

## International Conference on the 50th Anniversary of the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World – *Gaudium et Spes*

Evening programme – 18.00, Thursday 26 November, 2015 (Monastery, Karel Skalický's Reading Room), Prof. Karel Skalický, *A Reading of favourite passages from Gaudium et Spes*

Programme – Friday 27 November, 2015 (South Bohemian Museum, Senovážné Square)

9.00-9.30 Registration

9.30-10.00 Opening ceremony Assoc. Prof. Šrajer, Assoc. Prof. Opatrný, Assoc. Prof. Tomáš Machula (Dean of TF USB), Msgr. Vlastimil Kročil (Diocesan Bishop), Prof. Libor Grubhoffer (Rector of USB)

**10.00-10.45 Main paper**

**Prof. Ansgar Kreuzer**

10.45-11.00 Break

### **First Part: The Position of Pope Francis as the Development of the Ideas of *Gaudium et Spes***

The *Gaudium et Spes* constitution was built upon the idea of Christian solidarity with the world, especially the poor and suffering. The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of such people should be that of Christians, just as they were of Jesus Christ. Pope Francis considers this challenge of *Gaudium et Spes* to be the key idea of his pontificate. Will he manage to embody it firmly into the Catholic Church? Or are his words and his position just a superficial decoration, which is indeed attractive, but will not affect the practice of Christians?

13.00-14.30 Lunch

### **Second Part: Culture and Solidarity: *Gaudium et Spes* and the Cultural Paradigm of the 21st Century**

*Gaudium et Spes* gave the Catholic Church a significant impetus to appreciate the values of "human spirit and nature". Over the last fifty years, however, the cultural paradigm has changed. What are the values of the human spirit and nature we should appreciate today? How has the concept of the Church changed since the promulgation of *Gaudium et Spes*? What is the world like today and how can the Church lead a dialogue with it and draw inspiration from it according to *Gaudium et Spes*? In today's culture, what hope is there for the victims of the defects that paralyse solidarity in human society?

### **Third Part: What is Coming? The Era of Perpetual Peace or "Holy War"? *Gaudium et Spes*, International Relations and the Prospects of Globalization**

This thematic section will focus on the reflection and actualisation of global issues in *Gaudium et Spes*, especially international relations, global development and security issues, further developments in these areas in the next 50 years, and particularly the prospects in the context of the current economic, political and security trends of the globalised world.

Programme – Saturday 28 November, 2015 (South Bohemian Museum, Senovážné Square)

### **Fourth Part: Marriage and Family in *Gaudium et Spes* in Today's Reality**

*Gaudium et Spes* offers a new perspective on marriage and family leaving the existing, traditional concept of marriage as a hierarchically structured community of the marriage goods and goals. It offers a new concept, that is dynamic, biblically justified, and has an emphasis on the personal aspect of marriage. At present it is possible to question the relevance of this concept both in post-conciliar church documents and theological reflection, and in the contemporary reality characterised by diversity and an instability of relationships, demographic issues and similar.

### **Fifth Part: The Image of Today's Man in *Gaudium et Spes* and How This is Reflected in Other Religious Confessions**

The approach of *Gaudium et Spes* is to try to reach all people of good will. We can say it does not speak about man, but it speaks to man. The constitution characterises man with an emphasis on his dignity and freedom of conscience, reason and free will. Is this concept of man understandable in today's volatile times 50 years after the promulgation of this constitution? How is man approached in other religious systems today? How does man respond to the legacies of various religious systems?

12.45-14.00 Lunch

### **Sixth Part: Man – Creator or Creature?**

How to Understand "Responsibility for the World" 50 Years after *Gaudium et Spes* in Terms of Environmentalism Reflecting on the content of *Gaudium et Spes* 50 years on enables a grasp of the theme of man and the world in a new context. The actual constitution's message includes an appeal for the efforts of the universal development of man and the world, but at present it is also necessary to consider what kind of development can be legitimately regarded as responsible. This thematic part is based on the fact that in addition to social and economic pillars, the public space of each developed society is shaped by an environmental pillar as well, where also Christianity can have its say.

### **15.45 Closing ceremony**

Assoc. Prof. Jindřich Šrajer, Assoc. Prof. Michal Opatrný