

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Cristina M. Pumplun, Secretary of Studies

1. Research and study at the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht*

During the first months of 2011 the research program of the *Thomas Instituut* has been evaluated and fitted in as part of the overall research program “Christian Identity in a Pluralistic Context – Continuity and Discontinuity” of Tilburg School of Catholic Theology. Within the collective research project “Ordering Christian Identity: Thomas Aquinas” three members of the *Thomas Instituut* – Henk Schoot, Rudi te Velde, Harm Goris – do research into the ways in which Thomas Aquinas’ philosophy and theology order and formulate Christian identity and thereby constitute a principal source for subsequent tradition. Also a new research project about Thomas Aquinas and catholic social thought has been formulated.

As in the previous year the meetings of the research group ‘Onderzoeksgroep Thomas van Aquino’ were part of the curriculum of the Research Master Programme of Tilburg School of Catholic Theology (TST). During term three research master students participated in the monthly meetings and discussions of the research group and two of them also presented a paper for discussion.

In March Pim Valkenberg (Catholic University of America) visited the research group to discuss his article ‘The concept of Revelation in Islam’. During the other meetings texts by Thomas Aquinas were read and discussed about as well as papers and articles by members of the Institute. In total

the research group convened eight times in 2011. Chair during these meetings was prof. Henk Schoot.

2. Symposium at the Thomas Instituut te Utrecht

On 28 January 2011, feastday of Thomas Aquinas, prof.dr. Herwi Rikhof, former Director of the *Thomas Instituut*, held his farewell lecture as professor for systematic theology, history of dogmatics and theology at the Tilburg School of Catholic Theology (Tilburg University). To mark this occasion and to thank him the Institute held a symposium entitled 'Recedant vetera, nova sint omnia', alluding to Aquinas' hymn *Sacris solemniis*.

During this symposium, which was attended by 160 people, three of Herwi Rikhof's colleagues gave a contribution. The overall theme was a subject close at Rikhof's heart, the Holy Spirit. First, Jan Muis, professor for systematic theology at the Protestant Theological University in the Netherlands reflected on the possibilities of a pneumatological Christology. Then Karl-Wilhelm Merks, emeritus professor in moral theology and former chair of the board of the *Thomas Instituut*, addressed the Holy Spirit from the angle of Aquinas' discussion of the new law and modern understanding of moral autonomy and heteronomy. The last contributor, professor Henk Schoot, director of the *Thomas Instituut*, considered the Holy Spirit as the grace that is bestowed on Christ's human soul, according to Aquinas.

After the symposium professor Herwi Rikhof held his farewell address. 400 guests listened to his lecture about Christ's descent into hell, in Christian art and theology, with special reference to Aquinas' thoughts on that subject. Professor Rikhof's lecture has been published (in Dutch) by Tilburg University. The three other lectures appeared in print in the *Jaarboek Thomas Instituut 2010* (2011).

3. Chair for Theology of Thomas Aquinas

The year under review was the last full year of this chair, which was established in 2006 for a period of five years. Despite several attempts, no additional funding was collected, apart from the funding for this last, sixth year. The chair will therefore cease to exist as of May 1, 2012, according to a decision reached in December 2011.

In the course of 2011, prof. Schoot continued his research of Aquinas's theology of salvation in Christ. After having elaborated on the grace of Christ and the Holy Spirit, in a lecture in January, he addressed the subject of Christ's suffering in April, and prepared for a lecture on Christ's patience in January 2012. Thus a number of studies is completed, which, added to previous studies and followed by some other ones, will be ordered and unified to a book-length English publication.

Dr. Schoot will continue to act as director of the Institute, and is preparing several new initiatives, such as to establish bonds with potential new members of the Institute, an intensified international presence, and the organization of a new international conference in 2013.

4. The Steering Committee of the Institute and the Board of the Thomas Foundation

The steering committee of the Institute, which after the disestablishment of the Board of the *Thomas Instituut* had been formed in 2010 to safeguard the continuation, coordination and cooperation within the institute convened on 30 May, 26 September and 25 November 2011. During these meetings the committee – Director of the Institute, prof. Henk Schoot, the Secretary of Studies, dr. Cristina Pumplun, and dr. Harm Goris – discussed plans for a fourth international conference in 2013 as well as the consequences of the reduction in working hours of the Secretary of Studies, which

followed the economy measures of the Tilburg School of Theology.

The Board of the Thomas Foundation convened on 7 April and 23 November 2011. The Board welcomed H. Wennink as new member of the Board.

5. *Jaarboek Thomas Instituut te Utrecht*

The *Jaarboek Thomas Instituut te Utrecht 2010* was timely published in 2011. The Editorial Board convened on 29 March and 14 November. There were no personnel changes in the Editorial Board.

6. *Publication: Ferdinand de Grijs, Onze Heer. Deel 2*

Ferdinand de Grijs, former Director of the Institute passed away on 10 August 2011. During the first months of 2011 he had finished work concerning the second of his two-part project '*Onze Heer*'. So it happened that a few weeks after his death, his last book appeared in print: *Onze Heer. Deel 2. De gedachtenis van lijden, dood en verrijzenis van Jezus Christus* ('Our Lord. Part 2. The Memory of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ'), Valkhof Pers/Nijmegen 2011, isbn 9789056253332, 213 pp. Prof. Henk Schoot was editor of this project and wrote the introduction.

7. *Translation series*

To support the continuation of the series *Vertalingen van het Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* cooperation has been sought with researchers of the diocesan major seminary 'Tiltenberg' of the diocese Haarlem-Amsterdam. On 8 December researchers of both institutions convened to discuss plans and methods for translations of several major texts by Thomas Aquinas.

8. Members of the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht*

31 December 2011

Tilburg School of Theology (Tilburg University)

Staff	Prof. dr. P. van Geest Dr. H.J.M.J. Goris Prof. dr. H.J.M. Schoot Prof. dr. R.A. te Velde (University of Amsterdam) Philosophy
Candidates for a Doctorate	Prof. dr. J.B.M. Wissink Drs. T. Corstjens Drs. S. Mangnus Drs. F.A. Steijger Drs. S. Wiersma

Tilburg School of Humanities (Tilburg University)

Dr. C.J.W. Leget
Prof. dr. F.J.H. Vosman

Radboud University Nijmegen

Dr. P.J.J.M. Bakker
(Philosophy)
Prof. dr. H.A.G. Braakhuis
(Philosophy)
Prof. dr. P.G.J.M. Raedts
(History)
Dr. A.C.M. Vennix
(Philosophy)
Prof. dr. B.P.M. Vermeulen
(Law)

Other members of the Institute

Prof. dr. F.J.A. de Grijis †
Dr. S. Gradl
Prof. dr. M.J.F.M. Hoenen
(Albert-Ludwigs-Universität
Freiburg, Germany)

Dr. M.-R. Hoogland c.p.
Drs. Tj. Jansen s.j.
Dr. F.G.B. Luijten
Prof. dr. K.W. Merks
(Tilburg University, emeritus)
Prof. dr. H.W.M. Rikhof
(Tilburg University, emeritus)
Dr. W.G.B.M. Valkenberg
(Catholic University of
America, USA)
Dr. A. Vos
(Protestant Theological
University, emeritus)

9. Research programmes and research projects in 2011

Tilburg School of Catholic Theology (Tilburg University): Ordering Christian Identity – Thomas Aquinas

At the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* research is done into the ways in which Thomas Aquinas's philosophy and theology order and formulate Christian identity and thereby constitute a principal source for subsequent tradition.

Thomas Aquinas has made important contributions to the formulation of Christian identity in at least three areas: the link he endeavors to establish between metaphysics and belief in God along the lines of being; the theological anthropology he develops, in which the relations between nature, grace and sin are directive; and the way in which his Christology situates salvation through the cross theologically and analyses it conceptually. The concept of 'ordering' is important since establishing links and negotiating approaches and topics constitute Aquinas's strength.

The questions this research program addresses, aim to build up a historically, philosophically and theologically sound interpretation of the thought of Thomas Aquinas in the areas mentioned, to put this interpretation in historical perspective, and to formulate its relevance for contemporary discussions on Christian identity.

An approach is chosen which builds on a more general and innovative interpretation of Thomas which was developed by the Institute during the years past. The program also constitutes a principal contribution to the research program of Tilburg School of Catholic Theology, since it will offer cross-sections of the historical, philosophical and theological development of thought on several topics that define Christian identity.

Nature and Grace. The relation between Nature and Grace in the Theological Anthropology of Thomas Aquinas

-H.J.M.J. Goris

Christology and Soteriology

(Chair for Theology of Thomas Aquinas)

-H.J.M. Schoot

Metaphysics and Subjectivity

-R.A. te Velde

PhD-projects carried out at the Thomas Instituut te Utrecht

*Words of Presence. The significance of the words of institution as discussed by Thomas Aquinas for a communicative-personalist understanding of the eucharistic *realis presentia**

-T. Corstjens

Thomas Aquinas on John's Gospel. Christology and exegetical method

-S. Mangnus

God's Hidden Presence in the Sacrament of the Eucharist

-F.A. Steijger

A Fighter for the Faith. The polemical writings of Ramón Martí (ca. 1220-1285)

-S. Wiersma

Tilburg School of Humanities (Tilburg University)

The meaning of the term 'passion' (and its connotations) in handbooks of moral theology

-F.J.H. Vosman

Professional Loving Care in a General Hospital (Care in Contested Coherence) / The dynamics of hope in palliative care

-C.J.W. Leget

Individual projects

Augustin's evaluation of fear

-P. van Geest

Den Tod im Leben sehen. Martin Luthers Beitrag zu einem erneuerten Umgang mit Tod und Sterben

-S. Gradl

Current meaning of Aquinas' ethics

-K.-W. Merks

Trinity and Thomas

-H.W.M. Rikhof

Theology and Christian-Muslim relations

-W.G.B.M. Valkenberg

The project of a hermeneutic philosophy

-A.C.M. Vennix

Design of a practical ecclesiology

-J.B.M. Wissink

10. Publications in 2011

This list contains all publications by members of the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* (Tilburg University) in so far as they include Thomas Aquinas as a topic or a topic in relation to his life and works. It also contains all publications by members who participate in the research programme 'Ordering Christian Identity - Thomas Aquinas' of the Tilburg School of Catholic Theology (Tilburg University).

Scientific publications

Corstjens, T. - Moderne taalwetenschap en middeleeuwse sacramententheologie. Thomas van Aquino in *La Parole efficace* van Irène Rosier-Catach - Jaarboek 2010 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht 30 (2011) 113-135

Geest, P.J.J. van - Waarachtigheid. Augustinus over levenskunst - Meinema/Zoetermeer (2011)

Geest, P.J.J. van [with Eduardus Van der Borcht, eds.] - Foreigners and Strangers on Earth. Essays in Honour of Abraham van de Beek (Studies in Reformed Theology 20) - Brill/Leiden-Boston (2011)

Geest, P.J.J. van - Preface: Strangers and Pilgrims on Earth / Some developments in contemporary Protestant Christology in the Netherlands in the Light of the *Schola Augustiniana*. Abraham van de Beek en Harry Kuitert evaluated - E. Van der Borcht, P. van Geest (eds.), Foreigners and Strangers on Earth. Essays in Honour of Abraham van de Beek (Studies in Reformed Theology 20) - Brill/Leiden-Boston (2011) xiii-xxii / 255-266

- Geest, P.J.J. van - La tensione tra il *dover parlare* di Dio e il *voler tacere* di fronte a Dio. Alcune osservazioni nel *De Trinitate* di Agostino - Silenzio e Parola. XXXIX Incontro di Studiosi dell'Antichità Cristiana 2009. Roma, 6-8 maggio 2010. (*Studia Ephemeridis Augustinianum* 119) - Roma (2011)
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Matrimonium - C. Mayer, a.o. (eds.), Augustinus-Lexikon, Basel 1986-, vol. 3 - Basel (2011) col. 1206-1209
- Goris, H.J.M.J - Is woman just a mutilated male? Adam and Eve in the theology of Thomas Aquinas - B. Becking, S. Hennecke (eds.), Out of Paradise. Eve and Adam and their Interpreters (Hebrew Bible Monographs) - Sheffield Phoenix Press/Sheffield (2011) 50-66
- Goris, H.J.M.J - No Creation Stories in Holy Scripture. Von Rad's View on the Relation Between Covenant and Creation Revisited - E. Van der Borght, P. van Geest (eds.), Foreigners and Strangers on Earth. Essays in Honour of Abraham van de Beek (Studies in Reformed Theology 20) - Brill/Leiden-Boston (2011) 669-681
- Grijs, F. de - Onze Heer. Deel 2. De gedachtenis van lijden, dood en verrijzenis van Jezus Christus - Valkhof Pers/Nijmegen (2011)
- Merks, K.-W. - De Heilige Geest en de morele autonomie. Enkele beschouwingen bij de *lex nova* in Thomas' *Summa Theologiae* - Jaarboek 2010 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht 30 (2011) 23-35

- Merks, K.-W. - Von der Sexual- zur Beziehungsethik / Schuld und Entschuldigen im Spannungsverhältnis von Subjekt und System - K. Hilpert (Hg.), Zukunftshorizonte katholischer Sexualethik (QD 241) - Freiburg i.Br. (2011) 14-35 / 210-228
- Merks, K.-W. - Ein Ideal in der Wirklichkeit. Erwägungen zu Ehescheidung und Wiederheirat - M. Heimbach-Steins, G. Kruip, S. Wendel (Hg.), Kirche 2011: Ein notwendiger Aufbruch. Argumente zum Memorandum - Freiburg i.Br. (2011) 265-276
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - '...die nedergedaald is ter helle...'. Een zoektocht in kunst en theologie - Tilburg University/Tilburg 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - *The descensus ad inferos*. An exercise in the Interaction between Art and Theology - Bijdragen. International Journal in Philosophy and Theology 72/2 (2011) 123-160
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - Persoonlijke confrontaties - Jaarboek 2010 Thomas Instituut Utrecht 30 (2011) 51-60
- Schoot, H.J.M. - Christus tussen Hemel en Aarde: De Nederigheid Gods - Krijn Pansters, Willem Marie Speelman (eds.), De deemoed Gods. Verkenningen in het licht van Franciscus van Assisi - Valkhof Pers/Nijmegen (2011) 37-60
- Schoot, F.J.M. - De genade van Christus. Over de verborgen aanwezigheid van de H. Geest in Thomas' verhandelingen over de menswording - Jaarboek 2010 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht 30 (2011) 37-50

- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - Sifting the Qur'an: Two Forms of Interreligious Hermeneutics in Nicholas of Cusa - D. Cheetham, U. Winkler, O. Leirvik, J. Gruber (eds.), *Interreligious Hermeneutics in Pluralistic Europe (Currents of Encounter 40)* Editions Rodopi/Amsterdam-New York (2011) 27-48
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - Learned Ignorance and Faithful Interpretation of the Qur'an in Nicholas of Cusa (1401-1464) - James L. Heft, S.M. Reuven Firestone, Omid Safi (eds.), *Learned Ignorance: Intellectual Humility among Jews, Christians, and Muslims* - Oxford University Press/Oxford (2011) 34-52
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - Die Schrift mit der Kirche lesen: Joseph Ratzinger, die Tradition der Geheimnisse des Lebens Jesu und theologische Exegese in Amerika - Hermann Häring (Hg.), *Der Jesus des Papstes. Passion, Tod und Auferstehung im Disput* - LIT-Verlag/Berlin (2011) 37-54
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - Islam: verantwoordelijk voor God - Mohamed Ajouaou, Erik Borgman, Pim Valkenberg (eds.), *Islam in Nederland: theologische bijdragen in tijden van secularisering* - Boom/Amsterdam (2011) 65-97
- Velde, R.A. te (ed.) - *Pascal als religieus denker* - Klemens/Zoetermeer (2011)
- Velde, R.A. te - *Bij wijze van inleiding: Pascal als religieus denker / De God van de filosofen* - R.A. te Velde (ed.), *Pascal als religieus denker* - Klemens/Zoetermeer (2011) 7-21 / 83-108

Velde, R.A. te - The Divine Person(s): Trinity, Person, and Analogous Naming - G. Emery, M. Levering (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the Trinity* (Oxford Handbooks in Religion and Theology) - Oxford University Press/Oxford (2011) 359-370

Velde, R.A. te - De norm van de natuur - R.P.H. Munnik (ed.), *God, mens en techniek. Over religieuze existentie in een technologische cultuur* (Annalen van het Thijmgenootschap 99/1) - Valkhof Pers/Nijmegen (2011) 78-93

Professional and/or popular publications

Geest, P.J.J. van - Geld, God en geluk. Augustinus in miniaturen - Parthenon/Almere (2011)

Geest, P.J.J. van [with E. de Jong] - “Niet hemels, niet aards, niet sterfelijk, niet onsterfelijk”: menselijke waardigheid in de christelijke traditie - P.J. Dijkman e.a. (eds.), *Menselijke waardigheid* (CD Verkenningen 2011/4) - Boom/Meppel (2011) 36-46

Goris, H.J.M.J. - Review of: St. Loughlin, *Aquinas Summa Theologiae* (2010), 1096-746X - *The Medieval Review* 18/1 (2011) [online publication]

Hoogland, M.R. - The Passionist Vocation - Reflections on The Occasion of The 25th Anniversary of The Approbation of The Constitutions - General Curia of the Passionists/Rome (2011) 7-12

Hoogland, M.R. - Das Leben des hl. P. Karel: *mehr* als ein Zeichen seiner Zeit - R. Dörner (ed.), Um des Himmelreiches willen. Leben in der Nachfolge Jesu Christi als Ärgernis für die Welt - Kardinal-von-Galen-Kreis Verlag/Norderstedt (2011) 137-150

Schoot, H.J.M. - Inleiding - F. de Grijs, Onze Heer. Deel 2. De gedachtenis van lijden, dood en verrijzenis van Jezus Christus - Valkhof Pers/Nijmegen (2011) 7-10

Velde, R.A. te - Thomas van Aquino - F. Rebel (ed.), Introductie cursus Inleiding tot de westerse filosofie - Instituut voor Filosofie/Amsterdam (2011) 33-40

Lectures

Geest, P.J.J. van - St. Augustine on Good Governance - Public Lecture at 'Crisis, Ancient World Seminar' - University of Groningen, Groningen, 21 March 2011

Geest, P.J.J. van - Augustine's Evaluation of Fear - Lecture at the International Conference 'The Mystagogy of the Church Fathers', UvT-VU (CPO), Utrecht, 20 May 2011

Geest, P.J.J. van - St. Augustine on God's Incomprehensibility, Incarnation and the Authority of St. John - Workshop at the Sixteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, 12 August 2011

Geest, P.J.J. van - The Function of Fear in the Sermons of St. Augustine - Lecture at the opening of the Academic Year of the Evangelical Theological Faculty, Louvain, 7 September 2011

- Geest, P.J.J. van - Confident reverence. The principal functions of fear in some of Saint Augustine's sermons - Keynote-lecture at 'Ministerium sermonis. An international colloquium on Saint Augustine's sermons on the New Testament', Rome, 14 September 2011
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Dwang als opmaat tot Dialoog? Augustinus en de donatisten - Keynote-lecture at the congress of the 'Stichting Oudchristelijke Studien', Utrecht, 8 October 2011
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Augustine's Ideas on Society - Lecture at the Graduate School of the Protestant Theological University, Kampen, 12 December 2011
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Catholic and Protestant Discussions on the Eucharist as Sacrifice - Lecture at the Seventh International Conference Jewish Christian Perspectives: 'The Actuality of Sacrifice. Models of Interaction between Judaism and Christianity', Jerusalem, 11 January 2011
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Aquinas' reinterpretation of the Neoplatonic ternary 'being-living-understanding' - Lecture at the conference 'What is Life? Theology, Science, and Philosophy', Krakow, 26 June 2011
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Near-Death Experiences. A theological approach - Lecture at the conference of the European Society for Catholic Theology 'Exploring the boundaries of bodiliness', Vienna, 26 August 2011
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Thomas van Aquino: denken over God - Lecture at the Elisabeth Leseurgroep Baarn, Baarn, 16 December 2011

- Hoogland, M.R. - *In saecula misericordia eius*: Een reflectie op barmhartigheid als kernwaarde in het leven van een diaken - Lecture for deacons in training at the Diocese Rotterdam, Voorburg, 24 maart 2011
- Merks, K.W. - De Heilige Geest en de morele autonomie. Enkele beschouwingen bij de *lex nova* in Thomas' *Summa theologiae* - Lecture at the farewell-symposium for prof.dr. H. Rikhof 'Recendant vetera, nova sint omnia', Tilburg, 28 January 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - 'die nedergedaald is ter helle...' Een zoektocht in kunst en theologie - Farewell lecture at Tilburg University, Tilburg, 28 January 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - Een theologische autobiografie - Lecture for alumni of the Faculty of Catholic Theology, Nijmegen, 1 March 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - Over de doop: twee avonden in de vasten - Lectures at H. Landstichting, 17 and 31 March 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - *Veni Sancte Spiritus* - Lecture for catholic students, Delft, 30 May 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - Mensen van de verrijzenis - Lecture for the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, Dijnselburg, 9 June 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - Sacraments - Lecture for the Diocese Brugge, Roeselare, 16 June 2011
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - De receptie van Vaticanum II - Lecture for members of 'KIM', Nijmegen, 13 July 2011

- Rikhof, H.W.M - Het geheim van God in het pastoraat - Lecture for the Diocese Groningen-Leeuwarden, Drachten, 27 October 2011
- Schoot, H.J.M. - De genade van Christus. Over de verborgen aanwezigheid van de H. Geest in Thomas' verhandelingen over de menswording - Lecture at the farewell-symposium for prof.dr. H. Rikhof 'Recendant vetera, nova sint omnia', Tilburg, 28 January 2011
- Schoot, H.J.M. - Thomas van Aquino over het lijden en sterven van Christus. Thomaslezing 2011 - Lecture at the Seminary 'De Tiltenberg', Vogelenzang, 18 April 2011
- Velde, R.A. te - Thomistic metaphysics in the contemporary debate - Lecture at the conference 'The Metaphysics of Aquinas and its Modern Interpreters', New York, 26 March 2011
- Velde, R.A. te - Binding en vrijheid: over de ethische betekenis van instituties - Lecture at a symposium on modern institutions and networks 'Instituties in Beweging', Nijmegen, 15 October 2011
- Velde, R.A. te - Zonder geloof vaart niemand wel - St. Augustine-Lecture at Rolduc Abbey, Kerkrade, 9 December 2011