Call for papers:
www.intams.org

Practical Information

TARGET AUDIENCE
The Symposium is open to all who are interested in this theme. The language of the symposium is English.

SYMPOSIUM FEES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration</th>
<th>before 26/03/2018</th>
<th>after 26/03/2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Senior Scholar/Professional:</td>
<td>€120</td>
<td>€150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Junior Scholar/Student:</td>
<td>€60</td>
<td>€75</td>
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<tr>
<td>- KU Leuven member:</td>
<td>free</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Conference Dinner (optional):</td>
<td>€54</td>
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<td>- Payment on site upon arrival:</td>
<td>€180</td>
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(1) Proof of enrolment in a university/school required.

It is possible to participate ONLY in the evening debate Today's Families and the Church with Mgr. Johan Bonny on Thursday 26 April 2018 from 20.00 to 21.30 (followed by reception). Participation is free, registration is mandatory via www.intams.org.

PAYMENT
To confirm your participation, please pay the required fee within 3 days of your online registration.

Bank - IBAN: BE06 4364 1519 5122 - BIC: KREDBEBB
Reference: SYMP18 + name(s) of participant(s)

PayPal - We will send you an email with an invitation to pay.

Cash - Payment on site upon arrival can be made only in cash and only in euros (€180).

VENUE & ARRIVALS
When? Thursday 26 April 2018 between 13.00 and 14.45
Where? KU Leuven, Irish College (The Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe), Janseniusstraat 1, 3000 Leuven, Belgium.

You will receive all further practical details and materials at the Registration Desk.

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

Online registration & information:
www.intams.org
Troubled Love: Theology and Pastoral Care for all Families

How can the church welcome, support and guide families who do not live according to the ideal of formal, lifelong and heterosexual marriage and who cannot fall back on previous experiences or proven role models?

What social and spiritual resources are already present in these families?

How should one adequately value the commitment and resilience, the joys and hopes that characterize them?

The church is “called to be the house of the Father, with doors always wide open…where there is a place for everyone, with all their problems” (Evangelii gaudium, 47). Evoking equally the image of a mother who cannot renounce her child, Pope Francis urges the church to “accompany with attention and care the weakest of her children, who show signs of a wounded and troubled love, by restoring in them hope and confidence” (Amoris laetitia, 291).

The pope’s vision marks a shift in the church’s teaching which until recently regarded the traditional marriage-based type of family as normative and other forms of couple relationships and family life as deficient. According to Francis, however, there are no perfect marriages or families, and all human loving is in some way “troubled”. Therefore, pastors and theologians are called to rethink their approaches, the former by learning to discern the complexity of interpersonal relationships and to “turn with love to those who participate in the church’s life in an incomplete manner”; the latter by developing adequate theological frameworks that help recognizing that God’s grace is also at work in relationships which do not conform to traditional standards and sometimes prove particularly fragile and vulnerable on a human level.

The symposium invites scholars in theology, practitioners in ministry and counselling, and couples to explore the potential as well as the possible pitfalls of Pope Francis’s new approach, to offer models of good practice, and to exchange experiences in this field across professional, national, and cultural borders.

Thursday, 26 April 2018

FIRST SESSION

13.00-14.45 Registration
15.00-15.30 Welcome
* Thomas Knieps, INTAMS Chair for the Study of Marriage & Spirituality, KU Leuven
* Mathijs Lamberts, Dean of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, KU Leuven
15.30-16.15 Address: Theology and families: un/familiar approaches
* Susannah Cornwall, University of Exeter
16.15-16.30 Questions and Plenary
16.30-17.00 Coffee break
17.00-18.45 Parallel Paper Sessions

EVENING PANEL

20.00-21.30 Today’s Families and the Church
Introduction: Aldegonde Brenninkmeijer-Werhahn, INTAMS
Panel Discussion with Johan Bonny, Bishop of Antwerp
21.30 Reception

Friday, 27 April 2018

SECOND SESSION

09.00-09.45 Address: Families – where to go from here? Sociological perspectives on contemporary family life
* Elisabetta Ruspini, University of Milano-Bicocca
09.45-10.15 Questions and Plenary
10.15-13.00 The Church I live in today and the Church I long for tomorrow
+ Coffee break
* Testimonies from lived experience and discussion with the audience
Panel session* chaired by Elizabeth Davies, Marriage Care, UK

THIRD SESSION

15.00-15.45 Address: What do families need most today? A counselling perspective
* Jean Marsh, Marriage Care, UK
15.45-16.15 Questions and Plenary
16.15-16.45 Coffee Break
16.45-17.30 Address: New forms of family life: Theological-ethics perspectives and normative orientation
* Jochen Sautermeister, University of Bonn
17.30-18.00 Questions and Plenary
19.30-22.00 Conference Dinner

Saturday, 28 April 2018

FOURTH SESSION

08.30-09.00 Prayer Session
09.15-10.00 Address: Spiritual resources in non-normative families: A pastoral-theological perspective
* Martina Kreidler-Kos, PTH Münster/Diocese of Osnabrück
10.00-12.45 Panel Discussion: Feedback from experience to theory and vice versa
+ Coffee break
12.45-13.00 Conclusion

* The panel will be composed of several participants from different European countries who will give testimonies from their experience living in a same-sex couple, a divorced-remarried couple, a blended family or a single-parent family.