Converging Roads Conference:
The Dignified Mission of Catholic Health Care
St. John Paul II Foundation
April 11, 2026
Fort Myers, FL

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Accreditation

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Agenda

TIME	TOPIC TITLE	FACULTY NAME	NUMBER OF CREDITS REQUESTED
8:30 AM	Check in/Registration Begins	----------	----------
9:00 AM	White Mass	----------	----------
10:00 AM	Opening Remarks	----------	----------
10:10 – 11:00 AM	Christian Anthropology and the Renewal of Medicine	Spaeder, MD, Gwyneth Anne	50 minutes
11:00 – 11:10 AM	Break	----------	----------
11:10 AM – 12:00 PM	The Vocation to Palliative Care	Gloth, III, MD, FACP, AGSF, F. Michael	50 minutes
12:00 – 1:25 PM	Hippocratic Oath Luncheon	----------	----------
12:30 – 1:20 PM	What is Distinct About Catholic Health Care?	Schimmoeller, MD, MA, Ethan and Breen, MD, James O	50 minutes
1:25 – 1:40 PM	Break	----------	----------
1:40 – 2:30 PM	Infertility and Alternatives to Artificial Reproductive Technologies	Pacholczyk, PhD, Rev. Tadeusz	50 minutes
2:30 – 2:35 PM	Break	----------	----------
2:35 – 3:25 PM	The Benefits and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence in Health Care	Schimmoeller, MD, MA, Ethan	50 minutes
3:25 – 3:30 PM	Break	----------	----------
3:30 – 4:20 PM	Technology and Mental Health	D'Souza, PhD, Johann M.	50 minutes
4:20 – 4:30 PM	Closing Remarks	----------	----------
4:30 – 5:00 PM	Wine and Cheese Reception	----------	----------

Objectives

- Recognize the role and challenges of integrating faith and ethics in the practice of medicine.
- Discuss what is unique about a Catholic approach to health care.
- Differentiate between a Catholic approach from a secular approach to medicine.

- Identify how mental health impacts medical care, clinical encounters, and outcomes for patients and practitioners.
- Discuss the causes and factors that have led to the development of the mental health crisis in the United States.
- Appraise how Catholic hospitals and health care providers offer unique perspective in addressing the current mental crisis in light of Christian anthropology.
- Identify the key ethical principles that guide decision making when patients are no longer aggressively pursuing curative measures.
- Review case examples that apply ethical principles in patients pursuing palliative care.
- Consider the role of palliative care in medicine today.
- Discuss the benefits of palliative care and hospice for the patient and his/her family.

- Describe interventions utilized in fertility awareness-based methods (FABMs) and in restorative reproductive women's health care, which assist in the flourishing of the human person.
- Explain how FABMs can be effective in helping couples achieve pregnancy.
- Identify medically successful alternatives to artificial reproductive technologies.
- Discuss ethical issues regarding artificial reproductive technologies.
- Identify the developments and uses of AI within medicine.
- Explore potential ethical and unethical uses of AI in medicine.
- Evaluate some of the current integration of AI within medicine and how the use of AI may impact the perception and appreciation of the dignity of the human person.
- Propose the theological, philosophical, and biological basis for a Christian understanding of the human person.
- Discuss how a Christian anthropology relates to how medicine can be practiced in service to the health and flourishing of the human person.
- Provide examples of how medical professionals can serve patients and families in light of a Christian anthropology.

Disclosures

Disclosures for all those in control of the content of this activity. The names of the ineligible companies (within the last 24 months) and the nature of the financial relationship(s). There is no minimum financial threshold. Disclosure of all financial relationships with ineligible companies regardless of the potential relevance of each relationship to the education.

Activity Planners, Faculty, and CMDA CE Review Committee

No relevant financial relationships were identified for any individual with the ability to control the content of this activity.

ALL RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS WERE MITIGATED.

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