

## Resolution 017

### A Resolution to Implement *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* in the Theology Learning Community Class

Sponsored by: Senator Crnkovich

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Sharpe, Senator Suarez, Senator Moore, Senator Schlee

**Whereas,**

The Catholic University's mission statement is as follows: "As the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States...The Catholic University of America is committed to being a comprehensive Catholic and American institution of higher learning... Dedicated to advancing the dialogue between faith and reason, The Catholic University of America seeks to discover and impart the truth through excellence in teaching and research, all in service to the Church, the nation and the world."<sup>1</sup>

**Whereas,**

As part of the First-Year Experience, students will take a core of liberal arts classes that will form the foundation of their education. During their freshman year, students embark on a four-course sequence in Philosophy, Theology, and English. Students take all four courses with the same group of students, commonly called a learning community (LC).<sup>2</sup>

**Whereas,**

A basic level of agreement among faculty and students about the teachings of the Church as it relates to our status as a university is essential to fostering a successful Catholic university.

**Whereas,**

Written in the summer of 1990, Saint John Paul II's *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, an Apostolic Constitution, is intended to be "a sort of magna carta"<sup>3</sup> document for Catholic universities, outlining their various purposes, and describing what makes them unique.

**Whereas,**

President Garvey has acknowledged on various occasions *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*'s importance in shaping Catholic Higher education and this institution in particular.<sup>4</sup> He has attended an international conference focused explicitly on this document and provided commentary on various aspects of it.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.catholic.edu/about-us/at-a-glance/index.html#mission>

<sup>2</sup> <https://undergraduate-studies.catholic.edu/curriculum/first-year-experience/learning-communities.html>

<sup>3</sup> *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, John Paul II. Paragraph 8.

<sup>4</sup> See: <https://www.ncregister.com/interview/catholic-university-of-america-president-john-garvey-i-love-catholic-higher-education>; <https://www.crisismagazine.com/2021/the-catholic-university-of-america-at-a-crossroads>; <https://www.ncregister.com/news/on-the-record-with-john-garvey-cua-president>

<sup>5</sup> <https://president.catholic.edu/communications/cns-columns/2015/ex-corde.html>

***Be it enacted that,***

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests that *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* by Pope John Paul II be incorporated into the First Year Experience Theology class.

Agreed to by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ yeas to \_\_\_\_\_ nays on this date: \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ abstaining and \_\_\_\_\_ not present.

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Abigail Anger  
*President of the Student Government Association*

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Monica Wallace  
*Vice President of the Student Government Association*

