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Catholic Association of
Diocesan Ecumenical and
Interreligious Officers

**“INTERRELIGIOUS
DIALOGUE...a necessary
condition for peace,
...a duty for Christians.”**

– Pope Francis

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Catholic Guide

TO THE 2023 PARLIAMENT
OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS

A CALL TO CONSCIENCE: DEFENDING
FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS



WELCOME

As a Roman Catholic, your participation in the Parliament brings to life the Church's mission to build better interreligious relations and communities throughout the world.

As the Catholic Church proclaims, “**One** is the community of all peoples, one their origin, for God made the whole human race to live over the face of the earth.” “The Church, therefore, exhorts her sons [and daughters], that through **dialogue and collaboration** with the followers of other religions, carried out with **prudence and love** and in witness to the Christian faith and life, they recognize, preserve and promote the good things, spiritual and moral, as well as the socio-cultural values found among [them]” (*Nostra aetate*).

Join the Catholic Community for Mass on the Holy Day Feast of the Assumption of Mary, Noon, Room E 450b.

You can find us at EXHIBIT BOOTH 510.

CADEIO Sponsored Programs

CADEIO is pleased to sponsor these exceptional programs. Delve into the many exciting and rich interreligious initiatives being undertaken throughout the Catholic Church.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

The Second Vatican Council and the Life of the Church in this World

Dr. Massimo Faggioli, Villanova University

1–2:30pm | E 271a

Vatican II marks a new beginning for the relationship between the Catholic Church and the world. This is visible not only in the documents of Vatican II, but also in Vatican II as an historical event and in the history of the Catholic Church in the post-Vatican II period, from Paul VI to pope Francis. Calls for a diminution or a restricted interpretation of Vatican II usually overlook this integral part of the meaning of Vatican II.



Dr. Massimo Faggioli | Dr. Faggioli, a married lay Roman Catholic, is full professor in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at Villanova University (Philadelphia). He worked in the “John XXIII Foundation for Religious Studies” in Bologna between 1996 and 2008.

He was founding co-chair of the study group “Vatican II Studies” for the American Academy of Religion between 2012 and 2017. He has a column in *La Croix International*, and is contributing writer for *Commonweal* magazine and for the Italian magazine *Il Regno*. He is member of the steering committee for the project “Vatican II: Legacy and Mandate” for a multi-volume, intercontinental commentary of Vatican II. He is co-editor with Bryan Froehle of the new series “Studies in Global Catholicism” for Brill Publishers (first volume scheduled 2023).

His books and articles have been published in more than ten languages. His latest books are *Catholicism and Citi-*

zenship: Political Cultures of the Church in the Twenty-First Century (Liturgical Press 2017), *The Liminal Papacy of Pope Francis. Moving Toward Global Catholicity* (Orbis Books, 2020), and *Joe Biden and Catholicism in the United States* (Bayard 2021). With Catherine Clifford he is the co-editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Vatican II* (Oxford University Press, 2023) and he is under contract with Oxford University Press for a book on the history of the Roman Curia.

He lives in the Philadelphia area with his wife and their two children.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

Catholic-Jewish Relations: Confronting Anti-Semitism in the Public Square

Rev. Dr. Dennis McManus and Rabbi Noam Marans

2–3:30pm | Room E 253b

In keeping with the theme of the 2023 World Parliament of Religions conference – A Call to Conscience: Defending Freedom & Human Rights – this panel will address how Catholic-Jewish relations confront anti-Semitism in today’s America. Approaching the 60th anniversary (2025) of the revolution in Catholic expression and practice towards Judaism, the panel members will suggest how joint efforts are needed to guarantee the rights and freedom of Jews within an American culture still predominantly Christian. Speakers will highlight how past projects that drew Jewish and Catholic leaders together, such as the revision of Oberammergau Passion Play, or the civil rights movement, have become models of future collaboration.



Rev. Dr. Dennis McManus | Fr. Dennis McManus is a priest of the Archdiocese of Mobile in Alabama. From 1997 to 2006, he served as Associate Director of the Secretariat for the Liturgy at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington, DC. Pope John Paul II named him

as *consultor* and theologian to the newly established *Vox Clara* commission of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, on which he has served since 2001; Pope Benedict XVI then appointed Fr. McManus as a *consultor* to the Congregation in 2010 and then as *peritus* to the *Vox Clara* Commission. In addition,

he has served as professor of Liturgy at Conception Abbey Seminary, the Dominican House of Studies, Dunwoodie Seminary, St. John the Evangelist Seminary in Boston, and Mt. St. Mary's in Emmitsburg. He is also the USCCB consultant for Jewish Affairs. Fr. McManus holds a bachelor's degree in classical languages and philosophy from St. Mary's College of California, a master's degree in ethics from Georgetown University, and a doctorate in historical theology from Drew University.



Rabbi Noam Marans | Rabbi Noam Marans is the American Jewish Committee's Director of Interreligious and Intergroup Relations, heading the agency's national interfaith outreach and advocacy. A recognized leader of Catholic-Jewish dialogue, he played a central role in celebrating the

fiftieth anniversary of the transformational *Nostra Aetate* document, delivering a keynote address at the official U.S. Catholic commemoration and participating in multiple audiences with Pope Francis. He has also expanded AJC's engagement with Muslims, Latino Evangelicals, and Latter-day Saints, and leads efforts to turn back anti-Israel initiatives within Mainline Protestant denominations. He spearheaded AJC's constructive criticism of the controversial Oberammergau Passion Play, which resulted in mitigation of the production's anti-Jewish elements. Before arriving at AJC in 2001, he served for sixteen years as rabbi of Temple Israel in Ridgewood, NJ. He earned a B.A. in political science at Columbia University and an M.A. and Rabbinical Ordination at the Jewish Theological Seminary, which has recognized him with an honorary doctorate for decades of service to the Jewish people. He is a past president of the Northern New Jersey Board of Rabbis and serves as chair of IJIC, the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

Pope Francis and New Directions for Interreligious Dialogue

Dr. John Borelli, Special Assistant to the President, Georgetown University; Discussant, Dr. Massimo Faggioni, Villanova University; Moderator, Fr. Don Rooney, CADEIO President

2:30–4pm | E 451a

Building on the sixty-year legacy of Catholic Church's formal promotion of interreligious dialogue, Pope Francis

has proposed new emphases for interreligious relations and revitalized ongoing themes for dialogue, drawing especially from his Latin American experience and upon his willingness to seek and develop personal relationships. Pope Francis has demonstrated an ability to discern mutuality of good intentions and commitments to just principles among global religious leaders. What continuing impact will this global leader have on interreligious relations?



Dr. John Borelli | John Borelli has promoted interreligious dialogue for nearly all the years after the appearance of *Nostra Aetate*, the declaration on interreligious dialogue promulgated by the Second Vatican Council in 1965. After receiving his doctorate in history of religions and theology in 1976 (Ford-

ham), he managed a college's religious studies program and participated in and initiated various forms of interreligious relations in the New York City area. He then served more than 16 years staffing ecumenical and interreligious dialogues for the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and served 17 years as a consultant on interreligious dialogue to the Vatican. In 2004, he began serving as Special Assistant for Dialogue and Catholic Identity at Georgetown University. He has co-authored or edited six books and nearly 400 articles in the field of history of religions and theology.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

Checking Collective Egoism to Solve the Climate Crisis

Jose Aguto, Executive Director, Catholic Climate Covenant

10:30am-12pm | Hall E, Room 6

Reinhold Niebuhr's foundational premise in his book "Moral Man and Immoral Society" that "individual men may be moral in the sense that they are able to consider interests other than their own in determining problems of conduct, and are capable, on occasion, of preferring the advantages of others to their own. . . . But all these achievements are more difficult, if not impossible, for human societies and social groups. In every human group there is less reason to guide and to check impulse, less capacity for self-transcendence, less ability to comprehend the needs of others and therefore more unrestrained egoism than the individuals, who compose the group, reveal in their personal relationships."

This collective egoism has had the greatest leverage on the arc of human history. Now, human civilization – the largest human group – is now on the precipice of climate catastro-

phe – arguably the most epic manifestation of the leverage of this collective egoism.

We cannot solve a problem with the same thinking which went into it. – Albert Einstein

We cannot pretend to solve the climate crisis or envision a thriving human future if we operate under the premise that collectives are freely and blatantly allowed to violate the Greatest Commandment. We of the faith traditions, universally bound by the Golden Rule, Jesus' Greatest Commandment, are ideally suited to exploring new ways of applying this ancient wisdom of love, upon the thinking and being of collectives. Reinhold Niebuhr and human history do not provide clear answers. Today, we as people of faith, in the Anthropocene Era on the precipice of climate collapse, carrying forth in our lives with love of God and love of neighbor as our guiding light, are called to find them.



Jose Aguto | “I feel blessed to participate in the Covenant’s mission to advance the Catholic Church’s call for us to love and care for God’s creation, especially for our most vulnerable neighbors. I try to affirm the moral, spiritual and non-partisan foundations of this appeal, so that

we can build bridges through divisions and generate lasting, compassionate and cooperative solutions for the climate crisis. Before the Covenant, I was blessed to serve with the Friends Committee on National Legislation, the National Congress of American Indians, EPA’s American Indian Environmental Office, and the 10th Mountain Division of the U.S. Army. I am a graduate of Brown University and Villanova Law School.”

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

A Decolonial Approach to Interreligious Studies and Dialogue: Catholic and Muslim Perspectives

Fr. Akizou Kamina and Syed Atif Rizwan

10:30am-12pm | E 353b

The Catholic missionary work spanning 16th to 20th centuries serve as one example of interreligious dialogue because such work involved learning about a religious tradition other than one’s own. Indeed, one aim of such dialogue was to formulate Christian theological teachings for the purpose of converting non-Christians. In other words,

interreligious dialogue was not motivated by a yearning to learn deeply about another religious tradition for personal transformation, but rather about conversion, and a legacy of colonialism. In this talk, Fr. Akizou Kamina, SVD and Syed Atif Rizwan, PhD, will discuss possible ways in which interreligious dialogue can be done through a decolonial lens. They will talk about how to deconstruct ongoing frameworks of interreligious dialogue that perpetuate traditional white-European Christian models as well as how to construct decolonial models that draw upon the experiences of not only non-white Christians, but also provide equitable agency to non-Christian dialoguing partners



Fr. Akizou Kamina | Fr. Akizou Gerard Kamina is a Divine Word Missionary from Togo. He has been teaching at Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa, since August 2021. Fr. Akizou earned a Master’s degree from Catholic Theological Union (CTU) in Interreligious dialogue with a primary focus on Islam

and a secondary focus on Judaism. His area of research is the role of religion in peacebuilding, reconciliation, and development. At Divine Word College, Fr. Akizou teaches classes such as the theology of reconciliation and forgiveness, Interreligious dialogue, and World Religions, to name a few. Before Divine Word College, Fr. Akizou worked with returning citizens (ex-convicts) through Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN) in Chicago. His job was to help them reintegrate back into society after incarceration. He also represented IMAN on a board that helped draft an ordinance that allows oversight of police activities in Chicago. While a student at CTU, he helped build a program for returning citizens called MuSLiM (Muslim Spirituality and Life Management)..



Syed Atif Rizwan | Dr. Rizwan grew up in New Jersey and completed his undergraduate studies at Rutgers University, where he majored in Economics and minored in Chemistry. After graduation, he spent 8 years in the financial services industry, during which time he worked in New Jersey, New York, and

Los Angeles. In 2009, he matriculated in Claremont Graduate School’s Master’s in Islamic Studies program and in 2011 he enrolled in the Islamic studies doctoral program at the University of California, Los Angeles. Syed joined the CTU faculty in 2018 and became director of the Catholic-Muslim Studies Program in 2020. His research interests include history of Islamic law; hadith studies; medieval and post-modern theories of punishment; and interreligious dialogue and studies.