

**The Apologetics Institute with the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross:**

**“Recovering a Lost Anthropology: A Study of the Ancient Church”**

Pontificia  
Università  
della  
**SANTA  
CROCE**

*An apologetics conference in Rome, June 5-10, 2022*

*The goals of our conference: to rediscover the church of antiquity and the Christocentric anthropology of the Church fathers, and especially to appreciate the beauty and power of our faith. Religion depends on memory. A lively faith requires that we ever refresh our Christian heritage, through learning and personal experience of the Magnalia Dei. For one full week in the Eternal City, with a side trip to Florence, we will explore the writings and savor the art treasures of the ancient Church. In the seminars we will discuss the impact of faith in Christ on the first Christians, their experience of the transformative power of the Risen Christ, and their boldness in bringing their new faith into the pagan world. We will look for parallels today as we face the challenges of re-Christianizing our society.*

**Program**

**Saturday, June 4 – a.m. arrival;** 11:30 transfer to attend noon Mass if possible at Viale 75 Bruno Buozzi, the Opus Dei headquarters. Greet Msgr Fernando Ocariz, the Prelate., at 12:45. Prayertime and Confessions at the chapel of Our Lady of Peace. Lunch nearby 2 p.m. Proceed to our pensione hotel: *Casa Per Ferie Piccole Ancelle Di Cristo Re*. Alternate Mass at St. Eugenio church 5 p.m.

**Sunday, June 5 - Feast of Pentecost.** Celebration of the Liturgy of Pentecost at St. Peter’s Basilica. Tour the Vatican and the PUSC university. 2 p.m. meditation at St. Appolinaire church, and main meal nearby. 6 p.m. Rev. Prof. Robert Gahl: "Masculine and feminine anthropology; the radical nature of Christian chastity."

<b>Monday, June 6</b> 9:30 a.m. Rev. Prof. John Wauck: the task of apologetics: confronting paganism today	10:45 a.m. Mike Aquilina: The Christian in the world: Letter to Diognetus. Conversion experience of first Christians	4 p.m. Prof. Jeffrey Morrow: Christ is alive – The Incarnation and the Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist Evening tour of Rome / The Forum
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<b>Tuesday, June 7</b> 9:30 a.m. Mike Aquilina: The Fathers on marriage and family—our Christian witness today	10:45 a.m. Jeffrey Morrow: the coming of the Kingdom: Christ in His Church, members of the Mystical Body, unity of the faithful	4 p.m. Prof. Grzegorz Blicharz: Early Polish Apologetics 5:30 p.m. Jonathan Tanaka: Finding meaning in the Catacombs
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<b>Wednesday, June 8</b> 9 a.m. Audience with Pope Francis; tour Vatican	4 p.m. Fr. Paul O'Callaghan The conversion of St. Augustine: his Christo-centric anthropology; the experience of grace and freedom	6 p.m. Prof. David Alvis: The Meaning of Martyrdom (Tour: Coliseum, San Clemente, and Quattro Coronati
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<b>Thursday, June 9</b> Excursion to Florence 7:30 a.m to 7:30 p.m.	9:30am Basilica of Santa Maria Novella 11:00am San Giovanni Baptistry and the Cathedral 2:30pm Orsanmichele and Palazzo Vecchio (outside only) 3:30pm Basilica of Santa Croce Matias Sur: Appreciating Dante 7:30pm Return to Rome
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<b>Friday, June 10</b> 9:30 a.m. Rev. Prof. Federico Requena: on the history of Opus Dei	10:45 a.m.. Fr. John Wauck: unmasking false religions of our culture; evangelization through literature	4 p.m. Marco Carroggio - media apostolate 6 p.m. Fr. Christian Mendoza: On the universal call to holiness
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**Saturday, June 11 Open day:** touring of churches in Rome. Get-togethers with American Opus Dei members studying in Rome

Departures: Daily midday meditation and Holy Mass at the Chapel of San Girolamo della  
some Saturday a.m. , June 11 – Carita: near the University. Lunch at a local restaurant.  
Others Sunday a.m., June 12

*St. Josemaria Escriva's early vision of the future of Opus Dei:*

*"I see the Work projected down through the centuries, always youthful, elegant, beautiful and fruitful, defending Christ's peace, so that all may come to possess it. We will help society recognize the rights of the person, the family, and the Church. Our efforts will help lessen fratricidal hatred and mistrust among peoples." Letter, 1933.*

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Click on titles to open the texts:

RECOMMENDED LIGHT READING

Anonymous, The Letter to Diognetus.

Minucius Felix, The Octavius

Ignatius of Antioch, Epistle to the Romans

OPTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

Rodney Stark, The Rise of Christianity

Robert L. Wilken, The Christians as the Romans Saw Them

Rod Bennett, Four Witnesses: The Early Church in Her Own Words