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New Appointments in the American National Catholic Church

The Most Reverend George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the American National Catholic Church (ANCC) is pleased to announce the appointments of Brother Geety Reyes, FCM, as ANCC Chancellor, and Father Lew Troska as ANCC Director of Vocations.

Fr. Troska, pastor of St. Odilia ANCC in Fargo, North Dakota, earned a B.A. from St. John's University and a M.Div. from St. John's School of Theology. He has been a Catholic priest for thirty years and has served in both parish and chaplaincy ministries.

The ANCC Chancellor is charged with the day-to-day administration of Church affairs. Br. Geety, who currently serves as deacon at St. Francis of Assisi ANCC Parish in Glen Ridge, New Jersey, earned a B.S. from Mapua Institute of Technology in the Philippines. Br. Geety, who is in his final year of seminary, will be ordained a priest later this year. Bishop Lucey is confident that his organizational skills will serve the ANCC well.

The Director of Vocations is charged with identifying and aiding persons who believe that God is calling them to ordained ministry. Bishop Lucey observed that Fr. Troska, whom he describes as "a kind and wonderful priest," brings the right qualifications to the job. "I know he will do well walking with those who are discerning where God is calling them."

In their new appointments, Br. Getty and Fr. Troska replace Father Phillip Lichtenwalter, who steps down to devote himself to parish ministry. "Fr. Phillip has given an extraordinary amount of time and dedication to this work of the church," Bishop Lucey noted, "and has earned the admiration and respect of all of us for his efforts. As he moves on and focuses his efforts on St. Catherine of Siena ANCC in St. Louis, we all extend our gratitude to him and pray for his ministry as a pastor."

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.

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