



TRADITION & REFORM IN THE ROMAN RITE

The Usus Antiquior in Contemporary Catholicism

22 – 23 OCTOBER 2026 • LEUVEN

ZAAL COUVREUR • EDWARD VAN EVENSTRAAT 4

KU LEUVEN



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THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2026

9:00 Registration and Coffee

9:30 Wim François, Joris Geldhof and Michaël Bauwens *Opening Address*

10:00 Keynote 1

Nathaniel Marx (Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology) *Lay Participation in the Latin Mass*

10:50 Keynote 2

Luc Perrin (Université de Strasbourg) *Une radicalisation parallèle : d'un réformisme prudent à un rejet décidé du Novus Ordo Missae et à une critique parfois poussée du Mouvement liturgique*

11:40 Coffee and Tea Break

12:10 Keynote 3

Uwe Michael Lang CO (St Mary's University Twickenham) *Liturgical Renewal in the Continuity of Tradition: Re-reading Sacrosanctum Concilium after Sixty Years*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Keynote 4

Tracey Rowland (University of Notre Dame Australia) *The Speech of Christian Centuries: John XXIII, Paul VI and Benedict XVI on Liturgical Language (Online)*

14:50 Short Break

15:00 Short Paper Session I: Theological Perspectives

Joe Allen (St Mary's
University Twickenham)

*The Reform of The Reform: Defunct or Resurgent in
a post-Traditionis Custodes Church*

Stefan Würges SJM (KU
Leuven)

*'Ad concordiam et unitatem Ecclesiae
promovendam' ...: Ein Beitrag zur liturgischen
Versöhnung*

15:50 Coffee and Tea Break

16:10 Short Paper Session II: Canonical Perspectives

James Bradley (Catholic
University of America)

*Current Regulation of the Usus Antiquior in Canon
Law*

Albert P. Marcello III
(Diocese of Providence)

*Canon Law and the Usus Antiquior Post-
Traditionis Custodes: Where Do We Go From
Here?*

Klaas Willem de Jong and
Brecht Crabbe (PThU)

*Ecclesiastical Authority on Old Liturgies in
Catholic and Protestant Church Law*

17:30 End of Conference Day I

20:00 Conference Dinner at the Faculty Club

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER 2026

9:00 Coffee

9:20 Keynote 5

Angela Costley (St Mary's
College Oscott)

The Sacrifices Behind the Mass

10:10 Keynote 6

Sven Leo Conrad FSSP
(Priesterseminar St Petrus
Wigratzbad – Hochschule
Heiligenkreuz)

*Unterschiedliche spirituelle und theologische
Akzentuierungen“ (J. Ratzinger) von usus antiquior
und usus recentior – Unüberwindlicher Gegensatz,
bleibendes Problem oder Bereicherung?*

11:00 Coffee and Tea Break

11:20 Keynote 7

Stephen Cranney (The
Catholic University of
America)

*Vatican II, the US Traditional Latin Mass
Community and the 'Strict Churches are Strong'
Hypothesis*

12:10 Keynote 8

Clara Piano (University of
Mississippi)

*The Traditional Parish as a Marriage Market:
Liturgy and Family Formation in Contemporary
Catholicism*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Keynote 9

Rowena Roppelt
(Katholische Universität
Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)

The Old Rite Speaks Again: Young Catholics and Liturgical Tradition

14:50 Short Break

15:00 Short Paper Session III: Liturgical-Historical Perspectives

Dominik Pascal Witkowski
(Ludwig-Maximilians-
Universität München)

Rediscovering Liturgical Mystagogy in the West: St Thomas Aquinas on Sacramental Signification, Sacred Doctrine and Reform in the Roman Rite

Innocent Smith OP
(University of Notre Dame)

If You Knew Enough, Antipathy Would Rarely Be Conclusive: Liturgical Historiography and Liturgical Irenicism

15:50 Coffee and tea break

16:10 Short Paper Session IV: Theological Perspectives

Michael P. Foley (Baylor
University)

The Offertory Rite

Michaël Bauwens
(UAntwerp)

Social Ontology, Mariology and Active Participation in the Usus Antiquior

17:00 Short Break

17:10 Short Paper Session V: Theological Perspectives

Michael Cullinan (Maryvale Institute) *Towards Reform of the Liturgy in this generation:
Usus Antiquior as landmark and backup*

Peter A. Kwasniewski (Independent Scholar) *Liturgical Reform as Paradigmatic Modernity*

18:00 Concluding Remarks

18:15 End of the Conference

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