

Diocese of Richmond

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Office of the Bishop

Dear Brothers in Christ,

I want to welcome each of you for our first diocesan-wide Catholic Men's Conference. As Catholic men in the Diocese of Richmond, you come from parishes far and wide in order to gather with your brothers in the faith. As you approach this powerful day, I hope you will prayerfully consider how you can take your experiences here and bring them back to your family, your parish, and to the workplace with zeal and enthusiasm for your faith.

This year's theme is "**Rediscover the ONE**" where we are reminded that our faith journey begins with a real encounter with the person of Christ. The Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, said "only in this personal relationship with Christ, only in this encounter with the Risen One do we truly become Christians." The theme, Rediscover the ONE, speaks to the need of having a real experience of Christ. "Through his love, Jesus Christ attracts to himself the people of every generation" and this is especially true of the men invited to this conference. I am counting on each of you to leave this Men's Conference with a rediscovered passion in your Catholic faith and a renewed zeal to share it with your families, your parishes, and your friends.

As your Bishop, I want to thank you for your commitment to the faith—whatever your vocation in life. Your decision to say yes to Christ and to choose Him above all other things will have a huge effect in your lives and will bring peace that the world cannot give. May your time here with friends, old and new alike, help you to come to understand God's loving will for your lives and enable you to live the faith with joy. I want to personally challenge each of you to take the celebration of Mass seriously this weekend, to pray more faithfully in front of the Holy Eucharist, and to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance with humility and courage.

With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis X. Di Lorenzo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Rev. Francis X. DiLorenzo
Bishop of Richmond

November 2012

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, November 10, 2012

8:00 am	Registration opens Expo open	E21C
8:20 am	Morning Prayer from Divine Office (p.252)	E11B
9:00 am	Opening General Session Opening Remarks by Bishop DiLorenzo	E21AB
9:30 am	General Session with Hector Molina	E21AB
10:20 am	Break	
10:30 am	Concurrent Sessions Sacrament of Reconciliation available	E10A & E10C E21AB
11:30 am	Lunch Sacrament of Reconciliation available	E10A,B,C,D E21AB
12:30 pm	Breakout Sessions – Round One	E10A,B,C,D
1:35 pm	Break	
1:45 pm	Breakout Sessions – Round Two	E10A,B,C,D
2:50 pm	Break	
3:00 pm	General Session with Hector Molina	E21AB
4:00 pm	Vigil Mass for Sunday	E21AB
5:30 pm	Conference ends	

E21AB	GENERAL SESSION ROOM
E21C	EXPO AREA
E11B	CHAPEL
E10A,B,C,D	BREAKOUT SESSION ROOMS LUNCH

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

HÉCTOR MOLINA



Our keynote speaker is Héctor Antonio Molina, Jr. He is a dynamic bilingual lay Catholic speaker and evangelist with over 20 years of experience in professional pastoral ministry and leadership in the Church. From the age of 15, Héctor has devoted himself to responding to Venerable John Paul II's call for a "New Evangelization." It was during his early years as a youth minister that Héctor discerned his call to lay ecclesial ministry. He pursued his theological studies at Saint John University while serving as Pastoral Associate at the historic Saint John the Baptist Parish in his home Diocese of Brooklyn. He served in this capacity for over a decade before relocating to the Archdiocese of Saint Louis where he served for six years under the episcopal leadership of then Archbishop Raymond Leo Burke, both as Director of Hispanic Ministry and later as founding Director of the Office for the New Evangelization.

Over his lengthy ministerial career Héctor has preached to tens of thousands at Parish Missions, Retreats & Conferences throughout the United States, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2009, he launched his own full-time evangelization apostolate through which he continues to faithfully communicate the timeless truths of the Gospel and of our rich Catholic faith in a compelling way that stirs the hearts and minds of his listeners and awakens faith. Héctor's fervent desire is to reach others for Christ, who, as the great apostle Paul put it, "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). Héctor is a devoted husband and father of four. The Molina's are parishioners of the historic Cathedral-Basilica of Saint Louis.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS (10:30-11:30)

Session Topic	Speaker	Location
Holy Catholic Fatherhood: Simple But Far From Easy	Chris Benzinger	E10A
Four Pillars of a Man's Heart	Sean Dalton	E10C

Holy Catholic Fatherhood: Simple But Far From Easy

Becoming a dad is fairly easy. It can even happen when we try to avoid it. Sometimes we hear men say that it "happened by accident." Becoming a great dad, especially a great Catholic dad, does not "happen by accident." Becoming a great dad takes time, commitment and a lot of hard work regardless of whether we are a grand-dad, a currently-in-the-trenches dad or a I-hope-to-be-a-dad-one-day dad. Today is the day to begin or recommit to being the dad that God created you to be. The good news is that becoming a great dad is not only attainable but it is truly God's desired plan for our life. It is never too late to start and every little effort to be a great dad will build the kingdom of God. In this session we will explore God's plan for fatherhood and give practical ideas that you can put in practice today.

Four Pillars of a Man's Heart

Failed male leadership has devastated our culture. We need a new generation of men who have vision and character...kings; who have strength and power...warriors; who have faith and wisdom...mentors; who have heart and love...friends. (Based on 1 Cor 16:13)

BREAKOUT SESSION #1 (12:30-1:35)

Session Topic	Speaker	Location
Being a Catholic Gentleman	Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo	E10A
Shipwreck and Setting Sail: Essential Elements of Marriage	Monsignor R. Francis Muench	E10B
Vatican II: Past, Present, and Future	Deacon Mike Ellerbrock	E10C
Warriors of the First Crusade: Who they Were, Why they Went, and What we can Learn from Them	Steve Weidenkopf	E10D

Being a Catholic Gentleman

In this session we will explore how men are portrayed in 21st Century America and how the Church ought to shape our character to uncover our dignity as Catholic gentlemen. How do we address issues of our culture with strength, character, and dignity without sacrificing our values and integrity?

Shipwreck and Setting Sail: Essential Elements of Marriage

Is marriage whatever you want it to be? Are there some "non-negotiables"? Hear what the Church teaches about this great gift of God to his people.

Vatican II: Past, Present, and Future

A reflection on the background, themes, controversies, significance and impacts of the Council.

Warriors of the First Crusade: Who they Were, Why they Went, and What we can Learn from Them

Over nine hundred years ago, Catholic warriors from Europe liberated the Holy City of Jerusalem from Muslim forces. This session will present the story of these brave warriors of God who left home, family, friends and wealth to risk certain death for love of God and concern for their salvation.

BREAKOUT SESSION #2 (1:45-2:50)

Session Topic	Speaker	Location
Men Mission Trips: Changing lives Beginning with our Own	Chris Benzinger	E10A
Prison Ministry: the Need, the Why, and the How	Deacon Tom Elliott Deacon Charles Williams Jane Brown Dennis Beeman	E10B
The Current State of Courtship, Dating, Marriage and the Family	Skip Burzumato	E10C
Rise Up Oh Men of God: Learning the Way of Manly Holiness from Saint Joseph	Deacon Keith Fournier	E10D

Men Mission Trips: Changing lives beginning with our own

Men love to have a mission. We like having a goal and like it even better if there is a slight bit of danger. In this session we will look at Mission Trips to foreign countries and how they are life-changers on the trip and game-changers at home.

Prison Ministry: the Need, the Why, the How

There are over 30,000 men, women, and juveniles in prisons and jails in the 155 jails and prison facilities in this diocese. There is a great need for more Catholic volunteers to serve in jails and prisons in the diocese. A welcoming and supporting church is crucial for returning prisoners.

The Current State of Courtship, Dating, Marriage and the Family

Discover from the latest research what is going on with marriage and the family in America today among both younger and older adults.

Rise Up Oh Men of God: Learning the Way of Manly Holiness from Saint Joseph

Men are challenged to live their vocations as husbands, fathers, grandfathers and disciples in a way which cultivates holiness and bears witness to the saving truths of the Catholic Church. In the midst of a culture which has lost its regard for heroic virtue, sacrifice and honor, we can look to Joseph of Nazareth, the “Man’s man” for Christian men who seek to live courageously, grow in manly holiness and honor the Lord.

ABOUT THE BREAKOUT SESSION SPEAKERS

DENNIS BEEMAN

Dennis Beeman is currently the Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation and RCIA at the Church of the Redeemer in Mechanicsville. He has worked in several capacities for the Diocese of Richmond. From 1984-1998, he served as the Associate Director for Religious Education and then as the Director of Religious Education from 1998-2008. From 2001-2009 Dennis served generally as a volunteer with prison visitations and since then has visited frequently the Henrico Jail. Mentor since 2010. Married with four young adult daughters.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Luke 4: 18-19 | "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

CHRIS BENZINGER

Chris is son of the Father, husband to Michelle, and father to six children. Chris serves as the Director of Missions for Life Teen where he forms and leads 41 missionaries serving in the US, Germany, Netherlands, and Haiti. He is passionate about helping men live a full life in Christ.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Psalm 37:4 | "Delight in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart."

JANE BROWN

Jane Brown works in the Office of the Governor as the Director of Community Partnerships. She has served more than 30 years in public service leading programs that support families and strengthen communities. She has worked in human services at both the local and regional/state level. Currently she is the Ecumenical and Interfaith Representative for the Cathedral of Sacred Heart in Richmond. Jane is the proud mother of two adult daughters.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Matthew 25:44-45 | "Then they themselves also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'"

SKIP BURZUMATO

Ernest D. “Skip” Burzumato is the assistant director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia, and an adjunct professor of sociology at Bridgewater College. For over twenty years he has directed, worked and taught at various ministries, non-profits and educational institutions in Memphis, Tennessee; Savannah, Georgia and central Virginia. He has undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Memphis in Tennessee and a Master of Divinity degree from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. Skip served in the U.S. Navy from 1984-1990. For the past two decades, Skip’s research and writing has focused on the current state of courtship, dating, marriage and the family. He is a frequent lecturer and writer on various issues pertaining to modern marriage and the family. Skip is originally from Brooklyn, NY, and grew up in the Tampa Bay area of Florida. He and his wife, Stacey, have been married for twenty-six years. They have four children.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Genesis 1-3

SEAN DALTON

Sean Dalton is the West Regional Director for Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). He received his MA in Theology and Certification in Catechetics from Franciscan University in 1998. Sean has eight years of experience in diocesan ministry with the Diocese of Sioux Falls and the Archdiocese of Denver in the areas of youth, young adult, and campus ministry. He also has been a parish youth minister and Camp Director. Sean and Jennifer live in Denver, CO with their five children.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Galatians 2:20 | “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

BISHOP FRANCIS X. DiLORENZO

Francis Xavier DiLorenzo was named 12th Bishop of Richmond by Pope John Paul II on March 31, 2004. Currently, Bishop DiLorenzo serves in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as a member of the Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church. He has served as a member of the Administrative Committee and also as chairman of the committee on Science and Human Values. In an earlier term as chairman of that committee, he inaugurated a series of popular teaching brochures, reflecting the bishops' consultations with top scientists on topics such as the relationship of science and religion and ethical issues in the rapidly growing fields of genetic testing and genetic screening. In previous years, he also served the USCCB committee on doctrine and the ad hoc committee on bishops' life and ministry.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Acts 2:42 | “They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

DEACON MIKE ELLERBROCK

Deacon Mike Ellerbrock is Vicariate Deacon serving the parishes of the New River Valley and Roanoke Valley as well as the Virginia Tech Newman Community and Radford Catholic Campus Ministry. He serves on the Diocesan Deacon Council and Personnel Board. An economics professor at Virginia Tech, Deacon Mike teaches courses on Science and Religion and Environmental Ethics. His wife Sue is the Director of Religious Education at Saint Mary Catholic Church in Blacksburg and Saint Jude in Radford. Ordained in 1992, Deacon Mike has published 22 articles on religious topics, leads retreats, and is undefeated as substitute chaplain for the Hokie football team!

Favorite Scripture Verse: 2 Timothy 4:7 | “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

DEACON TOM ELLIOTT

Deacon Tom Elliott was ordained a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Washington in 1981. He has over 35 years of experience as a volunteer in prison ministry throughout the world having served in Maryland, Washington, DC, South Carolina, Virginia, and the Republic of China. Deacon Tom served as the Coordinator of Prison Ministry for the Diocese of Richmond from 2005-2006. Currently, he is a Virginia statewide volunteer.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Joshua 24:15 | "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

DEACON KEITH FOURNIER

Deacon Keith Fournier is the Editor in Chief at Catholic Online. In his fifteenth year of service as a Permanent Deacon, he is currently assigned to Saint Stephen Martyr Catholic Church in Chesapeake. He and his wife Laurine have been married for 34 years and have five grown children and six grandchildren. Deacon Fournier holds his Bachelor's degree in theology and philosophy from the Franciscan University of Steubenville, his Masters Degree in Marriage and Family Theology from the John Paul II Institute of the Lateran University, his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, and is currently a PhD candidate in Moral Theology at the Catholic University of America. As a constitutional lawyer he has appeared in four cases before the United States Supreme Court on Pro-Life, Religious Freedom and Pro-family issues.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Philippians 2:1-8 | “So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.”

MONSIGNOR R. FRANCIS MUENCH

Monsignor Raymond Francis Muench was born in Newark, New Jersey in 1952. He graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1974, received his Master of Divinity from Immaculate Conception Seminary in Mahwah, New Jersey in 1980, and was ordained for the Order of Saint Benedict of New Jersey in 1981. In 1985, Monsignor Muench earned a Licentiate in Canon Law magna cum laude from the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Rome and also holds a Masters in Library Science from Rutgers University. He came to the Diocese of Richmond in 1990 and has worked with the Diocesan Tribunal as well as serving in a variety of parishes as parochial vicar and pastor. In 2002 he was named Chaplain to His Holiness by Blessed John Paul II. At present, Monsignor Muench is the Vicar Judicial of the Diocese as well as Vicar Episcopal for the Central Vicariate.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Genesis 2:24 | “Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh.”

STEVE WEIDENKOPF

Steve Weidenkopf is a Lecturer of Church History at the Notre Dame Graduate School of Christendom College in Alexandria, Virginia. He is the author of *Epic: A Journey through Church History* – a 20 session parish-based study published by Ascension Press. His study on *The Early Church: a follow-up Epic* time period program is forthcoming. Steve has also written commentaries on Blessed Pope John Paul II’s *Familiaris Consortio*, Pope Paul VI’s *Humanae Vitae* and the Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*). He has given numerous presentations and seminars on Church History, marriage and family life, human sexuality, and theology.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Luke 7:9 | “When Jesus heard this he marveled at him, and turned and said to the multitude that followed him, ‘I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.’”

DEACON CHARLES WILLIAMS

Deacon Charles Williams is a recently ordained Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Richmond. He currently works as the Director of Finance at Blessed Sacrament Huguenot Catholic School. Deacon Charles has been involved in prison ministry at the Richmond City jail for three years where he visits with inmates and serves as a mentor. He is a member of Saint Paul Catholic Church in Richmond.

Favorite Scripture Verse: Micah 6:8 | "You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the lord requires of you: Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God."

EXPO AREA

There are several groups featured in our Expo Area outside of the main session room in E21C. Feel free to visit these groups, ask questions, and get information.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Thanks to the efforts of Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven and some of his parishioners, the Connecticut state legislature on March 29, 1882, officially chartered the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society. The Order is still true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity. The Knights was formed to render financial aid to members and their families. Mutual aid and assistance are offered to sick, disabled and needy members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

MISSIONERS OF CHRIST

Missioners of Christ is a Catholic Christian community united by common prayer and common ministry. Our "four pillars" shape the essence of our formation and spirituality; we are Eucharistic; understanding the Eucharist to be "the source and summit of Christian life" (CCC 324), Charismatic; believing in and calling upon the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, which are "at the service of charity which builds up the Church" (CCC 2003), Marian; holding a special devotion to Our Lady, which is "intrinsic to Christian worship" (CCC 971), recognizing Mary as a "preeminent and... wholly unique member of the Church" (CCC 967), and Magisterial; being submitted to the teaching authority of the Catholic Church, whose "authority in this matter is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ" (CCC 85).

CURSILLO

Cursillos in Christianity is a movement that, through a method of its own tries to, and through God's grace manages to; enable the essential realities of the Christian to come to life in the uniqueness, originality, and creativity of each person. In becoming aware of their potential and while accepting their limitations they exercise their freedom by their conviction, strengthen their will with their decision, to propitiate friendship in virtue of their constancy in both their personal and community life. The Cursillo Movement consists of proclaiming the best news of the best reality: that God, in Christ, loves us. Communicated by the best means, which is friendship towards the best of each one, which is his being person and his capacity of Conviction, Decision, and Constancy. And what needs to be emphasized today, now, and immediately in order to be on the cutting edge of today's debate is to facilitate and make possible for every person to encounter oneself always and absolutely essential in order to be able to encounter God and others.

FELLOWSHIP OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (FOCUS)

Rooted in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, FOCUS was born out of a passion and zeal to share how a relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith can transform the world. Beginning with our nation's future leaders, FOCUS sends teams of young, trained missionaries to the college campus in order to reach students with the gospel. In partnership with the university parish and/or Newman Center, FOCUS missionaries host large group outreach events, weekly Bible studies and offer one-on-one mentoring with student leaders. We welcome young adults from all walks of life and religious backgrounds to our events. Through the personal investment and dedication of our missionaries, FOCUS helps to build a joyful, Christ-centered community and support network on each campus where we have a presence. Students are encouraged to join the missionaries at daily Mass and in prayer, the most vital commitment our missionaries make each day.

NEWMAN CONNECTION

Newman Connection is a non-profit organization dedicated to uniting Newman Centers in prayer all across the country, while strengthening the Catholic Faith. We are in the business to provide a national support structure and unified brand for Newman Centers assisting them in their growth, both spiritually and physically. This is achieved by working with established Newman Centers to facilitate the continued development of these Centers on campuses nationally especially those who wish to expand and develop the scope of their ministry. We develop resources to help students and Catholics everywhere receive meaningful formation and chaplaincy. We create a structure of communication, support and encouragement to all individuals looking to strengthen their faith and become aware of the work of Newman Centers throughout the United States.

THE CHURCH MOUSE BOOKS

The Church Mouse Books and Liturgical Supply opened on March 2, 2009 to serve the Catholic community of Virginia. They have a variety of books and resources available for sale to participants in the Men's Conference.