

Catholic University in Ruzomberok, Department of Philosophy

&

Collegium of Anton Neuwirth

are proud to invite you to the lecture

A PHILOSOPHY OF REVELATION

to be delivered by

Balázs M. Mezei

(Institute for Philosophy, Pázmány Péter Catholic University)

Date and Time: Friday April 29, 2016, 11:30 am
Lecture Venue: Library room
Kolégium Antona Neuwirtha
Námestie padlých hrdinov 7, Ivánka pri Dunaji

The lecture is sponsored by the project *The Idea of Christian philosophy
In Central and Eastern Europe (443.20132321/21885)*

If you want to contact organizers, please, write to this address: jan.hrkut@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Philosophy of Revelation

Balázs Mezei

Christian Philosophy has struggled with the problem of its renewal for a long time. In the 1930s, the famous debate among French philosophers on the possibility of 'Christian Philosophy' resulted in a disarray. After the Second World War, the philosophical settings dramatically changed and the rise of general materialism fed widespread skepticism concerning the chances of Christian Philosophy. Thomism and Neo-Thomism, however influential and fruitful in many ways, lost ground to existentialism; yet at the same time, the scientific vein of Thomistic philosophers opened up new possibilities especially in philosophy of science and logic.

In my view, nevertheless, some specific fields of philosophy cannot offer an overall view of the many centuries of Christian thought. We need to analyze the entire context of Christian thinking beginning with the Gospels up to our century. In this approach, I offer the project of 'demythologizing' Christian philosophy, i. e. the importance of realizing that central approaches in Christian thought have been under ancient conceptions of reality. At the same time, I offer the renewal of Christian Philosophy on the basis, first, of the encyclical *Fides et ratio* and, second, on the basis of the central notion of revelation. As I argue, the very notion of revelation is axiomatic to theology and thus external to such an investigation.

My proposal is then twofold: on the one hand, it is a historical analysis; on the other hand, it is a conceptual investigation labelled as 'a non-standard radical philosophical theology' centered around the notion of revelation.

BIO

Balázs M. Mezei is Professor of Philosophy at Peter Pazmany Catholic University, Hungary. He has widely published on the philosophy of religion, phenomenology, and literary criticism. He is the author of the two-volume *Philosophy of Religion* (2005, in Hungarian), with Barry Smith *The Four Phases of Philosophy* (Rodopi, 1998), with Francesca Aran Murphy *Illuminating Faith: An Invitation to Theology* (Bloombury, 2015). The forthcoming Mezei's books is *Radical Revelation*.