

MEET OUR SPEAKERS

DCCW Annual Convention — April 19-20, 2024

BRENDA DOLAN, FCCW President / Province Director



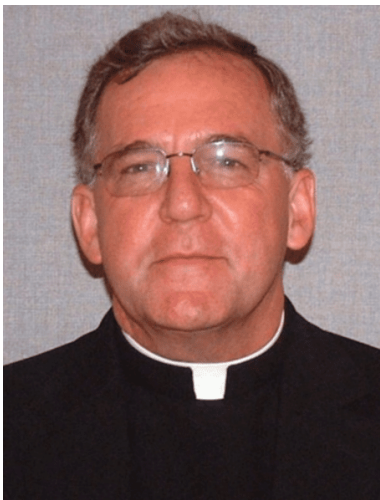
Brenda Dolan is currently serving as the President/Province Director for the Florida Council of Catholic Women. She has also held the positions of Treasurer, Audit Committee Chair, Budget Committee Chair, and By-Laws Committee Chair for the FCCW Council.

Brenda has been happily active in the Council of Catholic Women for over 18 years and has served in almost every capacity a person can serve in Council. She began at the affiliation in her parish, where she held several leadership positions and chaired many Commissions and Committees. At the Diocesan level, Brenda was elected President for two terms. She has chaired numerous Commissions and Committees, including Spirituality, Leadership, Audit, Budget, By-Laws, and Nominating. Not all at the same time, though.

In her role as President/Province Director for the Archdiocese of Miami Brenda represents our province (State of Florida) on the Board of Directors at the National Council of Catholic Women. If that's not enough, she is also a member of NCCW's Leadership and By-Laws Committees.

Brenda is a cradle Catholic. She is a widow, the mother of seven, grandmother of seven, and great grandmother of four. She resides in North Fort Myers, Florida.

MONSIGNOR STEPHEN C BOSSO, SSL, D Min



Msgr Bosso was born in Pensacola, Florida. He received a Bachelor of Science in Philosophy and Master of Divinity degree from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Worthington, Ohio. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Florida in 1978 and served as the Catholic Campus Minister at the Co-Cathedral of St Thomas More, Tallahassee for Florida State University. Msgr Bosso later attended the Pontifical Biblical University in Rome, Italy and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel receiving a Licentiate of Sacred Scripture in 1985. He has served at St Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary since 1985 where he taught Sacred Scripture, Classical Hebrew and Greek, and Homiletics, with the exception of serving as pastor of St Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Milton, Florida from 2011-2013.

Msgr Bosso has served in various capacities at St Vincent de Paul Seminary and as Rector / President from 2000-2005. He received a Doctorate in Preaching from the Aquinas Institute in St. Louis, Missouri in 2018. Msgr Bosso has ministered in numerous Catholic parishes in South Florida. He served for six years on the Board of Commissioners for the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada. More recently, he received a Marten Fellowship from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana for the 2021 fall semester.

Msgr Bosso recently retired from St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in June of 2022 and currently assists at parishes throughout the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee. He is often invited to lead missions, particularly during Advent and Lent.

MEET MORE SPEAKERS

DR MARY SOHA, MD, Vice-Postulator for the Cause for Beatification of the Martyrs of La Florida

Dr Mary Soha graduated from Spring Hill College with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and minors in Chemistry, Theology, and Philosophy. She did her graduate work at the University of Florida in Immunology and graduated from the University of Miami Medical School. Dr Mary married Walter Michael Soha, MD and the Lord blessed them with eight children — all boys; four of them are currently serving on active military duty. She was a practicing pediatrician for 38 years, specializing in neurocognitive disorders, concussion, and sports medicine.

Dr Mary was very active in Catholic Scouting; she is extremely pleased that all her sons are Eagle Scouts. In preparing for a Catholic Scouting retreat one year, she met Fr John Paret, SJ, vice-postulator for the cause of St Kateri Tekakwitha. He asked her to be the medical doctor for her cause for canonization in 1996, which came to a successful completion in 2012! Dr Mary has since participated on several other causes, including Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto. In 2015 she was sworn in as one of five vice-postulators for the cause of the Martyrs of La Florida — a role she feels very blessed to be a part of!

Dr Mary currently lives in St Augustine, Florida at the foot of the great cross on Mission Nombre de Dios, where she volunteers in various ministries. Her joy in the Lord shines through in all she says and does. Dr Mary's great hope is that one day soon she will be able to help proclaim our Martyrs of La Florida as saints for the Universal Church!



DR TOM NEAL, Chief of Evangelization & Mission Engagement, Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

Dr Tom Neal served for eleven years as a professor of spiritual theology, director of the Institute for Lay Ecclesial Ministry, academic dean, and director of intellectual formation at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was also a faculty member of the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. Dr Tom spent two plus decades serving in adult faith formation in Florida, as well as in Des Moines, Iowa, where he was director of the St Joseph Educational Center. He has led hundreds of retreats, workshops, and catechetical events throughout the United States and is an active blogger. Dr Tom has also been involved in seminarian formation and diaconate programs in Florida, Iowa, and Louisiana.

Dr Tom received a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy and a Master of Arts in systematic theology from Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He pursued a doctorate at Florida State University in Tallahassee, specializing in spiritual theology, and he successfully defended his dissertation on the writings of Saint John of the Cross.

Tom has been married to his wife, Patti, for 28 years. They have four adult children, two boys and two girls. He is an amateur meteorologist and ornithologist, and loves to read and write poetry in his free time. Many of you have heard Dr Tom speak at past DCCW conventions or have seen him on his bi-weekly podcast on the diocesan website or YouTube.

