

2019 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

- **Keynote Speaker – Helen Alvaré**

Shedding Light not Heat: Families and Other Religious Communities Respond to a Hypersexualized Culture

Description:

Professor Helen Alvaré will describe the crises in-and out-side of the Church concerning sex, marriage and parenting; consider Catholic communities' responses; and offer new, more enlightening and complete ways of speaking, which draw upon Scripture, Tradition, theology and human experience.

Presenter:

Helen Alvaré is a Professor of Law at Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, where she teaches Family Law, Law and Religion, and Property Law. She publishes on matters concerning marriage, parenting, non-marital households, and the First Amendment religion clauses. She is faculty advisor to the law school's *Civil Rights Law Journal*, and the Latino/a Law Student Association, a Member of the Holy See's Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life (Vatican City), a board member of Catholic Relief Services, a member of the Executive Committee of the AALS' Section on Law and Religion, and an ABC news consultant. She cooperates with the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations as a speaker and a delegate to various United Nations conferences concerning women and the family.

In addition to her books, and her publications in law reviews and other academic journals, Professor Alvaré publishes regularly in news outlets including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Huffington Post*, and CNN.com. She also speaks at academic and professional conferences in the United States, Europe, Latin America and Australia.

Prior to joining the faculty of Scalia Law, Professor Alvaré taught at the Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America; represented the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops before legislative bodies, academic audiences and the media; and was a litigation attorney for the Philadelphia law firm of Stradley, Ronon, Stevens & Young.

Professor Alvaré received her law degree from Cornell University School of Law and her master's degree in Systematic Theology from the Catholic University of America.

A1 - *"The Bridegroom is with You"* – Bishop Ronald W. Gainer

Description:

In the Gospels, our Lord used this nuptial image in referring to Himself. This presentation will explore this rich biblical concept and how it can enrich our own union with Christ.

Presenter:

The Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer, DD, JCL, is the 11th and current bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg. He was ordained a Priest for the Diocese of Allentown on May 19, 1973. He was consecrated and installed as Bishop of Lexington, KY on February 22, 2003. Bishop Gainer completed studies at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia in 1973, earning a Master of Divinity degree, graduating summa cum laude and earned a licentiate degree in Canon Law and a diploma in Latin Letters from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 1986. Bishop Gainer was appointed Bishop of Harrisburg by his Holiness Pope Francis on January 24, 2014. He was installed as Bishop of Harrisburg on March 19, 2014.

A2 - *God Still Uses Cracked Pots* - Ms. Donna Giberti

Description:

Explore the creative ways that God uses our imperfectly human chips, cracks, dents, and blemishes to create beauty in His world. Using Donna Gilberti's misadventures, losses, failings, and foibles to cultivate a heart for discipleship that has set her on unexpected paths: she has served as an international pilgrimage organizer, a short-term missionary in third-world countries, served as a youth and RCIA catechist for 26 years, and more. No matter what challenges, struggles or hardships you've experienced in life, God wants to assure you that not only does He truly have everything in your life under control, but He'll use you in ways you've never imagined!

Presenter:

As a single Catholic mom for almost 30 years, Donna Giberti has spent her life asking, "What's next, Lord?" A speaker, writer, and published contributing author, Donna has traveled the globe as an international pilgrimage organizer/leader, international mission team organizer/leader/member, conference and retreat organizer/facilitator, youth & RCIA catechist for 26 years, and eternal pilgrim.

A3 - *Women and the Cross* – Mrs. Eva Gontis

Description:

Married or single, young or not so young anymore, come and be inspired to live out your Christian call with a renewed sense of purpose in your life! This workshop will focus on three parts: a Catholic understanding of (1) Christ's redemptive work on the cross, (2) humanity's role in that suffering, and (3) how women are uniquely challenged and gifted to answer the call to "pick up our cross daily and follow Jesus."

Presenter:

Eva Gontis is a happy, married, and harried mother of 8 and wife of one. She has a Master's Degree in Theology and Christian Ministry from Franciscan University of Steubenville, has taught high school Religion, and teaches RCIA at Holy Name of Jesus Parish.

A4 - *Discerning the Difference between Real Love and a Counterfeit* – Mrs. Susan Fletcher

Description:

Every God-loving person desires loving relationships. But how do we know when a relationship is truly loving and not just a hoax? Drawing insights from Scripture, the Diary of St. Faustina, prayer, and real-life experience, this talk provides the tools necessary to discern as well as strengthen every relationship. This talk will assist persons of every vocation, but will be particularly useful for the single and married.

Presenter:

After 8 years of dating her now husband of 33 years, raising six children, and a deep relationship with the Lord Jesus and Our Blessed Mother, Mary, Susan feels called to share what God has revealed to her concerning dating, marriage, and God's gift of "genuine" love.

A5 - *Authentic Catholic Womanhood in a Secular World* – Mrs. Alicia Spelfogel

Description:

It can be hard in today's world to grasp what it means to be an empowered woman and Catholic. So often the secular world tells us that faith is contingent with being oppressed. Through models of powerful women in scripture, we will learn what it means to be an authentic woman in a secular world: being outspoken, brave, and standing up for what is right.

Presenter:

Along with being a wife and mother of three, Alicia Spelfogel is the Associate Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Millersville University and has her Master's Degree from Lancaster Theological Seminary

A6 - Releasing the Gifts of the Spirit to Know God's Love and Plan for Our Lives – Mrs. Darlene Graver

Description:

This workshop will focus on the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives, His gifts, how the Spirit has worked in the presenter's life, and the importance of asking The Holy Spirit to fill us anew! Music for the workshop will be led by Tonya Stefanow.

Presenter:

Darlene Graver has been involved with the Charismatic Renewal for 20 years, has facilitated prayer meetings at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Quarryville for nine years, and has held seven "Life in the Spirit" seminars.

A7 - Prayer for the Busy Woman - Mrs. Stacey White

Description:

We will explore creative and effective ways to begin and end each day in prayer as well as ways to pray throughout the day. With busy and hectic schedules, we sometimes fall victim to our own schedules. You will learn ways to implement prayer into your schedule without fail!

Presenter:

Stacey White is a wife, a mother, and the Coordinator of Religious Education at St. Joseph Parish, Hanover.

A8 - Mercy in the Confessional: There is Absolutely Nothing that God Cannot Forgive
Mrs. Linda Walborn

Description:

CONFESSION? WHO NEEDS IT?!? The fact is we all do! And God, Who knows human nature, knows our great need for it. But, as the Pope tells us, Confession is more than “going to the dry cleaner”. It’s “an encounter with Jesus, Who waits for us as we are”. In this workshop, let us together discover or re-discover the beautiful gift of mercy the Lord lavishes on us in this wonderful, life-saving Sacrament.

Presenter:

Linda Walborn is a wife and mother and is the Pastoral Associate at St. Monica’s, Sunbury.

A9 - The Eucharist and our Connection to the Early Church - Dr. Carol Houghton, STD, JCD

Description:

A brief look at the Holy Eucharist in Scripture, the Church Fathers, and especially in the core teaching of the Council of Trent. Then we will specifically consider the central importance of the Eucharist in the early Church, especially as seen in the Catacombs of Rome, a place where the deep faith of the first centuries of the Church is clearly manifested.”

Presenter:

Doctor Carol Houghton is a native of Lancaster, PA, received her STD and JCD from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (the Angelicum) in Rome, Italy. She served in the Diocese of El Paso, Texas before going to Emmitsburg, MD, where she taught Scripture and Canon Law at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary for 5 years on a full-time basis. She then came to the Diocese of Harrisburg as a Judge in the Tribunal and as Chancellor and returned to teaching canon law at the Seminary on a part-time basis. She retired from teaching at the Seminary in January of 2015 and from the Diocese of Harrisburg in July of 2019. Carol is a Dame of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

A10 - *Living the Faith: Discerning and Embracing God's Will* – Fr. Peter Hahn, VF

Description:

God reveals Himself and His will in our lives in and through our everyday experiences. Our "discerning" His Will is not an overwhelming or insurmountable task but is accomplished by His love and His grace. It is the joy of a life lived in Christ to know His embrace each day which sustains us in His love.

Presenter:

Father Peter Hahn, V.F., is Pastor of St. Leo the Great, and is Dean of the South Lancaster Deanery.

A11 - *"You're Already Dead": Reflections on Humility in Life* – Fr. Ryan Fischer

Description:

The monastic observation of "remember your death" is a great way of living and guiding Christian life. Saint Paul reminds us many times that we have *died with Christ* and now live a new life. This workshop will talk about the many instances in our lives where we have not "died to ourselves," and will follow the fundamental guide of our Tradition in order to learn how to do so.

Presenter:

Father Fischer is the Pastor of Divine Redeemer Parish, Mount Carmel.

A12 - *Workshop 1: Misericordia, La Esencia del Evangelio y la Llave a la Vida Cristiana* - Ms. Aida Pichardo (Workshop will be given in Spanish)

Descripción:

Basado en el libro escrito por el Cardinal Walter Kasper. ¿Se pueden reconciliar entre sí el sufrimiento del inocente y la Misericordia Divina? ¿Cómo se relacionan la Misericordia Divina y la Justicia Divina? ¿Qué significa creer en un Dios Misericordioso? Cristo es AMOR, a veces deberíamos preguntarnos por qué el AMOR está crucificado?

Presenter:

Aida Pichardo is a parishioner of Saint Joseph Church in Hanover. For several she has led many ministries such as the Hispanic Marriage Prep program, Quinceañera prep for Hispanic young women, as well as bible study groups and prayer groups. She has also been part of several diocesan committees such as the Diocesan Social Justice Committee

and the National V Encuentro. Aida's family has been part of the life changing process that is the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program. Along with the other candidates' spouses, she has been part of the comprehensive process prepared for spouses of permanent diaconate candidates and looks forward to continuing to serve our diocese.

A13 - *Wife, Mother, Disciple* - Mrs. Patty Fertal

Description:

While many would see these as three distinct roles with even some tension between them, such is not the case! This workshop explores, in both spiritual and temporal terms, the beauty of embracing our vocations and stations in life and the necessity of understanding and living them in an integrated and complimentary way

Presenter:

Patty Fertal is the RCIA Director at St. Peter's Parish, Elizabethtown, Client Care Coordinator at Home Instead Senior Care, a Home School Administrator, wife to her husband, Tom, for 25 years, and mother to their 6 children, ages 12-22.

A14 - *Wise beyond Their Years: The Example of Young Saints for Women of All Ages* – Mrs. Kate Phenicie

Description:

This workshop will look at the lives of virtuous young women: St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Faustina, St. Bernadette, and Blessed Chiara Badano. Whether a mother, someone who works with youth, or simply one seeking to grow in their relationship with Christ, women attending this talk will gain insights into how we can emulate these extraordinary women saints.

Presenter:

Kate Phenicie is Delone Catholic High School's Director of Spiritual Life, as well as a Religion teacher and the Works of Mercy Program Coordinator at the School. She has her undergraduate degree in Theology from Mount St. Mary's University and a Master's degree in Theology from the Augustine Institute. She, her husband, and their daughter reside in Gettysburg and are members of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

(This workshop had been listed as C12 and is still listed as C12 in the brochures. However, the Session and Session Number should be as it is here – A14. There is no C12. Thank you!)

B1 - *Abortion: Just the Facts* – Mrs. Amy Domencic

Description:

Abortion may be the most dividing subject today in churches, politics, and families. Can't we put the issue aside; live and let live? Can we really tell a woman what to do with her body? Isn't it kinder to spare a child from a poor quality of life? What about the hard cases, such as rape? Shouldn't we keep abortion rare and safe? Let's talk about it. All opinions welcome.

Presenter:

Amy Domencic is a cradle catholic, teacher, presenter, wife and mother of four. She has been a volunteer client advocate at the Lebanon Pregnancy Center for 12 years, providing options counseling, prenatal and parenting classes, sexual integrity education, and post-abortive healing.

B2 - *Enthronement and Consecration: Inviting Jesus & Mary into Your Home & Heart* – Mrs. Judy Dezagottis

Description:

During this Workshop, participants will be invited to dedicate themselves and their families to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary asking them not only to help all lead good lives but also to lead all home to our Father in Heaven. A "mini" Enthronement & Consecration (usually done at the Parish level) will be conducted with each participant receiving a packet including pictures of Jesus & Mary. Instructions will be given to complete the Enthronement & Consecration at home. Discussion regarding the origins of this devotion in addition to the First Friday/First Saturday Devotions will also be presented.

Presenter:

Judy Dezagottis was asked to be a speaker by a founding member of the Enthronement by Parish Ministry in 2006 while attending Mass in the Philadelphia area. When she moved to Annville after her marriage to husband Jim in 2010, together they formed a local Enthronement Team and began bringing this devotion to parishes in the Diocese of Harrisburg and beyond.

B3 - *Living in the Light with the Luminous Mysteries* - Mrs. Terri Rosenstein

Description:

In this workshop we will discuss how to incorporate the Luminous Mysteries into your daily life.

Presenter:

Terri Rosenstein is a long-time member of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, a member of the Women's Conference Committee, and numerous other Catholic organizations. She is a member of St. Joseph Parish, Mechanicsburg.

B4 - *"Retail Therapy": Reward, Remedy, or Ruin? The Spiritual Considerations of Shopping* - Mrs. Kimberly Burke

Description:

Shopping, sometimes humorously called "Retail Therapy", can be motivated by various reasons. Here, we will consider the positive and negative aspects of shopping habits.

Presenter:

Kimberly Burke is a Registered Nurse, has served as Coordinator of Religious Education for St. Joseph Parish, Danville, and has also taught Natural Family Planning for the Diocese of Harrisburg. She and her husband, Greg, actively participate in the Diocesan guild of the Catholic Medical Association. They have four daughters.

B5 - *Wife, Mother, Disciple* - Mrs. Patty Fertal

Description:

While many would see these as three distinct roles with even some tension between them, such is not the case! This workshop explores, in both spiritual and temporal terms, the beauty of embracing our vocations and stations in life and the necessity of understanding and living them in an integrated and complimentary way

Presenter:

Patty Fertal is the RCIA Director at St. Peter's Parish, Elizabethtown, Client Care Coordinator at Home Instead Senior Care, a Home School Administrator, wife to her husband, Tom, for 25 years, and mother to their 6 children, ages 12-22.

B6 - Healing Our Wounds and the Wounds of Others – Mrs. Cecelia Ritchey

Description:

According to Second Corinthians 1: 3-11 we will consider that there are ways to open doors to enable us to have victory over our trials and suffering; that through our witness the discouraged can be encouraged and the afflicted and despairing can find hope; that in all things God is always at work to rescue us for our own good and the good of others.

Presenter:

Ceil Ritchey is a wife and mother, and a member is St. Leo the Great Parish, Lancaster, is a member of the Pastoral Service Team for Charismatic Renewal for the Diocese of Harrisburg and has presented a number of parish programs including The Wild Goose Series and Life in the Spirit Seminars. She has also traveled with Renewal Ministries on several mission trips to Africa and Eastern Europe. In preparation for these missions, she attended Unbound Conferences and Leadership Training to extend her knowledge for ministry to others.

B7 - *Stirring Up the Gifts God Gave Us* – Ms. Alycia Laureti

Description:

Ever wonder what gifts God has given you? Come explore these gifts. Learn how to cultivate those gifts and the purpose of those gifts.

Presenter:

Ms. Alycia Laureti, MPA is a Senior Research Analyst with the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. She is the President of the Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women and a member of St. Catherine Laboure Parish, Harrisburg.

B8 - *Sanctified, not Sterilized: Embracing our Call be Co-Creators* – Mrs. Bonnie Finnerty

Description:

Confusion abounds in our culture regarding sexuality and fertility. As we drift further from the plan God inscribed in our bodies, we see a more disordered society and many lost souls searching. Sex is about pleasure, gender is fluid, children are a burden, and fertility a curse. How did we get to this point, and more importantly, how do we reclaim the truth and live it?

Presenter:

Bonnie Finnerty recently joined the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation as their Education Director. A former English teacher, catechist, and homeschool parent, she and her husband of 32 years have been blessed with five precious children and three beautiful grandchildren.

B9 - *Purgatory – A Gift of God’s Love and Mercy* – Ms. Julie Shuyler

Description:

What is Purgatory? Are you afraid of it? When we understand this very Catholic teaching about what can happen to us after death we should be grateful and hopeful and consoled. This workshop will explore the Church’s doctrine and some of the private revelations given to some saints about God’s desire to purify us with His Love.

Presenter:

Julie Shuyler served as the long-time Religion Department Chairwoman at Lebanon Catholic High School and is a past recipient of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award.

B10 - *The Holy Experiment: The Catholic History of Pennsylvania* - Fr. Jonathan Sawicki

Description:

This workshop will examine the rich history, influence, saints and sages of the Catholic Church in the Keystone state.

Presenter: Fr. Jonathan Sawicki is Diocesan Director of Vocations and is in residence at St. Patrick Cathedral, Harrisburg.

B11 - *Recognizing Evil: Temptation, Infestation, Oppression, and Possession* – Fr. John Szada, PhD

Description:

The talk will deal with the ways in which the devil attempts to influence human behavior in the world today. It will also focus on the reasons the devil hates human beings so much and will look at the signs that indicate authentic demonic influence in a person or place, as opposed to issues that can be attributed to mental illness.

Presenter:

Father Szada is a priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg, ordained in 1978, and is currently chaplain at the Carmelite Monastery in Elysburg. He is also the official exorcist for the Diocese of Harrisburg and has a PhD in Psychology.

B12 - *The Holy Spirit as the “Soul of the Church”* - Fr. Anthony Dill

Description:

The members of the Church are built up, animated, and sanctified by one source. I will look at the analogy between the individual soul and resurrected body with the Holy Spirit and the Body of Christ.

Presenter:

Father Anthony Dill, JCL, is the Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish, Palmyra and a canon lawyer in the Diocesan Tribunal.

**B13 - *Workshop 2: Sanación de Familias* – Ms. Rosy Gonzalez-Grigg
(Workshop will be presented in Spanish.)**

Descripción:

Basado en el libro escrito por el Padre Yozefu B. Semakula. ¿Cómo aprender a orar eficazmente por aquellos problemas personales e inquebrantables?

Presenter:

Rosy Gonzalez-Grigg is a St. Patrick's Cathedral parishioner. There she serves as volunteer in the parish office, serving Sunday meals for the homeless, leading first Friday Devotions, as altar server, and as prison ministry volunteer. Certified to present the "Healing of Families / Sanación de Familias" seminar based on the book written by Fr. Yosefu Semakula.

B14 - Catholic Apologetics: "Be able to give a defense for the faith that is in you..."

- **Mrs. Kristine Hammar**

Description:

Throughout the entire history of the Church, the Faith has been defended against the challenges and objections of the time. In this workshop, we will take a brief look at the history of apologetics in the Church, and then we will discuss our role as apologists in our current time.

Presenter:

Kristine Hammar – Kristine Hammar is the Religion Department Chairwoman at Delone Catholic High School.

C1 - Read Your Heart Out: Faith & Fun with Catholic Fiction – Mrs. Carolyn Astfalk

Description:

Are novels your guilty pleasure? Do you pick up secular fiction only to skip some of the pages or risk an extra trip to the confessional? Or do you think a "good Catholic" should only read non-fiction? Drop that guilt and open your heart to the gift of Catholic storytelling! Catholic author Carolyn Astfalk will discuss how Catholic classics and contemporary works that lift up the faithful soul but also reach the unreachable and win new hearts for Christ. Have your own story to tell? Carolyn also will help you connect with the Catholic Writers Guild.

Presenter:

Carolyn Astfalk is the author of several contemporary Catholic romances, a member of Catholic Teen Books, *Pennwriters*, a CatholicMom.com and Today's Catholic Teacher magazine contributor, and is currently serving as vice president of the *Catholic Writers Guild*.

C2 - Finding Forgiveness on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela – Ms. Donna Giberti

Description:

In 2017, Donna Giberti embarked on a life-changing journey, walking Spain's ancient pilgrimage path, El Camino de Santiago de Compostela. Beginning at the site of a 14th century Eucharistic Miracle and ending at the tomb of the Apostle James, her prayer was to leave the remnants of a 20-year burden of unforgiveness in the dirt, under each step of her boots. Through the sacraments of the Church and the daily trials and triumphs of the pilgrimage, the holy silence of the Camino and the message of Divine Mercy provided the healing balm needed to achieve genuine peace of heart. If you've ever struggled to forgive, this workshop is for you

Presenter:

As a single Catholic mom for almost 30 years, Donna Giberti has spent her life asking, "What's next, Lord?" A speaker, writer, and published contributing author, Donna has traveled the globe as an international pilgrimage organizer/leader, international mission team organizer/leader/member, conference and retreat organizer/facilitator, youth & RCIA catechist for 26 years, and eternal pilgrim.

C3 - The Many Faces of Mary – Mrs. Eva Gontis

Description:

The Blessed Mother speaks in Scripture very few times, but each event reveals something profound. Her voice has been heard many times all over the world since then, from such approved apparitions as Guadalupe, Rue de Bac, Fatima, Akita, Rwanda, Knock, and even the USA (Champion, Wisconsin). This workshop will focus on unique specifics in her messages, but also the overarching theme of all her messages to the people of the world.

Presenter:

Eva Gontis is a happy, married, and harried mother of 8 and wife of one. She has a Master's Degree in Theology and Christian Ministry from Franciscan University of Steubenville, has taught high school Religion, and teaches RCIA at Holy Name of Jesus Parish.

C4 - How to Spread Your Faith to Your Family and Beyond – Mrs. Alicia Spelfogel

Description:

What does it look like to share your catholic faith? Specified for the family, the church community, and the lost friend or person you meet on the street, this workshop will provide you with practical tools to foster a relationship with Christ within your family unit, as well as evangelize outside your home.

Presenter:

Along with being a wife and mother of three, Alicia Spelfogel is the Associate Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Millersville University and has her Master's Degree from Lancaster Theological Seminary.

C5 - Forming our Children in Chastity - Mrs. Stacey White

Description:

Passing on the beautiful virtue of Chastity to our children by our example and humble readiness to turn moments of frustration into teachable loving moments is not an easy task! Take heart, though, as we will delve into ways to help us along this journey of instilling Chastity in our children! As said so wonderfully in the CCC, Charity is the form of all the virtues. Under its influence, chastity appears as a school of the gift of the person. Self-mastery is ordered to the gift of self. Chastity leads him who practices it to become a witness to his neighbor of God's fidelity and loving kindness. (CCC, #2346)"

Presenter:

Stacey White is wife, and the Coordinator of Religious Education at St. Joseph Parish, Hanover.

C6 - God's Ways Are Not Our Ways – Mrs. Bernice White

Description:

Why is it so hard to follow God's ways? Why do the things of the world look so good compared to the things of God? Won't I have to experience a lot of pain in order to grow in holiness? Come listen to the Good News of God's plan for us.

Presenter:

Mrs. Bernice White has been a member of Charismatic Prayer groups for over 40 years and taught multiple Bible studies at St. John Neumann Church. Bernice has worked with Unbound Ministries and has served on the Diocese of Harrisburg's Charismatic Service Committee for many years.

C7 - From the Fountain of Youth to the Fountain of Truth: Finding Your Spiritual Beauty - Mrs. Patty Price

Description:

Our culture has convinced women that a focus on outward appearance should be our main goal in life. Women are being pressured into spending millions of dollars on expensive plastic surgeries, Botox, wrinkle creams, cellulite remover and weight loss plans, just to name a few. The culture has convinced us that a perfect body and youthful appearance is the key to happiness. This workshop will focus on why and how we need to counteract these illusions – which are neither the secret to happiness nor the essence of who we are as women. We will learn why our Catholic faith is the most excellent way to find the true physical, spiritual and emotional beauty that God desires for His daughters of the Church – And guess what? It's free!

Presenter:

Patty Price is a member of Assumption of the BVM parish in Lebanon, where she serves in various ministries including as a catechist for RCIA and adult education, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and lector. Patty is also a case assessor for the Tribunal Office.

C8 - Battling the Myth of Conflict Between Faith and Science - Mrs. Kristine Hammar

Description:

In this session, we will discuss how and why it is that Faith and Science do not conflict, why this popular misunderstanding exists, and how it can be countered. Finally, we will explore why being able to explain the relationship between faith and science is a vital component of Christian Apologetics in our time.

Presenter:

Kristine Hammar is the Religion Department Chairwoman at Delone Catholic High School, McSherrystown, PA. She has her Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from Immaculata University and her Master's Degree in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville. Kristine and her husband, Ben, live in the Carlisle.

C9 - “Blessed are the Broken-hearted” – Ms. Christina Bair

Description:

Whether you’re young, old, single, married, divorced or widowed, we’ve all experienced the heartbreak of loss and pain in relationships. Come discover how Christ’s perfect love transforms and heals our hearts!

Presenter:

Christina Bair earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education degree from Franciscan University of Steubenville and her master’s degree in special education from Saint Joseph’s University, and she currently works as an autism support teacher at Central York School District. When she’s not teaching, Christina enjoys taking courses at the Theology of the Body Institute, leading Theology on Tap York and exercising for fun and fitness.

C10 - *Icons: What They Are and Praying with Them* – Mrs. Roberta Davis

Description:

The history, meaning, and significance of iconography will be presented in this session. Our Catholic Faith is illustrated in the beauty of icon art.

Presenter:

Mrs. Roberta Davis is a wife, mother, grandmother, iconographer, parishioner at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, and a member of the Harrisburg Cursillo’s School of Leaders.

C11 - *Eucharistic Adoration: “Could you not keep watch for one hour?” - Mk. 14:37* - Mrs. Betsy Schadler

Description:

How and why did Eucharistic Adoration develop in the Church? Why is Eucharistic Adoration important in our spiritual lives today? Discover the joy of adoration despite your busy schedules.

Presenter:

Betsy Schaedler coordinates the Sacred Heart Perpetual Adoration Chapel at St. Margaret Mary Parish.

C13 - The Patriarchs and the People of Israel: What the Old Testament Teaches Us – Ms. Rebecca Davis

Description:

The first few books of the Bible give us the foundation of who we are and whose we are, but sometimes we fail to grasp everything that these ancient texts are trying to say. Come explore the stories and the characters of the early Old Testament at a deeper level and learn how millennia later we can still relate to these real people. This is a BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible) event. Bringing a Bible that you like to highlight and write in is highly encouraged!

Presenter:

Becky Davis is the Pastoral Associate at Saint Katharine Drexel Parish in Mechanicsburg, a convert to the Catholic faith, and involved with Young Adult leadership in the Diocese. In her spare time she enjoys outdoor adventures, watching football, hanging out with friends, and snuggling with her two kitties Lily and Rosie

C14 – The Four Last Things – Ms. Julie Shuyler

Description:

This workshop will examine the fascinating and ultimate realities commonly known as “The Four Last Things”, namely, Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell.

Presenter:

Julie Shuyler served as the long-time Religion Department Chairwoman at Lebanon Catholic High School and is a past recipient of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award.
