Faith Leaders Affirm the Inherent Beauty and Dignity of Being Created Male or Female

December 15, 2017

WASHINGTON—Following the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) General Assembly in November 2017, a group of ecumenical and interfaith partners gathered with bishops of the Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage to discuss gender ideology. As a result of this discussion, faith leaders today issued an open letter entitled “Created Male and Female”.


“We hope this letter communicates to the public our shared understanding of the goodness of the creation of humanity as male or female and underscores our commitment to service of this truth with both clarity and compassion,” said Bishop Conley.

The religious leaders stressed the importance of acknowledging the reality of sexual identity, noting, “Children especially are harmed when they are told that they can ‘change’ their sex or, further, given hormones that will affect their development and possibly render them infertile as adults. Parents deserve better guidance on these important decisions, and we urge our medical institutions to honor the basic medical principle of ‘first, do no harm.’”

The leaders close with a hope: “We hope for renewed appreciation of the beauty of sexual difference in our culture and for authentic support of those who experience conflict with their God-given sexual identity.”

Keywords: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, USCCB, Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Bishop James D. Conley, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, Committee for Religious Liberty, Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, marriage, religious liberty, gender ideology

###

Media Contact:
Judy Keane
202-541-3200

17-248
Sec,DD,DP,DioNews,CathPress, Hisp, CNS