



## AMERICAN NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **American National Catholic Church to Ordain a Priest**

It is with great joy that the American National Catholic Church announces the presbyteral ordination of our brother, Deacon Kerry Walters. The Most Reverend George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the ANCC, will officiate at the ordination, which takes place at Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church, Lewisburg, PA, at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 21, 2013.

Walters currently serves as the ANCC's Director of Communications, and is collaborating with others to plant a new ANCC parish in central Pennsylvania. He is William Bittinger Professor of Philosophy at Gettysburg College, where he has taught for nearly thirty years. He is also a faculty member there in the Peace and Justice Studies program. He earned a Ph.D in philosophy from the University of Cincinnati, and studied for Holy Orders at the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania's School of Christian Studies. Ordained to the diaconate in 2005, he served at both the parish and diocesan levels in the Episcopal Church before incardinating in the ANCC earlier this year.

Speaking of ordination in the ANCC, Bishop Lucey noted: "Our selection process is exacting and those we call to priesthood are among the most select. The people of God are entitled to prayerful, educated, pastorally sensitive, and well-rounded priests. Deacon Walters has demonstrated the composite skills so needed at this challenging time in the history of the Church."

"Our model of priestly ministry is truly one of service," stated Vicar General Matthew R. Bailey, FCM. "Similar to the priest worker movement in France, all of our clergy live and work in the communities in which they serve. Our entire focus is to witness to the extravagant love of the living God and to announce his Kingdom."

The American National Catholic Church is an inclusive Catholic community independent of the Roman Catholic Church dedicated to making the world a more caring place. Guided by a presiding bishop, the ANCC celebrates the same sacraments as the Roman Church and follows

the spirit of reform initiated by the Second Vatican Council. Although sharing core theological and liturgical practices with Roman Catholicism, the ANCC differs on several major points, such as married clergy, female priests, divorce and re-marriage, same-sex marriage, and lay leadership. The Church has parishes across the U.S. and a host of ministries to the alienated, under-served, and forgotten. For more information, visit [www.TheANCC.org](http://www.TheANCC.org).

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