

The International Academy for Marital Spirituality (INTAMS) is a non-profit organization, founded in Belgium in 1989 and located near Brussels, Belgium. Drawing on and committed to the intellectual and cultural heritage of Christianity, INTAMS is dedicated to the study of and dialogue about the meaning and relevance of marriage in the context of contemporary society.

INTAMS' working principles

- Academic & Interdisciplinary
- Independent, ecumenical & international
- Integrating theory & praxis

INTAMS' activities

INTAMS Chair for the Study of Marriage & Spirituality at the Theology Faculty of the Catholic University Leuven

- carries out teaching and academic research in the field of theory and spirituality of marriage.

INTAMS Library, located at the Theology Library of the Catholic University Leuven

- offers an international and interdisciplinary collection of books and journals pertaining to the field of marriage and related subjects.

INTAMS review, Journal for the Study of Marriage & Spirituality (a semi-annual, international refereed journal, published since 1995)

- documents new theological and philosophical trends in the various approaches to marriage and the family.

INTAMS Events (conferences, symposia, seminars, colloquia, lectures)

- promotes the interdisciplinary and international dialogue and networking on marriage and its spirituality.

INTAMS Research Projects & Publications



Registration & Information

Target audience

The Symposium is open to all who are interested in this theme. Simultaneous translation is provided from and into English and Italian.

Fees

Registration before 15 August 2015: €120
Registration after 15 August 2015: €150
Payment on site upon arrival: €180 (only in cash and in only in euros!)

Registration

Send the following information to seminar@intams.org:

- participant name(s)
- affiliation
- full address(es)
- e-mail(s)
- the total amount of payment
- the method of payment: bank transfer or PayPal

To ensure that registration is as efficient as possible, make sure to provide us with complete information!

Payment

To confirm your registration, please pay the required fee within 3 days of sending us your registration email.

Bank

Name: INTAMS
IBAN: BE06 4364 1519 5122
BIC: KREDBEBB
Reference: SYMP15 + name(s) of participant(s)

PayPal

If you indicate that you wish to use PayPal, we will send you an invitation to pay by email.

Arrivals

Thursday 10 September between 13.00 and 15.30 at:
Roma Eventi, Fontana di Trevi Congress Centre,
Piazza della Pilotta 4, 00187 Rome, Italy.
www.roma-eventi.com

Travel & Accommodation

Participants are required to take care of their own travel arrangements, accommodation and meals. Information can be found at www.intams.org

For all further information contact the Symposium secretariat:



Faithful Voices, Discerning Hearts: Marriage and Family in Church and Society

International Symposium
10-12 September 2015

Voci fedeli, cuori lungimiranti:
Matrimonio e famiglia nella Chiesa
e nella società

Faithful Voices, Discerning Hearts: Marriage and Family in Church and Society

Theme

At the conclusion of the Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2014 Pope Francis has prescribed to the whole Church a year's journey in order to "mature, with true spiritual discernment, the proposed ideas and to find concrete solutions to so many difficulties and innumerable challenges that families must confront and to give answers to the many discouragements that surround and suffocate families".

If the Church's wisdom and teaching is to prove relevant, beneficial and even salvific, as the Pope expects, it has to grow in the understanding of what has been handed down from the times of the apostles and take seriously the lived reality of marriage and family life today.

This can't be done, however, without listening to the voices of all the faithful, especially those in families and committed relationships who day by day live their faith and hope in an authentic way. Attention must also be paid to the "contemplation and study made by believers, who treasure these things in their hearts" - a phrase which the Second Vatican Council uses to describe the work of academic theologians [*Dei Verbum*, 8].

Building upon its longstanding expertise in combining academic reflection and lived experiences of marriage and family life, INTAMS has gratefully accepted Pope Francis's invitation and would like to share some of the outcomes of its study and discernment on the eve of the upcoming Ordinary Assembly of the Bishops' Synod in October 2015.

This international Symposium, which is open to everyone interested, will provide renewed reflection as well as fresh perspectives on a number of issues that need to be addressed, such as the relation between doctrine and pastoral practice, the sense of the faithful, an ethics of mercy, and indissolubility in the context of a contemporary theology of marriage.



Nancy Sandler: Family Abstract (detail)

Programme

Thursday 10 September

- 13.00 - 15.30 Registration
15.30 - 16.00 Welcome and introduction by **Aldegonde Brenninkmeijer-Werhahn**, Director of INTAMS
16.00 - 16.30 Opening address by **Oscar Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga**, Archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Honduras

First session: Church Doctrine and Pastoral Care

- 16.30 - 17.15 **Conversational Methods of Discernment: Learning for Mission from the Domestic Church**
Clare Watkins, University of Roehampton, London, UK
17.15 - 17.45 Response by **Emmanuel Agius**, University of Malta
17.45 - 18.30 Plenary Discussion

Friday 11 September

- 08.15 - 09.00 Holy Mass

Second session: Indissolubility and Theology of Marriage

- 09.15 - 10.00 **Unio individua - What does Indissoluble Marriage Mean in Times of Individual Freedom?**
Andrea Grillo, Pontificio Ateneo Sant' Anselmo, Roma
10.00 - 10.30 Response by **Eberhard Schockenhoff**, University of Freiburg, Germany
10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break
11.00 - 11.45 Plenary Discussion
12.00 - 13.00 Language Group Discussions
13.00 - 14.30 Break

Third session: An Ethics of Mercy

- 14:30 - 15:00 *Recollectio Synodi*
15.00 - 15.45 **Landmarks for a Christian Ethics of Gradualness**
Roger Burggraeve, KU Leuven, Belgium
15.45 - 16.15 Response by **Jochen Sautermeister**, University of Munich, Germany
16.15 - 16.45 Coffee break
16.45 - 18.45 **The Church I Live in Today, and the Church I Long for Tomorrow**
Panel Session* chaired by **Mary McAleese**, former President of Ireland
Followed by Plenary Discussion

* The panel will be composed of a married couple with children and a double career (Netherlands), a person living in a single state (France), a divorced-remarried couple (Italy), a parent of homosexual children (UK), a cohabitating couple planning to get married (Poland)

Saturday 12 September

- 08.30-09.00 Prayer Session
09.15-09.45 *Recollectio Synodi*

Fourth session: The Sense of the Faithful

- 10.00 - 10.45 **Church Teaching on Marriage and Family: A Matter of *Sensus Fidelium*?**
Thomas Knieps, INTAMS/KU Leuven, Belgium
10.45-11.15 Coffee break
11.15-11.45 Response by **Serena Noceti**, Istituto Superiore di Scienze Religiose, Facoltà teologica dell'Italia Centrale, Firenze
11.45-12.45 Plenary Discussion
12.45-13.00 Conclusion