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Former DePaul President Joining CTU

May 10, 2024 – Chicago. On May 9, Sr. Barbara Reid, OP, President of Catholic Theological Union (CTU), announced the appointment of Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, CM, as the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Fellow in Catholic Leadership at CTU, beginning Fall of 2024. Fr. Holtschneider is currently the President of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) and Chancellor of DePaul University, which he led as President from 2004-2017. A national expert on university sponsorship and governance, Fr. Holtschneider holds degrees in mathematics and theology, as well as a doctorate in higher education policy from Harvard University.

President Sr. Barbara Reid, welcoming Fr. Holtschneider, stated, “The Vincentian charism embodied by Fr. Dennis adds a vital note to the concert of charisms at CTU exemplified by the men and women religious and those called to the lay vocation. An outstanding Catholic leader, Fr. Dennis will be both a mentor and a model for our students on how to be skilled and compassionate leaders for the Church.”

The appointment of Fr. Holtschneider formalizes his decades-long relationship with CTU. In 2011, while President of DePaul University, Fr. Holtschneider forged a historic academic alliance between DePaul and CTU, allowing students, faculty, and staff from both institutions access to each other’s many outstanding resources and opportunities. CTU honored Fr. Holtschneider with its *Diakonia Award* in 2017, honoring his leadership and commitment to serving God and neighbor. Fr. Holtschneider commented, “CTU is a gem, and I’m grateful to join an institution long committed to a stronger church and society.”

As the Cardinal Bernardin Fellow, Fr. Holtschneider will be found in CTU’s classrooms and creating programming with the graduate school’s Bernardin Center. The Bernardin Center was founded in 1996 in the spirit of the late Cardinal Bernardin to support initiatives that promote the key interests and missions of the Cardinal’s life, namely interreligious dialogue, consistent ethic of life, and reconciliation and peacemaking. “Few leaders of the Catholic Church in the United States today exhibit Cardinal Bernardin’s spirit of wise servant leadership the way Father Holtschneider does, and it is altogether fitting for him to find a home in The Bernardin Center,” said Dr. Steven Millies, Professor of Public Theology and Director of The Bernardin Center.

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. Founded in 1968, following the Second Vatican Council, CTU prepares effective leaders for the Church, ready to witness to Christ’s good news of justice, love, and peace. More than 4,500 CTU alumni have ministered in 60 countries worldwide. CTU is a premier school of theology and ministry, sponsored by twenty-four men’s religious communities, with a global reputation for academic and pastoral excellence.