

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC

ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA



Memo

Date: July 15, 2024

To: Priests

From: Father Pedro Poloche, STL, JCL, director, Ongoing Formation of Priests

Re: Clergy Study Day save the date—Oct. 2-3—“A Catholic Perspective on Gender Ideology”

Please save the date for a very informative two-day event entitled, “The Catholic Perspective on Gender Ideology.” This will take place at the Chancery on October 2 and 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

As you know, swift transformations in culture, legal frameworks and public sentiment concerning matters of human identity and gender are influencing the experiences of Catholics and inevitably causing some uncertainty. These transformations pose difficult questions for Catholic dioceses and parishes striving to convey Christ’s love and reverence for every individual within the framework of truth. This two-day event will include presentations, case studies and Q&A after each of the four sessions.

Our speaker will be Mary Rice Hasson, J.D., senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C., where she co-founded and directs the Person and Identity Project. An initiative which equips parent and faith-based institutions to promote the truth about the human person and counter gender ideology.

Mary, who is an attorney and policy expert, has been a keynote speaker for the Holy See during the United Nations Commission on the Status of Woman, addressing education, women and work and caregiving and gender ideology. She also serves as a consultant to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family, Life and Youth.

Our speaker will be joined by Dr. Patrick Lappert, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon who has been in practice for over 30 years. He was also board certified as a general surgeon and served as a reconstructive surgeon for the U.S. Navy.

Dr. Lappert grew up in a Jewish home, but spend most of his life as an atheist. At the age of 40, he converted and was baptized. He has gone on to be ordained a deacon in the Catholic Church serving and preaching at his parish in Alabama.

We hope you will plan to join us. Registration details and link will be sent closer to the date. In the meantime, mark your calendars.