

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Cristina M. Pumplun, Secretary of Studies

1. Study and research at the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht*

On 19 March 2008 Matthew Kostelecky (St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia, Canada) visited the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* and gave a paper about Thomas' Commentary on Boethius' *De Trinitate*. Kostelecky was to defend his doctoral thesis at Leuven – titled *The Summa contra gentiles as a Mirror of Human Nature* – two days later. The paper he presented at the Thomas Instituut te Utrecht was entitled 'Whither Metaphysics and Revealed Theology? Some Clues from St. Thomas' Commentary on Boethius' *De Trinitate*'. Kostelecky discussed the continuity of plan, purpose, and method between St. Thomas' commentary on Boethius' *De trinitate* and his *Summa contra gentiles* in order to accomplish two things: 1) shed light onto the perplexing structure of the *ScG*, and 2) give a point of access for understanding Thomas' general approach to the knowledge of divine things. He also tried to show that Thomas' investigation of the methods of coming to know divine things in the *In De trin* determines the order of procedure in the *ScG* and, that by comparing these two works one can see better the conditions that require metaphysics and revealed theology as modes of discourse if we are to speak about God. Fifteen people attended this afternoon of studies at the Thomas Instituut, which was concluded with a lively discussion.

Due to different circumstances, two other initiatives to a common study of respectively Aquinas' concept of theology

and Aquinas' theology of the Trinity unfortunately had to be cancelled.

Members of the research group *Onderzoeksgroep Thomas van Aquino* convened seven times in 2008, each time on the first Monday of the month to discuss papers and articles by members of the Institute and to read texts by Thomas Aquinas.

2. Chair for Theology of Thomas Aquinas

During the year under review further research at the chair concentrated around the subject of Christ's Satisfaction and Passion. Henk Schoot, extraordinary professor to the Chair for Theology of Thomas Aquinas, wrote an article which will be published in the 13th volume of the *Publications of the Thomas Instituut te Utrecht*: 'Divine transcendence and the mystery of salvation according to Thomas Aquinas'. He also became editor of *Thomistica* and therefore is partly responsible for the reviewing of several publications about Thomas Aquinas for that bibliography.

3. The Board of the Institute and the Foundation

The Board of the Institute convened on 15 January, 26 March, 1 September and 3 November. The situation of the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* as part of the Faculty of Catholic Theology (Tilburg University) had to be discussed intensely during these meetings, as well as the activities of the Institute. There were no changes in the composition of the Board of the Institute.

The Board of the Thomas Foundation convened on 26 March. There were no changes in the composition of the Board of the Foundation.

4. *Jaarboek Thomas Instituut te Utrecht*

The *Jaarboek Thomas Instituut te Utrecht 2007* was timely published in 2008. The Editorial Board convened on 15 January and 26 May. There were no personnel changes in the Editorial Board.

In the year under review the *Jaarboek Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* has been considered eligible for inclusion in the 'ERIH Initial List: Philosophy' of the European Science Foundation with the notation 'C'.

5. Series of Publications

In the year under review the last preparations were done for the 13th volume in the series of the Institute, which will be published as *Divine Transcendence and Immanence in the Work of Thomas Aquinas*. Editors are Harm Goris, Herwi Rikhof and Henk Schoot, publisher is Peeters at Louvain.

6. Translation Series

With substantial support of the Thomas Foundation the fourth volume in the series of Dutch translations of the Institute appeared. 'Is it allowed to kill a human being?' – under this question Carlo Leget has published a Latin-Dutch translation of parts of *quaestiones* 10, 11, 40, 64, 124 and 188 of the *STh* II-II. The book contains the Latin original texts as well as the translation, an introduction and annotations: Thomas van Aquino, *Mag je een mens doden? Teksten uit de Summa Theologiae over God, geloof en geweld*. De Latijnse tekst, ingeleid, vertaald en geannoteerd door Carlo Leget, Meinema/Zoetermeer 2008, 112 pp.

7. Members of the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht*

31 December 2008

Faculty of Catholic Theology (Tilburg University)

Staff

Prof. dr. P. van Geest

Dr. H.J.M.J. Goris

Prof. dr. H.W.M. Rikhof

Prof. dr. H.J.M. Schoot

Prof. dr. R.A. te Velde

(University of Amsterdam,
Philosophy)

Prof. dr. J.B.M. Wissink

Candidates for a Doctorate

Drs. S. Mangnus

Drs. F.A. Steijger

Drs. S. Wiersma

*Tilburg University (Department of Religious Studies and
Theology)*

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. M.J.F.M. Hoenen

(Philosophy)

Dr. C.J.W. Leget (UMC St.

Radboud, Ethics)

Prof. dr. P.G.J.M. Raedts

(History)

Prof. dr. P.J.M. van Tongeren

(Philosophy)

Dr. A.C.M. Vennix

(Philosophy)

Prof. dr. B.P.M. Vermeulen

(Law)

Utrecht University Prof. dr. A. Orbán (Arts/Late Latin)

Protestant Theological University
Dr. A. Vos (Theology)

Other members of the Institute Prof. dr. F.J.A. de Grijs
(Catholic Theological University of Utrecht, emeritus)
Dr. S. Gradl
Dr. M.-R. Hoogland c.p.
Drs. Tj. Jansen s.j.
Dr. F.G.B. Luijten
Prof. dr. K.W. Merks
(Tilburg University, emeritus)
Dr. W.G.B.M. Valkenberg
(Loyola College in Maryland, Baltimore, USA)
Drs. P.L. van Veldhuijsen

8. Research programmes and research projects in 2008

The Thought of Thomas Aquinas (philosophical, systematic-theological)

(Faculty of Catholic Theology, Tilburg University)

The central questions in the research project 'The Thought of Thomas Aquinas' are systematic-theological and philosophical in nature. Results of recent historical research are taken into account, but historical research is not the aim of this project. In this project Thomas' texts are read with systematic questions in mind and with an hermeneutical awareness. This then determines the research's double perspective: first it focuses on aspects characteristic for Thomas' thinking, and secondly it

takes into account sensitivities that form part of the current (theological and philosophical) situation.

Characteristic for Thomas' theological thinking is its basis in Holy Scripture, its continuous theocentrism, its negative theology bias, and its attention to the *nexus mysteriorum*. Characteristic for Thomas' philosophical thinking is his attention to metaphysics. The sensitivities of the current situation relevant for this research are related to the notion of the history of salvation, to subjectivity and to pluralism. Both perspectives are dealt with in the sub-projects.

The research concentrates on a number of interrelated themes: the doctrine of the Trinity, christology and soteriology, theological anthropology, and theory of participation.

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

-H.J.M.J. Goris

Trinity and Thomas

-H.W.M. Rikhof

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

The Pugio Fidei by Raimundus Martini (1220-1284)

-S. Wiersma

"Ut credentes vitam habeatis". Faith in Thomas Aquinas'

In Ioannem

-S. Mangnus

God's Hidden Presence in the Sacrament of the Eucharist

-F.A. Steijger

Tilburg University (Department of Religious Studies and Theology)

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

-F.J.H. Vosman

Individual projects

Gabriel Biel, a devout theologian. Research into the interrelatedness of spirituality of the Devotio Moderna and academic theology in the work of Gabriel Biel

-P. van Geest

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

-S. Gradl

Spirituality in palliative care

-C.J.W. Leget

Current meaning of Aquinas' ethics

-K.-W. Merks

Subject and normativity (programme)

-P.J.M. van Tongeren

Theology and Christian-Muslim relations

-W.G.B.M. Valkenberg

The question of the eternity of the world in Thomas Aquinas, Bonaventure, Siger of Brabant and Boethius of Dacia

-P.L. van Veldhuijsen

The Project of a hermeneutic philosophy

-A.C.M. Vennix

Design of a Practical Ecclesiology

-J.B.M. Wissink

9. Publications in 2008

This list contains all publications by members of the *Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* 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 'The Thought of Thomas Aquinas (philosophical, systematic-theological)' of the Faculty of Catholic Theology (Tilburg University).

Scientific publications

Geest, P.J.J. van - Thomas a Kempis. Mystagoog op de breuklijn tussen de Middeleeuwen en de Nieuwe Tijd - Kok/Kampen (2008)

Geest, P.J.J. van - ¿Estoico contra su voluntad? Agustín y la vida moralmente buena / 'De beata uita' y 'Praeceptum' - Augustinus 208-209 (2008) 157-174

Geest, P.J.J. van - Gabriel Biel, *Fraterherr* and *alter Augustinus*? Purpose and Significance of his *Tractatus de communi vita clericorum* - Augustiniana 58 (2008) 210-259

Goris, H.J.M.J. - Aquinas as a Philosophical Theologian. Review article of Rudi te Velde, *Aquinas on God. The 'Divine Science' of the Summa Theologiae* - Jaarboek 2007 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht 27 (2008) 91-115

Goris, H.J.M.J. - [with Pim Valkenberg] 'In Hem is Gods volheid lijfelijk aanwezig': Jezus en de religies - Tijdschrift voor Theologie 48 (2008) 403-421

- Leget, C.J.W. - De betekenis van leven: waar hebben we het over? - Nederlandse Vereniging voor Bio-ethiek, Nieuwsbrief 15/3 (November 2008) 13-15
- Leget, C.J.W. - Thomas van Aquino. Mag je een mens doden? Teksten uit de Summa Theologiae over God, geloof en geweld. De Latijnse tekst, ingeleid, vertaald en geannoteerd - Meinema/Zoetermeer (2008)
- Merks, K.-W. - Morale et religion. Pistes de recherche - Revue d'éthique et de théologie morale 248 (2008) 23-57
- Merks, K.-W. - Die theologische Bedeutung des säkularen Staates - H. Goris, M. Heimbach-Steins (Hrsg.), Religion in Recht und politischer Ordnung heute/Religion in Law and Politics Today - Ergon/Würzburg (2008) 93-107
- Merks, K.-W. - Ökumenische Ethik? Das „Handbuch der christlichen Ethik“ im Kontext der Ethik-Debatte der 1970er Jahre - MD Materialdienst des Konfessionskundlichen Instituts Bensheim 59/3 (2008) 054-059
- Merks, K.-W. - Autonomie als Selbstbestimmung und Fürsorge aufgezeigt am Beispiel der Sterbehilfe - B. Olaru (ed.), Autonomy, Responsibility and Health Care. Critical Reflections - Bucharest (2008) 79-94
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - On Thomas' Theology of the Trinity. Some Reflections with Reference to Gilles Emery, *La théologie trinitaire de saint Thomas d'Aquin* - Jaarboek 2007 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht 27 (2008) 9-30

- Rikhof, H.W.M. - The adoptive sonship of believers: St Thomas Aquinas and contemporary theology - *Ad Veritatem. Disciplinary Research Journal of the UST Graduate School (Manilla)* 7/2 (2008) 399-418
- Rikhof, H.W.M. - Schepping: meer dan groene ethiek - A. Decoene & J. Haers (eds.), *Wanneer de Schepping kreunt in barensweeën. Hedendaagse reflecties over schepping (LOGOS, 3)* - Halewijn/Antwerpen (2008) 21-32
- Schoot, H.J.M. - De katholieke kerk van Nederland in restauratie? - *Theologisch Debat* 5/1 (2008) 16-26
- Schoot, H.J.M. - Christus als Naam en de namen van Christus - *Communio. Internationaal Katholiek Tijdschrift* 33 (2008) 375-386
- Schoot, H.J.M. - Introduction - *Jaarboek 2007 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* 27 (2008) 5-7
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - [with Harm Goris] 'In Hem is Gods volheid lijfelijk aanwezig': Jezus en de religies - *Tijdschrift voor Theologie* 48 (2008) 403-421
- Velde, R.A. te - Het verhoudingsdenken van Thomas - *Jaarboek 2007 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* 27 (2008) 33-49
- Vennix, A. - De niet-wederkerigheid van de zintuiglijke kenrelatie bij Thomas van Aquino - *Jaarboek 2007 Thomas Instituut te Utrecht* 27 (2008) 67-90

Professional and/or popular publications

- Geest, P.J.J. van - [with M. Slingerland] Zeven vragen aan Augustinus. Augustijnse spiritualiteit voor het dagelijks leven - Ten Have/Kampen (2008)
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Inleiding: 'Tijdgenoten, die tot mij spreken ...' De catecheses van Benedictus XVI over de kerkvaders uit Oost en West - Paus Benedictus XVI, De kerkvaders - Oegstgeest (2008) 10-22
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Augustinus over het nut van de contrastervaring - Herademing. Tijdschrift voor spiritualiteit en mystiek 16 (2008) 34-38
- Geest, P.J.J. van - De actualiteit van Thomas a Kempis. De eigen onvolkomenheid als basis voor verantwoord handelen - Christendemocratische Verkenningen 36 (voorjaar 2008) 169-173
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Het bijdetijdse denken van Cyprianus en Augustinus: Eerlijk zelfbeeld schraagt tolerantie - Christendemocratische Verkenningen 36 (winter 2008), 186-192
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Augustinus' visie op de katholiciteit van de kerk - Konstekstueel 22/5 (2008) 11-14
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Inleiding - Twintig preken van Aurelius Augustinus. Vertaald door Gerard Wijdeveld. Ingeleid door Paul van Geest - Van Gennep/Amsterdam (2008) 7-11
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Inleiding - Thomas a Kempis, De Navolging van Christus. Hertaald door Mink de Vries en ingeleid door Paul van Geest - KBS/Den Bosch (2008) 9-12

- Geest, P.J.J. van - H. Amirav, B. ter Haar Romeny, From Rome to Constantinople. Studies in Honour of Averil Cameron, Leuven 2007 (Late Antique History and Religion 1) - CHRC 88 (2008) 142-144
- Leget, C.J.W. - De spiegel van Thomas van Aquino. Interview door Jaco van der Knijff - Reformatorisch Dagblad 38/nr. 48 (28 May 2008) 15
- Luijten, E. - Jezus de Zoon en de Geest - *Communio* 33 (2008) 405-414
- K.-W. Merks - Leserbrief zu 40 Jahre *Humanae vitae* - *CiG* 27 (2008) 308
- Schoot, H.J.M. - R.A. te Velde: Thomas van Aquino: Over waarheid (*Q.d. de veritate*, q.1), Vertaling en essays - *Thomistica* 2006. An International Yearbook of Thomistic Bibliography - *Nova & Vetera/Bonn* (2007) 37-38
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - De dialoog tussen moslims en christenen: een theologisch perspectief - Marianne Moyaert, Paul Kevers (red.), *Wanneer alteriteit realiteit wordt: Christendom en Islam, Bijbel en Koran* - *Acco/Leuven-Voorburg* (2008) 213-230
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - Mercedes Rubio, Aquinas and Maimonides on the Possibility of the Knowledge of God (Dordrecht: Springer, 2006) - *Church History and Religious Culture* 88 (2008)

Academic lectures

- Geest, P.J.J. van - 'De Deo loquimur, quid mirum si non comprehendis?' (*sermo* 117) The merging of Orthodoxy, Heterodoxy and Negativity in Augustine's Preaching - Lecture at the Congres *Ministerium sermonis*. An International Colloquium on Saint Augustine's *Sermones ad populum*, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven, 30 May 2008
- Geest, P.J.J. van - De weerbarstigheid van de kerkvaders en van de patristiek - Introduction on the occasion of the start of the Centre for Patristic Research (UvT/VU), Utrecht, 13 June 2008
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Augustijnse spiritualiteit - Guestlecture at the Postdoctoral course for protestant ministers of the Protestant Theological University, Doorn, 2 July 2008
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Kun je God onderzoeken ? - Lecture at the start of the academic year of the Theological Faculty of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 2 September 2008
- Geest, P.J.J. van - 'Pectus ardet Evangelica pietate, et pectori respondet oratio'. Cyprianus' streven naar oprechtheid in de kerk - Lecture at the Cyprianus-symposium of the Centre for Patristic Research (UvT/VU), Amsterdam, 12 September 2008
- Geest, P.J.J. van - Biel als Alter Augustinus - Lecture at the international symposium 'Modern Devotion, Balance and Regauging III', Radbouduniversity Nijmegen, Nijmegen/Soeterbeeck, 31 October 2008
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Thomas van Aquino, een inleiding - Lecture for 'Interkerkelijk Kringenwerk', Geleen, 5 March 2008

- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Gods voorkennis: Thomas van Aquino versus Duns Scotus - Lecture for the student community CSFR, Utrecht, 13 March 2008
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Thomas van Aquino, een inleiding - Lecture for the Order of the Prince, Leiden, 25 March 2008
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Engelen en engelenleer - Lecture at the opening of the exhibition 'Allemaal engelen' at the Rijksmuseum Het Catharijneconvent, Utrecht, 5 October 2008
- Goris, H.J.M.J. - Engelen in de theologie - Lecture at the house of studies of the protestant churches in the Netherlands, Zoetermeer, 20 November 2008
- Hoogland, M.-R. - God is liefde, "Almachtige" is Zijn naam - Lecture at the symposium on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the priesthood of Prof. Dr. Herwi Rikhof, Heilig Land Stichting (Nijmegen), 5 September 2008
- Leget, C.J.W. - On the significance of moral argumentation: Aquinas and Hume on suicide - Lecture for the Erasmus Mundus Master of Bioethics, UMC St Radboud, Nijmegen, 29 January 2008
- Leget, C.J.W. - Leefstijl in historisch en cultureel perspectief - Lecture at the post-academic course 'Leefstijl van werknemers en de positieve beïnvloeding van de bedrijfs- en verzekeringsgeneeskunde hierin', UMC St Radboud, Nijmegen, 6 June 2008
- Leget, C.J.W. - Thomas Aquinas' philosophy of man - Lecture at the European Seminar 'Leadership in Catholic School Organisations' (CEEC), Dublin, 20 September 2008

- Leget, C.J.W. - Het hellend vlak is juist daar glad, waar de zon geen toegang krijgt - Workshop at the annual conference of the Catholic department of the VGVZ, 'Niet breken het gekwetste riet, niet breken...', Utrecht, 6 October 2008
- Leget, C.J.W. - Lecture at the day of studies of the commission for ethical and community questions of the Salvation Army, Lunteren, 3 October 2008
- Schoot, H.J.M. - Christus van boven, christologie van beneden. Wegwijzers in een theologisch mijnenveld - Lecture at the day of studies of the Franciscan Studycentre i.c.w. the Faculty of Catholic Theology, Tilburg University, 22 October 2008
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - 'Come to a common word between us': Challenges of a Christian Reading of the Qur'an – Lecture at the Rumi Forum at Washington D.C., 27 March 2008
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - Reading the Qur'an as a Christian Theologian - Lecture at the Catholic Theological Society of America (selected session), Miami, 7 June 2008
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - God's Revealing Word in Dialogue between Christians and Muslims: Will, Reason, or Person? - Lecture at the association "De Christelijke Geloofsartikelen", Steenwijk, 13 October 2008
- Valkenberg, W.G.B.M. - Das Konzept der Offenbarung im Islam aus der Perspektive Komparativer Theologie - Lecture at the conference on comparative theology, Basel, 1 November 2008