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The ANCC Welcomes St. Giles Parish and Father Richard Sinacola

The Most Reverend George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the American National Catholic Church (ANCC) is delighted to announce that the parish of St. Giles has joined the ANCC family.

Fr. Richard Sinacola, MSW, M.Div, Ph.D, pastors St. Giles, which is located in Palm Springs, California. He also regularly celebrates Mass for Dignity Palm Springs.

Originally from Michigan, Fr. Sinacola is a practicing psychologist/therapist with thirty-five years of experience, and has held numerous academic positions as professor, administrator, and counselor. Feeling called to Holy Orders at an early age, he studied for two years at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit before leaving because of his advocacy of progressive views. As he says, "I always felt I had a vocation for the priesthood. What got in the way were narrow minded priests who could not have an enlightened conversation about the role of women and gays in the church. It took me thirty-five years to return to preparation for the priesthood, but with God's grace I was ordained in 2015."

For his part, Presiding Bishop Lucey is delighted that St. Giles and Fr. Richard have joined the ANCC. "With great joy we welcome Fr. Richard and the parish community of St. Giles into the American National Catholic Church. We in the ANCC want to say to the community of St. Giles and Fr. Richard: Welcome home!"

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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