



**Saint Mary's
University**
of MINNESOTA



Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Conference

Beauty Will Save Us: Wonder and Hope in the Works of Benedict XVI

Monday, November 2, 2026

6:30 p.m. Solemn Requiem Mass

Featuring Mozart's Requiem in D minor, K. 626 at the historic Church of Saint Agnes in Saint Paul, celebrated by His Eminence Kurt Cardinal Koch, one of the Church's leading theologians and a close collaborator of Benedict XVI.

Saint Paul, Minnesota

[Church of St. Agnes](#)

535 Thomas Ave W, Saint Paul, MN 55103

November 3, 2026

7:30 a.m. Mass at Cathedral of St. Paul, Celebrant: Archbishop Bernard Hebda

8 a.m. Doors to University Center Open

Continental Breakfast

Registration

9:30 a.m. Brother Robert Smith, FSC, Ph.D. Opening Remarks and Introduces Father James Burns, IVD, Ph.D.

9:45 a.m. His Eminence Kurt Cardinal Koch, Keynote Address

10:40 a.m. Respondent, Anthony Isacco, Ph.D.

10:45 - 10:55 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Morning Panel

- Moderator: Jason Paone, Ph.D.
- Panelists: Father James Burns, Cardinal Koch, Bishop Robert Barron, Father Roberto Regoli

Noon - 1 p.m. Lunch

1 p.m. John C. Cavadini, PhD, Professor of Theology, Second Founder, McGrath Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame, Afternoon Address

2 - 2:15 p.m. Keynote Q & A (moderated)

2:15 - 2:30 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Interdisciplinary Symposium and Table Discussion

Symposium Title: *Space to Wonder: Interdisciplinary Engagement in the Works of Benedict XVI*

- Chair, Sister Mary Micaela Hoffman, RSM, SSL
Introduction to the Symposium and Presenters, Sister Mary Miceala Hoffman, 2:30 - 2:40 p.m.
- Presenter: Father Maurice Agbaw-Ebai, Ph.D. *The Drama of Truth: Theology, Philosophy, and the Ressourcement Renewal*, 2:40 - 3:00 p.m.
- Presenter: Sister Mary Ignatius Heil, RSM, Ph.D., *Saint Augustine, Pope Leo, and Ratzinger*, 3:00 - 3:20 p.m.
- Presenter: Dean Beckman, MS, *Media Communication in a Post-Christian Age: Pope Benedict's Vision of Evangelization*, 3:20 - 3:40 p.m.
- Introduce Roundtable Discussion, Sister Mary Miceala, 3:40 - 3:45 p.m.
Roundtable Discussion, 3:45 - 4:15 p.m.
- Q & A with presenters facilitated by Sister Mary Miceala, informed by roundtable discussions, 4:15 - 4:30 p.m.

4:30 - 4:40 p.m. Break

4:40 p.m. Concluding Conversation

- Host: Michael Hahn, Ph.D.
- Panelists: Kurt Cardinal Koch, John Cavadini, Ph.D., and Tracey Rowland, STD

5:15 p.m. Closing Prayer and Blessing

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Closing Reception