

Call for papers

Sacramentum magnum

The Sacrament of Marriage in the Middle Ages

Le sacrement du mariage au moyen âge

Das Ehesakrament im Mittelalter

Prague, 14th – 16th June 2012

A conference organised by the *Internationale Gesellschaft für theologische Mediävistik* and the *Institute of Philosophy of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic*

Elaborating on the teaching of the Bible and the Church Fathers, and drawing fruitfully on Roman law and Aristotelian philosophy, the Latin Middle Ages developed a rich and original theology of marriage. The medieval contributions to Christian theology of marriage include definitions of the process of marriage formation, reformulations and further developments of the biblical and patristic doctrine of the sacramentality, unicity and indissolubility of Christian matrimony, and new approaches to conjugal morality and to pastoral care of marriage. Most of these contributions were formulated in response to contemporary threats and challenges, such as Catharism, the encounter with Islamic marriage doctrines, and growing pastoral needs of the laity. Many of the solutions adopted in the medieval period continue to shape and underpin contemporary theologies of marriage.

While the issue of marriage has received considerable attention in social, cultural and political history over the past decades, the medieval theology of marriage still remains at the margins of scholarly interest. The conference hopes to remedy this situation. All papers (30 minutes) on hitherto unexplored aspects of the medieval theology of marriage are welcome. Although the emphasis will be on doctrinal issues and developments, papers on the medieval theology of marriage in the broadest sense of the word are very welcome (pastoral care of marriage, marriage preaching, marriage liturgy).

Conference languages are English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. The proceedings will be published in the IGTM series *Archa Verbi Subsidia* (Aschendorff Verlag). Please send paper proposals by the 31st October 2011 to the following address: Pavel.Blazek@gmail.com, mailing address: Filosofický ústav AV ČR, Jilská 1, CZ – 110 00 Praha 1

Organiser: Dr. Pavel Blažek (Prague/Cambridge)

Conference Board: Prof. David d'Avray (London), Dr. Giuliano Marchetto (Trento), Prof. Patrick Nold (Albany, N.Y.)