

21ST ANNUAL DIVINE MERCY

Medicine, Bioethics & Spirituality Conference

AT THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY, STOCKBRIDGE, MA

sponsored by: Healthcare Professionals for Divine Mercy

Wednesday – Friday
April 29 – May 1, 2026

IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL

SPEAKERS



Very Rev. Chris Alar, MIC



Bryan Thatcher, MD



Allison LeDoux, MA



Christopher Klofft, STD



Marie Romagnano, MSN, RN, CCM



Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC



Most Rev. Joseph Roesch, MIC



Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC



Ronald M. Sobecks, MD



Sr. Caterina Esselen, OLM



Joetta Dawson, AAS, BS

CEUs & CMEs
Physicians, Nurses,
Social Workers,
Pastoral Care:
12.25



DAY 1 • WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026

ON LINE "WALK IN" LAST MINUTE REGISTRATION 24/7

7:30-8:30 a.m. Registration at St. Faustina Center (Continental breakfast).

9:00-10:00 Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.

10:15-10:30 Welcome and Opening Prayer at St. Faustina's Center.

10:30-11:15 Bryan Thatcher, MD, Intl. Director, Doctors for Divine Mercy; Founder,
Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy.
*The Power of Positive Thinking, Acts of Mercy and Prayer in Helping Patients
Deal with Suffering.*

11:15-12:00 p.m. **KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Allison LeDoux, MA
*Guardians and Servants of Human Life: Upholding the Ethical and Religious
Directives for Catholic Health Care Services for the Renewal of a Culture
of Life in Health Care.*

12:00-1:00 Lunch.

1:00-1:45 Ronald Sobecks, MD, Professor, Dept. of Hematology and Medical
Oncology at Taussig Cancer Institute, Cleveland Clinic.
Re-examination of Traditional Methods to Bring Forth Healing: Less is More.

1:45-2:30 Gramlich, Fr. Anthony, MIC (M.Div., STB) and Joetta Dawson, AAS, BS
Rachel's Vineyard Retreats: How it Heals Post-Abortion Trauma.

2:30-3:00 Sr. Caterina Esselen, OLM
*The Treasure of Scripture and Saint Faustina's Diary for Consolation, Strength
and Healing for Patients and Healthcare Professionals.*

3:00-3:15 **Hour of Great Mercy: Divine Mercy Chaplet prayers.**

3:30-4:15 Christopher Klofft, S.T.D, Associate Professor of Theology,
Assumption University.
The Inhuman Future of Being Human.

4:15-5:00 Marie Romagnano, MSN, RN, CCM-R, Founder of Healthcare Professionals
for Divine Mercy; Assistant Clinical Professor, College of Our Lady of
the Elms, School of Nursing; Director, Medical and Humanitarian Case
Management Operations for Ukraine Relief.
Planning Inservice for Spiritual Assessment and Care of the Patient.

5:00-5:45 Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC, BA, STB, STL (Cand.), Director of the
John Paul II Institute of Divine Mercy; Religious Director of Healthcare
Professionals for Divine Mercy.
*Divine Mercy Spirituality in Healthcare: Message, Devotion and Impact for
Patients and Healthcare Professionals.*

5:45-6:15 Very Rev. Chris Alar, MIC, Provincial Superior, Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of Mercy Province, National Shrine of The Divine Mercy,
Stockbridge, Massachusetts. *Charlie Kirk – Why?*

Information and to register:

TheDivineMercy.org/healthcare/conference or call 1-800-462-7426

7:30-8:30 a.m. Registration at St. Faustina Center (Continental breakfast).
 9:00-10:00 Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.
 10:15-10:30 Welcome and Opening Prayer at St. Faustina's Center.
 10:30-11:15 Bryan Thatcher, MD, Intl. Director, Doctors for Divine Mercy; Founder, Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy.
Adoption as an Alternative to Abortion – Preparation for Healthcare Professionals When Counseling Women with Unintended Pregnancy.
 11:15-12:00 p.m. **KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Christopher Klofft, S.T.D, Associate Professor of Theology, Assumption University.
The Fire of God's Mercy and Its Implications for the Spiritual Health of Patients.
 12:00-1:00 Lunch.
 1:00-1:45 Most Rev. Joseph Roesch, MIC, MA, STL, Superior General of the Worldwide Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary.
The Rosary: An Important Component of the Spirituality of the Healthcare Professional.
 1:45-2:15 Sr. Caterina Esselen, OLM
The Role of the Divine Mercy Image in Promoting Healing for Patients and Healthcare Professionals.

2:15-3:00 Allison LeDoux, MA
Facing the Reality of Death with the Confidence of Faith.
 3:00-3:15 **Hour of Great Mercy: Divine Mercy Chaplet prayers.**
 3:15-4:00 Ronald Sobeks, MD, Professor, Dept. of Hematology and Medical Oncology at Taussig Cancer Institute, Cleveland Clinic.
Discernment of the Most Effective Healing Approaches in an Era of Medical Innovation.
 4:00-4:45 Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC, BA, STB, STL (Cand.), Director of the John Paul II Institute of Divine Mercy; Religious Director of Healthcare Professionals for Divine Mercy.
St. Faustina and The Meaning of Suffering.
 4:45-5:45 Marie Romagnano, MSN, RN, CCM-R, Founder of Healthcare Professionals for Divine Mercy.
What to do when the Patient is Dying.

Conference Objectives

1. Describe the elements of the Divine Mercy Message and devotion and its impact on the care of dying patients.
2. Describe how the Sacraments in severe illness can give hope for suffering patients.
3. Discuss how the *Ethical and Religious directives for Catholic Healthcare Services* helps healthcare professionals provide better healthcare.
4. Outline Joint Commission Guidelines for the Spiritual Assessment of patients.

DAY 3 • FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026 \$75 donation includes Lunch

9:00-10:00 a.m. Holy Mass from the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.
 10:15 St. Faustina Center - Coffee and Bakery Items.
 10:30-12:30 p.m. Retreat Lecture by Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC, BA, STB, STL (Cand.).
 Lunch to Follow.

CONFERENCE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS



Physician Credit

The Christian Medical & Dental Associations designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 12.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of Christian Medical & Dental Associations and Healthcare Professionals for Divine Mercy, Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception. The Christian Medical & Dental Associations is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Physician Assistant

AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™], by an organization accredited by the ACCME or a recognized state medical society. Physician assistants may receive up to 12.25 credits for completing this activity.

Nurse Practitioner

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program (AANPCP) accepts *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™] from organizations accredited by the ACCME. Individuals are responsible for checking with the AANPCP for further guidelines. Nurse practitioners may receive up to 12.25 credits for completing this activity.

Nursing

This activity has been submitted to Georgia Nurses Association for approval to award 12.25 contact hours. Georgia Nurses Association is an accredited approver of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Determination of credit is pending.

Social Work & National Association of Catholic Chaplains: NASW Social Worker & National Assn of Catholic Chaplains CEUs are available.

Certificate of Participation

A certificate of participation will be provided to other healthcare professionals for requesting credits in accordance with their professional boards and/or associations.

CEUS, CMES & MORE
 Registration includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch daily
 Registered Nurses
 2 days: \$250 • 1 day: \$125
 Physician, Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner
 2 days: \$350 • 1 day: \$175
 Social Workers, Pastoral Care & Other Healthcare Professionals
 2 days: \$250 • 1 day: \$125
RETREAT \$75 half day includes Lunch
 STUDENTS: \$55 per day. Fax valid student ID to 413-298-3583 or email PMarkavage@Marian.org
 Scholarship Request: email PMarkavage@Marian.org
 No other discounts are available.
 The Marian Fathers thank you for your tax-deductible donation.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:
TheDivineMercy.org/healthcare/conference
1-800-462-7426



DISCLOSURES The Christian Medical & Dental Associations has implemented a policy to comply with the current Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education Standards for Integrity and Independence requiring mitigation of all faculty conflicts of interest. Faculty declaring a relevant financial relationship will be identified in the activity CME information.

CEU INFORMATION: TheDivineMercy.org/Bioethics