15TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE · AUGUST 3–6, 2027 · BEND, OREGON

2027 Faculty

Short biographies, sessions and interview topics for each speaker, with the correct form of name for first and later references. Headshots are available as a separate download. Interview requests: sacredliturgyconference@gmail.com or (503) 558-5123.

Bishop Thomas J. Hennen

BISHOP OF BAKER · KEYNOTE

The seventh Bishop of Baker, Bishop Hennen is a native of Ottumwa, Iowa, and the youngest of eleven children. He studied in Rome at the Pontifical Gregorian University and the Pontifical Alphonsian Academy, was ordained for the Diocese of Davenport in 2004, and served as vocations director, vicar general and cathedral rector. Pope Leo XIV named him Bishop of Baker in 2025.

SESSIONS Keynote, *It Is Good That We Are Here: The Glory of the Liturgy and the Mission of the Church* (Tue., Aug. 3); celebrant, *Mass of the Transfiguration of Our Lord* (Fri., Aug. 6)

INTERVIEW TOPICS The Transfiguration and the liturgy · a new bishop in rural Eastern Oregon · vocations

FORM OF NAME The Most Rev. Thomas J. Hennen, Bishop of Baker; thereafter Bishop Hennen

Bishop Daniel H. Mueggenborg

BISHOP OF RENO · SPECIAL GUEST

Bishop Mueggenborg is the Bishop of Reno. A native of rural western Oklahoma, he studied geology and computer science at Oklahoma State University before seminary at St. Meinrad and the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Ordained for the Diocese of Tulsa in 1989, he served as pastor, chaplain, and Vicar for Religious, and taught at the Pontifical Gregorian University. Pope Francis named him Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle in 2017 and Bishop of Reno in 2021.

SESSIONS Lecture XII, *The Glory of God from a Biblical Theological Perspective* (Thu., Aug. 5)

INTERVIEW TOPICS The glory of God in Scripture · a bishop of the rural West · faith and the outdoors

FORM OF NAME The Most Rev. Daniel H. Mueggenborg, Bishop of Reno; thereafter Bishop Mueggenborg

Nathan Schmiedicke, PhD

PROFESSOR OF BIBLICAL EXEGESIS · OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE SEMINARY (FSSP)

Dr. Schmiedicke teaches Biblical exegesis at Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in Denton, Nebraska, and online for Holy Apostles College and Seminary and for the monks of Silverstream Priory and Norcia. He is the author of *The Bible's Foundation: A Catholic Commentary on the Pentateuch*, and lives on his family's farm in Michigan.

SESSIONS Lecture III, *The Old Testament on the Glory of God* (Wed.); Lecture VIII, *The New Testament on the Glory of God* (Thu.)

INTERVIEW TOPICS God's glory from Genesis to the Gospels · reading Scripture sacramentally · faith and farm life

FORM OF NAME Nathan Schmiedicke, PhD; thereafter Dr. Schmiedicke

Lynne Bissonnette-Pitre, MD, PhD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR · SACRED LITURGY CONFERENCE

Dr. Bissonnette-Pitre is a psychiatrist, musician and iconographer who has organized the Sacred Liturgy Conference since 2013. Co-founder and director of Schola Cantus Angelorum, she teaches Sacred Scripture, iconography and Gregorian chant, serves on the Holy Alliance of the Catholic Medical Association, and is a Dame Grand Cross of the Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

SESSIONS Gregorian Chant Workshop (Tue.); Lecture X, *The Glory of the Lord Revealed through Iconographic Art* (Thu.)

INTERVIEW TOPICS Fifteen conferences since 2013 · icons as prayer · Gregorian chant in parish life

FORM OF NAME Lynne Bissonnette-Pitre, MD, PhD; thereafter Dr. Bissonnette-Pitre

Fr. Brad Elliott, OP, STD

PROFESSOR OF MORAL THEOLOGY · DOMINICAN SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY

A professional drum set player for ten years before entering the Western Dominican Province, Father Elliott was ordained in 2018. He holds a licentiate from the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception and a doctorate in sacred theology from The Catholic University of America, and teaches moral theology in Berkeley, California.

SESSIONS Gregorian Chant Workshop (Tue.); Lecture II, *Why Worship God!* (Tue.); Lecture VII, *The Morality of Music: Music Affects Our Worship* (Wed.)

INTERVIEW TOPICS From drummer to Dominican · why music matters in worship · why we worship at all

FORM OF NAME The Rev. Brad Elliott, OP; thereafter Father Elliott

Fr. Pius X Harding, OSB

MONK AND PRIEST · MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY

A Benedictine monk of Mount Angel Abbey in St. Benedict, Oregon, ordained in 1993, Father Pius has served the Abbey as manager of the Benedictine Press, guest master and director of oblates. He later served parishes and missions in the Diocese of Helena, Montana, before returning to the Abbey in 2025.

SESSIONS Lecture V, *Learning to Taste and See the Glory of God through Truth, Goodness, and Beauty in Rural Montana* (Wed.)

INTERVIEW TOPICS Faith in rural parishes · Benedictine hospitality and pilgrimage · beauty as a path to God

FORM OF NAME The Rev. Pius X Harding, OSB; thereafter Father Pius

Fr. Joseph Levine

PASTOR · HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH, BURNS, OREGON

A graduate of Thomas Aquinas College, Father Levine was ordained for the Diocese of Baker in 2010 and is pastor of Holy Family Catholic Church in Burns. He is the author of *The Stone Rejected by the Builders: Some Uncommon Reflections on Social Justice*, which emphasizes the primacy of right worship, and is a key advisor to the Sacred Liturgy Conference.

SESSIONS Lectures I and XI, *Climbing the Mountain* (Tue. and Thu.); celebrant, Mass for St. John Vianney (Wed.)

INTERVIEW TOPICS Preparing the soul for prayer · social justice and right worship · priesthood in rural Oregon

FORM OF NAME The Rev. Joseph Levine; thereafter Father Levine

Fr. Joshua Clifton

ADMINISTRATOR · ST. BIRGITTA AND ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Born and raised in San Luis Obispo, California, Father Clifton graduated from the University of California at Berkeley and Mount Angel Seminary and was ordained for the Diocese of Monterey in 2012. After serving parishes across the Central Coast, he now serves in the Archdiocese of Portland as administrator of St. Birgitta in Portland and St. Mary in Vernonia.

SESSIONS Opening remarks and daily lecture summaries (Wed. and Thu.); moderator, faculty panels

INTERVIEW TOPICS The conference program at a glance · parish liturgical life

FORM OF NAME The Rev. Joshua Clifton; thereafter Father Clifton

Fr. Theodore Lange

PAROCHIAL VICAR · ST. ANTHONY PARISH, TIGARD, OREGON

A priest of the Archdiocese of Portland, Father Lange was appointed a Missionary of Mercy by Pope Francis in 2016 and serves as State Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus. He has served in formation at Mount Angel Seminary, as a high school and prison chaplain, and in parish ministry, and has preached numerous retreats throughout the Archdiocese.

SESSIONS Lecture VI, *Transfigured by Grace and Sacrament* (Wed.); celebrant, Mass of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major (Thu.)

INTERVIEW TOPICS Grace and the sacraments · mercy and confession · priestly formation

FORM OF NAME The Rev. Theodore Lange; thereafter Father Lange

Mark Langley

FOUNDER & ACADEMIC DEAN · THE LYCEUM, SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO

Founder and academic dean of The Lyceum, a classical Catholic school, Mark Langley is a 1989 graduate of Thomas Aquinas College with more than twenty-five years in Catholic education as headmaster, dean, teacher, organist and choral conductor. A longtime advocate of Gregorian chant and sacred polyphony in Catholic schools, he directs the music at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in South Euclid.

SESSIONS Lecture IV, *Classical Education Disposes Man's Nature for the Divine* (Wed.); Lecture IX, *Taste and See What Never Grows Tiresome* (Thu.)

INTERVIEW TOPICS Classical Catholic education · chant and polyphony in schools · passing on the faith

FORM OF NAME Mark Langley; thereafter Mr. Langley