This joint International Conference is the result of an effort which began with the identification by Professor Charles Taylor, author of *A Secular Age*, of four disjunctions of Church and People relating to (a) seekers who have left ecclesial practice in search of the Spirit, (b) the *magisterium* charged with pastoral responsibilities; and (c) contemporary *moral guidance*, (d) in a world of plural spiritualities. Presently the project is working to articulate four emerging characteristics of the Church as (a) not only *listening* to the experience of the laity (b) but *discerning* the path ahead, and hence (c) *welcoming* the seeker and (d) *serving* their broad religious needs in a context deeply marked by pluralism and diversity.

Scholars around the world – but for now particularly in the West – are invited to join the effort of Church renewal which this Conference represents, based on the work of more than a dozen Research Teams in different parts of Europe and North America. As a joint project of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP) with the Pontificia Università Gregoriana (PUG) in Rome, the Conference intends to contribute to the universal Church as it faces the many present challenges. As such, the Conference will also function as a launching pad for similar initiatives to follow on the impact of secularization across Asia, Africa and Latin America. The hope is to contribute to the worldwide renewal of the Church in search of Truth, Beauty and the Good as the emergence of God’s Kingdom in human history.

This joint program of the Pontificia Università Gregoriana and the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy has been made possible by the generous support of the Our Sunday Visitor Institute and the Raskob Foundation.
PROGRAM

March 4th, 2015

14:30-15:30 OPENING SESSION
- Welcome by R.P. François-Xavier DUMORTIER SJ, Rector of the Pontifical Gregorian University
- Remarks by R.P. George F. MClLEAN OSB, President of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy
- Opening Address by S.E. Card. Gianfranco Ravasi, President of the Pontifical Council for Culture

15:30-17:00 The Dynamics of Secularity in the West
- José CASANOVA, Georgetown University, USA: «A Catholic Church in a Global Secular World»
- Hans Joas, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany: «The Church in a World of Options»

MODERATORS: Archbishop Thomas MENUMPAMPIHL, SDB, India & João J. VILA-CHA SJ, Pontifícia Università Gregoriana, Roma

17:00-17:30 Pause

17:30-19:00 A LISTENING CHURCH: Implications of Science and Technology, Imagination and Subsidiarity
- Louis CARUANA SJ, Pontifícia Università Gregoriana, Roma: «Nurturing the Human Face of Science»
- Leon DYCZEWKIER GERMONI, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland: «New Technologies and Styles of Evangelization»
- Daniel DECKERS, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Germany: «Being Pope Francis»

MODERATORS: Nicolas de BREMOND d’ARS, Centre d’Études Interdisciplinaires des Faits Religieux (CEIFR), France & Richard ROUSE, Pontifical Council for Culture, Roma

13:00-14:30 LUNCH BREAK

March 5th, 2015

9:00-10:30 A DISCERNING CHURCH: the Gospel Experience, and Foundations in Secular Times for Renewed Hope
- Tomáš HAJN, Charles University, Czech Republic: «Discerning the Signs of the Times»
- Juan Carlos SCANNONE SJ, Colegio Máximo de San José, Argentina: «Iglesia y Discernimiento Espiritual en una Edad Secular y un Mundo Global»

MODERATORS: Philip J. Ross SJ, Marquette University, USA & Pavel HOSK, Charles University, Czech Republic

10:30-11:00 Pause

11:00-12:30 A WELCOMING CHURCH: Pluralism, Encounter and Dialogue
- Robert SCHWEITZER CPPS, Catholic Theological Union-Chicago, USA: «Spirituality as Platform and Forum for Encounter»
- Michael-Paul GALLAGHER SJ, Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Roma: «Remembering, Imagination and Narrative»
- Adriano FABRIS, Università di Pisa, Italy: «Rethinking Universality for a True Interreligious Dialogue in a Pluralistic Age»

MODERATORS: Helen ALFORD OP, Pontificia Università San Tommaso, Roma & Taras DIBRO, Ukrainian Catholic University, Ukraine

15:00-16:30 A SERVING CHURCH: Polarization, Participation and Peace
- Adela CORTINA, University of Valencia, España: «Religiones y Ética Civil Transnacional en el Espacio Público: Un Camino hacia la Paz»
- Peter JONKERS, Tilburg University, Netherlands: «A Serving Church: Overcoming Polar-ization through Participation»
- William BARNIER, Catholic University of America, USA: «Koetic Ethics for a Servant Church»

MODERATORS: Staf HELLEMANS, Tilburg University, Netherlands & James CORBETT SJ, Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Roma

16:30-17:00 Pause

17:00-19:00 LECTIO MAGISTRALIS
- Charles TAYLOR, McGill University, Canada: «Authenticity: The Life of the Church in a Secular Age»
- Commentator: William DESMOND, Catholic University Leuven, Belgium

MODERATORS: Mary McALIESE, Former President of Ireland & Michael-Paul GALLAGHER SJ, Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Roma

19:00-19:15 CONCLUSION