

# MONDAY LECTURES | WISE 2024/25

## IN RELIGIOUS, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

RESEARCH BUILDING "WELTBEZIEHUNGEN" | C19.00.02/03 | 16:15 - 17:45

**16.12.2024 | BERNADETT BIGALKE**

### **"THE BREAD OF HEAVEN IS ENOUGH FOR ME" - THE PERSISTENCE OF RADICAL BODILY PRACTICES OF PIETY IN MODERN EUROPEAN CATHOLICISM**

The lecture presents food abstinence as a constantly contested attempt to mediate an 'ideology of transcendence' (Bräunlein) through the human body. Food abstinence is contoured as a decidedly female lay practice, often framed as an act of 'vicarious atonement' within a cluster of other bodily practices (stigmata, ecstasies).

The tension between a specifically Catholic narrative of giving meaning to suffering and bodily pain and post-Enlightenment or 'modern' everyday understandings of religion is analysed from a perspective of the study of religion. It also discusses this practice of piety as an enduring, if irritating, feature of Catholic piety that follows its own cultural logic.

*Organised by Seminar für Religionswissenschaft*



François Sodar:  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Louise\\_Lateau\\_en\\_ex\\_tase.jpg?uselang=de](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Louise_Lateau_en_ex_tase.jpg?uselang=de)



**JOIN WEBEX MEETING**

Meeting number: 2733 748 3943

Meeting password: tCzVFPy4V73

**ALL GUESTS WELCOME.  
NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY.**