## ~ Conference Speakers ~



## Father Charles Bouchard, OP

Appointed as a senior director of theology and ethics at the Catholic Health Association, (CHA) in September, 2015, Father Bouchard serves as a resource to CHA

members regarding the Catholic theological and ethical tradition and its implications for Catholic health care.

Fr. Bouchard brings a wide range of experience to his new position. In addition to having served as provincial of the Dominican Province of St. Albert the Great in Chicago, he has held several other leadership positons, including vice president of theological education at St. Louis' Ascension Health and president of Aquinas Institute of Theology from 1989-2007. He earned his doctorate in moral theology from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and was ordained to the priesthood in 1979.



## Kimbell Kornu, MD, MAR

Dr. Kornu, instructor and physician, joined the Albert Gnaegi Center for Health Care Ethics at Saint Louis University in July 2015. Prior to this position, he served on

the faculties of Vanderbilt University and New College Franklin in Tennessee. He received undergraduate education at Vanderbilt University, completed masters training at Westminster Theological Seminary attended medical school at the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas, and completed both Internal Medicine residency and a Palliative Medicine fellowship at Vanderbilt University. He is currently completing PhD studies in Theology at the University of Nottingham (UK).

"And every elderly person...even if he is ill or at the end of his days, bears the face of Christ. They cannot be discarded, as the `culture of waste' suggests."

> - Pope Francis Speech to Catholic Healthcare Professionals and Gynecologists, Sept. 20, 2013.

#### ~ Conference Schedule ~

### Saturday, October 22, 2016

8:45 am	Registration	
9:10 am	Welcome & Introductions	
9:25 am	Dr. Kimbell Komu	
10:15 am	Q&A – Discussion	
10:40 am	Break	
11:00 am	Father Charles Bouchard, OP	
11:50 am	Q&A – Discussion	
12:15 - 1:00 pmBox Lunch		
1:10 - 2:20 pm	Panel Discussion: Speakers and Participants	
2:20 pmBreak		
2:40 - 3:10 pm	Wrap up – Audience participation take-a-way's from the day; evaluation and suggestions from participants	
3:10 pm	Conference Adjourns	

## **Registration Fee**

Group rates are available upon request (3 or more)

**Fees include:** admission, lunch, conference materials, professionally edited video and audio recordings of the conference.

**Two Professional Development Hours** (PDHs) awarded to participants who attend the entire 9:00 – 3:00 conference.

Audio and Video recording by St. Joseph Radio Your Catholic Voice in Christian Broadcasting 3920 Old Highway 94 South Suite 36 St Charles, MO 63304 (636) 447-6000 www.saintjosephradio.net

For more info contact us at - **314.792.7221** or

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www.ITEST-faithscience.org



Institute for Theological Encounter with Science and Technology

chang echn le Issues

**October 22, 2016** 

Allied Health Professional Building 3437 Caroline Mall – Room 3040 South Campus – St. Louis University St. Louis, MO 63104 "Choose life that it may be well with youyou and your children."

> - Deuteronomy 30:19 International Standard Version

# The Role of Changing Technology in End of Life Issues: A Christian Response

End of Life issues touch us all - eventually.

During this conference we will concentrate on issues involving advancing and changing technology and how it has affected cultural attitudes and Christian response to end of life issues.

Sitting at the bedside of a dying spouse, relative or friend, hearing the quiet hum of "machines" supplying oxygen, fluids and meds, describes a situation that many have experienced. Is dying with dignity being forestalled with the introduction of "smarter and smarter technology" signified by the everpresent devices that promise extending life, but at what cost?

Conversely, the compassionate movement of Hospice, providing spiritual and physical care, has weakened the inappropriate use of technology to hasten death. Hospice care not only alleviates the dying person's physical and mental pain but relieves the anxiety and concern of loved ones.

The rapid developments in technology however, have caught many physicians, pastors, theologians, health care workers and others by surprise. Procedures that were impossible a decade or two ago are commonly followed today, for example, unnecessary surgeries, Resuscitation (CPR) which is unwarranted in some dying patients, artificially sustaining life when there is no hope for the patient's survival, and others.

"More people have been killed in this [20th] century by tenderhearted souls than by cruel barbarians in all the other centuries put together."

- From The Thanatos Syndrome by Walker Percy Spoken by the character, Father Smith.

#### Who Should Attend This Conference?

ITEST welcomes health care professionals: administrators, hospice personnel, pastoral care advocates, nurses, physicians, deacons, priests and women and men religious to attend this conference. Two Professional Development Hours may be earned by attending.

### **End of Life Issues Presentations**

**Dr. Kimbell Kornu, MD, MAR**The Good Death: Liturgy of the Church or
Liturgy of Medical Technology?

Has the rise of medical technology made it easier or harder to die? Perhaps the question should be reframed: how has medical technology changed how we die? How has technology changed our understanding of the nature of death? Through a brief history of the good death in the Western tradition, we will see how pre-modern dying was culturally under the purview of faith and the liturgies of the Church with medicine as a practice of charity. Then in the modern period, the relationship between faith and medicine becomes inverted such that dying comes under the domain of medicine and its associated technologies.

### Father Charles Bouchard, OP, S.T.D.

Science and the Soul: Can We Recover the Spiritual Dimension of Death?

Michel Foucault's landmark work The Birth of the Clinic describes how modern science changed the way we see medicine and led to today's high technological approach to health care. No one questions the value of these technological advances, but from the patient's perspective, they sometimes seem slightly out of control.

As we look back to the ancient tradition of the "happy death" and the Ars Moriendi literature, we must ask whether our technological gains resulted in the loss of some important spiritual values. Is it possible for us to recover them today?

"In my perspective death of the aged is part of the normal cycle of birth, life, and death that God has planned for mankind."

> - John A. Blaschke, MD, (Age 96) Rheumatologist and Emeritus Clinical Professor of Medicine Oklahoma University

## ITEST Conference Registration Form October 22, 2016

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Conference Fees:			
☐ <i>Early Bird</i> By 9/30/16	\$125.00		
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