Preface

This volume contains empirical research results both on the professional and professionalized habitus in Religious Education and on the application of the habitus model in practice by means of the new method of “Professional Simulation”.

We originally presented these results in the book *Der religionspädagogische Habitus* (2017) and discussed it at a conference at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich with scientists and practitioners from different academic and professional contexts. The papers from this conference have been collected in the book *Habitusbildung durch professionelle Simulation* (2018) featuring Georg Langenhorst, University of Augsburg; Hans Mendl, University of Passau; Manfred Negele, University of Augsburg; Guiseppe Tacconi, University of Verona; Ursula Busley/Annette Webersberger, teacher-training, LMU München; Joachim Sailer, Institute of Religious Education, Diocese of Augsburg; Eva Riegger-Kuhn, Institute of Religious Education, Diocese of Augsburg; Stephan Häutle, catechist Munich; Anna-Maria Grimm, kindergarten pedagogy, Munich.

This volume, *The Professional Habitus in Religious Education*, is based on both books including new research results. In the first chapter Stefan Heil describes the professional habitus in Religious Education. In the second one, Manfred Riegger develops professionalized habitus formation in Religious Education. In chapter three we focus on teacher training and in chapter four the concept of Professional Simulation is presented. Chapter five delivers case studies on practical issues like contemporary challenges in teacher training by Professional Simulation and in empirical research on the habitus formation in Catholic schools. Based on these results, perspectives for further projects in the future are suggested in the conclusion of the book.
We finally wish to say thank you to the following persons and institutions who contributed to the emergence of this book in its present form, by supporting us by means of translating, editing or sponsoring: Marco Berthold (Gymnasium Markt Indersdorf), Thomas Häußner and Daniel Ross (Echter-Publishing, Würzburg), Anja Stichnoth (Institute of Religious Education, Würzburg) and the Diocese of Würzburg.

We hope our concepts and methods will help readers to understand teachers’ professional action in Religious Education and improve developing professional competences.

The Authors