

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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American National Catholic Church to Ordain John Bye-Torre to the Priesthood

Presiding Bishop George Lucey, FCM, and the American National Catholic Church (ANCC) are pleased to announce that Deacon John Bye-Torre, FCM, will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyters on Saturday, April 22. The Mass of Ordination, to be celebrated by the Most Rev. George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the ANCC, will take place at St. Stephen's Parish in Seattle, Washington.

Ordained to the Diaconate in February 2015, Deacon Bye-Torre is the founder of St. Stephen's ANCC in Seattle, WA and a professed friar in the Franciscan Community of Mercy. A Licensed Mental Health Counselor with earned graduate degrees in counseling and administration, Deacon Bye-Torre works in both private practice and with military service members and their families.

Deacon Bye-Torre reports that since his 2015 ordination, he's been, "guided and influenced by St Timothy (2 Tim 2:15), 'Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.'" His hope as a priest "is to be a good servant, and I pray that when I do meet my God, he will say to me, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your master.'"

He also expresses gratitude to the leadership of the ANCC for its guidance during his formation. "These great men and women have changed my heart and provided me with the room to grow on my own, in my own way, towards a deeper, more meaningful life."

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.