

What does it mean to be Old-Catholic?

An Old-Catholic is a baptized Catholic Christian that:

- 1) Adheres to the First Seven Ecumenical Councils of the Church.
- 2) Professes the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed in its original formula.
- 3) Observes the Ancient Catholic tradition.
- 4) Affirms the Episcopal-Synodical Polity of the Church.
- 5) Understands Liturgical Worship as Ancient, Mystical and Solemn.
- 6) Rejects the modern Dogma of Papal Infallibility.
- 7) Rejects the Papal Claim to universal (Episcopal) supremacy over the Church.

While these are the fundamental principles of being Old-Catholic, Old-Catholicism is essentially a theological methodology that views the ancient Church and the Patristic tradition as the central hermeneutical principles for understanding the Church today and for the future. While some Old-Catholics belong to the various Old Catholic Churches, most Old-Catholics still regard themselves as Roman Catholic.