



PRESS RELEASE

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RELEASE **THE MOST REVEREND GERALD F. KICANAS IS APPOINTED AS NCEA CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Bishop Kicanas is the bishop emeritus from the Diocese of Tucson.

Arlington, VA – The National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) has announced that the Board of Directors has appointed The Most Reverend Gerald F. Kicanas, D.D., Ph.D., as chair of the board to replace The Most Reverend George V. Murry, S.J., who stepped down from the position on December 8. Bishop Kicanas will assume the duties as chair on January 1, 2018.

“After a thorough, prayerful and thoughtful process, the board is very pleased to have found in Bishop Kicanas a wonderful new chair,” remarked Angela Dinger, vice chair of the NCEA board. “Bishop Kicanas has an extensive background in education having served as a religion teacher, counselor, principal, and seminary rector, in addition to his extensive ministry as a bishop both on the local and national levels.” Dr. Thomas Burnford, NCEA president/CEO said, “I’m greatly looking forward to working closely with Bishop Kicanas in his new role. The past eighteen months have demonstrated a close and effective relationship between the association’s staff leadership and the board under Bishop Murry, and I’m sure this relationship and its benefit to the Catholic schools we serve will only grow and strengthen under Bishop Kicanas’ leadership.”

“I’m honored and I’m grateful to the board for the opportunity to lead this exceptional organization of dedicated people,” said Bishop Kicanas. “NCEA provides wonderful formation, resources and professional development to Catholic schools and I look forward to assisting and furthering that critical mission.”

Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas was installed as Bishop of Tucson on March 7, 2003 and became Bishop Emeritus on November 29, 2017. He was appointed Coadjutor Bishop of Tucson on October 30, 2001. Before his assignment in Tucson, Bishop Kicanas was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago on January 24, 1995 and served as Episcopal Vicar of Vicariate I of the Archdiocese of Chicago. He was ordained a bishop on March 20, 1995.

Ordained a priest on April 27, 1967, Bishop Kicanas currently serves on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Communications Committee, the Catholic Education Committee, the Subcommittee on Africa, the Subcommittee for the Catholic

Campaign for Human Development, and the Subcommittee on Hispanic Affairs. He has chaired and served on several other USCCB committees.

He is a board member of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, known as CLINIC. He also is the former chairman of the board of directors of Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' overseas relief and development agency. He continues his involvement with CRS as a member of their Foundation Board. He is vice-chancellor of the Catholic Extension Society serving mission dioceses throughout the United States.

Bishop Kicanas was the recipient of the Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Award in 2008.

Bishop Kicanas completed post-graduate work in several areas, and earned a Ph.D. in educational psychology, a M.Ed. in guidance and counseling from Loyola University, and a licentiate in sacred theology from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, IL.

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Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), founded in 1904, is a professional membership organization that assists its members to fulfill their teaching mission of the Church and to lead, learn and proclaim the good news of Catholic school education.