

Wednesday (Maria Laach) June 4

07.45 **Departure to Maria Laach**

09.30 **Mass in the Crypt, Visit of the Abbey, Midday Prayer**

13.45 **Transatlantic Connections**

- “Here is what I am looking for.” (William Busch). Maria Laach, Romano Guardini und die Anfänge Liturgischer Bewegung in den USA vor 1926 im Licht der Laacher Archivquellen
[Stefan K. Langenbahn \(Burgbrohl\)](#)
- Connections between Collegetville and Maria Laach after 1926
[Jacob Lapre \(Collegetville\)](#)

15.45 **The Spreading of the Liturgical Movement**

- The Spreading of the Liturgical Movement in the US (Orate Fratres, Liturgical Conference)
[Martino Choi \(Washington\)](#)
- The Contribution of Journals to the Spread of the Liturgical Movement in the German-Speaking Countries and Lay Responses in „Bibel und Liturgie“
[Janosch Dörfel \(Trier\)](#)

Thursday June 5

08.45 **Morning Prayer**

09.00 **Liturgical Movement and Reform of the Liturgy**

- Balthasar Fischer: Engagement in the Notre Dame Liturgy Program in the 1950s and his Exchange with the US during the Liturgical Movement and Reform
[Marco Benini \(Trier\)](#)
- Advocate for Reform: Frederick R. McManus and the American Liturgical Movement
[James Bradley \(Washington\)](#)

11.00 **Ecumenical Dimensions of the Liturgical Movement**

- Worship in Transition. Annotations on the History of Worship Theologies and Liturgical Movements in German Protestantism in the 19th and 20th Century
[Konrad Müller \(ev. Gottesdienstinstitut Nürnberg\)](#)

- Wilhelm Löhe's Biblical-Liturgical Imagination for the Renewal of Churchly Life: A Nineteenth-Century Lutheran Precursor to Liturgical Reform in Germany and North America
[Thomas H. Schattauer \(Wartburg Seminary, Iowa\)](#)

14.00 **Bringing the Insights Together**

- (Re)discovering the Liturgy-Justice Relationship as a Key Dimension of the Christian Life – An American Perspective
[Anne Koester \(Washington\)](#)

14.45 **The Influence of the Liturgical and the Biblical Movement on Preaching**

- "...a new phase in the development of homiletics..." Paul Wilhelm von Keppler as Homiletician and Preacher
[Christian Handschuh \(Passau\)](#)
- We are All Ears: Sunday Preaching in the US 1900–1963
[Guerric DeBona \(St. Meinrad\)](#)

16.45 **Conclusion: Historical Insights and Implications for Today**

- Pannel discussion

Location: Deutsches Liturgisches Institut
Weberbach 72a | 54290 Trier
Participation via livestream is possible

Registration: Registration deadline: **May 19, 2025**

Costs: Registration fee: 25€

Registration fee and meals: 161€

Participation via livestream: free

For further information and registration modalities [click here](#) or scan:



Please send any questions to: sauer@uni-trier.de

Kindly supported by:



 THEOLOGISCHE
FAKULTÄT TRIER

THE CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY
OF AMERICA 

Bible, Life, and Worship

The Liturgical and the Biblical Movement in the German Speaking Area and the US in Comparison

International Conference
in Trier and Maria Laach, Germany
June 2 - 5, 2025

Conference Program

In the late 19th century and the first half of the 20th century, the Liturgical Movement and the Biblical Movement pursued the goal of bringing about a renewal of Christian life based on the liturgy and the Bible. The Liturgical Movement was not controlled centrally, but was promoted by men and women in the individual countries, who influenced each other across national borders. However, especially their transatlantic relations and contacts as well as the functioning of the international networks, are largely unknown because American and German research on the Liturgical Movement hardly perceive each other.

For this reason, central topics will be addressed from both the American and German-speaking sides and then discussed together, so that common lines and country-specific characteristics emerge and form an overall picture.

The conference mainly focuses on these research questions:

- What transformation did the Liturgical Movement undergo in its reception to the USA and why?
- How did the Liturgical and Biblical Movements relate to each other (e.g. preaching)?
- What contribution did women make to the Liturgical Movement on both sides of the Atlantic, in what areas and how?

The individual aspects are examined against their political, social and cultural backgrounds, as well as being placed in an ecumenical context.

The „Deutsches Liturgisches Institut“ in Trier and Maria Laach Abbey provide the academic framework for exchange and research.

Monday

June 2

13.00 Getting started

- Registration and coffee

14.00 Introduction

- Transatlantic Perspectives on Studying the Liturgical and Biblical Movements
Marco Benini (Trier)

14.15 Historical Background

- The Liturgical Movement in Germany in the 20th century: Political, Social, and Cultural Contexts – Exemplified with Romano Guardini
Julie Adamik (Paderborn)
- The Liturgical Movement Reaches the US: Virgil Michel and Social Implications for Worship in the Mystical Body of Christ
Keith Pecklers (Rome)

16.15 Key Figures in Theological Perspective

- Lambert Beauduins liturgische Theologie und ihre Rezeption bei Virgil Michel
Martin Klöckener (Fribourg)
- Liturgische Theologie bei Pius Parsch
Andreas Redtenbacher (Klosterneuburg)

19.00 Women in the Liturgical Movement

- Women in the German and Austrian Liturgical Movement
Isabelle Sauer (Trier)
- US-Women in the Liturgical Movement
Katharine Harmon (Collegeville)
- Evolving Liturgical Spirituality – A Case Study with the Benedictine Sisters of the Perpetual Adoration
Julia Conico (Notre Dame)

Tuesday

June 3

08.45 Morning Prayer

09.00 Lesser-Known Figures I

- Bishop Simon Konrad Landersdorfer as Mediator in the Controversy over the Liturgical Movement
Stefan Geiger (Rome)
- H. A. Reinhold: A Pastor from Hamburg Impacts the Liturgical Life of the US
Julia Upton (New York)

11.00 Lesser-Known Figures II

- The Rhine flows into the Mississippi: Martin B. Hellriegel & the German Liturgical Movement in St. Louis, Missouri
James Bradley (Washington)
- Franz Weiser – Francis X. Weiser, SJ: Promoting Liturgy and Popular Devotions, from Austria to New England
Teresa Berger (Yale)

14.00 Women and Music in the Liturgical Movement

- Der Einfluss der Liturgischen Bewegung auf deutsche Gesangbücher (Kirchenlied 1938; Einheitslieder 1947; Diözesangesangbücher der Nachkriegszeit)
Ansgar Franz (Mainz)
- Women Musicians in the American Liturgical Movement
Anthony Ruff (Collegeville)

16.00 Biblical Movement

- The Catholic Biblical Movement in Germany and its Relationship to the Liturgical Movement
Christian Handschuh (Passau)
- The Impact of Catholic Biblical Scholarship on the Church in the United States
Felix Just (Los Angeles)

19.00 Public lecture

- The Spirituality of the Liturgical Movement
Michael Witczak (Mercator-Fellow: Washington/Trier)
- Followed by Reception