

# Day Three

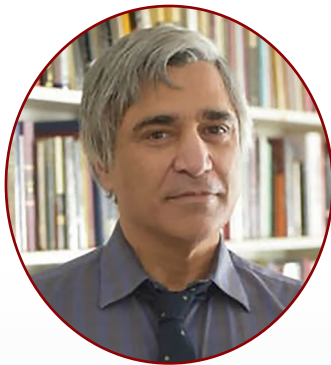


## Living Life Fully



### Morning Keynote Speaker: Anthony Esolen

28: Pessimist with Hope: A  
Conversation with Anthony  
Esolen



Professor and author Anthony Esolen discusses the value of classical education.

On this very special episode of the Kolbecast, Dr. Anthony Esolen joins the crew to provide advice to families who are intrigued by but have no idea where to start with classical education. Dr. Esolen begins by explaining how the imagination is the driver of the person. From there, he preaches encouragement—don't be afraid to teach your children!—and describes how formation of the human person through classical education contrasts with the “lackadaisical utilitarianism” prevalent today. We don't shy

away from the big questions, either. Is classical education too rarefied for those on the path toward blue collar jobs, and why or why not? If we're called to be salt and light, should children instead be evangelizing within public schools around them? And what about the ~socialization question~? Listen in and find out.

### Morning Breakout Sessions

#### Option 1: Mike Aquilina

191 A Window into the Ancient  
World w/Mike Aquilina

Mike Aquilina—vice president of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology, author of more than 50 books, homeschool father, and expert in Church history—joins Bonnie, Steven, and Jordan for a discussion about the pre- and post-Incarnation world. The conversation includes lessons to be drawn from the apostolic fathers, the Church's indispensable role in the development of charitable institutions, and the idea that to learn history is to cease to be a Protestant. Along the way, Mike's references and connections range from the philosopher Nietzsche to the rock and roll hall of famer Dion.

#### Option 2: Dr. George Harne

109 A Lifetime Venture with  
Dr. George Harne

The pursuit of human flourishing in this life and the next takes a clear understanding of what it means to be human. In this episode, Dr. George Harne, Executive Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Associate Professor at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, joins Bonnie and Steven to discuss the distinctive ins and outs of classical education. Describing a classical curriculum as “more than old dusty books,” Dr. Harne vividly describes the way this kind of education fosters understanding of both personhood and purpose. He also explains how studying organized bodies of knowledge and sequences of learning leads to self-knowledge, critical skills, and wisdom borne from wonder.

#### Option 3: Mark Brumley

144 The Word Made Known  
with Mark Brumley of Ignatius  
Press

Mark Brumley, president of Ignatius Press and president of the Kolbe board of advisors

discusses the Word, and the spoken, written, and printed word.

The Gospel of John begins by describing the Word of God. What does it mean to use words to study the Word—what joys, responsibilities, and opportunities lay in store? Mark Brumley, president of Ignatius Press and president of the Kolbe board of advisors, shares his thoughts and experience with us. The discussion covers Mark's longtime familiarity with Kolbe, the idea that Jesus as capital-W Word should shape our use of lowercase-w words, and the various features of spoken, written, and printed words. Mark highlights the obligation to be clear where we can be in learning and teaching, the importance of humbly recognizing our limitations as knowers and understanders, and the benefits & tradeoffs of paper books versus eBooks. Listen all the way through for advice and encouragement for students and parents both!

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## Break:

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### 242 **Finish Line in Sight**

Kolbe seniors Ignatius, Dhilan, and Agnes join the Kolbecast to share an insider look at life as a Kolbe student. From their Honor Society activities to aerial acrobatics and magic, these students keep their schedules packed. The students share a range of experiences of homeschooling life, from taking music lessons at the University of Notre Dame to life on the

road. What do all the students have in common? An impressive list of accomplishments and a love for learning that shines through in every sentence.

Listen to hear about the challenges and successes these students have met with in their senior year, their advice for Kolbe students, and their future plans.

### 208 **A Mosaic of Experience**

In this episode, we gather alumni in various stages of life post-graduation to discuss the dividends their Kolbe education is now paying. One-year alumnus Ian describes his transition to college life; five (ish)-year alumnus Charlie describes the ways his Kolbe formation serves him both in the work world and in his growing family; and ten (ish)-year alumna Hope describes the integrated worldview she brings to her adult life. The three alumni also share some of their favorite memories of homeschooling, provide words of encouragement and advice to current and prospective families, and let listeners in on the things they'd do differently if they could do it all again.

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## Afternoon Breakout Sessions

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### Option 1: Dr. John Cuddeback

166 **Dr. John Cuddeback on Dwelling Together Richly**



John Cuddeback, a philosophy professor at Christendom College, family man, and homesteader, visits with Bonnie and Steven this episode to discuss relationship, friendship, and home life. With the insight of an ethics professor and the experience of a family leader, Dr. Cuddeback describes the importance of living well together, the distinction between education and academics, and the richness of our common stock of stories, images, and questions. From Aristotle to agriculture, today's episode highlights the expansion of experience and the experience of wonder available to families.

## Option 2: Dr. Andrew Mullally

### 117 Figureoutable with Dr. Andrew Mullally

Science facilitates wholeness and the abundant life God wants for us, but it also prompts a lot of questions—everything from how to teach complex concepts in homeschooling to how to approach ongoing national discussions on the beginning and end of life. We delve into these dynamics with Dr. Andrew Mullally, a second-generation physician, first-generation homeschool alumnus, current homeschool father, and host of the award-winning Catholic Medical Association podcast *Doctor, Doctor*. The conversation touches on how to teach science on micro and macro levels, how homeschooled students defy stereotypes with their confident communication skills, and how nothing is insurmountable if it's what God calls you to pursue.

## Option 3: Rebecca Czarniecki (Mrs. B)

### 105 Not Just for Special Occasions

Small business owner, Kolbe homeschooling mother, and etiquette expert Rebecca Czarniecki—known professionally as Mrs. B—joins Bonnie and Steven to discuss the significance and dividends of manners, social graces, and interpersonal connection. Mrs. B explains with mirth and elegance

how meaningful interactions and nonverbal communication honor human dignity, provide internal development, and restore kindness bit by bit in our world. She also touches on the realities of simultaneously homeschooling and running a small business.

### Afternoon Keynote Speaker: Dr. Peter Kreeft



#### Ep 270 Dr. Peter Kreeft on Joy, Suffering, Conversion, and Truth



Dr. Peter Kreeft, professor of philosophy at Boston College and author of more than 100 books, speaks about Socratic logic and dives into the themes of faith, happiness, and truth.

*"It's almost as if I pity God because He has to choose between giving us more sufferings and making us sorrowful but wiser or giving us less sufferings and making us happier but more foolish."*

Dr. Peter Kreeft shares his reflection on today's academic culture, emphasizing the importance of the Socratic method and a sturdy foundation in Thomistic philosophy. Dr. Kreeft dives deep into the

themes of faith, happiness, and truth as he shares his conversion story, retold in his book *From Calvinist to Catholic*.

## At the Kolbe Table...

### 263 Exploring God's Cosmos - Astronomy for Everyday People

In Kolbe's new astronomy program, the sky's the limit of what students can learn. Astronomy teacher Antonio Castro and course developer Vanessa Delgado are here to discuss the third quadrivium subject and Kolbe's updated astronomy program. The duo examine why astronomy is the "mother of the scientific field" and explain their efforts to bring students a foundational experience in applied mathematics and physics, while also sparking wonder at the grandeur of God's creation. "Everything is difficult if you don't know what it is," Antonio reflects. "But once you start looking into it, step by step, it's easy," he promises.

From building telescopes to mapping relative distances, this astronomy course has something for the most theoretical mind to the most practical learner.



## 259 Seeing the Story - Classical Reflections on Art

In a special sneak peek episode, Kolbe Academy team members Carol Gilpin, Stephanie Foley, and Therese Prudlo join the Kolbecast to discuss the brand new art history and architecture book. The trio discusses the layout of the new art book, revealing the thought process and design work that went into the new text. "It's like we're having a conversation with that artist... a real human connection," Stephanie reflects.

Whether you are considering purchasing this book for your children or interested in picking up a beautiful, readable art book for yourself, this episode is a must-listen!

## 269 Resources & Road Maps – Student Support Services

How can Kolbe Academy help a child who has learning disabilities? Student Services Director Karen Allgood and special education teachers Karen Painter and Emmanuelle Wilhelm share their experiences as parents, teachers, and mentors of students with learning differences. The trio provides a step-by-step guide for parents hoping to utilize Kolbe's services, from interpreting assessment results to individualized course planning and tutoring services. Whatever level of support you need, [Kolbe has options](#).



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