

Recovering (from) Catholicism?

July 1-2, 2022

Boston College, Dublin



As we recover from Catholicism--from the shock of complicity with systemic corruption and child abuse--how are we to understand our Irish predicament? How are we to recover from Catholicism, and what is to be recovered? Are we recovering *from* Catholicism, or recovering Catholicism? Might our recovery be ritualised? If so, how? Are there aspects of Catholicism--its inculcated rituals, its debased institutions--that might be repurposed, re-used, on the road to recovery? Or must new rituals be conceived beyond complicity? What have Irish literature, arts and culture had to say about this? What about Catholicism in its international dimension? Or economic? Has Catholicism shaped (been shaped by) austerity, for example? Are there transnational solidarities to be built in recovery from Catholicism? These and related questions will be considered. Topics will include:

- the complicit body
- the shameful subject
- instituting shame/shamed institutions
- rituals of recovery
- the epistemologies of Irish silence
- austere Ireland/Irish austerity
- razed Catholic

Proposals (300 words) by **January 7th** to Seán Kennedy (Saint Mary's U, Halifax) and Joseph Valente (SUNY Buffalo) at sean.kennedy@smu.ca

Image: "Alone of All Her Sex" (2018) by @knndysn