

## **Statement of Faith - Anthony Saturno**

I believe in the authority of Scripture and that Scripture above all must be upheld as divinely inspired and the Word of God as command and direction in our lives. I believe in the Triune God, the Father, Son and Spirit one being with three personas all sharing one will and equal and united in power. I believe we tend to pick one and forget the other two and that this shackles our understanding of a God of shalom, complete. I believe in the goodness of all creation made perfect by the Creator. I believe this world was made perfect and we were made holy and yet because of God's true perfect love for us, He gave us free choice to decide if we would love Him or if we would love ourselves. The Fall is representative of our choice for ourselves through the temptation of Satan. I believe in the birth of Jesus from Mary conceived by the Spirit sent from the Father. I believe that Jesus is both Son of God and Son of man, he must be so because only someone who is of God can save us and only someone who is of man can relate to our brokenness and take our fall to the cross. I believe in the person of the Holy Spirit who has walked with us the active person of God on the world from the beginning of time. I believe that without the Spirit there could be no Jesus and no atonement and no resurrection. I believe we are the temples where the person of the Holy Spirit dwells. I believe that the life of Christ is a model for us, an example that our hearts long to follow and that the image of God still rests on us. I believe that Christ took our sin to the cross, entered into hell, and has victory over death and sin. As we become reformed and transformed into a more Christ-like person we are also saved from all our failings and all our temptations to turn away from the Triune God. The victory has happened and yet for us it has not happened yet. I believe that there is one unified church and that although today there are rifts we need to have a mindset of one church. I believe that church is not made of brick and mortar but it is made of people and love. The church is the movement that follows the will of God to go and make disciples of all the world. I believe in the sacraments as symbols of our relationship with God. I believe anything that draws us closer to the altar and the cross, closer to God, is worthy of our time and draws our hearts closer to the heart of the Lord.

Amen.