

“If you truly want to encounter the Risen Lord, then LISTEN TO HIS WORD, which is the Gospel of salvation.”
(Pope Leo XIV, youth prayer vigil, 8/2/25)



FESTIVAL OF THE WORD

Saturday

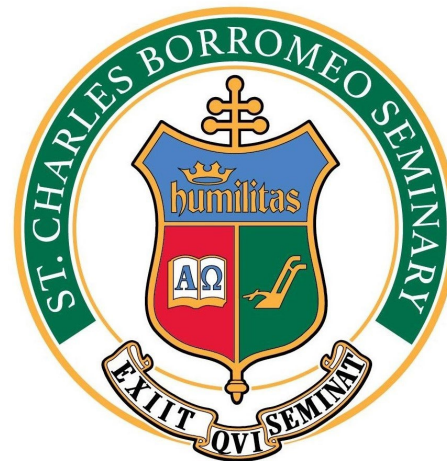
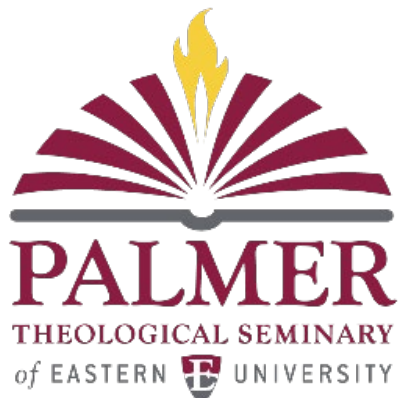
October 4, 2025

Saint Charles Seminary
Ambler, PA

www.scs.edu/preaching/programs/festival



Opening Session – Prospective Preachers
(institutions invited to participate)



Concurrent Seminar #1 – a “scholarly” word

David Bosworth, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Old Testament and Biblical Studies Area Director

Academic Area

- Biblical Studies

School

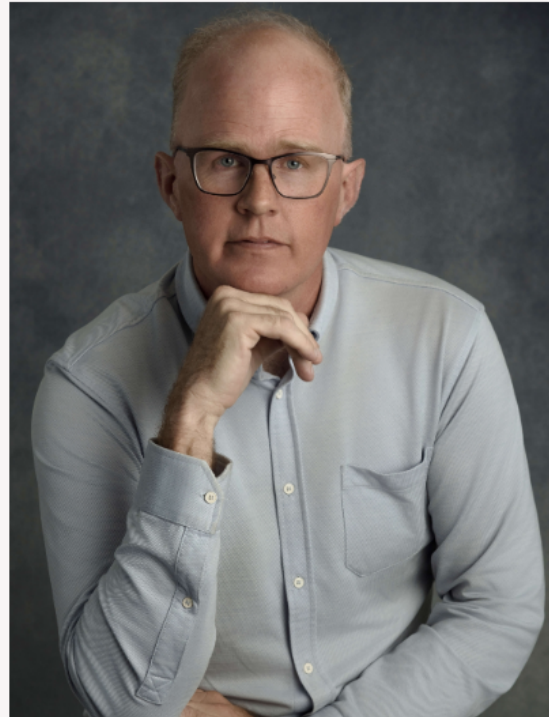
- School of Theology and Religious Studies

Expertise

- Biblical Anthropology
- Emotion in the Bible
- Cognitive Linguistics
- American Catholic History

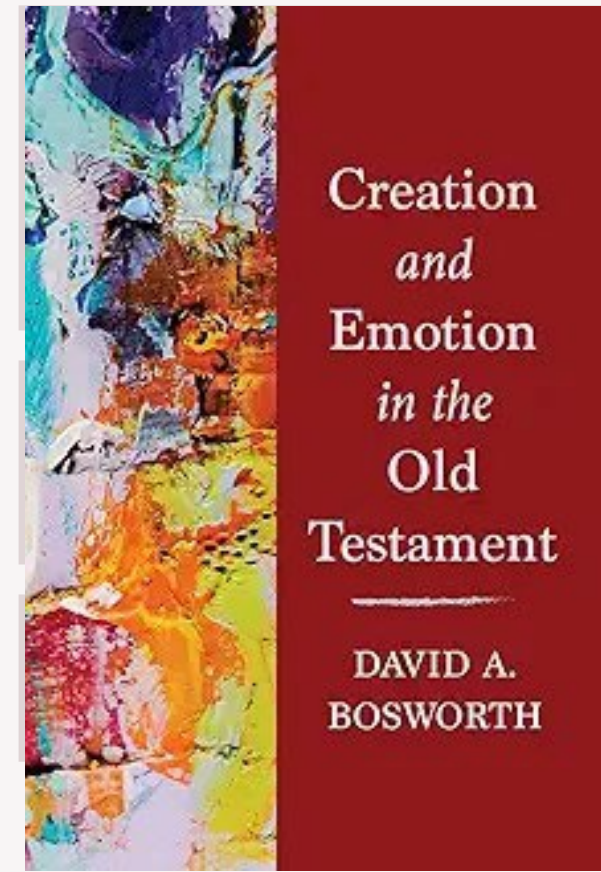
Biography

David Bosworth (PhD, 2003 The Catholic University of America) has taught at Catholic University since 2008. He earned his B.A. in Liberal Studies through the Great Books program at St. John's College, Annapolis in 1994. His research and teaching interests include the Old Testament in its ancient Near Eastern context, biblical conceptualizations of the human being, and emotion in the Bible. He teaches TRS 202 on the human person and the Church, which draws on his interests in biblical anthropology and American Catholic history. He constantly strives to improve his teaching and teaches a course on pedagogy. He is the author of several books including *Creation and Emotion in the Old Testament* (Fortress, 2023), *House of Weeping: The Motif of Tears in Hebrew and Akkadian Prayer* (SBL, 2019), and *Infant Weeping in Akkadian, Hebrew, and Greek Literature* (Eisenbrauns, 2016). He is currently researching biblical conceptualizations of the human being. [See more publications](#) →



Contact Information

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Concurrent Seminar #2 – a “proclaimed” word



Very Rev. Benjamin A. Roberts, DMin, VF
Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes (Monroe, NC)

President – Catholic Association of Teachers of Homiletics



Bio

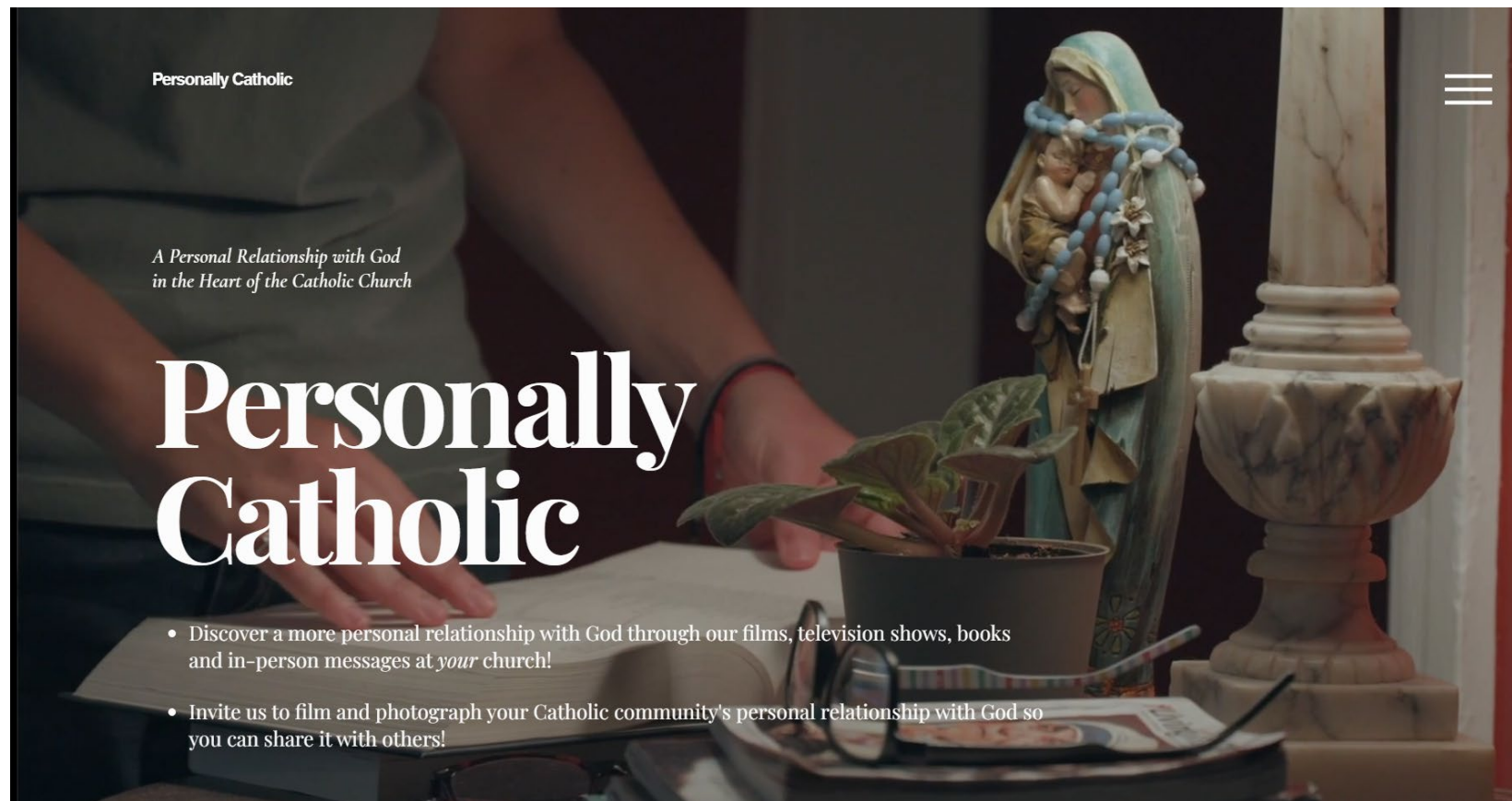
Fr. Benjamin Roberts is a priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, NC, ordained in 2009, and since 2012 has served as pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Monroe, NC. He holds a BA in Philosophy from D'Youville College in Buffalo, NY as well as an M.Div. and an MA in Systematic Theology from St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, PA. He completed the D.Min. in Preaching at Aquinas Institute of Theology in 2019. Since 2013, Father Roberts has been involved in the homiletical formation of candidates for the permanent diaconate. His first book, *The Voice of the Bridegroom: Preaching as an Expression of Spousal Love*, was published in 2021. His research interests include the theology of preaching, ecclesiology, ecumenism, and clergy continuing education.

D.Min, Aquinas Institute of Theology
MDiv and MA, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
BA, D'Youville College

Concurrent Seminar #3 – an “artistic” word



Dan Tarrant
Founder and Director



Berkeley Divinity School at Yale

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The Very Rev'd Andrew McGowan,
PhD

Dean and President; McFaddin Professor of Anglican Studies
and Pastoral Theology



“Preaching, Plagiarism, and AI”
Ghosts in the Machine: The Ethics of AI (2024)

Contact Info

andrew.b.mcgowan@yale.edu (copy)

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Rev. Michael E. Connors, C.S.C.

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Rev. Michael Connors, C.S.C., is a pastoral theologian and homiletician. In 1997 he joined the faculty of the Theology Department at the University of Notre Dame, where he now also directs the John S. Marten Program in Homiletics and Liturgics. A native of the Chicago area, he majored in American History as an undergraduate at Illinois College. He made final profession in Holy Cross in September, 1983, and was ordained to the priesthood in April, 1984. After several years of parish ministry, he did doctoral studies at Regis College in Toronto in the areas of spirituality and inculturation.

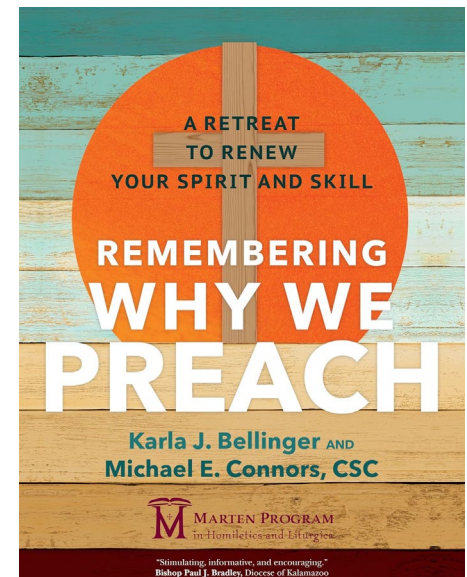


Preaching in the Light of the Word

Enlivening the
Scriptural Imagination

Edited by **Michael E. Connors, CSC**

Liturgy Training Publications, 2024



A RETREAT
TO RENEW
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REMEMBERING WHY WE PREACH

Karla J. Bellinger AND
Michael E. Connors, CSC

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Ave Maria Press, 2022

Anticipated Mass for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Presider



MOST REV. KEITH CHYLINSKI

Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia
kchylinski@archphila.org

Homilist



REV. MATTHEW GUCKIN

Pastor, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
pastor@ourladymtcarmel.org