

I-01 TRUST AS LIVING OUT OF A BLESSED CONSCIOUSNESS – LIVING IN TRUST AS JESUS DID 🎧 ARENA

What does it mean to live in trust? Is trust simply a temperamental quality, like optimism? Trust and distrust are fundamental qualities of soul that color or discolor every one of our actions. To live in trust is to live out of a blessed consciousness, as Jesus did, rather than out of a cursed consciousness. What does that mean? How is trust grounded in a blessed consciousness? How is that lived out?



Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI

Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, a member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio. He formerly taught at Newman Theological College in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and served as Provincial Superior of his Oblate Province and on the General Council for the Oblates in Rome. Fr. Rolheiser's books are popular throughout the English-speaking world and have been translated into many languages. His weekly column is carried by more than 80 publications worldwide.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TRACK

We invite your parish team to join us on Friday, February 24 for a full day of workshops, discussions, networking and prayer in this Parish Leadership Track. Note: You must register for all three sessions. (Please make sure to also select Sessions 2-02 and 3-02.)

I-02 DIVINE RENOVATION: DEVELOPING PARISH LEADERSHIP FOR THE SAKE OF MISSION 🎧

“Divine Renovation” is for pastors and parish leaders who want to renew and revitalize their parish for mission and evangelization. Participants will be led through a series of interactive reflections and exercises to help them establish a functioning leadership team that will assist the pastor in leading the parish in a new direction. We will look at how a leadership team is different from a staff team or pastoral council, and how it best functions in relation to these other groups within the parish. Each team (the pastor or parish administrator along with four to eight team members) will be led through a process to examine the essentials of common vision, team balance, healthy conflict, trust and vulnerability. Pastors and team members will receive tools and insights to form or become a healthier and more effective leadership team. (It is presumed that participants will have read or are familiar with the key insights of Fr. James Mallon’s book, “Divine Renovation.”)



Fr. James Mallon

Fr. James Mallon, a priest of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth in Nova Scotia, Canada, currently serves as Pastor of Saint Benedict Parish and is founder and Chair of the Board of the John Paul II Media Institute. Fr. Mallon is creator of the video-based catechetical series, “Catholicism 201.” In 2014, he published his first book on parish renewal, followed in 2016 with “The Divine Renovation Guidebook: A Step-by-Step Manual for Transforming Your Parish.”

I-03 EUCHARIST: BROKEN OPEN IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Celebrated faithfully, Eucharist sends us with eyes wide open into a world filled with God’s presence in the practices of everyday life, made extraordinary by grace. Through storytelling, song and pastoral insight, Tony Alonso and Jeanne Cotter will open up eucharistic theology as it takes seriously the blessing and bruising of daily life.



Tony Alonso

Tony Alonso is one of the most prominent voices in contemporary liturgical music. His latest release is “A House of Prayer” with GIA Publications. He presents at workshops and conferences across North America and Europe. Alonso formerly served as Director of Music at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and at St. Nicholas Church in Evanston, Ill. An emerging theologian, he is currently a doctoral candidate at Emory University in Atlanta.



Jeanne Cotter

Based in St. Paul, Minn., Jeanne Cotter is a liturgical composer, author, speaker and owner of Mythic Rain. She is also Artist in Residence at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Naperville, Ill. Cotter has directed parish missions and retreats throughout the United States and has presented at diocesan gatherings and national events including the RECongress, the National Catholic Educational Association, and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Her latest works are “Tender Hearted” and “The Old Gravel Road.”

I-04 MUSIC FOR CELEBRATING RECONCILIATION AND EUCHARIST WITH CHILDREN 🎧

Are you responsible for preparing children for reconciliation and Eucharist? Music is the natural means for both praising God and learning the language of our faith. Join internationally renowned composer and educator John Burland as he explores liturgical catechesis that builds knowledge, increases participation in learning and moves children to full, conscious and active participation in the rites. This workshop will present a variety of engaging, age-appropriate songs with accompanying prayerful gestures for celebrating the sacraments of reconciliation and Eucharist. You will leave with more than one song in your heart!



John Burland

John Burland is an educator and composer of religious music and has written and recorded over 250 songs and published 14 music collections internationally. He is the Education Officer for Liturgy & Music for the Sydney Catholic Schools in Australia. Burland is also National Music Consultant for Bayard, Inc. During his extensive career, he has worked as a classroom teacher, principal and a Religious Education coordinator in school and parish communities. He is a regular speaker at conferences and gatherings across Australia, North America, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

I-05 TAKING A PEEK INSIDE THE DOOR OF A CATHOLIC HOME, APARTMENT OR CONDO 🎧

Our Catholic faith is grounded in signs, symbols, images and rituals. Yes, in our very secular society, the places where we live can be void of religious/spiritual images and symbols. This workshop will offer a variety of suggestions to heighten the presence of some of the Catholic symbols, images and rituals that can be reminders of the sacred. Specific prayers will accompany each image and symbol. (Many of these suggestions can be great gifts for newlyweds, new parents and first-time renters and condo dwellers!)

**Rev. John C. Cusick**

Fr. John Cusick, a priest of the Chicago Archdiocese, was creator, coordinator and Director of their Young Adult Ministry from 1970-2013 and was an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana. In 2012, Fr. Cusick received the Blessed John XXIII Award from the Association of Chicago Priests for "excellence in priestly ministry." In 2014, he received The Spirit of the Conference Award for Service on behalf of Lay Ministry from the National Association of Lay Ministers.

I-06 ALIGNING RESPONSES TO BULLYING WITH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS 🎧

Jesus consistently models what it means to love our neighbor with compassion and dignity. But current terminology to describe bullying as well as traditional forms of discipline do not align with Jesus' teachings. Frank DiLallo, author of "Peace Be With You: Building Christ-Centered School Communities," will make a compelling case for how common, pejorative bullying responses make things worse while providing many positive practical and compassionate alternatives consistent with our Catholic faith. This workshop is an important update for educators to ensure meaningful and hopeful responses toward a Christ-centered school climate.

**Frank A. DiLallo**

Since 1997, Frank DiLallo has been Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio, serving 124 parishes and 79 Catholic schools. With over 30 years of experience in education and counseling, he conducts numerous educator trainings and is a frequent local, regional and national speaker on the topic of bullying prevention. DiLallo's "Peace Be With You: Christ Centered Bullying Solution" and his soon-to-be-released book titled, "Peace Be With You: Building Christ Centered School Communities," is a grass-roots effort that is gaining momentum across the country.

2015

was the first year at the helm as Director of the Office of Religious Education (ORE) for **Fr. Christopher Bazyouros**. He had been working with ORE to help in their Adult Formation program. By the time Fr. Bazyouros took over the role from Sr. Edith Prendergast, RSC, she had served the office for nearly three decades.

**I-07 THE CHILD AND THE HEART**

In this workshop, Fr. Michael Fish will lead us in finding the treasure of the Kingdom in the field of modern life.

**Fr. Michael Fish, OSB Cam**

Michael Fish, a native of South Africa, spent many years as a Redemptorist priest before leaving the Redemptorists and South Africa to become a Camaldolese Benedictine at New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur, Calif. Fr. Fish now explores solitude and the way of the hermit, while offering retreats, talks and spiritual direction to religious, parochial and lay communities. With the assistance of contemporary writing and teaching, he continues to develop the notion of the "inner monk," "the hermit in the world" and how to live a monastic rhythm in the world.

I-08 A WORD THAT WILL ROUSE THEM

A perennial challenge of preaching is relating the scriptural and liturgical texts to the lives of people and the concerns of our world. What does prophetic preaching sound like? This workshop will explore that question, especially through the method of narrative preaching, a method particularly useful for engaging the prophetic Word.

**Edward Foley, OFM Cap**

Capuchin priest Fr. Edward Foley is the Duns Scotus Professor of Spirituality, and Professor of Liturgy and Music at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where he was founding Director of the Ecumenical Doctor of Ministry Program. He is also past President of the North American Academy of Liturgy. Fr. Foley has lectured in over 60 dioceses and has written over 300 book chapters, articles and reviews. The award-winning author has 23 books in print, most recently "Theological Reflection Across Faith Traditions."

I-09 THE DENIAL OF DEATH AND DYING WITH CHRIST: WHAT DO THEY HAVE IN COMMON? 🎧

At the Easter Vigil, we will hear again the proclamation from St. Paul: Do you not know that you have died with Christ? What does that mean in a culture that denies death, living in the illusion that we have the power to never die? Learn about the mystical saying, "Die before you die, so that when you die, there is not much left to die." Learning to die is learning to live. Stop the denial and find the promise now!

**Rev. Richard N. Fragomeni**

Fr. Richard Fragomeni, a priest of the Diocese of Albany, N.Y., is Associate Professor of Liturgy and Homiletics, and Chair of the Department of Word and Worship at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. He has written widely on liturgy, music, symbolism, the Catechumenate, the Eucharist and liturgies with children among other subjects. In addition to his teaching and preaching duties, Fr. Fragomeni serves as Spiritual Director for the Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, an Italian-American parish in Chicago's Little Italy.

I-10 CATHOLIC STUDENTS, LEADERSHIP AND A SOCIAL JUSTICE ATTITUDE

What does it mean to be a leader in our world today? Can Catholic teachers and catechists “teach” leadership skills to students? Whether you are teaching in a Catholic school, a parish religious faith formation program or working with sacramental preparation programs in your parish, leadership – with a social justice attitude – can be learned and lived by every single child within a parish or school setting. In this dynamic presentation, Dan Friedt will demonstrate how children from kindergarten to grade 12 can use the power of the “Five Stages of Social Justice” and “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People” (with scriptural support) to become leaders for a lifetime.



Dan Friedt

Dan Friedt is Principal of St. Angela School in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. He has 37 years of teaching experience from kindergarten to grade 12, with 19 years in administration. Over the past 10 years Friedt has presented workshops and conferences throughout North America, including Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec and California. As an Apple Distinguished Educator (2013), he presents about technology in the classroom and one-to-one environments with iPads.

I-11 POPE FRANCIS AND THE EMERGENCE OF A TRULY PASTORAL MAGISTERIUM

With Pope Francis’ pontificate, we are witnessing an important new stage in the development of a postmodern papacy. Fifty years later, Pope Francis is realizing Pope St. John XXIII’s vision of a truly pastoral magisterium.



Dr. Richard Gaillardetz

Dr. Richard Gaillardetz is the Joseph Professor of Catholic Systematic Theology at Boston College and Chair of the Theology Department. He has authored or edited over 100 pastoral and academic articles and 13 books, including “An Unfinished Council: Vatican II, Pope Francis, and the Renewal of Catholicism” and “Go Into the Streets! The Welcoming Church of Pope Francis” (co-edited with Thomas Rausch, SJ). Dr. Gaillardetz also served as President of the Catholic Theological Society of America from 2013-14.

I-12 INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP AND THE RCIA

How does a parish make a disciple? If we believe the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is all about making disciples, rather than a sole focus on teaching Catholic doctrine in “Conference Room 102 in the Parish Center on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.,” how do we re-shape our initiation processes so that making intentional disciples is the goal and the outcome?



Dr. Jerry Galipeau

Dr. Jerry Galipeau is Vice President and Chief Publishing Officer at World Library Publications in Franklin Park, Ill. He is past Chair of the Board of Directors of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate and has authored numerous publications and has presented keynotes and workshops throughout the United States and Canada. His blog provides an arena for those interested in liturgy, music and initiation.

I-13 OVER BORED? FIVE KEYS TO A MORE VIBRANT PARISH COMMUNITY

How does a parish light (or rekindle) “the fire” in the hearts of their parishioners? What evangelization strategies are currently working and which might need to be re-evaluated? How do we empower the right people to maximize our efforts but without adding significant cost? Come laugh and learn what the souls in the pews are responding to and those outside the Church need to hear.



Mark Hart

Based in Phoenix, Mark Hart serves as Executive Vice President for Life Teen International, a Catholic youth ministry movement found in 30 countries worldwide. The best-selling and award-winning author and co-author of over a dozen books has traveled the globe speaking to millions. Hart is a regular guest on several Catholic radio programs, a co-host on SiriusXM Radio, and producer of a weekly podcast for Life Teen. His popular DVD Bible Study series includes “Altaration,” “Encounter” and “T3.” His latest books are “A Second Look” and “Behold the Mystery.”

I-14 STOP. LOOK. LISTEN: AN INVITATION TO PAY ATTENTION EVERY SINGLE DAY

We live driven, distracted and depleted. Is there a different way? Terry Hershey invites us to heed the simple instruction from our childhood: Stop. Look. Listen. Three simple words can free us, encourage us and help us to live fully awake in the present, and to literally see God in all things. Three simple words can give us the permission to absorb – to rest, renew and live. Permission to see the fullness of life that surrounds us, and make us glad to be alive.



Rev. Terry Hershey

Terry Hershey is an inspirational speaker, humorist, author, dad, Protestant minister and landscape designer on Vashon Island in the Puget Sound near Seattle. The internationally renowned speaker and retreat facilitator regularly travels throughout the United States and Canada. His work has been featured on The Hallmark Channel, CNN, PBS and NPR and his gardens and books have been featured in magazines and newspapers of the Pacific Northwest.

I-15 DISCIPLESHIP: A VISION FOR INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY LIVING

Late in his priestly formation in India, Fr. Satish Joseph came to insights into discipleship – a call to “radical” discipleship and a way for fellow Christians to envision, organize and live their lives as a response to this most basic Gospel call. Over the last eight years, he has succeeded in organizing his parish into an intentional community of disciples. He defines discipleship as, “Think like Jesus, talk like Jesus and act like Jesus.” In this workshop, participants will not only rediscover the Gospel call to discipleship but learn practical ways for growing toward intentional and radical discipleship. Practical ways to organize parish communities into communities of disciples will also be offered.



Fr. Satish Antony Joseph

Fr. Satish Joseph has served in the Cincinnati Archdiocese for over 16 years. He is presently Pastor at both Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St. Helen Church in Dayton, Ohio. Apart from serving at the two parishes, he organizes parish retreats and parish missions, facilitates retreats for archdiocesan staff, and leads professional development days for Catholics school staff. Fr. Joseph is also founder of Ite Missa Est Ministries, an adult faith formation program at Immaculate Conception parish.

I-16 WHAT EVERY SERIOUS CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT JUDAISM

Did you know that Judaism is much more than the religion of the Hebrew Bible? Did you know that Jews have sacred literature beyond the Hebrew Bible (and have their own “New Testament”)? Did you know that Jews mean something completely different than Christians when speaking of the Messiah, sin, redemption, salvation, repentance and forgiveness? Come and question, learn and explore with Rabbi Michael Lotker, author of “A Christian’s Guide to Judaism.”



Rabbi Michael Lotker

Rabbi Michael Lotker spent the bulk of his first career as president of a variety of alternative energy companies, working in wind power, solar and geothermal energy. In 2003, he was ordained as a rabbi at Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles. He presently is the Community Rabbi for the Jewish Federation of Ventura County, Calif., and was recently invited to be a Guest Chaplain at the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition to his studies, Rabbi Lotker teaches widely on topics relating to religion and science, Jewish theology, interfaith dialogue and spirituality.

I-17 REVISIONING THE NEW

Playing on the title of the U.S. Catholic Bishops’ document on youth ministry, “Renewing the Vision,” this workshop will look at today’s Snapchat, Instagram and YouTube culture and rethink how adults can “win the right to be heard.”



Mike Patin

“Faith horticulturist” Mike Patin lives in Lafayette, La., and has worked in ministry since 1984 as a high school teacher, coach and diocesan youth minister for the New Orleans Archdiocese. He has spoken to groups ranging from 10 to 23,000 in over 130 dioceses in the United States and Canada. Patin has published two books: “A Standing Invitation” and “This Was Not in the Brochures: Lessons from Work, Life and Ministry.”

I-18 REACHING THE IN-BETWEENS: YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY IN OUR CHURCH

There is an awkward time in every person’s life. Figuring out life as a young adult anywhere between the ages of 18 and 35 is remarkably tough. Discerning how to actually live faith while in college, beginning a career and forming mature friendships is a unique challenge. It’s as if young adults are in a constant state of transition and transformation. Walking the path with these young adults seeking to grow in holiness during this season of life is an even greater challenge. Come discover practical methods for successful young adult ministry while also unpacking the uniqueness of this “in-between” time with Katie Prejean McGrady, who is in this very season of life herself.



Katie Prejean McGrady

Katie Prejean McGrady is a theology teacher at St. Louis Catholic High School and Youth Director at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church in Lake Charles, La. She is author of “Room 24: Adventures of a New Evangelist” and, since 2007, she has been traveling throughout North America using her original blend of humor and storytelling to speak at events ranging from small sessions to national conferences. Prejean is presently working on her Master’s degree in theological studies.

I-19 SAME LORD, NEW SOUNDTRACK: THEIR MUSIC IS TELLING US WHAT THEY ARE GOING THROUGH ... ARE YOU LISTENING?

How did Jesus do it? He met people and knew instantly what they needed. He was in tune with the soundtrack of their lives. Can we claim this in our own ministry with young people? Like the ever-changing music that teens listen to, Jesus’ message is also constant. Learn ways to incorporate the real needs of young people, honor their culture and tap into the music of their hearts to improve your ministry. Arrive at this workshop ready to laugh, listen, share and walk away with four proven strategies.



Anna Scally

Anna Scally, President of Cornerstone Media, is a columnist for their Top Music Countdown online resource and host of the audio show, “Burning Issues.” She received the National Youth Ministry Performer, Artist and Author of the Year Award from the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry and serves on the Board of Directors for the National Youth Foundation USA. Scally has made over 2,300 public presentations at youth rallies, training events, retreats and adult education days as well as major conferences for religious educators in North America.

Workshops

1996

Photos taken at Congress 1996, held March 21-24, include (from left to right) the Opening Event; choir at the Opening Event; a reading at a Liturgy in the Anaheim Room; and the Exhibit Hall (Hall A) at the Anaheim Convention Center .



1998

was the year the “ninth period” workshop was replaced by two Sunday morning keynote talks, and the Closing Liturgy time was moved up to begin earlier, at 3:30 pm. This year, Congress is again changing its



format to present two Saturday Keynotes at 8:30 am – one in English in the Arena with Msgr. Ray East (at left) and one in Spanish in Hall B with Arzobispo Gustavo Garcia-Siller, MSPS (on right).



I-20 BLESSED BUT BROKEN? MARRIAGE, DIVORCE AND THE CATHOLIC ANNULMENT PROCESS



Pope Francis has encouraged us as Church to address the sad fact that some marriages do not work out and sometimes Catholics find themselves in the troubled waters of separation and civil divorce, wondering about the possibility of marriage in their future. This workshop addresses why the Church cares about something as “private” as marriage and civil divorce, the practical aspects of the marriage nullity (“annulment”) process, and the insights and innovations of Pope Francis.



Sr. Tracey Sharp, SCRH, STL

Sr. Tracey Sharp is an Auditor with the Marriage Tribunal of the Los Angeles Archdiocese. The former Assistant Professor of Theology at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo, Calif., now presents numerous presentations and workshops on the annulment process. Sr. Sharp is also Vocation Director for the Sisters of Charity of Rolling Hills, and has given presentations and workshops on the history and theology of religious life. She is currently pursuing studies for a Licentiate in Canon Law at Saint Paul University in Ottawa, Canada.

I-21 ST. PAUL’S PRACTICAL AND RELEVANT SPIRITUALITY



The empowerment of God’s Spirit lies at the heart of St. Paul’s description of what we today call “spirituality” (i.e., what life in the Spirit looks like). The Apostle offers several ways of reflecting on what it means to say “yes” to God’s living presence within us: the virtues that he calls “the fruit of the Spirit”; the various lists of charisms; the community-orientation of life in the Spirit; and the ministry of reconciliation, to name a few. Paul’s spirituality has uncanny relevance for Christians of all ages today.



Thomas D. Stegman, SJ

Fr. Thomas Stegman has taught theology for 13 years at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology and at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, where he is Professor Ordinarius and Dean. The Jesuit from the Wisconsin Province specializes in the letters of St. Paul and has several academic papers. In addition to his more technical work, Fr. Stegman is a frequently invited speaker at workshops, parishes and diocesan gatherings.

I-22 THE CHURCH AND DIGITAL CULTURE: SHARING GOOD NEWS



In this workshop, we will focus on establishing criteria to ensure that the Church maintains an appropriate presence in the digital environment. The following issues will be addressed: the mission of the Church, the nature of digital culture, the digital presence of believers and Church institutions, and the language of the networks. The workshop will attempt to articulate a strategy for appropriate engagement and evangelization by the Church.



Most Rev. Paul Tighe

Bishop Paul Tighe, a priest of the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland, served as Head of the Department of Theology at the Mater Dei Institute in Dublin before moving to the Vatican in 2007, first serving as Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Social Communication and most recently appointed by Pope Francis as Bishop and Adjunct-Secretary to the Pontifical Council of Culture. Bishop Tighe has been involved with various social media initiatives of the Holy See, including the Vatican’s use of Twitter and development of the Pope app.

I-23 WHAT’S NEW ABOUT CATHOLIC WEDDINGS?



The English-speaking Catholic Church just begun using the second edition of the liturgical book for weddings, The Order of Celebrating Matrimony. This workshop will demonstrate the differences between the two editions, the changes that have occurred, and the new opportunities that have arisen.



Rev. Paul Turner

Fr. Paul Turner, a priest of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph in Missouri, is currently Pastor of St. Anthony’s Parish in Kansas City. A former President of the North American Academy of Liturgy, he is also a member of the Catholic Academy of Liturgy. Fr. Turner serves as a Facilitator for the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. Author of many books, his latest publication is “One Love: A Pastoral Guide to the Order of Celebrating Matrimony.”

I-24 READING AND LIVING THE SCRIPTURES



What is the point of modern believers reading the Bible, a collection of documents that are centuries old? What makes them ever new and what gives these sacred words the ability to continually transform our lives and our world? Come get motivated, informed and inspired to be people of the Word.



Catherine “Cackie” Upchurch

A native of Fort Smith, Ark., Cackie Upchurch has been Director of Little Rock Scripture Study since 1998. She is an editor and contributor for numerous books, publications, articles, study guides and periodicals. Upchurch has been keynote speaker in multiple dioceses and currently presents at diocesan and regional gatherings as well as for parish missions. In addition to her national work, she oversees international partnerships on behalf of Little Rock Scripture Study with the Petrie Catholic Community in Queensland, Australia and Noah’s Ark Ltd. in Singapore.

I-25 MINISTRY, INC. 🗣️

You love the Lord, you possibly even acquired a degree in ministry, but no one ever said you would be running a mini-corporation within your parish or on your campus. Former corporate executive Greg Wasinski looks to give you a few tools to help run your mini-empire effectively. From organizational charts, to project plans, to budgets, you will learn just a few of the business basics to alleviate headaches that creep into your day-to-day ministry lives robbing you of precious time. Additionally, we will discuss the management traits of Jesus, identify office issue resolutions and reference professional ways to engage volunteers while nurturing them to prevent burnout.

**Greg Wasinski**

Greg Wasinski is a speaker, author and Executive Director of "Let Me Be..." Ministries and appears daily on SiriusXM Radio's "The Catholic Channel." He has been a presenter at many parishes, diocesan rallies and national youth conferences, as well as keynote at youth rallies across the country. Wasinski is a confirmation retreat leader and Bible study lecturer and a contributor to faith formation resources. His book is titled, "Unconditionally: Finding Jesus in the Eucharist."

I-26 EARLY CHILDHOOD CATECHESIS – WHY IT'S IMPORTANT & SIX STEPS FOR SUCCESS 🗣️

This workshop, led by a child psychologist and author of the Allelu Early Childhood Curriculum, will focus on current research about how preschoolers and kindergartners learn best. Participants will be shown specific techniques for actively engaging the mind of the preschooler in learning the lessons of our faith.

**Dr. Joseph D. White**

Dr. Joseph White is a child psychologist and National Catechetical Consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Publishing and Curriculum. He has worked as a parish catechetical leader and spent seven years as Director of Family Counseling and Family Life in the Diocese of Austin, Texas. A frequent guest on Catholic radio and television, Dr. White is author of 10 books and numerous articles on catechesis and ministry, and co-authored the "Allelu" and "Alive in Christ" catechetical series.

I-70 ĐTC Phanxicô Xác nhận các Giáo Huấn về Gia Đình & Kêu gọi Tinh Thần Hiệp Thông trong các Mục Vụ của Giáo Hội 🗣️

Dựa theo Kinh Thánh và Giáo Huấn của Giáo Hội, ĐTC Phanxicô trong Tông Huấn, *Amoris Laetitia* (Niềm Vui Yêu Thương) nhấn mạnh những tín lý và giáo huấn cần thiết về gia đình: Sự chuẩn bị, hôn nhân, và con cái. Trong ánh sáng của lòng thương xót và tình yêu của Thiên Chúa, ĐTC kêu gọi tất cả chúng ta nên có tinh thần: Hướng dẫn, phân tích, và hoà hợp thay vì sợ hãi, ghét bỏ hay kết tội những người đang sống trong hoàn cảnh ngoại thường phức tạp hoặc không hợp lệ (ly dị, tái hôn hay hôn nhân cùng phái). Bài thuyết trình sẽ tập trung vào quan điểm của ĐTC Phanxicô về ý nghĩa gia đình và tinh thần mục vụ trong giáo xứ để giúp Dân Chúa biện phân và đi đến hội nhập.

POPE FRANCIS AFFIRMS DOCTRINAL TEACHING ON THE FAMILY AND EMBRACES TRUST IN PASTORAL OUTREACH TO ALL 🗣️

Through biblical and doctrinal teachings of the Church, Pope Francis, in *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love), explores the essential understanding of family life: preparation, marriage and children. In light of God's mercy and love, he also calls all of us to *embrace trust* through guidance, discernment and integration instead of fear, alienation or condemnation of those who are living in "irregular situations" (divorced and remarried or in same-sex marriages). This session will focus on Pope Francis' theological insights and pastoral outreach from discernment to integration.

**Linh Mục Nguyễn Quang Trục**

Cùng với hàng ngàn người rời khỏi Việt-Nam sau khi Saigon thất thủ, Cha Trục cùng với cha mẹ và 7 anh chị em rời khỏi Việt-Nam đến Hoa-Kỳ năm 1975 và định cư tại thành phố Cypress, California. Cho đến nay đã được gần 40 years cha mẹ ngài vẫn còn cư ngụ tại đó. Sau 8 năm làm việc trong ngành Production manager tại Santa Fe Springs và Quality control manager tại Irvine, California. Cha Trục đã thụ phong linh mục năm 2000 cho Tổng Giáo Phận Los Angeles. Hiện tại cha Trục là thẩm phán cho Tòa Án Hôn Phối của Tổng Giáo Phận Los Angeles và là chánh xứ của giáo xứ Cathedral Chapel of Vibiana thuộc Los Angeles từ năm 2010.

Rev. Truc Quang Nguyen

Among the thousands of refugees escaping Vietnam after the fall of Saigon, Fr. Truc Nguyen came the United States in 1975 with his parents and seven siblings and settled in Cypress, Calif., where his parents still live. Having worked professionally for eight years as a production manager in Santa Fe Springs and a quality control manager in Irvine, Fr. Nguyen answered the call of God and was ordained a priest in January 2000 for the Los Angeles Archdiocese. He is currently the Judicial Vicar for the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese and Pastor at Cathedral Chapel of St. Vibiana in Los Angeles since 2010.



2-01 CONSCIENCE AND ADULT CONSCIENCE FORMATION ARENA

There are few sayings more often cited, yet most misunderstood, than “Let your conscience be your guide” or “You have a duty to follow your conscience.” This session explores the meaning of conscience in the Catholic’s moral life. It will focus on the teachings found in Vatican II and Pope Francis’ recent letter on marriage. It will conclude by applying this teaching to pressing moral challenges and dilemmas facing contemporary believers.



Fr. Bryan N. Massingale, STD

Fr. Bryan Massingale, a priest of the Milwaukee Archdiocese, is Professor of Theology at Fordham University in New York. He has lectured extensively on ethical and racial justice issues throughout the United States and internationally. A previous Religious Education Congress Keynote, Fr. Massingale is a former President of the Catholic Theological Society of America and has been a leader of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TRACK

Join us Friday for a full day of workshops, discussions, networking and prayer in this Parish Leadership Track. Note: You must register for all three periods. (Please make sure to also select Sessions 1-02 and 3-02.)

2-02 DIVINE RENOVATION: DEVELOPING PARISH LEADERSHIP FOR THE SAKE OF MISSION

Fr. James Mallon (bio 1-02)

“Divine Renovation” is for pastors and parish leaders who want to renew and revitalize their parish for mission and evangelization. Participants will be led through a series of interactive reflections and exercises to help them establish a functioning leadership team that will assist the pastor in leading the parish in a new direction. We will look at how a leadership team is different from a staff team or pastoral council, and how it best functions in relation to these other groups within the parish. Each team (the pastor or parish administrator along with four to eight team members) will be led through a process to examine the essentials of common vision, team balance, healthy conflict, trust and vulnerability. Pastors and team members will receive tools and insights to form or become a healthier and more effective leadership team. (It is presumed that participants will have read or are familiar with the key insights of Fr. James Mallon’s book, “Divine Renovation.”)

2-03 LORD, HELP ME FIND THE WORDS

In this session, we will look at ways to restart our conversation with God when words have failed us. As our lives become busier with obligations and more saturated with news and technology, finding time to reclaim our faith in quiet and unassuming ways can mean revisiting the written Word. Communicating in this way can intimately connect us to our own lived faith.



Clarissa Valbuena Aljentera

Clarissa Aljentera is Senior Coordinator of Family Ministries for the Chicago Archdiocese, where she previously served as Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation and Media Resources. She is a national speaker and consultant, appearing at parish and regional conferences around the Chicago area and across the country. Aljentera is author of “The Parish Guide to Social Media: How Social Networking Can Recharge Your Ministry.” Originally a newspaper reporter from California, Aljentera now performs “improv” and writes rap based on Scripture.

2-04 THE DIFFERENCE TALENT MAKES

Have you ever faced a challenge and felt you just didn’t know what to do? Have you ever been asked to participate in a project and know you have exactly what was needed? The difference comes down to talent. Explore the role talents play in our daily lives, clues to discovering your talents and strengths, and ways to draw on your talents and build strengths in the future.



Leisa Anslinger

Leisa Anslinger regularly presents at national, regional and diocesan conferences as well as parish leadership days and parish missions. Based in Ohio, she is Co-Director of Catholic Life and Faith. Anslinger is a contributing author to The Living Word and Sourcebook for Sundays and Seasons; her most recent projects include “Grateful Disciples” and “The Bridges Leadership” Series, all issued by Liturgy Training Publications. She has a regular column in Catechetical Leader magazine and is author of books and numerous e-resources for catechesis and stewardship.

2-05 ENNOBLING: GANG MEMBERS FINDING THEIR TRUE SELVES IN A COMMUNITY OF TENDERNESS

Fr. Gregory Boyle, founder and Executive Director of Homeboy Industries of Los Angeles, the largest gang intervention, rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world, will talk about the work of ennobilizing that Homeboy does – fostering a community of tenderness in which gang members discover and become their true selves. If love is the answer, community is the context and tenderness the methodology. Ennobilization is not about saving lives, but about our own willingness to be reached and transformed by the poor, the easily despised and demonized, so that the demonizing stops.



Rev. Gregory J. Boyle, SJ

In 1986, Jesuit priest Fr. Gregory Boyle became Pastor of Dolores Mission in Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles, then the poorest Catholic parish in the city. By 1988, he with parish and community members started what would become Homeboy Industries. Fr. Boyle is author of “Tattoos on the Heart” and the subject of the 2012 documentary, “G-Dog.” He was inducted into the California Hall of Fame, named a Champion of Change by the White House, and won the Humanitarian of the Year Award in 2016 from the James Beard Foundation.

2-06 A LEAP OF FAITH: DANCING WITH MARY INTO TRUST 🗣️

When Mary gave her “yes” to bear the Christ, she gave herself body and soul in trust. How can we do the same? Come dance with Mary on her journey from fear to faith. Witness the Annunciation in storydance, pray the Hail Mary in gesture, move with the strength of her powerful Magnificat, and dance your own yes to being a Christ-bearer for our world. No previous dance experience necessary ... simply a willingness to take a “leap” of faith!

**Betsey Beckman, MM**

Betsey Beckman is founder of The Dancing Word: Embodying the Sacred in Liturgy and Life, a ministry that includes her offerings in liturgical movement, choreography, SpiritPlay and spiritual direction. Beckman also directs the Movement Ministry at her home parish, St. Patrick's Church in Seattle, and collaborates with Abbey of the Arts in creating online retreats, overseas pilgrimages and prayer resources including her "Dancing with Monks and Mystics" DVD.

**Laura Ash**

Laura Ash is Music Director at St. Patrick Parish in Seattle, where she has supported the ministry of movement for over 20 years. She has presented with Betsey Beckman at a number of RECongress workshops over the last 15 years. Laura and her husband, David, have composed and published three collections of liturgical music and have created music for many dance offerings with Beckman. Their most recent work is music for the production, "Grace on the Margins."

2-07 PROCLAIM! SONGS AND STRATEGIES FOR TEACHING, CELEBRATING & LIVING THE GOOD NEWS WITH ELEMENTARY CHILDREN 🗣️

Music has long been central to the celebration of our faith. But we also know that, as teachers, catechists and parents, music can be a vital resource in teaching Scripture and key doctrine, embedding our faith deep in our hearts and urging us forward to live and proclaim our faith. Come and join Australian Andrew Chinn as he shares songs, stories and strategies to engage your elementary students in knowing, celebrating and living their faith.

**Andrew Chinn**

Andrew Chinn worked as a classroom teacher in Catholic elementary schools in Sydney, Australia for nearly 20 years before moving into full-time music ministry as Director of Butterfly Music. He has presented at Catholic education conferences in dioceses across Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. Chinn has released 10 CDs, five DVDs and five picture books that are widely used by teachers and catechists in the faith development of children. In 2013, he became part of the WLP family that now distributes his music in North America.

2-08 LIVING IN TRUST WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING OUR FEARS 🗣️

Living with the paradox of conflicting thoughts and feelings is the necessary work of any mature human being. In this internal environment, how are we to embrace a trusting attitude toward God and reality? This workshop will offer some helpful insights and tools to facilitate this process.

**Rev. Jim Clarke, PhD**

Fr. Jim Clarke is Director of New Evangelization for the Los Angeles Archdiocese. He also serves as Associate Spiritual Director at the Cardinal Manning House of Prayer for Priests in Los Angeles, as an Adjunct Professor at Loyola Marymount University, and was Assistant Professor at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, Calif. Fr. Clarke has over 35 years of facilitating retreats and parish missions and has presented at the Southern California Renewal Communities, the Religious Education Congress and the L.A. Regional Congresses. He is author of "Soulful: Spirituality for People on the Go."

2-09 DISCIPLINE AND PUNISHMENT: WHY ONE WORKS AND THE OTHER APPEARS TO WORK 🗣️

Discipline that gives life to a student's learning can be a path to self-discipline. Punishment and its cousin, zero-tolerance, are roadblocks on that path. This session covers ways to use the stuff of everyday life to help our students become self-disciplined, resourceful, resilient, responsible human beings. Barbara Coloroso will address bribes and threats, rewards and punishment, and how they can interfere with teaching kids to act with integrity, civility and compassion, as well as what to do instead when they have made a mistake, created mischief or caused mayhem.

**Barbara Coloroso**

Barbara Coloroso is President and CEO of Kids Are Worth It!, Inc. The internationally recognized author and educator is an educational consultant for school districts, medical and business communities, the criminal justice system and other associations throughout the world. Coloroso is author of four best-selling publications and two programs, and is the recipient of many awards including the Pope John XXIII International Award for Humanitarian Efforts.

2004

The labyrinth (pictured) has become a landmark feature of Sacred Space, which began in 2004. Sacred Space first appeared in Hall E and is now located on the third level of the Convention Center, in a space that offers a respite from the buzz of Congress, with music, art and a chapel.



2-10 WITNESS: LEARNING TO TELL THE STORIES OF GRACE THAT ILLUMINE OUR LIVES

Recent research shows that the single greatest difference between those who identify as “Catholic” and those who identify as “former Catholic” is “the belief that God is a personal being involved in the lives of people today.” If we are to shape our whole lives as a Christian story, we must first learn how to recognize, craft and share stories of grace about particular life experiences. We will focus on seven principles for crafting stories of grace for teens, young adults and even not-so-young-anymore adults that allow us to speak of God’s action in our lives persuasively and in real terms.



Leonard J. DeLorenzo, PhD

Dr. Leonard DeLorenzo is Director of Notre Dame Vision at the Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, where he also teaches theology. He is author of “Witness: Learning to Tell the Stories of Grace That Illumine Our Lives” and “Work of Love: A Theological Reconstruction of the Communion of Saints.” Dr. DeLorenzo is author of many articles and book chapters, and is a frequent speaker at national faith formation and youth ministry events.

2-11 CALLED TO INTIMACY: CATHOLIC SEXUALITY IN TROUBLED TIMES

In this workshop, we will reflect together on Catholic teaching concerning human sexuality. The capacity for intimacy is a gift from God, intended to be lived out in different contexts depending on one’s vocation and gifts. All are called to exercise the virtues of friendship, chastity and modesty, while some are called to the sacrament of matrimony or to consecrated celibacy. In addition to these different ways of living out our sexuality, we will also discuss the “Theology of the Body,” the practice of Natural Family Planning and suggestions for those struggling with pornography and internet addiction.



Fr. Luke Dysinger, OSB, MD, DPHI

Born in Fullerton, Calif., and raised in Huntington Beach, Fr. Luke Dysinger is a Board Certified doctor in family practice. In 1980, he joined St. Andrew’s Abbey in Valyermo, Calif., and for the past 16 years the Benedictine monk and priest has taught moral theology and church history at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo, Calif. Fr. Dysinger continues to lecture in bioethics, gives annual seminars at the International Conference on Patristics at Oxford University, and presents workshops and retreats at St. Andrew’s Abbey.



Dr. Aaron Kheriaty

Dr. Aaron Kheriaty is Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Medical Ethics Program for the School of Medicine at the University of California, Irvine. He is author of several books and articles for professional and lay audiences on bioethics, social science and psychiatry. On matters of public policy and healthcare he has been invited to address the California Medical Association, the University of California Center in Sacramento, the Sacramento Press Club, and has testified before the California Senate Health Committee.

2-12 TURNING THE TIDE

Many people in pastoral ministry are seeing large numbers of youth and young adults leave the Catholic Church. Recent sociological studies have reported that 34 percent of the Millennial Generation does not claim affiliation with any faith tradition, with more leaving every year. This workshop will take an in-depth look at the most current statistics, and it will also listen to why they say they are leaving. Finally, we will discover the sure-fire key to keeping our youth and young adults within the fold of the Catholic Church.



Robert Feduccia Jr.

Robert Feduccia was founding Director of the Youth Liturgical Leadership Program and instructor in the Permanent Deacon Formation Program at Saint Meinrad Seminary in Indiana. He is now Vice President of Christian Faith Events for Declan Weir Productions. With work as a parish youth minister and retreat leader, Feduccia has presented at local and diocesan conferences as well as national events, including the National Catholic Youth Conference and the National Conference for Catholic Youth Ministry.

2-13 CHASTITY: GIFT, GRACE, FRUIT

Chastity is not the absence of sexuality. According to the Catechism, “Chastity means the successful integration of sexuality” – the inner unity of body and spirit. Unifying our bodily and spiritual desires with integrity is a challenging journey that we cannot embark upon alone. This session will discuss Catholic teachings on chastity from the Catechism, Pope John Paul II’s Theology of the Body, and Pope Francis’ *Amoris Laetitia*. The latter offers a reflection on how to live out sexual love, strengthen the family, and support the faithful in pursuit of chastity. Chastity for married, single, ordained/religious and LGBT persons will be considered.



Arthur Fitzmaurice, PhD

Freelance speaker and minister Dr. Arthur Fitzmaurice has served a decade in ministry with LGBT Catholics. He has spoken at various gatherings, including the Religious Education Congress, the Faith Formation Conference, the Catholic Association for Lesbian and Gay Ministry, and the Gay Christian Network. Dr. Fitzmaurice appears in several YouTube episodes produced by the Ignatian News Network. He has also received the Archdiocese’s Lumen Christi and the Cardinal’s Young Adult in Ministry awards.



Fr. Chris Ponnet

Los Angeles-native Fr. Chris Ponnet was ordained for the Los Angeles Archdiocese in 1983. Since then, he has served as Director for the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry. He also serves as Pastor at St. Camillus Center for Spiritual Care in Los Angeles. Fr. Ponnet has spoken at the RECongress and at the archdiocesan regional congresses for many years and has made presentations at Pax Christi Peace and Justice conferences and at local congregations and meetings around the county.

2-14 SUFFERING, PAIN AND JOY 🗣️

In this workshop, Fr. Rob Galea will attempt to address the concept of suffering. Why do we suffer? Where is God through the pain? Can we experience joy in suffering?

**Fr. Rob Galea**

Fr. Rob Galea serves in the Diocese of Sandhurst, Victoria, Australia. Apart from his series of recordings and CD releases, the singer/songwriter has also written a number of songs for various international conferences. Fr. Galea was selected to sing in the English version of the 2016 World Youth Day song, "Blessed Are The Merciful." He is co-founder and Director of "Stronger," a fast-growing regional youth movement.

2-15 THE FUTURE OF THE GLOBAL CHURCH: BUILDING INTERCULTURAL COMMUNITIES 🗣️

In a *multicultural* environment, people of diverse cultures live side by side. But often, this can be described as "people living together – separately." This is not what Jesus wanted and worked for. *Intercultural* living could be described as "people living together – together!" But it is demanding, and costly. We will look at the demands ... and the cost.

**Anthony J. Gittins, CSSp**

Fr. Anthony Gittins, a religious of the Holy Ghost community (the Spiritans), is originally from Manchester, England, and served as a missionary in Sierra Leone in the 1970s. He taught at the Missionary Institute in London and, since 1984, has taught at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where he is now Emeritus Bishop Ford Professor of Theology and Culture. For the past 27 years, Fr. Gittins has worked at a shelter for homeless women in Chicago, and continues to lead retreats, workshops and seminars in over 30 countries.

2-16 HEALTHY AND HOLY MARRIAGES: EFFECTIVE PARISH MARRIAGE PREP AND BEYOND 🗣️

With over 40 years of research on marriage and grounded in this research and existing programs in popular use today, we have a clear understanding of the critical factors that help promote marriage stability and satisfaction. This presentation will explore ways to implement effective and engaging approaches to parish marriage preparation and ongoing marriage ministry. You will walk away with clear suggestions for implementing the new Order of Celebrating Matrimony as well as how to best support couples in creating and sustaining healthy and holy marriages.

**Dr. Veronica Marchese, LMFT**

Dr. Veronica Marchese, a licensed marriage and family therapist, has worked as a parish minister, retreat leader and therapist, working with the Los Angeles Archdiocese for more than 25 years through workshops, retreats and faith formation classes at the parish level and workshops at the regional Los Angeles Congresses. In 2015, Marchese launched TheCatholicMarriageProject.com providing resources and conducting ongoing research in the area of marriage preparation and enrichment.

2017

Our evening Eucharistic Liturgies and evening concerts are open to Congress attendees and their guests. It is the day events that require registration for admission, including the workshops, lunchtime entertainment, and the very popular Exhibit Hall A (pictured).

**2-17 WISE AND HOLY WOMEN – AND A FEW GOOD MEN** 🗣️

Using his own paintings and stories, Bro Mickey McGrath will offer a colorful look at great women (and a few good men) in church history, from Mary and Elizabeth to Dorothy Day and Thea Bowman, and show their deep spiritual connections to the four women who have been proclaimed Doctors of the Church – Hildegard of Bingen, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Ávila and Thérèse of Lisieux. Past, present and future unfold as we look at the beauty and creative inspirations of the feminine divine. We will also take a look at Pope Francis through his letters and his recent encyclical, *Laudato Si*.

**Bro. Michael O'Neill McGrath**

Bro. Mickey McGrath, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, is an artist, author, speaker and keynote presenter who currently lives and works in Camden, N.J. He is illustrator and author of 13 books; his latest is entitled "Dear World: Art Reflections on Laudato Si." In addition, Bro. McGrath paints commissions for churches and schools throughout the United States. He is also a popular retreat leader and presenter in a variety of venues on the national Catholic circuit.

2-18 TRUST! LIVE AND DIE WITH PASSION AND GRACE 🗣️

John of the Cross, Teresa of Ávila and Mother Jones all knew what it meant to trust. As the old adage states, "Pray as though everything depended on God, but work as though everything depended on you – it does!" Or more contemporarily, in the famous war cry of Mother Jones, "Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living." How do we embody the two thrusts of trust: consolation and confidence; expectation and faithfulness as individuals and as Church? Come, seek justice and respond to God's trust in us!

**Megan McKenna**

Storyteller and theologian Megan McKenna travels across the globe, speaking at national and international conferences and working with indigenous peoples, base communities, parishes, diocese, religious orders and organizations. She presents workshops for dioceses and small communities and teaches at universities, colleges and pastoral institutes worldwide. Author of 50 books, McKenna is an Ambassador of Peace for Pax Christi USA and has won the Isaac Hecker Award for Justice and Peace.

2-19 “TAKE NOTHING FOR THE JOURNEY”: PILGRIMAGE IN THE BIBLE

Whether it be walking the Camino to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, or from one California mission to the next, or to raise funds for breast cancer research, pilgrimages have regained a place in the contemporary Catholic religious imagination. This workshop will dive into the biblical spirituality entailed in the journey to the Promised Land, to the temple mount, and to follow Jesus on “the Way.”



Rev. J. Patrick Mullen

Fr. Pat Mullen, a priest of Los Angeles, is Professor of Biblical Studies at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo, Calif., and Pastor at the neighboring Junipero Serra Church. He is author of “Dining with Pharisees” and “Sacred Scripture,” a high school introduction to the Scriptures. Fr. Mullen presents at the Religious Education Congress as well as to diocesan conferences across the nation and to diocesan priests in Arizona, Utah and seven of the 12 dioceses of California.

2-20 I THIRST FOR YOUR LOVE: A MUSICAL BIOGRAPHY OF ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

The recently canonized St. Teresa of Calcutta once described America as “the poorest country in the world” because so many people do not know God. Come join Danielle Rose as she presents a musical biography inspired by the life and prayers of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. By pondering the themes most central to Mother Teresa’s personal relationship with Jesus, these songs seek to unveil the mystery of her motivation to serve the poorest of the poor: to quench Christ’s thirst for souls. If there is one thing that St. Teresa would want you to know, it is that Jesus thirsts for you.



Danielle Rose

At age 17, Danielle Rose traveled to India to volunteer with Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity. This experience gave her a desire to serve the poorest of the poor as a “music missionary.” She recorded her third album, “I Thirst,” as a musical tribute to the life and work of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Since 2002, Rose has travelled the globe as a music missionary, ministering from World Youth Day in Toronto to her hometown of Duluth, Minn. Her fifth album is titled “Culture of Life.”

2-21 DISCERNMENT 101

God is constantly speaking to us. But many people have a hard time hearing God’s voice and knowing his will for their lives. Since we trust that God desires our good, we are confident that he wants us to know his will for our lives. What are the most basic (yet most powerful) tools we can have for knowing God’s will?



Rev. Michael Schmitz

Fr. Michael Schmitz is Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Duluth, Minn., as well as Chaplain for the Newman Center at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. He offers weekly homilies on iTunes and bulldog-

Catholic.org and has appeared in programs for youth and young adults as well as through regular short video messages on Ascension Presents. Fr. Schmitz has preached to youth and young adults across the country as a presenter at Steubenville Youth and Young Adult Conferences and at FOCUS national and local events.

2-22 EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT: HOW COLLEGE CAMPUS MINISTRY INFLUENCES PARISH LIFE

“If the Church is to continue to regenerate and renew its members, the training of young adults is key,” the U.S. Catholic bishops’ state in their pastoral plan for young adult ministry. How can college campus ministries provide tools for parishes in crafting young adult ministries that are effective and life giving? This workshop will discuss techniques on how parishes can welcome and empower young adults in parish life. It will also offer suggestions for college campus ministers and college students on how to strengthen the transition from college campus ministry to parish life. Join the discussion on why college campus ministry and young adult ministry are essential for the vitality and future of our Church.



Rosie Chinae Shawver, MDiv

Rosie Shawver, a native of Southern California, began her work experience volunteering at Annunciation House, a home for immigrants in El Paso, Texas. She then moved to Albuquerque, N.M., to become Director of Campus Ministry at the University of New Mexico and then worked as the Parish and Faith Community Outreach Liaison at Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, N.M. She is currently Director of Campus Ministry at the University of Southern California’s Caruso Catholic Center in Los Angeles.

2-23 MIDDLE SCHOOL: FROM MAINTENANCE TO MISSION

Early adolescence is the beginning of authentic discipleship for many youth. How are we challenging the diverse culture of young adolescents to grow in their authentic relationship with Jesus Christ? This workshop blows up the mythology of middle school youth ministry and lays the ground work for inspiring evangelization to, with, by and for junior high-aged believers! If you work with young adolescents, you won’t want to miss this!



Doug Tooke

Doug Tooke is Director of Youth Ministry events for the Diocese of Helena, Mont., Youth Minister at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish and owner of Monarch Catholic Ministries. He has over 20 years of professional ministry experience and has traveled to over 75 dioceses teaching, keynoting conventions and training youth ministers. Tooke has spoken at national gatherings, including World Youth Day, the National Catholic Youth Conference and the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry.

2-24 THE ROLE OF THE PRIEST IN THE RCIA 🗣️

Paul Turner (bio 1-23)

Christian initiation is the responsibility of all the baptized. As such, each parish should involve a variety of people to participate in the many catechetical preparations and liturgical celebrations associated with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). This workshop will offer ideas for involving priests in evangelization, catechesis, discernment and presiding for these liturgies.

2-25 MAKING LITURGICAL RITUALS ACCESSIBLE FOR CHILDREN 🗣️

Come and explore ways we can encourage children to enjoy, understand and take active part in liturgical celebrations. From school Masses and classroom prayers to Sunday worship – *music* is the key!

**Christopher Walker**

Christopher Walker is an internationally known church composer, speaker on liturgical music and choral conductor. Presently, he is Director of Music at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Los Angeles. Walker travels around the globe giving workshops and lectures on church music and liturgy, choral and cantor techniques and children's spirituality. His music is sung in churches worldwide. His latest work is "Many More Stories and Songs of Jesus," the third in a series for children.

2-26 BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATE – CAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS EXTEND THE EMBRACE? 🗣️

In September 2015, at the request of his bishop, David Wells began a project in his own diocese to assist schools to develop their sense of mission and their confidence to proclaim the Gospel. Could the school itself become a locus for evangelization beyond the confines of the classroom? What is beginning to emerge from the project has implications not just for schools, but for parishes too. From a whole range of small victories and embarrassing failures, good lessons are being learned about how to *embrace trust*, dare to proclaim and reach out beyond the usual suspects! Come and see!

**David Wells**

David Wells was a teacher before becoming a research assistant for the Bishops' Conference in England and Wales. His latest position is as Project Manager for School Evangelization. Wells has travelled the world, speaking at more than 350 conferences in Europe, North America and Australia. He guest lectures in three English universities and in 2015 was MC for the Bishops' Conference national gathering in England and Wales. Wells is author of two books, "The Reluctant Disciple" (which tells of his experience at RECongress), and more recently, "The Grateful Disciple."

2-70 "Trước hết, hãy tìm kiếm Nước Thiên Chúa" (Mt. 6:33) 🗣️

Đề tài "Trước hết, hãy tìm kiếm nước Thiên Chúa" (Mt 6, 33) sẽ được triển khai theo ba tiêu điểm chính sau đây: 1) Nguy cơ của chủ nghĩa hưởng thụ vật chất đối với đời sống đức tin: con người thời đại chỉ tìm kiếm những tiện nghi vật chất mà không quan tâm tới nhu cầu tâm linh; 2) Nguy cơ của chủ nghĩa duy khoa học đối với niềm tin vào Chúa Quan Phòng: con người thời đại chỉ tin vào những thành tựu khoa học mà không thấy được bàn tay quan phòng của Thiên Chúa; 3) Kitô hữu phải biết chọn Thiên Chúa như là điều ưu tiên trong cuộc sống: Kitô hữu phải tâm niệm rằng giá trị hàng đầu con người phải theo đuổi là chính Thiên Chúa.

"BUT STRIVE FIRST FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD" (MT. 6:33) 🗣️

The theme of Matthew 6:33, to "strive first for the kingdom of God," will be implemented in the following three main focal points: 1) The danger of enjoying materialism over living the faith: People today seek materialism but never pay attention to spirituality; 2) The danger of science over faith in God's mercy: People today only believe in the success of science and miss seeing God's mercy; 3) Christians must choose God as our first priority in life: A Christian's first priority is to pursue a life in God.

**Đức Cha Giuse Nguyễn Chí Linh**

Đức Cha Giuse Nguyễn Chí Linh sinh năm 1949 tại Thanh Hóa. 1954 theo gia đình di cư vào Nam. Vì chiến tranh Đức Cha về tạm với gia đình, Ngày 20 tháng 12 năm 1992 Cha được thụ phong Linh Mục cho Giáo phận Nha Trang. Năm 1995 Cha được du học tại Học Viện Công Giáo Paris và tốt nghiệp Tiến Sĩ Triết học. Năm 2003 trở về Việt Nam, dạy tại Đại chủng Viện Nha Trang. Ngày 12 tháng 6 năm 2004 Đức Giáo Hoàng Phaolô II bổ nhiệm Linh Mục Guise Nguyễn Chí Linh làm tân Giám Mục Giáo Phận Thánh Hóa.

Bishop Joseph Linh Chi Nguyen

Bishop Joseph Nguyen was born in November 1949 at Ba Lang in Thanh Hoa, Vietnam. In 1954, he moved, accompanied by his family, to South Vietnam. Due to political uprising in his homeland, he returned to his family and did many jobs to help support his parents until 1992, when he was ordained a priest. In 1995, Bishop Nguyen went abroad to study and graduate with a doctorate in Philosophy from the Institute Catholic de Paris. In 2003, he returned to Vietnam and taught at the Stella Maris Major Seminary in Nha Trang. On June 12, 2004 Pope John Paul II named him Bishop of the North Thanh Hoa Diocese.



3-01 CATECHISTS, APOLOGISTS, EVANGELISTS ... WAKE UP! ARENA

The rise of the “nones” – those who do not claim any religion – and attrition rates from the Church are a wake-up call. A recent study by the Pew Research Center indicates that the reasons cited by young people for leaving the Church are not simply existential or ideological, but intellectual, and based on the perception that faith and reason, religion and science, the Church and culture aren’t necessarily at odds. It is our privilege as catechists, apologists, evangelists, teachers and theologians to engage this crisis with confidence and intelligence.



Most Rev. Robert Barron

Bishop Robert Barron, media evangelist and international speaker, was appointed in 2015 as Auxiliary Bishop of the Los Angeles Archdiocese. He is founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries and host of “Catholicism,” the award-winning documentary aired on PBS. Bishop Barron is a best-selling author who has published numerous books, essays and articles. He is also a religion correspondent for NBC and has appeared on FOX News and EWTN.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TRACK

We invite your parish team to join us on Friday, February 24 for a full day of workshops, discussions, networking and prayer in this Parish Leadership Track. Note: You must register for all three sessions. (Please make sure to also select Sessions 1-02 and 2-02.)

3-02 DIVINE RENOVATION: DEVELOPING PARISH LEADERSHIP FOR THE SAKE OF MISSION

Fr. James Mallon (bio 1-02)

“Divine Renovation” is for pastors and parish leaders who want to renew and revitalize their parish for mission and evangelization. Participants will be led through a series of interactive reflections and exercises to help them establish a functioning leadership team that will assist the pastor in leading the parish in a new direction. Each team (the pastor or parish administrator along with four to eight team members) will be led through a process to examine the essentials of common vision, team balance, healthy conflict, trust and vulnerability. Pastors and team members will receive tools and insights to form or become a healthier and more effective leadership team.

3-03 I'M NOT A LITURGIST! HOW DO I PREPARE A LITURGY?

How often, as a catechist or teacher, have you been asked to assist with the preparation of a liturgy? This can be a daunting task, especially if you haven’t had any experience or formation in how to do it. In this session, we will go through some helpful exercises that will show you that preparing a liturgy can be an engaging and formative experience for both you and your students. Music, environment, hospitality and more – we will cover it all!



Joseph Bazyouros

Joe Bazyouros worked as pianist, cantor and choir director before his positions at St. Frances of Rome in Azusa, Calif., and St. Martin de Porres in Yorba Linda. He served on the Music Advisory Board of the Office for Worship in the Diocese of Orange, Calif., in addition to the Diocesan Liturgical Commission. Bazyouros is currently on the campus ministry team at the USC Caruso Catholic Center, serving as their Director of Music. He is a member of the Liturgical Commission for the Los Angeles Archdiocese, serving as Vice/Acting Chair of the Music Subcommittee.

3-04 BREAKING THROUGH THE WALL

Am I my own worst enemy? Our negative “self-talk” can often keep us from embracing an intimate, trusting relationship with Jesus. Through Scripture, song and reflection, Renée Bondi will help you break through the debilitating barrier of shame and unworthiness into the joy of God’s grace and unconditional love.



Renée Bondi

Renée Bondi is a popular Catholic recording artist, speaker and author who founded Bondi Ministries. She travels throughout the United States singing and speaking her profound story that includes paralysis and a life confined to a wheelchair, for conferences, churches, retreats, youth rallies and corporate events. Bondi has been featured on several Catholic radio and TV programs as well as “Focus on the Family” and “Life Today.”

3-05 EMBRACING TRUST WITH A WOMAN'S HEART

So many things are coming at us and so much is expected of us, where is God’s invitation in all of this frenzy? God invites us to *embrace trust*, not just to make an act of trust. As women, God invites us to trust in the deepest reality, that we are loved beyond imagination and to trust God at work in our spiritual hungers and longings. This workshop offers a look at the specific ways we women are called to trust in our lives and to be faithful to a spirituality that is truly life giving.



Sr. Kathleen Bryant, RSC

Sr. Kathy Bryant, a Religious Sister of Charity, is a former teacher and missionary who now ministers as a retreat facilitator, spiritual director and workshop presenter. She has authored numerous articles and books and presented workshops in Australia, Ireland and Africa as well as throughout the United States. Sr. Bryant's special interests are in spirituality, formation, women's spiritual development and the abolition of human trafficking.

3-06 WHERE IN THE WORLD? BIBLICAL GEOGRAPHY AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE FOR BIBLE STUDY

The first and most basic context for Scripture is its geographical context. The major historical events behind biblical history are driven primarily by Israel’s geo-

raphy and the geography of her ancient neighbors. And yet this fundamental aspect of Scripture study is all but completely overlooked by teachers of Scripture. We will look at biblical geography and suddenly begin to understand geographical reasons for the great historical movements reflected in the Torah and the prophetic books of the Old Testament.



Fr. William L. Burton, OFM

Fr. Bill Burton, a Franciscan friar of the Sacred Heart Province, began his 20-year teaching career at Quincy University and then DePaul University in Illinois. He is currently Professor of Scripture and a spiritual director at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, Fla. Fr. Burton has several published articles in The Bible Today and a DVD series. Outside the classroom, he has guided hundreds of pilgrims and students on study tours and pilgrimage travels throughout the Holy Land, Greece and Turkey.

3-07 “INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT” – THE DIGNITY OF PHYSICAL DEATH

We are called to not only live according to God’s will, but also to die according to it. In a culture that emphasizes the “power” of individual choices and a blind rejection of any kind of sacrifice, planning for one’s physical death has become a major moral issue. This workshop seeks to study this issue by exploring: 1) the meaning of human life; 2) the meaning of suffering and sacrifice; 3) the meaning and dignity of death; 4) the remote preparation for the end of physical life; and 5) the immediate preparation for the end of physical life.



Very Rev. Javier Ignacio Bustos Lopez, STD

Originally from Venezuela, Fr. Javier Bustos was ordained a priest for the Milwaukee Archdiocese, where he continues to serve in parish and academic settings. He is presently Pastor of St. Joseph Church, Vicar for Hispanic Ministry, and Delegate for Healthcare. Fr. Bustos is also Professor of Moral Theology in the Diaconate Formation Program for the archdiocese and at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology. He is a national presenter and an author whose work has appeared in several publications.

3-08 EMPOWERING PARENTS AS DISCIPLES AND TEACHERS

What if we looked at parents as the primary beneficiaries of our religious education programs instead of just the kids? How would that transform our catechetical ministries? In this session, Jared Dees will offer a new vision for religious education that catechizes the kids and evangelizes the parents. Only after the parents have encountered Christ through the evangelizing efforts of the parish, can they truly embrace their calling as primary educators of the faith. With the practical tools and inspiring case studies offered in this session, participants will be able to go back to their parishes to tear down the barriers between the parents and their catechetical programs.



Jared Dees

Jared Dees is creator of The Religion Teacher website, which provides resources to religious educators. He is author of “Praying the Angelus,” “To Heal, Proclaim, and Teach” and “31 Days to Becoming a Better Religious Educator.” Dees, a Catholic school teacher and catechist for the last eight years, offers workshops and keynote addresses at dozens of parishes and diocese across the country.

3-09 MINISTRY WITH GEN Z – THERE’S AN APP FOR THAT!

Here comes Generation Z, which includes youth born in the mid- to late-1990s, mostly to Gen X parents. These young people are tech savvy, social innovators and anxious to create a customized way to belong and contribute. How can we create pathways and on-ramps for Gen Z youth so that we can share the Good News and include their many gifts and their seemingly boundless energy? How can we make a faith connection with Gen X parents? This workshop will share the research about Gen Z youth and their families along with starting points for making the connection.



Tom East

Based in Washington state, Tom East is Director of the Center for Ministry Development. He previously served as Director of Youth Ministry and Associate Director of Religious Education for the Los Angeles Archdiocese. East is a popular speaker at major youth ministry, religious education and catechetical conferences across the country, as well as those sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development. He is editor and author of numerous books, including “Leadership for Catholic Youth Ministry.”

3-10 BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE FOR CHILDREN!

Are you in need of some new ideas when approaching Scripture with children? If so, then come to this workshop! We will explore how bringing Scripture to life for children not only can but should be filled with joy and enthusiasm. Focus will be on creative ideas, activities and techniques that can be immediately used in the learning setting with elementary-aged children.



Steven Ellair

Steven Ellair is Managing Editor, Curricula and Content Engagement Specialist and a national speaker with Saint Mary’s Press. He has been involved in catechetical ministry for 24 years and has served as a parish catechist, youth minister, Catholic school teacher and archdiocesan educational consultant. Ellair has been involved in Catholic publishing for over 12 years and continues to write and speak nationally on issues related to catechesis. He has presented at national religious education events for nearly 20 years.

3-11 FULFILLING OUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY: SERVING THOSE IN NEED 🗣️

The goal of this workshop is to create an awareness about poverty and to move people to action, inviting them to get involved at their parish level in works of charity – through the Society of St. Vincent de Paul or other works available in their local communities. One of the primary objectives is to instill in every person a sense of responsibility and empowerment of the tools and resources available to overcome or survive financial and related difficulties. Anyone can suffer difficulties of this nature, but everyone is able to provide assistance and in a Christian manner, offering support to our brothers and sisters in need.



David R. Fields

For more than 20 years, David Fields has been a dedicated Vincentian with the Los Angeles Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and currently serves as Executive Director. He has made numerous presentations for St. Vincent de Paul as well as Rotary and other organizations. Fields served as Chair of the L.A. Council's Vincentian Services Committee and as a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. He has also served as President of the Black Catholic Association of Altadena and Pasadena.

3-12 DEMENTIA: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW 🗣️

Currently 1 in 9 people over the age of 65 has dementia, and the number rises to almost half by age 85. Before it affects you, a family member or a colleague at the parish, you need to be educated. Learn about the various types of dementia, including the difference between dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Understand the warning signs and how far ahead of time they appear. Get a plan in place to protect yourself, your loved ones and your parish staff when dementia inevitably occurs. Become a trust-worthy resource and a bearer of hope.



Amy Florian

Amy Florian is a liturgy and bereavement consultant, on the Adjunct Faculty at Loyola University Chicago, and CEO of Corgenius, a company that teaches professionals how to support clients in transition and loss. She has 30 years of parish and conference experience, and she authored over 100 articles and three books. Her workshops, training sessions and retreats span the country, presenting at over 20 diocesan conferences as well as national conferences, including the L.A. Congress, the East Coast Conference and the Hofinger Gulf Coast Faith Formation Conference.

3-13 HUNGERS OF THE HEART: A "CATHOLIC" RESPONSE 🗣️

Many of our Millennials and "nones" – those who say they do not belong to any religion – still claim that they are "spiritual but not religious." How might we engage the deep hungers of their hearts with the rich spiritual food of Catholic Christian faith; there is nothing more "satisfying."



Dr. Thomas Groome

Dr. Tom Groome is Professor of Theology and Religious Education at Boston College's School of Theology and Ministry, and also Director of their Church in the 21st Century Center. The award-winning author has written or edited 10 books and numerous articles and essays. Dr. Groome has made over 800 public presentations throughout the last 40 years, including all the major North American conferences of religious educators, Catholic educators and pastoral ministers. A favorite speaker at the Religious Education Congress, 2017 will mark his 36th year of giving presentations.

3-14 STOP READING AND START PROCLAIMING! BRINGING SCRIPTURE TO LIFE 🗣️

Those who think Scripture is "boring" have likely never heard it really proclaimed. Whether in liturgy, a prayer service or a formation session, Scripture read aloud should be engaging and life giving. If we want to trust God's Good News, someone must proclaim it to us well! This workshop will introduce practical techniques, borrowed from the time-tested work of professional actors, to turn any reader into a vibrant proclaimer (but not a performer). Anyone who proclaims Scripture to others – catechists, lectors, presiders, deacons, ministry leaders, cantors – will benefit from learning how to make Scripture really soar!



Douglas Leal

Douglas Leal is Vice President of Mission Integration with St. Joseph Health in Irvine, Calif., and previously led the Division of Adult Faith Formation for the Los Angeles Archdiocese. He has also worked as a management consultant and a professional actor and director. Leal is author of the skill-building book for lectors, "Stop Reading and Start Proclaiming!" and co-author of the 2017 and 2018 editions of LTP's "Workbook for Lectors" and "Gospel Proclaimers."

3-15 GOD AT THE MOVIES

From "Hail, Caesar!" to "Brooklyn," from "Risen" to "Miracles from Heaven" and "Ben-Hur," contemporary cinema is once again looking at religious themes and ideas. How can we navigate the media world within which we want to find God and use it for the proclamation of the Gospel?



Rev. Richard Leonard, SJ

Jesuit priest Fr. Richard Leonard is Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, based in Sydney, Australia. He has been a Visiting Professor at the Gregorian University in Rome and a Visiting Scholar at the University of California, Los Angeles. A popular speaker at the Religious Education Congress, Fr. Leonard is author of nine books, including "The Mystical Gaze of the Cinema," "Movies That Matter" and his latest title, "What Does it All Mean? A Guide to Being More Faithful, Hopeful and Loving."

3-16 LET THE CHILDREN COME: PREPARING AND CELEBRATING FAMILY-FRIENDLY LITURGIES 🎧

Michael Mangan and Anne Frawley-Mangan will unpack their “Family Mass Toolbox” as they share their experience and expertise in engaging the hearts, heads and hands of children and their families in parish and school celebrations. Discover how music, drama, movement and storytelling can combine to promote vibrant, meaningful and inclusive liturgy and enhance fully conscious and active participation by children and adults alike. Come along ready to sing, move and play!

**Michael Mangan**

Michael Mangan is a composer, educator and music liturgist from Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. The former elementary school specialist music teacher has over 250 compositions that are used in parishes and schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. Mangan is President of the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network, a member of the Australian Academy of Liturgy, and is Music Director at All Saints Catholic Parish in Brisbane. His latest music collection is entitled “Let the Children Come.”

**Anne Frawley-Mangan**

Based in Brisbane, Australia, Anne Frawley-Mangan is an experienced educator, presenter, writer and artist, who specializes in using the Arts (particularly drama) to enhance religious education and liturgy. She presents workshops and keynotes nationally and internationally as well as World Youth Days in the diocese. Frawley-Mangan currently is Creative Director of Litmus Productions and teaches at Holy Spirit Seminary in Queensland and Australian Catholic University in Sydney.

3-17 MAKING TIME FOR THE SACRED 🎧

It’s less about “making time for the sacred” and more like ways to discover the “sacred already in our midst”! How do we discover, recognize, enter in and embrace the transforming grace and healing that empowers the people of God to walk and live in faith rather than fear. This will be a multimedia experience that will include sung and instrumental music as well as spoken word, reflection, prayer and celebration. The session will include some practical tips to cultivate practice and skill amid blessings and burdens.

**Jesse Manibusan**

Jesse Manibusan has over 30 years in ministry as a liturgical minister, youth worker, parish associate, catechist and director of parish missions and retreats. Founder of Over the Fence ministries, Manibusan has presented at conferences worldwide, including national youth and pastoral musician conferences and international World Youth Days in Denver, Toronto, Rome, Cologne, Sydney, Madrid and Rio de Janeiro. He has several CDs published with Oregon Catholic Press.

3-18 SHIFTING PARENTS FROM THE PARKING LOT TO PARTICIPATION 🎧

Why do some parents rely on religious education programs to be the primary providers of faith formation for their children? How can catechists move parents from the parking lot to fuller participation? This presentation will provide practical, applicable, inspirational and compassionate insights for “backdoor” evangelizing.

**Patricia M. McCormack, IHM, EdD**

Dr. Patricia McCormack, a Sister Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, is an international formation-education consultant and presently Program Director at the IHM Office of Formative Support for Parents and Teachers in Philadelphia. Her 30 years in education includes both classroom and administration experience. In addition to her publications, Sr. McCormack’s full-time ministry includes presentations to a variety of audiences, from diocesan-wide conferences to national religious education gatherings as well as retreats and days of in-service to the educational community.

3-19 A NEW SOLIDARITY: A SPIRITUALITY FOR CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME 🎧

Pope Francis makes an appeal early on in his encyclical, *Laudato Si*: “We require a new and universal solidarity” (no. 14). Let us join together through prayer, music, visual arts, storytelling and dialogue as we explore a solidarity with all God’s creation. Discover how God is always inviting us to a deeper encounter of the sacredness all around us. Listen to how God might be calling you to a care for each other and our common home that truly shouts, “*Laudato Si, mi’ Signore*” (“Praise be to you, my Lord.”)

**Ted Miles**

Baltimore native Ted Miles first worked in Belize and Guatemala in a two-year position with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. For nearly 30 years since, he has served in parish ministry, Catholic high school education and archdiocesan leadership development. For the past 10 years, Miles has worked for Catholic Relief Services as Relationship Manager for Youth and Religious Education and Coordinator of Outreach for the United States. He now speaks nationally and internationally on behalf of CRS.

**ValLimar Jansen**

Traveling to over 80 events annually, ValLimar Jansen serves the Church as a composer, singer, storyteller, speaker and evangelizer. She received critical acclaim for her solo albums, “You Gotta Move” and “Anointing,” winning UNITY Awards recognition in 2008 and 2010. She was the MC for the National Catholic Youth Conference in 2011 held in Indianapolis. ValLimar and her husband, Frank, performed for over 300,000 people at the Loreto/Angora international papal event in Italy, broadcast on EWTN and across the world.

3-20 USING SMARTPHONE TECHNOLOGY TO REACH ALL OF YOUR PARISHIONERS 🎧

In this presentation, you will be introduced to helpful ways to use mobile technology, social media and crowd-funding most effectively. Come and learn how to tell your parish's unique story to grow engagement, drive up participation at events, increase involvement in ministries, increase stewardship and donations, and be an agent for evangelization.



Peggy O'Flaherty

With 30 years' experience in business development, project management and faith formation, Peggy O'Flaherty is founder and President of Creating Space and a parish evangelization and strategic development expert. A certified spiritual director from The Christos Center in Minnesota, O'Flaherty writes and blogs on matters of faith and offers small group facilitation and parish discernment. She currently serves as a technology and evangelization consultant for the OneParish app, an offering of J.S. Paluch Company.

3-21 HEALING DIALOGUE WITH TEENS WHO DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD 🎧

"I'm atheist," "I'm agnostic" or "I just don't care" seem to be the battle cry of many teens and young adults. You've tried "talking" to them and getting others to "talk" to them, but to no avail. In this workshop, you'll learn why "talking" doesn't work. You'll learn the deeper emotional and identity issues that shape their belief systems and a way to dialogue that heals hurts, honors their experience and fosters mutual understanding.



Roy Petitfils, MS, LPC

For 20 years, Roy Petitfils has ministered to youth and young adults in parish, school and diocesan settings. Today, he is a counselor in private practice and a speaker. Petitfils has presented at numerous national and regional conferences, workshops and parish missions throughout North America. He writes a syndicated monthly column, "Our Young Church," and has written many articles and has published several books; his most recent is "What Teens Want You to Know (But Won't Tell You)."

3-22 "STILL WE RISE": LIVING AND LEADING WITH TRUST IN SEASONS OF DARK AND LIGHT 🎧

In a world of uncertainty, we are called more than ever to trust in the outrageous and steadfast Love of God, who accompanies us on the way. Drawing wisdom from Scripture, poetry and stories of courage, we are strengthened to trace fresh paths toward personal and communal transformation. This means building trusting relationships in our communities of faith and digging deeply into the fountain of life. Likewise, it means walking in the footprints of Jesus who awakened his followers to a new vision, who endured struggle and yet in the process shone light in the darkness. This session will explore both the challenges and hopes of awakening hearts to the gift of the transforming power of God's presence in our lives, in our ministry and in the world.



Sr. Edith Prendergast, RSC

Sr. Edith Prendergast, a Religious Sister of Charity, is former Director for the Office of Religious Education in the Los Angeles Archdiocese. She is a frequent speaker both locally and nationally and has written and contributed to several articles. Sr. Prendergast is author of the book "Grace Abounds." In 2015, she received the "Evangelii Gaudium – Joy of the Gospel" Award from St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, Calif., and in 2016, she was awarded the "Religious Service Angel Award" from the Catholic Association of Latino Leaders.

3-23 THE REDEMPTIVE POWER OF SUFFERING 🎧

Suffering seems to set up obstacles to faith, yet it can be one of the most creative, constructive and redemptive powers in our lives. Fr. Robert Spitzer will address four topics that can transform suffering into a creative redemptive power: Why would an all-loving God allow suffering caused by others and nature? What can we do when suffering strikes to mitigate fear and anxiety? How can we best use faith and prayer to make suffering into a vehicle for self-transformation, an impetus for compassion and a path to salvation? What are the opportunities in suffering – and how does the Holy Spirit lead us to them?



Robert J. Spitzer, SJ, PhD

Jesuit priest Fr. Robert Spitzer is currently President of the Magis Center at Christ Cathedral in Orange County, Calif., and President of the Spitzer Center for Ethical Leadership, based in Michigan. He served as President of Gonzaga University from 1998 to 2009, and has published eight books and many scholarly articles for which he has won awards. Fr. Spitzer gives over 90 public presentations per year and appears on radio and television, including "Larry King Live" (debating Stephen Hawking), the "Today" show, the History Channel and PBS, among others.

3-24 THE ROSARY IN SCRIPTURE: BIBLICAL REFLECTIONS ON THE 20 MYSTERIES

The rosary is a powerful prayer, but it is also challenging for many of us to pray. We get distracted, we say we don't have time and every decade feels like 10 years. Learn practical tips on how to encounter Jesus and Mary more profoundly in this devotion. This session will address common questions, such as "Why all the repetition?" and "Why is so much attention given to Mary and not to Christ?" and will help everyone – beginners and avid devotees – experience more deeply the great spiritual treasures found in the rosary and Scripture.



Dr. Edward Sri

Theologian, author and internationally known Catholic speaker, Dr. Edward Sri is host of the video series, "Symbolon," which is used in over 5,000 parishes. He serves as Professor of Scripture and Theology at the Augustine Institute in Colorado, where he is also Vice President of Mission. Dr. Sri is one of the founding leaders of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) and has spoken to numerous audiences of laity, catechists, clergy and religious. His latest book is "Love Unveiled: The Catholic Faith Explained."

3-25 HOW TO EMBRACE THE USE OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR CATECHESIS 🗣️

A well-crafted story inspires belief, solidifies knowledge and renews hope. Jesus knew this too – that stories are an effective way to awaken faith and a desire to pursue the truth. With Jesus as our model, we can make appropriate use of children's books when we gather for religious education or spiritual formation. In this engaging workshop, presenters will share how the storytelling process is intrinsic to growing in faith, demonstrate how children's books can inspire faith at home, school or the parish setting, offer practical ways to employ story effectively in faith formation programs and provide inspirational ideas and handouts.

**Julianne Stanz**

Julianne Stanz is Director of New Evangelization for the Diocese of Green Bay, Wis., and is a consultant to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Catechesis and Evangelization. The nationally known speaker, retreat leader and storyteller is co-author with Joe Paprocki of "The Catechist's Backpack: Spiritual Essentials for the Journey." Stanz presents workshops and retreats in addition to numerous diocesan and national gatherings, including several of the major catechetical and youth conferences.

**Joellyn Cicciarelli**

Joellyn Cicciarelli is Vice President of Product Development at Loyola Press. With over 20 years of experience, she has developed award-winning literacy and faith formation curriculum for early childhood through high school, including a preschool curriculum titled "The InvestiGator Club Pre-k Learning System." Most recently, she was the architect of Loyola Press' "Adaptive Finding God." Cicciarelli also served as editor for the TV series "Mister Roger's Neighborhood" and "Jay Jay the Jet Plane."

3-26 UNCONDITIONALLY: FINDING JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST 🗣️**Greg Wasinski (bio 1-25)**

This session will illustrate how we are accepted, connected, forgiven, led, loved and redeemed through receiving the Eucharist. Participants will have a better understanding of what it means to "become the church" – because of our transformation through receiving Jesus Christ in Holy Communion – and will gain a better understanding of the foundation of our Catholic faith. A combination of saint quotes, scriptural encounters and Catechism references will educate attendees, while presenter Greg Wasinski infuses practical language and personal reflections to inspire Catholics of all ages to see beyond the host and once again find Jesus in the Eucharist.

1971 Only 15 years after the first "CCD institute" was begun, the first "Youth Rally" was held in 1971. That year the half-day event set the pattern for what has become Youth Day, which now annually brings together almost 15,000 youth and their chaperones.

3-70 Một cuộc Cách Mạng mới trong lớp Giáo Lý 🗣️

Trong khóa này, chúng ta sẽ cùng nhau chiêm ngưỡng một vài biểu tượng ("icon") của Chúa Giê-su Đầy Lòng Thương Xót, rồi tìm cách đáp trả một cách cụ thể lời kêu gọi của ĐTC Phan-xi-cô thực hiện một cuộc cách mạng mới ngay trong lớp giáo lý: cuộc cách mạng của dịu dàng – khoan dung hơn, kiên nhẫn hơn và dịu dàng hơn, ngõ hầu học sinh cảm thấy thoải mái hơn, thích thú hơn khi đến học giáo lý với chúng ta, những người tạo cơ hội chứ không phải đặt điều kiện, cho học sinh đến với ân sủng và bí tích (*Evangelii Gaudium*, số 47).

A NEW REVOLUTION IN OUR CATECHETICAL CLASS 🗣️

In this session, we will contemplate a few icons of the Merciful Jesus, in order to find concrete ways to respond to Pope Francis' call to start a new revolution in our catechetical sessions: the revolution of tenderness – to be more tolerant, more patient, more tender, so our students might feel more comfortable and enthusiastic studying the Catechism with us, the facilitators and not arbiters of grace (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 47).

**Frère Fortunat Phong, FSC**

Frère Fortunat Phong là một tu sĩ thuộc Dòng La San, chuyên lo việc giáo dục. Trước năm 1975, Frère từng phục vụ tại trường La San Taberd, Sài Gòn, và các trường La San khác bên Việt Nam. Ngoài việc dạy học trong các cơ sở giáo dục của Dòng La San trong 48 năm qua, Frère thường được các nơi, trong nước cũng như ngoài nước, mời đến chia sẻ trong các khóa huấn luyện giáo lý viên, tình tâm, đại hội giới trẻ.

Bro. Fortunat Phong, FSC

Brother Fortunat Phong, a member of the De La Salle Christian Brothers, is an international speaker and retreat facilitator. Prior to 1975, he served at the La San Tabard in Saigon, Vietnam, and at other Lasallian schools in Vietnam. In addition to teaching in the educational institutions of the Lasallian order for 48 years, Bro. Phong is often invited to present at catechist trainings, retreats and youth conferences both in the United States and in other countries.

