

MASTERCLASS

The Churches and the City

A review of the past, present
and future role of churches
in urban environments



Photo: Gianluca Buoncore

7-8 March 2024

Bologna, ITALY

www.frh-europe.org



Co-funded by
the European Union

Why this masterclass?

Churches have played a key role in the development of European cities throughout history, influencing urban design, planning and life. This two-day master class will offer a critical analysis of the relationship between churches and cities in different European regions after World War II and explore the current and future role of religious buildings in urban contexts.

The first day will focus on the role of churches in the present scenario, marked by the rise of secularisation, radical changes in social structures, a growing divide between a lay society and religious communities, and ongoing cultural debates on the meaning and role of historic places of worship in a society where religious communities are rapidly declining.

The second day will look at the influence of religious buildings on reconstruction plans and the shaping of cultural identities since the end of the Second World War, as well as the consequences of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65), which redefined the relationship between Catholic churches and cities in contemporary Europe.

This masterclass is offered by Future for Religious Heritage (FRH) thanks to a partnership with the International Conference "The Churches and the City" organised by the Department of Architecture of the University of Bologna.

When and where?

The masterclass will take place in a **hybrid format** on **7 and 8 March 2024**.

Physical event: The physical event will take place at Palazzo Magnani in Bologna, Italy.

- Registration for in person participation: <https://events.unibo.it/churchandcity>

Online event: The link to the livestream will be shared with registered participants before the event.

- Registration for online participation: <https://bit.ly/3laQrcU>

Practical information

- This masterclass will be held in English and Italian. The presentations in Italian will be simultaneously translated into English for online participants during the steaming.
- The recording of the masterclass will be available on FRH's YouTube channel after the event.
- If you have technical difficulties or any questions, please contact us at members@frh-europe.org

PROGRAMME

DAY 1 | 7 March 2024

Form, Role, and Design for Parish Centers Between Today and Tomorrow

09:30 | **Opening**

09:35 | **Session 1. I**

Albert Gerhards

New types of churches - innovative relationships between churches and cities in Germany

Tino Grisi

Life in the Church

Bernd Hillebrand

Unintentional Presence in an Urban Liquification. The Church's Mission of Care in a Participatory Network

Martina Baer

Between self-discovery and dialogue. Multifaith houses as sacred spaces in post-secular cities of the 21st century

11:50 | Coffee break
12:15 |

12:20 | **Session 1. II**

Kamilė Steponavičiūtė

Architectural diversity of the (Post)soviet Catholic churches in Lithuania (1988-1991) as a problem of society in transition

Beate Loffler

Closing ranks, opening spaces. Parish structures and the urban environment spatially considered

Francesca Daprà

Churches, city, community. Ambrosian parish complexes between identity and transformation in the contemporary city

PROGRAMME

DAY 1 | 7 March 2024

13:30 |
14:30 | Lunch break

14:35 | **Session 1. III**

Emiliano Romagnoli

Secular space and space of faith. Consideration of the architecture of new parish complexes

Andrea Marcuccetti

Religious archaeology. New meeting spaces

| **Session 2**

Luca Diotallevi

The ecclesia between polis and civitas in the present moment: a sociological survey

16:25 |
16:55 | Coffee break

17:00 | **Round table “Project Horizon”**

Speakers:

Marcello Brunini

Paolo Belloni

Sandro Pittini

Giuliano Zanchi

Luca Franceschini

Claudia Manenti

19:00 | **End of Day 1**

PROGRAMME

DAY 2 | 8 March 2024

European Experiences Between the 1950s and the 1960s

09:30 | **Session 3. I**

Esteban Fernandez Cobian

Religious architecture and urban planning in Vigo (Spain) during the episcopate of José Delicado Baeza (1969-75)

Rosa Maria Marta Caruso

Sacred architecture in Syracuse between 1950 and 1965: design processes, influences and results

Riccardo Serraglio

The 'outdated modernity' of neighbourhood churches by Marcello Canino

Giorgio Nepote Vesin, Martina Ulbar

Churches in the company town of Olivetti in Ivrea

11:25 | Coffee break
11:55 |

12:00 | **Session 3. II**

Laura Lazzaroni

Sacred Architecture in Italian Magazine, 1950-1970

Chiara Kuijpers, Femke Van der Meulen, Sven Sterken, Stephanie Van de Voorde

Constructing a Modern Image. The Representation of Post-war Churches in Belgian Periodicals (1945-1975)

Lorenzo Grieco

Parish and People. Advancements within Anglican Parish Centres in Post-war Britain

Alba Arboix-Alió

Parish Churches and Public Space in Barcelona: A Catalan Experience during the 1950s and 1960s

PROGRAMME

DAY 2 | 8 March 2024

13:40 | Lunch
15:10

15:15 | **Session 4**

João Alves da Cunha

MRAR - The Portuguese “Religious Art Renovation Movement” (1954-1969) and the changes in the twentieth century religious architecture in Portugal

Luigiemanuele Amabile, Alberto Calderoni

The city within. Sacred and urban in two churches by Gottfried Böhm (1920-2021)

Anna Kloke

Churches in the camouflage of mass housing construction. The Ecumenical Center of “Scharnhorst-Ost”

Kate Jordan

Reading whiteness in the refurbishment of historic churches

16:55 | **Conclusion and closing**

17:30 | **End of the masterclass**

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