

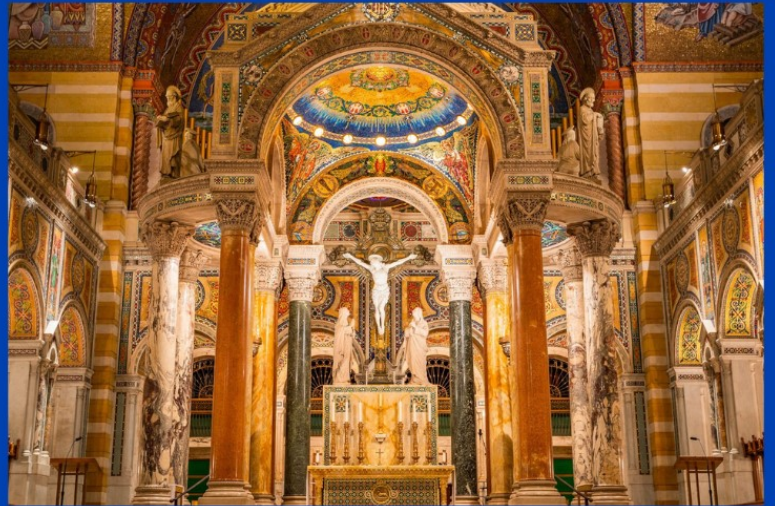
April 21-24,
2024



Meet Us in St. Louis!

CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

Catholic Leadership Conference





Knights of Columbus Office of Youth Protection

Protecting our children is the sacred duty of every Knight.

— Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

Knights of Columbus thanks all diocesan safe environment and victims assistance coordinators for their dedication to creating safe environments in the Church.

Knights of Columbus is grateful to work closely with diocesan Offices of Child and Youth Protection to ensure that we fulfill our shared mission to protect. Our cooperative approach toward diocesan safe environment programs is expressed in our guidance to council leaders: the first requirement of our safe environment program is for our members to be compliant with diocesan safe environment requirements applicable to members' volunteer activities in the parish.

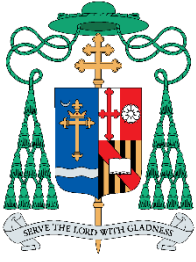
Please contact us directly with all questions and concerns relating to the Knights of Columbus at oyp@kofc.org or **(203) 752-4558**.



Office of Youth Protection:
203-752-4558 • 855-845-3502 (FAX)
OYP@KOFCC.ORG

KofC Youth Protection Helpline:
1-844-563-2723
KOFCC.ORG/SAFE

Member Helpline:
203-800-4940 • 855-845-3502 (FAX)
YOUTHLEADER@KOFCC.ORG



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April 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the Archdiocese of Saint Louis, also affectionately referred to as “Rome of the West!” I am so pleased to invite each of you to experience all that our beautiful city has to offer while you are here for the 18th annual Child and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference. I encourage you to engage fully during the next few days to allow the Lord to work within you.

During April we celebrate Child Abuse Prevention Month with many other Catholic and secular institutions and agencies. It is the perfect time to pause for reflection and celebrate our many collective achievements. May this week be a time of prayerful discernment and a time to learn from and strengthen relationships with colleagues.

I am grateful for the expertise of our child protection leadership and know that this work comes with many challenges. At the same time, we have all experienced the many blessings and great joys that can only come from when we serve and accompany others.

My wish for each of you this week is that your spirit is renewed, and you are filled with Joy for the work God has called you to do. May you each leave feeling inspired as you return home to continue fulfilling the promises made to the faithful. May God always keep you and bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Mitchell T. Rozanski

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis





ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of
SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU

Office of the Bishop

April 21, 2024

Dear Friends in Christ,

As participants of the *Child and Youth Protection Leadership Conference*, I wish to welcome you to the beautiful state of Missouri and to Saint Louis, my hometown.

The work of protecting members of our Church from abuse is crucial to our credibility in preaching the Gospel. Since the early days of the Dallas Charter, the role of our Safe Environment Coordinators and Victim Assistance Coordinators has expanded to include not only minors, but also vulnerable adults. Additionally, our lay employees and adult volunteers are now also held to the same standards set forward in the Charter. We are, in fact, creating a safe place for all to pray, worship, and grow.

Through your committed and thoughtful efforts, we fulfill our goals of accountability, transparency, and most importantly, healing. The work can be grueling, unpleasant, and personally draining. Still, it is a primary mission of the Church today and I thank you for your dedication to this very important apostolate.

May your time together be a moment of rest, enjoyment, and through mutual sharing, one of renewed zeal, all for the betterment of your work. God bless each of you and know that I will be keeping you in my grateful prayers during these remaining days of the Easter Season. With every best wish, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Edward M. Rice
Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau





Office of the Bishop

April 2024

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace be with you.

I join my brother bishops in Missouri in welcoming you to our ecclesiastical province and to the city of St. Louis for this year's Child and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference. I thank Archbishop Rozanski and his staff for being the host of this annual gathering, and am pleased that the other Missouri dioceses are also assisting.

The work that you do in your dioceses and eparchies is critical for the effectiveness of the Church's mission and ministry. The safety and well-being of our children, and everyone, is imperative to living out our Christian life together. The experience of the past 20-plus years has helped us to learn more and get better at what we commit to in implementing the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. This annual meeting is a way to keep current and up-to-date with changes and new information; to hear from experts in the field of child protection and the healing of survivors; for new personnel to learn essential information about their roles; and for all to develop helpful professional relationships for networking and support.

Healthy organizations are always striving to learn and improve, even if they are successful. The work of so many of you has led to successes which are measured in the countless people impacted. The USCCB Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People is currently engaged in the most recent revision of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, taking into account recent changes in the Code of Canon Law and the promulgation of *Vos estis lux mundi*. Together we commit to building on what has already been accomplished.

I extend my personal welcome to the "Show Me" state. We hope to show you a good experience during these days that you are with us. Wishing you God's blessings, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr.
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph



Diocese of Kansas City ~ St. Joseph at The Catholic Center

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DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

19 March 2024

Solemnity of St. Joseph

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am delighted to join my brother Bishops of the Missouri Province in welcoming you to the 2024 *Child and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference*. We are blessed to have so many of you who are personally committed to the safety and well-being of the youth and vulnerable gather in our Metropolitan City of St. Louis.

Your work done in your dioceses and eparchies is vital to the mission of the Church. Since the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, you have dedicated your time and talents to helping us fulfill our commitment of transparency and accountability in the Church; you are instruments of the Holy Spirit in the healing of those who have suffered the most.

Unfortunately, abuse is an ever-present reality in our society, but our persistent and insistent vigilance will help to ensure the flourishing of our youth and vulnerable people in healthy, safe environments. Through the continued efforts of the whole Church, your professional expertise, and our unflinching commitment together to stay on the course of renewal, our Church communities will become safer environments in which the faithful learn, trust and reconcile. This gathering is a testament to your commitment to protect and pledge to heal.

I thank you for your faithful dedication and pray that this conference aids you in your important ministries. I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "W. Shawn McKnight".

Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight
Bishop of Jefferson City

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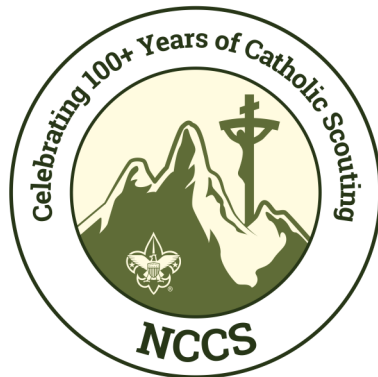


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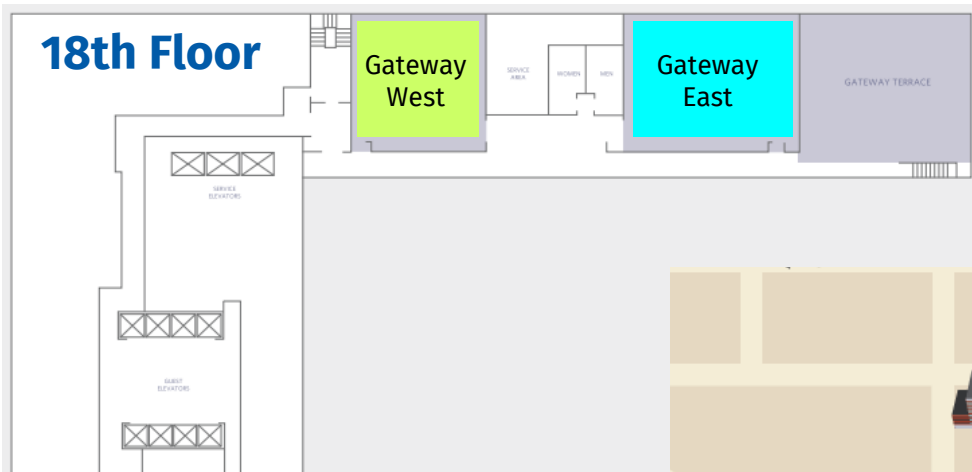


DIOCESE OF
KANSAS CITY-ST. JOSEPH

AWAKE

HOTEL INFORMATION

Maps and Room Names

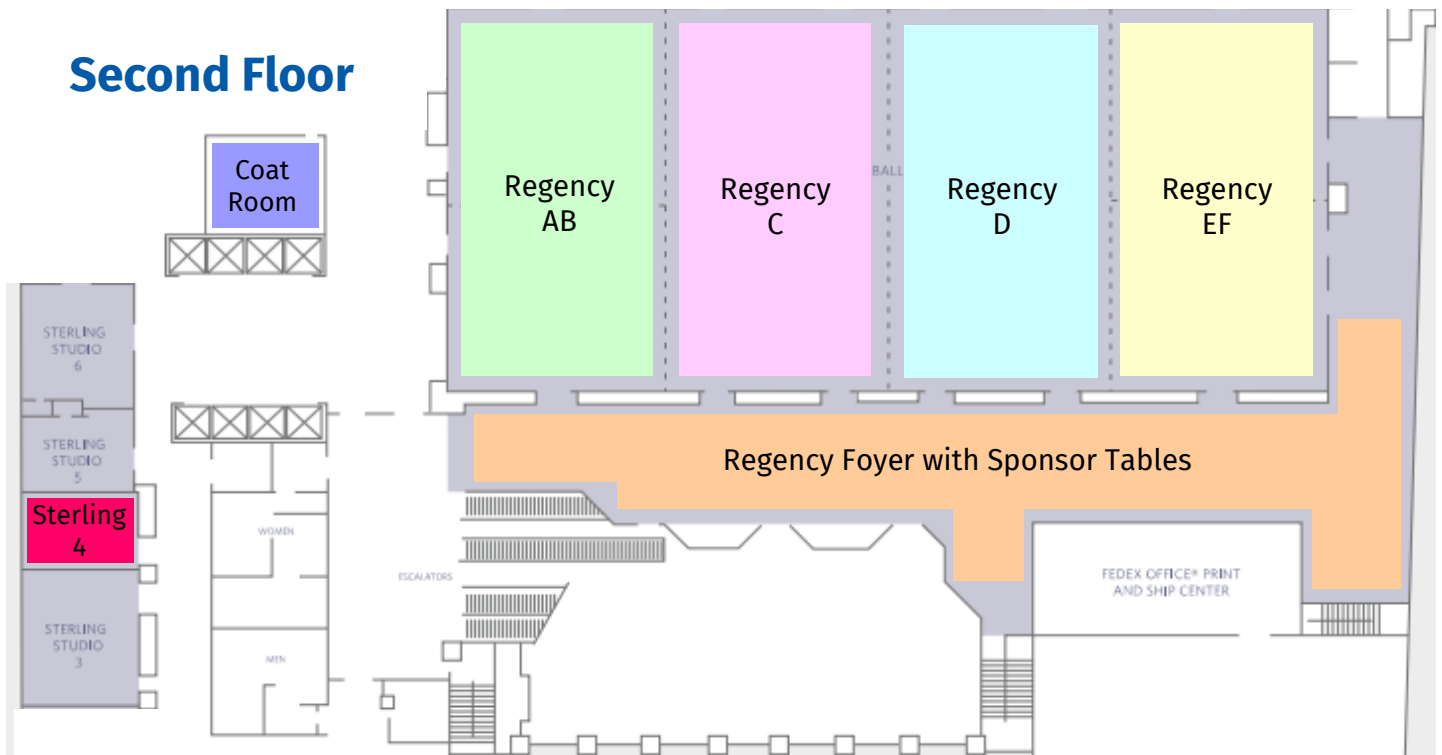


Basilica of St. Louis the King (Old Cathedral)

5pm Sunday Mass & 7am Daily Mass

The Cathedral is a brief walk from the hotel, within sight of the main entrance. Exit the Hyatt on Chestnut Street to access the Gateway Arch Trail and walk southeast 0.2 mile to the Cathedral.

Second Floor



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Agenda and Locations

Sunday, April 21

11:00am	Registration and Tote Pick-Up Opens	Sterling 4
1:00 - 4:00pm	USCCB New SEC/VAC Training (18th floor)	Gateway West
5:00pm	Opening Mass at the Basilica of St. Louis the King (shuttle available)	Off-Site
7:00 - 9:00pm	Opening Reception (18th floor)	Gateway East

Monday, April 22

7:00am	Mass at the Basilica of St. Louis the King (shuttle available)	Off-Site
7:00am	Registration and Tote Pick-Up Opens	Coat Room
8:00am	Sponsor Tables Open Through Wednesday	Regency Foyer
8:00 - 9:00am	Breakfast	Regency AB
9:00 - 9:15am	Opening Prayer	Regency EF
9:15 - 10:15am	Bishop Barry Knestout, USCCB Bishops' Committee Suzanne Healy, USCCB National Review Board Deacon Bernie Nojadera & Molly Fara, USCCB Secretariat for CYP	Regency EF
10:15 - 10:30am	Beverage Break	Regency Foyer
10:30 - 11:55am	Paul Schutz, PhD <i>Beyond Bad Apples: Clericalism, Clergy Perpetrated Sexual Abuse, and Horizons for Healing</i>	Regency EF
11:55 - 12:00pm	Diamond Sponsor Address and Meal Prayer	Regency EF
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch	Regency AB
1:00 - 2:00pm	Rev. Joseph Kempf <i>Don't you dare forgive. Unless...: A Personal Testimony of Courage and Compassion</i>	Regency EF
2:00 - 3:25pm	Brandon Vaidyanathan, PhD <i>Well-being, Trust, and Policy in a Time of Crisis: Highlights from the National Study of Catholic Priests</i>	Regency EF
3:25 - 3:30pm	Diamond Sponsor Address and Raffle Winners	Regency EF
3:30 - 3:45pm	Beverage & Snack Break	Regency Foyer
3:45 - 5:00pm	Fiona Laverty, JCL & Rev. Matthew Crane, JCL <i>Crime and Punishment: A Journey Through Book VI</i>	Regency EF



ANNE STEFFENS
Master of Ceremonies

Meet your emcee! Anne Steffens is a six-time Emmy award winner with more than 25 years of broadcast media, public relations, media relations, media training, and crisis communications experience. She is the founder of Steffens Communications and previously served as the Chief Communications Officer for the Archdiocese of St. Louis and was also a reporter/anchor for St. Louis' CBS affiliate, KMOV-TV, for ten years.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Agenda and Locations

Tuesday, April 23

7:00am	Mass at the Basilica of St. Louis the King (shuttle available)	Off-Site
7:00am	Registration and Tote Pick-Up Opens	Coat Room
8:00 - 9:00am	Breakfast	Regency AB
9:00 - 10:25am	Rev. Gerard McGlone, SJ, PhD <i>A Survivor's Perspective: Dynamics of Creating Cultural Change and Transformation</i>	Regency EF
10:25 - 10:30am	Platinum Sponsor Address and Raffle Winners	Regency EF
10:30 - 10:45am	Beverage Break	Regency Foyer
10:45 - 11:55am	Amy Maus, MSW, LSCW <i>Building a Trauma-Informed Church</i>	Regency EF
11:55 - 12:00pm	Gold Sponsor Address and Meal Prayer	Regency EF
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch	Regency AB
1:00 - 2:30pm	Lynne Lang, MS <i>Introduction to Facilitating Listening Circles</i>	Regency EF
	Peter Sullivan & William Francis, Jr. <i>In Search of the Truth: Understanding Third-Party Investigations</i>	Regency D
	Jennifer Prusa, CMP <i>Enhancing Survivor Outreach through Journey to Bethany</i>	Regency C
2:30 - 2:45pm	Beverage & Snack Break	Regency Foyer
2:45 - 4:15pm	Lynne Lang, MS <i>Navigating Difficult Conversations: A Restorative Justice Model</i>	Regency EF
	Kathleen McChesney, PhD <i>Confronting the Risk of Abuse: Strategies for Assessment & Mitigation</i>	Regency D
	Tina Steck, MBA <i>Parish Audits 101: Creating a Culture of Safety and Buy-In</i>	Regency C
5:00pm	Busses depart for visit to the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis	Lobby Elevators
7:00 - 9:30pm	Dinner Program at The Rose of the Hill	Off-Site

Wednesday, April 24

7:00am	Mass at the Basilica of St. Louis the King (shuttle available)	Off-Site
8:00 - 9:00am	Breakfast	Regency AB
9:00 - 10:30am	Paul Ashton, PsyD, DMin <i>The Joyful Journey</i>	Regency EF
10:30 - 10:45am	CYPCLC 2025 Invitation	Regency EF
10:45 - 11:00am	Beverage Break	Regency Foyer
11:00 - 12:15pm	Ann Wier, MS, ATR <i>Self-Care Send-Off</i>	Regency EF
12:15 - 12:30pm	Closing Prayer	Regency EF
12:30pm	Box Lunch Distribution	Regency Foyer

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Monday Morning Sessions



BISHOP BARRY KNESTOUT

USCCB Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People

The Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout is the 13th Bishop of the Diocese of Richmond and currently serves as chairman of the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Bishop Knestout holds a BS in Architecture from the University of Maryland as well as a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Moral Theology from Mount Saint Mary's Seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1989, appointed auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Washington in 2008, and installed as bishop of Richmond in 2018.



SUZANNE HEALY

USCCB National Review Board

Suzanne Healy is a retired Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist with nearly 30 years of experience, including ten years as the Victims Assistance Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. In addition to her private practice as a therapist, Suzanne has served as a school counselor, bereavement facilitator, member of the Department of Mental Health Faith-Based Advocacy Council, and a member of the Los Angeles Cyber Crime Task force. She became a member of the USCCB's National Review Board (NRB) in 2017 and has served as Chair for the past three years.



DEACON BERNIE NOJADERA

USCCB Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection

Deacon Bernie Nojadera has served as the Executive Director for the USCCB Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection since 2011. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Joseph College in Mountain View, California; a Master of Social Work degree specializing in health and mental health services from San Jose State University; and a Master of Arts in theology from St. Patrick's Seminary and University. Bernie enjoys offering national and international training workshops on safe environment/victim accompaniment, safeguarding, HRO (high reliability organization) principles, and topics on leadership and communication. He is married and has two adult children.



MOLLY FARA

USCCB Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection

Molly Fara joined USCCB staff in September 2020 after serving for eight years as the first Director of Child and Youth Protection for the Diocese of Joliet. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Dayton with a major in psychology and minor in criminal justice and a Master's degree in social work from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Molly is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has a Professional Educator License with School Social Work Endorsement. She has been married for over 25 years and has four adult children.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Monday Morning Sessions



PAUL SCHUTZ, PhD

Beyond Bad Apples:
Clericalism, Clergy Perpetrated Sexual Abuse, and Horizons for Healing

Paul Schutz is an Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Santa Clara University. He received his BA in English from Boston College and his MA and PhD in Systematic Theology from Fordham University. His research focuses on the meaning and significance of creation in the Christian tradition, with an emphasis on how scientific research might inform religious accounts of humanity's relationship with other-than-human creatures. His doctoral dissertation on the theological writings of Jesuit astrophysicist William Stoeger proposes an "ecopolitical" theology oriented toward the flourishing of all creatures. His recent publications apply Stoeger's framework to questions of gender, race, and interreligious dialogue (especially with Buddhism), as well as prayer, liturgy, and ministry. His current book project explores the potential of "flourishing" to serve as a core category for Christian theology and a basis for cultivating a robust praxis of ecological and social justice. Today he will discuss the 2022 report he co-authored with Julie Rubio which explores how a culture of clericalism contributes to the cover-up of sexual abuse by clergy in the Catholic Church.



REV. JOSEPH KEMPF

Don't you dare forgive. Unless...:
A Personal Testimony of Courage and Compassion

Fr. Joe Kempf is someone whose love of God shows forth in an enthusiasm for life. Fr. Joe is pastor of Most Sacred Heart Church in Eureka, Missouri, and the founder & president of *Gospel Values*, a non-profit organization dedicated to proclaiming the beautiful message of Jesus for children of all ages. Fr. Joe is the author of the books *No One Cries the Wrong Way* and *Don't you dare forgive. Unless...*, many videos, and a number of books for children including *My Sister is Annoying*, *Don't Drink the Holy Water*, and *Sometimes Life Is Just Not Fair*. Fr. Joe brings a love of storytelling, a heart for God's people, and a desire to help us remember those things that truly matter.

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CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Monday Afternoon Sessions



BRANDON VAIDYANATHAN, PhD

Well-being, Trust, and Policy in a Time of Crisis:
Highlights from the National Study of Catholic Priests

Dr. Brandon Vaidyanathan is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Director of the Institutional Flourishing Lab at The Catholic University of America. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in Business Administration from St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia and HEC Montreal, respectively, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame. Dr. Vaidyanathan's research examines the cultural dimensions of religious, commercial, and scientific institutions, and has been published in journals such as *Business and Society*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior*, and more. He is author of *Mercenaries and Missionaries: Capitalism and Catholicism in the Global South* and co-author of *Secularity and Science: What Scientists Around the World Really Think About Religion*. His research has been funded by grants from the John Templeton Foundation, Templeton Religion Trust, and the Lilly Endowment. He is also Founder of Beauty at Work, a media platform which includes a podcast and YouTube channel that aims to expand our understanding of beauty: what it is, how it works, and why it matters for the work we do.



FIONA LAVERTY, JCL

Crime and Punishment: A Journey through Book VI

Born in Kent, known as the Garden of England, Fiona spent her formative years in several English churches and cathedrals as a Verger. This meant a variety of tasks such as serving at the liturgy and digging graves, sometimes one after the other. Time spent in these venerable spaces led to a desire to pursue formal studies which she did in Canada where it was significantly cheaper. First, she completed an associate followed by an ecclesiastical degree in theology. She then set her sights on studying canon law. When asked why an Anglican would study Roman Catholic canon law, her reply has always been, "because nobody stopped me." However, she did not realize it would lead to giving talks about it. Before she even had a chance to finish her exams, the Diocese of Jefferson City called looking for a Director of Child and Youth Protection. Since September 2022 she has called the diocese home and continues to serve in that role.



REV. MATTHEW CRANE, JCL

Crime and Punishment: A Journey through Book VI

The Very Reverend Matthew Crane is the Vicar for Canonical Affairs for the Diocese of Saint Cloud. He has a JCL from the Faculty of Canon Law at St. Paul University in Ottawa. Although he has not read every line of merely ecclesiastical law, he has looked at all the pictures.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Tuesday Morning Sessions



REV. GERARD MCGLONE, SJ, PhD

A Survivor's Perspective: Dynamics of Creating Cultural Change and Transformation

Rev. Gerard J. McGlone, SJ, PhD, is a senior research fellow at the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University. Previously, he was an assistant professor of psychiatry at Georgetown's School of Medicine and, most recently, he served as the associate director for protection of minors for the Conference of Major Superiors of Men.

Fr. McGlone was also the chief psychologist, director of counseling services, and faculty and staff psychologist at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, Italy, and has served as executive director at several major treatment centers for clergy and religious in the United States, including Saint John Vianney Center and Guest House, Inc. In addition, he is a member of the Working Group on Child Rights and Family Values, part of the Culture of Encounter Project at Georgetown.



AMY MAUS, MSW, LCSW

Building a Trauma-Informed Church

Amy V. Maus, MSW, LCSW earned her Master of Social Work degree from Washington University in St. Louis and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Missouri and Illinois. She specializes in services to schools, including work within public, private, and parochial

schools, serving students of all ages. A particular joy of hers is providing presentations and workshops to school-related groups of all sizes. She also leads monthly consultation groups for area school principals and provides psychoeducational testing services for students, focusing on issues related to ADHD, depression and anxiety, behavioral problems, and learning differences. Working with students of all ages, their families, and school professionals has been the focus of her clinical career for over 25 years.

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CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Tuesday Afternoon Breakouts



LYNNE LANG, MS

Introduction to Facilitating Listening Circles & Navigating Difficult Conversations: A Restorative Justice Model

Lynne Lang is the founder and executive director of Restoration Matters, a non-profit with the mission to train teachers, school administration, and staff of community organizations in Restorative Practices. She holds an MS in both Health Management and in Restorative Practices, and has worked in the field of health education, safety, and violence prevention curriculum development since 1994. Her training in Intercultural Competence, Dispute Resolution and Mediation strengthen her skills as a certified trainer with the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP). She is an experienced facilitator in circle processes, and informal and formal restorative conferences. Lynne also developed Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline (VBRD), an initiative that integrates restorative practices and time-honored habits for human excellence—the virtues—as well as PRAISES, a Catholic curriculum which links social-emotional competencies with virtues for schools implementing restorative processes using VBRD.



PETER SULLIVAN

In Search of the Truth: Understanding Third-Party Investigations

Peter Sullivan is the Founder and President of Sullivan Advisors, LLC. He has over 35 years of leadership experience in federal law enforcement, global security management, and consulting. Mr. Sullivan had a distinguished career with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and went on to serve as the Director of Global Security for Monsanto Company. He is a licensed private investigator and has a BS in Criminal Justice from Westfield State University in Massachusetts. In addition, he has received many honors including U.S. Attorney General Commendations for Support to Victims of Crime and Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee meritorious service. Pete and his team of former military and/or retired law enforcement have significant experience conducting investigations related to allegations of clergy abuse, employee misconduct, child pornography, Title IX sexual misconduct, and code of conduct violations.



WILLIAM FRANCIS, JR

In Search of the Truth: Understanding Third-Party Investigations

William Francis owns WMF Security Consultants LLC and serves as lead investigator under Sullivan Advisors LLC. Mr. Francis has extensive experience conducting and supervising thousands of federal criminal and intelligence investigations as well as investigating allegations of clergy sexual abuse and other misconduct by clerical and lay employees of religious organizations. He served 32 years with the FBI as a Special Agent and Supervisory Special Agent investigating espionage, counterintelligence, and counterterrorism, and went on to serve as Director of Law Enforcement and Physical Security for the 8th District of the Federal Reserve System. In addition, he has earned many recognitions including the U.S. Attorney's Award for outstanding contributions to law enforcement and counterterrorism efforts.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Tuesday Afternoon Breakouts



KATHLEEN McCHESNEY, PhD

Confronting the Risk of Sexual Abuse in Catholic Ministries: Effective Strategies for Assessment & Mitigation

Dr. Kathleen McChesney, founder and CEO of Kinsale Management Consulting, has leadership experience within the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and The Walt Disney Company. She served as the head of FBI field offices in Chicago and Portland, Oregon and within the FBI's International Training Academy before being appointed as Executive Assistant Director, the Bureau's third-highest position. The USCCB selected her to establish and lead the Office of Child Protection where she developed and administered a national compliance mechanism to ensure that all dioceses complied with civil laws and internal policies relative to the prevention, reporting, and response to the sexual abuse of minors. Dr. McChesney coordinated a major research study of the nature and scope of sexual abuse within the Catholic Church and has published and lectured frequently on the issue of abuse in religious institutions. Kathleen has received several honors including the U.S. President's Award for Distinguished Public Service, the Laetare Medal from the University of Notre Dame, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Center for Women in Policing. She has also received honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Notre Dame, the Catholic University of America, and Anna Maria College.



TINA STECK, MBA

Parish Audits 101: Building a Culture of Safety and Buy-In

Building upon her experience in non-profit development, consumer product marketing, and automotive manufacturing, Tina serves as Program Manager for the Archdiocese of St. Louis' Office of Child and Youth Protection. In this capacity she and her team oversee the Archdiocese's abuse prevention efforts, providing sexual abuse awareness training and maintaining Charter and policy compliance for over 56,000 volunteers, employees, and clergy in eastern Missouri. She believes that creating safe environments requires a responsive, knowledgeable, and accountable team at both the parish and archdiocesan levels as well as accommodations and alternatives that remove barriers to success. She holds a BS in Engineering Management from Missouri University of Science & Technology, an MBA from Saint Louis University, and a certificate in High-Performance Leadership from Cornell University.



JENNIFER PRUSA, CMP

Enhancing Survivor Outreach through Journey to Bethany

Jennifer Prusa is the Executive Director of Journey to Bethany, a ministry in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph with the purpose of serving those harmed by clergy sexual abuse with actions of healing and justice. She brings over 25 years of experience in community-building through work in associations to this role. She works to build connections through Journey to Bethany bringing survivors, volunteers, resource providers, clergy, and the diocese together. Jennifer is a graduate of Loyola University in New Orleans. She and her husband, Matt, have three "launched" daughters and live in Kansas City.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Wednesday Morning Sessions



PAUL ASHTON, PsyD, DMin
The Joyful Journey

Dr. Ashton presents workshops, courses, retreats and training seminars in Catholic dioceses across the country and internationally. His professional ministry enfolds adult education and praxis, and has included several teaching, counseling, and administrative positions in schools and parishes. He also serves as a consultant to diocesan Bishops and religious community superiors. His work in the area of child sexual abuse prevention and healing includes training facilitators, developing and implementing curricula and retreat programs, counseling, and support group facilitation development through the VIRTUS programs for over 22 years. He is the author of numerous articles and educational support materials, a chapter on vulnerable persons in *Towards Healing and Renewal*, and a book entitled *Etched in Hope*. He works with victims/survivors/thrivers of sexual abuse in the area of recovery and healing as well as with priests/religious offenders whose ministry is restricted and living a life of prayer and penance. Paul is the founder of OPEN HEARTS HIV/AIDS Ministry and has supervised support and bereavement groups for over 35 years. He holds a BA in religious studies, an MA in clinical pastoral counseling, a DMin in counseling and marriage & family therapy, and a PsyD in psychology.

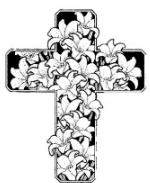


ANN WIER, MS, ATR
Self-Care Send-Off

Ann Wier is the Victim Assistance Coordinator in the Office of Child and Youth Protection for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Ann is also a Registered Art Therapist (ATR) with her Masters in Art Therapy from Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts. She received her Bachelor's degree of Distributive Studio in Art and a minor in Psychology from Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri. Her clinical experience includes working with adults and adolescents in an inpatient psychiatric hospital, a 24-hour crisis line, and with children (up to age 12) in a short-term shelter and their families in crisis, often with adverse childhood experiences. Ann is married and has three children who keep her busy with academics, sports, and being class room-mom.

Peer support for people affected by abuse

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mgoretti.org



Maria Goretti Network
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AWAKE

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Child Abuse Prevention Empowerment

In recognition of all who have completed
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Dominic Colucy
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Colleen Darland
Sylvia Groves
Tiara Hatfield
Ivette Jackson
Jenifer Jenkins
Teresa Klatka
Angel Mack

Noelle Marie
Jackie Montrie
Sylvia Palda
Francisca Palochak
Maryellen Quinn
Isabel Rodriguez
Meghan Scott
John Sheveland
Bonita Thomas

In recognition of all who have completed
Level 2 Master

Silvia Groves
Cynthia Hensel
Heather Banis
Jeanne Blake
Diana Bulko
Jean Chrostoski
Courtney Coopman
Kathy D'Amelio
Susan David
Kristin Eyre

Ramon Ferrer
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Tina Steck
Jobin Thomas
Sofia Thorn
Abby Turner
Anne Vargas-Leveriza
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Cindy Zemcik

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of Child and Youth Protection

Special thank you to Mary Ellen D'Intino for
her contribution and dedication to the
development of this program





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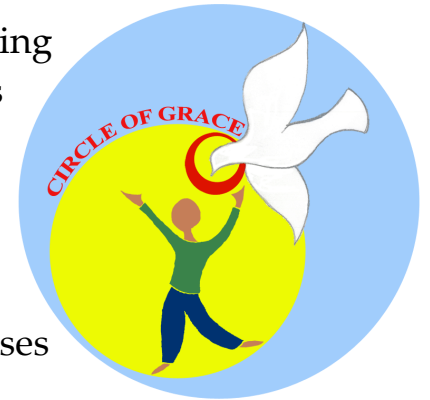
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ST. JOSEPH THE PROTECTOR AWARD

Inaugural Nominees

The St. Joseph the Protector Award was created to recognize one of our peers who has made a significant contribution at the diocesan level in the area of child protection. We chose a patron for this award who embodies not only the work we do but the spirit in which we do it. We felt that St. Joseph represents this work well. Although we do not hear much about him, this quiet but powerful saint was extremely close to Jesus. He was, in fact, the protector of the Holy Family whom God entrusted to him—a complicated task that perhaps he did not fully understand or feel prepared to do. Imagine his worry and suffering during the journey to Bethlehem or the flight into Egypt. St. Joseph carried a lot of weight on his shoulders but took up very little space. He is a model of humility, patience, and strength, as well as a man of incredible faith and trust in God’s plan for his life. St. Joseph is a wonderful example for us in our work as protectors of children and serves as a model of the steady presence required to accompany survivors on their own journeys.



We congratulate the following inaugural award nominees as recommended by their peers. The award will be presented Tuesday evening and the recipient will receive complimentary registration for the 2025 conference.

Joan Altmeyer

Safe Environment Director
Diocese of Savannah

Leslie Davila

Victim Assistance Coordinator
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Lynn Barfield

Parish Safe Environment Coordinator
Diocese of Savannah

Regina Quinn

Director of Safe Environment
Diocese of Columbus

Griselda Cervantez

Victim Assistance Coordinator
Diocese of San Jose

Sue Stubbs

Victim Assistance Coordinator
Archdiocese of Atlanta

Veronica Childers

Safe Environment Coordinator
Diocese of Boise

Sofia Thorn

Victim Assistance Coordinator
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

ABOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE

History, Cathedrals, and Saints

As Bishop of Louisiana and the Floridas, Bishop Louis DuBourg was the first to make St. Louis his episcopal headquarters in 1817. He brought the Vincentians, the Jesuits, and the Religious of the Sacred Heart to St. Louis, including St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, a treasured name in American heritage and a patron saint of the archdiocese along with St. Louis, King Louis IX of France, and St. Vincent de Paul. In 1826 the Louisiana Territory was split into the dioceses of St. Louis and New Orleans with Bishop Joseph Rosati as the first bishop of St. Louis and administrator of New Orleans. During his tenure, the Basilica of St. Louis, King of France (Old Cathedral) was built in 1831 replacing the original Cathedral Block founded in 1764. In 1847, Bishop Peter Kenrick became the first Archbishop of St. Louis when the diocese became the third metropolitan see in the country. Shortly thereafter, the original diocese was broken up to make—besides St. Louis—the Dioceses of Dubuque, Nashville, Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul with Archbishop Kenrick as the metropolitan. The Diocese of St. Joseph was then established in 1868 followed by the Diocese of Kansas City in 1880. In 1956 these three Missouri dioceses were realigned to create the four current Dioceses of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Jefferson City, and Springfield-Cape Girardeau with the Archdiocese of St. Louis as the metropolitan see. In all, there have been 45 dioceses carved out of the Upper Louisiana Territory which was originally under the St. Louis archbishop.

Three of William Clark's children were baptized in the original log church on the site of the Old Cathedral, in addition to Sacagawea's son, Jean Baptiste Charbonneau. The current Cathedral was completed in 1834 and became the first permanent church in St. Louis as well as the first Cathedral west of the Mississippi River. Construction of the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis (New Cathedral) began in 1908 under Archbishop John Glennon with completion of the mosaics in 1988 under Archbishop John May. It was designated as a Cathedral Basilica by St. Pope John Paul II in 1997 and houses the largest collection of mosaics in the Western Hemisphere. We welcome you to St. Louis and to these historic houses of worship.

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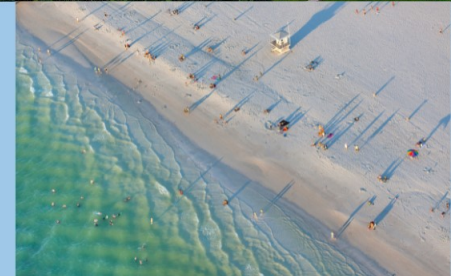
Brian Huseman, ext. 3023
bhuseman@selection.com

Mark Friedman, ext. 3024
mfriedman@selection.com



Let the Son Shine Down!

CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE MAY 11-14, 2025



Michael Craig
Safe Environment Program Director
mjc@dosp.org
727-344-1611, Ext. 5377

Kim Sbarra
Administrative Assistant
ks@dosp.org
727-344-1611, Ext. 5303

John Lambert
Victim Assistance Coordinator
jl@dosp.org
(727) 341-6859

Come join us at the beach!

For information about the conference and to register, visit: dosp.org/cypclc2025



If you need assistance, please call or text **314-850-8318**, stop by the coat room, or ask any of the following St. Louis staff:

Sandra Price

Tina Steck

Ann Wier

Karen Nagel Hall

Dennis Matreci

Nancy McCarthy



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS



DIocese of Springfield -CAPE GIRARDEAU



DIocese of Jefferson City



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