

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## MEDIA CONTACT:

Madison Chastain, [communications@ctu.edu](mailto:communications@ctu.edu), 773.371.5416**“Preaching with the Sciences” Homily Resource Launched through Templeton Foundation Grant***Online library of more than 100 outlines highlights the ways sciences and the contemporary search for religious meaning can interface*

May 4, 2022 – Chicago. Catholic Theological Union has launched a dynamic library of preaching resources as part of a multi-year initiative involving world-renowned scientists and a select group of homileticians. The “Preaching with the Sciences” homily outline library features the first fruits of this extraordinary initiative in preaching, made possible by a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation.

Across the next year, the free online resource will grow to feature more than 100 homily outlines for preaching key Sundays and feast days across the three-year lectionary cycle. These homily outlines highlight some of the ways sciences and the contemporary search for religious meaning can interface. These homiletic resources will influence thousands of preachers seeking help each week in crafting sermons and helping to shape a scientifically informed religious imagination among future preachers.

The “Preaching with the Sciences” project is directed by emeritus CTU faculty member, Edward Foley, Capuchin, who is known for his compelling preaching. Said Foley, “In this age of astonishing explorations and technical advances, the sciences offer unique resources for preachers to explore ancient truths through contemporary lenses. Our gifted homilists demonstrate week by week how lectionary texts and Christian festivals can be effectively refracted through astronomy, psychology, earth sciences, and neurobiology to reveal new facets of the mystery of God in Christ. This one-of-a-kind venture invites preachers to read the signs of the times with expanded imaginations and renewed vitality.”

The outlines will be made available in an open access format through the Catholic Theological Union website and other portals such as [textweek.com](http://textweek.com). These free homiletic resources have the potential to influence thousands of preachers seeking help each week in crafting sermons and will help shape a scientifically informed religious imagination.

“What we are learning from the new science demands that we dramatically rethink our theological categories,” said Sr. Barbara Reid, OP, President of Catholic Theological Union, “This exciting work happens not only in classrooms and research institutes, but most especially it reaches the minds and hearts of believers through the preached word. This project led by Edward Foley, Capuchin moves this work forward in a profoundly impactful way.”

CTU will be celebrating the launch of “Preaching with the Sciences” at the annual Dr. Barry Rankin Sunday at CTU on May 22, 2022. Eucharist begins at 3:00pm CT with a panel presentation and reception to follow.

Learn more at [Preaching with the Sciences](#).

**About Catholic Theological Union**

Catholic Theological Union is a Roman Catholic graduate school of theology and ministry located in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago. CTU shares alliances with De Paul University, Dominican University and the University of Chicago. Its mission is to prepare effective leaders for the Church, ready to witness to Christ's good news of justice, love, and peace. More than 4,500 CTU alumni, vowed religious and lay women and men, have gone on to minister in 60 countries worldwide.

CTU was founded in 1968, following the Second Vatican Council, during a time of dramatic renewal in the Catholic Church. Fifty years later, CTU has evolved into a premier school of theology and ministry, sponsored by twenty-four men's religious communities and enjoys a global reputation for academic and pastoral excellence.

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