



Many Old Gods: Disenchantment & Idolatry in the Modern World

An Academic Conference with Professor William T. Cavanaugh

Proudly hosted by the

**Institute for Ethics & Society and the
School of Philosophy & Theology (Sydney)**

Wednesday 13 November 2019

Please join us for a one-day academic conference on Professor William T. Cavanaugh's **work-in-progress book manuscript**. The conference will feature a keynote talk from Professor Cavanaugh outlining the project, and four talks responding to specific chapters.

At the conference, participants will have the chance to engage in Q&A with each speaker, and be a part of workshopping an exciting new research project at the intersection of ethics, politics, and the Catholic intellectual and moral tradition from one of the world's leading researchers working in this area. Conference participants will be provided with a draft of the book manuscript and are encouraged to read it prior to the conference.



**Professor William
T. Cavanaugh**

**Professor of Catholic
Studies and Director of
the Centre for World
Catholicism**

DePaul University (Chicago)



**Professor Renée
Köhler-Ryan**

**Dean, School of
Philosophy & Theology
(Sydney)**

*The University of
Notre Dame Australia*



**Dr Joel Harrison
Senior Lecturer
in Law**

University of Sydney



**Dr Rachelle Gilmour
Bromby Lecturer in
Old Testament**

*Trinity College,
University of Melbourne*



**Dr Matt Tan
Adjunct Senior Lecturer,
School of Philosophy &
Theology (Sydney)**

*The University of
Notre Dame Australia*

About the book

Many Old Gods: Disenchantment and Idolatry in the Modern World.

Max Weber and Charles Taylor describe the modern world as disenchanted and secularized, but Cavanaugh argues that neither could shake the sense that we continue to obey gods of our own making. In this book, Cavanaugh explores this theme through the biblical notion of idolatry, and argues that the world remains full of enchanted objects and substitute gods. Cavanaugh nevertheless tries to turn the potential violence of the Bible's critique of idolatry into a sympathetic account of how people find God in the material world, and he explores a theologically-informed sacramental view of the world.

Date: Wednesday 13 November 2019

Time: 9.30am – 5.00pm

Location: School of Business
Boardroom (**NDS15-301**), The University
of Notre Dame Australia, Sydney, 29-35
Shepherd Street, Chippendale NSW

RSVP (essential) by 30 October 2019

Tim Smartt (timothy.smartt@nd.edu.au)

INQUIRIES

Tim Smartt (timothy.smartt@nd.edu.au)

Dr Annette Pierdziwol (annette.pierdziwol@nd.edu.au)