

Idol Talk? In the Image of the Disabled God: Disability, the Imago Dei and Practical Consequences

Time	Thursday 22 May 2025	
8.30 – 9.15am	Registration and Tea/Coffee	
9.15 – 9.30am	Welcome and Introduction	
9.30 – 10.30am	Plenary Keynote 1: Archbishop Peter Comensoli, 'Human Life: Created not Made'	
10.30 – 11am	Morning tea	
11am – 12.30pm	Session A: Welcoming, Friendships, and Inclusion Maria Scharnke, 'Behold my hands, and be not faithless' David Treanor, 'Friendships – Make a Difference' Neal Murphy, 'Living with Honour – Sharing the Fruits of Encounter'	Session B: Aging, the Image of God, and Eschatology Rev Martin Scharnke, 'Elders as fully the imago dei' Rev. Ben Boland, 'Dementia and the New Creation' Debra J. Philips, Cristina Lledo Gomez, Melissa Cain, 'Unlimited Joy: A Story of David, Confirmed that he is Made in the Image of God'
12.30 – 1.30	Lunch	
1.30 – 2.30pm	Plenary Keynote 2: Fr Justin Glyn SJ, 'Idol Talk? In the Image of the Disabled God'	
2.40 – 3.45pm	Session C: Rights and Public Policy in Catholic Perspective Samantha Connor, "'Sacred, Not Suffering": Reimagining Catholic Protection of Disabled Life Beyond Martyrdom Narratives' Josh Lourensz, 'Current Assumptions of the NDIS and the Disability Support Pension Betray their Intent of Effective Contribution to the Common Good'	
3.45 – 4.15pm	Afternoon Tea	
4.15 – 4.45pm	Session D: Plenary Discussion and Reflection Sandie Cornish, Justin Glyn, and Louise Gosbell	

Time	Friday 23 May 2025
8.30 – 9am	Tea/Coffee
9 – 10am	Plenary Keynote 3 (by zoom): Daniel P. Horan: The Dignity of the Particular: <i>Haecceitas</i> , Disability, and the Renewal of Theological Anthropology.
10 – 11am	Session E: Belonging Together: L’Arche Australia Panelists: Claire Lawler and members of L’Arche Australia
11 – 11.30am	Morning tea
11.30am – 12pm	Session F: Theology, Linguistics, and Access in the Church: Is it Enough for Deaf Parishioners? Panelists: Teresa Paulet, Katrina Mynard, and Gail Finn
12 – 1pm	Session G: Perceiving, Including, Encountering Julmar Lofranco, ‘Healing Presence: Evangelising Love: Pastoral Care for Persons with Physical and Mental Disabilities in the Diocese of Malaybalay’ Zachariah Duke, ‘Witnesses of Hope in the Image of God: Practical tools for building stronger communities of belonging for people with disability’
1 – 2pm	Lunch
2 – 3pm	Session H: It Takes More than a Ramp to Belong Panellists: Sr Geraldine Larkins RSJ, Daniel Giles OAM and Colleagues
3 – 3.30pm	Plenary Keynote 4 (by zoom): Vittorio Scelzo, Dicastery for Laity, Family, and Life
3.30 – 4pm	Session I: Plenary Reflections and Close of Conference Sandie Cornish, Justin Glyn, and Louise Gosbell