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Catholic Theological Union Appoints Father Place as Bernardin Center Fellow in Catholic Ethics and Catholic Healthcare Leadership

September 2, 2025 – Chicago. Catholic Theological Union (CTU) President Rev. Enzo Del Brocco, CP, announced the appointment of Father Michael Place as the Bernardin Center Fellow in Catholic Ethics and Catholic Healthcare Leadership, beginning with the 2025–26 academic year.

Father Place brings to CTU a long and distinguished history of ministry and service in the Church, as well as a deep connection to CTU through the Catholic Common Ground Initiative and The Bernardin Center. His faithful support of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin throughout much of the Cardinal's ministry in Chicago has shaped his ongoing commitment to dialogue, reconciliation, and ethical leadership.

"CTU is profoundly grateful that Father Place has accepted this appointment," said Rev. Enzo Del Brocco, CP, President of CTU. "His wisdom and experience in both Catholic ethics and healthcare leadership will enrich our students and strengthen CTU's mission of preparing leaders for the Church and the world. This fellowship also reflects our deep appreciation for his decades of ministry and his partnership with the Bernardin Center."

As Bernardin Center Fellow, Father Place's responsibilities will include:

- Providing guidance and leadership for the Catholic Common Ground Initiative.
- Assisting in the formation of Bernardin Scholars.
- Offering seminars on healthcare ethics for CTU students.
- Collaborating with CTU faculty to develop a program in healthcare ethics.
- Building relationships between CTU and Catholic healthcare systems to support student placements.
- Contributing to the exploration of a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) in ministerial leadership.

Professor Steve Millies, Director of the Bernardin Center and Chair of the Department of Historical and Doctrinal Studies, will collaborate with Father Place to integrate his work into CTU's academic and public programs. An event to mark the beginning of Father Place's fellowship will be announced later this year.

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.