

## **Speakers for the 2017 Convention**

### **Keynote on Thursday and session on Friday: JEFF GARDNER**

Mr. Gardner is the founder and director of the Picture Christians Project. He is an award winning producer, published author, journalist, and humanitarian photographer. He has worked in Catholic media for over a decade. He has traveled the world and especially the Middle East to capture the images of the people of these areas.

### **Friday session: THERESA BOSCIA**

Ms. Boscia is the NCCW presentative to the United Nations. She will talk about her journey to this position and what she has observed and learned while representing us in this world body.

### **Friday session and Friday evening performance: AUDREY ASSAD**

Ms. Assad is a critically acclaimed songwriter and musician, author and speaker, wife and mother, and a convert to the Catholic Faith. She has performed all over the world. She combines both Protestant and Catholic traditional music with her own original creations. She will speak in the afternoon and present a musical program in the evening. The community will be invited to attend this program. There will be no charge, rather the opportunity for a "love offering" will be made available.

### **Saturday session: JIMMY DEE**

Mr. Dee is a lifelong Catholic and is a member of the Holy Ghost parish. He is very active in the Knights of Columbus. Since 2014 he has worked on behalf of our resident community of contemplative cloistered nuns, The Handmaids of the Precious Blood. He will talk about the history of the Handmaids and how they arrived in East Tennessee.