



Converging Roads – Diocese of Venice
Saturday, April 11, 2026 | Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord

THE DIGNIFIED MISSION OF CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE

8:30 AM	CHECK-IN/REGISTRATION BEGINS
9:00 AM	MASS Celebrant: Most Rev. Frank J Dewane
10:00 AM	OPENING REMARKS Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD
10:10 – 11:00 AM	CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE RENEWAL OF MEDICINE Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD
11:00 – 11:10 AM	BREAK
11:10 AM – 12:00 PM	THE VOCATION TO PALLIATIVE CARE Faculty TBA
12:00 – 1:25 PM	HIPPOCRATIC OATH LUNCHEON
12:30 – 1:20 PM	WHAT IS DISTINCT ABOUT CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE? Faculty TBA
1:20 – 1:25 PM	RECITATION OF THE PROMISE OF THE CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL
1:25 – 1:40 PM	BREAK
1:25 – 2:15 PM	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
1:40 – 2:30 PM	INFERTILITY AND ALTERNATIVES TO ARTIFICIAL REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES Faculty TBA
2:30 – 2:35 PM	BREAK
2:35 – 3:25 PM	THE BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTH CARE Ethan Schimmoeller, MD, MA
3:25 – 3:30 PM	BREAK
3:30 – 4:20 PM	TECHNOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH Johann M. D'Souza, PhD
4:20 – 4:30 PM	CLOSING REMARKS
4:30 – 5:00 PM	WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION



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CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE RENEWAL OF MEDICINE

Gwyneth Anne Spaeder, MD, Fellow, St. John Paul II Foundation

This presentation will establish the foundation of the dignity of the human person as the basis for medicine.

THE VOCATION TO PALLIATIVE CARE

Faculty TBA

This presentation will provide health care professionals and patients with an understanding of the role of palliative care, especially towards the end of life.

WHAT IS DISTINCT ABOUT CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE?

Faculty TBA

This panel will discuss what is distinct about how a Catholic worldview affects the practice of medicine.

INFERTILITY AND ALTERNATIVES TO ARTIFICIAL REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Faculty TBA

This presentation will assess ethical medical options for patients struggling with infertility

THE BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTH CARE

Ethan Schimmoeller, MD, MA, Palliative Medicine Physician, Riverside Methodist Hospital

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.

TECHNOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

Johann M. D'Souza, PhD, Founder and Clinical Psychologist, Values First Therapy PLLC

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.