CHESTERTON AND CHESTERTON CONFERENCE GONVERSION **LEARNING TO THINK AGAIN** MILWAUKEE, WI | JULY 28-30, 2022

41ST ANNUAL

Featured Speakers



DALE AHLQUIST President, Society of G.K. Chesterton and the Chesterton Schools Network



IOHN WALKER Award-winning professional actor and new face of G.K. Chesterton

The Faith gives a man back his body and his soul and his reason and his will and his very life.

- G.K. Chesterton

CO-HOSTED BY CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF MILWAUKEE

Conference Schedule

41st Annual Chesterton Conference Chesterton & Conversion | July 28-30, 2022

DAY ONE

THURSDAY, JULY 28

Check-In & Registration

2:00PM - Registration and Vendor Tables Open

4:30PM - Opening Mass

All are invited to this uplifting service of prayer and worship. Spiritual reflection and Scriptural Rosary begin at 4:00PM.

5:00PM - Welcome Reception

5:30PM – Dinner & Fellowship

Opening Session

Live & Virtual

6:45PM – Conference Kickoff

7:00PM – The Convert: The Ripple Effect of G.K. Chesterton's Conversion

Dale Ahlquist, President

The Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton

As we mark the 100th anniversary of G.K. Chesterton's conversion, Dale Ahlquist describes that event as the pebble dropped into the pond, with ripples down through the 20th Century and into the 21st.

8:00PM – Christopher Columbus and the Conversion of the New World

Christopher Check, President, Catholic Answers

How did we go from being too familiar with Columbus to making him an object of contempt? In this riveting talk, Christopher Check shares the real story of Columbus, including his metaphysical and mystical understanding of himself and his role in Salvation History. You'll find out why Christians should be building more statues to this heroic man, not tearing them down.

9:15PM – Night Prayer

9:30PM – Afterglow

Greet old friends, and make new friends in a relaxed, convivial atmosphere. A legendary part of the Chesterton conference experience!



DAY TWO

FRIDAY, JULY 29

7:30AM – Daily Mass (*Rosary begins at 7:15*) 7:30AM – Breakfast service begins

Morning Session

Live & Virtual

9:00AM – How to Have An Argument without a Quarrel

Joseph Grabowski, Executive Director International Organization for the Family In a highly contentious age, a paradox worthy of Chesterton is clear: the problem isn't that we argue too much—it is that we do not argue often enough.

10:30AM – The Emancipation of Domesticity: G.K. Chesterton and Motherhood

Susan Sucher, Domestic Empress Mom of nine, and wife to Greg, Susan discusses the role that Chesterton's writing played in her embrace of domestic life and the wild adventure that followed.

12:00PM – Lunch

Afternoon Session

Live & Virtual

1:00PM – The Fog of Progress: G.K. Chesterton and Other Writers on Eugenics and Other Evils

David Zach, Futurist

Progress should be a constant thing, leading us back to God. But the serpents and the shadows distract us. We find ourselves lost in fog, confused by the toys, tools, and seductions of modernity. With the help of Chesterton, let's make progress on defining progress.

2:30PM - Chestertonian Conversions [PANEL]

Tyler Blanski, Chesterton Academy of the Twin Cities Sam Guzman, Author, The Catholic Gentleman Zubair Simonson, Writer and Journalist Matt Swaim, The Coming Home Network

A diverse group of converts share their conversion stories and the role Chesterton played in their paths to Rome.

4:00PM – Chesterton and Autism

Christopher Chan, Contributing Editor, Gilbert Magazine In recent years, some have theorized that G.K. Chesterton had a form of autism. Chris Chan explores the accuracy of this diagnosis, explaining how Chesterton helped him to survive as an autistic person in an overwhelmingly neurotypical world.

Conference Schedule

DAY TWO

FRIDAY, JULY 29 (continued)

5:30PM – Dinner

Evening Session

Live & Virtual

7:00PM – G.K. Chesterton: The Chief Event of My Life *Special Appearance by EWTN's John Walker* Actor John Walker appears as G.K. Chesterton to discuss his conversion and share insights on the nature of conversion as a pilgrimage where one leaves off thinking and learns to think.

8:00PM – The Troubadours LIVE! Poems Around the Fireside—Without the Fireside

By popular demand! Following two years of their successful online program, The Troubadours take their show on the road! They'll chat about poetry as entertainment and comfort during good times and bad, and recite their favorite works.

Dale Ahlquist, President, Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton Christopher Check, President, Catholic Answers William Fahey, President, Thomas More College Daniel Kerr, President, St. Martin's Academy Joseph Pearce, Director of Publishing, The Augustine Institute

9:15PM – Night Prayer

9:30PM - Afterglow

CONCURRENT EVENT

Movie Premiere! Magic, The Movie

Join us for the US premiere of this Australian screen adaptation of G.K. Chesterton's play - a thought-provoking, "fantastic comedy." Popcorn provided!

DAY THREE

SATURDAY, JULY 30

7:30AM – Daily Mass (*Rosary begins at 7:15*) 7:30AM – Breakfast service begins

Morning Session

Live & Virtual

8:30AM – Surprised by Chesterton [PANEL]

Marie Bates and Grace Krause, Pints with Chesterton Podcast David Bates, Pints with Jack Podcast

These popular podcasters discuss the role G.K. Chesterton played in C.S. Lewis' conversion and how both authors used stories to evangelize.

DAY THREE

SATURDAY, JULY 30 (continued)

Morning Session, con't

Live & Virtual

10:00AM - Chesterton and the Jews

Robert Asch, Co-editor of St. Austin Review and Editor of Saint Austin Press A convert from Reform Judaism, Robert explores Chesterton's writings and defends him from the charge of anti-Semitism.

11:00AM – How Chesterton Saved Me From Anti-Semitism

Joseph Pearce, Director of Publishing, The Augustine Institute Joseph recounts his journey from neo-Nazi white supremacism to the Catholic church, explaining how Chesterton brought him to the light of faith and reason, and saved him from anti-Semitism and hatred.

12:00PM – Lunch

Afternoon Breakout Sessions

1:00PM TRACK I - LOCALISM

How I'm Living a Localist Life — and You Can Too Tom Ruby, CEO, Bluegrass Critical Thinking

TRACK II - SPIRITUALITY

St. John Paul II and Chesterton on Marriage and Family Theresa Martin, Exec Director, Wojtyla Community & Institute Gilbert and Frances' life amazingly exemplifies the newly rediscovered Rule St. John Paul II wrote for spouses, shared publicly here for the very first time!

TRACK III - SPECIAL VIDEO SCREENING EWTN's *Chesterton Station* featuring actor John Walker

2:30PM TRACK I - LOCALISM

The modern-day architecture of employee ownership *Gellert Dornay, Director, Portage Bancorp*

TRACK II - SPIRITUALITY The Knight and His Queen: Chesterton's Devotion to Our Lady Maria Romine, Actress

TRACK III - ASK AHLQUIST ANYTHING Moderated Q&A Session with Dale Ahlquist

3:30PM – Confessions Available

5:00PM - Closing Vigil Mass (Scriptural Rosary at 4:30PM)

6:30PM – Traditions: Annual Closing Banquet Jokes, Toasts, Songs, Clerihews, and Other Fun A can't-miss event hosted by Dale Ahlquist - make sure to purchase your banquet ticket to attend!

9:30PM – Afterglow



Registration Details

Conference Dates and Venue

Marriott Milwaukee West

Thursday, July 28 – Saturday, July 30, 2022

Address: W231N1600 Corporate Ct, Waukesha, WI 53186 Call +1-262-574-0888 (mention "Chesterton" for special rate)

- Located on the quiet outskirts of Milwaukee
- *Clean and comfortable hotel with indoor pool and whirlpool, fitness center, concierge lounge, and complimentary parking.*
- Custom menus created by renowned executive chef, John Usher
- Conveniently located just off I-94; easy access to downtown Milwaukee and General Mitchell International Airport.

Special hotel rates for conference guests - hurry, rooms are limited! \$109/night - King | \$119/night - Double | \$159/night - King Suite *Mention "Chesterton" for discounted suites and single rooms.*

Airport Options and Transportation

Milwaukee's General Mitchell Int'l Airport is the closest to the conference venue. Other airport options include Chicago O'Hare, or Chicago Midway, or Madison Regional (rental car required; hotel does not provide shuttle service.) Be sure to use the ride share section of the Whova app to coordinate rides with other conference attendees!

Vendor Tables

Contact our office to inquire about vendor pricing. Our vendors are a highlight of our annual conference and attendees have extensive time during meals and breaks to shop. Call Matt at 1-800-343-2425.

Hybrid Event Details

-In-person attendees receive access to all session talks, vendors, welcome reception, and world-famous afterglows. -All session talks will be live-streamed for Virtual Attendees through the event app, Whova. After registration, you will receive a link via e-mail to download the Whova app.

Conference Swag

ChesterCon shirts and goods are available for purchase at the conference, along with books and other merchandise from our many vendors.



| Three Day Conference Registration | NON- MEMBER | MEMBER |
|---|----------------|--------|
| In-Person Admission Includes all sessions. Does not include lodging, meals, closing banquet. | \$199 | \$179 |
| In-Person Clergy, Religious, Student Admission Does not include lodging, meals, closing banquet. | \$149 | |
| In-Person Family Admission (2 Adults + Children Under 18) Does not include lodging, meals, closing banquet. | \$399 | |
| MEAL PACKAGE ADD-ON (Meals + Closing Banquet) Six delicious meals served on-site, Thursday dinner through Saturday lunch - PLUS ticket to our annual Traditions Closing Banquet on Saturday evening! | \$199 | |
| MEAL PACKAGE ADD-ON (Closing Banquet Ticket Only) Single ticket to our annual Traditions Closing Banquet - Jokes, Toasts, Songs, Clerihews, and Other Fun! | \$85 | |
| Virtual Conference Admission Includes all sessions. Hosted through Whova event app. | \$60 | \$40 |
| DAY PASSES AVAILABLE AT CHESTERTON.ORG/CONFERENCE | 1 | 1 |

REGISTER ONLINE AT CHESTERTON.ORG/CONFERENCE OR CALL +1-800-343-2425