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St. Thomas Symposium

January 27, 2024

Presentations:

**Presenter: Mother Mary Quentin Sheridan, RSM & Sister Mary Juanita Gonsalves, RSM**

**Title: “Perfection through Connaturality”**

This presentation is a conversation on Saint Thomas Aquinas and religious life in light of the vows, beatitudes, and gifts of the Holy Spirit. The image of the “rich young man” (*Matthew 19:16-30*) will serve as a guide to speak on poverty of spirit, fear of the Lord, and choosing to live the vows.

**Presenter: Sister Mariana Koonce, RSM**

**Title: “The Catholic Physician’s Perfection of the *Imago Dei* through the *Imago Christi*”**

The *imago Dei* in the human soul confers the capacity to know and love God, but only Jesus Christ could know and love God perfectly in his human nature as aided by the Holy Spirit. In the Catholic physician’s journey to beatitude, the science and art of medicine are augmented by the infused virtues and gifts of the Holy Spirit so that the Catholic physician can know and love God through the professional acts of medicine. Using the theology of Thomas Aquinas, this talk will trace the progressive perfection of the *imago Dei* in the soul of the Catholic physician as the physician becomes increasingly conformed to Christ through the professional acts of medicine.

**Presenter: Sister Mary Elisha Glady, RSM**

**Title: “Lessons from Saint Thomas Aquinas for Evangelizing through Education”**

The writings of Saint Thomas Aquinas include descriptions of the nature of the intellect and of faith. This presentation will briefly summarize Aquinas’s account of the nature of faith and reason and offer practical examples for implementing these principles in the classroom to support students in their faith development.