

FRIDAY SCHEDULE

7:00 am - 3:00 pm
On-site registration
& Program Book Pick-up
(Prefunction Lobby)

8:30 - 9:30 am
Opening Ceremony & Welcome
(Arena)

10:00 - 10:30 am
Congress Chat
(Tech Center - Hall A)

10:00 - 11:30 am
Period 1 Workshops

11:30 am - 1:00 pm
LUNCH

11:45 am - 12:30 pm
Music (Arena)
– David Haas & Zack Stachowski
Music (Hall B)
– WAL

1:00 - 2:30 pm
Period 2 Workshops

3:00 - 4:30 pm
Period 3 Workshops

5:15 pm
Eucharistic Liturgies
& Evening Prayer
(see page 22)

7:45 - 9:45 pm
Film Showcase 2018
(Convention 201)

8:00 pm
Concert
– Ivan Diaz & Friends

9:00 pm
Compline Prayer
(Convention 303)

**Registration & Program Book
Pick-Up**
7:00 am - 3:00 pm
(Prefunction Lobby)

Exhibit Hours
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
(Hall A)

Sacred Space
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
(Convention 304 & Ballroom E)

Speaker Signings
11:30 am - 5:00 pm
New location!
(Northwest side, Hall A)

Massage Chairs
(Hall A Prefunction Lobby)

A.A. Meeting
Noon (Marriott) San Diego

OPENING CEREMONY & WELCOME

Arena – 8:30 am

“RISE UP!”

We come together in joyful celebration to live out Jesus’ command to Rise Up and go forth sharing the Good News of God’s loving Providence. Come, let us join our voices in a chorus of praise and gratitude. This energetic gathering will be graced by the presence and gifts of:

Archbishop José Gomez	Karla Carrillo	David Haas	Nicole Masero
Fr. Christopher Bazyouros	Andrew Chinn	Sarah Hart	Emily McKinley
Paulette Smith	Jeanne Cotter	Marty Haugen	Monica Miller Luther
Jan Pedroza	Harrison Crenshaw	Darrell Jackson	Rafael Moreno
John Flaherty	Gary Daigle	Frank Jansen	Ann Myers
Tony Alonso	Iván Díaz	ValLimar Jansen	Linda Nguyen
Donna Anderle	Chris de Silva	Mary Janus	Paul Nguyen
David Anderson	Christine Engelfried	Mel Kennedy	Kristina Ortega
John Angotti	Chris Estrella	Kristin Kissell	Pedro Rubalcava
Ed Archer	Santiago Fernández	Gaile Krause	Brenda Smith
Meredith Augustin	Rob Galea	Liam Lawton	Trevor Thomson
Betsey Beckman	Noelle Garcia	Rudy López	John West & the
Anna Betancourt	Estela García-López	Michael Mangan	Valyermo Dancers
John Burland	Dolores Gomez	Jesse Manibusan	Mark Voris
Helena Buscema	Laura Gomez	Clarissa Martinez	Rufino Zaragoza

FRIDAY LUNCHTIME ENTERTAINMENT

11:45 am - 12:30 pm

ARENA:

DAVID HAAS & ZACK STACHOWSKI



*“Dedicate Yourself to
Thankfulness: A Time to Sing
and Pray”*

Take a break in the day and come together to share prayer and song with a seasoned and esteemed veteran of liturgical music, together with a promising young and bright light in the ministry of sung prayer. Come experience and sing in the midst of this blessed partnership of musical prayer and praise!

HALL B:

WAL



Come join WAL at lunchtime for great music that gives thanks and praise to God through song. For over 15 years, WAL has been serving the Church through God’s gift of song throughout the USA and internationally. WAL carries with them an energetic sound that rejoices in the goodness of our Lord. WAL desires everyone’s hearts busted open to immeasurable lengths emanating awe, inspiring light and love from Christ.

FILM SHOWCASE 2018



Convention 201
7:45 - 9:45 pm

The Film Showcase, in partnership with Loyola Marymount University’s Center for Religion and Spirituality, presents excerpts from a number of narrative feature films, shorts and documentaries whose thematic elements are grounded in Catholic social teaching, social justice, ministry, spirituality and theology.

EVENING CONCERT

Arena – 8:00 pm

IVAN DIAZ & FRIENDS

*“Rise Up! ... to the rhythm of
Latin music!”*



Come and lift up your voice with Iván Díaz and friends in a night of praise, faith and joy. A celebration of music in Spanish from contemporary to beloved titles that will inspire you.

“¡Levántate ... al ritmo de la música latina!”

Ven y eleva tu voz junto a Iván Díaz y sus amigos en una noche de alabanza, fe y alegría. Una celebración musical en español con cantos contemporáneos y éxitos de siempre que te inspirarán.

PERIOD 1 – 10:00 - 11:30 AM

- 1-01** **Rising Up to the Adult Challenge within the Gospels (*) - Fr. Ronald Rolheiser**
- 1-02** What Do Teens Desire to Receive During Their Preparation for Confirmation? (*) - **Katherine Angulo**
- 1-03** Ministry: Pastoral, Poor and Missionary (*) - **Msgr. Arturo Bañuelas**
- 1-04** Deepening Our Appreciation of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ (*) - **Fr. John Cusick**
- 1-05** Engaging Youth in Evangelization (*) - **Iván Díaz**
- 1-06** Service: “Projects” or a Way of Life? - **Carole Eipers**
- 1-07** Fire ‘em Up for Jesus! (*) - **Steven Ellair**
- 1-08** “I Can’t Even!” – Thriving and Surviving Stress and Anxiety (*) - **Fr. Rob Galea**
- 1-09** Faith: The Renewal of Mind and Heart - **Dr. Greer Gordon**
- 1-10** Soft Hearts from Hard Places (*) - **Rev. Terry Hershey**
- 1-11** How to Learn the Art of Accompaniment (*) - **Bill Huebsch**
- 1-12** Creating Peace in Times of Crisis (*) - **ValLimar Jansen**
- 1-13** Faith and Politics in the Hebrew Scriptures - **Jack Jezreel**
- 1-14** Hope Is a Choice That Matters Today (*) - **Sr. Lynn Levo**
- 1-15** Rise Up and Sing! Joyful Songs of Faith for Schools and Parishes (*) - **Michael Mangan**
- 1-16** To Redeem the Soul of America: King’s Vision and Challenge Today (*) - **Fr. Bryan Massingale**
- 1-17** Ascent to Jerusalem, Ascent to Holiness (*) - **Rabbi Michael Mayersohn**
- 1-18** Overcoming Obstacles: Trusting in God’s Plan - **Brandi Milloy**
- 1-19** Dwell Among Them: Exploring Incarnation-driven Ministry (*) - **Katie Prejean McGrady**
- 1-20** Self-Compassion in an Era of Endless Activity - **Joyce Rupp**
- 1-21** Praying the Mass Like Never Before (*) - **Rev. Michael Schmitz**
- 1-22** Shepherding Communities in Times of Change (*) - **Dan Schutte**
- 1-23** Praise You, Lord! Pope Francis and the Biblical Theology of Creation as a Source of Christian Spirituality (*) - **Fr. Donald Senior**
- 1-24** Forgiveness as a Path to Peace (*) - **Cardinal Luis Tagle**
- 1-25** Middle School Mayhem or Miracle! (*) - **Doug Tooke**
- 1-26** Seek the Living God – Five Questions for Conversion (*) - **Nick Wagner**
- 1-27** It Takes Courage to Be a Parent Today (*) - **Char Wenc**
- 1-70** Vietnamese Workshop (Arise) (*) - **Fr. Doan Hoang**

PERIOD 2 – 1:00 - 2:30 PM

- 2-01** **Have You Seen Him? Searching for the Child Jesus (*) - Fr. R. Tony Ricard**
- 2-02** Liturgical Dance: Movement – The Voice of the Dancer (*) - **Donna Anderle**
- 2-03** Sing to the Lord! Music and Prayer in Teaching the Faith (*) - **Steve Angrisano**
- 2-04** The Good News About Desire, Sex and the Path to Freedom (*) - **Mary Bielski**
- 2-05** Jesus said, “Talitha Kum”: Rising UP as Women! (*) - **Sr. Kathleen Bryant**
- 2-06** The Formation of the Synoptic Gospels (*) - **Fr. William Burton**
- 2-07** To End the Day: A Contemporary Resource for Preparing Night Prayer (*) - **Ian Callanan**
- 2-08** Rise Up – Black Parishes and Schools Matter! (*) - **Msgr. Raymond East**
- 2-09** Embracing Spirituality for the 21st Century (*) - **Sr. Barbara Fiand**
- 2-10** Transgender in Our Schools: One Bread, One Body (*) - **Dr. Arthur Fitzmaurice & Fr. Bryan Massingale**
- 2-11** The Eucharist as a Sacrament of Death: Repeating Baptism Until We Get It Right (*) - **Fr. Richard Fragomeni**
- 2-12** Preaching Global Solidarity (*) - **Fr. David Garcia**
- 2-13** Us vs. Them: Beyond Politics and Into Love (*) - **Sarah Hart**
- 2-14** The Foolishness of Christianity (*) - **Fr. Daniel Horan**
- 2-15** All Are Welcome in This Place: Rise Up in Communion (*) - **Jesse Manibusan**
- 2-16** Millennials vs. Gen Z (*) - **Dr. Charlotte McCorquodale**
- 2-17** “I Scream!” – Culture and the Challenge of Catechesis (*) - **Mike Patin**
- 2-18** Using Empathic Evangelization to Understand, Reach and Influence the Modern Family (*) - **Roy Petitfils**
- 2-19** Pope Francis After Five Years - **Fr. Thomas Reese**
- 2-20** First Our Parish Was Bilingual, Then We Are Multicultural, Now What? (*) - **Pedro Rubalcava**
- 2-21** The Outlaw David ben Jesse (*) - **Prof. Daniel Smith-Christopher**
- 2-22** Musical Liturgy for the Whole Child: More Than Hand Motions (*) - **James Wahl**
- 2-23** Forming Fruitful Disciples: How to Unlock the Power of the Spirit in Others (*) - **Sherry Weddell**
- 2-24** Rise Up, Young People! Raising New Disciples in Schools and Parishes (*) - **David Wells**
- 2-25** Games, Songs, Crafts and Object Lessons: Hands-on Activities for Early Childhood Faith Formation (*) - **Dr. Joseph White**
- 2-26** God Calls Me to Dance, Even if I’m Out of Step (*) - **Dr. Madonna Wojtaszek-Healy**
- 2-70** Vietnamese Workshop (Catechesis and Culture: Inseparable and Indispensable) (*) - **Rev. Hy Nguyen**

🎧 and (*) are recorded sessions.
Arena sessions in color.

PERIOD 3 – 3:00 - 4:30 PM

- 3-01** **Thinking Bigger: The Truth About Modern Evangelization (*) - Mark Hart**
- 3-02** Today! Seeing and Hearing God Through Scripture and Song (*) - **John Angotti**
- 3-03** Rev Up, Raise Up and Rise Up! (*) - **Dr. Ansel Augustine**
- 3-04** The Role of Doctrine in the Catechumenate (*) - **Mary Birmingham**
- 3-05** At the Front Lines of Today’s Most Pressing Humanitarian Emergencies (*) - **Caroline Brennan**
- 3-06** Butterflies and Rainbows! The Role of Music in Prayer, Catechesis and Celebration with Early Childhood Learners (*) - **Andrew Chinn**
- 3-07** Christ the Master Teacher: 12 Ways to Become a Better Religious Educator (*) - **Jared Dees**
- 3-08** Following Mary into Missionary Discipleship (*) - **Dr. Leonard DeLorenzo**
- 3-09** Connecting the Biblical Text to the Text of Life (*) - **Sr. Carol Dempsey**
- 3-10** Aligning Responses to Bullying with Catholic Schools (*) - **Frank DiLallo**
- 3-11** Praying Our Lives: A Remedy for Restlessness (*) - **Becky Eldredge**
- 3-12** Heart, Head, Hands and Heaven: Connecting Imagination and Religion (*) - **Anne Frawley-Mangan**
- 3-13** By What Authority? On the Proper Use and Abuse of Doctrine (*) - **Dr. Richard Gaillardetz**
- 3-14** 13 Reasons Why You Matter (*) - **Noelle Garcia**
- 3-15** Feeding the Hungers: Our Hope for Faith of Youth and Young Adults (*) - **Dr. Thomas Groome**
- 3-16** Your Story Matters (How to Tell Your Story) (*) - **ValLimar Jansen**
- 3-17** Answer: A Sense of Humor. Question: Name One of the Top Five Things that Will Help You Rise (*) - **Fr. Joe Kempf**
- 3-18** God at the Movies - **Fr. Richard Leonard**
- 3-19** Rise Up! with Adolescents and Their Families: The Joy of Adolescent Catechesis (*) - **Margaret Matijasevic, Michael Theisen & Andrea Kopp**
- 3-20** Catechists and Teachers – *In Loco Jesu* (*) - **Sr. Patricia McCormack**
- 3-21** “The Mother of Jesus Was There”: A Scriptural Portrayal of Mary (*) - **Fr. J. Patrick Mullen**
- 3-22** Sacramental Preparation: Inviting Children to Encounter Mystery (*) - **Joe Paprocki**
- 3-23** How to Get Your Family to Heaven! (*) - **Rev. Leo Patalinghug**
- 3-24** Beyond the Moon and Stars (*) - **Dan Schutte**
- 3-25** Turning the Rising Tide of Apathy, Agnosticism and Atheism: Six Catalysts to Ignite the Faith of Young Skeptics (*) - **Fr. Robert Spitzer**
- 3-26** Seven Steps to Implementing Change (*) - **Fr. Michael White & Thomas Corcoran**
- 3-27** When the Praises Go Up (*) - **C. Vanessa White**
- 3-70** Vietnamese Workshop (“Lord, My God, I Called to You for Help, and You Healed Me” - Ps 30:2) (*) - **Rev. Thinh Pham**

WORKSHOPS

A MESSAGE FROM THE COORDINATOR OF CATECHIST FORMATION

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

"Your brother will rise" (John 11:23).

Four words spoken and a world transformed. As we gather over the four days of the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress let us be mindful of why we are there, on whose shoulders we stand, and the lives we touch in service to the People of God.

The Religious Education Congress is a joyous celebration of our faith. How will you celebrate this year? From what will you rise to experience how the Spirit moves in and through you? How will you Rise Up! and be counted, your voice heard?

As we continue the vision of the Second Vatican Council, I challenge you to just one word: Growth! Grow as a Catholic Christian, a catechist, a minister, a child of God. Consider this *Registration Guidebook* as a path to growth in your own faith, to be more fully formed and informed. As you look through these workshops, find ones that will make you pray, think, move, laugh and reflect on the gift that is our faith. Try out a new speaker. Attend that liturgy that's been calling to you year after year. Go visit the Sacred Space and "be still and now." Expand your catechetical horizons.

We have been called. We have been sent. We have been chosen.

What are you going to do about it? How will you celebrate the gift we have been given?

For Certified Catechists and Master Catechists of the Los Angeles Archdiocese, ALL Congress workshops can be used toward your recertification hours.

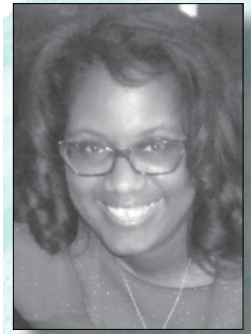
I look forward to meeting many of you and hearing how you and your ministry continue to be transformed. You can find me at the ORE Booth at Congress during my booth hours or find me on all major social media platforms.

Until then, Rise Up!



Dione L. Grillo

Coordinator for Advanced Catechetical Ministries and Basic Catechist Formation (English)



PERIOD I

10:00 - 11:30 AM • FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018

1-01 RISING UP TO THE ADULT CHALLENGE WITHIN THE GOSPELS 🎧 ARENA

We are meant to "rise up" daily from the many graves within which life buries us. We die a thousand deaths during the course of our lives. What are we meant to rise up to? What constitutes the mediocrity we are asked to rise up from? What constitutes the sanctity we are asked to rise up to? What are the hallmarks of a mature discipleship? What constitutes the virtues that Jesus describes as being deeper than those of normal religious practice? Rising up to more noble lives.



Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI

Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. His books have been translated into many languages and his weekly column is carried by more than 80 publications worldwide. Previously, Fr. Rolheiser taught theology and philosophy 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.

1-02 WHAT DO TEENS DESIRE TO RECEIVE DURING THEIR PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION? 🎧

Quite often in our churches preparation for the sacrament of confirmation focuses only on following a program or a book. This makes young people only feel like spectators of their faith. During this session, we are going to review the invitation made by Pope Francis during the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, to the youth of the world: "Dear young people, we didn't come to this world to vegetate. ... No, we came to leave a mark." During this session, we will be talking about how we can take advantage of this time of preparation to excite young people in their Catholic faith.



Katherine Angulo

Born in Mexico and raised in Colombia, Katherine Angulo is fluent in English, Spanish and French. She has over 18 years' experience in youth ministry. Presently, she is Associate Director of Youth Ministry at the Office of Formation and Discipleship for the Atlanta Archdiocese. Angulo is also Editor of THE MARK Catholic teen magazine and Executive Producer for the volunteer training program, Called to Accompany/Llamados a Acompañar. She has presented at numerous diocesan and national events.

1-03 MINISTRY: PASTORAL, POOR AND MISSIONARY 🎧

Pope Francis wants the Church to be pastoral, poor and missionary. If this is the mission of the Church then it is also the foundation for all ministry. This session presents theologies of ministry and focuses on the notions of ministry as pastoral, poor and missionary. It will tackle the issues ministers face within the Southwest Border reality such as prophetic stances, mystical spirituality of ministry, immigration advocacy and social justice.

**Msgr. Arturo J. Bañuelas, STD**

Msgr. Arturo Bañuelas is a national speaker, missionary trainer, author and immigrant rights activist. He is a native of the Diocese of El Paso, Texas, where he serves as Pastor of St. Mark Parish. In 1988, Msgr. Bañuelas founded the Tepeyac Institute (a diocesan ministry formation center) and, in 1989, he co-founded the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States. In 2015, Msgr. Bañuelas became founding Chair of the Hope Border Institute. He continues to be active in missionary work and interfaith dialogue.

1-04 DEEPENING OUR APPRECIATION OF THE PASSION AND DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST 🎧

One week after the Religious Education Congress ends, we will walk into our churches to commemorate the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. It will be Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. This workshop will “break open” the Passion narratives in the Gospels by deepening our understanding of the symbols and language used in the sacred texts to communicate the faithfulness of Christ and the activity of God in these powerful and painful scenes ending with the death of Jesus on the cross. If time permits, we will end this workshop in prayer with the Litany of the Passion, written by the great Cardinal John Henry Newman.

**Rev. John C. Cusick**

Fr. John Cusick, a priest of the Chicago Archdiocese, served as creator, coordinator and Director of their Young Adult Ministry from 1970-2013. He also was an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana. In February 2012, he received the Blessed John XXIII Award from the Association of Chicago Priests for “significant contributions to the life of the Church in Chicago.” He continues to speak at Church conferences and preach parish missions locally and nationally.

1-05 ENGAGING YOUTH IN EVANGELIZATION 🎧

Young people live in a different world from the generation of their parents and teachers. This workshop will present challenges and suggestions to engage youth to become missionary disciples. This year, Pope Francis has summoned us in a new approach through a synod with the topic, “Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment,” Pope Francis said that the Church has decided to examine herself on how she can lead young people to recognize and accept the call to the fullness

of life and love, and to ask young people to help her in identifying the most effective ways to announce the Good News today.

**Ivan Diaz**

Born and raised in Colombia, Ivan Diaz is a songwriter, educator and clinician who is involved in diocesan youth conventions, Hispanic charismatic conventions, music workshops and events across the country. In addition to his role as Music Director at St. Francis de Sales Church in Miami Beach, Fla., Diaz is a high school choral director. His latest release with OCP, “Nuestra Alegría / Our Joy,” was chosen as the official youth and young adult song for Encuentro V. He has appeared on EWTN and the Jesus Christ Network.

1-06 SERVICE: “PROJECTS” OR A WAY OF LIFE?

Jesus said that he “did not come to be served but to serve.” His disciples say the same. We will examine the place of service in our catechetical programs and whether it moves beyond “projects done to get confirmation” to daily integration in a life of discipleship. We will explore and share ways to make that happen.

**Carole Eipers, DMin**

Dr. Carole Eipers is a National Catechetical Advisor for William H. Sadlier, Inc., and Pastoral Associate at Queen of All Saints Parish in Chicago. She was formerly Director of the Office for Catechesis for the Chicago Archdiocese as well as President of the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership. Dr. Eipers has presented nationally and internationally primarily on the topic of catechesis. A published author, her latest book is entitled, “Pep Talks for Catholic Teachers.”

1-07 FIRE ‘EM UP FOR JESUS! 🎧

Are you looking for ways to help children get energized about their faith? Are you ready to create a learning environment that is filled with excitement? If so, don’t miss this workshop. We will explore creative activities and techniques that can be used in the catechetical setting with elementary children to foster joy, enthusiasm and faith that is on fire!

**Steven Ellair**

Steven Ellair is a national speaker with Saint Mary’s Press and currently Managing Editor for Curricula and Content Engagement Specialist. He has been involved in catechetical ministry for 25 years as a parish catechist, youth minister, Catholic schoolteacher and archdiocesan educational consultant. Ellair has been involved in Catholic publishing for over 13 years and continues to write and speak nationally on issues related to catechesis. He has presented at national religious education events for over 20 years.

1-08 "I CAN'T EVEN!" – THRIVING AND SURVIVING STRESS AND ANXIETY 🎧

Using music, story and humor, Fr. Rob Galea will offer young adults some tips on how to function and thrive in spite of stress, anxiety and even depression.



Fr. Rob Galea

International Catholic speaker Fr. Rob Galea serves in the Diocese of Sandhurst, Victoria, Australia. In addition to his series of recordings and CD releases, the singer/songwriter has also written a number of songs for various international conferences and sang on the English version of the 2016 World Youth Day song, "Blessed Are The Merciful." Fr. Galea is co-founder and Director of "Stronger," a youth program spreading to various dioceses that is fast-becoming one of Australia's largest Catholic youth movements.

1-09 FAITH: THE RENEWAL OF MIND AND HEART

At the core of Christian life is the surrendering of our minds and hearts to God, which can only be done in and through the grace of faith. This workshop will address the concept of faith in relationship to the Church's theology of grace, and its practical implications for daily living.



Dr. Greer G. Gordon

Dr. Greer Gordon is a Roman Catholic theologian and lecturer who served as diocesan director in Boston; Washington, D.C.; Oakland, Calif.; and Baton Rouge, La. She is author of "Symphonies of the Heart" and "Heritage and Vision," the "Church and Ministry" video program and numerous articles for Give Us This Day. Dr. Gordon was one of eight American women invited by the Vatican to respond to John Paul II's encyclical on women and the first woman to deliver the Baccalaureate Address at Boston University.

1-10 SOFT HEARTS FROM HARD PLACES 🎧

We know that we should practice love. But here's the deal: Love can only spill from a heart that has been softened and in most cases broken. Terry Hershey teaches us how to live and love from a soft heart: the permission to see the world – this day – through the eyes of our heart. It happens when we allow ourselves to feel, fully and wholly, without a need to defend or explain. When we allow ourselves to receive love and kindness without suspicion. When we are free to embrace an extraordinary core of strength and courage that resides inside of us, and let it spill to those around us.



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.

1-11 HOW TO LEARN THE ART OF ACCOMPANIMENT 🎧

Pope Francis has had a lot to say to the church and the world over the past few years, but there is no pastoral strategy he has emphasized more than pastoral accompaniment. In this lively workshop, Bill Huebsch will help us consider the principles and practices of accompaniment as they are presented by Pope Francis and the Church. We will find that, as we learn to accompany others, we open the door for many who felt they were edged out of church life.



Bill Huebsch

Bill Huebsch has been a farmer, a writer, a diocesan administrator, a master catechist, a college professor and a spiritual director. He is on the adjunct faculty at the Institute for Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago. Huebsch has published more than 30 booklets and books on spirituality and ministry, including "The Art of Accompaniment," "How God Speaks to Us in Prayer," and several others. For many years, he has maintained a busy international lecture schedule.

I-12 CREATING PEACE IN TIMES OF CRISIS 🎧

"If you are here at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress, it is probably because you are a person who yearns for more and more of God's love in your heart, in your relationships and in this world," challenges ValLimar Jansen. As we are inundated each day with so many experiences, we find that we can bump up against unacknowledged prejudices in our own hearts and in our communities. Once acknowledged, how do we build bridges and create peace?



ValLimar Jansen

ValLimar Jansen is 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. Jansen was MC for the 2011 National Catholic Youth Conference held in Indianapolis, and served as co-MC for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' gatherings at the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland. She and her husband, Frank, performed for over 300,000 people at the Loreto/Angora international papal event in Italy.

I-13 FAITH AND POLITICS IN THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

It is often assumed that faith and politics are unrelated matters; however, the Hebrew Scriptures from the very beginning are rooted in the assumption that faith and politics are necessarily linked and this linkage informs how we are to understand our God, our faith, our responsibilities and even our salvation as a Christian community. To be a "holy" people, it turns out, means that we will be very interested and engaged in politics, with a very specific political bias.

**Jack Jezreel**

Jack Jezreel is the original author of JustFaith and founder of JustFaith Ministries. He is a writer, speaker and teacher, focusing on the linkage between faith and compassion and a parish renewal strategy that draws from Pope Francis' emphasis on "missionary disciples." Over the last 15 years, he has given hundreds of presentations, including Keynote Addresses, continuing education for clergy and diocesan staff as well as parish, regional and national convenings. Jezreel was Keynote at the 2011 Religious Education Congress.

1-14 HOPE IS A CHOICE THAT MATTERS TODAY 🎧

Hope is a powerful emotion that arises from the most basic human longings – it is a life-sustaining force, rooted in relationship and our relationship with the future. Today, in our challenging and chaotic time, hope is more essential than ever. In our time together, we will explore the connection between reality, grief and hope, and how our thoughts and feelings create the energy of hope. Also, we will examine some core competencies to help us move beyond our personal and present limits to create a better world, and explore our call to be hope providers.

**Lynn M. Levo, CSJ, PhD**

Dr. Lynn Levo, a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet, is a lecturer and licensed consulting psychologist, based in Albany, N.Y. She has presented nationally and internationally on fostering healthy integrated sexuality, celibacy, relationships, intimacy, mutuality in community, and emotional intelligence. Sr. Levo has presented at the L.A. Congress and annually to five Inter-Community Novitiate programs in the United States. She also works with women's congregations in France, Ireland, India and Africa.

1-15 RISE UP AND SING! JOYFUL SONGS OF FAITH FOR SCHOOLS AND PARISHES 🎧

Music and song enable us to joyfully praise God as we share the core of our faith tradition. Teachers, catechists, music ministers (and all who just love to sing!) are invited to experience a selection of vibrant songs from Australian Michael Mangan. Bring your voice and experience repertoire that is sure to have your parish and school communities rising up to sing with joy!

**Michael Mangan**

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

1-16 TO REDEEM THE SOUL OF AMERICA: KING'S VISION AND CHALLENGE TODAY 🎧

Martin Luther King's mission during the civil rights movement was not just to achieve racial integration; his

deepest goal was "to redeem the soul of America." This session revisits King's vision and its relevance for today, and explores its challenges for the U.S. Catholic Church.

**Fr. Bryan N. Massingale, STD**

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

1-17 ASCENT TO JERUSALEM, ASCENT TO HOLINESS 🎧

Jerusalem is *the* holy city in Judaism and Christianity. In this session, we will look at the history and place of Jerusalem in Judaism and Christianity and how the real city became so important to the faith of both religions. Jerusalem is vital to our respective spiritual lives. We will explore how Jerusalem animates our faith.

**Rabbi Michael Mayersohn**

Rabbi Michael Mayersohn is a Reform Rabbi who teaches the Bible, both Hebrew and New Testament, offering Jewish insights into Sacred Scriptures. Rabbi Mayersohn has spoken and taught as a rabbi, and from 2003 until the present, has spoken at over 20 churches in Orange County, San Diego and Arizona teaching Jewish roots of Christianity and Bible studies. He has presented at the Religious Education Congress since 2010. His latest book is entitled, "I Was There: The Jewish Olive Grower Who Knew Jesus."

1-18 OVERCOMING OBSTACLES: TRUSTING IN GOD'S PLAN

After being diagnosed with scoliosis (a curvature of the spine) at 12 years old, Brandi Milloy was fitted with a back brace that she wore for nearly four years. Targeted for her differences, she was bullied, ridiculed and ostracized by her peers. She excelled in soccer; however, the same month she was offered a chance to play college soccer, doctors told her she would need to undergo extensive back surgeries forfeiting her chances at being a college athlete. Despite these obstacles, Brandi continued to pursue her dream of going to college and becoming a journalist. Her talk will focus on the importance of keeping the faith and trusting in God's plan and timing.

**Brandi Milloy**

Brandi Milloy is host and producer for POP-SUGAR Food's shows "Eat the Trend" and "Get the Dish," is a regular contributor on the Cooking Channel's "Unique Sweets" and serves as a judge on chef Guy Fieri's show, "Guy's Grocery Games," on the Food Network. She appears on NBC's "The Today Show" as a Today Tastemaker. Milloy has also appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and "Access Hollywood." Off camera, her appearances have spanned from local high school events to regional and national conferences.

1-19 DWELL AMONG THEM: EXPLORING INCARNATION-DRIVEN MINISTRY

When we read the words in John's Gospel, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us," we are immersing ourselves in the reality of the Incarnation – the moment when God became man *so that* we could be in relationship with him. Does our ministry seek to do the same? Are we striving to build relationships with young people, new parishioners, families and total strangers in an attempt to help them build their own relationship with Jesus? There are very specific things we can, and should, do – the lives we live, the things we do and say, and the attitude we maintain are all critically important if we are going to draw people closer to Christ and the truth.



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 and across Canada using her original blend of humor and storytelling to speak at events ranging from small sessions to national conferences.

1-20 SELF-COMPASSION IN AN ERA OF ENDLESS ACTIVITY

The person that church ministers often forget to be kind to is their own self. They diligently tend to others and what needs to be done and get lost in the dust-storm of activity. While a focus on service defines a disciple of Christ, if attentive presence is not given to the one who serves, a dedicated sense of purpose can easily slide into fatigue and burnout. Come, give yourself the gift of being re-inspired and refreshed as Joyce Rupp shares how Jesus was self-compassionate and how those who serve in his name can do likewise.



Joyce Rupp, OSM

Sr. Joyce Rupp, a member of the Servants of Mary community, is a spiritual director who has been a facilitator and speaker at retreats and conferences both nationally and internationally for 30 years. She is a freelance writer and well-known award-winning author of numerous best-selling books, including "Fragments of Your Ancient Name," "Prayer Seeds" and "Boundless Compassion." Based in West Des Moines, Iowa, Sr. Rupp was a hospice volunteer for 15 years who now serves as Co-Director of Boundless Compassion programs.

1-21 PRAYING THE MASS LIKE NEVER BEFORE

While many people go to Mass every week, very few know what it is to worship. Certainly, we show up and do our best to "pay attention," but for too many of us this just means we watch closely. You have been given a gift that you have most likely left unused – a gift unused because it is largely unknown. This workshop will uncover this unknown and unused gift, so that you can stop watching the Mass and start worshipping at Mass.



Rev. Michael Schmitz

Fr. Michael Schmitz is Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Duluth, Minn., and serves as Chaplain for the Newman Center at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. He offers weekly homilies on iTunes and BulldogCatholic.org and has appeared in programs for youth and young adults through Ascension Press, as well as through short video messages on Ascension Presents. Fr. Schmitz has preached to youth and young adults across the country.

1-22 SHEPHERDING COMMUNITIES IN TIMES OF CHANGE

Merging parishes, changing priests, new Mass settings ... yet, through it all, the parish staff and community is there, the faithful remnant. Relying on the power and leadership of the Spirit, we can help a community through change, but it requires a certain spirituality to do it well. We need to nurture in ourselves the heart of a shepherd.



Dan Schutte

Dan Schutte is one of the most influential composers of Catholic music for liturgy in the English-speaking world. Some of his most celebrated songs – "Here I Am, Lord," "City of God," "Sing a New Song" – are from his years of collaboration with the St. Louis Jesuits. His more recent collections include "To Praise You" and the Mass setting, "Mass of Christ the Savior." With 50 years of teaching and workshops in liturgy and music, Schutte travels extensively. He is currently Composer-In-Residence at the University of San Francisco.

1-23 PRAISE YOU, LORD! POPE FRANCIS & THE BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF CREATION AS A SOURCE OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

In his remarkable encyclical, *Laudato Si* ("Praise you, Lord"), Pope Francis calls the threat to the environment the "greatest moral crisis of our time" and reflects on the biblical theology of creation as the basis for an "ecological spirituality." This workshop will amplify the beautiful creation theology found in the Bible and consider its meaning for Christian life today.



Fr. Donald Senior, CP

Fr. Donald Senior is President Emeritus of Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where he is Professor of New Testament. Born in Philadelphia, he is a member of the Passionist Congregation and was ordained a priest in 1967. Fr. Senior has published both scholarly and popular works on Scripture, is a frequent lecturer and speaker throughout the United States and abroad, and serves on numerous boards and commissions. He has served the last three Popes as a member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission.

1-24 FORGIVENESS AS A PATH TO PEACE

Our rich Christian tradition of forgiveness is being re-discovered as a precious "resource." Join Cardinal Luis Tagle as he leads us in the search for peace in our hearts, families, parishes, communities and the whole world.

**Cardinal Luis Antonio G. Tagle**

In 2012, Cardinal Luis Tagle was installed as the 32nd Archbishop of Manila, Philippines, by Pope Benedict XVI. He formerly served as Rector at Our Lady of the Pillar Seminary in Imus, Cavite, Philippines, and as an instructor of theology and a spiritual director. Cardinal Tagle has made numerous presentations at conferences worldwide. He has served as a member on several commissions, appointed by various Popes and more recently was named as one of the Synod Fathers for the Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization.

I-25 MIDDLE SCHOOL MAYHEM OR MIRACLE! 🎧

Our young adolescents are demanding, yet excellent in so many ways. How can we best serve this incredible population with great faith formation and inspiring discipleship? Come learn proven methods and compelling theories in this workshop!

**Doug Tooke**

Based in Helena, Mont., Doug Tooke is Director of Partnerships for ODB Films 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 presented at World Youth Day, the National Catholic Youth Conference and the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry, and continues to serve as a leader in the field.

I-26 SEEK THE LIVING GOD – FIVE QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSION 🎧

Do you struggle with keeping adults engaged and leading them to lifelong discipleship? If so, this workshop is for you. Once you discover how to utilize five simple questions, you will be able to help your seekers create and follow through on their own unique faith-formation plan. You will leave this workshop with more confidence and an effective tool for guiding people to deeper conversion.

**Nick Wagner**

Nick Wagner is Director and co-founder of the online resource TeamRCIA.com. He has more than 35 years' experience as a leader and trainer in ministries, serving as a diocesan director of worship and a parish liturgist. He was 25 years of experience speaking at national, diocesan and parish training events and 20 years as an active team member with the North American Forum on the Catechumenate. Wagner is author of several publications, including "Seek the Living God: Five RCIA Inquiry Questions for Making Disciples."

I-27 IT TAKES COURAGE TO BE A PARENT TODAY 🎧

Parenting is both a joy and a challenge in this world. We love our children without limits. We simply do not always appreciate their choices! This interactive, positive session will assist us in giving encouragement successfully to build our children's confidence. In addition, we

will learn to improve our ability to discipline our children to assist them to develop the skills of responsibility. Becoming a parent is a gift from God; being a parent requires all the graces he can give us.

**Char Wenc, MEd, LCPC**

Internationally known professional speaker, coach and author, Char Wenc is President of Char Wenc Communication. She is a professor at the School of Continuing & Professional Studies at Loyola University Chicago and teaches in the doctrinal programs at the School of Professional Psychology at Adler University in Chicago. Wenc's passion for the topics of parenting and teaching is seen in her writings and speaking, and she is a frequent speaker at the L.A. Congress and elsewhere.

1-70 "CHỖ DẬY ĐI, BẠN ƠI" 🎧

Lời Đức Giê-su nói với người thanh niên quá cố, đứa con trai duy nhất của bà góa thành Naim (Luca 7:14) lại thôi thúc tôi hằng ngày, mời gọi tôi chỗi dậy khỏi những tật nguyên và bại liệt của mình vì những đam mê do ma quỷ, thể gian và xác thịt, để tôi được giải thoát và sống hết mình, sống thật trọn vẹn ý nghĩa đời người như Lời Chúa hằng vang vọng thăm sâu trong tôi: "Hỡi con, được cả thể gian này mà đánh mất chính mình thì được ích gì?" (Luca 9:25); và "Ta đến cho con được sống và sống đời đời!" (Gioan 10:10).

"ARISE" 🎧

"Arise, young man!" (Luke 7:14) – this was Jesus' command to the dead young man, the only son of the widow in Nairn. This call urges us daily to rise up from impairment and paralysis because of the desires of the flesh, and gives us the power to be free of such temptations and to live life truthfully and fully, as the words of the Lord keep reminding us of our own inner depth: "What profit is there for you to gain the whole world, and yet lose your very self?" (Luke 9:25); and "I have come that you may have life, and have it fully" (John 10:10).

**LM Giuse-Maria Hoàng Tiến Đoàn, SJ**

Hiện đang là Chánh xứ giáo xứ Thánh Phanxicô Xaviê đồng thời cũng là Trung Tâm Công Giáo của người Nhật tại Los Angeles. Từ năm 2003 đến năm 2015 được bề trên chỉ định là Linh Hưởng Hội Tông Đồ Cầu Nguyên của Tỉnh Dòng Tên California, và của Tổng Giáo Phận Los Angeles đặc trách hướng dẫn các Khóa Tỉnh Tâm và giảng huấn trong các buổi hội thảo và các khóa học hỏi để phổ biến lòng Tôn Sùng Thánh Tâm Chúa Giêsu, Thánh Thể và Thánh Lễ tại nhiều nơi trên Nước Mỹ, Canada, Âu Châu, Nhật Bản, Úc Châu và Việt Nam.

Fr. Doan Hoang, SJ, STL

Fr. Doan Hoang is Pastor at St. Francis Xavier Church at the Japanese Catholic Center in Los Angeles. He also served the California Province of the Society of Jesus and as Director of the Apostleship of Prayer for the Los Angeles Archdiocese. Fr. Hoang has worked as a preacher, retreat master and instructor of parish missions, retreats, workshops and seminars in many parts of the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, Australia and Vietnam.

2-01 HAVE YOU SEEN HIM? SEARCHING FOR THE CHILD JESUS 🕊 ARENA

Every day we are given the chance to encounter the Lord. But, I wonder how many times has Jesus Christ tried to visit us and we missed seeing him for who he really was. As teachers and preachers of the faith, it is our call to search for Christ in the least expected places. This interactive presentation will focus on finding Christ in the world around us. From the faces of our children to the faces of the marginalized, if we search for him, we will find him! The question is: Have *you* seen him?



Rev. R. Tony Ricard, MTh, MDiv

Fr. Tony Ricard, a priest of the New Orleans Archdiocese, serves as Pastor of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish and as Campus Minister and Chair of Theology for St. Augustine High School in New Orleans. He is also an instructor at the Institute for Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University and Director of KnightTime Ministries. Fr. Ricard has authored several books and has presented keynote addresses, retreats, revivals and youth talks across the nation and in 22 countries.

2-02 LITURGICAL DANCE: MOVEMENT – THE VOICE OF THE DANCER 🕊

We will warm up with a half hour ballet “class” – the foundation upon which all choreography is built. Focus on posture, balance, extensions and grace. From there we will address liturgical dance as “the body at prayer” and the voice of the dancer. Participants will be introduced to several movement pieces that reflect the season of Lent/Easter, including “In the Silence of the Garden,” “No Greater Love” and “Rise Up with Him” from the OCP collection, “Behold the Lamb.” (Note: This is a movement workshop, so dress comfortably to experience the joy of prayerful dance!)



Donna Anderle

Donna Anderle is an accomplished dancer, teacher and choreographer who is nationally known. She is on the teaching faculty of the Cincinnati Ballet and Ballet Theatre Midwest, and is involved in Cincy Dance, an outreach program for Cincinnati inner-city schools. Anderle continues to give workshops, keynote presentations and dance in concerts, and has choreographed for major national youth conferences. Her work is compiled in four choreography books and a video with Oregon Catholic Press.

2-03 SING TO THE LORD! MUSIC AND PRAYER IN TEACHING THE FAITH 🕊

Music is powerful. It says things to us that words alone cannot express. Whether looking for creative teaching ideas or powerful prayer experiences – competently and creatively using music and leading people in prayer is vital in ministry. Research tells us that daily prayer is the single greatest indicator of whether a faithful young person grows into a faithful adult. This workshop is filled with great ideas for both the use of music in teaching and the leading of music in praying with all people, especially youth and young adults.



Steve Angrisano

Veteran musician, composer and youth minister, Steve Angrisano has presented at countless venues ranging from parish events to major conferences around the world, including seven World Youth Days. He has made repeated appearances at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress and Youth Day, the National Catholic Youth Conference and the National Pastoral Musicians Conference. His works include “Leading Us Home: Music for Prayer and Worship” and the book, “Essential Songs for Youth Ministry.”

2-04 THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT DESIRE, SEX AND THE PATH TO FREEDOM 🕊

This session will address the two hottest topics on the planet: sex and God. St. John Paul II “marries” these two topics through his compelling vision for love and life. Using a mix of real-life examples, theology and cultural references, Mary Bielski will answer questions about our deep desires for intimacy, sex and our bodies, and will provide a vision and path to fulfill our unique call to greatness.



Mary Bielski

Based in New Orleans, Mary Bielski is a youth minister, national speaker and founder of All-4Him Ministries. With 15 years in youth ministry and 12 years as a national speaker, she has presented to over 75,000 teens and adults across the nation, from parish missions and diocesan rallies to young adult retreats and national youth conferences, including the Steubenville Youth Conference and the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.

2-05 JESUS SAID, “TALITHA KUM”: RISING UP AS WOMEN! 🕊

Jesus lifted up women in his ministry and in his personal life. Women in the Gospel also lifted Jesus’ spirit and comforted him. One such tender story is when Jesus healed the dying daughter of Jairus, inviting her to arise, “Tal’itha cu’m” (in Aramaic). We are invited to rise up as women with each grace and invitation to growth. God’s will is that we would be women fully alive, ever ready to hear Jesus’ invitation to “rise up!” Do we hear his call to transcend? What style or form of prayer lifts your spirit and helps you to rise up? We also rise to action as we help young women to rise up in their life situations.



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 has presented workshops in Australia, Ireland and Africa as well as throughout the United States. Sr. Bryant’s special interests are in spirituality, women’s spiritual development and the abolition of human trafficking.

2-06 THE FORMATION OF THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke are known as “the synoptic Gospels.” But just what makes them “synoptic” is not well understood. Clearly they are similar to each other and yet the three are very different from the Gospel of John. How do we explain that these three Gospels are not exactly alike? Understanding how these Gospels emerged from the primitive Christian communities and their formation into written texts helps to provide some answers. This session will trace the development of the three Gospels and show how they are similar to each other and how they came to be so different than the Gospel of John.

**Fr. William L. Burton, OFM**

Fr. Bill Burton, a Franciscan friar of the Sacred Heart Province, has taught for 20 years. He is currently Professor of Scripture and Spiritual Director at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, Fla. Fr. Burton is also a Visiting Professor at DePaul University in Chicago. Outside the classroom, he has guided hundreds of students and pilgrims on study tours and pilgrimage travels throughout the Holy Land, Greece and Turkey. He has several published articles in The Bible Today as well as a DVD series.

2-07 TO END THE DAY: A CONTEMPORARY RESOURCE FOR PREPARING NIGHT PRAYER

In the Roman rite, the Divine Office of Compline is a distinctive and solemn prayer tradition that is said before going to sleep each night. Praying Compline can be enriched through the singing of hymns, psalms and antiphons. In this workshop, Ian Callanan addresses the challenges of praying night prayer – whether as personal devotion or in a community setting – and offers strategies, music suggestions and new resources to create a meaningful way to end your day in prayer.

**Ian Callanan**

Ian Callanan, one of Ireland's leading composers of liturgical music, is an accomplished arranger, score editor and workshop leader. His music can be heard in the many varied languages throughout Europe, as well as on television and radio broadcasts. Callanan is Director of Music Ministry Together and Director of the “Emmanuel” and the “Seinn” programs. He has presented workshops and spoken at many events in Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

2-08 RISE UP – BLACK PARISHES & SCHOOLS MATTER!

The Black Lives Matter movement has brought much attention to the troubled relations between police departments and the Black and Latino communities. Can some of the same principles of the movement be applied to the survival of our Catholic schools and parishes in black and brown communities? We will look at the recent Black Catholic Congress XII and the upcoming Encuentro V for best practices and new possibilities. Bring your own testimonies!

**Msgr. Raymond G. East**

The grandson of Baptist missionaries to South Africa, Msgr. Ray East was born in Newark, N.J., raised in San Diego, Calif., and is a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., where he served in six local parishes before being named Pastor of St. Teresa of Avila Church. He is former Director of the Office of Black Catholics and Vicar for Evangelization for the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. Msgr. East is a regular speaker at the Los Angeles Congress and continues to present workshops, facilitations and keynote addresses at major national events.

2-09 EMBRACING SPIRITUALITY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

In this session, we will reflect on the transformation that happens to us, the change that invites itself into thinking and into the articulation of our faith, as the events of life offer us the opportunity to awaken and to see anew our connection with the Holy. We will attempt to see faith as an organic evolutionary event that moves us toward a holistic experience of the Divine and helps us transcend ancient boundaries that have so often divided us.

**Sr. Barbara Fiand, SND de N**

Sr. Barbara Fiand, a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur, is a consultant, lecturer and author who lives in Cincinnati. She formerly was on staff as Adjunct Professor of Spirituality at the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago, and as Professor of Spirituality at The Athenaeum of Ohio. Sr. Fiand gives retreats throughout the country and abroad, and has written 11 books. Her primary area of interest is the transformation of consciousness and the theological challenges that it invites us to embrace.

REMEMBER THESE CONGRESS THEMES?**2018:** Rise Up! / ¡Levántate! / Hăy Đứng Lên!**2017:** Embrace Trust / ¡Confía! / Tin Cây**2016:** Boundless Mercy / Misericordia Inagotable**2015:** See / Ver**2014:** Hope: A World Afire / Esperanza que Enciende al Mundo**2013:** Enter the Mystery / Entra al Misterio**2012:** Voice Infusing Life / Voz que Infunde Vida**2011:** Hold Firm...Trust! / Mantente Firme ... ¡Confía!**2010:** Incredible Abundance / Increíble Abundancia**2009:** Love Unfolding ... Igniting our Yes! / Amor Revelador ... Encendiendo nuestro ¡Sí!**2008:** Lift Your Gaze ... See Anew! / ¡Alza tu Mirada ... Vuelve a Mirar!**2007:** Stand in the Light / Permanecer en la luz**2006:** Step into Freedom / Paso a la Libertad**2005:** Awake to Grace / Despierten a la Gracia**2004:** Steeped in Mercy, Balm for the World / Inmersos en Misericordia, Bálsamo para el Mundo

2-10 TRANSGENDER IN OUR SCHOOLS: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY 🗣️

Gender identity and transgender issues have become hot topics in politics and media, evoking challenging conversations for the Church and Catholic schools. How does the Gospel teach us to serve young Catholics on their journeys? How are we called to be loving in the midst of challenging theological questions? In this session, Dr. Arthur Fitzmaurice, with Fr. Bryan Massingale and a panelist, will share experiences and offer theological reflections to inform a pastoral approach for students who question their gender identity.



Arthur Fitzmaurice, PhD

Freelance speaker and minister Dr. Arthur Fitzmaurice has served a decade in ministry with LGBT Catholics. In addition to professional conferences, his appearances have included many regional and national conferences. Dr. Fitzmaurice also appears on several YouTube episodes produced by the Ignatian News Network. He is recipient of the Los Angeles Archdiocese's Lumen Christi and the Cardinal's Young Adult in Ministry awards.



Rev. Bryan 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.

2-11 THE EUCHARIST AS A SACRAMENT OF DEATH: REPEATING BAPTISM UNTIL WE GET IT RIGHT 🗣️

Why do we acclaim: "When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again"? Somehow, it seems from our acclamation, that before it is a sacrament of life, the Eucharist is a sacrament of death! Interested in finding out why? Don't miss this mystagogy and this heart-to-heart conversation about the wondrous repeatable sacrament of initiation: Eucharist – meal and sacrifice.



Rev. Richard Fragomeni

A priest of the Diocese of Albany, N.Y., Fr. Richard Fragomeni is Associate Professor of Liturgy and Homiletics at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where he is also Chair of the Department of Word and Worship. 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.

2-12 PREACHING GLOBAL SOLIDARITY 🗣️

Pope Francis calls us to reject the "globalization of indifference." This workshop explains what global solidarity is, its scriptural and magisterial background, and how we can teach, preach and live it in our parish and our ministries. We will outline a three-step method for communicating this effectively.



Rev. David Garcia

Fr. David Garcia is Director of the Old Spanish Missions for the Archdiocese of San Antonio, Texas, as well as Administrator for Mission Concepcion in San Antonio. He is also Senior Advisor for Clergy Outreach for Catholic Relief Services. Fr. Garcia has published numerous articles on a variety of religious topics for many top publications and served as Rector from 1995-2008 at the San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio. In 2001, that parish was cited in "Excellent Catholic Parishes" as one of the outstanding parishes in the country.

2-13 US VS. THEM: BEYOND POLITICS AND INTO LOVE 🗣️

"Boy, that was *such* a fun election," said no one, ever! Politics is a strange thing, an expression of our values, a long-standing institution, the reason for many a plate of perfectly good turkey and gravy* being flung in anger across the Thanksgiving table. So how do we keep the ideology of "us vs. them" from infiltrating our churches, our homes, our workplaces, our hearts? With song, prayer, humor and Sarah Hart's personal stories and discussion, come discover practical ways to move past our politics, and into loving each other as Christ. (*Turkey and gravy not served.)



Sarah Hart

Singer/songwriter Sarah Hart, a native of Nashville, Tenn., has been a retreat author and keynote speaker for over 20 years. Her parish missions and itinerant ministry have taken her across the United States and abroad. Hart has performed for countless conventions and events, and for Pope Francis at St. Peter's Square. The Grammy nominee's songs have been recorded by numerous recording artists and have been heard on TV and in film and commercials. Her songs can be found in hymnals across the globe.

2-14 THE FOOLISHNESS OF CHRISTIANITY 🗣️

St. Paul writes to the Corinthians that what we profess as Christians appears foolish to those who operate according to a worldly wisdom and logic. This workshop will explore the radical foolishness of Christianity as a positive force for change and conversion in the face of division, discrimination and violence. Drawing on the examples of St. Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis, we will consider ways to overcome our tendency to domesticate the Gospel and respond to a call to be foolish according to the logic of the world.

**Rev. Daniel P. Horan, OFM**

Franciscan friar Fr. Daniel Horan is a theologian who teaches spirituality and theology at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. He is author of numerous academic and popular articles. Fr. Horan previously taught at Boston College as well as Siena College and St. Bonaventure University in New York, and has lectured across North America and Europe. His books include "All God's Creatures: A Theology of Creation," "God is Not Fair and Other Reasons for Gratitude" and "The Franciscan Heart of Thomas Merton."

2-15 ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE: RISE UP IN COMMUNION 🕊

It's a beautiful sentiment, isn't it? Feels good saying and singing it! Alas, that's the sin. Nothing is risked and no faith is needed to simply feel the sentiment while saying and singing the words. But there's hope! Proclaiming and manifesting these words in our living is where the power of faith moves the mountains of prejudice and bigotry in all manifestations. The next big thing isn't technology or technique. It's cultivating a radical sense of welcome and hospitality that moves us from fear to faith – from the notions that we are separate, toward the truth that we are one human family, discovering and appreciating God's love and gift of variety!

**Jesse Manibusan**

Evangelizer, energizer and encourager, Jesse Manibusan has over 30 years in ministry as a liturgical minister, youth worker, parish associate, catechist, parish mission and retreat director. Based in California and founder of Over the Fence Ministries, he has presented at conferences worldwide, including national pastoral musician and youth conferences and international World Youth Days in Denver, Toronto, Rome, Cologne, Sydney, Madrid and Rio de Janeiro. Manibusan has several CDs published with Oregon Catholic Press.

2-16 MILLENNIALS VS. GEN Z 🕊

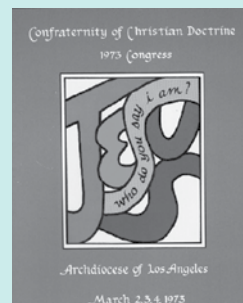
What do we need to know about these two generations that make up almost two-thirds of our church? How are they different and similar? This workshop will explore strategies on how to reach both Generation Z youth and Millennial young adults based upon their generational characteristics, including recent research findings.

**Dr. Charlotte McCorquodale**

Louisiana native Dr. Charlotte McCorquodale has been President of Ministry Training Source since 2000. Her recognitions include receiving the 2002 National Youth Ministry Award from the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry for contributions nationally to the field of Catholic youth ministry. For three decades, Dr. McCorquodale has served as an international educator, researcher and consultant for the fields of lay ecclesial ministry, certification standards and processes, youth ministry and e-learning.

IN 1973

the CCD office was renamed the Office of Religious Education and the Congress event became the "Religious Education Congress." Workshops in Spanish were offered for the first time that year. And in subsequent years the number of workshops escalated as did the crowds swarming to hear the speakers and engage in the various outreaches. The event was held March 2-4, 1973 with the theme: "Who Do You Say I Am?"



2-17 "I SCREAM!" – CULTURE AND THE CHALLENGE OF CATECHESIS 🕊

The "I" words: incessant input, information inundation, idealizing immediacy, ignoring introspection. Today's culture poses serious challenges to evangelization and catechesis. Yet there are other "screams" and other "I" words that Jesus and the Church have to shout to the "I" screams.

**Mike Patin**

Mike Patin – the "engaging" Cajun – lives in Lafayette, La., and has served the church as a high schoolteacher, coach and diocesan staff person. Since 2003, he has been a full-time "faith horticulturist," addressing multi-generational groups across the United States and Canada as parish mission presenter, trainer, retreat facilitator and more. Patin has published two books, "A Standing Invitation" and "This Was Not in the Brochures: Lessons from Work, Life and Ministry."

2-18 USING EMPATHIC EVANGELIZATION TO UNDERSTAND, REACH AND INFLUENCE THE MODERN FAMILY 🕊

If it looks like a duck, walks like a duck but barks like a dog, maybe it's not a duck. Often, we see families as lazy and apathetic with misplaced priorities. But if we invested with more energy in empathic listening, we'd discover that beneath the surface are scared, hurt, disillusioned people who feel abandoned by God. Many families today experience church as lacking understanding of their real struggles, hopes and fears. In this session, get ready to discover what's *really* going on inside the minds, hearts and homes of today's families. You'll learn how to communicate with them in a way that helps them integrate the Good News into their daily lives.

**Roy Petitfils, MS, LPC**

For 20 years, Roy Petitfils has ministered to youth and young adults in parish, diocesan and school settings. Today, he is a speaker and counselor in private practice. Petitfils has presented at numerous national and regional conferences, workshops and parish missions throughout North America. He hosts the popular podcast, "Today's Teenager," is the author of many articles and has published several books, one of which shares the title of his 2016 TEDx talk, "What Teens Want You to Know (But Won't Tell You)."

2-19 POPE FRANCIS AFTER FIVE YEARS

In this session, Fr. Thomas Reese, a journalist and expert on the Catholic Church, will describe the first four years of Pope Francis' papacy and its impact on the Church and the world.



Rev. Thomas J. Reese, SJ

Jesuit priest Fr. Thomas Reese is a columnist at the National Catholic Reporter. He formerly was Senior Fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University and was Editor of the national Catholic weekly magazine, America (1998-2005). He is author of "Inside the Vatican: The Politics and Organization of the Catholic Church" and "Archbishop: Inside the Power Structure of the American Catholic Church." Fr. Reese frequently appears on television and radio and is often quoted in the press.

2-20 FIRST OUR PARISH WAS BILINGUAL, THEN WE ARE MULTICULTURAL, NOW WHAT? 🎧

Many of us belong to "shared parishes" – a community of communities that presents challenges at different levels, including the way we pray together. Sharing a vision of what it is to be the Body of Christ is a key factor. Come and join the conversation to hear about best practices where various ministries of the parish can create opportunities to form a welcoming community in which all experience a sense of belonging, so that our Eucharistic liturgies are truly the maximum expression of our communion.



Pedro Rubalcava

Pedro Rubalcava is a bilingual/bicultural composer, clinician, recording artist, cantor and pastoral minister, who is Director of Hispanic Ministries at Oregon Catholic Press in Portland. He also serves on the Executive Boards of the Instituto Nacional Hispano de Liturgia, the National Council for Hispanic Ministry, and the Northwest Regional Office for Hispanic Affairs. Since 1985, Rubalcava has been a frequent speaker at liturgy and other ministry conferences at the parish, diocesan and national levels.

2-21 THE OUTLAW DAVID BEN JESSE 🎧

King David's story always seems straightforward ... until it isn't. The biblical view of David's rise to kingship presents David as an ambiguous fellow, involved in serious and outrageous actions – in short, as an outlaw. Author Baruch Halpern's recent book on David is subtitled: "Messiah, Murderer, Traitor, King." What's THAT about? The Psalms also seem fascinated with "the outlaw years." Why might this be significant and important? Could this be related to exilic editing of Davidic stories as an ancient "Robin Hood"? Come and hear a whole new (old) side of David.



Prof. Daniel Smith-Christopher

Dr. Daniel Smith-Christopher has taught at Loyola Marymount University for 29 years and now serves as Associate Director for Graduate Studies in Theology. He has been honored with numerous awards for research, including a Ful-

bright, and teaching awards such as "Undergraduate Theology Teacher of the Year" by Augsburg/Fortress Press (2006) and "Professor of the Year" in 2007 by the Associated Students of Loyola Marymount University. Dr. Christopher has published over 40 scholarly articles and 14 books.

2-22 MUSICAL LITURGY FOR THE WHOLE CHILD: MORE THAN HAND MOTIONS 🎧

The faith of young children is formed and expressed with the whole body: "In view of the nature of the liturgy as an activity of the entire person and in view of the psychology of children, participation by means of gestures and postures should be strongly encouraged in Masses with children" (Directory for Masses With Children, 33). This workshop will explore music and strategies that align with the development of children's motor, cognitive, emotional and social skills, enabling them to more fully enter into the liturgy. Come to this workshop ready to "rise up," singing, dancing and moving around as a child of God!



James Wahl

WLP composer James Wahl has been performing children's music for nearly 20 years. The Director of Liturgy and Music at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Raleigh, N.C., he previously ministered in California and was Director of Music at SS. Simon and Jude Cathedral in Phoenix. Wahl has served as musician/presenter for various diocesan youth events in Phoenix and Raleigh over the past 10 years. His latest songbook of liturgical music for young children is entitled "Sitting at the Kids' Table."

2-23 FORMING FRUITFUL DISCIPLES: HOW TO UNLOCK THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT IN OTHERS 🎧

The church's greatest riches are her people – human beings consciously cooperating with the grace of God in their time and place. God is not asking us to call forth the gifts and vocations of a minority. God is asking us to call forth the gifts and vocations of millions. Our problem? Few Catholics have reached the stage of Christian maturity where charisms and vocations emerge and abundant fruit is borne. This session will offer a brief introduction on how Catholic leaders and communities can foster the kind of spiritual growth out of which life-changing and world-changing discipleship flows.



Sherry A. Weddell

Based in Colorado, Sherry Weddell is co-founder and Executive Director of the Catherine of Siena Institute, which helps develop parish-centered evangelization. She and her team have worked directly with over 500 parishes and 175 dioceses presenting at diocesan, regional and national conferences across North America, Europe, Asia and Oceania. Weddell is also author of "Forming Intentional Disciples" and "Fruitful Discipleship: Living the Mission of Jesus in the Church and the World."

2-24 RISE UP, BROKEN PEOPLE! A REVOLUTION OF TENDERNESS ☪

In his encyclicals, Pope Francis writes about the frailties and fragility of people. He wants the Church to be careful with people. In his teachings, he has described what some people have called a “revolution of tenderness.” In this workshop, we will consider how two principles – accompaniment and discernment – can help us to be tender in our dealings with people. In this way, we can engage with the “wonderfully complicated” situations we confront. Through the pursuit of tenderness, we will reconsider how we can help to revive our ministries and restore the dignity of young and old alike, and together, to gently heal a fragile world.

**David Wells**

David Wells began his career as a teacher before becoming a research assistant for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. His latest position is as Project Manager for School Evangelization. The catechist and author has travelled the world, speaking at more than 350 conferences in Europe, North America and Australia. Wells guest lectures at three English universities, and in 2015 was MC for the Bishops' Conference national gathering in England and Wales. He is author of two books.

2-25 GAMES, SONGS, CRAFTS & OBJECT LESSONS: HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD FAITH FORMATION ☪

Preschool and kindergarten children don't learn best from workbooks and worksheets. They need hands-on, active learning approaches that accommodate their energy levels and engage their imaginations. Presented by a child psychologist and early childhood curriculum author, this session will give participants practical activities they can take and use with the youngest learners.

**Dr. Joseph D. White**

Child psychologist Dr. Joseph White is the 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. He is a frequent guest on Catholic radio and TV and a keynote speaker/workshop presenter at national and diocesan conferences. Dr. White is author of numerous articles and 10 books, and co-authored the “Allelu” and “Alive in Christ” catechetical series.

2-26 GOD CALLS ME TO DANCE, EVEN IF I'M OUT OF STEP ☪

Children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders can present challenges to catechists and youth ministers. Understanding the condition is important to sensitively interact with individuals in catechetical and other ministry settings. Dr. Madonna Wojtaszek-Healy will share suggestions for including children on the spectrum in parish life.

**Madonna Wojtaszek-Healy, PhD**

Dr. Madonna Wojtaszek-Healy is based in Joliet, Ill., where she is Consultant for Special Needs in Religious Education for the Diocese of Joliet and Vice-President of Rooted in Love, Inc. The former Catholic schoolteacher and Adjunct Professor for the University of St. Francis in Joliet is a seasoned catechist and a local and national speaker in many Catholic dioceses. Dr. Wojtaszek-Healy's own children have ADHD and Asperger's Syndrome, which led her to write the book, “The ABCs of ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder) for Catechists.”

2-70 GIÁO LÝ VÀ VIỆT NGỮ: TUY HAI MÀ MỘT – TUY MỘT MÀ HAI ☪

Hiện nay, căn tính văn hóa là đề tài được Giáo hội quan tâm đặc biệt. Con cháu người Việt trên đất Mỹ đang đứng trước những thách đố về cả văn hóa và đức tin. Là những giảng viên dạy giáo lý, chúng ta hiểu gì về sự gắn bó “bất phân ly” của giáo lý và Việt ngữ? Là hai chương trình phục vụ một mục đích? Và làm thế nào để phục vụ các em cách hữu hiệu nhất?

CATECHESIS AND CULTURE: INSEPARABLE AND INDISPENSABLE ☪

In our contemporary world, cultural identity is a topic of great interest to the Church. Descendants of Vietnamese families living in the United States today are currently facing great challenges of faith and culture. As Vietnamese catechists teaching and guiding our children in their faith formation, what do we understand about the “inseparable” bond of catechesis and the Vietnamese language/culture?

**Linh mục Nguyễn Khắc Hy, PSS**

Thuộc tu hội Xuân Bích tỉnh Hoa Kỳ, chịu chức linh mục năm 1997, tốt nghiệp tiến sĩ Thần học Tín lý tại đại học giáo hoàng Gregory, Roma. Sau sáu năm dạy học tại St. Mary Seminary và University ở Baltimore, Md. và số ba năm tại Oblate School of Theology ở San Antonio, Texas, Cha hiện là phó giám đốc đại chủng viện quốc gia Theological College và giáo sư thần học tại Đại học Công giáo Hoa Kỳ tại Washington, D.C.

Rev. Hy K. Nguyen, PSS

Rev. Hy Nguyen, a Sulpician priest, was ordained in 1997. After six years of teaching at St. Mary's Seminary & University in Baltimore and three years at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas, he is currently serving as Vice-Rector of the Theological College at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he is also an Adjunct Professor.

2017

Val MacRae, on designing the Congress logo: “I imagined the walls of the tomb being illuminated as the stone was rolled away; hands shielding my eyes as the burial bands were released from my face and body, the light of day, the light of Christ's radiant love almost blinding. The textures and color of the stone and the weave of the burial bands played against the bright light of the tomb's opening. There was an overwhelming sense of renewal of spirit and a rebirth of joy in answering God's call to ‘Rise Up!’ ”



3-01 THINKING BIGGER: THE TRUTH ABOUT MODERN EVANGELIZATION 🎧 ARENA

How does evangelization go from being a “buzzword” to a way of life? Where do parishes go wrong and what approaches are bearing the most fruit? How can we measure the success of our evangelization efforts and where do we have the most potential for growth? The answers to these questions may surprise you. Come laugh and learn with Mark Hart as he offers an honest look at modern Catholic evangelization, some new ideas and timeless, Scriptural wisdom on the matter.



Mark Hart

Mark Hart serves as Executive Vice President for Life Teen International, a Catholic youth ministry movement implemented in 1,800 parishes in 30 countries worldwide. The popular speaker has traveled the globe and is a reoccurring guest and co-host on SiriusXM Radio. Hart is a best-selling and award-winning author and co-author of over a dozen books. His three DVD study series – “Altaration,” “Encounter” and “T3” – are utilized across the globe.

3-02 TODAY! SEEING AND HEARING GOD THROUGH SCRIPTURE AND SONG 🎧

The Bible is not a history book, but a book of truths that are still relevant today. Come and be awakened through Scripture and sing the voice of God in your life.



John Angotti

Based in Memphis, Tenn., John Angotti is a full-time music missionary providing concerts, workshops, retreats and worship. He is a frequent presenter at parish missions as well as regional and diocesan conferences across the United States and abroad. Angotti is an accomplished composer, with numerous works under the World Library Publications label. In 2013, John Angotti Music Mission (JAMM) debuted his original musical, “Job: The NOW Testament.”

3-03 REV UP, RAISE UP AND RISE UP! 🎧

We will look at how Pope Francis challenges us to be a church of the people and how we, as ministry leaders, are called to meet people where they are.



Dr. Ansel Augustine

Dr. Ansel Augustine has worked for over 18 years in his hometown of New Orleans as well as around the country. He is currently Residence Minister for Student Leadership and Faith Formation at St. John’s University and on the faculty at the Institute for Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana. Dr. Augustine also serves on the Board for the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. He has presented at various national conferences and has written several publications related to ministry.

3-04 THE ROLE OF DOCTRINE IN THE CATECHUMENATE 🎧

Many of us ask how much doctrine is enough doctrine when it comes to preparing catechumens for full initiation in the Catholic Church. This session will explore

what the Church means when the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) insists that catechists are to present “dogma in its entirety” (RCIA, p. 75). Our Catholic tradition is one of the greatest gifts we can pass on to our candidates for initiation and handing it down to them with a focus on conversion is not only an art, but a skill that must be honed and nurtured. We will explore what that means; we will also consider the content of doctrinal catechesis in the RCIA, and how and when to present it.



Mary Birmingham

Mary Birmingham is Director of Liturgy, Music and Christian Initiation at Ascension Parish in Melbourne, Fla. She has been involved in RCIA ministry on a national level since 1992 and is a former team member with the North American Forum on the Catechumenate. Birmingham travels extensively throughout the United States and Canada providing diocesan workshops in the areas of Christian initiation and sacramental and liturgical catechesis.

3-05 AT THE FRONT LINES OF TODAY’S MOST PRESSING HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES 🎧

Come hear the latest insights on today’s most dire humanitarian crises from Catholic Relief Services’ Caroline Brennan, who travels to the front lines of emergencies to document the conditions and the realities. Through a visual presentation grounded in stories, she will share perspective on what is happening in areas that are dealing with or recovering from critical humanitarian emergencies today, and provide a behind-the-scenes insight that offers a fresh take for richer understanding and connection. She will shine an urgently needed spotlight on the most vulnerable in our world today, where the role and impact of the Catholic Church is front and center.



Caroline Brennan

Based in Chicago, Caroline Brennan is Senior Communications Officer of the Global Emergency Response Team for Catholic Relief Services. She travels to Jordan and Lebanon regularly since 2012 to meet with Syrian refugees and has traveled to Iraq, Gaza, the Central Africa Republic, eastern Ukraine and the Philippines. Brennan was in Nepal after the devastating 2015 earthquake, and in Europe at the height of the refugee crisis. Overall, she has worked in 22 countries documenting people’s incredible challenges.

3-06 BUTTERFLIES AND RAINBOWS! THE ROLE OF MUSIC IN PRAYER, CATECHESIS AND CELEBRATION WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNERS 🎧

Andrew Chinn lost his daughter to cancer in February 2000. A bedtime conversation with Belinda in her last days focused on butterflies, resurrection and new life. From this conversation sprung a new ministry and a new life for Andrew and his family. Come and share Andrew’s stories, songs and strategies for 3- to 8-year-olds and see how music can enhance the prayer life, catechesis and faith celebrations in your early childhood classrooms.

**Andrew Chinn**

Andrew Chinn worked as a 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 performed in more than 2,000 concerts across Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. Chinn has released numerous CDs, DVDs and picture books for children. In 2013, he became part of the WLP family, which now distributes his works in North America.

3-07 CHRIST THE MASTER TEACHER: 12 WAYS TO BECOME A BETTER RELIGIOUS EDUCATOR ☪

Christ is the model for all religion teachers and catechists. He was called both master (leader) and teacher by his disciples and showed them the way to follow in his footsteps. To become better leaders, we have to become better servants. To become better teachers, we need to become better disciples. With 12 exercises and meditations pulled from current best practices in Catholic spiritual formation and catechetical pedagogy, participants will take steps to becoming better disciples, servants, leaders and teachers.

**Jared Dees**

Jared Dees is creator of the website *The Religion Teacher*, which provides resources for religious educators. He is also author of "Praying the Angelus," "31 Days to Becoming a Better Religious Educator" and "To Heal, Proclaim, and Teach." With a background of teaching in Catholic schools, Dees has been a catechist for the past eight years and has offered workshops and keynote addresses at dozens of dioceses and parishes across the country.

3-08 FOLLOWING MARY INTO MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP ☪

Mary gave the perfect response to the Word of God. She is both the model of disciples and the mother of all the saints. If we pay attention to all of the hidden activity of her apparently simple and seemingly passive "yes," we will discover how all of us – and all those we educate and form – are meant to listen to the Word of God and act on it. In this session, the Annunciation narrative will become both a spiritual meditation and a practical guide to growing in holiness and forming others in the freedom and courage of faith.

**Leonard J. DeLorenzo, PhD**

Dr. Leonard DeLorenzo works in the McGrath Institute for Church Life in South Bend, Ind., and teaches theology at the University of Notre Dame. He has authored four books, the latest (due out in 2018) is entitled, "What Matters Most: Empowering Young Catholics for Life's Big Decisions." Dr. DeLorenzo has presented at regional and national conferences – including the Gulf Coast Faith Formation Conference and the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry – with topics including the saints and the theological imagination.

3-09 CONNECTING THE BIBLICAL TEXT TO THE TEXT OF LIFE ☪

Discover new ways of hearing the biblical text in relation to some of today's most pressing issues – including human trafficking, forced migration and immigration, climate change, among other topics.

**Carol J. Dempsey, OP, PhD**

Dominican Sister Carol Dempsey is Professor of Theology (Biblical Studies) at the University of Portland in Oregon, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate students. The renowned lecturer and scholar both nationally and internationally is author of eight books and editor of 11, and has published numerous articles and papers. Sr. Dempsey's latest works include "The Bible and Literature" and "Amos, Hosea, Micah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Habakkuk: A Commentary."

3-10 ALIGNING RESPONSES TO BULLYING WITH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ☪

Jesus sacredly and consistently models what it means to love our neighbor with compassion and dignity for all. However, current terminology to describe bullying as well as traditional forms of discipline do not align with Jesus' teachings. In this session, Frank DiLallo will make a compelling case for how common pejorative bullying responses make things worse and will offer some 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**

Frank DiLallo serves 124 parishes and 75 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio, as the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Office of Child and Youth Protection. With over 35 years of experience in education and counseling, he conducts numerous educator trainings and is a frequent local, state and national speaker on the topic of bullying prevention. DiLallo's works include "Peace Be With You: Christ-Centered Bullying Solution," and the forthcoming "Peace Be With You: Building Christ-Centered School Communities."

3-11 PRAYING OUR LIVES: A REMEDY FOR RESTLESSNESS ☪

Do you ever feel like something is missing in life? Do you ever feel like you are on a hamster wheel trying to keep up with life's rapid pace? Do you wonder how will I find rest in the busyness of life? Do you seek a deeper meaning and purpose for your life? If so, this talk is for you. Learn how God speaks to us through our restlessness and yearning for more. Learn practical ways to pray your life to help calm the restlessness within and find rest, love, healing, meaning and joy.

**Becky Eldredge**

Becky Eldredge is an Ignatian-trained spiritual director, retreat facilitator and author of the book, "Busy Lives & Restless Souls." With two decades of ministry experience, she has led young adult retreats, parish missions, Ignatian

retreats, and days of reflection for adults. Eldredge has presented at the Spiritual Director's International Conference, the Ignatian Spirituality Conference, and has appeared as a panelist at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Convocation of Catholic Leaders.

3-12 HEART, HEAD, HANDS AND HEAVEN: CONNECTING IMAGINATION AND RELIGION

We, as Church, have a long and loving history of the Arts enhancing religious education and celebration. Children especially love to be involved in creative experiences that help them connect their heart, head and hands with heaven. Come and join us as we look at practical ways that the Arts – and drama in particular – can help children develop their religious imagination. There will be a focus on enhancing the experience of Scripture in school and religious education programs.



Anne Frawley-Mangan

Based in Brisbane, Queensland, 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 internationally and nationally as well as World Youth Days in the diocese. Frawley-Mangan teaches at Holy Spirit Seminary and at Australian Catholic University and is Creative Director of Litmus Productions, which produced "Good News: Dramas from Luke's Gospel."

3-13 BY WHAT AUTHORITY? ON THE PROPER USE AND ABUSE OF DOCTRINE

Doctrine plays a fundamental role in the life of the Catholic Church, yet few Catholics have a healthy understanding of the proper role of doctrine. This ignorance often leads to abuse as when people accuse those with whom they disagree of heresy. This workshop will provide a healthy and balanced theological framework for appreciating the proper contribution and real limits of doctrine in the Catholic tradition.



Dr. Richard Gaillardetz

Dr. Richard Gaillardetz is the Joseph Professor of Catholic Systematic Theology at Boston College, where he also serves as Chair of the Theology Department. The popular public speaker served as President of the Catholic Theological Society of America from 2013 to 2014. Dr. Gaillardetz has authored or edited 13 books and over 100 pastoral and academic articles. His major books include "An Unfinished Council: Vatican II" and "Go Into the Streets! The Welcoming Church of Pope Francis" (co-edited with Fr. Thomas Rausch, SJ).

IN 1967

with the cooperation of the dioceses of Monterey-Fresno and San Diego, the agenda for the first three-day "Congress" was set. The first Southern California Confraternity Congress was held on January 13-15 at the LAX-area International Hotel (the property located at Sepulveda and Century boulevards) with a registration fee of \$5. An estimated 3,000 teachers were expected, but planners were unprepared when more than 7,000 actually attended.

3-14 13 REASONS WHY YOU MATTER

The World Health Organization reported that in 2015 suicide was the third leading cause of death in adolescents. As a Church, we must address the deep spiritual void that can lead to the loneliness and burden of suffering that can trigger someone to commit suicide. Noelle Garcia will share her witness as someone who struggled with self-harm, depression and suicidal thoughts as a teen and how a radical encounter with God changed her life. We will discuss this issue from a spiritual and pastoral perspective as well as have some time for prayer and support of one another as we seek to bring light into the darkness.



Noelle Garcia

Noelle Garcia is a national speaker, singer, performer and recording artist with World Library Publications. She travels speaking at parishes and conferences, leading music ministry and sharing faith at events including World Youth Day 2008, the National Catholic Youth Conference, the L.A. Congress and has appeared on CNN's "Latino in America" documentary and EWTN's "Life on the Rock." She is the wife of fellow musician and youth minister, David McHugh.

3-15 FEEDING THE HUNGERS: OUR HOPE FOR FAITH OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Youth and young adult catechesis in parishes and teaching theology in Catholic high schools/colleges present unique challenges in our postmodern world yet provide great opportunities. The key to effective education-in-faith with this age group is to actively engage the deep hungers of their hearts and then offer the best spiritual foods of Catholic Christian faith.



Dr. Thomas Groome

Dr. Tom Groome is Professor of Theology and Religious Education at Boston College's School of Theology and Ministry, where he also serves as Director of the 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 42 years, nationally and internationally, including all the major North American conferences of religious educators, Catholic educators and pastoral ministers.

3-16 YOUR STORY MATTERS (HOW TO TELL YOUR STORY)

ValLimar Jansen (bio 1-12)

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), Pope Francis writes: "In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples" (cf. Mt 28:19). "All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization" (#120). Join ValLimar Jansen, an accomplished and acclaimed storyteller, to learn how to tell your own story. In doing so, you will be better equipped to assist each young person you catechize in a deeper understanding of why each of us telling our story is vital to becoming a missionary disciple and an agent of evangelization.

3-17 ANSWER: A SENSE OF HUMOR. QUESTION: NAME ONE OF THE TOP FIVE THINGS THAT WILL HELP YOU RISE 🎧

Life is hard, and sometimes hilarious. What do you think are the top five things that can help us – and the people we love – to rise? Each day we are pulled in so many directions that it's easy to become discouraged. What do you think Fr. Joe Kempf will name as the top five strategies for joy-filled lives and for a hope-filled world? How can we help others – including the children entrusted to our care – to rise with us? This session will be insightful, scriptural, funny and tender. Come hear Fr. Joe describe and demonstrate – as only he can – the five key perspectives and concrete strategies for a truly joyful life.



Fr. Joe Kempf

Fr. Joe Kempf, a diocesan priest from St. Louis, is founder and President of the non-profit Gospel Values. He has presented at religious education gatherings across the United States and Canada. Fr. Kempf is author of the book, "No One Cries the Wrong Way" and several books for children including, "My Sister is Annoying," "Don't Drink the Holy Water" and "Sometimes Life Is Just Not Fair." He has also published a CD of guided prayer reflections and four volumes of DVDs under the "Big Al LIVE" series.

3-18 GOD AT THE MOVIES

Many of us spend more time looking at small screens than we spend looking at trees and books combined. Many of us have friends we have never even met; our big stories are often online or at the cinema multiplex. How well do we know the culture we want to form? What were the questions proposed to us through the movies from last year? What answers can we provide?



Rev. Richard Leonard, SJ

Jesuit priest Fr. Richard Leonard is Director of the Catholic Office for Film & 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 10 books, including his latest, "What Does It All Mean? A Guide to Being More Faithful, Hopeful and Loving."

3-19 RISE UP! WITH ADOLESCENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES: THE JOY OF ADOLESCENT CATECHESIS 🎧

We will examine the newly published document by the Partnership for Adolescent Catechesis, "The Joy of Adolescent Catechesis," written to inspire those who are involved in catechetical ministry with adolescents. This interactive session will break open the content of the document as well as facilitate opportunities for participants to engage in the practical applications of the principles presented. How do we accompany young people on their journey in deepening their relationship with the person and message of Jesus Christ? What might the Church look like if our young people rise up and accept the call to be missionary disciples?



Margaret Matijasevic

Margaret Matijasevic is Executive Director of the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership, based in Washington, D.C. She previously worked for 14 years in parish and diocesan roles in the Los Angeles Archdiocese, focusing on leadership through collaboration and the utilization of technology to spread the Gospel. She has presented at local, regional and national gatherings, is published in Catechist magazine, writes a column for Catechetical Leader Magazine, and appears in a video series.



Michael Theisen

Michael Theisen has been involved in youth ministry and faith formation for over 30 years, authoring more than 15 books and numerous articles. His experience as a speaker, trainer and ministry leader reaches from parish to diocesan and national levels. Theisen serves as Director of Ministry Formation for the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry in Washington, D.C., where he also is the National Coordinator for the Strong Catholic Families Initiative. He resides with his family in Rochester, N.Y.



Andrea Kopp

Based in Arlington, Va., Andrea Kopp is Assistant Director of Professional Development for the National Catholic Education Association. She has 17 years of teaching and ministry experience and has served in several leadership capacities within schools and parishes. Kopp has served on several national committees. She has made numerous professional presentations at parishes as well as at the NCEA National Convention, Mid-Atlantic Catechetical Conference, and the Early Educators Leadership Conference.

3-20 CATECHISTS AND TEACHERS – IN LOCO JESU 🎧

It is commonly known that teachers stand *in loco parentis* (in the place of the parent). In Catholic schools and in religious education classes it is accurate to say that the instructor is also *in loco Jesu* ... in the place of Jesus! This session will focus on teacher practices that imitate Jesus in crafting Christian community.



Dr. Patricia M. McCormack, IHM

Dr. Patricia McCormack, a member of the Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, is an international formation-education consultant who serves as Program Director of the IHM Office of Formative Support for Parents and Teachers, located in Philadelphia. She has 30 years' experience in both the classroom and administration and is author of several books, numerous articles and the "Parent Partnership Handbook" feature in Today's Catholic Teacher magazine. Sr. McCormack's ministry also includes workshops and retreats.

3-21 "THE MOTHER OF JESUS WAS THERE": A SCRIPTURAL PORTRAYAL OF MARY 🎧

The Mary of Scripture is prophetic, a model for contemplation, the best kind of guest, and one of the last concerns of Jesus before dying. Her biblical role, though, can take second place to the status she has filled in Catholic piety due to her truly monumental role in prayer and

art, with churches, cities and counties named after her. This workshop will reground the Mary of our devotion with the woman revealed in the Word of God.



Rev. J. Patrick Mullen

Fr. Pat Mullen, a priest of the Los Angeles Archdiocese, is Professor of Biblical Studies at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, Calif., and Pastor at the neighboring Junipero Serra Parish. He is author of "Dining with Pharisees" and "Sacred Scripture," a high school introduction to the Scriptures. Fr. Mullen speaks annually at the Religious Education Congress as well as to diocesan priests in Phoenix, Utah and seven of the 12 dioceses of California, and at diocesan conferences throughout the Southwest, Texas and Australia.

3-22 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: INVITING CHILDREN TO ENCOUNTER MYSTERY ☪

Too often, children's sacramental preparation is reduced to one of the following: a crash course on Catholic basics; a self-improvement/self-esteem program; or a Vacation Bible School-like experience. While well intentioned, such approaches underestimate children's capacity for grasping the profundity of encountering the Mystery of God in the sacraments. In this session, Joe Paprocki will offer an approach to sacramental preparation – first Eucharist, first reconciliation, confirmation – that is engaging, profoundly liturgical and imbued with spirituality.



Joe Paprocki, DMin

Joe Paprocki is the National Consultant for Faith Formation at Loyola Press, located in Chicago. He has over 35 years of experience in pastoral ministry and has presented in over 100 dioceses in North America, including Alaska, Hawaii and Canada. Paprocki is author of numerous books on pastoral ministry and catechesis. His latest book is entitled "A Church on the Move: 52 Ways to Get Mission and Mercy in Motion." He also serves as a catechist and blogs about the experience.

3-23 HOW TO GET YOUR FAMILY TO HEAVEN! ☪

Join Fr. Leo Patalinghug to learn how to effectively impart your faith to your family and students. This session will help you to strengthen the role of God, faith and the Roman Catholic religion in your life and in those entrusted to your care. Learn all of the practical ways to approach broken family situations and difficult pastoral issues, especially if your children are far from the church or living non-Christian values or lifestyles. Learn how to be at peace despite your family struggles.

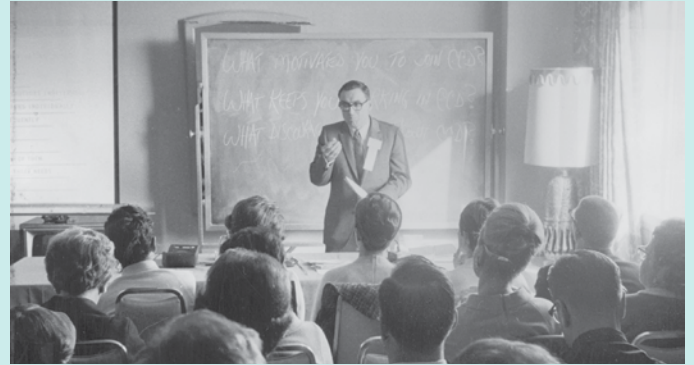


Rev. Leo E. Patalinghug

Fr. Leo Patalinghug is a priest member of a secular institute of consecrated life called Voluntus Dei (The Will of God). He is founder and host of the Grace Before Meals movement as well as founder and Chairman of The Table Foundation. Born in the Philippines and raised in the Baltimore area, Fr. Patalinghug developed his love for cooking while attending the seminary at the North American College in Rome. He is a best-selling author, popular speaker and host of "Savoring Our Faith" on EWTN and a SiriusXM Radio contributor.

THE 1969

"Southern California Confraternity Congress" was held at the International Hotel, near Los Angeles Airport. It was obvious that the event had outgrown the facility – hotel rooms were used for workshop sessions; beds and TV sets were removed and chairs brought in. (Note the lamp in the corner and mirror on the wall behind the portable chalkboard.) The chalkboard questions include, "What motivated you to join CCD?"



3-24 BEYOND THE MOON AND STARS ☪

Dan Schutte (bio 1-21)

As a card-carrying member of the baby boomer generation, Dan Schutte understands well the state of life that his peers are experiencing. With so much changing in the world and our personal lives, it is easy to wonder what will be the legacy of our labors, what will live on after we are gone? This workshop speaks to our longing to know that our life work has been important, that we leave behind a legacy.

3-25 TURNING THE RISING TIDE OF APATHY, AGNOSTICISM AND ATHEISM: SIX CATALYSTS TO IGNITE THE FAITH OF YOUNG SKEPTICS ☪

A 2016 Pew Research study found that 40 percent of our Catholic youth will move to unbelief before the age of 35. The primary reason for this is their belief that science has discredited and replaced faith. Fr. Robert Spitzer has developed and beta tested six kinds of evidence to be used in confirmation programs, youth ministries and Catholic high schools to reverse this rising tide of unbelief. This evidence – proof of a creator from science; evidence of life after death and Jesus' Resurrection; the Four Levels of Happiness; and a justification of why a loving God would allow suffering – can easily be presented through PowerPoint and embedded videos.



Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, SJ, PhD

Jesuit priest Fr. Robert Spitzer is 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 in Washington from 1998 to 2009, and has published eight books and many scholarly articles for which he has won awards. Fr. Spitzer appears on radio and television, including "Larry King Live" (debating Stephen Hawking), the "Today Show," the History Channel and PBS, among others.

3-26 SEVEN STEPS TO IMPLEMENTING CHANGE 🗣️

Change and transition can be difficult in any organization, but especially in the Church where we seem to mix up small traditions in a parish with the big traditions of the Church. We will look at the struggles that come with introducing change in a parish setting and the seven vital steps that are necessary to change a church culture.

**Fr. Michael White**

Fr. Michael White previously served as Priest-Secretary to Baltimore Cardinal William Keeler and as Vice-Chancellor for the Baltimore Archdiocese. He is presently Pastor at the Church of the Nativity in Timonium, Md., where during his tenure as pastor, weekend attendance tripled from 1,400 to over 4,000! Fr. White is co-author with Tom Corcoran of the recent publication, "Rebuilt," along with a companion field guide, which narrates that parish story.

**Tom Corcoran**

Tom Corcoran has served the Church of the Nativity in Timonium, Md., in a variety of roles. As Associate to the Pastor he is responsible for weekend message development, strategic planning and staff development. He does small group videos for members of his parish and occasionally speaks to the weekend congregation of his parish. Corcoran was co-author "Rebuilt" and has made presentations at regional conferences in the dioceses of Baltimore, Md.; Rochester, N.Y.; and Milwaukee.

3-27 WHEN THE PRAISES GO UP 🗣️

Prayers of gratitude are an important part of our faith as Christians. An attitude of gratitude has been found to have a healthy impact on individuals, particularly during times of stress. As we journey as busy Christians, how attentive are we to the way we pray ... and the power of our prayer to change our interior life as well as those around us? For, what we focus on ... we give power to! This workshop will look at prayer of gratitude and will offer suggestions for those on the spiritual journey.

**Dr. C. Vanessa White**

Dr. Vanessa White is Assistant Professor of Spirituality and Director of the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies and Master of Arts in Specialized Ministries degree programs at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. She is a member

of the faculty and Coordinator of the Elder's Retreat at Xavier University of Louisiana's Institute for Black Catholic Studies and the Adjunct Faculty at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Dr. White lectures nationally as a workshop presenter, retreat facilitator, spiritual director and teacher.

3-70 "LẠY CHÚA, CON KÊU LÊN CÙNG CHÚA, VÀ NGÀI ĐÃ CHO CON BÌNH PHỤC" (TV 30:2) 🗣️

Buổi hội thảo sẽ tập trung vào khía cạnh Phụng vụ thiêng liêng của hai bí tích Sám Hối và Sức Dầu như các bí tích chữa lành trong Giáo Hội. Qua các bản văn phụng vụ và phát triển pịch sử, tham dự viên sẽ hiểu rõ hơn về mối liên hệ giữa hai bí tích này và làm sao Giáo hội, qua quyền năng của Chúa Thánh Thần, luôn tiếp tục công việc chữa lành và cứu rỗi của Chúa Giêsu trong đời sống của người kitô hữu ngày hôm nay.

"LORD, MY GOD, I CALLED TO YOU FOR HELP, AND YOU HEALED ME" (PS 30:2) 🗣️

This workshop will focus on the liturgical and spiritual aspects of the sacraments of penance and anointing as sacraments of healing. By focusing on the liturgical texts and historical development, participants will have a better understanding of the inter-relationship of the two sacraments and how they, in the power of the Holy Spirit, constitute Jesus' work of healing and salvation in the life of the Church today.

**Linh Mục Phạm Đức Thịnh**

Thụ phong linh mục cho Tổng Giáo Phận Los Angeles năm 2002, Cha Phạm Đức Thịnh đã phục vụ tại Giáo xứ Thánh Gioan Thiên Chúa ở Norwalk. Sau bốn năm phục vụ tại Giáo xứ, cha được gởi sang Roma để theo học chuyên ngành phụng vụ tại Giáo Hoàng Học Viện Sant'Anselmo. Cha đã hoàn tất chương trình Cao học của Phụng vụ năm 2010 và cha đang làm Giáo sư về Phụng vụ tại Đại chủng viện Thánh Gioan, Camarillo, Calif.

Rev. Thịnh Đức Phạm

Ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in 2002, Fr. Thịnh Phạm served for four years as an Associate Pastor at St. John of God Church in Norwalk, Calif. Upon completing his first assignment, he was sent to pursue graduate studies at the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy in Rome. He has returned and is currently teaching Liturgy at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, Calif., where he is Assistant Professor of Liturgy.



2017 The new addition at the Anaheim Convention Center, called ACC North, opened on September 26 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. In attendance (at left) are RECongress staffers Joanna Aguilar, Natalie Aviles, Chris Krause, Victoria Radleigh Smith, Jan Pedroza, Fr. Chris Bazouros and Paulette Smith.