A close-up portrait of Luigino Bruni, a middle-aged man with glasses, wearing a blue suit jacket and a white shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

2018 Annual Lecture **Christianity and Society**

Friday February 23 2018, Utrecht

**Good and bad spirituality in
business and economics today**

Luigino Bruni

School of Catholic Theology

Annual Lecture Christianity and Society

Good and bad spirituality in business and economics today

Spirituality is flourishing in the world of multinational corporations. Companies compete in storytelling on 'spiritual paths'. This phenomenon has positive, but also negative aspects. In his lecture, Professor Bruni will discuss the instrumental use and abuse of spiritual language within companies. Biblical humanism will offer insights for such a critical analysis.

Prof. Dr. Luigino Bruni, Professor in Political Economy at Lumsa University in Rome, is known for his writings and lectures on economics, philosophy and theology, including *The Wound and the Blessing* (New City Press 2012). With Stefano Zamagni he authored *Civil Economy* (Agenda 2016). *The Spirit of the Market* is forthcoming (Oxford University Press 2018). His books have been translated in several languages, including in Dutch, such as (with Alessandra Smerilli) *De ongekende kant van de economie* (2015).

Responses will be given by two experts in the field of economics and ethics.

Eefje de Gelder MA MSc is coordinator of the research program 'Morality and Markets' at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. She studied International Economics and Christianity & Society at Tilburg University and is preparing a PhD thesis on the question: 'How does the increased popularity of fair trade products affect the producers?'

Prof. Dr. Johan Graafland is Professor in Economics, Business and Ethics at Tilburg University. He studied economics at Erasmus University and theology at Utrecht University. He is affiliated to the department of Economics and the department of Philosophy at Tilburg University and member of Tilburg Sustainability Center. Currently, he is involved in the Templeton Project 'What good markets are good for' (www.moralmarkets.org).

Program

- 13.30 **Welcome with coffee and tea**
- 14.00 **Opening Lecture**
Lecture by Prof. Dr. Luigino Bruni
'Good and bad spirituality in business and economics today'
Challenges and critical perspectives from social theory and the Bible
- 14.45 **Break**
- 15.00 **Response by Eefje de Gelder MA MSc**
- 15.30 **Response by Prof. Dr. Johan Graafland**
- 16.00 **Discussion with panel and audience**
- 16.30 **Concluding remarks** *by Dr. Kees de Groot, coordinator of the Master Christianity and Society*
- Drinks**

About the Annual Lecture

Every year, Tilburg School of Catholic Theology organizes an annual lecture, addressing a theme at the crossroads of Christianity and Society. The lecture marks the content of the Master's Program Christianity and Society, a one-year multidisciplinary program accessible for students from all academic disciplines or backgrounds who have completed an academic Bachelor's degree. The program focusses on the question how Christianity influences law, politics, economics, modern art, science, and world religions.

Previous keynote speakers were Godfried Cardinal Danneels, Ernst Hirsch Ballin, René Grotenhuis, Willem Cardinal Eijk, Tomáš Halík and Kieran Flanagan.

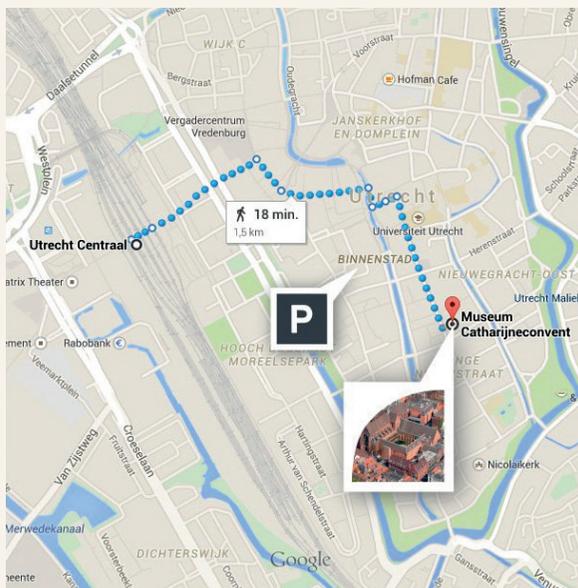
Interested in our Master's program in Christianity and Society?

Visit our web pages at www.tilburguniversity.edu/cs

When and where

Friday February 23 2018

Museum Catharijneconvent, in het Auditorium
Lange Nieuwstraat 38, 3512 PH Utrecht



Registration & information

The lecture is free of charge. If you wish to attend, please register by filling out the form on our website: <https://tiu.nu/Annual-Lecture-2018>

For enquiries, please contact the secretary's office of the school.
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