

California Catholic Women's Forum presents full year schedule on the Dignity and Vocation of Women
Includes continuing education opportunities for nurses

The California Catholic Women's Forum, www.ccwf.org, is pleased to announce programs for the coming 2008-2009 year. The conferences comprise talks of interest to healthcare professionals as well as continuing to delve into the seminal document written by Pope John Paul II, *Mulieris Dignitatem, On the Dignity and Vocation of Women*, teasing it apart piece by piece so as to make it more understandable to the average woman.

November 8 celebrates *Vive La Difference: Gender Differentiation* as an example of the principle of complementarity. The forum features Vicky Thorn, founder of *Project Rachel*, speaking on the *Biology of the Theology of the Body* and Paul Parker, principal of Canyon Heights Academy, a Catholic elementary school with gender-separated classes who will discuss *Gender Differences in the Growing Years*. Details and registration available on the website. Mrs. Thorn will receive the 2nd annual *True Feminism for Real Women!* award at this forum.

April 25 will look at how 2 women made a difference by becoming the leader God wanted them to be. The topic is *Women in the Bible, Trailblazers for Life* and each founded a successful Catholic Bible study. Included in the talks are Gail Buckley of *Catholic Scripture Study International*, and Yvonne Florczak-Seeman, author of *A Time to Heal*. This "perfect storm" integrates women who made a dream reality using the Bible and the women who inhabit it.

The new *Seeds of Life* series offering continuing education for nurses continues to grow. October 11 is a morning forum entitled, *Our Bodies, Our Souls*, in which the exploitation of women in their reproductive role is explored as well as the progress that has been made in the issue of informed consent. Featured speakers are Jennifer Lahl, R.N., B.S.N., M.A. of the Center for Bioethics and the Culture (www.thecbc.org) and Marjorie Campbell, an ex-feminist lawyer now studying canon law. Mrs. Campbell spoke in 2005 at the CCWF inaugural forum, *True Feminism for Real Women!*

On January 31 CCWF is pleased to announce that Dr. Angela Lanfranchi, M.D., F.A.S.D. (www.bcpinstitute.org) will speak on *Abortion and Breast Cancer: an Evidence-based Approach*. Dolores Moreno, CFCP will then follow up with an *Introduction to Natural Procreative Technology*. This *Seeds of Life* forum will be available for continuing education credit for nurses and will be held at O'Connor Hospital, San Jose.

CCWF has found a niche in the Catholic world of the greater Bay Area. on August 8 continuing education was offered at the 40th Anniversary conference on *Humanae Vitae* with the Diocese of Oakland and the St. Anthony of Padua

Institute (www.cornerstoneconference.org). On September 13, CCWF offered CE for nurses on End-of-Life Issues in association with the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

September 26-27 is a two-day conference hosted by the National Catholic Bioethics Center at O'Connor Hospital in San Jose entitled *The Catholic Tradition in Healthcare Ethics*. CCWF will be sponsoring continuing education for nurses. CME for doctors will be available as well.

Visit www.ccwf.org or www.ncbcenter.org/annual_seminars.asp for more information and to register.

All interested persons are welcome at these forums. Many hours of dedicated work from an all-volunteer staff continues the tradition of quality information in a lively environment. Lunch, as always, is included. Contact Michele Coldiron 650-814-1995 mcoldiron@ccwf.org for more information or the website, www.ccwf.org. Contributions in support of the work of CCWF are totally tax-deductible and gratefully received.

CCWF is a provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number 15002. Visit www.ccwf.org for information on number of credit hours available for each event and cancellation policy.