



## AMERICAN NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **American National Catholic Church Establishes New Parish in Central Pennsylvania**

The American National Catholic Church (ANCC) announces the establishment of a new parish, Holy Spirit American National Catholic Church, in central Pennsylvania. Pastored by Fr. Kerry Walters, the parish is located in the town of Lewisburg.

“Like our sister parishes in the ANCC, Holy Spirit aims to be a home for those who yearn for a progressive Catholicism,” said Fr. Walters. “I’m excited at the prospects of helping to build a vibrant parish and collaborating ecumenically with the many denominations represented in central Pennsylvania.” Walters added that his rural parish is also well situated to evangelize at the three institutions of higher learning in the area: Bucknell University, Susquehanna University, and Lycoming College.

Bishop George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the ANCC, welcomed the new parish. “The American National Catholic Church is overjoyed at the news of the decision of the ANCC faith community in Lewisburg to choose the Holy Spirit as the patron of our new parish,” he said. “The canonical erection of Holy Spirit American National Catholic parish is a great witness to the Lewisburg community of the power of God's spirit in renewing the Church in every place and time.”

Fr. Walters is a professor of philosophy and peace and justice studies at Gettysburg College, where he has taught for nearly three decades. He is also the award-winning author of over thirty books on philosophy, theology, spirituality, and history. Before incardinating in the ANCC, Fr. Walters was an ordained deacon for eight years in the Episcopal Church.

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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