



# A DECLARATION OF A NATIONAL OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

Upholding the natural right of all human beings to practice their own religion, We Declare that we, the Old Catholic Church in the United States, have the right of our own National Church with our own Synod of Bishops.

Further, since we have the natural and constitutional right to practice our own ancient Catholic faith freely in the United States and without interference from foreign powers, we firmly reject the notion, promoted by the See of Utrecht today, that Old Catholics in the United States should simply become Episcopalian, which we find abhorrent to our own religious tradition and discriminatory.

Therefore, in accordance with the Fourth Article of the Declaration of Utrecht, and considering that the See of Utrecht has never claimed authority over Old Catholics in the United States; and, resting on the supreme authority of Christ Jesus, Our Lord and Savior, through Apostolic Succession, this Synod of Bishops claims our rightful and canonical authority over all Old Catholic faithful in the United States, and throughout North and South America.

**Synod of Bishops of the Old Catholic Confederation**  
**October 26, 2013**