



Mission Statement

Fortunate Families, a Catholic Family, Friends & Allies Ministry, supports LGBTQ+ sisters and brothers by facilitating respectful conversation and sharing personal stories within dioceses, parishes and communities, especially with bishops, pastors and Church leadership.

By accompaniment and bridge building we seek to uphold and safeguard the dignity of LGBTQ+ daughters and sons of God

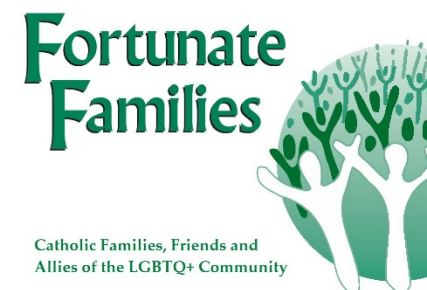
To Register: Go to www.Fortunatefamilies.com

Download the online registration form
Pay online by hitting the "donate button"

Send in your registration to:

Fortunate Families, Inc., P.O. Box 22317 Lexington, KY 40522-2317

Phone: 859.327.1047



2018 Weekend of Reflection

Radical Faith:

Hope for an Inclusive Church

Speakers:

Todd Salzman and Michael Lawler

Cenacle Retreat Center, Lincoln
Park, Chicago, IL

October 26-28, 2018



Keynote Speakers

Todd A. Salzman, Graff Professor of Catholic Theology at Creighton University in Omaha, earned his Ph.D. in Theology in 1994 at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium. He is married with three children. **Michael G. Lawler**, a native of Dublin, Ireland, is Graff Professor of Catholic Theology Emeritus at Creighton University, and earned his Ph.D. in theology in 1975 at the Dominican Aquinas Institute in St. Louis. He is married with three adult children and four grandsons. Salzman has published ten books, five of them co-authored with Lawler, and Lawler has published 25 books. Their book, *The Sexual Person: Toward a Renewed Catholic Anthropology* (Georgetown 2008), was a prize-winning and best-selling book. Their many essays have appeared internationally in *Theological Studies*, *The Heythrop Journal*, *Irish Theological Quarterly*, *Louvain Studies*, *Toronto Journal of Theology*, *Asian Journal of Theology*, and the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Theology, Sexuality, and Gender*. They have both lectured widely internationally, in Ireland, England, Belgium, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, and all across the United States.

Fortunate Families Weekend of Reflection October 26-28, 2018 The Cenacle Retreat Center, Chicago, IL In Beautiful Lincoln Park 4 Blocks from Lake Michigan

Friday, October 26th

3:00pm - Rooms available for check-in

6:00pm - Dinner

7:30pm - Retreat Begins

Saturday, October 27th

Morning Keynote Presentation:

“Pope Francis and the Faith That Does Justice: Hope for an Inclusive Church.”

Todd A. Salzman and Michael G. Lawler

Afternoon Presentation

Panel on LGBTQ+ advocacy

Deacon Ray Dever, Deb Word, Linda Karle-Nelson

Evening Presentation

“Being a Church of Encounter and

Acompañamiento

LGBT Family, Friends and Allies Ministry”

JR Zerkowski

Sunday, October 28th

Morning Presentation

“Prudence and Possibilities. The Vision and Where Do We Go From Here?”

JR Zerkowski

Lunch

Saturday and Sunday begin with breakfast at 8:00am.

During the day there will be time for prayer, silence, small group interactions, meals and fellowship.

Eucharist will be celebrated Saturday evening or Sunday morning depending on the presider’s schedule.

Registration before May 30th:

\$180/person including lodging and 6 meals

\$100/person for commuters-meals only

Registration after May 30th

Cost increases by \$20/person for both types

Speakers

Deacon Ray Dever

Mr. Ray Dever is a Catholic deacon, husband and father who talks about his family’s experience with his transgender daughter. He lives in Tampa, Florida where he serves as deacon for St. Paul’s Catholic parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg

Linda Karle-Nelson

Linda is a Catholic parent of an adult gay son. She is a leader in Fortunate Families Detroit and a past president of the national Fortunate Families organization.

Deb Word

Deb’s eldest son is a gay man. She is part of the Parent Support Team for the Memphis Diocesan Catholic Ministry with Gay and Lesbian Persons. Deb is a frequent speaker about her work with homeless youth in Memphis, TN

Stanley Francis “JR” Zerkowski

Executive Director, Fortunate Families

JR lives in the Diocese of Lexington, KY, where he co-founded and co-leads an LGBT Ministry and an LGBT Family, Friends and Allies Ministry. He received the 2017 Lexington Fairness’ Jonathan Barker Leadership Award given, in part, “because he has worked to build bridges between the LGBT and faith communities.”