

UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS

Ann & Joe O. Neuhoff School of Ministry

Dear UDMC registrants, partners, and supporters,

The University of Dallas, in conjunction with the Catholic Diocese of Dallas, has made the difficult decision to cancel the annual University of Dallas Ministry Conference (UDMC) that was scheduled for October 7-9, 2021 in Irving, Texas.

Driven by the uncertainties of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing organizational restructuring at both the University of Dallas and the Catholic Diocese of Dallas, Bishop Edward Burns and Dr. Jonathan Sanford, incoming President of the University of Dallas, announce the cancellation as the most prudent course of action to take. The Diocese and the University will also take this opportunity to reflect on the contributions made by the UDMC and discern its role in the future.

In an effort to help meet the diverse needs of ministries in the Church at all levels, the University of Dallas Ministry Conference was started by the University of Dallas Institute for Religious and Pastoral Studies now Neuhoff School of Ministry in October, 2007 with an attendance of 1,000 participants. In subsequent years, the University of Dallas partnered with both the Diocese of Dallas and the Fort Worth Diocese to provide the annual University of Dallas Ministry Conference to local communities. The event grew into a regional conference reaching an attendance of over 5,000 participants from dioceses in Texas and neighboring states, making it the second largest ministry conference in the U.S. and providing sessions in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

The mission of the University of Dallas Ministry Conference is to enable and support all those who are engaged in the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church. The conference offers the latest in ongoing spiritual, human, intellectual, and pastoral formation to a multicultural audience.

Additional questions about the future of the conference and the ongoing formation of ministers in the Diocese should be directed to the Office of the Chancellor of the Diocese of Dallas (chancellor@cathdal.org) or to the Office of the Provost at the University of Dallas (provostoffice@udallas.edu).

Yours in Christ,



Theodore James Whapham, Ph.D
Dean, Ann and Joe O. Neuhoff School of Ministry