












Holy Synod 2022 Schedule – Church In Action




Most recorded videos can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/@user-vy4ne2lz9h/videos>


Sunday 10/9/2022

Time (Central)	Event	Abstract (& Video Link)	Photos
9:00 AM – 9:00 PM	Registration		
4:00 – 4:45 PM	Opening & Welcome	Opening remarks by moderator, Jennifer Reyes Lay. Presiding Bishop Francis Krebs welcomed delegates from communities around the US and from abroad, virtually and in-person, and delivered opening remarks about St Louis as a town with a history of “brokenness” in racism and oppression of indigenous peoples but also has much to offer the visitor. He suggested that “Synod” is more than legislation and business work but occurs in “connecting”, “prayer”, and “togetherness”.	 
4:00 – 4:45 PM	Budget Review and Mary Magdalene Society Financial Report	Finance Chairs, John O’Grady and Leo Champagne, and ECC Treasurer, Christine Garst, discussed the ECC 2023-24 budget (at minute 39:00). Betty Adams presented the work and financial report of the Mary Magdalene Society (at minute 59:15). Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DJbbgQt2iw Testimonies of Mary Magdalene Society funds recipients: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VoCi4-g0XU	  
5:30 - 7:00 PM	Dinner		
7:00 – 8:30 PM	State of the Communion	Bishop Francis Krebs acknowledged the hardships that COVID imposed on ECC communities. He called on faith communities to remain faithful and likened the church to a “field hospital”. He shared work he has done with interfaith organizations and discussed growth opportunities for the ECC in Europe, Africa, and Mexico.	
8:45 – 9:00 PM	Evening Prayer	Prayers and chants led by the Benedictines of Holy Wisdom.	

Monday 10/10/2022

Time (Central)	Event	Abstract (& Video Link)	Photos
6:00 — 9:00 AM	Breakfast		
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Opening Liturgy	Liturgy of Healing led by ECC chaplains.	
10:15 – 11:45 PM	Opening Keynote	<p>Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias presented “The ECC Constellation in the Independent Catholic Nighttime Sky”. He “sang the praises of the ECC” which, like the Big Dipper, points to the “North Star”, the center of our faith, Jesus. The ECC is called to be a church in action and he reminded us to “remember who we are”. He presented some fascinating survey facts about attitudes and what's important to people in and absent from our pews in the independent Catholic movement.</p> <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHIGcKQItpU</p>	
11:45 – 1:00	Lunch		
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Meet Fr. Paul Burson	<p>Fr. Paul Burson introduced some of his background, clerical formation with the Vincentians, trips to Central America (especially Guatemala), the unexpected changes and callings in his life by the Spirit, and the importance of hearing people’s stories. He was asked about his vision for the ECC, his career at Regis University, the importance of “planting churches”, and the accountability of bishops to their respective diocese especially in handling diversity.</p> <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uL-YjYaZOW8</p>	
1:30 – 2:30 PM	ECC Theology of Unity	<p>ECC Chancellor, George von Stamwitz, discussed some of the theological distinctives of the ECC. How has the ECC evolved and what contributions does the ECC make to Catholic Christianity? How does this evolution shed light on future ECC directions? George discussed Sacramental Justice, Ecclesiology from Below, a Theology of Unity, our Mystical Tradition and modern Apostles of Contemplation and offered ideas on how we honor the gifts we’ve been given?</p> <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUu5DkMFodc</p>	

<p>2:45 – 3:45 PM</p>	<p>Breakout Sessions</p>	<p>Parish Budgets: Kimmie Rubendall.</p> <p>Parish Leadership in Transition: Teri Harroun, Paula Hayford and George von Stamwitz discussed the processes undergone (or still underway) as their respective faith communities transition to new pastoral leadership. Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOXa0aVgZAE</p> <p>Footprints in the Community: Examples of Parish outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Garden (with open access to anyone with food insecurity) – Tim Grogan • Educational & Immigration assistance (outreach to asylum seekers) – Rev Dewayne Messenger & Bro Ray Knapp • Jane Reina: 301 Faith Partners: Social Justice with Lutherans & Episcopalians • Baby Heaven (reclaim neglected Fr. Dickson Cemetery for African-American babies) - Mary Krueger 	 
<p>4:00 – 5:30 PM</p>	<p>House Meetings</p>	<p>The House of Laity (HOL), House of Pastors (HOP) and Council of Bishops (COB) met as separate groups to discuss Synod business and approve or reject the ECC budget, Constitutional and Statute amendments and the HOL or HOP leadership nominations until the next National Synod.</p> <p>Outcomes: Budget was approved with one change (the Social Justice funds were allocated between 2 charities supported historically instead of all going to one). The SEFFY+ amendments were passed. Therese Gabriel/Claudia Kilby to be HOL chair/vice chair. Teri Harroun/Trish Vanni to be HOP chair/vice chair.</p>	
<p>5:30 – 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Dinner</p>		
<p>7:00 – 8:30 PM</p>	<p>ECC Committee Reports</p>	<p>SEFFY Resolution – Certified, Office-of-Presiding-Bishop-approved training required of clergy to protect communities’ children and the most vulnerable.</p> <p>Truth and Reconciliation: Jennifer Reyes Lay. Facing the truth about racism in our country, our regions, and in Christianity.</p> <p>HOL Communities in Good Standing: Christine Garst discussed the ECC Constitution’s requirements for a Faith Community to be in good standing.</p> <p>HOP Liturgical Resources: Michael Nicosia and Trish Vanni explored possibility of establishing a liturgical resource repository (covering topics like, “Why Words Matter?”, “Using Inclusive Language”, etc) and opportunities to share these resources.</p>	

8:30 – 9:00 PM	Evening Prayer	Prayers and readings led by the Franciscans of Reconciliation	
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Interested in seeing “Parade of Parishes” videos from the Rocky Mountain ECC Faith Communities? Check these out:



Community Outreach



Church of the Beloved, Northglenn, CO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMAMALtREkc>

Church of the Holy Family, Aurora, CO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y78WipF6SkI>

Light of Christ, Longmont, CO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4qb22qu0c8Y>




Mary of Magdala, Fort Collins, CO







<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVaD1NLqghU>


St Paul, Denver, CO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OsX20Bb49aw>

These and other ECC “Parade of Parishes” videos are here: <https://www.youtube.com/@user-vy4ne2lz9h/videos>

Time (Central)	Event	Abstract (& Video Link)	Photos
6:00 — 9:00 AM	Breakfast		
8:00-8:30 AM	Morning Prayer	Contemplative prayer led by David Gerardot.	
9:00 — 9:30 AM	Q&A with Fr Paul Burson	<p>Fr. Pablo resumed the conversation begun yesterday, sharing more of his story and key influencers on his life and spirituality. He spoke of St Francis, the Jesuits, Latin American spirituality as epitomized in the crucifix, “Christ of the Poor”, Oscar Romero, and the spirituality of the campesinos and immigrants “awaiting official hospitality” in the US.</p> <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GL9QG4fAVg0 (audio quality is very poor)</p>	
9:30 — 10:30	2 nd Keynote	<p>Rev Trish Vanni presented “Tradition and Traditionalism: Discerning the Difference”. From a Roman Catholic historical perspective, she summarized the work of the first 7 ecumenical Councils which focused on the nature of God (not liturgical rubric and governance) to later Councils up to Trent and the Reformation which became more fixated on Tradition and church laws (not just dogma) as religiously authoritative as Scripture. She explained how “Traditionalism” (behaviors, attitudinal patterns or opinions that are established inter-generationally) are often mis-cited as “Tradition” in social media or in arguments by those seeking power in the church.</p> <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUR1WfVhvNE</p>	
10:45 - Noon	Workshops	<p>Women of the Bible by Dewayne Messenger and Carol Ann Blow. Fr Messenger reviewed as a contemporary story Bible stories of women who might be considered as “bad women” who provided lessons to the men in their stories that potentially provided opportunities for growth and also challenged the ethos of the day. Rev Blow followed with discourse on women’s participation and strengths in the Bible and Church.</p>	 

		<p>All Are Welcome: What Does it Mean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Vietch discussed Casa Gubbio: helps folks working through addictions or in recovery. • Gianni Passarella discussed outreach ministry to young people. • Mir Plemmons spoke on ministry from “in between” cultures and genders. <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gg25B5xXgx8</p>	
<p>Noon – 1:30 PM</p>	<p>Lunch</p>		
<p>1:30 – 2:30 PM</p>	<p>Church in Action Breakout Sessions</p>	<p>Mary Magdalene Society. A panel of presenters (Betty Adams, Bp Frank Krebs, Mimi Maki, Trish Vanni, Mary Battaglia, Doris Hand, Denise Roberts), discussed the work of the Society, the impact in the lives and educational opportunities of fund recipients and donor perspectives.</p> <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k20Rq5SySes</p> <hr/> <p>Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Zoom connection with Joan Crawford who has chaired the T&R Commission through a robust Zoom program of film and book discussions to address the goal of “Truth Telling”. The African American experience was addressed first with intentions for addressing other marginalized groups and communities. “We cannot begin to heal the past until we know the truth”.</p>	 
<p>2:45 – 4:30</p>	<p>Action Options</p>	<p>Truth and Reconciliation Walk: Jennifer Reyes Lay and Bishop Frank lead a short tour identifying locations of racial historical significance: Courthouse (Dred Scott decision), statue of Frankie Muse Freeman, Francis McIntosh lynching site, and Mississippi river levee built with slave labor and representative of Blacks fleeing slavery or race riots across the river.</p> <p>Unofficial Video link: https://www.facebook.com/whymustuknow/videos/665230535215468/?idovravity=1080763178632062</p> <hr/> <p>Assembly of Blessing Bags: Bags of snacks and hygiene products assembled for homeless folks in St Louis.</p>	 
<p>5:30 – 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Vote for Presiding Bishop</p>	<p>HOL and HOP delegates convened to pray for and elect a new Presiding Bishop. (Note: Council of Bishops cannot [currently] vote!)</p>	
<p>6:30 – 8:00 PM</p>	<p>Dinner</p>		

8:15 – 9:15 PM	Celebra- tions	Bishop Frank announced new leadership of HOL and HOP and that the delegate votes strongly affirmed Fr. Paul Burson as the ECC’s new Presiding Bishop.	
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Wed 10/12/2022

Time (Central)	Event	Abstract (& Video Link)	Photos
6:00 — 9:00 AM	Breakfast	Breakfast and hotel checkout	
8:30 – 9:30 AM	Regional Meetings	Various diocese and regions met for fellowship and to discuss Synod highlights - “wow” moments.	
10:00 - Noon	Closing liturgy	<p>Mass of consecration and installation of Paul “Pablo” Burson as the new Presiding Bishop of the ECC.</p> <p>Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qK_X6eucdYM (audio quality is poor in spots)</p>	 