

*Converging Roads* – Diocese of Charlotte  
Saturday, March 25, 2023 | The Cathedral of St. Patrick

## CATHOLIC MEDICINE IN A SECULAR SOCIETY

8:00 AM	<b>WHITE MASS</b> <b>CHECK-IN/REGISTRATION BEGINS</b> Celebrant: Abbot Placid Solari, O.S.B., Chancellor, Belmont Abbey College
9:15 AM	<b>OPENING REMARKS</b> Arland K. Nichols, President and Founder, St. John Paul II Foundation
9:25 – 10:25 AM	<b>TRUTH, CONSCIENCE, AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN MEDICINE</b> Melissa Moschella, PhD
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>THE PRIMACY OF VIRTUE AND NAVIGATING MORAL COOPERATION IN MEDICINE</b> Sister Michaela Serpa, FSE, MA, PharmD, BCPS
11:30 – 11:45 AM	<b>BREAK</b>
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	<b>COMPASSIONATE CARE IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING AND END OF LIFE</b> Farr Curlin, MD
12:45 – 2:20 PM	<b>HIPPOCRATIC OATH LUNCHEON</b>
1:15 – 2:15 PM	<b>THE WELL-FORMED CONSCIENCE OF A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL</b> Farr Curlin, MD; Michael J. Deem, PhD; and Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD
2:15 – 2:20 PM	<b>RECITATION OF THE PROMISE OF THE CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL</b>
2:20 – 2:40 PM	<b>BREAK</b>
2:20 – 3:00 PM	<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION</b>
2:40 – 3:40 PM	<b>A DISTINCTLY CATHOLIC APPROACH TO PEDIATRICS</b> Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD
3:45 – 4:45 PM	<b>GENETIC SCREENING, GENETIC ENGINEERING, THE GIFT OF LIFE, AND THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON</b> Michael J. Deem, PhD
4:45 – 4:55 PM	<b>BREAK</b>
4:55 – 5:55 PM	<b>THE VOCATION OF A CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL</b> Jessica Clarke-Pounder, MD, FAAP; Gina Maria Noia, PhD; and Sister Michaela Serpa, FSE, MA, PharmD, BCPS
5:55 – 6:05 PM	<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>
6:05 – 6:45 PM	<b>WINE &amp; CHEESE RECEPTION</b>

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### TRUTH, CONSCIENCE, AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN MEDICINE

**Melissa Moschella, PhD**

This presentation will discuss what religious liberty and rights of conscience are for the medical professional and how these rights may be threatened in the current cultural environment. Possible responses and remedies for the health care professional will also be reviewed.

### THE PRIMACY OF VIRTUE AND NAVIGATING MORAL COOPERATION IN MEDICINE

**Sister Michaela Serpa, FSE, MA, PharmD, BCPS**

This presentation will discuss the importance and primacy of virtue ethics for the health care professional. Additionally, the principle of moral cooperation will be applied within the practice of medicine.

### COMPASSIONATE CARE IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING AND END OF LIFE

**Farr Curlin, MD**

This presentation will discuss the meaning of human suffering and how health care professionals can walk with patients at the end of life. Additionally, how to appropriately foster hope within patients and families will be demonstrated.

### THE WELL-FORMED CONSCIENCE OF A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL

**Farr Curlin, MD; Michael J. Deem, PhD; and  
Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD**

This panel will discuss the importance of the proper formation of the conscience for the practice of ethical medicine. Proper conscience formation will also be explained and contrasted with the current cultural understanding.

### A DISTINCTLY CATHOLIC APPROACH TO PEDIATRICS

**Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD**

This presentation will explore how the faith of a Catholic pediatrician will inform the manner in which they treat their patients and their families. The implications of the Catholic faith will be identified for the dignity of the human person, the role of parents, and the mission of the family.

### GENETIC SCREENING, GENETIC ENGINEERING, THE GIFT OF LIFE, AND THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

**Michael J. Deem, PhD**

This presentation will examine the ethical questions relating to genetic screening, genetic engineering, and genetic interventions. Current scientific and technological practices that purport to assist the human person via human genetic interventions will be identified.

### THE VOCATION OF A CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL

**Jessica Clarke-Pounder, MD, FAAP;**

**Gina Maria Noia, PhD; and**

**Sister Michaela Serpa, FSE, MA, PharmD, BCPS**

This panel will focus on how the practice of faith influences one's practice of medicine. Additionally, it will propose what is distinctive about medicine inspired by a Catholic world view and how such medicine leads to positive outcomes.