

Catholic Medical Ethics & Pastoral Care in a Secular Culture

Join pastoral care and health care professionals for two days of formation and dialogue on some of the most pressing issues facing medicine, pastoral ministry, and patient care today. Through expert presentations and panel discussion, participants will explore Christian anthropology, hope and redemptive suffering, gender dysphoria, and the call to provide compassionate, ethical care in an increasingly secular culture. Attendees will gain practical insights and renewed confidence to accompany patients, families, and communities with both professional excellence and Christian compassion.



**Deacon Patrick
W. Lappert, MD**

Retired Plastic Surgeon

Presentation: *Gender Identity
Discordance: The Science, the
Medicine, and the Implications
for Pastoral Care*



**Gwyneth Anne
Spaeder, MD**

Fellow, St. John Paul II
Foundation

Presentation: *Christian
Anthropology and the
Renewal of Medicine*



**Father Columba
Thomas, OP, MD**

Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Georgetown University
School of Medicine

Chaplain, Dominican
Healthcare Ministry

Presentation: *Hope, Redemptive
Suffering, and the Art of Dying*

Concluding Panel Discussion: Compassionate and Ethical Care in a Secular Culture

REGISTRATION DETAILS



Date **Friday – Saturday, Oct. 2–3, 2026**
Time **10 a.m. arrival, 4 p.m. departure**
Cost **\$250** (Includes all meals, room stay, use of the grounds, and facilities)

LOCATION

Center for Continuing Formation
St. Mary's Seminary & University
5400 Roland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21210

Registration Deadline: Friday, September 18, 2026

For more information: email us at center@stmarys.edu

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