Commemoration, Preservation, Celebration

11th Triennial Conference on the History of Women Religious

June 23 – 26, 2019
Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, Indiana

Sunday, June 23, 2019

11:30 a.m. – 8 p.m. | Check-In

12:30 – 2 p.m. | Lunch

2 – 4:15 p.m. | Panels

Session 1 | **Canonized American Sisters: How Congregations Commemorate, Preserve, and Celebrate Sainted Sisters’ Legacies in the Twenty-First Century (Roundtable)** | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *James Carroll, Iona College*

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Regina Bechtle, S.C., *Sisters of Charity of New York*

St. Theodora Guérin
Jan Craven, S.P., *Shrine of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin and the National Shrine of Our Lady of Providence*

St. Katharine Drexel
Jane Nesmith, S.B.S., *Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament*

St. Philippine Duchesne
Carolyn Osiek, R.S.C.J., *Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

St. Marianne Cope
Margaret Susan Thompson, *Syracuse University*

Updated March 1, 2019 | subject to change
Session 2  |  Preserving Stories of American Sisters Working for Racial Justice  |  211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Carol Coburn, Avila University*

“The Ritual Gifts of Sr. Thea Bowman to Historic and Contemporary Black Catholics”  
*Kim R. Harris, Loyola Marymount University*

“Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, New York, in Selma, Alabama”  
*Sr. Barbara Lum, S.S.J., Sisters of St. Joseph*

“Sister Margaret Ellen Traxler: Fighting for Racial Justice”  
*Paul T. Murray, Siena College*

“‘Swept up and Embracing the Struggle’: Transformative Experiences of Two Dominicans in the Jim Crow South”  
*Sr. Janet Welsh, O.P., Dominican University*

Session 3  |  Preserving and Telling Our Stories  |  254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Mary Ewens, O.P., Sinsinawa Dominican Research Center*

“Preserving Sisters’ Records: The International Benedictine Experience”  
*Rebecca Abel, O.S.B., Catholic Distance University*

“The Immaculate Heart Community: Ensuring the History of two Communities Becomes a Living Archive”  
*Nan Cano, I.H.M., Immaculate Heart Community of California*

“Sisters of Mercy of the Americas: A Case Study in Consolidating and Preserving Women’s Religious Community History”  
*Kathryn Oosterhuis, Mercy Heritage Center*

“Lifting the Veil on Women Religious Archives: Uncovering Hidden American History”  
*Ellen Pierce, Archival Consultant*

4:30 – 5 p.m.  |  Vespers  |  Church of Our Lady of Loretto

5 – 5:45 p.m.  |  Reception  |  O’Grady Center
6 – 7 p.m. | Dinner | Noble Family Dining Hall (Student Center)

7:30 – 9 p.m. | **Keynote Address** | Carroll Auditorium (Madeleva Hall)

“Open, Vast, and Inclusive: Catholic Women’s History is Early North American History”

*Ann Little, Colorado State University*
Monday, June 24

8 – 9 a.m. | Breakfast | Noble Family Dining Hall (Student Center)

9 – 10:30 a.m. | Panels

Session 4 | New York’s Women Religious and their Archives | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Carolyn Osiek, R.S.C.J., Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

“Preserving the Ministry of Religious Women in the Archdiocese of New York”
Kate Feighery, Archives of the Archdiocese of New York

“The Archives of the Sisters of Charity of New York”
Mindy Gordon, Sisters of Charity of New York Archives

Jennifer Halloran, Maryknoll Mission Archives

Session 5 | Vatican II and Beyond, the Changing Mission and Identity of Canadian Women Religious | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Maria Patricia Williams, University College London

“The Missionary Oblate Sisters: Renewal and the Tortuous Journey of the Prophetic Feminist Vision of Alice Trudeau”
Rosa Bruno-Jofré, Queen’s University of Canada

Heidi MacDonald, University of Lethbridge

“We are not ladies in waiting. We are women for peace’: Living Vatican II as Activism”
Elizabeth Smyth, University of Toronto
Session 6 | **Sisters in Time of War** | 254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Kathleen Riley, Ohio Dominican University*

“Commemorating Cultural Transformation: Crimean War Nurses Recall Their Service”  
*Moira Egan, Queens College, City University of New York*

“Advent Wreaths and Azaleas from Dachau: ‘Tarcisia’ and the Ordination of Bl. Karl Leisner”  
*Eileen Lyon, State University of New York at Fredonia*

“Angels in Arlington: Memorializing Civil War Nun-Nurses on the Eve of Women’s Suffrage”  
*Andrew Mach, University of Notre Dame*

**10:30 – 11 a.m.** | Morning break

**11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** | Panels

Session 7 | **Revisiting the Boston College Conference: Lessons Learned from a Collaborative Approach to Preservation** | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Patricia Wittberg, S.C., Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, Georgetown University*

*Jennifer Head, Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*Malachy McCarthy, Claretian Missionaries USA-Canada Archives*

*Margaret McGuinness, La Salle University*

Session 8 | **Sisters in First and Second Wave Feminism** | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Margaret Susan Thompson, Syracuse University*

*Carmen Mangion, Birkbeck, University of London*
“Sister Elizabeth Carroll, RSM, Sister Rose Dalle Tezze, RSM, and the Rise of an International Catholic Feminist Discourse”  
Jillian Plummer, University of Notre Dame

Session 9  |  The Role of the Sisters and Daughters of Charity in Settling the West  |  254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Regina Bechtle, Sisters of Charity of New York

“Onward to New Mexico and Colorado”  
Judith Metz, S.C., Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati

“Onward to California and Nevada”  
Margaret Ann Gainey, D.C., Daughters of Charity Province of the West

“What is fifteen hundred miles to God?: Charity Ventures West to St. Louis”  
Denise Patricia Gallo, Religious of Jesus and Mary

“Charity in the West: Eastern Canadian Sisters Go West”  
Elizabeth McGahan, University of New Brunswick

12:30 – 2 p.m.  |  Lunch  |  Noble Family Dining Hall (Student Center)

2 – 3:30 p.m.  |  Panels

Session 10  |  Legacy of Sister Formation and Renewal  |  210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Fernanda Perrone, Rutgers University

“Sixties Seedbed”  
Maureen Abbott, S.P., Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods  
Presented by Janet Gilligan, S.P., Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods

“Comparative Reception: Post-Vatican II Assemblies among Women Religious”  
Christine Hernandez, Independent Scholar

“Education of Religious Nuns as a Legacy of Mother Anne Nasimiyu Wasike: A Response to the Globalization of Catholic History”  
Edelquine Shivachi, University of Notre Dame
Session 11 | **Labor and Activism** | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Monica Mercado, Colgate University*

“Because We Wore the Habits of the Church’: Catholic Nuns and the United Farm Workers Movement”
*John Buchkoski, University of Oklahoma*

“What Should Sister Do...When the Union Representative Calls’: Catholic Hospitals and Labor Activism in 1960s New York City”
*Thomas Rzeznik, Seton Hall University*

*Kathleen M. Washy, Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden*

Session 12 | **Art and Literary Legacies** | 254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Bren Ortega Murphy, Loyola University, Chicago*

“An Irradiant Irregularity: Making (non)Sense of the Immaculate Heart College Art Department”
*Timothy Dulle, Fordham University*

“Writing Rose Hawthorne: Images of Mother Mary Alphonsa in American Literary History”
*Farrell O’Gorman, Belmont Abbey College*

“The Poetry of Catherine McAuley (1778–1841), Founder of the Sisters of Mercy”
*Mary C. Sullivan, R.S.M., Rochester Institute of Technology (professor emerita)*

3:30 – 4 p.m. | Afternoon break

4 – 5:30 p.m. | Panels

Session 13 | **Authority and Influences: Reconsidering the Dynamics of Antebellum Women Religious** | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Kathleen Sprows Cummings, University of Notre Dame*
“Torn Between the World and the Cloister: The Americanization of the Oblates and the Dominican Sisters”
Elisabeth Davis, University at Buffalo

“Beyond Erasure: French Missionary Nuns in America in Nineteenth-Century Public and Private Memory”
Gabrielle Guillerm, Northwestern University

“Bishop John Baptist Mary David and his ‘Dear Daughters’: Approaches and Problems to Analyzing Relationships between Superiors and Sisters”
Jacqueline Willy Romero, Arizona State University

Session 14 | 1,000 Words in a Picture, I | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Deirdre Raftery, University College Dublin

“Remembering and ‘Re-Membering’: When One Religious Community Honored its Past and Committed to its Future”
Arlene Bachanov, Adrian Dominican Sisters

“The Kelly Sculpture of Mother Catharine Sacred White Buffalo”
Mary Ewens, O.P., Sinsinawa Dominican Research Center

“Catholic Ritual, Protestant Spectacle: Robert Weil’s Taking the Veil (1863)”
Kara French, Salisbury University

“Medical Missionaries, Politics, and Conflict”
Barbra Mann Wall, University of Virginia School of Nursing

“Power in Portraiture: Catherine Spalding and the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth”
Mitchell Oxford, The College of William and Mary

“Flowers of the Desert: A Monastic Microcosm”
Judith Sutera, O.S.B., Mount St. Scholastica

Session 15 | Accessing Sisters’ Stories: Research and Teaching Applications for the History of Women Religious | 254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: M. Christine Anderson, Xavier University
“Teaching Digitally: Or How Sr. Blandina and Sr. Justina Segale Will Save My Teaching”  
Mary Beth Fraser Connolly, Purdue University Northwest

“Stewardship and Oral History: Preserving the History of the Daughters of Charity Foundation”  
Kristine Ashton Gunnell, University of California, Los Angeles

“‘Memory Matters’: The Journals of Cecilia Maria O’Conway and Rose Landry White”  
Betty Ann McNeil, D.C., DePaul University

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | Dinner | Noble Family Dining Hall (Student Center)
Tuesday, June 25

8 – 9 a.m. | Breakfast

9 – 10:30 a.m. | Panels

Session 16 | **Sisters in Higher Education: Leadership and Charism** | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Elizabeth Smyth, University of Toronto*

“Institutional Identity: Crisis, Charism and Adaptation”  
*Kevin Glauber Ahern, Manhattan College*

“Parallel, Converge, Separate: Documenting the Work of Catholic Sisters in U.S. Public Higher Education Against the Backdrop of Women’s History”  
*Peggy Delmas, University of South Alabama*

“Rooted in Story, Oriented towards the Future: A Dynamic Theology of Charism”  
*Katherine Greiner, Carroll College*

Session 17 | **Global Perspectives** | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Moira Egan, Queens College, City University of New York*

“Preserving the Records of How Convent Schools Were Financed: Account Books in Nineteenth-Century Congregational Archives”  
*Deirdre Bennett, University College Dublin*

“The History of Women Religious in Late Modern and Contemporary Italy: From Self-Celebration to Social Quantification”  
*Riccardo Semeraro and Giovanni Gregorini, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan and Brescia*

“Commemoration, Preservation, Celebration: The 1914 Silver Jubilee Booklet and the History of Progressive Education”  
*Maria Patricia Williams, University College London*
Session 18 | **Early and Late Modern Religious Life** | 254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Peter Cajka, University of Notre Dame*

“Holy Indian Women: The Indigenous Nuns of the Siete Príncipes Convent, Oaxaca, Mexico, 1782–1870”
*Jessica Lauren Criales, Rutgers University*

“The Voices of Women Religious in Controversy: Mother Angélique Arnauld’s Theology of History in Light of Seventeenth-Century French Jansenism”
*Elissa Cutter, Loyola Marymount University*

“Remembering Sacrificial Suffering in the History of Women Religious: The Case of Discalced Carmelite Nuns in the Netherlands, 1870–present”
*Brian Heffernan*

10:30 – 11 a.m. | Break

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Panels

Session 19 | **Research with Women Religious** | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Kate Feighery, Archives of the Archdiocese of New York*

“Learning and Stewarding Sisters’ Stories for a New Generation”
*Katie Gordon, Harvard Divinity School*

“For the Sake of the Mission: Giving Birth to the ‘DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE’”
*Kathleen Riley, Ohio Dominican University*

“Triangulation and Listening Between the Lines: Writing History with Women Religious”
*Barbara Wolf Shousha, University of Nebraska, Lincoln*

Session 20 | **1,000 Words in a Picture, II** | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Thomas Rzeznik, Seton Hall University*

“WOMAN (Religious) with a MOVIE CAMERA”
*Edel Robinson, Independent Artist*
“Chez Les Dames Ursulines’: Julie Painchaud and Stitched Identity”  
*Kelsey Salvesen, University of Pennsylvania*

“From Mistresses to Bachelors”  
*Evelyn Spratt, Notre Dame of Maryland University*

“Women Religious in the 1918 Flu Pandemic”  
*Sara Bolten, McKendree University*  
*Mary Ann Thompson, McKendree University*

“The Napkin Ring: A Symbol of Community Life”  
*Kathleen M. Washy, Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden*

Session 21 | **Transnational Relocation and Adjustment** | 254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Heidi MacDonald, University of Lethbridge*

“Maura, Ita, Dorothy, Jean, and Carla: The Spiritual Transformation of Five American Missionaries in Post-Vatican II Central America”  
*Edward Brett and Donna Brett, La Roche College*

“Abrupt Americanization: Dominican Sisters in New York”  
*James Carroll, Iona College*

*Tuan Hoang, Pepperdine University*

**12:30 – 2 p.m.** | Lunch | Noble Family Dining Hall (Student Center)

**2 – 3:30 p.m.** | Panels

Session 22 | **New Perspectives on Catholic Women’s Education in 19th Century America** | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Mary Beth Fraser Connolly, Purdue University Northwest*

“Raising the Academy to the Highest Standard of the Times’: Ann Gertrude Wightt as Directress of Georgetown Visitation Academy, 1826–1831”  
*Joseph G. Mannard, Indiana University of Pennsylvania*
“Playing Catholic: Sister-Writers and Plays for Young Women in the Convent School”
Monica L. Mercado, Colgate University

“‘Teach Poor Children as Much as You Can’: Daughters of Charity, Jesuits, and Education in the United States, 1809–1900”
Catherine O’Donnell, Arizona State University

Session 23 | Sisters Crossing Borders at Home and Abroad | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Barbra Mann Wall, University of Virginia

“Dreams Realized in the Midst of Adversity: The Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Augustine and Early 20th-Century Florida Anti-Catholicism”
Barbara Mattick

Margaret Mary Ibeh, H.H.C.J., Central Eastern Province of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus
Caroline Mbonu, H.H.C.J., University of Port Harcourt

“Staying Local: The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in Philadelphia”
Margaret McGuinness, La Salle University

Session 24 | Commemoration Efforts | 254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Betty Ann McNeil, D.C., DePaul University

Ruth Ferris, University College Dublin

“Sanctuary of Sorrows: Material Culture, Congregational Memory, and the Rwandan Genocide”
Alison Fitchett Climenhaga, University of Notre Dame

“Commemorating Grief and Hope: Marking the Bicentennial of the Sisters of Charity of New York at a Time of Decline for Catholic Education”
Dennis Gunn, C.F.C., Iona College
3:30 – 4 p.m. | Afternoon break

4 – 5:30 p.m. | Panels

Session 25 | 1,000 Words in a Picture, III | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Ellen Pierce, Archival Consultant

“Sisters in the Wilderness”
M. C. Havey, Sisters of Service

“Sister Jean and the 2018 NCAA Men’s Final Four”
Bren Ortega Murphy, Loyola University Chicago

“Sister J: Secret Weapon”
Fernanda Perrone, Rutgers University

“The Golden Jubilee of Saint Elizabeth’s Home—Children, Friends, and Benefactors”
Amy Rosenkrans, Notre Dame of Maryland University

Session 26 | Roundtable on Research Projects | 211 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Ryan Murphy, Chestnut Hill College

“Commemorating, Preserving, and Celebrating Women Religious in the Digital Domain”
Rosa Bruno-Jofré, Queen’s University
Ana Jofré, SUNY Polytechnic

“No one ever told me these stories!: Sharing the Histories of Women Religious with Today’s Adolescents”
Katie Bugyis, Harvard University (Radcliffe Institute)
Ann David, University of the Incarnate Word

“Inclusivity and Inspiration: An Ethic of Methodological Sensibility in Prioritizing Women Religious’ Experiences”
Christine Gervais, University of Ottawa

“Intermonastic Team Researching the History of Female Convents in Poland (1971–2018)”
Agata Mirek, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin
Session 27 | **Sister-Teachers in Ireland and the United States** | 254 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Mary Henold, Roanoke College*

“‘We must prefer the schools to all others’: Preserving the Legacy of the Presentation Sisters’ Contribution to Second-Level Education in Ireland, 1850–1950”
*Catriona Delaney, University College Dublin*

“Sister Scientists: Catholic Sisters as Biological Investigators and Educators”
*Reba Drey Luiken, University of Minnesota*

“Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate Pioneers of African American Education”
*Cecilia Venable, University of Texas at El Paso*

**6 – 6:30 p.m.** | Reception

**6:30 p.m.** | Banquet

“Finding What's True in the Stories of Women Religious”
*Eileen Markey*

Presentation of CHWR Awards
Wednesday, June 26

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. | Breakfast | Noble Family Dining Hall (Student Center)

8:30 – 10 a.m. | Panels

Session 28 | CARA Session I | **Culture and Ethnicity in Vocations to Religious Life: A Critical Discussion** | Carroll Auditorium

Chairs: *Thu Do, L.H.C., and Jonathon Wiggins, CARA @ Georgetown University*

Presentation of Current Research

Critical Reviewers of the Research:

*Deborah Borneman, SS.C.M., National Religious Vocation Conference*
*Ralph O'Donnell, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*
*Elizabeth Ann Vasquez, S.S.C.J., Archdiocese of San Antonio*

Discussion with Participants

Session 29 | **Women Religious Relations with Lay Persons** | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: *Arlene Montevecchio, Saint Mary’s College*

“The Theresian (Mostly True) Story: Remembering the Apostolate to Promote Sisterhood Vocations”
*Mary Henold, Roanoke College*

“Tradition and Transformation: The Changing Face of Tertiaries in Later Medieval Europe”
*Alison More, University of St. Michael’s College*

“Partners in Ministry and Mission: Women Religious and Associates”
*Ryan Murphy, Chestnut Hill College*

*Joshua Wopata, University of Dayton*
10 – 10:30 a.m. | Morning break

10:30 a.m. – 12 noon | Panels

Session 30 | CARA Study Session II | International Religious Institutes in the United States since 1965: Changing the Cultural Context | Carroll Auditorium

Chair: Thu Do, L.H.C., and Thomas Gaunt, S.J., CARA @ Georgetown University

Presentation of Current Research

Critical Reviewers of the Research:

Mary Johnson, SN.D. de N., Trinity Washington University
Kevin Karimi, L.S.O.S.F., Marywood University
Teresa Maya, C.C.V.I., Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word
Patricia Wittberg, S.C., University of Indiana – Purdue in Indianapolis emeritus

Discussion with Participants

Session 31 | Biographies: How Sisters Tell Their Stories | 210 Madeleva Hall

Chair: Janet Welsh, O.P., Dominican University

“Biographies and Corporate Identity Formation: Ireland, 1850–1907”
Bridget Harrison, Queen’s University, Belfast

Deirdre Raftery, University College Dublin

“Hidden in Plain Sight: Loretto Histories and Herstories”
Annie E. Stevens, Webster University

12 – 1 p.m. | Lunch | Noble Family Dining Hall (Student Center)