

## Theological Colloquium

# ***Corruptio optimi quae est pessima***

## **Exploring Ivan Illich as a Theological Thinker**

**Dates:** May 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### **THURSDAY, 14 MAY - AULA XI, SANT'ANSELMO**

**15.00 - Greetings and Introduction**

#### **I. The Gospel and its Corruption**

**15.30 - *Klesis* and *Energeia*: On Mechanisms of Corruption**

Anna Sjöberg

*Uppsala University, Uppsala*

**16.15 - Scarcity and Sovereignty: Ivan Illich and Jacques Maritain on the End of the Rules-Based Order**

Mårten Björk

*Newman institute, Uppsala*

*17.00 - Coffee break*

#### **II. A Hedge-Rider between the Worlds**

**17.30 - Passing the Watershed: The Use of Metaphors in Ivan Illich's Work**

Jakob Deibl, O.S.B.

*Universität Wien, Vienna*

**18.15 - The Apocalyptic Illich: The Changing Place of Apocalypse in Illich's Thought, and the Significance of this Figure in Our Time**

David Cayley (online)

*Writer and broadcaster, Toronto*

### **FRIDAY, 15 May - AULA XI, SANT'ANSELMO**

**09.00 - Introduction**

#### **III. Passed Watersheds**

**09.15 - Schooling/Deschooling: Learning as an Instituting and Transformative Practice**

Vincenzo Rosito

*Pontificio Istituto Giovanni Paolo II, Rome*

**10.00 - Medical Colonisation and Cybernetic Health Regime**

Markus Riedenauer

*KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Eichstätt*

*10.45 - Coffee break*

**IV. (Dis-)Embodiment and Perception**

**11.15 - Ascesis of the Gaze in Times of Virtual Reality**

Yvonne Dohna Schlobitten

*Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Rome*

**12.00 - The Decorporalisation of Liturgy and the Body of Christ**

Isabella Bruckner

*Pontificio Ateneo Sant'Anselmo, Rome*

**FRIDAY, 15 MAY – AULA F007, PONTIFICIA UNIVERSITÀ GREGORIANA**

**15.15 - Greetings**

**V. The Complexity of Tools**

**15.30 - Mimetic Machines, the Tool Metaphor, and the Person**

Tomas Ekenberg

*Newman Institute / Uppsala University, Uppsala*

**16.15 - La Digitalizzazione e l'Età del Sistema**

Gemma Serrano

*Collège des Bernardins, Paris*

*17.00 - Coffee break*

**VI. Hidden Narratives**

**17.30 - So Close, Yet So Far: Ivan Illich and Paolo Prodi**

Marcello Neri

*Istituto Superiore di Scienze dell'Educazione e della Formazione "G. Toniolo" of Modena*

**18.15 - La vocazione di Ivan**

Fabio Milana

*FSCIRE, Bologna / Editor of the Opera omnia of Ivan Illich in Italian*

**SATURDAY, 16 May - AULA XI, SANT'ANSELMO**

**09.00 - Introduction**

## **VII. Thinking Politics differently**

### **09.15 - In the Breakdown of Colonial Modernity: Political Theology from below in the Traces of Ivan Illich**

Martin Kirschner and Carlos Mendoza-Álvarez

*KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Eichstätt, and Dominican Community, San Cristóbal de Las Casas*

*10.30 a.m.: Coffee break*

### **11.00 - Vernacular Revolutions. Illich's Contribution to a Theology of Common Life**

Sebastian Pittl (online)

*Universität Tübingen, Tübingen*

### **11.45 - Ivan Illich e la politica che viene**

Giorgio Agamben (participation to be confirmed)

*Philosopher, Venezia / Editor of the Opera omnia of Ivan Illich in Italian*

### **13.00 - Conclusions**