

Converging Roads – Houston, TX
Saturday, April 29, 2023 | Holy Rosary Catholic Church

CATHOLIC MEDICINE IN A SECULAR SOCIETY

8:00 AM	MASS CHECK-IN/REGISTRATION BEGINS
9:15 AM	OPENING REMARKS Susie Lopez, Vice President of Operations, St. John Paul II Foundation
9:25 – 10:25 AM	CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE RENEWAL OF MEDICINE Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD
10:30 – 11:30 AM	LAW, MEDICINE, AND THE DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE Ben Nguyen, MTS, JCL, JD
11:30 – 11:45 AM	BREAK
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	THE ART OF SUFFERING AND DYING Christopher Tollefsen, PhD
12:45 – 2:15 PM	HIPPOCRATIC OATH LUNCHEON
1:20 – 2:20 PM	MEDICAL ETHICS AND THE CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE WORKER IN A SECULAR CULTURE Carla Falco, MD; Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD; Christopher Tollefsen, PhD
2:20 – 2:25 PM	RECITATION OF THE PROMISE OF THE CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL
2:25 – 2:45 PM	BREAK
2:25 – 3:10 PM	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
2:45 – 3:45 PM	MEDICINE IN SERVICE TO THE DIGNITY OF WOMEN Sister Mary Gretchen Hoffman, RSM, MD
3:50 – 4:50 PM	THE ETHICS OF CONTRACEPTION IN DIFFICULT CASES Cara Buskmiller, MD; Jamie Hernandez, MD, FACOG, CFCMC; Sister Mary Gretchen Hoffman, RSM, MD
4:50 – 5:00 PM	BREAK
5:00 – 6:00 PM	APPROACHING GENDER DYSPHORIA IN LIGHT OF SCIENCE AND THE GOSPEL OF MERCY Deacon Patrick W. Lappert, MD
6:00 – 6:05 PM	CLOSING REMARKS
6:05 – 6:45 PM	WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION

Converging Roads – Houston, TX
Saturday, April 29, 2023 | Holy Rosary Catholic Church

CATHOLIC MEDICINE IN A SECULAR SOCIETY

CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE RENEWAL OF MEDICINE

Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD

This presentation will establish the foundation of the dignity of the human person as the basis for medicine. It will discuss how a Christian anthropology relates to how medicine can be practiced in service to the health and flourishing of the human person, and provide examples of how medical professionals can serve patients and families in light of a Christian anthropology.

LAW, MEDICINE, AND THE DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE

Ben Nguyen, MTS, JCL, JD

This presentation will discuss the development of law in relationship to the dignity of the human person and the impact that this has had on the practice of medicine. It will discuss the relationship of law and medicine as it relates to the dignity of the human person and the sanctity of human life, and will review key legal developments that have affected care for human life.

THE ART OF SUFFERING AND DYING

Christopher Tollefsen, PhD

This presentation will discuss the meaning of human suffering and how health care professionals can walk with patients at the end of life and bring hope. The meaning and purpose of suffering and how to help patients mature through suffering will be articulated. The presentation will consider and define compassion in the care of patients and their families, and explore the role of hope and how to foster hope appropriately within the patients and families served.

MEDICAL ETHICS AND THE CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE WORKER IN A SECULAR CULTURE

**Carla Falco, MD; Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD;
Christopher Tollefsen, PhD**

This panel will discuss the distinct approach of the Catholic way of practicing medicine. It will contrast the provider of services model for medicine with a Catholic Christian approach to medicine, and will propose what is distinctive about medicine inspired by a Catholic world view and how such medicine leads to positive outcomes.

MEDICINE IN SERVICE TO THE DIGNITY OF WOMEN

Sister Mary Gretchen Hoffman, RSM, MD

This presentation will explore the ethical issues related to the medical care of a woman that secures physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health. It will discuss the unique aspects of providing healthcare to women, and will explore medical care that respects the unique ways women bring life, love, and their feminine genius into the world.

THE ETHICS OF CONTRACEPTION IN DIFFICULT CASES

**Cara Buskmiller, MD; Jamie Hernandez, MD, FACOG,
CFCMC; Sister Mary Gretchen Hoffman, RSM, MD**

This panel will evaluate the use of contraception in various difficult ethical situations. It will articulate the ethical teaching on the use of contraception and discuss the use of contraceptive pills to treat existing medical conditions, the use of contraception and patients with disabilities, and the use of contraceptives during and after sexual assault.

APPROACHING GENDER DYSPHORIA IN LIGHT OF SCIENCE AND THE GOSPEL OF MERCY

Deacon Patrick W. Lappert, MD

This presentation will describe the current cultural trends in the area of gender reassignment, diagnostic tests for gender dysphoria, and puberty suppression. It will discuss medical psychosocial realities of gender dysphoria. Identify anthropological and medical basis for medical and psychological interventions.