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Fellow Appointed: Former Catholic Charities USA President & CEO Joining CTU

July 9, 2024 – Chicago. On July 9, Sister Barbara Reid, OP, President of Catholic Theological Union (CTU), announced the appointment of Sister Donna Markham, OP, PhD, as the CTU Fellow in Catholic Leadership Toward Global Healing. Sr. Donna retired as President and CEO of Catholic Charities USA in 2023, after providing nine years of transformative leadership as the first woman to lead the organization. During her tenure, she spearheaded significant growth within the Catholic Charities network, expanding its reach to serve over 15 million vulnerable individuals annually.

President Sr. Barbara Reid, welcoming Sr. Donna Markham, stated, “We are thrilled that Sr. Donna has accepted our invitation to become a CTU Fellow. As a woman religious and one who has devoted her life to personal and global healing, she embodies the kind of minister CTU aims to form for the Church and the world. Through seminars, colloquia, teaching, writing, and public speaking, she will help mentor our students and will continue to inspire people of goodwill throughout the world.”

The appointment of Sr. Donna as CTU Fellow follows her being honored by the school with its 2024 Blessed are the Peacemakers Award for her active engagement in global peace initiatives and processes of reconciliation as well as her work in alleviating the suffering of vulnerable people in the US, particularly refugees and the unhoused. Accepting the appointment, Sr. Donna stated, “CTU plays a crucial role in the preparation of leaders for the future of our church, and I am deeply honored to join this fine institution in its mission.”

As CTU Fellow, Sr. Donna continues her dedication to her life as an Adrian Dominican sister and a licensed and board-certified clinical psychologist to the ministry of personal and global healing, helping foster personal and organizational change. Since receiving her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Detroit, she has been involved in executive leadership, organizational change management, teaching, and clinical practice. She was named a Fellow of the American Board of Professional Psychology and of the American Academy of Clinical Psychology and served as Honorary President of the Canadian Psychological Association. Sr. Donna is a recipient of 14 honorary doctorates and, during her recent tenure leading Catholic Charities USA, was named each year as one of the top 50 nonprofit leaders in the US by The NonProfit Times.

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.