



St Rita Dallas Physicians Guild

A Chartered Guild of the Catholic Medical Association

March 2012

Upcoming events

- April 4 meeting after 5:30 Mass at St Rita's Cafeteria (Josh Freeman discussing [Healing Touch: The Sacrament of Anointing the Sick](#))
- April 12 Joint meeting with [Thomas More Society](#) (lecture by Austin Ruse on The Unborn Child in International Law)
- Lecture by Dr. Farr Curlin at the University of Dallas (see newsletter for details)
- Upcoming meeting schedule can be found [here](#)

Links

[St Rita Dallas CMA Guild](#)
[National CMA website](#)
[UTSW St Basil Society](#)
[USCCB website](#)
[National Catholic Bioethics Center](#)

In the News

[Bishop's Dinner](#)

The Pro Life Committee of Dallas will hold its annual event on August 14th at Irving Convention Center. John Schneider (yes, "Bo Duke" of Dukes of Hazzard and now pro-life actor) will be the keynote speaker

[USCCB action portal](#)

More information with USCCB documentation, videos, and bishop

The Interior Life

At our last meeting, Fr Bob Coerver (chaplain of the Physicians Guild) discussed the interior life as spelled to us in 1 Thessalonians 4:23 : "May the God of peace himself sanctify you through all things, so that your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved without blame." Our beings are made up of spirit (*pneuma*), soul (*psuche*), and body (*soma*) and we are challenged to develop - and not compartmentalize - each facet of our being to develop our capacities as Christians.

If we neglect our bodies, we can adversely affect our soul and spirit, such as the monastic who enjoys an overly powerful prayer life but also overlooks his body and develops obesity and diabetes. And if we spend all our energy into exercising, we could potentially neglect time for prayer. But we could cause an imbalance of the interior life if we seek continuous emotional nurturing yet neglect the spiritual aspect of our being. So part of the challenge for the busy Catholic physician is to find the time and the space in which the pneuma, psuche, and the soma can be cultivated.

Our next meeting: Healing Touch



Joshua J. Whitfield is the Director of Faith Formation and Education at St. Rita Catholic Community in Dallas, Texas. Having studied at the College of the Resurrection in Mirfield, England and at Duke University, he is a former Anglican minister and is currently seeking ordination as a Catholic priest through the Pastoral Provision of Pope John Paul II. He is also the author of *Pilgrim Holiness: Martyrdom as Descriptive Witness* (Cascade, 2009).

His presentation, "Healing Touch: The Sacrament of Anointing the Sick," will explore the sources of the Church's theology and practice of anointing. From the Gospels to modern Catholic teaching, Joshua will offer an overview this part of the Church's sacramental treasure.

Please RSVP for the meeting at StRitaDallasCMA@gmail.com.

Lecture on conscience and medical practice

*statements pertaining to the
contraception mandate (with links
to write Congress)*

[CMA Joins Legal Challenge to Obamacare](#)

The Catholic Medical Association
joined six other medical
organizations in a friend of the
court brief filed on Feb. 13 in the
U.S. Supreme Court

[Prayer resources for the Protection of Religious Liberty](#)

*The USCCB produces prayer
resources as we battle the right for
conscience and religious liberty*

Contact Us

StRitaDallasCMA@gmail.com



Dr. Farr Curlin will be speaking at the University of Dallas on April 20th at 7 pm in Lynch Auditorium. He is an Associate Professor of Medicine and is the Co-Director of the Program on Medicine and Religion at the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics (University of Chicago). The program is being sponsored by the University of Dallas and UTSW faculty members.

His talk is entitled “**Professional Commitments or Personal Impositions? Conscience and Conscientious Refusals in the Practice of Medicine.**” Dr Curlin is a hospice and palliative-care physician, researcher, and medical ethicist at the University of Chicago. In his work as an ethicist, he addresses questions of how physicians' religious commitments ought to shape their clinical practices in our plural democracy. There will also be a response by Msgr. Michael Olson, S.T.D., Rector of Holy Trinity Seminary

More information can be found at the [University of Dallas website](#)

Do not conform yourself to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing, and perfect – Romans 12:2