

# 2016 Annual Lecture Christianity and Society

Tuesday 22 March 2016

Does Society Need Scruples?

Prof. dr. Tomáš Halík



School of Catholic Theology



## 2016 Annual Lecture Christianity and Society: *Does Society Need Scruples?*

### About the theme

In our secular Western society, we enjoy freedom and welfare at a level unrivalled in history. High efficiency levels generated high income per capita but, at the same time, at tremendous cost of humanity: eventually our sense of moral and human dignity is at stake. Liberal welfare states have become a framework of paradoxes: extremely high personal incomes for a few, poverty and marginalization for many; permanent jobs for a few, flexible labour for many. We have been poor stewards, leaving future generations an earth that is too warm and depleted of resources. Are we willing to share some of our wealth with refugees who have lost everything?

Churches have witnessed diminished attendance, while at the same time spiritual centres flourish and monasteries receive more guests than ever.

A pastoral message of hope is badly needed: a theological language to enable a dialogue with both secular atheists and Islam. The social teaching of the Church may guide us towards a society based on equality and solidarity.

### When & where

Tuesday 22 March 2016.

Tilburg University, Dante-building room DZ – 01, Warandelaan 2, 5000 AB Tilburg.

### Registration & information

The lecture is free of charge. If you wish to attend, please register by filling out the form on our website:

[www.tilburguniversity.edu/annual-lecture](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/annual-lecture) or send an email to [bureautst@uvt.nl](mailto:bureautst@uvt.nl) no later than 15 March 2016.

For enquiries please contact the secretariat of the faculty, telephone 013 – 466 3800, email [bureautst@uvt.nl](mailto:bureautst@uvt.nl)

### Keynote speaker Prof. dr. Tomáš Halík

Tomáš Halík may be best known for his book *Patience with God: The Story of Zacchaeus Continuing in Us*. In it, he invites us into the gospel story of Zacchaeus to reflect on a little man on the fringe of society. Like Zacchaeus we have questions and doubts and, like him, we need to respond to Jesus' call and climb down from our comfort zone. His message points to believers and atheists alike. As seekers we have much in common since we both have been marginalised by a dominant secularism. He writes in a pastoral rather than a theological tone, which explains his vast audience.

Tomáš Halík, professor of Philosophy and Theology at Charles University in Prague, is a priest. He knows society without religion by experience. Tomáš Halík is one of the most influential theologians of our time.

### Program

10.15 - 10.30 hrs	Coffee and Tea
10.30 - 10.45 hrs	Welcome and introduction prof. dr. Roel van der Voort, chairman of the Centre of Social Teaching of the Church, Amsterdam Business School
10.45 - 11.05 hrs	Prof. dr. Ronald Jeurissen, professor of Business Ethics at Nyenrode University
11.05 - 11.25 hrs	Eefje de Gelder, MSc MA PhD student, Institute for Management Research, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen
11.25 - 11.45 hrs	Dr. Kees de Groot, assistant professor, Tilburg School of Catholic Theology, Department of Practical Theology and Religious Studies
11.45 - 12.15 hrs	Prof. dr. Tomáš Halík
12.15 - 12.45 hrs	Discussion
12.45 hrs	Closure
13.00 hrs	Lunch
14.15 - 14.30 hrs	Coffee and tea
14.30 - 14.40 hrs	Welcome prof. dr. Marcel Sarot, Dean Tilburg School of Catholic Theology
14.40 - 14.50 hrs	Retrospect prof. dr. Roel van der Voort
14.50 - 15.35 hrs	Annual Lecture ' <i>Reading the Signs of the Times</i> '. <i>Christianity between Secularity and Post-secularity</i> prof. dr. Tomáš Halík
15.35 - 15.50 hrs	Statement dr. Roshnee Ossewaarde-Lowtoo, postdoctoral researcher, Economy, Love and Human Perfection, Tilburg School of Catholic Theology/Goldschmeding foundation
15.50 - 16.05 hrs	Statement prof. dr. Peter Jonkers, professor Tilburg School of Catholic Theology, Department of Systematic Theology and Philosophy
16.05 - 16.25 hrs	Discussion chaired by prof. dr. Marcel Poorthuis, professor Tilburg School of Catholic Theology, Department of Biblical Studies and Church History
16.30 hrs	Closure



The Annual Lecture is made possible by the Centrum voor de Sociale Leer van de Kerk (CSLK), katholiek netwerk voor inspiratie and dialoog DEZINNEN in The Hague and the Tsjechisch Centrum.

<http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/annual-lecture>

<http://hague.czechcentres.cz/>

<http://dezinnen.nl/>

<https://www.tilburguniversity.edu/nl/over/schools/theologie.htm>

<http://www.csik.nl/>