Contact: Nanette Bentley

513-952-4713, NBentley@mercy.com

Mercy Health appoints Father Joseph Cardone as new Chief Mission Officer

(CINCINNATI; October 16, 2017) – Mercy Health, a Catholic health ministry serving Ohio and Kentucky, announces that Father Joseph Cardone has been appointed as the new Chief Mission Officer and Senior Vice President of Mission and Values Integration, effective November 1.

Currently, Fr. Cardone serves as the Vice President of Mission and Values Integration for Mercy Health – St. Vincent Medical Center and Mercy Health – Children's Hospital in Toledo. Additionally, he serves within the Diocese of Toledo as the pastor for Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

Fr. Cardone steps into his new role following the passing of Sr. Kathy Green, who lost her courageous fight against cancer on August 28.

"Like Sr. Kathy, Fr. Cardone is a thoughtful, compassionate servant leader," said John Starcher, president and CEO, Mercy Health. "Father Cardone's commitment to our Mission and compassion for the poor and underserved are evident in all he does. He knows our ministry, our heritage and the challenges and opportunities before us and I look forward to working with him in the coming days, months and years ahead."

Fr. Cardone has been part of Mercy Health's ministry for 17 years. He has dedicated himself to bringing the Mission and Values to life at the bedside, among associates and within the Toledo community. His extensive experience includes a variety of regional efforts addressing ethics, neighborhood revitalization, development of sacred spaces in Toledo region facilities and spiritual care education and accreditation. He has also led Mercy Health-wide initiatives that extend understanding about the organization's Catholic heritage and identity among Mercy Health associates, leaders and board members.

He holds a doctor of philosophy in moral theology from St. Louis University and a master's degree from the Athenaeum of Ohio, Cincinnati. He was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Toledo in 1987.

"I am humbled and honored by this opportunity to continue to serve the Mercy Health Mission at the system level. Catholic healthcare is a calling and I am excited to continue to work with our leaders and employees in ensuring our ministry remains strong and faithful for the next 163 years," Fr. Cardone said.

Mercy Health is the largest health system in Ohio and the state's fourth-largest employer, with more than 33,500 employees serving communities throughout Ohio and in Kentucky. Mercy Health provided care for patients more than 6.3 million times in 2016. The system includes assets of \$6.3 billion and nearly 500 care sites, including 23 hospitals, eight senior living communities, five hospice programs and seven home health agencies. Its clinically integrated network, Mercy Health Select, coordinates more effective and efficient care for more than 200,000 patients, saving money for taxpayers through the Medicare Shared Savings program. In keeping with its mission to improve the health of its communities, Mercy Health provides nearly \$1 million per day in community benefit services. For more information, visit www.mercy.com or connect with Mercy Health on Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+, Pinterest and Twitter (@LivingMercyHlth).