



## FAITHFUL JOURNEYS: LIVING FULLY IN THE FINAL CHAPTERS OF LIFE

### A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE EXAMINING CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVES ON ACCOMPANIMENT AT END OF LIFE

The Gerber Institute for Catholic Studies | November 2, 2018 | 8:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Dugan Gorges Conference Center | Newman University | 3100 McCormick | Wichita, Kansas 67213

## *Agenda*

7:30 BREAKFAST/COFFEE REGISTRATION

8:00 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS *Joshua Papsdorf Gerber Institute for Catholic Studies, and John G. Carney, Newman University Board of Directors and the Center for Practical Bioethics*

- Welcome and Recognition of sponsors, collaborators and supporters
- Overview/Purpose and logistics for the day
- Background and Speaker Introductions

8:15–8:40 JOURNEY TO ACCOMPANIMENT  
WHOLE PERSONS AND  
HOLISTIC CARE

*Bishop Emeritus Stephen Blaire*

As Catholics, our challenge is to bring a message of hope to all - affirming life in a broken world. This presentation sets the stage for our day of dialogue by underscoring the personal, pastoral and clinical obligations we have to those facing serious illness, their caregivers and providers. The presenter will use the California Catholic Conference Whole Person Care Initiative to share how embracing the whole person, however fragile, calls Catholics to a faithful journey of accompaniment— living full lives even as life's end draws near.

8:40–9:00 DIALOGUE WITH PARTICIPANTS

Moderated by *Rev. J. Dan Mindling*

9:00–9:20 GUIDES FOR THE JOURNEY

*Elliott Bedford, AscensionHealth Ethicist*

Ethics Tools and Resources What are they?  
Who are they for? How do we use them to assist patients, caregiver and families – the people in the pew?

9:20–9:40 DIALOGUE WITH PARTICIPANTS

Moderator response and discussion  
*Rev. Tom Welk*

9:40–10:00 BREAK AND MORNING COFFEE

10:00–10:40 THE ROLE AND PROMISE OF  
PALLIATIVE CARE FOR THE  
SERIOUSLY ILL AND DYING.

*MC Sullivan [via video] and Drs. Catherine Powers and Jerry Brungardt*

This session begins with an introductory video by MC Sullivan director of the Archdiocese of Boston Advance Care Planning and Palliative Care Initiative, followed by a 20-minute presentation by Catholic palliative care physicians. Presenters will discuss the dynamic process of setting goals of care occurring within the experience of serious illness or progressive chronic disease. Integrating the meaning of wholeness and healing and determining burden and benefit of various treatment options in the face of incurable disease will be examined.

10:40–11:00 DIALOGUE AND DISCUSSION

Participants led by the Physicians and Palliative Care clinicians (Nurses, Chaplain, and SWs)

11:00–11:45 2 CASE STUDIES

*Drs. Powers and Brungardt* will present and examine two diverse case studies from an acute and non-acute settings. Participants will engage with presenters in exploring principles and clinical considerations.

11:00–11:45 BREAK

12:00–12:45 LUNCH AND DIALOGUE

*Speakers | Reflections of Journey and Accompaniment*  
Inspiring reflections from the world of patient and pastoral care. Chinyere Okafor and Rev. Michael Brungardt will share thoughtful and personal perspectives of faithful accompaniment.

12:45–1:15 ENGAGING IN THE CONVERSATION OF ACCOMPANIMENT

*Rev J Daniel Mindling*

A reprise presentation of the morning session – with a slightly different take – addressing how Catholics have the unique obligation to speak with a Prophetic Pastoral voice while exercising prudential judgment in end of life care. The presenter will address Catholic leadership’s responsibility to provide a clarity of vision in its role to inform society by speaking for all, while addressing cultural diversity within the unifying role of the Church inside (its own structures) and outside (in the public square). This presentation will also address how those who request “aid in dying” should not be abandoned but accompanied without positioning the clinician or provider in the role of accomplice.

1:15–1:45 DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS Moderated by *Bishop Emeritus Stephen Blaire*

1:45–2:00 BREAK

2:00–2:40 ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

*John G. Carney, MEd and John Morris, PhD*

It’s more than a legal piece of paper. This presentation addresses how the dynamic process of identifying personal values and preferences should inform goals of care and the importance of social discernment and conscience formation. Presenters will address the uses of and potential risks associated with statutory forms, advance directives, legal documents and decision aids for care planning that assist appointed agents in their proxy decision making roles and in the development of physician order sets.

2:40–3:00 DIALOGUE WITH PARTICIPANTS Facilitated by the presenters.

3:00–3:45 NEXT STEPS

*Rev. Tom Welk* serves as moderator

Panel and Participant reflections on the day. Panelists will reflect on the day’s proceeding and engage participants in asking how their Journey of Accompaniment has been altered by the workshop. Insights into how their understanding of Catholic commitment to serving those in the final chapters of life has changed will be sought, and specific steps and commitments to act, personally or professionally, on any aspect of the day will be elicited and shared. (Participant questions gathered through the course of the day will be discussed in this session.)

3:45–4:00 HOSTS FINAL THOUGHTS Closing comments, acknowledgements and wrap-up. Complete and collect evaluations.



## CONTINUING EDUCATION

**Physicians:** Via Christi Hospitals in Wichita are accredited by the Kansas Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Via Christi Hospitals in Wichita designate this live activity for a maximum of 6.00 AMA PRA

**Category 1 Credits™:** Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Nursing:** Via Christi Hospitals in Wichita are approved as a provider of continuing nursing education by the Kansas

**State Board of Nursing:** This course offering is approved for 7.1 contact hours applicable for RN, LPN and LMHT re-licensure.

Kansas State Board of Nursing approved Provider Number: LT: 0062-0738.

**Allied health professionals:** Verification of attendance will be issued for hours attended.

## Sponsors



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