

The Old Catholic Communion

I do not ask only on their behalf, but also on behalf of those who will believe in Me through their message, that they may all be one, as You, are in Me, and I am in You. Let them also be in Us, that the world may believe that You sent me" (John 17:20).

July, 2025

On Justice lived with Compassion, Care and Respect

Pastoral Letter of the House of Bishops of the Old Catholic Communion 2025

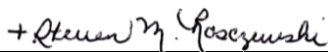
A letter of support and solidarity with all our transgender/non-binary/queer comrades in faith and in life.

Human sexuality and gender identity are some of the most complex and complicated aspects of human life. We know, as a faith tradition, that we don't always open the door of hospitality to our trans, nonbinary, and queer members because of our limited language and understanding. However, we strive with concerted effort to walk in the mystery and complexity of human sexuality. The journey of human sexuality and gender identity contains some of the most sacred moments known to humanity. Sexuality and gender identity also contain some of the greatest traumas ever inflicted on humanity by the other. As bishops and leaders of grace, compassion, and care, we implore all institutions, both civil and religious, to walk, respect, honor, and uplift all people in the midst of their respective journeys of gender identity and orientation.

Gender-affirming care is not a privilege of race, creed, economic stratum, or geographic location, but we believe that gender-affirming care is a fundamental human right, just like the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

We urge all legislators, law enforcement and mental, emotional, spiritual and physical health care systems and providers to ensure that each and every person seeking health and wholeness for all genders and orientations receives the tools, the resources, medications, and therapies needed to maintain a healthy, whole, and complete life.

The bishops of the Old Catholic Communion will continue to support and stand alongside all transgender people, non-binary people, and all people seeking self-understanding and wholeness. The communities of this communion commit themselves to strive to be safe and welcoming communities, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. We pledge our support, love, care, and compassion to all transgender and nonbinary people on the path to wholeness and wholiness.



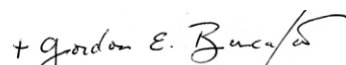
Bishop Steven Roszczewski



Bishop Martin Shanahan



Bishop Dewayne Messenger



Bishop Gordon Barcalow



Bishop Michael Scalzi, Bishop Chair