

Join us this summer for our best conference ever!



**45TH ANNUAL CHESTERTON CONFERENCE**  
JUNE 25-27, 2026 | AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY, AVE MARIA, FLORIDA

# *The Outline of Sanity*



***Join us for three days of intellectual stimulation, spiritual edification, and pure delight!***

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Chesterton's *The Outline of Sanity*, his vision of a world restored by localism, subsidiarity, and the radical sanity of orthodox Christianity—ideas more urgent today than ever.



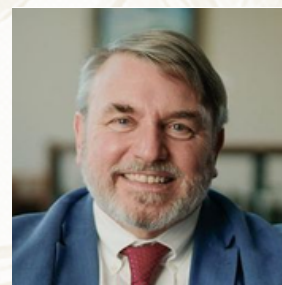
**Dale Ahlquist**

President, Society of G.K. Chesterton



**Nancy Brown**

Biographer of Frances Chesterton



**Joseph Pearce**

Professor and Best-Selling Author

Register online at [Chesterton.org/conference](https://Chesterton.org/conference) today.

# Conference Schedule

45<sup>th</sup> Annual Chesterton Conference  
The Outline of Sanity | June 25-27, 2026

## DAY ONE

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

### Welcome & Registration

2:00 PM - Registration and Vendor Tables Open

4:45 PM - Opening Mass 🕊️

All are invited to this uplifting service of prayer and worship.  
Scriptural Rosary at 4:15 PM.

6:00 PM - Dinner & Fellowship

### Opening Session

7:30 PM - Outlining Sanity

Dale Ahlquist

*Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton*

Dale Ahlquist presents Chesterton's vision for a saner world. "Some of us have seen sanity, if only in a vision" and "every man has a sane spot somewhere."

8:30 PM - Chesterton, Merrie England, and America 250

Susan Hanssen

*University of Dallas*

Dr. Hanssen examines how Chesterton's love of home can instruct us in forming a proper attitude of patriotism as we celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday.

9:30 PM - Night Prayer

9:45 PM - Afterglow

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



## DAY TWO

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

7:15 AM - Daily Mass 🕊️

8:30 AM - Breakfast

## DAY TWO *(continued)*

### Morning Session

9:30 AM - Common Sense from Canada

David Beresford

*Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College*

Common sense from Canada is demonstrably rare; yet it persists among those who read Chesterton!



10:30 AM - Chestertonian Poetics—Only a Child is Ready for the New World

Fr. Michael Rennie

*Chesterton Academy of Saint Louis*

"It is the child who is the very sign and sacrament of personal freedom." Father Rennie talks about Chesterton's essay, "Babies and Distributism" and shares the spiritual wisdom in becoming like little children.



### Afternoon Break Period

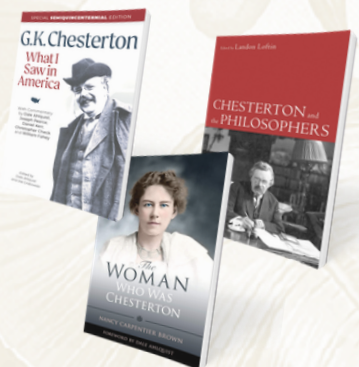
11:30 PM - 12:30 PM -  
Special Book Signings

Pick up a copy of one of our featured books and get it signed by the authors and contributors!

Makes a great keepsake or a special present for a beloved Chestertonian in your life!

12:15 PM - Lunch

Optional: Special informational lunch session on scholarship program and tax credit.



### Afternoon Session - I

1:30 PM - A Novel Education

Mark Johnson

*Retired Attorney and Writer*

Whether formal schooling offered you a sub-basement education or the very finest imaginable, the best still awaits you in your adult years: *A novel education.*



2:30 PM - That Insanely Frivolous Thing We Call Sanity: Wasting Time to Wonder

Joe Grabowski

*Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton*

"The world will never starve for want of wonders, but only for want of wonder." Are we starving? Where is the wonder we want in our lives?



## DAY TWO

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 *(continued)*

3:30 PM - Break for Merch and Coffee!

### Afternoon Session - II

*"Amber Waves of Grain" - Two Talks on the Bountiful Goodness of God's Creation*

3:45 PM - The Sanctity of Dirt



Dan Kerr

*Saint Martin's Academy*

Dan reflects on the beautiful plan of nature that God has provided in the earth for mankind to have life, and to have it abundantly.

5:00 PM - The Theology of the Land

Timothy Streiff

*Ph.D. Candidate, Ave Maria University*



Tim talks about man's vocation to till the earth, the value of peasant proprietorship, and how farms' most important "produce" is the farmers and their families themselves.

6:00 PM - Dinner

### Evening Session

7:30 PM - Frances Chesterton's Conversion



Nancy Brown

*Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton*

Nancy Brown discusses Frances Chesterton's entry into the Catholic Church, four years after her husband crossed the Tiber.

8:30 PM - The Troubadours LIVE!

The merry band banters about America at 250 years old!



DALE AHLQUIST  
*Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton*



CHRISTOPHER CHECK  
*Catholic Answers*



WILLIAM FAHEY  
*Thomas More College of the Liberal Arts*



DANIEL KERR  
*Saint Martin's Academy*



JOSEPH PEARCE  
*St. Austin Review*

9:30 PM - Night Prayer

9:45 PM - Afterglow



## DAY THREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

7:15 AM - Daily Mass 🏰

8:30 AM - Breakfast

### Morning Session

9:30 AM - Seeing America through English Eyes



Joseph Pearce

*St. Austin Review*

Joseph presents an English American's views on Chesterton's American views.

10:30 AM - Chesterton: Edwardian Socrates



Landon Loftin

*Editor, "Chesterton and the Philosophers"*

An exploration of Chesterton's place in the history of philosophy.

11:30 AM - 1:45 PM - Break Period  
(Lunch available at 12:15 PM)

### Afternoon Parallel Sessions

1:45 PM - PARALLEL SESSIONS I

I The Award-Winning Chesterton Schools Network



Emily de Rotstein

*Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton*

II

What is "Benedictine Medicine"?



James Breen, MD

*Benedictine Medicine*

2:45 PM - PARALLEL SESSIONS II

I

Chesterton as... Fashion Expert?



Grettelyn Darkey

*Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton*

II

AAA: Ask Ahlquist Anything!



Dale Ahlquist

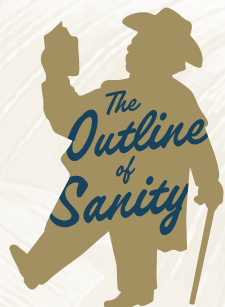
*Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton*

5:00 PM - Rosary 🏰

5:30 PM - Anticipatory Mass for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time 🏰

6:30 PM - Closing Banquet  
*Jokes, toasts, songs, Clerihews, and other fun; a can't-miss event hosted by Dale Ahlquist*

9:30 PM - Afterglow





# Additional Conference Details

## Conference Dates & Venue

Thursday, June 25 - Saturday, June 27

### Ave Maria University

5050 Ave Maria Blvd | Ave Maria, FL 34142

The summit will be hosted in the heart of Ave Maria with its magnificent church and charming town square.

This unique environment provides the perfect backdrop for prayer, reflection, and meaningful dialogue.

## Airport & Transportation

### Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW)

Ave Maria University is approximately a 45-minute drive from RSW airport. Shuttle transportation is being arranged and details will be announced, but we recommend car rental for flexibility.

Our conference app, Whova, also has a ride-share section where attendees can coordinate carpooling or fare-splitting.

## Conference Swag and Merch

Join us in person to receive a **FREE** canvas tote containing your welcome package and other items. Chesterton shirts, books, and other goods, as well as items from our wonderful vendors, will also be available for purchase!



## Sponsors & Vendors

Contact [events@chesterton.org](mailto:events@chesterton.org) for pricing and information on event sponsorships and vendor tables.

## Registration Options

### Conference Registration

Includes all sessions, meals, and lodging!

### Students & Clergy

Reduced rate for clergy, religious, and full-time students

### Commuter Option

Commuter pass. All sessions and conference materials. Does not include lodging or meals.

Meals add-on. Thurs. dinner, Friday breakfast, lunch & dinner, and Sat. breakfast & lunch. Saturday Banquet sold separately.

Closing banquet ticket. Ticket to our legendary Saturday evening banquet event.

REGULAR PRICING  
\$749.00

MEMBER DISCOUNT  
\$675.00

\$625.00

### FLAT PRICE

\$219.00

\$99.00

\$99.00



[chesterton.org/conference](http://chesterton.org/conference)

All prices shown in USD. Day-passes may be released at a later date, if capacity allows.  
Inquiries about family admission and other special pricing options can be directed to [events@chesterton.org](mailto:events@chesterton.org).

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