



## Holy Spirit Cathedral

**This letter is to clarify and correct several comments made in a letter from Bishop Michael Sheehan to Sacred Heart Catholic Church dated June 20, 2014.**

**In that letter, Bishop Sheehan regarding Holy Spirit Cathedral, "It is clear that this is not a Catholic Church". What is clear is that Holy Spirit Cathedral is not a "Roman" Catholic Church and we do want to clearly say that we are not. We are a church within the American Catholic Communities, not the American Catholic Church which Bishop Sheehan stated. With that being said, we are without question a Catholic Church by every definition. All of our clergy are ordained in valid Apostolic Succession which is the definitive mark of Catholicism.**

**In the second paragraph of his letter, Bishop Sheehan states "Please know that this is not a legitimate Catholic Church and the group has no canonical delegation for valid Confessions or Marriages". The Vatican itself has clearly stated that our ordinations and sacraments are valid, which again speaks to our catholicity and validity. This clarification is found in five (5) separate papal documents as well as has been reported on by the National Catholic Reporter (a Roman Catholic sponsored periodical).**

**Those who read this will note that we have honorably noted Michael J. Sheehan as "Bishop", a title due him by his consecration in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic church. He chose in his letter to not honor any of our clergy with their rightful ecclesiastical titles that they are similarly due. It is our best understanding that this was done to discredit who we are.**

**It is our prayer that Bishop Sheehan will give due diligence to researching facts prior to posting any additional letters to churches, clergy and parishioners rather than finding himself in great error as to the true and historical meaning of the Catholic Church. As a final bit of clarity, the word "Catholic" was originally used by the philosopher Aristotle (not the church) to define those things that were universal in application and belief, therefore the word was synonymous with unity. What the letter from Bishop Sheehan has done is attempt to create division which is the exact opposite of catholic.**

+Orlando Trujillo A.C.C.