

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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American National Catholic Church Welcomes Fr. Julian Garcia Londono

The Most Reverend George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the American National Catholic Church (ANCC), joyfully welcomes Fr. Julian Garcia Londono as the latest priest to incardinate with the ANCC.

Fr. Julian, a native of Medellin, Colombia, felt called by God as a student at the Archdiocese of Medellin's minor seminary. He began his university studies at Universidad de Antioquia, but on the advice of his Carmelite spiritual director transferred to the more religiously sensitive Universidad Luis Amigo.

In 2008, Fr. Julian came to the United States, where he prepared for the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, first at St. Andrew's Seminary and then at St. Mary's Seminary.

Although he suspended his priestly formation in 2011 to marry, Fr. Julian continued to feel called by God to Holy Orders. "God's flame kept burning in my heart," he says, "motivating me to keep looking for a way to pursue formation to the priesthood in a place where I wouldn't feel guilty for who I was or whom I love."

His search led him to the Old Catholic Confederation, where he was ordained deacon in 2014 and priest in 2015. Later, looking for a Catholic jurisdiction more in line with the moral, theological, and spiritual attitudes of the Vatican-II Council, Fr. Julian discovered the ANCC. "I felt an immediate sense of welcome that fulfilled my heart and the heart of my family," he says.

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.