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Belmont Abbey College Celebrates the Opening of the Belmont House on Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON D.C. (September 15, 2021) In the spirit of the Benedictine Hallmarks of hospitality and stability, the Belmont House on Capitol Hill opens its doors in service to the church and country. At a time in our country's history when those who control public discourse don't invite perspectives of faith and religion, Belmont Abbey college desires to provide a refuge of hospitality and stability for those who are standing up for our religious freedoms and who are proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel.

The opening of the Belmont House comes at a crucial time for our nation. "Belmont Abbey College is excited for the opportunity to plant a seed in our nation's capital. We now extend in our spirit of hospitality, our presence, and prayer at a time in our country's history when religion and faith are being pushed out of public life for those who are standing up for our religious freedoms and who are proclaiming the good news of the Gospel," said Abbot Placid Solari, O.S.B. Since the very first monk arrived in Belmont, North Carolina with two students, the college's mission has been to provide an education that enables its students to lead lives of integrity, succeed professionally, become responsible citizens, and be a blessing to themselves and others.

- Many ills are afflicting the world today and to bring the light of the Gospel to these problems, society must come together and share work and prayer or in Benedictine terms, ora et labora. When people come together in the power of Jesus' name, conversations bear fruit, fellowship strengthens witness testimony, and work and prayers are more surely inspired by the Gospel. With the founding of the Belmont House, just three blocks from the Capitol, Belmont Abbey College hopes to bring this witness of the faith to Washington.

The time for this important work is now. "We have already begun hosting people of different faiths and nationalities here in Washington so that they may come together in fellowship and the conviction of faith. Our doors are open and we hope people will join the movement to restore the witness of faith to its rightful place in the public square," said Phil Brach, VP of College Relations at Belmont Abbey. Providing a place where ideas can be discussed and shared is crucial to restoring a public focus on faith.

Belmont Abbey College is building a presence in Washington to stand up for the rights of believers, aid the needs of the faithful who serve in Washington, and remind believers that it is right and necessary to bring the insights of faith into public life. Belmont House is a place where real conversation, work, and change can take place. For more information, visit www.belmonthousedc.org.

About Belmont Abbey College: Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is a private, Catholic baccalaureate and liberal arts institution. Our mission is to educate students in the liberal arts and sciences so that in all things God may be glorified. Guided by the Catholic intellectual tradition and the Benedictine spirit of prayer and learning, we welcome a diverse body of students and provide them with an education that will enable them to lead lives of integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to be a blessing to themselves and others. Our beautiful and historic campus is conveniently located just 10 miles west of Charlotte, N.C., and currently serves over 1500 students both onsite and online. For more information, visit <https://belmontabbeycollege.edu/>.