## PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Independent Catholics attend national convocation**

Members of St. Francis of Assisi American National Catholic Church joined parish representatives from across the country at the Church's national Convocation, held in Maryland last week. The theme of the Convocation was "Serve the Lord with gladness." Participants attended workshops on topics such as social justice, religious education, and liturgical planning. Presiding Bishop George L. Lucey, FCM, along with members of the Church Executive Council, also reported on the recent growth of the Church.

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. 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.

For more information about the national Church, visit <a href="www.TheANCC.org">www.TheANCC.org</a>. Details about worship times and locations for St. Francis of Assisi ANCC may be found at the parish webpage, www.stfrancisnj.org, or by contacting Most Rev. George R. Lucey, FCM at 973-506-8174.