



The National Conference of Veterans Affairs Catholic Chaplains (NCVACC)

Established: 1985

Endorsement: Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

2024 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

**THEME: *Full Hybrid 38 Experience: Professionalizing VA Catholic Chaplains
and Strategies on LGBTQ+ Ministry and Suicide Prevention***

May 13-17, 2024

Hampton Inn Nashville Vanderbilt
Nashville, TN

Conference Education Schedule

Monday, May 13

- 8:00 a.m. Travel Day for Participants/Registration
- 9:00 a.m. Board Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Arrival of Participants/Registration
- 5:30 p.m. MASS
- 6:00 p.m. Socials
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Tuesday, May 14

- 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Registration (continued)
- 8:30 a.m. Opening Welcome
 - Rev. Alejandro De Jesus, PhD: NCVACC President
- 9:00 a.m. Chaplain Kimberly Willis, Executive Director, VA Chaplain Service
Keynote Speech: *Hybrid 38 - Towards Professionalizing Chaplain Service in the VA, Changes
and Challenges*
- 10:00 a.m. Break*
- 10:30 a.m. Chaplain Kimberly Willis, Executive Director, VA Chaplain Service - Questions and
Concerns (Open Forum)
- 11:30 a.m. Noon Prayer
- 12:00 noon Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Chaplain Paul Dordal, National Chaplain Program Coordinator for Suicide
Prevention, Community Clergy Training Program, and Spiritual Care Innovations:
Suicide Reality and Challenges in the VA
- 2:00 p.m. Open Form
- 2:15 p.m. Break*
- 2:45 p.m. Rev. Bruce T. Morrill, SJ, Distinguished Professor of Theology Divinity School,
Vanderbilt University
Suicide Prevention and Postvention: Challenges to Catholic Chaplain Ministry
- 3:45 p.m. Open Form
- 4:15 p.m. Conference ends for the day.
- 4:30 p.m. MASS
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner

Wednesday, May 15

- 6:45 a.m. Morning Prayer and Mass
- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Erica Cohen Moore, Executive Director, National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC)
Dealing with LGBTQ+ Populations: Who They are and Considerations for Catholic Ministry
- 9:00 a.m. Workshop on Catholic Chaplain Strategies and Interventions
- Individual Reflection on Questions
 - Small Group Sharing (Participants will have assigned groups)
- 10:00 a.m. Break*
- 10:30 a.m. Group Reporting and Discussion
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch.
- 1:00 p.m. Conference ends for the day. Afternoon Free for Nashville Tours and Visits.
Dinner on your own.

Thursday, May 16

- 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. NCVACC Annual Membership Meeting – Part I
- Financial & Audit Reports*
 - Rev. Patrick Fitzsimons, NCVACC Treasurer
 - Rev. Thomas Kirchhoefer, Chair – Auditing Committee
 - What's New: NCVACC Website, Initiatives, Concerns*
 - Closing Remarks: Plans and Projects*
 - Rev. Alejandro De Jesus, PhD: NCVACC President
- 10:00 a.m. Break*
- 10:30 a.m. NCVACC Annual Membership Meeting – Part II
- Election Matters*
 - Rev. Stephen Brandow, Election Committee Chair
- 11:30 a.m. Executive Board Meeting
Free Time for Members
- 12:00 noon Lunch
- 2:00 p.m. Talk: The Most Rev. Joseph L. Coffey, DD
Auxiliary Bishop for Veterans Affairs
- 2:45 p.m. Talk: The Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio, JCD
Archbishop for the Military Services, USA
- 3:30 p.m. Break*
- 4:00 p.m. MASS: The Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio, JCD, Presider
- 5:00 p.m. Socials
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner

Friday, May 17

- 6:45 a.m. Morning Prayer, followed by MASS
- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast and Departure (Travel Day)