

## ***Biographies of Participating Speakers***

### ***Johnnette Benkovic:***

*Johnnette S. Benkovic is Founder and President of Living His Life Abundantly® International, Inc., a Catholic evangelization apostolate with outreaches in television, radio, print, and internet communications. She is also Founder of Women of Grace®, a Catholic apostolate for Christian women that features a number of outreaches including conferences, curricula, study groups and more.*

*After years of being a non-practicing Catholic, Johnnette experienced a deep conversion back to her Catholic faith in 1981 and discerned a call to share the Gospel message through the media. She has been a consistent presence in Catholic radio since 1987 and in Catholic television since 1988.*

*Johnnette is Executive Producer of **The Abundant Life** (seen internationally on EWTN), a television program that discusses contemporary issues from a Catholic perspective. She is also host of **Women of Grace LIVE**, a one hour call-in radio talk show that airs live five times a week. She is heard nationally on AM/FM stations and internationally via short wave radio.*

*In addition, Johnnette is a popular conference speaker, retreat conductor, and seminar presenter, and has been published in major Catholic magazines. She is the author of several books including **Full of Grace: Women and the Abundant Life** (St. Anthony Messenger Press), **Grace-Filled Moments** (Our Sunday Visitor), **Living Life Abundantly: Stories of People Who Have Encountered God** (St. Anthony Messenger Press), **Experience Grace in Abundance: Strategies for Your Spiritual Life** (Our Sunday Visitor) and **The New Age Counterfeit** (Queenship). Johnnette has been married to her husband, Anthony, since 1973, and is the mother of three children.*

### ***Father Edmund Sylvia, CSC:***

*Fr. Edmund Sylvia, CSC, is a member of the Eastern Province of the Congregation of the Holy Cross. Ordained in 1977, Fr. Sylvia has served in North Eastern Massachusetts, Baltimore, Maryland, Steubenville, Ohio, and Clearwater, Florida. Besides his priestly duties, he is involved in retreat work, teaching and is co-host of The Abundant Life television program and Women of Grace LIVE radio program. Fr. Sylvia is the oldest of eight children and his father still resides in the family home in New Bedford, Massachusetts. He is Theological Advisor and Chaplain to Living His Life Abundantly® International, Inc. and all its productions.*