

Converging Roads – Houston, TX
Saturday, April 11, 2026 | St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

HEALTH AND HUMAN FLOURISHING

7:30 AM	CHECK-IN/REGISTRATION BEGINS
8:00 AM	MASS Rev. Stephen B. Reynolds
9:15 AM	OPENING REMARKS Anthony Isacco, PhD
9:25 – 10:25 AM	CONSCIENCE, MORAL COOPERATION, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING Matthew Shea, PhD
10:25 – 10:35 AM	BREAK
10:35 – 11:35 AM	TECHNOLOGY AND THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS Anthony Isacco, PhD
11:35 – 11:45 AM	BREAK
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	RESTORATIVE REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE AND THE FLOURISHING OF THE PERSON Tracey Parnell, MD, MRM, CCFP
12:45 – 2:35 PM	HIPPOCRATIC OATH LUNCHEON
1:30 – 2:30 PM	DR. JEROME LEJEUNE: A MODEL OF INTEGRATING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE Pilar Calva, MD
2:30 – 2:35 PM	RECITATION OF THE PROMISE OF THE CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL
2:35 – 2:55 PM	BREAK
2:35 – 3:25 PM	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
2:55 – 3:55 PM	THE PRIMACY OF VIRTUE AND NAVIGATING MORAL COOPERATION IN MEDICINE Matthew Shea, PhD; and more
3:55 – 4:05 PM	BREAK
4:05 – 5:05 PM	THE BENEFITS & ETHICAL CHALLENGES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTH CARE Mariele Courtois, PhD
5:05 – 5:15 PM	CLOSING REMARKS
5:15 – 6:00 PM	WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION

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CONSCIENCE, MORAL COOPERATION, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING

Matthew Shea, PhD, Assistant Professor, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine

This presentation will discuss the importance of the proper formation of the conscience for the practice of ethical medicine. Differentiating forms and applications of moral cooperation will also be explained and contrasted with the current cultural understanding.

THE PRIMACY OF VIRTUE AND NAVIGATING MORAL COOPERATION IN MEDICINE

Matthew Shea, PhD, Assistant Professor, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine; **Mariele Courtois, PhD**, Director, Center for Technology and Human Dignity, Benedictine College; **Martin K. Huynh, MD**, Associate Program Director of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship, University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston

This panel will discuss the importance of the principle of moral cooperation and how it is applied within the practice of medicine.

RESTORATIVE REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE AND THE FLOURISHING OF THE PERSON

Tracey Parnell, MD, MRM, CCFP, Director of Communications & Development, IIRRM Board of Trustees

This presentation will explore the unique approaches to the medical care of a woman that restores her physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health.

DR. JEROME LEJEUNE: A MODEL OF INTEGRATING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

Pilar Calva, MD, Professor of Bioethics, University Lumen Gentium

This presentation will follow the life and legacy of Dr. Jerome Lejeune in identifying tangible ways for medical professionals to integrate their faith in their work to promote the full flourishing of both patients and providers.

TECHNOLOGY AND THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

Anthony Isacco, PhD, Fellow, St. John Paul II Foundation

This presentation will assess the causes of the present mental health crisis and discuss the unique way in which Catholic hospitals and health care providers can address the situation.

THE BENEFITS & ETHICAL CHALLENGES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTH CARE

Mariele Courtois, PhD, Director, Center for Technology and Human Dignity, Benedictine College

This presentation will explore how artificial intelligence (AI) is being integrated in varying ways within the practice of medicine. Further, this presentation will examine the varying ethical challenges of AI.