



**THE PONTIFICAL
NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE**

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Statement of Very Rev. Peter Harman On the Appointment of Bishop-Elect Checchio

March 8, 2016 (Rome, IT) – The Pontifical North American College community rejoiced at the news today of former rector and alumnus, Msgr. James F. Checchio '92, C'97 being named Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen.

“Bishop-elect Checchio served the North American College extremely well over the past twelve years, and it is no surprise the Holy Father would ask him to serve the Church as a shepherd,” said current Rector, the Very Rev. Peter Harman. “The faithful of the Metuchen diocese are blessed to have him,” he added.

News of the appointment, announced to the student and priest community at *pranzo* (lunch), was met with great joy and gratitude and a promise of prayer by his former students.

Bishop-elect Checchio served the North American College as *Economo* for almost three years before being named the 22nd Rector in 2005.

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