



RELIGIOUS FORMATION CONFERENCE 2017 CONGRESS

**Biennial National Congress  
November 16-18, 2017**

*Congress Seminar  
November 17, 2017*

### *Recognizing and Responding to Disordered Personalities in Community*

An individual is said to have a personality disorder when he or she displays a long-standing pattern of thinking, perceiving, and responding emotionally and behaviorally to normal life situations in abnormal ways. Designed to protect the individual from internal stress and pain, they disrupt his or her relationships with others and tend to cause inordinate discomfort in all those around him or her. These disordered patterns of emoting, thinking, and behaving can cause tremendous disruption to community life and do great harm in ministry. Since changing these long-standing and pervasive destructive patterns is extremely difficult, a community is best served by early recognition and separation from an individual with a personality disorder. If that does not occur, enormous efforts will be required from all members of the community to contain the disruption and mitigate the damage that a personality disorder can cause. In this workshop, the presenter will describe the signs of some of the most toxic personality disorders in community life, provide suggestions for how to respond when those dynamics appear and describe how they must be managed to limit their harmful effects.



**Presenter:** Ray Dlugos, OSA is an ordained Augustinian Friar from the Villanova Province. Currently the Vice-President for Mission and Student Affairs at Merrimack College in North Andover, MA, he holds a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the State University of New York at Albany, NY. Formerly he served at Southdown Institute, initially as a staff psychologist and later as Chief Executive Officer. Father Dlugos has given many workshops and retreats to clergy and religious on a variety of themes related to the healthy and holy integration of psychology and spirituality.

This seminar will be offered twice.