Maryland Catholic Women's Conference is Oct. 6-8

Julie Mathias hopes this year's Maryland Catholic Women's Conference will provide the spark to renew the faith lives of participants, no matter where they are in their spiritual journey.

"Catholic women coming together to be strengthened in their faith, to be fed in ways they may not get week in and week out at home and to grow as disciples for Christ can have an unimaginable ripple-down effect if these women can go back to their families and parishes with their hearts filled with the Holy Spirit to live as disciples for Christ," said Mathias, one of the organizers of the annual conference.

To be held Oct. 6-8 at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, the 7th-annual conference is open to women 18 years old and older. This year's theme is "Fire Within."

Archbishop William E. Lori and Bishop Mark Brennan will celebrate Masses, and there will be opportunities for confession, eucharistic adoration, praying the rosary, small-group discussion and more.

Featured speakers include Jon Leonetti, who will present "Your God is Too Boring" and "Saints Alive." Daughter of St. Paul Sister Helena Burns will speak on "The Whole Truth About Women."

The weekend will kick off with a wine-and-cheese social and book club discussion of "Prayer Primer: Igniting a Fire Within" by Father Thomas Dubay.

There are approximately 300 women already registered for the event. Although advance registration is closed, those who want to participate may register at the door.

For more a schedule of events, registration fees and more information, visit https://marylandcatholicwomen.com.