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Dominican Presents Unique Holy Thursday Prayer Service

Mime Performance Connects Death of Jesus to Prayer Service for Homicide Victims

WHITEFISH BAY, Wis. – Dominican High School will present a unique and moving prayer service for the community on Thursday, March 20 which will link the death and resurrection of Jesus to a prayer service remembering the 104 Milwaukee residents who were victims of violent crimes in 2007.

The service, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 9:30 a.m. in the school's auditorium located at 120 E. Silver Spring Dr., Whitefish Bay.

“This is the eleventh year we will perform this deeply moving presentation for our students and the public,” said Dominican Religious Studies Chair and Campus Minister Jane McAuliffe. “The service attempts to empower audience members to connect the life and death of Jesus to the present plague of violence in Milwaukee.”

McAuliffe explained that the service will begin with a solemn reading of each name, age and circumstance of death of the 104 victims. Each victim will be represented by one candle held by students and other members of the Dominican community. Following a solemn procession into the darkened auditorium, the candles will be placed on the stage. Twelve students will then perform a graceful mime – set against the musical backdrop of Barber's “Adagio” - of the Passion of Christ beginning with the Last Supper and ending with the Resurrection of our Lord. The performance ends with each candle bearer following the risen Christ into the Light.

“It is my hope that the community will come together and join us in prayer, not only for those lost, but for those left behind,” said McAuliffe. “As we follow the teachings of Jesus, we cannot remain indifferent to the violence around us.”

Dominican High School is a leader in secondary education, providing young men and women with a quality, Catholic college-preparatory education in a supportive and nurturing environment. Founded over 50 years ago by the Sinsinawa Dominicans and based in Whitefish Bay, Wis., Dominican's diverse population draws students from more than 50 grade schools and four counties across southeastern Wisconsin.

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