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Ignited By Truth

A Catholic Conference

Streaming FREE at

[YouTube.com/IgnitedByTruthCatholicConference](https://www.youtube.com/IgnitedByTruthCatholicConference)

April 18, 2020 10 AM - 5 PM ET

[LIVE Divine Mercy Vigil Mass](#) @4 PM ET

Fr. Chris Alar, MIC

National Shrine of Divine Mercy

*Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the
Catholic Church and Igniting in all hearts a love for the Faith*

Ignited By Truth is supported by the
Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, NC

IBT 2020: Speaker Bios



Matthew Leonard

Matthew Leonard is an international speaker, author, podcaster, and founder of Next Level Catholic Academy

(NextLevelCatholicAcademy.com), an online membership community focused on teaching authentic Catholic spirituality.

An accomplished filmmaker, he has written, produced, directed, and hosted multiple best-selling Catholic video series such as *The Bible and the Virgin Mary* and *Genesis to Jesus*, which have been translated into almost a dozen languages. A convert to Catholicism and former missionary to Latin America, Matthew is a frequent guest on radio and television programs across the country. His podcast "The Art of Catholic," is heard in more than 180 countries around the world. He appears regularly on EWTN, Relevant Radio and CBS.

Matthew holds a Masters in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is the author of two books, *Louder Than Words: The Art of Living as a Catholic* and *Prayer Works! Getting A Grip On Catholic Spirituality*. He lives in Ohio with his wife Veronica and their six children.

MatthewSLeonard.com.



Jesse Romero

Jesse Romero is a full-time bilingual Catholic Lay Evangelist, who is nationally acclaimed for his dynamic, upbeat Christ

centered preaching. He is host of "The Terry and Jesse Show," & "Jesus 911" on virginmostpowerfulradio.org, and also a host on a Spanish network show "Enfamilia Radio" in Phoenix, Arizona.

He is a best selling author of several books. His latest book is *The Devil in the City of Angels, My Encounters with the Diabolical*.

Jesse has a B.A. from Mount St Mary's University in Los Angeles and an M.A. in Catholic Theology from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. He is Recipient of the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Award, The Fullness of Truth Defender of Faith Award & and was inducted into the Sports Faith International Hall of Fame in 2015.

He has been married to his wife, Anita, since 1983 and has three children and grandchildren. With the same passion and commitment that made him a three-time World Police Olympics boxing champion, a former USA middleweight kickboxing champion and a retired veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Jesse shares Catholic teaching with an exciting style that is guaranteed to strengthen, edify and fortify you with a deeper love for God! Love God, Save Souls, & Slay Error!

JesseRomero.com

IBT 2020: Speaker Bios



Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC

Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC, is director of Evangelization for the Marian Fathers of the

Immaculate Conception and director of Formation for the Marian Missionaries of Divine Mercy. Fr. Michael is also the author of the books *33 Days to Morning Glory*, *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*, and the new book *33 Days to Greater Glory*. He lives and works on Eden Hill in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, home of the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.

marian.org/marians/details.php?id=428



Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC

Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, a prominent Marian priest, exhibits an unmistakable zeal for the priesthood

and devotion to Our Lady. He is a well-known conference speaker on Divine Mercy and the Blessed Virgin Mary. He speaks passionately about these topics in his moving conversion story. He is the editor of two books: *The Virgin Mary and Theology of the Body* and *The Immaculate Conception in the Life of the Church*. He has also authored seven books: *Purest of All Lilies: The Virgin Mary in the Spirituality of St. Faustina*, *No Turning Back: A Witness to Mercy*, *Under the Mantle: Marian Thoughts from a 21st Century Priest*, *Marian*

Gems: Daily Wisdom on Our Lady, Mary of Nazareth: The Life of Our Lady in Pictures, *Rosary Gems: Daily Wisdom on the Holy Rosary*, and *Champions of the Rosary: The History and Heroes of a Spiritual Weapon*

FatherCalloway.com



Dr. John Bergsma

Dr. John Bergsma is Professor of Theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville. A former

Protestant pastor, Dr. Bergsma entered the Catholic Church in 2001 while getting his Ph.D. in Bible from the University of Notre Dame.

A close collaborator of Dr. Scott Hahn, Bergsma speaks regularly on Catholic radio and at conferences and parishes nationally and internationally. He has authored seven books on Scripture and the Catholic faith, including *Bible Basics for Catholics* (Ave Maria Press), *Stunned by Scripture: How the Bible Made Me Catholic* (Our Sunday Visitor), and *A Catholic Introduction to the Bible: Old Testament* (with Brant Pitre; Ignatius Press).

He and his wife Dawn reside with their eight children in Steubenville, OH. You have probably heard him on EWTN and Relevant Radio.

JohnBergsma.com

IBT 2020: Speaker Bios & Agenda



Fr. Chris Alar, MIC

Father Chris Alar, MIC, is a priest with the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception. Fr. Chris wrote and produced the popular “Divine Mercy 101” DVD and is the author of the bestselling book *After Suicide: There’s Hope for Them and for You*. He is a regular host and guest on EWTN and he also hosts the online “Divine Mercy Matters” series at DivineMercyMatters.org. Currently he serves as “Fr. Joseph, MIC,” the director of the Association of Marian Helpers, and is the head of Marian Press, located on the grounds of the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

Marian.org/Marians/Alar



Fr. Ian VanHeusen

A priest of the Diocese of Raleigh who teaches, writes, and researches on prayer and meditation. Current assignments are ECU Newman and St. Peter’s in Greenville.

For more information on Father Ian Van Heusen please visit his website:

IanVanHeusen.com



Dana Catherine

A young singer/songwriter and speaker, Dana travels throughout the U.S. to encourage and inspire others with her songs and witness. Growing up in a Catholic family, Dana always had a strong faith, but it wasn’t until she went to college that her relationship with God truly deepened.

Through the ups and downs of college life, Dana began to understand that true and lasting happiness, peace, and purpose is found in Christ alone. Only then did she realize that God was calling her to step out and share His truth and love with others using the musical gifts she was given.

Now, Dana finds abundant joy in allowing the Lord to use her and her music for His greater glory. Dana independently released her debut album, *Glorious Horizons*, in September 2015. After signing with a new Christian record label, Rekindle Records, she released her first single, “My Savior in Me,” and released her new album “Nothing in the World” in April 2018.

DanaCatherineMusic.com

IBT 2020: Speaking Schedule

10:00 AM – Welcome

10:02 AM – “Divine Destiny: The Public Secret of Catholicism that Changes Everything” **Matthew Leonard**

10:52 AM – “Confession as Spiritual Warfare” **Dr. John Bergsma**

11:42 AM – Praise & Worship Adoration **Fr. Ian VanHeusen & Dana Catherine**

12:03 PM – “Consecration to St. Joseph” **Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC**

12:46 PM – Our Lady of Good Help

12:50 PM – “David’s Five Stones Against the Culture of Death” **Jesse Romero**

1:45 PM – “Finding the Father in the Gospel of John” **Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC**

2:45 PM – “Divine Mercy for Our Times” **Fr. Chris Alar, MIC**

3:40 PM – **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

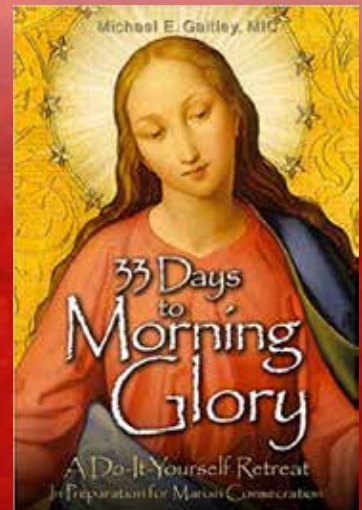
3:53 PM – The Veil Removed

4:00 PM – **Divine Mercy Vigil Mass** with Fr. Chris Alar, MIC (*LIVE* at the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy)

<https://www.facebook.com/DivineMercyOfficial>

Note that a Facebook account is not necessary to watch Mass.

Thank you for joining us today for our conference! As a token of our gratitude, please accept our gift of a FREE copy of Fr. Michael Gaitley’s *33 Days to Morning Glory: A Do-It-Yourself Retreat In Preparation for Marian Consecration* (note that we have a limited number of copies - magazine format). Simply e-mail us at Ignited@IgnitedByTruth.org with your mailing address. Be assured that we will not share your contact information with any other business or organization.



IBT 2020: Prayer & Reflection

"I have come to light a fire on the earth. How I wish the blaze were ignited!"

– Luke 12:49

"If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze!"

– Pope John Paul II

1. Have I come to realize more deeply the great gift God has given me in my Catholic Faith? Has a flame been ignited in my heart today? What touched my heart?
2. Do I realize that only contact with God will sustain the flame in my heart? How can I make more time to pray? How can I receive the sacraments more frequently? Can I make time during my week to make a Holy Hour or visit the Blessed Sacrament?
3. Do I realize that the greatest witness I can give to the Faith is by living it and becoming holy? Have I become more convicted in my Catholic beliefs today? Is there anything I feel called to change in my life so that I can live my Faith more fully? How will I do this?
4. Do I realize that I need to educate myself in order to live my Faith more fully and become a more effective apostle? What are some topics I feel called to study? How can I make time to do this?
5. Do I realize that I can grow and persevere and help others to grow in their faith by participating in a faith study discussion group? Is there a group in my parish I could join? If not, do I know others who I could meet with regularly? How could I start a group?
6. Do I realize that God has given me a great gift in my Catholic Faith and He wants me to share that gift with others? Do I realize that He is putting souls in my path for a reason? Do I know a non-practicing Catholic or someone who might want to know more about the Catholic Faith? Do I know someone who needs Christ? Who can I reach out to and how can I bring them closer to Him?
7. Do I realize that this conference is a great gift from God that I can use as a tool for evangelization? Who will I invite to next year's conference?

IBT 2020: Prayer & Reflection

Ignited By Truth Conference Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for enlightening our minds to realize the great gift You have given us in our Catholic Faith.

Thank you for enkindling our hearts with a desire to share this gift with others.

Thank you for the opportunity you have given us to unite in the Ignited By Truth Conference.

We ask for your blessing upon the conference.

Call those needed to make it happen and guide their efforts in accomplishing Your Will.

Bless the speakers, that they may be effective instruments in conveying Your Teaching.

Inspire all who hear their words with a desire to know more and share their knowledge with others.

Draw all hearts to a deeper conversion and conviction to live according to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Bless all who are touched by the conference with a deeper love for You and zeal for the salvation of souls.

Amen.

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Pray for us*



I HAVE COME TO SET THE EARTH ON FIRE, AND
HOW I WISH IT WERE ALREADY BLAZING!

Luke 12:49 NAB



THE DIVINE MERCY MESSAGE AND DEVOTION

God loves us and He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others.



*Saint Maria
Faustina*

- My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. (Diary, 699)
- Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. (Diary, 300)
- **To receive these graces, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the Vigil celebration) by making a good confession beforehand and staying in the state of grace and trusting in His Divine Mercy.**
- I demand from you deeds of mercy which are to arise out of love for me. (Diary, 742)
- A plenary indulgence, obtained by fulfilling the usual conditions, also is available.

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

- Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given you. (Diary, 1541) Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. (Diary, 687) When they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the Merciful Savior. (Diary, 1541)
- It is likewise appropriate to pray the Chaplet during the “Hour of Great Mercy” — three o’clock each afternoon (recalling the time of Christ’s death on the cross).

HOW TO PRAY THE CHAPLET

- Say the Our Father, Hail Mary, and the Apostle’s Creed
- On the “Our Father” beads of the Rosary, pray: Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
- On each of the “Hail Mary” beads, pray: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
- Concluding prayer (Repeat 3 times) Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

IBT 2020: Divine Mercy

To receive the promise of Divine Mercy in the absence of the sacraments this year, it is sufficient to make a Spiritual Communion and pray an Act of Contrition with the intention of going to Confession as soon as possible.

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Act of Contrition

O my God,
I am heartily sorry for having offended
Thee,
and I detest all my sins,
because I dread the loss of heaven, and
the pains of hell;
but most of all because they offend Thee,
my God,
Who are all good and deserving of all my
love.
I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace,
to confess my sins, to do penance,
and to amend my life.

Amen.



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IBT 2020: Until the Next IBT...

Connect Online

Stay plugged into the IBT mission through our website IgnitedByTruth.org! Subscribe to our blog and keep growing in your faith! Join our mailing list for the latest news on the next conference! We welcome you to the growing IBT Community through our social media sites!



Spread the News!

Please share your experience of this conference with your family, friends, and parish! Refer them to our website IgnitedByTruth.org for more information. Volunteer to represent the conference to your parish, school or group! Join our growing team of Ignited By Truth envoys! E-mail Envoys@IgnitedByTruth.org. Who will you invite to the next Ignited By Truth?

Share Your Story

We want to know if you have been “Ignited”! You can inspire or encourage others by sending your testimony to Ignited@IgnitedByTruth.org.

Give Feedback

Please fill out this online survey, and let us know what you think about our conference. We welcome your comments! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PV97N9C>

Donate

Join our growing list of sponsors! Your tax-deductible donation will keep the ticket prices low for our events so that many people will be able to attend. Donate online at IgnitedByTruth.org or mail your check to: Ignited By Truth, PO Box 1454, Cary, NC 27512.

Pray!

Prayer has sustained and encouraged us throughout the process of bringing Ignited By Truth to fruition. Thank you for including us among your petitions. We ask you to continue to pray for all of us who will go forth to spread the truth of Jesus Christ and His Church. To join our team of Prayer Warriors, e-mail Prayer@IgnitedByTruth.org.

Confession as Spiritual Warfare

Dr. John Bergsma jbergsma@franciscan.edu

- I. A Protestant Pastor who wanted to C _____; because it is a biblical D _____:
- A. James 5:14: Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects.
- B. No way to implement this in my Protestant pastoral environment!
- C. Some other Scriptures I didn't ponder:
- a. John 20:21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
 - b. Acts 19:11 And God did extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that handkerchiefs or aprons were carried away from his body to the sick, and diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. ... 18 Many also of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. 19 And a number of those who practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all; and they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. 20 So the word of the Lord grew and prevailed mightily.

Here we see the connection between C _____ and

V _____ in spiritual warfare.

II. Confession as a powerful tool of spiritual warfare confirmed in ministry:

- A. My experiences in spiritual warfare during urban ministry—the non-Catholic deliverance minister was employing a form of non-sacramental G _____ C _____ as more effective than so-called "P _____ E _____"
- B. Years later I was _____ by the following quotes:
- 1. "Many times I have written that Satan is much more enraged when we take souls away from him through confession than when we take away bodies through exorcism." (Fr. Gabrielle Amorth, *An Exorcist Tells His Story*, Ignatius Press, 1990, p. 67)
 - 2. "Q. *My pastor claims the best exorcism is confession.* A. He is right. It is the most direct means to fight Satan, because it is the sacrament that tears souls

from the demon's grasp, strengthens against sin, unites us more closely to God, and helps conform our souls increasingly to the divine will. I advise frequent confession, possibly weekly, to all victims of evil activities." (Amorth, *Exorcist: More Stories*, 195)

3. "In my experience, a good general confession—which I always recommend as a starting point—in conjunction with an intense life of prayer and grace, is sufficient to end the afflictions. Without prayer and grace, exorcisms are ineffective." (Amorth, *Exorcist: More Stories*, 79)

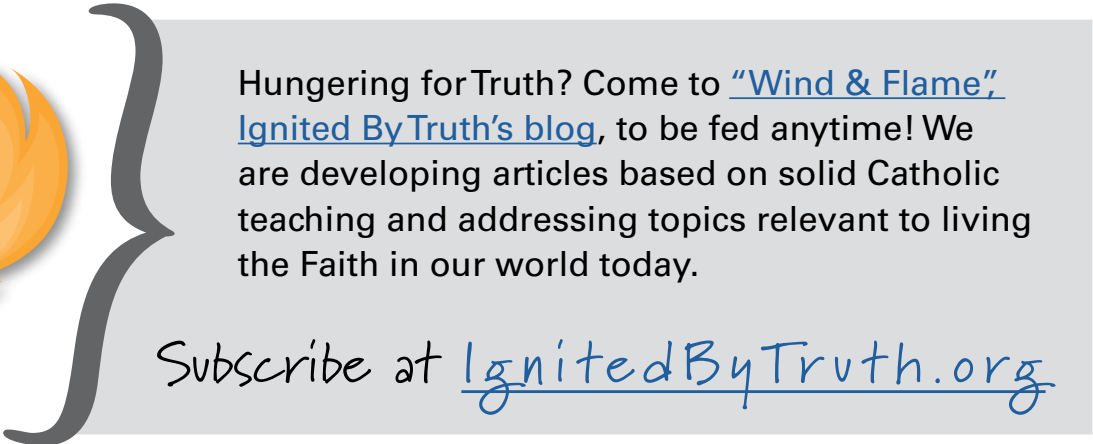
C. Some Practical Recommendations:

1. Confession is one of the primary ways that we experience D _____ M _____.
2. Confession is a powerful assistance for us in spiritual warfare, and in attaining spiritual freedom.
3. Many habitual sins or addictions have a spiritual warfare A _____ to them, a kind of spiritual "bondage" in a certain area.
4. F _____ confession can be very helpful in making spiritual progress. St. Josemaría Escrivá practiced and recommended weekly confession.
5. A good G _____ confession can help break a pattern of sin/spiritual defeat. Make an appointment with a holy priest, or do this while on a retreat.

St. Ignatius of Loyola on a General Confession:

Whoever, of his own accord, wants to make a General Confession, will, among many other advantages, find three in making it here. First: ... by making it there is greater profit and merit, because of the greater actual sorrow for all the sins and wickedness of his whole life. Second: In the Spiritual Exercises, sins and their malice are understood more intimately, than in the time when one was not so giving himself to interior things. Gaining now more knowledge of and sorrow for them, he will have greater profit and merit than he had before. Third: In consequence, having made a better Confession and being better disposed, one finds himself in condition and prepared to receive the Blessed Sacrament: the reception of which is an aid not only not to fall into sin, but also to preserve the increase of grace. (from the Spiritual Exercises)

6. Renewing our baptismal R _____ of the Devil in confession can be helpful, in particular confessing and renouncing specific past sins that began a certain pattern of sin that we continue to struggle with (e.g. initial dabbling in the occult, abuse of substances, sexuality, pornography, etc.)
7. S _____, C _____ confession of sins (although not belabored) disposes us to grace and breaks our attachments better than vague, general admissions of guilt.

[illegible]

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