



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 21, 2010

Contact: Kerry Ann Turner
Office: 202-541-5235
Email: ktturner@wtu.edu

Washington Theological Union Applauds Appointment of Archbishop Wuerl to College of Cardinals

**Statement from Very Reverend Fredrick J. Tillotson, O.Carm.,
President, Washington Theological Union**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – “It is with a heart full of gratitude and admiration that I join with the faculty, staff, students and alumni of the Washington Theological Union in congratulating Cardinal-designate Wuerl on receiving this wonderful honor that the Holy Father has bestowed upon him personally and upon this Archdiocese by elevating him to membership in the College of Cardinals.

We hold him in esteem as a spiritual leader and shepherd who brings balance and wisdom to a local and a national church struggling with its own tensions while proclaiming the Gospel of love and service to a world wrapped in conflict. He has continuously championed the cause of Catholic Education when others have questioned its value and effectiveness. He has strongly and immediately lent his voice to that of the Holy Father in advocating for a New Evangelization as the Church retells its story of salvation to a world that has forgotten its roots.

Through his keen knowledge of theology and Church tradition, his sharp intellect, and witnessing to the power of God’s grace by a life of holiness and service, Cardinal-designate Wuerl has been an effective leader, encountering the world of business, politics and science with the moral wisdom of the Gospel and the Church. His ecumenical zeal and thirst for unity has helped to bring churches and seminaries together in collaborative efforts of understanding and shared services both socially and religiously. We are grateful that he will continue to be our Shepherd, guiding us through troubled times as he is called to share his wise counsel with the Holy Father as a trusted advisor.

His Joy and gratitude is our joy as well, and we salute him in receiving this great honor.”

###

Washington Theological Union has educated men and women for ministry in the Roman Catholic Church for forty years. Founded as a coalition of seminaries for men in religious communities, the Union has earned a reputation as one of the finest graduate schools for ministry in the United States. Graduates often pursue doctoral studies at major Catholic institutions as well as minister and teach around the world in settings as diverse as suburban and inner-city parishes, high school and college campuses, hospitals and hospices, homeless shelters and prison ministries. The student body consists of Catholic religious men and women, laity, ordained ministers, and students from other Christian traditions who are part of the Washington Theological Consortium. More information about the Washington Theological Union is available at www.wtu.edu.