

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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American National Catholic Church Establishes Parish Community in Peekskill, NY

The American National Catholic Church (ANCC) joyfully announces the establishment of the parish community of Saint Dominic de Guzmán in the Hudson Valley. It's located in Peekskill and is shepherded by the Rev. Mr. Owen Borda.

Deacon Owen, a member of the Order of Preachers American, holds a Ph.D. from Union Institute and University. He has enjoyed a long and rich career in pastoral music, and is a faculty member at Purchase College and Capella University.

The new community's patron is St Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers, who died in 1221. According to St Dominic's website, the saint "confronted the heresies of his day by preaching the gospel message." Inspired by his example, the new community hopes to challenge today's heresies. "Possibly the greatest of these is the idea that some are, for whatever reason, outside the love of God, the God of all creation in whose image we are all made. The message of God's redeeming love freely given to all is our message to fight this contemporary evil."

Deacon Owen says, "We hope to be a beacon of hope to those who feel that they are not welcomed in the community of God's love. As a community formed in the charism of St Dominic, we will preach the gospel where it is needed and strive to live by the words of St Catherine of Siena, a Dominican saint, 'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.'"

St Dominic's inaugural service will be held on the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sunday, September 8, at 5:30 pm in the Forall Theater Laboratory, 706 North Division St, Peekskill. For more information on the new community, visit its webpage: www.stdominichudsonvalley.org.

The American National Catholic Church is an inclusive Catholic community, independent of the Roman Catholic Church and dedicated to making the world a more caring place. Guided by an elected 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 practices a host of ministries to the alienated, under-served, and forgotten. For more information or to locate a parish near you, visit www.TheANCC.org.

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