BOSTON CATHOLIC CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

For the 2008 Boston Catholic Men's & Women's Conferences

February 26, 2008

Table of Contents

1. 2008 Conference Dates 1
2. Venue 1
3. Men's Conference Schedule 1
4. Men's Conference Speakers 2
5. Women's Conference Schedule 3
6. Women's Conference Speakers 3
7. Tickets & Prices 4
8. BCMC Lunch / BCWC Dinner 5
9. BCMC Breakfast/Coffee Availability 5
10. Parking/Transportation 5
11. Parish Captains 6
12. Exhibitors 6
13. Conference Volunteers 6
14. Priest Confessors 6
15. Catholics of the Year Awards 6
16. Interpreters for the Hearing Impaired & Hard of Hearing 7
17. Donations Requested 7
18. EVENT PROMOTION: Boston Eucharistic Congress, March 28-29 7

1. 2008 Conference Dates

- The 2008 **Boston Catholic Women's Conference** will be on **Friday evening April 18, 2008** from 5:00-9:30pm**.**
- The 2008 **Boston Catholic Men's Conference** will be on **Saturday April 19, 2008** from 8:00am-6:00pm.
- The Friday night Women's Conference allows Conference attendees and volunteers to attend the Papal Mass in Yankee Stadium on Sunday April 20, 2008.

2. Venue

- The 2008 Boston Catholic Men's & Women's Conferences will be held at **Conte Forum at Boston College**.
- Our Conference team is grateful to Boston College for making every effort to make these 2008 Conferences a huge success. Conte Forum and all of BC's best facilities and talented personnel have been made available to us. Our heartfelt thanks to Father Leahy and all of the folks working with us at BC.

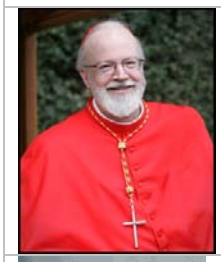
3. Men's Conference Schedule

- Here is the speaker's lineup as of January 28, 2008. We hope to add a few more speakers in the next month.

DRAFT SCHEDULE - 2008 Boston Catholic Men's Conference Saturday April 19, 2008. Conte Forum at Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.			
7:00 am	Doors open for registration and visits with Exhibitors		
8:00	Music program begins. Videos shown in main hall.		
8:30	**1st Keynote Address**		
10:00	**2nd Keynote Address**		
11:00 – 1:00	**Mid-Day Program**		
	• Confession • Adoration	• Visit Exhibitors • Lunch	• Breakout sessions • Main stage – videos shown.
1:00 pm	**3rd Keynote Address**		
2:30	**4th Keynote Address**		
3:30	**5th Keynote Address**		
4:30	**Mass** **Celebrant: Cardinal Seán O'Malley, OFM Cap.**		
6:00	**Conference Ends** • Last chance to visit Exhibitors		
7:00	**Facility closes**		

4. Men's Conference Speakers

- Feb 26 Update – Unfortunately, **Eduardo Verastegui** and **Jesse Romero** have recently told us that they are unable to make this year's Conference, but we hope to have them speak at future conferences. We are in discussions with other national speakers. We anticipate being able to share exciting news soon.

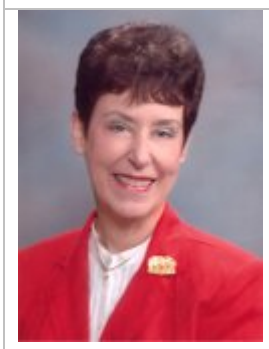
	Tarek Saab • Candidate on *The Apprentice* (season 5) – the "Mensa" candidate. • Cofounder of Lionheart Apparel, a clothing company dedicated to outfitting Christian men in quality apparel that is subtle, symbolic and stylish. 10% of profits are donated to pro-life causes. • Author of *Gut Check: Confronting Love, Work and Manhood in Your Twenties* (releasing on 3/1/08) • As a devout Catholic and a newlywed, his speeches cover topics such as chastity, modesty, business ethics, pornography, abortion, prayer, and other moral issues. • Born and raised in New Bedford, MA, living at times in public housing. In 7th grade, he tested at a collegiate level, won a scholarship to high school. Later earned degrees from Saint Anselm's and Catholic University and began work at Texas Instruments before the opportunity on the Apprentice changed his path.
	Fr. Peter Grover, OMV • Director, Saint Clement's Eucharistic Shrine Boston • Vocation Director for the Oblates of the Virgin Mary • Lecturer on Sacred Scripture and teaches Greek at Saint John's Seminary • Popular homilist whose podcasts are available at www.stclementshrine.org. • More information about Father Grover to be shared later.
	Jack Shaughnessy, Sr. • Successful Catholic businessman (Shaughnessy & Ahern, Co.) and "cheerful giver" (philanthropist). • As part of our Bicentennial celebration, will share reflections on the Church over the past 80 years and his hopes for the future. • He'll also share his powerful story of how God helped him through difficult days as a Catholic business owner. • Raised in Quincy, attended Boston College High School and Tufts University. Served in the Navy before returning to help lead family business. • Jack and his wife Mary have been married for 52 years. They have 7 children and 17 grandchildren.
	**Cardinal Seán O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap.** • Mass celebrant and homilist at 2008 Boston Catholic Men's Conference. • Archbishop of Boston since July 2003. Previously the Bishop of the dioceses of Fall River, Palm Beach and St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. • 1st Cardinal to have a weekly blog: www.CardinalSeansBlog.org. • Inspired and encouraged the founding of the Boston Catholic Men's and Women's Conferences.
	Martin Doman • Music and worship leader at 2008 Conferences. • Martin has been working as a Catholic musician, liturgical music minister, songwriter and worship leader for the past 15 years. He has released several recordings of Catholic praise and worship and led music for many conferences and retreats. • 2007 Boston Catholic Men's Conference Theme *Saint Patrick's Breastplate,* recorded by Martin and included on album "God's Goodness Thus Far." • Coordinator of Laudatio ministry for the Diocese of Harrisburg. Laudatio was formed out of a desire that Martin had to bring renewal to the Church through the power of music and the Eucharist. • Martin is married and he and his wife Charlene have six children. He is a graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville.

5. Women's Conference Schedule

DRAFT SCHEDULE 2008 Boston Catholic Women's Conference Friday April 18, 2008. Conte Forum at Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.	
4:00 pm	• Doors open for registration and visits with Exhibitors. • Music program begins. Videos shown in main hall. • Confessions available. • Adoration Open.
5:00	**1st Keynote Address**
6:00	**2nd Keynote Address**
7:00	Break for Light Dinner
7:30	**3rd Keynote Address**
8:30	**4th Keynote Address**
9:00	**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** • Private Prayer • Worship
9:30	**Main Program closes** • Confessions available • Adoration open. • Visits with Exhibitors.
10:30	**Facility closes.**

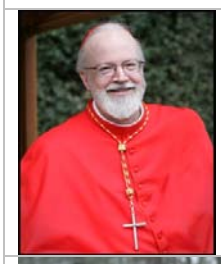
6. Women's Conference Speakers

- Here is the speaker's lineup as of January 28, 2008. There is the possibility of an additional speaker to be added in the next few weeks.

	Kimberly Hahn • Renowned author, lecturer and Bible study leader, in addition to homeschooling her six children with her husband, Dr. Scott Hahn. • Research Fellow and Secretary/Treasurer of The St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology. Has advanced degree in Theology. • Her most recent book is *Life Giving Love: Embracing God's Beautiful Design for Marriage* (Servant, 2002). She is also the co-author with Scott Hahn of the best-selling *Rome Sweet Home: Our Journey to Catholicism* (Ignatius, 1994) and *Catholic Education - Homeward Bound: A Guide to Home Schooling*, written with Mary Hasson (Ignatius, 1996). • In addition to her contributions to numerous books, dozens of her talks and Bible studies have been issued as popular audio cassettes, including "Dating and Courtship: A Catholic Perspective," and "Children: A Model for Family Growth." • Has been the #1 requested speaker by attendees of the Boston Catholic Women's Conference for the previous 2 years. We are grateful that this year's Friday evening schedule allowed Mrs. Hahn on short notice to accept our invitation!
	**Patti Mansfield** • Patti Gallagher Mansfield was a participant in the February 1967 "Duquesne Weekend" which marked the beginning of the Charismatic Renewal in the Catholic Church. From the earliest days of the Renewal she has served as a leader through teaching, writing and pastoral ministry. Patti's testimony has been widely published and she has been a speaker at conferences and retreats for laity and priests in the United States and around the world. She is a frequent guest on Ralph Martin's television program, The Choices We Face. • Patti has authored several books including: *Proclaim His Marvelous Deeds*, *As By A New Pentecost: The Dramatic Beginning of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal* with a Foreword by Cardinal Suenens and *Magnificat: A Mother's Reflections on Mary*. All are available through her ministry office. • Patti is married to Al Mansfield, Coordinator of the Catholic Charismatic

Renewal of New Orleans, Louisiana, and is the mother of four children. She and Al serve together in pastoral leadership of two weekly prayer meetings, the Holy Spirit Retreats and an annual Catholic Charismatic Conference. The Mansfields are Liaisons to the Archbishop of New Orleans for the Charismatic Renewal and are recipients of the Papal Medal, Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (For the Church and the Pope).

- Patti addressed Pope Benedict XVI on behalf of all ecclesial movements and new communities before a crowd of 400,000 people in St. Peter's Square on the vigil of Pentecost, June 3, 2006.



Cardinal Seán O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap.

- Mass celebrant and homilist at 2008 Boston Catholic Men's Conference.
- Archbishop of Boston since July 2003. Previously the Bishop of the dioceses of Fall River, Palm Beach and St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands.
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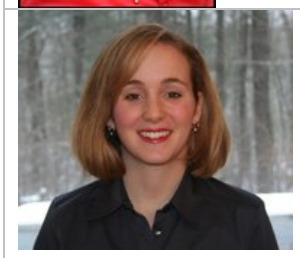

Stacy McGovern

- Stacey McGovern was born and raised in Massachusetts and was graduated from Montrose School and Framingham State College. After graduation, she worked as an elementary school teacher, teaching third grade. Her career blossomed, as was evident when she was nominated twice for Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. Stacey soon married husband Jim McGovern. Returning from her honeymoon, she began to experience progressive hearing loss at 25. Doctors could not find any reason for the rapid deterioration of her hearing nor stop its progression.
- Just after her twenty-sixth birthday, her medical charts read "profoundly deafened adult." Her journey through this tragic experience did not cause her to lose faith or turn away from God. In fact, quite the opposite occurred. Incredibly, she clung to God, through Jesus and Mary, and endured this painful time, which caused her many physical and emotional trials.
- After five years of silence, Stacey opted for cochlear implant surgery and she soon returned to a world of sound. She successfully learned to hear via the implant through rehabilitation. Tragically, the next year found this mother learning to walk again after she and her young children survived a horrific accident.
- Stacey will share her experiences with sudden deafness, the comfort God brought to her through strangers, the strength she gained through her struggles, and the blessings He promised and delivered. Her story will demonstrate the power of prayer and patience and the importance of having faith in God's plan, even when things seem impossible. Her deep faith serves as a model for women everywhere.
- Stacey has shared her experiences with others throughout New England and New Jersey and has written her story for several magazines. Stacey has been a guest speaker at many schools, churches, and conferences. She is also a Bionic Ear Association Volunteer for Advanced Bionics where she councils others who are considering cochlear implant surgery.
- Stacey, age 34, and her husband and three children reside in Holliston, where they are members of St. Mary's Parish.

7. Tickets & Prices

- Ticket prices for adults will increase after **February 29, 2008.** We encourage attendees to order tickets prior to the increase.
- We plan to assign seating sections like we did during the 2007 Conferences. The earlier one orders a ticket the better the seat. We encourage groups that wish to sit together to order tickets as a large group at the same time.
- Ticket pricing charts are below. Pricing for the Women's Conference is slightly lower than the Men's Conference due to BCWC's shorter, Friday night program.
- **Tickets ordered before 3/1 will all be mailed out the week of March 3.**

2008 Boston Catholic Men's Conference Ticket Prices Saturday April 19, 2008, 8:00am – 6:00pm.			
Ticket Type	**Pricing before 2/29/08**	**Pricing (3/1 – 4/11)**	**Door Prices**
Adult (1-19 tickets)	$30	$35	$40
Adult (20+ tickets)	$25	$30	$40
Student (<23 years)	$15	$15	$20
Boston College Student	$10	$10	$10
Clergy/Religious/Seminarians	Free	Free	Free

** Discounted tickets are available on request. We want everyone who is interested in attending the Conferences to come, regardless of their ability to pay. Please contact 617-977-0916 or email info@CatholicBoston.com if you want to request a discounted ticket.*
*** Note: Lunch is an additional $10. We have priced this so that early BCMC registrants can get the Conference + Lunch for only $40.*

2008 Boston Catholic Women's Conference Ticket Prices Friday April 18, 2008, 5:00 – 9:30pm			
Ticket Type	**Pricing before 2/29/08**	**Pricing (3/1 – 4/11)**	**Door Prices**
Adult (1-19 tickets)	$23	$27	$30
Adult (20+ tickets)	$20	$25	$30
Student (<23 years)	$10	$10	$15
Boston College Student	$10	$10	$10
Religious/Novices	Free	Free	Free

** Discounted tickets are available on request. We want everyone who is interested in attending the Conferences to come, regardless of their ability to pay. Please contact 617-977-0916 or email info@CatholicBoston.com if you want to request a discounted ticket.*
*** Note: Dinner is an additional $10. We have priced this so that early BCWC registrants can get the Conference + Lunch for only $33.*

8. BCMC Lunch / BCWC Dinner

- After the lunch issues at the 2007 Conferences, we worked hard with Boston College to provide attendees a hearty meal for $10. We are grateful that Boston College has discounted their normal lunch to allow us to meet this $10 threshold.
- For $10, attendees will get a:
  - Choice of Sandwich
    - i. Turkey and provolone on a sub roll with lettuce (with mayonnaise and dijon mustard packets)
    - ii. Tuna salad with green leaf lettuce on a roll
    - iii. Hummus, cucumbers, and feta in a whole wheat wrap
  - Apple
  - Individual bag of chips
  - Chocolate chip cookie
  - Choice of beverage (Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Bottled Water).
- To ensure that enough lunch / dinner bags are available, we will be requesting that Conference registrants pre-select lunch and pay.

9. BCMC Breakfast/Coffee Availability

- Boston College will setup stations in the registration area and the Forum itself that sell a small selection of items for purchase.
- Items and pricing:
  - Coffee, 16oz. Starbucks - $2.00
  - Danish - $2.25
  - Bagel with Cream Cheese Packet - $1.75.

10. Parking/Transportation

- Boston College has 2 garages adjacent to Conte Forum. The Beacon Street garage will be used for both Conferences. The Men's Conference will likely also have access to the Commonwealth Street garage.
- Convenient bus dropoffs and holding areas are available for all groups.
- There will be a small number of handicap parking spots available at the Beacon Street exit.
- Complete information about parking will be made available on our website at the beginning of April.

11. Parish Captains

- Parish Captains are extremely critical for inviting their Catholic brothers and sisters to attend the Conferences. Thank you to everyone that has served as a parish captain in the past. We hope you can serve in is role again!
- With 2008 being the Bicentennial, Cardinal Sean and the Conference organizing team is hopeful that the Conferences can help welcome back many of our fellow Catholics to regular participation in our Catholic faith.
- Andreas Widmer and Linda Calabrese will again be the contacts for all parish captains.
- Signup forms for parish captains are available on www.CatholicBoston.com.
- The Parish Captain training and discussion session on February 9 was a huge success. For any captain that would like additional materials, please email info@CatholicBoston.com or contact Linda or Andreas.

12. Exhibitors

- Exhibitors will be placed with the registration tables in the Recreation Complex at Boston College.
- There will be a closed circuit broadcast of the Conference speakers into the Exhibitor space.
- John Spadaccini will again be the contact for all exhibitors.
- Exhibitor applications must be received by March 15, 2008.
- Exhibitor registrations can be submitted via our website, www.CatholicBoston.com.

13. Conference Volunteers

- We have been blessed with hundreds of dedicated volunteers to help bring hospitality to the thousands of attendees. Many of these volunteers have already expressed interest in serving again. Thank you! We encourage you to join them. We particularly need men to help at the women's conference, and women to help at the men's conference – this enables our volunteers to fully participate in one of the conferences.
- Irene Moschetto and Colette Crowley will serve as contacts for our volunteers again this year.
- Signup forms to be a volunteer can be submitted via our website, www.CatholicBoston.com.
- Please consider being a volunteer (again) this year.

14. Priest Confessors

- We hope to provide the thousands of attendees the opportunity to experience Christ's forgiving love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- We are grateful to the hundreds of priests that have attended the Conferences and spent many hours hearing confessions.
- Priests can signup to hear confessions via our website, www.CatholicBoston.com.
- Thank you to the dedicated priests that serve us in local dioceses and religious communities.

15. Catholics of the Year Awards

- The Boston Catholic Men's and Women's Conferences established five awards for Boston and surrounding area Catholics during the 2007 Conferences. We are pleased to continue the tradition in 2008. These five awards will be presented at the Conferences on April 18 and April 19, 2008.
- The awards have a dual purpose:
  - to celebrate, encourage, and bless those nominated in their work and faith, and
  - to encourage and inspire Catholics in our region by holding up examples of holiness and God's work in our midst.
- There are 5 categories:

Category	2007 Winner
Priest of the Year	Father David Barnes
Layman of the Year	Dr. John Bratton
Deacon or Religious Man of the Year	Brother Rahl Bunsa, BH
Laywoman of the Year	Mary Jo Kriz
Religious Woman of the Year	Sr. Mary Ricci, CSJ

- Any person attending the 2008 Boston Catholic Men's or Women's Conference can nominate one person in each category for these awards:
  - Nominations will be accepted from January 28, 2008 until March 7, 2008.
  - Nominations can be submitted online at www.CatholicBoston.com.
  - A paper nomination form can be obtained by calling 617-977-0916.

16. Interpreters for the Hearing Impaired & Hard of Hearing

- The Office for Ministry to the Deaf Community will be providing interpreters at the 2008 Conferences (as they have in the past).
- The Conference has arranged special seating and pricing for those involved in this ministry. For more information, please contact Fr. Jeremy St. Martin or Kathryn Carey in the Office of the Apostolate for the Deaf (617-746-5815).

17. Donations Requested

- Because of the lower attendance at the 2007 Conferences due to the blizzard of March 16 and the high fixed costs of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, the 2007 conferences lost a significant amount of money.
- We are hopeful that many generous people that support the Conferences will step forward to make a donation to help with the 2008 Conferences. All gifts matter. We are grateful to the 25 contributors that have made offerings to the Conference effort in the last month.
- Please go to **http://CatholicBoston.com/** to make a contribution via paypal. Contributions can also be mailed to Boston Catholic Conferences, 350 Massachusetts Avenue #145, Arlington, MA 02474-6713.
- All gifts to Boston Catholic Conferences, Inc. are tax deductible.

18. EVENT PROMOTION: Boston Eucharistic Congress, March 28-29

- The Boston Eucharistic Congress for College Students and Young Adults will take place on the evening of Friday, March 28 and all day Saturday, March 29, 2008. This free event will be held in the historic North End of Boston, MA.
- The Eucharistic Congress includes: Mass with Cardinal Sean, Talks on the Eucharist, Adoration and Confession, Eucharistic Procession, Witness Talks, Service Opportunities, and Food: A Taste of the North End.
- Please visit **http://www.eucharisticcongress.org/** for more information or to register.

Thank you for your interest in the 2008 Boston Catholic Men's and Women's Conferences. We hope to see you on April 18 and 19 at Conte Forum!