



## 2019 Congress Preview

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### CMSM Executive Director, Mark Padrez, OP, to Preside at Closing Liturgy



The RFC is happy to announce that **Mark Padrez, OP**, Executive Director at the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), will preside at this year's Congress closing liturgy.

The RFC has enjoyed increased collaboration with CMSM and looks forward to having Father Padrez with us at the 2019 Congress!

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### Helen Cahill, OP to Receive Mary Emil Penet, IHM Award



**Helen Cahill, OP** will receive the Mary Emil Penet, IHM award at the upcoming 2019 Congress October 24-27 in Louisville, KY.

A Dominican Sister of Peace, Sister Helen began her religious life more than sixty years ago as a Dominican of St. Catharine, KY. Initially a teacher, she served in the leadership of her original congregation for some twenty years and for as many years has been engaged in the ministry of spiritual formation/direction and supervision, workshop and retreat facilitation.

## Major Speakers Headline 2019 Congress

The RFC is delighted that Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ and Father Bryan Massingale will offer keynote presentations at this year's Congress.



**Sister Norma Pimentel**, as Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, oversees the charitable arm of the Diocese of Brownsville, providing oversight of the different ministries and programs in the areas of emergency assistance, housing assistance, military assistance, clinical counseling, pregnancy care, and was instrumental in quickly organizing community resources to respond to the surge of Central Americans seeking asylum in the United States and setting up the Humanitarian Respite Center in McAllen, TX. Sister Norma received her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Pan American University in Edinburg, TX; a Master's Degree in Theology from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, TX; and a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Loyola University in Chicago, IL.



**Father Bryan Massingale** is a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. He completed his formal education in Rome at the pontifical institute for moral theology, earning the degree, Doctor of Moral Theology, "summa cum laude." His current writing projects explore the contributions of Black radicalism to Catholic theology and the intersections of race, sexuality, and faith. He currently is the James and Nancy Buckman Professor of Theological and Social Ethics at Fordham University and Senior Fellow in its Center for Ethics Education. Prior to his recent appointment at Fordham, he was Professor of Theology at Marquette University (Milwaukee), where in 2009 he received that institution's highest award for excellence in teaching. A leader in Catholic theology, he is a former president of the

Catholic Theological Society of America and a past Convener of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium.

[Click here to learn about all of this year's presenters](#)

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## Program Welcomes Young Adult Dialogue Partners





The 2019 Congress Planning Committee is thrilled that two young adults have been asked to serve as dialogue partners for the upcoming event. **Ana Gonzalez, OP** and **Greg Evers, CPPS** will offer a reflection after one of the keynote addresses.

[Click to learn more about Ana and Greg](#)

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## Sponsorship and Exhibit Opportunities Still Available



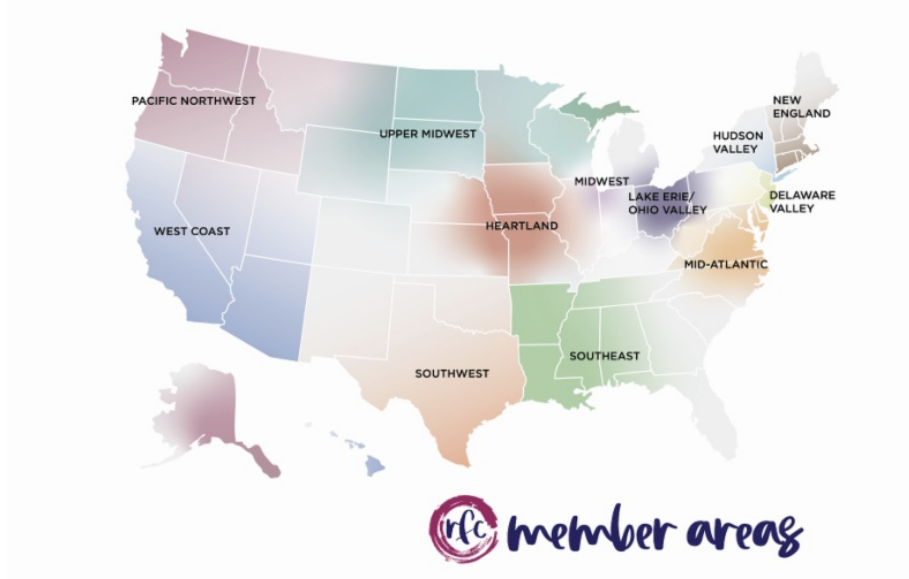
We are excited to work with **generous sponsors and committed exhibitors** to bring you the very best Congress experience!

We anticipate over 300 will gather for Congress 2019 (we already have over 100 registered!) and expect some international participants as well. Your involvement will give you opportunities to connect with an active community of formators and leaders in both women and men's congregations. Additionally, participation will grow mission awareness and visibility amongst participants, presenters, and exhibitors. This is a unique opportunity to cultivate relationships with a wide array of Catholic leaders!

[Click for more information](#)

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## Regional/Member Area Meetings to Take Place at Congress



In concert with many partners at the local level, the RFC has worked hard to re-  
envision and re-vitalize RFC regions. At this year's Congress participants will have the  
opportunity to **connect with those in their geographic hub** for relationship-building,  
collaboration, consultation and networking.

[Click to learn more about RFC's regional revitalization process](#)

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## Louisville's 'Doors to Hope' to Receive Liturgy Collection



The collection taken during the closing liturgy at the 2019 Congress will go towards  
supporting **Doors to Hope**. A local non-profit in the Louisville area, the organization  
offers ESL classes, GED mentoring, after school tutoring & more. We are delighted to  
support them in mission! Click below to learn more about their fantastic ministries.

[Click to learn more about Doors to Hope](#)

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