



Clergy Study Day

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Conference Center

University of St. Mary of the Lake

Mundelein, IL

Schedule

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Welcome and Introduction
- 9:15 **Courage Member Personal Testimony**
A Courage member will speak about his personal journey of living with same-sex attractions (SSA), and coming to embrace the Catholic Church and the Gospel call to holiness and chastity.
- 9:45 **Christian Anthropology**
A Courage priest will discuss the teaching of the Catholic Church on identity, sexual ethics, and homosexuality. The discussion will include the terminology that the Church uses, as well as how to present the teaching in a clear, welcoming and compassionate way.
- 10:30 **Psychological Aspects of Same-Sex Attractions**
A clinical psychologist whose clients include people who experience SSA will discuss aspects of the development of SSA and the emotional issues that someone who is living with SSA may be facing.
- 12:00 **Lunch** will be provided for all participants.
- 1:00 **Transgender Surgery and Christian Anthropology**
A board certified plastic surgeon and Catholic deacon will present a discussion of the "transgender" phenomenon, its historic roots, the scientific evidence for the existence of such a condition, and the moral and ethical problems of the use of medicine and surgery in the treatment of this condition.
- 2:00 **Pastoral Care I: Preaching**
A Courage priest will consider the importance of adult faith formation on the issues of sexuality, marriage and homosexuality, as well as ways to convey the joy of chastity through the primary

teaching moment for the majority of church-going Catholics: the Sunday homily.

- 3:30 **Pastoral Care II: Ministering God's Mercy**
A Courage priest will discuss the particular spiritual needs of persons living with same-sex attractions and their loved ones, and how to address those needs in the context of pastoral counseling, the sacrament of Confession, and spiritual direction.
- 4:30 **Questions**
- 5:00 **Conclusion**

Please note the following:

This program is designed for priests and deacons presently involved in pastoral ministry. Seminarians, novices and others in formation may also attend. Please note your present assignment or stage of formation when you register.

There is no charge for this one-day program. Registration is required, however. You may register on-line at <https://couragerc.org/2017-annual-conference-register-now/>

At this registration page you will have the option to register for overnight housing on campus for Tuesday, July 25, and/or Wednesday, July 26. You may also register for the entire Courage conference, which will meet from Thursday, July 27, through Sunday, July 30, at the same location. If you register for the Clergy Day and the Conference you will keep the same room throughout the duration of your stay.

Please address any questions about the Clergy Study Day to Heather Voccola, Executive Assistant of Courage International, at heatherv@couragerc.org or (203) 803-1564, extension 7019.