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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AND TO BE READ AT ALL MASSES THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 16TH/17TH, 2021

In union with many other faith communities, the Reformed Catholic Church hereby condemns and repudiates the actions of the insurrectionists who attacked the U.S. Capitol on January 6th and who continue to threaten violence against our nation. This is domestic terrorism and it is shameful. They have put people's lives in danger, disrupted the American democratic process and the rule of law, vandalized property, assaulted law enforcement officers, and threatened the safety of members of Congress and all those who work at the Capitol building. This is morally unacceptable by any standard. We support the current efforts to restore and ensure order, especially in preparation for the January 20th inauguration of our new and legitimately-elected president, Joseph Biden.

All those who participated in the January 6th insurrection as well as those who played any role in inciting or enabling it must be held accountable. We are especially grieved by the loss of several lives in conjunction with the attack and pray no one else will suffer injury or death. We are praying for the safety of all our government officials and that peace will be fully restored. We also pray that all Americans will pledge to work together to address the underlying racism, misogyny, falsehood and ignorance that emboldened the domestic terrorists responsible.

We invite all people of faith and goodwill to join us in doing the hard work necessary for our nation to heal and move forward. This seems especially pertinent this weekend as we commemorate the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Finally, we pray that the insurrectionists repudiate their disgraceful actions and be brought to justice.

May God bless America!

Sincerely Yours in Christ, Most Rev. Christopher M. Carpenter Presiding Bishop Reformed Catholic Church