

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Ordination of Deacon James Jakubowski to the Presbyterate**

The Most Reverend George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the American National Catholic Church (ANCC), is pleased to announce that Deacon James (Jim) Jakubowski will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyters at 11:00 am on 25 June 2022. The ordination, presided over by the Most Reverend George R. Lucey, FCM, Presiding Bishop of the American National Catholic Church (ANCC), will be held at the cathedral church of St. Francis of Assisi in Glen Ridge, NJ, where Deacon Jim currently serves.

Academically, Deacon Jim prepared for his priestly ordination through coursework offered by the University of Notre Dame's STEP program and the American National Catholic Theological Institute, the seminary of the ANCC. One of his professors noted that he was one of the best students he's had the privilege of teaching.

"We give God thanks and praise for the presence of Deacon Jim in the Church," said Bishop Lucey, "and pray that his priestly ministry might bear much fruit as he gives witness to the love of God in the world. We pray for perseverance as he begins to develop a ministry in New Jersey and Pennsylvania."

As for Deacon Jim, "I've always felt that I had a vocation—a call from God to the priesthood. I clearly remember my first acknowledgement of God's call at five years of age. Since then, there have been many detours and forks in the road, but guided by the Holy Spirit, I was led to the ANCC -- my home!"

Speaking of his ministerial aspirations, Deacon Jim sums it up beautifully: "All I want to be is a good priest."

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](http://www.TheANCC.org).

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