shanahan

Saturday, December 26

Presiding: Rev. Marty Shanahan
Lector: Bob Schuneman
Prayers of the Faithful: Megan Shanahan

Charity and Justice Outreach

Spirit of Hope supports **Joseph's Coat**, a free store providing goods and services to those in need in the St. Paul area. This month, in addition to winter clothing, we will also be collecting:

- Toys, Games, Books and Puzzles for children
- Novels, Mysteries, Cards, Games and Puzzles for adults

NOTE: Deadline – Saturday, Dec. 12th. In order to have these items ready for Christmas, we ask that you bring them to Spirit of Hope no later than the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Dec. 12.

Neighbors Food Shelf

Beginning this month, we are joining St Anne's ministry to support Neighbors, a non-profit, social-service agency serving Northern Dakota County communities since 1972. In 2007, approximately 15,000 people were served. How can you help? Bring non perishable items – they can be dropped off in the basket in the narthex (just to the left of the entry doors).

New to Spirit of Hope?

Help us get to know you and be included in our special mailings. Please complete a guest card located in the gathering space.

Mark Your Calendar

Sat., Dec. 5 Follows Mass	Community Dinner sponsored by the Core Team All are invited to an informal dinner, hosted by Spirit of Hope's Core Team, following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. If you have questions about our community, would like meet new friends, or just want to see what we're about, please join us after Mass for conversation and dinner. All are welcome.
Fri., Dec. 11 4:30 p.m.	Volunteer night at Feed My Starving Children See details below.
Sat., Dec. 12 4:30 p.m.	Advent Communal Penance Prior to Saturday evening Mass
Sat., Dec. 12 Follows Mass	Core Team Meeting The Core Team meets monthly to discuss community business. Everyone is welcome to attend. Meeting follows the 5:00 p.m. Mass
Sat., Dec. 19 7 – 10 p.m.	Youth Dance Additional adult chaperones are always appreciated. Please contact Marty or Kathy Shanahan if you are available to help.
Thurs, Dec. 24 6:15 p.m. Mass	Christmas Eve Mass Come at 6:00 and enjoy Christmas carols before Mass.

Looking Ahead

Sat., Jan. 9	Core Team Meeting
Sat., Jan. 16	Youth Dance

"Tuesday's With Scripture" – Weekly Scripture Reflections

Receive a weekly scripture reflection (via email) from Rev. Marty Shanahan. To subscribe, email mkshanahan@comcast.net and write "Subscribe to Tuesday's with Scripture" in the subject line, or visit our website.

Friday Dec. 11th we are joining with St Anne's for a **Volunteer night at Feed My Starving Children**. Children Grade 3 or higher and adults will have the opportunity to hand pack meals designed for starving children in more than 50 countries around the world. We will gather at church at 4:30 pm for a potluck and leave for Feed my Starving Children in Eagan about 5:45 pm. Sign up on the Outreach bulletin board in the Parish Hall.



*The Spirit of Hope Catholic Community
wishes everyone
a very blessed Christmas
and a healthy and peaceful 2010.*