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SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

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**Perkins School of Theology to Host Romero Commemorative Events
March 24, 2010**

Dallas, Texas – Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the death of Archbishop Oscar Romero, will host a service of worship, a book signing, and an interdisciplinary dialogue on Wednesday, March 24th. All three events will be held on the Perkins campus.

Dr. Carlos F. Cardoza-Orlandi, professor of World Christianity at Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta, will offer a sermon for the midday worship service titled “Risk, Blood and Solidarity.” Dr. Harold J. Recinos, professor of Church and Society at Perkins, will preside at the Eucharist.

Following the service, the Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions will host a luncheon and book signing in the Prothro Great Hall to celebrate the publication of *Jesus in the Hispanic Community: Images of Christ from Theology to Popular Religion* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2010), co-edited by Recinos and Dr. Hugo Magallanes, associate professor of Christianity and Cultures at Perkins. Both editors will be present for the event, which includes remarks by Recinos and Dr. Edwin E. Sylvest, Jr., professor *emeritus* of Church History at Perkins.

The interdisciplinary dialogue, titled “Politics of Religion/Violence of Love: The Case of Latin America,” is sponsored by the Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions. The event, which includes a light dinner, will be moderated by Cardoza-Orlandi.

Cardoza-Orlandi, who will join the Perkins faculty July 1, 2010 as professor of Global Christianities and Mission Studies, is widely published in the field of mission studies, and has lectured internationally on the subject. He is an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and has served as pastor of local churches in Puerto Rico, the United States, and Canada.

Jesus in the Hispanic Community: Images of Christ from Theology to Popular Religion features a collection of essays from top U.S. Latino/a scholars exploring constructive theology and popular religion. It reveals the varieties of religious experience in the United States, illuminating the importance of Latino/a understandings of Christ to both academicians and community church leaders. Its publication was made possible by a Luce Foundation grant provided through the Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions at Perkins.

The March 24th commemorative service will be held at 11:30 a.m. in Perkins Chapel, 6001 Bishop Boulevard, with the luncheon and book signing to follow in the Prothro Great Hall, 5901 Bishop Boulevard. For more information on these two events contact Dr. Harold J. Recinos at hrecinos@smu.edu or 214-768-1773. The interdisciplinary dialogue will be held in the Swalwell Connor Refectory, 104 Prothro Hall, 5901 Bishop Boulevard, beginning with a light dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by lecture and discussion from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Advance reservation for the dialogue is required, with attendance limited to SMU faculty, doctoral students, and professional staff. For more information and to make reservations contact rlamb@smu.edu.

Perkins School of Theology, founded in 1911, is one of five official University-related schools of theology of The United Methodist Church. Degree programs include the Master of Divinity, Master of Sacred Music, Master of Theological Studies, Master of Church Ministries, and Doctor of Ministry, as well as the Ph.D., in cooperation with SMU's Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences.