

Kimberly Baker: “Preaching as Spiritual Formation: Augustine as a Guide”

Mystagogy runs through much of Augustine’s preaching, at Easter and beyond. In his sacramental reflection, he seeks to shape and deepen Christians’ awareness of their transformed identity in Christ and the way of life it brings. This workshop explores mystagogical elements of Augustine’s preaching that can guide you to foster spiritual maturity through preaching. It will include exercises to help you develop a mystagogical dimension to your own preaching.

Kimberly Baker, Ph.D. is associate professor of church history at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Indiana. She is a patristics scholar with a special interest in Augustine’s preaching on the life of the Church as the Body of Christ. She seeks to draw from the riches of the Christian spiritual tradition to contribute to the ongoing renewal of the life of the Church today. She not only studies preaching but loves the opportunity to preach as well.

Fr. Art Baranowski: “Forming the Entire Body of Parishioners to Become ‘Hearers of the Word’ before They Come on Sunday”

The parishioners have a responsibility to become hearers of the Word, as does the preacher. The people themselves are expected to come to the Sunday Eucharist having already heard and shared the readings, especially the upcoming gospel. Every existing parish activity and committee can be designed to include hearing that gospel, some silent reflection with 2-3 life questions, and listening to one other person’s response. In addition, ongoing small church communities led by trained pastoral facilitators connected to the pastor are the structure best able to create a parish culture for hearing the Word and acting upon it. This presentation is about creating this kind of parish culture.

Fr. Art Baranowski is a parish priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit for 50 years. Art has written several books and presented extensively throughout North America and beyond. He is a practical guide on how to structure the parish so the people help each other hear and apply the upcoming Sunday gospel before they come to Mass.

Kimberly Belcher: “When All Heaven Breaks Loose: Realizing Eschatology in Worship and Preaching”

Preaching the coming Reign of God is not only a matter of speaking what is yet to come: it hears and declares the kingdom coming in the world around us. In moments of war, death, and grief, Roman Catholics practice ecumenical Eucharistic hospitality. These eschatological exceptions reveal a loving God drawing near to those who suffer like Christ, and drawing them nearer to one another. These times of crisis require a prophetic spirit to search out and proclaim the way that leads towards the coming kingdom.

Kimberly Hope Belcher, Ph.D. is the Tisch Family Assistant Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame and serves on the US Methodist-Catholic ecumenical dialogue. Her publications include *Efficacious Engagement: Sacramental Participation in the Trinitarian Mystery* (Liturgical Press, 2011); “Eucharistic Adoration and Ecumenical Dialogue: Ritual Practice and Authority Among Catholic College Students,” *Questions Liturgiques* 99 (2018): 3–23; and “Sacramental Exposure: The Iconic Gaze,” in *Sacramental Imagination* (CUA Press, 2019).

Karla Bellinger: “Fire in the Bones: The Mysticism of the Homiletic Encounter”

In our preaching, we want to learn how to effectively touch our listeners. At the core of effectiveness in preaching, there is a mystically graced moment of encounter. How do we prepare our people for that encounter? How do we open hearts and minds to receive Jesus in the Eucharist? This workshop investigates the mysticism of that homiletic encounter in order to ignite the fire of the Holy Spirit within ourselves and our hearers.

Karla Bellinger, D.Min., is the Associate Director of the John S. Marten Program for Homiletics and Liturgics at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author of *Connecting Pulpit and Pew: Breaking Open the Conversation about Catholic Preaching* (Liturgical Press, 2014), as well as other articles and publications.

Fr. Mike Connors, CSC: “Preaching for Discipleship in the RCIA”

If done well – and that is a big and challenging if! – the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process can be a powerful engine of intentional disciple-making. Preaching of both liturgical and non-liturgical kinds plays an important role in the formation of catechumens. In this interactive workshop, we will look together at some of the challenges and opportunities for preachers as they accompany people from inquiry through baptism to mystagogy.

Fr. Michael E. Connors, CSC Th.D. is the Director of the John S. Marten Program for Homiletics and Liturgics at the University of Notre Dame. He has edited four books on preaching: *We Preach Christ Crucified* (Liturgical Press, 2014) and *To All the World: Preaching and the New Evangelization* (Liturgical Press, 2016); *What We Have Heard and Seen: Fostering Baptismal Witness in the World* (Pickwick/Wipf & Stock, 2017); and *Effective Preaching: Bringing People into an Encounter with God* (Liturgy Training Publications, 2019). His workshop at this year’s conference is based on his recent monograph, *Preaching for Discipleship: Preparing Homilies for Christian Initiation* (Liturgy Training Publications, 2018).

Fr. Brian Daley, SJ: “Patristic Preaching as Spiritual and Theological Leadership”

Information coming soon

Fr. Ed Foley, OFM Cap: “The Storytelling Animal: Preaching and the Sciences”

Storytelling has long been recognized as an effective rhetorical device and homiletic staple. Its value, however, is sometimes relegated to the illustrative or entertaining. Neuroscientists and evolutionary biologists, however, have allowed us to understand that human beings are actually wired for storytelling, which is an essential human strategy for making sense of the world. This presentation will provide an introduction to some of these insights from the sciences. It will then examine the homily as a critical narrative event for assisting believers in the art of theological reflection, i.e., making sense of their lives and world in the presence of God. As a mystagogical event, it also must engage the larger liturgical narrative of its Eucharistic context. This mystagogical sweep allows worshippers to experience worship and its preaching as a more integrated and holistic celebration.

Edward Foley, OFM Cap. Ph.D. is the Duns Scotus Professor of Spirituality and Professor of Liturgy and Music at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. He authored/edited 27 books, produced 46 book chapters, 41 peer review articles, and almost 200 encyclopedia, dictionary and pastoral articles translated into eight languages. He has lectured around the world from the catechetical institute in Mumbai to the Mayo Clinic, from St. Scholastica College in Manila to Wescott College in Cambridge. A Lilly sabbatical Fellow and recipient of the Berakah lifetime achievement award from the North American Academy of Liturgy, he presides and preaches at Old St. Patrick’s Church in Chicago.

Rev. J. Sergius Halvorsen: “Iconic Biblical Preaching: Homily as Sacred Image”

The icon plays a prominent role in the Eastern Christian tradition as a locus for prayer and a “window to heaven.” This workshop explores how the sacred imagery of icons creates a rhetorical space for encountering God, and investigates how this approach can be applied in sacramental preaching. The visual rhetoric of sacred art and the icon will be compared and contrasted with the visual rhetoric of contemporary media and its ability to persuade and build community. Particular attention will be given to the role of rhetorical imagery, “painting pictures with words,” and the intersection between imagery, imagination, narrative and encounter.

J. Sergius Halvorsen is Assistant Professor of Homiletics and Rhetoric, and Director of the D.Min. Program at St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary in New York. He also teaches courses in faith and science and in apologetics. One of his current research interests is in ministering to people with no religious affiliation, the “nones and dones.” He is an accomplished liturgical musician, and has contributed to a number of recordings. A priest of the Orthodox Church in America, Sergius and his wife live in New Haven, Connecticut.

Fr. Paul Janowiak, SJ: “‘That I Might Know How to Answer the Weary a Word that Will Rouse Them’ (Is 50:4): Preaching from the Inside Out”

*We will explore how the preacher as mystic and mystagogue accepts a daunting mission. Where and how does one begin to “speak to the weary a word that will rouse them?” A homily is not a talk about the Scriptures, but a symbolic communication between the dynamic revelatory Word of God handed on to us and the living faith experience of the contemporary *communitas verbi*. The preacher stands in the middle of this holy exchange of gifts and the Spirit flows precisely there, welling up from within, and only then is offered to the People of God. Receiving this gift, the preacher is truly a “Reed of God,” in the spirit of Mary, proclaiming the greatness of the Lord. “...(F)or it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks” (Luke 6:45).*

Paul Janowiak, SJ is a Jesuit priest teaching sacramental and liturgical theology, the theology of preaching, and sacramental rites courses at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California. His writing includes *The Holy Preaching: the Sacramentality of the Word in the Liturgical Assembly* (Liturgical Press, 2000) and *Standing Together in the Community of God: Liturgical Spirituality and the Presence of Christ* (Liturgical Press, 2011). He is currently working on a book about the communal devotion of the liturgical assembly as “one body, one spirit in Christ.” He preaches and presides regularly at St. Joan of Arc Parish in San Ramon, California.

Deacon James Keating: “The Mystery of Love, Beauty and Death: The Homily that is Prayer”

The homilist preaches from the fruit of his prayer at the point of interpenetration between beauty’s revelation and his own reception of it. Homilies are born where revelation and personal reception merge to silence interior noise. This silence allows the homilist’s interior senses to SEE, HEAR, TOUCH the mystery as it is particularized within any preparatory lectio divina, a prayerful lingering in the word. And in so lingering the mystery is given a voice in a local ambo for the sake of the church.

Deacon James Keating, Ph.D is Director of Theological Formation in the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska. He is the author of many theological essays and studies in clerical formation which have appeared in *Nova et Vetera, Communio*, and *Sacra Ministerium*, among others. His latest book is *Remain in Me: Holy Orders, Prayer and Ministry* (Paulist Press, 2019). He also serves as Director of Deacon Formation for the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Fr. Ron Knott: “Claiming the Pulpit for Spiritual Leadership and Personal Sanctification”

The purpose of this workshop is to show that when pulpits are seriously claimed, two important things have a chance to happen. Those who listen can be led to deeper discipleship, as well as the one who does the preaching. This workshop is built around a passage from Paul’s first letter to Timothy. “Attend to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in both tasks, for by doing so you will save both yourself and those who listen to you.” (1 Timothy 4:16)

Rev. J. Ronald Knott, D.Min. is a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville who attended Saint Meinrad Seminary and McCormick (Presbyterian) Seminary in Chicago (D.Min. in parish revitalization). Father Knott has served as a home missionary, country pastor, cathedral rector, vocation director, campus minister, director of the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates at Saint Meinrad Seminary, and a 15-year weekly columnist. He has published several books and articles and conducted over 100 priest convocations, retreats and study days in ten countries. Officially “retired,” he recently founded the Catholic Second Wind Guild for retired priests, bishops and lay professionals to offer assistance in the Caribbean missions.

Susan McGurgan: “When We Remember Zion: Preaching, Memory & Hope”

Like an internal prophet, memory reminds us that the way things are today is not the way things have to be. As God’s people we have access to memories beyond our own, memories that are larger than our own, more hope-filled than our own. We are promised that we will not be left orphans and in that promise, each of us becomes part of a grand circle of faith and remembrance, connected to salvation history synapse by synapse, memory by memory. These memories lie in the past but on a trajectory pointing to the future. How can preaching tap into this powerful conduit of hope that is carried in the collective memory of the faithful?

Susan McGurgan, D.Min. is Director of the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program and Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology at the Athenaeum of Ohio/Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Cincinnati. She earned an Honors History degree from Oklahoma State University, an M.A. Pastoral Ministry from the Athenaeum and a Doctorate of Ministry in Preaching from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary. She is a past President of the Catholic Association of Teachers of Homiletics and Co-Convener of the Theology in Preaching Workgroup for the Academy of Homiletics. In addition to administrative duties, she teaches Church History, Evangelization and Pastoral Planning to lay students, and Homiletics II to Permanent Deacons.

Megan McKenna: “Navigating Mystery”

Chardin says: Seeing is the most crucial verb. The prophet sees so clearly with God’s eye [wisdom] that they can reveal what is going to happen IF the community doesn’t turn and change. Thus the message is both denouncing evil and announcing the alternative of hope. The mystic sees through God’s eyes into that sacred space in all things created, to the essence, what Merton calls “the hidden wholeness” knowing at this radically other level of perception. The Word became flesh, dwells among us, and our flesh is to become the Word that summons forth others’ truth. The preacher’s vocation is to be the bridge, using experience and the Word of God to connect, to reveal and to encourage us to become what God has dreamed us to be in this moment in the world. This entails knowing the languages of the prophet, the poet, the mystic and storyteller to preach. God is looking at us with love! Look back!

Megan McKenna is a native of New York City, but has lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the last three decades. A theologian, storyteller, and poet, she uses oral traditions in culture and religion with the Scriptures working with groups in Justice, Peace, Community organizing and specifically those working with forgiveness, reconciliation, restorative justice, undoing harm done, and what resurrection looks like at the end of the process, such as First Nations in Canada and world-wide. She also works on issues of child slavery, human trafficking and recovery of those who suffer PTSD. She teaches and does presentations on preaching, storytelling, the prophets, sacraments/liturgy and any topic related to community and religious practices. She has authored about 50 books; the latest are *The Poor Save Us* (Clear Faith Publishing, 2019), *Holy Families: Shadows of the Trinity* (Veritas, Ireland, 2018), and *Listen Here!* (Paulist Press, 2016). Her heart and sources are often found in the earth, music and literature, especially from other cultures and religions.

Deborah Organ: “Proclaiming the Word in Difficult Places: Insights and Practices”

We live in a time of significant trauma inside and around the Church. This workshop will offer insights and suggesting homiletic practices from Theology and Trauma Theory to foster effective preaching in and for our field hospital Church.

Deborah Organ, LICSW DMin is a homiletician and Clinical Social Worker, and is Executive Director of Raices Sagradas Community Mental Health in Minneapolis, Minnesota, a non-profit associated with the Catholic Church and dedicated to preventing and healing trauma in the Latino immigrant community. She also teaches Systematic Theology at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Deb has experience and interest in exploring the intersections of trauma, healing and homiletic preaching. She lives in St. Paul with her spouse Jerry.

Joe Paprocki: “Preaching that Changes Lives”

In his work with catechists, Joe Paprocki often says, “unless your lesson is going to change the lives of those you teach, you have no business teaching it.” He now offers the same challenge to homilists: unless your homily is designed to transform the way people think and act, you have no business delivering it. Join Dr. Paprocki for this engaging workshop in which he will identify specific steps for offering life-changing homilies.

Joe Paprocki, D.Min., is National Consultant for Faith Formation at Loyola Press in Chicago. He has nearly 40 years of experience in pastoral ministry and has presented in over 150 dioceses in North America. Joe is the author of numerous books including the bestselling *The Catechist’s Toolbox* (Loyola Press, 2009), *A Church on the Move* (Loyola Press, 2016), and his most recent, *Living the Sacraments* (Loyola Press, 2018). Joe, who earned his Masters Degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University’s Institute of Pastoral Studies, received his Doctor of Ministry degree from the University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois. Joe blogs about the experience of serving as a catechist at www.catechistsjourney.com.

Ana Maria Pineda, RSM: “The Preaching Witness of St. Oscar Romero and Rutilio Grande, SJ”

From earliest childhood Romero was influenced by the power of the Word inculcated in him through his family. In the ensuing years, he devoted himself to living the Word of God from the biblical studies of his Roman seminary formation. As a pastor and secretary to the Conference of Bishops, he turned to Scripture and the teachings of the Church for his sermons. Later, as bishop he had the opportunity to speak the Word to a broader audience. As he deepened his own understanding of the suffering and dispossessed poor of his own country, his understanding of the power of the gospel grew, guiding him to become not only a preacher of the Word, but a martyr to the deepest implications of the Words of Christ.

Sister Ana María Pineda, RSM, S.T.D., is vice president of the Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community, a tenured faculty member at Santa Clara University and the author of *Romero and Grande, Companions on the Journey* (Lectio Publishing, 2016). Born in El Salvador, she has a long history in Hispanic ministry and theology, locally and nationally. Most notably, she was involved in the earliest Hispanic Church dialogue in the national Encuentros. She is a past President of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the United States (ACHTUS) and helped create the Hispanic Theological Initiative (HTI) that supports Latino/as in theological doctoral studies.

Fr. Ron Raab, CSC: “Bending Toward the Light: Our Posture of Solidarity through Preaching”

This workshop will explore our radical change of perspective, insight, faith and posture when we preach among marginalized people. When we listen to and accompany people living in poverty or suffering from mental illness or addiction or abuse, we bend toward the Light of Christ together. We imitate Jesus who bent down to heal Simon’s mother-in-law. We kneel in the sand with Jesus as he doodles, listening to a woman caught in adultery. Jesus uses spittle and clay to open our eyes and to release our tongues. These experiences of living among our desperate poor reveal our deepest humanity and our need for God. This spirituality connects prayer and service and invites liberation and hope for all people.

Rev. Ronald Patrick Raab, CSC serves as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Fr. Ron is an active retreat director, blogger and award-winning author. From his many years of pastoral ministry, he writes and speaks about prayer and service and knowing the love of God through our common poverty. Ron has published over 300 articles connecting Eucharist to service and justice. He also expresses this connection through his visual art and painting. Fr. Ron recently read his poetry series called, *“Mothering AIDS”* at the Gallery Below in Colorado Springs.

Kerry Robinson: “Exhortations of Beauty and Meaning: The Role of Preaching in Spiritual Leadership”

Effective faith leaders are compelling, persuasive, insightful and wise. They also prioritize excellent preaching and effective communication. Kerry Robinson will explore the role of preaching in spiritual leadership, highlight resources to improve preaching and advocate for expanding our imaginations about who is called to spiritual leadership and exemplary preaching.

Kerry Alys Robinson is the founding executive director and global ambassador of Leadership Roundtable and author of *Imagining Abundance: Fundraising, Philanthropy and a Spiritual Call to Service* (Liturgical Press, 2014). Kerry is a member of the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities and FADICA (Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities), and serves on the advisory committee for Catholic Women Preach. She studied theology and literature at Georgetown University and ethics at Yale Divinity School. She and her husband, Dr. Michael Cappello, have two children, Christopher and Sophie.

Bishop Craig Satterlee: “Mystic & Mystagogue: Preaching as Spiritual Leadership”

When preaching to the newly baptized in the week after Easter, Ambrose of Milan had more in mind than conveying information and teaching theology. Ambrose’s goal was to equip the newly baptized to see with the “eyes of faith” they received through the rites of initiation at the Easter Vigil. Ambrose desired his hearers to see beyond the physical to the spiritual, the temporal to the eternal, and behold the rites, themselves, and the world as places of God’s saving activity in Jesus Christ so they lived differently. This workshop is an experiential examination of Ambrose’s method and its possibilities for our preaching.

Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, Ph.D. is bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Distinguished Affiliated Professor of Homiletics at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. A teacher of preaching and a liturgical scholar, he is the author of books and articles that connect preaching and areas of congregational life and mission, including liturgy, spirituality, stewardship, mission, leadership, and evangelism. He also studies patristic preaching, most notably that of Ambrose of Milan, and the worship of the early church.

Fr. Thomas Scirghi, SJ: “Preaching: Telling the Faithful What They Want to Say”

The preacher tells the gathered faithful, not so much what they want to hear, but what they want to say. Especially for occasions of suffering or celebration—from funeral to festival—the preacher, who is grounded in the Christian tradition, and nourished by prayer, provides the words for petition and praise of God. In this way, preaching is a response to the prophet Isaiah’s proclamation: “The Lord has given me a well trained tongue to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them.” (Is 50:4)

Father Thomas Scirghi, SJ Th.D. is associate professor of theology at Fordham University where he teaches sacramental and liturgical theology. Previously he taught at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California, instructing students in the theory and practice of liturgy. Recently he published *Longing to See Your Face: Preaching in a Secular Age* (Liturgical Press, 2017). With this book he hopes to rekindle the fire for preaching for those who preach from the pulpit as well as for those who listen in the pews. He explains that his chief concern for the Church today is making our tradition accessible to the next generation.

Deacon David Shea: “‘If You’re Going to Ask, You Better Listen!’, Preaching Feedback That Matters: Transforming Pious Platitudes into Powerful Preaching.”

We all preach in the proverbial “vacuum.” Apart from the pats on the back and “nice homily,” few of us receive any quality feedback on our homilies. Yet, Catholic preaching is consistently criticized as lacking in substance, relevance and “spark,” and often cited as one of the reasons why Catholics are leaving the Church. This workshop will explore: if the Sunday homily is the most important 7-9 minutes in the lives of Catholics, why are preachers not seeking or receiving feedback; for those who are receiving feedback, what are the forms of that feedback and what are preachers doing with that input; and what can we all do as preachers to ensure that we are getting the assessment and feedback we so desperately need to align our preaching with the needs and expectations of our congregations.

David Shea is a deacon in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and was ordained in 1998. After a 30-year career in sales and marketing, David joined the faculty of Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in 2002. He recently retired as the Associate Professor of Homiletics after teaching for 15 years. He holds a B.S. in Industrial Management, an M.A. in Religion, and a Doctorate in Preaching from Aquinas Institute of Theology. He is a member of the Catholic Association of Teachers of Homiletics. David has been married for 49 years and enjoys photography, travel, baseball, and time with his grandchildren. David conducts marriage and liturgical ministry workshops and teaches preaching courses for various dioceses.

Fr. Paul Turner: “Preaching as Pastoring”

A pastor preaches the Word of God to a particular community in a given time and place. What makes preaching local? Beyond the liturgical year, what parochial themes does a pastor consider? How are they best presented? This talk will include sample homilies.

Paul Turner is pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri, and director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant’ Anselmo in Rome. His publications include *At the Supper of the Lamb* (Liturgy Training Publications, 2011); *Glory in the Cross* (Liturgical Press, 2011); and *Celebrating Initiation: A Guide for Priests* (World Library Publications, 2008). He is a former President of the North American Academy of Liturgy, a member of Societas Liturgica and the Catholic Academy of Liturgy. He is a recipient of the Jubilate Deo Award (National Association of Pastoral Musicians) and the Frederick McManus Award (Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions). He serves as a facilitator for the International Commission on English in the Liturgy and as the Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

Sr. Catherine Vincie, RSHM: “The Mystagogical Preacher as Community Spiritual Director”

I believe that the liturgical preacher is particularly called at this time to preach mystagogically and to provide “spiritual direction” for a corporate faith community. The former, mystagogical preaching, we are just beginning to understand; the latter is primarily understood as a ministry to individuals rather than to a community and is not necessarily connected to the preaching task. I intend to bring greater clarity to what we mean by mystagogical preaching and the ministry of spiritual direction, and to explore the possible role of the liturgical preacher as community spiritual director.

Catherine Vincie, RSHM is a liturgical theologian who has served as Professor of Liturgical and Sacramental Theology at the Aquinas Institute of Theology and Ministry in St. Louis from 1995-2015. During that time, she taught mainly in the MAPS, M.Div. and D.Min. in preaching programs. Since 2015, she has served on her community’s (Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary) Provincial Leadership team. Her writings have addressed issues in liturgical worship in the post-Vatican II church, the theology of the liturgical assembly, Christian initiation and Eucharist, and worship and the new cosmology.

Fr. Mike Woroniewicz: “Mystagogical Preaching throughout the Liturgical year: How and When”

A review of what mystagogical preaching is, a presentation on practical ways it can be done, and suggestions for when it can be done—even beyond the Easter Season.

Fr. Mike Woroniewicz is a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit. He holds the Notre Dame M.A. in Liturgical Studies as well as the Aquinas Institute of Theology D.Min. in Preaching. Fr. Mike has taught homiletics courses at the seminary level. He is currently the pastor of Divine Grace Parish in Carleton, Michigan, and vicar forane for Monroe County.