


You are invited
to a formative experience like no other.

**CHA's Ecclesiology and Spiritual Renewal
Program for Health Care Leaders**

APRIL 19 – 24, 2026





"Both the didactic sessions and all of the activities served to further inform me in new and timely ways. This was an exceptional experience from start to finish."

– PAST PARTICIPANT

Please join us at CHA's annual Ecclesiology and Spiritual Renewal Program for Health Care Leaders, April 19 – 24, 2026, in Rome and Assisi. This important formation experience is a week-long learning and renewal program for leaders of Catholic health care that is like no other because of the gathering from across our ministry.

We encourage you to consider this program for yourself and for the executive and governance leaders of your organization.

This program offers us the opportunity to experience the broader perspective of our health care ministry and to realize the worldwide nature of the Church's work — an important perspective as we leaders are in communication with various dicasteries of the Holy See.

OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- ✦ Meetings with Vatican leaders
- ✦ A general Papal Audience in St. Peter's Square
- ✦ Tentative private tour of the Sistine Chapel and Vatican Museum
- ✦ Celebrations of the Eucharist and personal reflection exercises
- ✦ A one-day pilgrimage to nearby Assisi, the home of Saints Francis and Clare
- ✦ Formative presentations by CHA staff highlighting:
 - ✦ Responding to the call to lead in Catholic health care
 - ✦ Personal spirituality
 - ✦ Workings of the Holy See
- ✦ A commissioning ceremony for participants

We recommend that you secure your reservations promptly, as the program is generally limited to 50 participants and tends to reach capacity quickly. Be sure to read the remainder of this invitation for additional details and share it with all those whom you will be inviting to participate. We hope you will join us for this wonderful experience that connects our ministry to that of the universal Church.

Sincerely,



Sr. Mary Haddad, RSM

President and Chief Executive Officer



Diarmuid Rooney, M.S.Psych., M.T.S., D.Soc.Admin

Vice President, Sponsorship and Mission Services

Tentative Program Highlights

Program content, presenters and times are approximate and subject to change.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

3:00 – 9:00 P.M.



Welcome and Orientation, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Opening Eucharist, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Opening Session, for Registered Participants

Reception and Dinner, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

MONDAY, APRIL 20

7:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.



Buffet Breakfast, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Morning Sessions, for Registered Participants

Buffet Lunch, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Afternoon Session, for Registered Participants

Tentative Private Tour of Sistine Chapel and Parts of the Vatican Museum followed by a light dinner at the museum, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

6:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.



Assisi Pilgrimage with Breakfast, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Lunch and Free Time in Assisi on Your Own

Enjoy Dinner and an Evening on Your Own

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

6:30 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.



Buffet Breakfast, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Papal General Audience, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Enjoy Lunch on Your Own and Afternoon Free Time (approx. 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Debriefing and Integration Session, for Registered Participants

Enjoy Dinner and an Evening on Your Own

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

6:30 A.M. – 9:30 P.M.



Buffet Breakfast, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Mass at St. Peter's Basilica, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Meetings with Dicastery Officials, for Registered Participants

Lunch Provided, Afternoon Free Time (approx. 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

Offsite Reception and Dinner, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

8:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.



Buffet Breakfast, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Closing Session, for Registered Participants

Prayer Service and Commissioning, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

Closing Luncheon, for Registered Participants and Registered Guests

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RATING GUIDE



LEISURELY

Easy pace, little walking and stair climbing.



MODERATE

Moderate pace, greater distances covered, walking over uneven surfaces, stair climbing, embarking and disembarking motor coaches.



CHALLENGING

Vigorous pace, frequent movement, extensive walking over uneven surfaces, hiking, stair climbing where elevators are not available, embarking and disembarking motor coaches.

“Extremely well done. It is evident that the entire program is well thought through with a high degree of attention to every detail. I feel very blessed to have been selected to attend. This is a once in a lifetime experience that I will always treasure.”

– PAST PARTICIPANT







EXPERIENCE THE
BROADER, WORLDWIDE
PERSPECTIVE OF OUR
HEALTH CARE
MINISTRY.



REGISTRATION FEES AND PROCESS

Program Costs for Participants and Guests

REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

For U.S. based members, the participant registration rate is **\$11,000**. For non-U.S. based (international) members the participant registration rate is **\$16,500**.

The complete package for participants includes:

- ✦ Seven nights at the Parco dei Principi Grand Hotel & Spa - April 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24. The stay includes an American buffet breakfast, service charges and taxes
- ✦ Seven breakfasts, three lunches and three dinners
- ✦ Motor coach transportation in Rome, dicastery visits, Papal Audience and St. Peter's Basilica
- ✦ Motor coach transportation to/from Assisi
- ✦ Transportation to/from airport or train station
- ✦ All program materials

REGISTERED GUESTS

The cost for a registered guest rooming with a participant is **\$3,000**. If a registered guest requires their own room, there will be an additional charge.

The package for a registered guest includes:

- ✦ Seven breakfasts, two lunches and three dinners
- ✦ Motor coach transportation in Rome to Papal Audience and St. Peter's Basilica
- ✦ Motor coach transportation to/from Assisi
- ✦ Transportation to/from airport or train station

Please Note: Should you select to travel with a guest, and not register him or her, your guest will be on his or her own. This includes getting themselves to/from the airport and all meals. Your guest will not be registered to attend off-site events (i.e., Papal Audience, Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Basilica, day in Assisi).

CANCELLATION FROM THE PROGRAM

CHA is required to pre-pay all program costs by March 19, 2026. As a result, no refunds will be offered for any program cancellations made after April 1. There is no cost to send a substitute. Please contact Brenda Hudson at (314) 253-3434 to register a substitute.

CANCELLATION OF SLEEP ROOMS

Many participants choose to arrive early or depart several days after the program. CHA is happy to make reservations for additional nights of stay at the program hotel, at the expense of the participant. However, once those reservations are made, should you need to make any modifications, please do so on/before April 1, 2026. Any rooms that are cancelled after April 1 will be charged to the registrant at the CHA contracted room rate. CHA will bill the registrant directly for these cancelled room nights approximately six weeks after the program concludes.



2026 Reservation Process for Participants and Registered Guests

Reservations are now being accepted for the 2026 program. To reserve space please contact Lori Ashmore-Ruppel, Senior Director, Mission Services Management, (314) 253-3419 or lashmore-ruppel@chausa.org.

IMPORTANT RESERVATION NOTICES

- ✦ Space is limited to approximately 50 participants and priority is given to CHA representative members.
- ✦ If we receive reservation requests for more than 50 participants, we may need to set limits on the number of participants for each ministry to be equitable across the membership.
- ✦ The number of participants per ministry will be determined based on the number of reservation requests received by October 19.
- ✦ If participants exceed capacity, participants will be placed on the waitlist. As space permits, those on the waitlist will be contacted.
- ✦ Due to the popularity of this program, we suggest you submit your reservation request as soon as possible.

PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AVAILABLE WHEN YOU CONTACT LORI

- ✦ Coordinator - Name and contact information of the person from your system who will coordinate the details for all registered participants and registered guests.
- ✦ The number of spots the ministry would like to hold for participants in the program and the number of expected guests.

In October, the coordinators will receive an email with a link to register participants and guests for the program through the CHA website.

IMPORTANT PASSPORT INFORMATION

For those who do not yet have a passport or need to renew — please allow 10 – 12 weeks for U.S. passport processing times.

Please note: **Your passport must be valid for at least three months beyond your planned return date from The European Union.**

Though not required, we strongly encourage participants to enroll your trip in STEP (Smart Traveler Enrollment Program) with the U.S. State Department prior to travel. If you enroll in STEP you will receive important information from the Embassy about any safety conditions in your destination and help the U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency. Visit this website to enroll - step.state.gov/

See complete program information at:
www.chausa.org/romeprogram



WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER RESERVATION

October 2025

+ Registration for Participants and Guests

CHA will email the system coordinator a link to register participants and guests for the program through the CHA website. This registration can be completed by the contact person or the participant. This registration is due by December 12, 2025.

January 2026

+ Participant Travel Information

Participants will receive an email asking them to submit their hotel and travel itinerary information. This is needed to schedule transportation to and from the airport.

November 2025

+ Additional Information Required

CHA will email system coordinators and participants for a (head and shoulders) photo (jpeg) of each participant and registered guest.

March 2026

+ Program Materials Available

CHA will mail hard copies and provide access to electronic program materials on March 6, 2026.

+ Webinar: Know Before You Go March 17, 2026, 1:00 – 3:00 P.M. ET

This webinar will offer information to help participants and guests to understand and prepare for the pilgrimage. It is very important that everyone who is traveling to Rome attend or review the recording.

+ Participant Confirmation

Participants will receive an email to confirm their check-in/out dates as well as their travel itinerary in early April.



*For additional information about the program or travel, please contact CHA at rome@chausa.org.
You may also reach Brenda Hudson, CHA executive assistant at 314-253-3434.*

LOGISTICS

Hotel

The 2026 program will be hosted at
The Parco dei Principi Grand Hotel & Spa, Rome.

The hotel is:

- ✦ A five-star elegant urban resort nestled beside Rome's iconic Villa Borghese
- ✦ Steps from cultural gems like the Borghese Gallery, Bioparco di Roma and Via Veneto

A CHA master account has been established to cover room and tax for the nights of April 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24. You will be responsible for any additional nights and all incidentals, which must be settled upon checkout.

PARCO DEI PRINCIPI GRAND HOTEL & SPA

Via Geolamo Frescobaldi, 5
Rome, 00198 Italy
Phone: +39 06 85442

www.robersonaldicollection.com/en/parco-dei-principi/index

Airport Transportation

In order to arrange airport transportation, we must have your itinerary showing airline(s), flight numbers, and arrival and departure dates and times. Please submit this itinerary using the online form that will be emailed to you in January.

A representative of Fourth Dimension Italy, our destination management company, will meet you at Rome's Fiumicino Airport. You will then be transported to the Parco dei Principi.

Should your flight be delayed or changed after April 1, you will need to contact Fourth Dimension Italy directly. Their phone number will be included in the final confirmation email sent the week of March 30, 2026.

Pre- or Post-Program Travel Needs

Should you require pre- or post-program travel support, contact Travelink, a Virtuoso Member Agency (see contact information below). They offer a wide selection of vacation packages and experienced leisure travel specialists who are trained to help you plan a trip best suited to your taste and budget.

We encourage you to contact this service before you start your travel to Italy.

For pre- or post-program travel, contact:

TRACI CONWAY

traci.conway@travelink.com
(800) 851-8233 ext. 2456

The hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday. There are processing fees involved with travel planning, and fees will be disclosed at the beginning of your conversation. Travelink, a Virtuoso Member Agency can also assist any credit card holder.

Air Travel

For air travel only, please call CHA's travel provider, American Express, at (314) 253-3442 and identify yourself as a CHA Ecclesiology participant. Participants are responsible for all air travel. For any additional travel questions or information, contact CHA at PAL@chausa.org



4455 Woodson Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63134



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

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This program offers us the opportunity to experience the broader perspective of our health care ministry and to realize the worldwide nature of the Church's work — an important perspective as we leaders are in communication with various dicasteries of the Holy See.

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