

Converging Roads – Diocese of Charlotte
Saturday, March 21, 2026 | The Cathedral of Saint Patrick

MEDICINE AND THE DIGNIFIED MISSION TO HEAL

7:30 AM	CHECK-IN/REGISTRATION BEGINS
8:00 AM	WHITE MASS Celebrant: Rev. Msgr. Patrick J. Winslow, V.G.
9:15 AM	OPENING REMARKS Roland Millare, STD
9:25 – 10:25 AM	HUMAN DIGNITY AND MEDICINE AS A HEALING PROFESSION Rev. Robert Gahl, PhD
10:25 – 10:35 AM	BREAK
10:35 – 11:35 AM	COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES Joseph Dutkowsky, MD, KM
11:35 – 11:45 AM	BREAK
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	HOPE AND THE REDEMPTIVE MEANING OF SUFFERING Frances Broghammer, MD and Joseph Dutkowsky, MD, KM,
12:45 – 2:20 PM	HIPPOCRATIC OATH LUNCHEON
1:15 – 2:15 PM	DIGNITY OF THE CAREGIVER Frances Broghammer, MD
2:15 – 2:20 PM	RECITATION OF THE PROMISE OF THE CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONAL	
2:20 – 2:40 PM	BREAK
2:20 – 3:10 PM	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
2:40 – 3:40 PM	WHEN LIFE SEEMS OVER: UNDERSTANDING THE TEMPTATION OF ASSISTED SUICIDE Amanda Achtman
3:40 – 3:50 PM	BREAK
3:50 – 4:50 PM	HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE RESPONSE OF CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE Jessica L. Peck, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE, CNL, FAANP, FAAN
4:50 – 5:00 PM	CLOSING REMARKS
5:00 – 5:45 PM	WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION

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HUMAN DIGNITY AND MEDICINE AS A HEALING PROFESSION

Rev. Robert Gahl, PhD, Associate Professor and Director of Church Management Program - Catholic University of America

This presentation will develop the unique relationship between the Christian understanding of the human person (anthropology) and its impact upon ethics. This talk will draw upon the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Healthcare* to highlight what is unique about the Catholic Christian approach to medicine.

COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Joseph Dutkowsky, MD, KM, Orthopedic Surgeon, Bassett Medical Center

This presentation will address the challenges and response to patients with disabilities. This presentation will highlight the importance of a fundamental Christian anthropology to serve the best interests of persons with disabilities and their families to ensure that all persons are treated with dignity and respect.

HOPE AND THE REDEMPTIVE MEANING OF SUFFERING

Frances Broghammer, MD, Psychiatrist; Clinical Director for the State of Minnesota

Joseph Dutkowsky, MD, KM, Orthopedic Surgeon, Bassett Medical Center

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.

DIGNITY OF THE CAREGIVER

Frances Broghammer, MD, Psychiatrist; Clinical Director for the State of Minnesota

This presentation will inform health care professionals of the importance of securing their own health, clarifying the truth of what it means to be human.

WHEN LIFE SEEMS OVER: UNDERSTANDING THE TEMPTATION OF ASSISTED SUICIDE

Amanda Achtman, Ethics Director at Canadian Physicians for Life, Founder of Dying to Meet You

This presentation will discuss the meaning of human suffering. It will address how to provide sacramental and spiritual care to patients and their families in a way that it is fitting for the mission of the institution, the perspective of the health care professional, and the needs of the patient.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE RESPONSE OF CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE

Jessica L. Peck, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE, CNL, FAANP, FAAN, Clinical Professor, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

This presentation will discuss the tragedy of human trafficking and the role of medical professionals in addressing this crisis in places where medicine and trafficking intersect.