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EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA (September 7, 2022) – The Catholic Campus Ministry Association (CCMA), exists to be the voice and promoter of the mission of the Church among its students in higher education, today announced, along with Divine Mercy University (DMU), a graduate school of psychology and counseling dedicated to the scientific study of psychology with a Catholic understanding of the human person, marriage, and the family, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a partnership which offers tuition reductions of up to 25% to its members.

Through this partnership, members of CCMA are eligible to receive the following tuition reductions:

- Priests, Deacons, and Religious including Consecrated will receive a 25% tuition reduction
- Full-time employees of Catholic Campus Ministry Association, and members of their immediate families, will receive a tuition reduction of 20% for any of the DMU degree programs
- Catholic Campus Ministry Association members, in good standing, will receive a 20% tuition reduction for any of the DMU degree programs
- All of the above can receive a 10% reduction for the Spiritual Direction Certificate program

Dr. Michael St. Pierre, is the Executive Director of CCMA. CCMA's goal is to elevate the profession of campus ministry so that more students will be led to Christ and enjoy the richness of the Catholic faith. Said Dr. St. Pierre about the partnership with DMU and the benefit to the Church, "More students than ever are struggling with issues of mental health and the very core of their identity as children of God. CCMA has prided itself on sharing the best resources available to its members and the programs offered by DMU only expand that offering. This partnership will buck the trend of students leaving the Church during their college years and bring hope to those on the frontlines of ministry- Catholic campus ministers."

Divine Mercy University (DMU) President, <u>Fr. Charles Sikorsky</u>, <u>LC. JD. JCL</u> praises CCMA's mission and what this partnership solidifies, "We are blessed and more than pleased to be partnering with CCMA. With so many young people today searching for meaning, purpose and love in their lives, CCMA's work of presenting Christ as the way, the truth and life could not be more important. We hope to be able to assist them in their vital mission of evangelization for many years to come."

DMU will provide tuition reduction for Catholic Campus Ministry Association applicants who are accepted and admitted to DMU degree programs. For more information about the partnership, contact Divine Mercy University's Director of Partnerships, Steven Showalter, at sshowalter@divinemercy.edu.

ABOUT DIVINE MERCY UNIVERSITY

Divine Mercy University (DMU) is a Catholic graduate institution of higher education offering degree programs in psychology and counseling, founded in 1999 as the Institute for the Psychological Sciences. The university is dedicated to the scientific study of psychology with a Catholic understanding of the human person, marriage, and the family. The university offers Master of Science (M.S.) degrees in Psychology and Counseling, and a Doctoral (Psy.D.) degree in Clinical Psychology. For more information, visit https://divinemercy.edu.

Divine Mercy University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award masters and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Divine Mercy University.

The IPS doctoral program in clinical psychology (Psy.D.) is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association (APA). *Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation: Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation American Psychological Association 750 1st Street NE, Washington, DC 20002 Phone (202)-336-5979 / Email: apaaccred@apa.org / Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

ABOUT CCMA

The Catholic Campus Ministry Association is the national, professional organization for Catholic campus ministers dedicated to the vision of campus ministry outlined in the 1985 U.S. Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter, *Empowered By The Spirit: Campus Ministry Faces the Future*.

Through a national network aided by regional gatherings, online courses, educational programs, professional certification and other means of sharing resources, CCMA fosters the professional, spiritual and theological growth of campus ministers and promotes the mission of the Catholic Church in higher education.

Approximately 50 percent of the nation's 1,200 Catholic campus ministers are CCMA members. CCMA members minister in a variety of settings, many of which include campus ministry departments at Catholic institutions, Newman Centers at public institutions and campus ministry departments at non-Catholic, private institutions. Each year, CCMA's offerings directly impact over 200,000 college students.

CCMA is comprised of over 600 campus ministry professionals serving students on more than 350 college campuses and 100 dioceses. For more information, visit https://www.ccmanetwork.org.