

2015 Women's Conference Speakers

English Presentations

Joann Heaney-Hunter, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at St. John's University, where she currently teaches courses on Pastoral Theology. She has published articles on the spirituality of the Christian family, received several professional counseling awards, and written grant proposals in support of Faithful Response, a collaborative program of post 9/11 mental health services. Dr. Heaney-Hunter recently appeared on Fox 5 NY's edition of "Keeping with Faith."

Fr. Robert E. Lauder, Ph.D., is a Brooklyn Diocesan priest and Professor of Philosophy at St. John's University. He writes a weekly column which appears in *The Tablet* and is a regular contributor to the Culture section of the Jesuit weekly, *America*. Father Lauder has also been published in *Commonweal* and in the Sunday Arts and Leisure section of *The New York Times*. He has an international reputation as a film critic and has published widely on philosophy and film.

Sr. Marian Maskulak, CPS, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at St. John's University. Her main areas of research include Christian Spirituality and Edith Stein studies. She is the author of *Edith Stein and the Body-Soul-Spirit at the Center of Holistic Formation* (Peter Lang, 2007), and is presently working on another book on Edith Stein for Paulist Press. Sr. Marian has also published articles on various topics in spirituality, as well as on interreligious dialogue.

Meghan Clark, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor at St. John's University. Her writing appeared in *A Big Heart Open to God: A Conversation with Pope Francis*, and she recently published *The Vision of Catholic Social Thought: The Virtue of Solidarity and the Praxis of Human Rights*. From 2010-2013, Dr. Clark served as a consultant to the USCCB committee on domestic justice and human development. She writes for US Catholic Magazine and blogs on www.millennialjournal.com and www.catholicmoraltheology.com.

Spanish Presentations

Casilda Noboa, M.A., holds degrees in Education and Theology, with a specialization in Religious Science. Casilda belongs to the Secular Institute Our Lady of Altagracia where she became consecrated for the Evangelical Council of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. Ms. Noboa worked as Secretary to the Bishop of Caguas while serving as a missionary in Puerto Rico. In the Brooklyn Diocese, she has been involved in the diaconate training program and taught courses on Biblical Literature and The Writings of the Holy Fathers.

Msgr. Joseph Malagrecia, M.Div., J.D., is presently the pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Brooklyn. He is fluent in Spanish, French, Haitian Creole and Italian. He is the Coordinator of the Charismatic Renewal for Hispanic and Haitian Prayer Groups in the Brooklyn Diocese and has been involved in the Charismatic Renewal on the national level. Msgr. Malagrecia is currently the chairperson of the Planning Committee for the 50th Anniversary Conference for the Renewal, to be held in Philadelphia in 2017.

Nelsa I. Elías, M.A., is the Facilitator for Participants, Instructors, and Curriculum for the new School of Evangelization of the Diocese of Brooklyn. Prior to this position she served as the Associate Director of the Diocesan Pastoral Institute and as a Pastoral Associate. She has taught in the Lay Ministry Program, as well as in the Diocesan Diaconate Formation Program. Ms. Elías has led various retreats on the local and diocesan level and participates in the diocesan Workshops for New Liturgical Ministers.