

Church, called to be the salt of the earth and light of the world (Mathew 5, 13-14) must live faith and articulate theology in public space. Theology needs to take seriously the socio-political realities in a given situation so that it facilitates better socio-political practices in the society. The current political scenario in India calls for a profound analysis of the situation as well as theological and pastoral responses from theologians in the Church. To this effect, it is also important to study the relationship between Church and politics. We need to take stock of the hitherto practices of Church's involvement in the socio-political realities before we can explore the challenges we face in the present context.

The tenth symposium in the series of Marymatha Encounters of Pastoral Challenges (MEPC-10), scheduled to be held on 11th and 12th August 2017, hopes to explore methods and challenges of political theology in India.

The Symposium is organized as two distinct, but related, Conferences. Conference on 11 August is planned to be **Scholars' Conference** on the theme, **Political Situation as 'Locus Theologicus'? Theological Methods and Criteria**. The Scholars' Conference is limited to **30 participants** (on FCFS basis) who are able to converse at a scholarly level. The Conference on 12 August is planned to be **Practitioners' Conference** on the theme, **Public Space and Pastoral Challenges and Possibilities**. The latter invites participants from all levels - scholars, practitioners and learners in theology and other areas related to the topic of the Conference. **Prof. Dr. Mathijs**

Lamberigts, Prof. Dr. Stephan van Erp, Prof. Em. Dr. P. T. Mathew, Prof. Dr. Alangaram Arokiam sj, Prof. Dr. G.Patrick, Prof. Dr. Vincent Kundukulam are some of the resource persons. We are happy to invite you to participate in the symposium.

Dr. Tony Neelankavil,
Rector, Marymatha Major Seminary
&
Secretary, MEPC
Dr. Saijo Thaikattil,
Co-ordinator, MEPC-10

CALL FOR SHORT PAPERS

Short papers related to the theme are welcome from participants. These papers should not exceed 20 minutes and each will be followed by discussion for 10 minutes. An abstract (about 200 words) of the paper should be sent to: pastoralchallenges@gmail.com before 7th August 2017. Selected papers will be published together with the main papers of the Symposium in the forthcoming issue of Encounter - a Journal of interdisciplinary Reflections of Faith and Life. As space is limited, please apply as early as possible.



The Symposium will be live on the Internet Radio, Provided at www.marymatha.in on Friday & Saturday (11-12 August 2017) from 9.30 am. You can listen to the papers as well as ask questions and clarification live.

Programme

Day One

Friday, 11 August 2017

SCHOLARS' CONFERENCE

Political Situation as 'Locus Theologicus'?

Theological Methods and Criteria

- 09.00 : Registration
- 09.30 : Inaugural Session
- 09.45 : **Inaugural Paper**
Church - State Relationship: A Historico-Theological Overview
Prof. Dr. Mathijs Lamberigts
(Dean, Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, Catholic University, KU Lueven, Belgium)
- 10.20 : Coffee Break
- 10.30 : **Main Paper II**
Political Theology – Conceptual Clarification. Continental, Cultural and Political Variants
Prof. Dr. G. Patrick
(HOD, Department of Christianity, Madras University)
- 11.30 : **Keynote Address**
Methods in Political Theology
Prof. Dr. Stephan van Erp
(Prof., Catholic University, KU, Lueven, Belgium)
- 12.30 : Lunch Break
- 14.00 : **Panel Discussions**
On Three Important Moments of Kerala Church's Political Involvement
- 15.15 : **Main Paper IV**
From Apologetics to Public Theology – Some Stepping Stones

Prof. Dr. P T Mathew

(Prof. Em.,Vidyajyoti College of Theology,
New Delhi; Socius, Kerala Province of
Jesuits)

16.15 : Tea Break

16.30 : **Main Paper V**
Theologigraphi - Politics
Behind Theologizing,
Rev. Dr. Vincent Kundukulam

(Prof. Pontifical Institute Aluva, President,
Indian Theological Association)

17.30 : **Free Time**

Day Two
Saturday 12 August 2017
PRACTITIONERS' CONFERENCE
Public Space and Pastoral Challenges
and Possibilities

09.00 : Registration

09.30 : Opening Session

09.55 : **Main Paper I**

Jesus and the Political Involvement
in the Gospels -A Reading from the
Indian Context

Rev. Dr. Arokiam Alangaram SJ

(Superior, Berchmans Illam, Loyola
College, Chennai)

10.40 : Tea Break

10.50 : **Main Paper II**
Pope Francis - Evolution in His
Political Involvement

Rev. Dr. Jacob Naluparayil

(Chief Editor, Karunikan; Secretary,
Kerala Theological Association)

11.35 : **Main Paper III**
Corruption in Public Space -
Theological Responses

Rev. Dr. Saji Mathew Kanayankal CST

(Provincial, St. Joseph Provincial
House, Aluva)

12.20 : Prayer Session

12.30 : Lunch Break

13.30 : **Short Papers and Discussions**

14.30 : **Main Paper IV: Role of Events in**
Everyday Life - Politicization,
Neutralization and De-
Politicization

Rev. Dr. Siju Komban

(Prof. Pontifical Institute, Aluva)

15.15 : COMMENDATION CEREMONY

The Ten years of MEPC

Chief Guests

Archbishop His Grace Mar Andrews
Thazhath, Metropolitan of Trichur &

Prof. Dr. Mathijs Lamberigts, Dean,
Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies,
Catholic University, KU Lueven, Belgium

16,15 : Tea and Departure

REGISTRATION FORM

Kindly inform us of your participation by
10th August 2017 either by email or by post.
Mob: 09544889896
E-mail: pastoralchallenges@gmail.com

Name :

Address:

.....

.....

Phone:

Date : Signature:

I wish to take part in this symposium.

.....(number) persons will participate
from our institution



Marymatha Encounters of
Pastoral Challenges (MEPC) – 10

Salt of the Earth,
Light of the World!

Interfacing Political Situation &
Theological Reflection in India

11 & 12 August 2017



Marymatha Major Seminary
PB No. 7, Mannuthy, Trichur 680 651
Phone: 0487 – 2315516, 2315535
Email. pastoralchallenges@gmail.com
website: www.marymatha.in