

News Release

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Missouri Catholic Conference Hosts 2018 Annual Assembly at Helias Catholic High School

JEFFERSON CITY—The Annual Assembly of the Missouri Catholic Conference (MCC) will take place at Helias Catholic High School on Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018. The MCC is the public policy agency for the Catholic Church in the state of Missouri. The Annual Assembly is held in the fall in Jefferson City, and draws hundreds of Catholics to our state capital. This gathering is meant to promote engagement in faith and public issues. This year's theme is Pope Francis at Five Years: The Church at the Peripheries. Sessions are inspired by a quote from Pope Francis:

"The church is called to come out of herself and to go to the peripheries, not only geographically, but also the existential peripheries: the mystery of sin, of pain, of injustice, of ignorance and indifference to religion, of intellectual currents and of all misery."

Workshop sessions cover a variety of topics including immigration, pro-life, campus ministry, human trafficking, and more. The 2018 Keynote speaker is Bishop Joseph Perry of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Bishop Perry, originally, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, was ordained a priest by the late Archbishop William Edward Cousins, May 24, 1975 at St. John Cathedral, Milwaukee. Today he serves as an auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Chicago. As satellites to his duties as auxiliary bishop, he functions as an adjunct professor of canon law at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois, and associate judge in the Second Instance Court of Appeals for the Dioceses configured to the Province of Chicago.

Bishop Perry is National Chaplain for the Knights of St. Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary and also Vice-President of the Board for the National Black Catholic Congress, Baltimore, Maryland. On January 28, 2010, Cardinal Francis George appointed Bishop Perry Postulator for the Diocesan Phase of the Cause for Sanctity of Father Augustus Tolton, first priest of African descent in the United States who labored in the Diocese of Alton (now Springfield, Illinois) and the Archdiocese of Chicago †

The Annual Assembly is free and registration is available by phone at 1-800-456-1679. Pre-registration is encouraged, but walk-ins will be able to register on the day of the event.

For more information, please contact Jessica Martin at martinj@mocatholic.org.