

International Interdisciplinary Conference

June 22nd – 24th, 2016



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



The Role of Church in a Pluralist Society: Good Riddance or Good Influence?

Has the Church a distinctive role in the public square? Is the Catholic Church, along with other Christian churches, just another group fighting for a place in society, seeking to further their own interests? Or do Christian churches have a different standing? A claim to be heard?

Confirmed speakers

Professor William T. Cavanaugh
(DePaul, Chicago)

Professor Patrick Deneen
(Notre Dame)

Sim D'Hertefelt
(Belgium, Creative Digital Content)

Professor Terry Eagleton
(Lancaster)

Professor Massimo Faggioli
(University of St. Thomas, Minnesota)

Professor Siobhán Garrigan
(Trinity College, Dublin)

Professor J. Bryan Hehir
(Harvard)

Professor Hans Joas
(Humboldt University, Berlin)

Cardinal Reinhard Marx
(Archbishop of Munich and Freising)

Margaret O'Brien Steinfels
(Fordham, New York)

Catherine Pepinster
(Editor, The Tablet)

Professor Patrick Riordan
(Heythrop College, London)

Professor Fáinche Ryan
(Trinity College, Dublin)

Professor Peter F. Steinfels
(Fordham, New York)

Professor Gerry Whyte
(Trinity College, Dublin)

Other Features of the Conference

- Private visit to the Book of Kells
- Conference dinner in the elegant setting of Trinity College's 18th Century Dining Hall (€60)

Ticket Price:

Three-day ticket: €200 per person

Day ticket: €80 per person

Students and concessions: €100 per person (three-day ticket)

Further information: www.LoyolaTCD.com

Phone: +353 (0) 1 8964790

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Wednesday 22nd June 2016

Dr Patrick Prendergast:

Welcome

Provost & President, Trinity College

Professor Terry Eagleton:

Against Pluralism

Terry Eagleton is widely regarded as Britain's most influential living literary critic and theorist. He has published about 50 books including: *The Body as Language: outline of a new left theology* (1970), *Literary Theory* (1996), *Culture and the Death of God* (2014).

Professor Patrick Deneen:

Hegemonic Liberalism and the End of Pluralism

Patrick Deneen is Professor of Constitutional Law, University of Notre Dame, Indiana. His research interests include the history of political thought, and religion and politics. Published books include: *The Odyssey of Political Theory*, (2000), *Democratic Faith*, (2005), *The Democratic Soul* (ed.), (2011).

Catherine Pepinster:

Catherine Pepinster has been editor of *The Tablet* for the past ten years. Before joining *The Tablet* she worked for *The Independent* and *Independent on Sunday*. She is a regular contributor to national newspapers and to *Thought for the Day*, on Radio Four's Today programme.

Professor Gerry Whyte:

Mind the Gap - Guaranteeing Freedom of Religion in Contemporary Ireland

Gerry Whyte is Professor of Law and Fellow of Trinity College Dublin. Author, with G. Hogan of Kelly's *The Irish Constitution* (Fourth Edition, 2004) and *Social Inclusion and the Legal System: Public Interest Law in Ireland* (2002).

Professor Peter Steinfels:

The Media as a Source for the History of the Catholic Sex Abuse Scandal in the United States

Peter F. Steinfels is an American journalist. From 1990 to 2010 he was a religious columnist for the *New York Times* and a founding co-director of the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture. His most recent book is *A People Adrift: The Crisis of the Roman Catholic Church in America* (2004).

Parallel Papers

Private visit to the Book of Kells.

Thursday 23rd June 2016

Cardinal Reinhold Marx:

The Church and the Challenge of Freedom

Archbishop of Munich and Freising, is President of the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE), a position he has used to support migrants rights. Author of *Das Kapital: A Plea for Man* (2008), the book argues that the whole world adopt a market economy that is kinder to the weak and downtrodden instead of "heaping even more rewards on those who behave immorally."

Professor Fáinche Ryan:

2016: On Consulting the Faithful in Matters of Doctrine?

Fáinche Ryan is the Assistant Professor in Systematic Theology at the Loyola Institute, Trinity College, Dublin. Her current research interest lies in the area of questions of ecclesiology and leadership. Her publications include *The Eucharist: What do we believe?* (2012) and *Formation in Holiness. Thomas Aquinas on Sacra doctrina* (2007).

Professor Hans Joas:

The Church in a World of Options

Hans Joas is the Ernst Troeltsch Professor for the Sociology of Religion at Humboldt University, Berlin, and Professor of Sociology at the University of Chicago. Some recent publications in English include *The Sacredness of the Person. A New Genealogy of Human Rights* (2013), *Faith as an Option* (2014).

Professor Patrick Riordan:

The Secular is not Scary: Cooperation beyond Coexistence

Patrick Riordan teaches political philosophy at Heythrop College, University of London. His current research interests are Religion in Public Life, the Philosophy of Justice, and the Common Good. His latest book is *Global Ethics and Global Common Goods* (2015).

Professor William T. Cavanaugh:

The Hegemony of Optionality: The Church's Place in a Consumer Society

William T. Cavanaugh is Director of the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology and Professor of Catholic Studies at DePaul University, Chicago. He is the author of six books, including *The Myth of Religious Violence: Secular Ideology and the Roots of Modern Conflict* (2009) and *Migrations of the Holy* (2011).

Professor Bryan Hehir:

Church State and Church World: The Narrative Since Vatican II

J. Bryan Hehir is the Parker Gilbert Montgomery Professor of the Practice of Religion and Public Life at Harvard. His writings include *Social Values and Public Policy: A Contribution from a Religious Tradition*. He was the chief author of the U.S. bishops' 1983 pastoral letter on nuclear weapons.

Parallel Papers

Conference Reception and Dinner in Trinity College's elegant 18th Century Dining Hall (*to be booked separately*)

Friday 24th June 2016

Margaret O'Brien Steinfels:

Standing in the Public Square: Who, Why, What

Margaret O'Brien Steinfels is a founding co-director of the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture. Professor Steinfels served for 15 years as the editor of *Commonweal*. She co-directed the ground breaking project, *American Catholics in the Public Square*. She was the founding editor of the Hastings Center Report from 1974 to 1980.

Professor Siobhan Garrigan:

Loving God, Hating Church

Siobhán Garrigan is Director of The Loyola Institute, Trinity College, Dublin. She holds the Loyola Chair of Catholic Theology. Her most recent book is *The Real Peace Process: Worship, Politics and the End of Sectarianism* (2014).

Sim D'Hertefelt:

Shaping and sharing digital religious experiences: is the church ready to communicate faith in the 21st century?

Sim D'Hertefelt is the co-ordinator of the Catholic portal website Kerknet.be in Flanders, Belgium. He has worked as an information architect since the start of the commercial internet in 1996. Since 2011 he has directed several digital evangelisation projects.

Professor Massimo Faggioli:

Reconsidering the "End of the Constantian Age" in the World of "Technocratic Paradigm": The Established Church Dilemma.

Massimo Faggioli is professor of theology and director of the Institute for Catholicism and Citizenship at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota. Publications in English include: *Vatican II: The Battle for Meaning* (2012); *A Council for the Global Church. Receiving Vatican II in History* (2015).

Closing Panel Discussion



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