CONVERGING ROADS™
OMAHA, NE | OCTOBER 17, 2026

St. JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION
Fr. Edward J. Flanagan Guild
A Chartered Guild of the Catholic Medical Association
Archdiocese of Omaha
Creighton UNIVERSITY

Converging Roads – Archdiocese of Omaha
Saturday, October 17, 2026 | Creighton University

CATHOLIC SOCIAL DOCTRINE AND THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE

7:30 AM	CHECK-IN / REGISTRATION BEGINS
8:00 AM	WHITE MASS Celebrant: Most Rev. Michael G. McGovern
9:15 AM	OPENING REMARKS Very Rev. PJ McManus
9:25 – 10:25 AM	HEALTH AND HUMAN FLOURISHING IN A TECHNOCRATIC CULTURE Margaret S. Chisolm, MD
10:25 – 10:35 AM	BREAK
10:35 – 11:35 AM	GENETIC ENGINEERING, TRANSHUMANISM, AND HUMAN DIGNITY Rev. Kevin T. FitzGerald, SJ, PhD, PhD
11:35 – 11:45 AM	BREAK
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	SOLIDARITY, SUBSIDIARITY, AND THE COST OF HEALTH CARE Deacon John M. Travaline, MD, MA
12:45 – 2:20 PM	HIPPOCRATIC OATH LUNCHEON
1:15 – 2:15 PM	SAINT GIUSEPPI MOSCATI: A MODEL PHYSICIAN FOR THE POOR Ethan Schimmoeller, MD, MA
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	PASTORAL AND SACRAMENTAL CARE FOR THE SICK AND DYING Very Rev. PJ McManus; Ethan Schimmoeller, MD, MA; and Deacon John M. Travaline, MD, MA
3:40 – 3:50 PM	BREAK
3:50 – 4:50 PM	TECHNOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH Johann M. D'Souza, PhD
4:50 – 5:00 PM	CLOSING REMARKS
5:00 – 5:45 PM	WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION

Updated as of September 29, 2026
**Schedule is subject to change*

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HEALTH AND HUMAN FLOURISHING IN A TECHNOCRATIC CULTURE

Margaret S. Chisolm, MD, Professor, Johns Hopkins University

This presentation will establish the foundation of the dignity of the human person as the basis for medicine. It will consider how technology, in its varying forms, presents ethical challenges for the dignity and life of the person.

SOLIDARITY, SUBSIDIARITY, AND THE COST OF HEALTH CARE

Deacon John M. Travaline, MD, MA, Professor of Thoracic Medicine and Surgery, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

This presentation will provide an overview of the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity. It will explain how medical care, animated by these principles, secures positive outcomes.

TECHNOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

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

This presentation will evaluate the mental health crisis in tandem with the increased engagement in the use of technology and digital media. It will provide varying strategies for health care professionals, in collaboration with families and schools, to address the mental health crisis.

GENETIC ENGINEERING, TRANSHUMANISM, AND HUMAN DIGNITY

Rev. Kevin T. FitzGerald, SJ, PhD, PhD, John A. Creighton University Professor and Chair, Dept. of Medical Humanities

This presentation will examine the ethical implications of genetic engineering, transhumanism, and emerging biomedical technologies in light of human dignity, human flourishing, and the practice of ethical medicine.

SAINT GIUSEPPI MOSCATI: A MODEL PHYSICIAN FOR THE POOR

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

This presentation will focus on how the life and legacy of Saint Giuseppi Moscati, a model physician, highlights the importance of patient centered care and an approach to medicine that integrates principles of Catholic social doctrine in health care.

PASTORAL AND SACRAMENTAL CARE FOR THE SICK AND DYING

Very Rev. PJ McManus, Fellow, St. John Paul II Foundation; Ethan Schimmoeller, MD, MA, Palliative Medicine Physician, Riverside Methodist Hospital; and Deacon John M. Travaline, MD, MA, Professor of Thoracic Medicine and Surgery, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

This panel will explore how to provide sacramental and spiritual care to patients and their families in a way that is fitting for the mission of the institution, the perspective of the physician, and the needs of the patient.

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