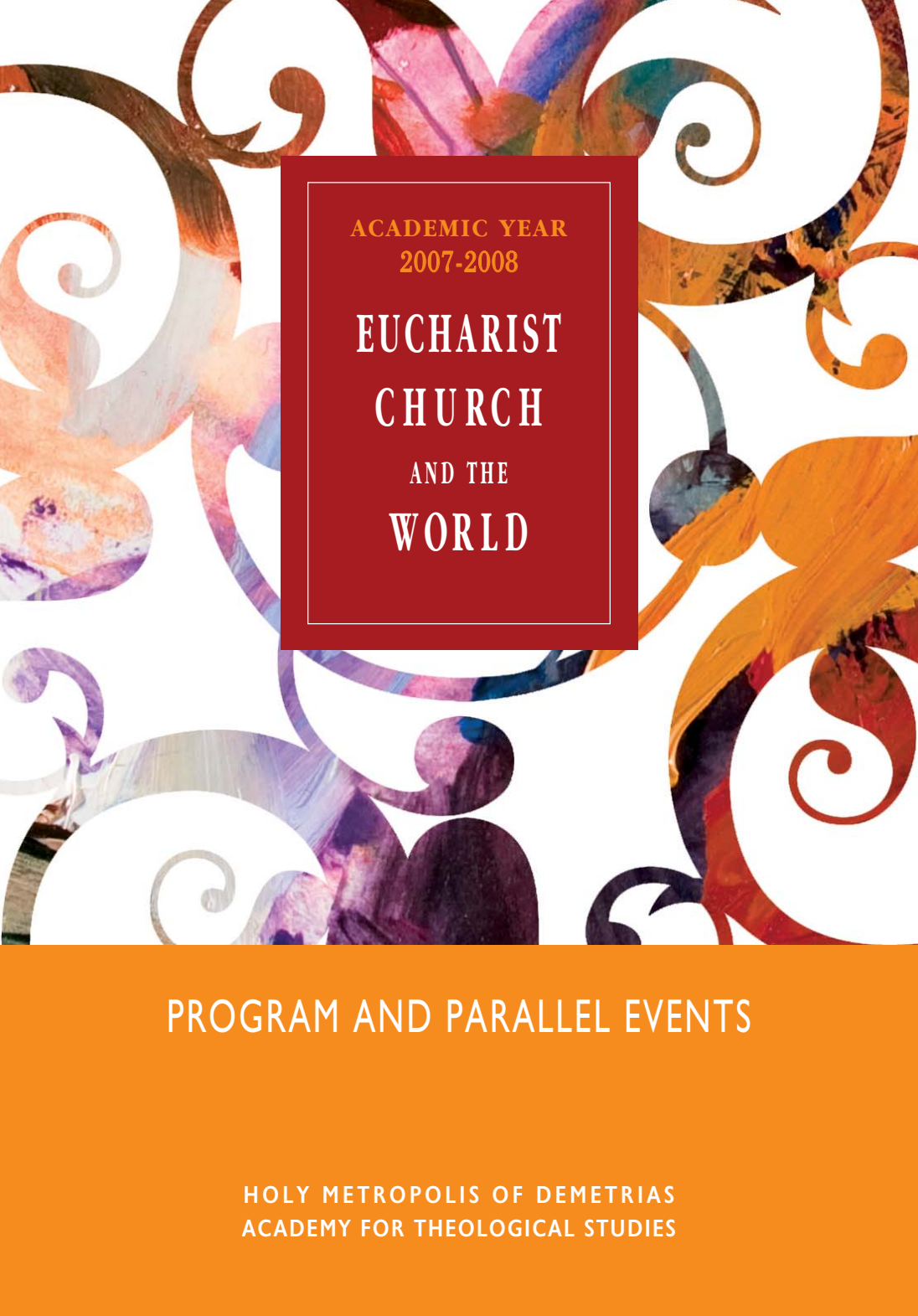




ACADEMIC YEAR
2007-2008

EUCHARIST
CHURCH
AND THE
WORLD

PROGRAM AND PARALLEL EVENTS

HOLY METROPOLIS OF DEMETRIAS
ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

LOCATION

Thessalia Conference Center, Melissiatika, Volos

You can participate in our meetings online through the radio station
"Orthodoxi Martyria" (104 FM), live on

www.acadimia.gr www.imd.radio.gr
and send your comments and questions to our e-mail (see below)

INFORMATION

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DR OLGA GRIZOPOULOU

DR ELENI KASSELOURI-HATZIVASSILIADI

PIGI KAZLARI

NIKOS NTONTOS

ANASTASIA VASSILIADOU

SECRETARIAT

CLAIRE NIKOLAOU

CHRISTOS PARISSIS

PUBLIC RELATIONS

NIKOS VARALIS

IN COLLABORATION WITH

The non-profit, non-governmental organization,
"Academy of Demetrias"



The Divine Eucharist -the Church's mystery and sacrament par excellence, which constitutes the Church and gathers to her the scattered people of God- was linked from very early on with the experience of a foretaste of the Eschaton and of a proleptic manifestation of the coming Kingdom since, the Church was considered to be an image of the Eschaton in History. The expectation of the Kingdom and the vision of another life far from injustice and division, decay and death have marked the theology and liturgical practice of the Church from the beginning. Later, this becomes embedded in the Orthodox iconographic tradition.

What distinguishes the Church from other religions and religious communities –what makes the Church truly the Church, to recall a central

teaching of His Eminence Metropolitan John (Zizioulas) of Pergamon— is not the confession of faith, moral perfection, or even the therapeutic method or psychological support, but the Divine Eucharist. This is not a sacramentalistic ritual or a display of individual religious piety. Nor is it an opportunity for an isolated individual or ruling “class” to use its special position in the celebration of the sacrament to exercise its authority and supremacy, to the detriment of the body of believers. On the contrary, the Divine Eucharist is a mystery of unity, fellowship and communion in the Body of Christ; a sacrament of equality and participation, of universal brotherhood and sisterhood with God, fellow humans and all creation. This is because in the Divine Liturgy and the Holy Eucharist all forms of bondage and hierarchy and all kinds of created and man-made divisions along the lines of gender, race, ethnicity, language, culture, social class and origin are made relative and are transcended. The oldest and most characteristic examples are provided by the well-known passages from the Acts of the Apostles (2:42-47, 4:32-37 and 6:1-6), which describe the worship and the life of the early Christian community in Jerusalem. Here, the Resurrection and a radical social transformation, the Eucharist and voluntary property sharing, a common Eucharistic meal and the distribution of food are all linked together. In its genuine expression and dimensions, the Holy Eucharist, despite being celebrated by hierarchs, actually does away with the hierarchic world and its structures and levels of domination, which reflect only the order of the fallen world. The Holy Eucharist becomes the “Liturgy after the Liturgy”, in the sense of its relationship with the sacrament of unity and radical social transformation. It also presupposes catholic participation, through the anaphora of the people, and a transcendence of the mediatory (Judaic) priesthood, which is replaced by a charismatic priesthood (of all the faithful), according to the perspective offered by the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Within this perspective, ecclesiastical functions and offices recover their lost Eucharistic and eschatological reference and foundation, since

they exist because of the Eucharist, which is celebrated with the people and not instead of the people. Ecclesiastical functions are first and foremost a liturgical ministry within the Body, and not offices raised above the Body and made autonomous from the Eucharistic/catholic gathering of the people, transforming them into positions of authority and creating a separate priestly “class”.

Eucharist and eschatology, along with catholicity and ecumenicity, constituted the identity of the Church and defined the consciousness of the early Christian communities. But what is the current ecclesiastical reality and how consistent is this with the early Church's ecclesial/Eucharistic consciousness? What is the relationship between ecclesiology and the Eucharist, between the mysteries/sacraments and the Eucharist, and to what degree does the Eucharist continue to have a cosmic and social dimension? What is the witness and what is the effect of the Eucharistic vision and ethos on today's fragmented and divided world, a world which now is additionally facing the imminent threat of an irreversible environmental catastrophe? And what about Eucharist and mission and Eucharist and ascetic discipline? And to what degree do the injunctions of the latter suppress catholic participation in the reality of the Eucharist?

These are the critical questions which will occupy the Academy for Theological Studies in this, its eighth series of seminars, under the general theme of: Eucharist, Church, and the World. The Academy will also, in parallel events, be looking at topics such as Theology and Literature (in cooperation with the journal *Nea Hestia*), The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement (in cooperation with the World Council of Churches), Theological Education: A Radical Reappraisal (in cooperation with the World Conference of Associations of Theological Institutes [WOCATI] and the WCC's Program of Ecumenical Theological Education), Meeting the Needs and Challenges of Religious Education Today: Improving Our Pedagogical Methods (Program of Continuing Education for Teachers of Religion), and more.

PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2008

18.30-19.00 From the Last Supper to Contemporary Liturgical Practice

DR GEORGE FILIAS, *Professor, Faculty of Theology, University of Athens*

19.00-19.30 Eucharist and Household in the New Testament: From Utopia to the Actual Overcoming of Social and Cultural Differences?

DR ELENI KASSELOURI-HATZIVASSILIADI, *Volos Academy for Theological Studies*

19.30-20.00 Coffee/tea break

20.00-21.00 Discussion

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008

18.30-19.00 Eucharist and the World

H. E. METROPOLITAN OF PERGAMON DR JOHN (ZIZIOULAS), *Member of the Academy of Athens, formerly Professor at King's College, Glasgow University, Edinburgh University and the University of Thessaloniki*

19.00-19.30 Eucharistic Ecclesiology in the Theological Dialogue Between the Orthodox and the Roman Catholic Church

Rev DR HERVÉ LEGRAND, *Professor Emeritus at the Institut Catholique de Paris,*

19.30-20.00 Coffee/tea break

20.00-21.00 Discussion



SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2008

- 18.30-19.00** The Eucharistic Constitution of the Sacraments
DR NENAND MILOSEVIC, *Professor, Faculty of Theology, University of Belgrade*
- 18.00-19.30** Eucharist and Asceticism, Eucharistic and Monastic Spirituality
THEOFILOS AMPATZIDIS, *MTh, Volos Academy for Theological Studies*
DR STAVROS YAGAZOGLU, *Advisor at the Athens Pedagogical Institute, teaching at the Greek Open University*
- 19.30-20.00** Coffee/tea break
- 20.00-21.00** Discussion

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2008

- 18.30-19.00** Eucharist as an Element of Inclusion and Unity in New Testament Ecclesiology
DR PETROS VASSILIADIS, *Dean of the Department of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, President of WOCATI*
DR DIMITRIOS PASSAKOS, *Board Member of the "Artos Zoes" Institute and Editorial Board Member of the Bulletin of Biblical Studies*
- 19.00-19.30** Eucharistic Ecclesiology and the Renewal of Orthodox Theology in the 20th Century: Fr Nicholas Afanassieff, Fr Alexander Schmemmann, and Metropolitan of Pergamon John (Zizioulas)
Rev DR GEORGIOS BASIOUDIS, *Rector, Holy Cross Orthodox Church, Mannheim (Germany)*



19.30-20.00 Coffee/tea break

20.00-21.00 Discussion

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2008

18.30-19.00 Eucharist and Oikoumene

Rev PAUL KOUMARIANOS, *PhD, Gregorian University, Rome*

19.00-19.30 Eucharist as Christian Witness: From the First
Eschatological Meals to the Contemporary Eucharistic
Vision

ANASTASIA VASSILIADOU, *MTh, Volos Academy
for Theological Studies*

19.30-20.00 Coffee/tea break

20.00-21.00 Discussion

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008

18.30-19.00 Eucharist and Mission

DR ATHANASIOS N. PAPATHANASIOU, *Editor-in-Chief of the
theological journal Synaxis*

19.00-19.30 Christians in Fellowship at Different Tables? The
Eucharist - A Crucial Issue in the Ecumenical Discourse

Rev DR DAGMAR HELLER, *Dean of Academic Affairs, Bossey
Ecumenical Institute (World Council of Churches)*

20.00-20.30 Coffee/tea break

20.30-21.00 Discussion



SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2008

- 18.30-19.00** Eucharist and Eschatology in Primitive Christianity
Rev DR JUSTIN TAYLOR, *Ecole Biblique de Jérusalem*
- 19.00-19.30** Confession, Ascesis and Participation in the Eucharist
Brother STAVROS (WINNER), *New Skete Monastery, Cambridge, New York*
- 19.30-20.00** Coffee/tea break
- 20.00-21.00** Discussion

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2008

- 18.30-19.00** The Eucharistic Epiclesis: An Ecumenical Bridge between East and West
Rev DR CESARE GIRAUDO, *Professor at the Pontificio Istituto Orientale (Rome)*
- 19.00-19.30** Eucharist and Liberation
H. E. Metropolitan of Byblos and Botrys (Mount Lebanon)
GEORGE (KHODR)
- 19.30-20.00** Coffee/tea break
- 20.00-21.00** Discussion

PARALLEL EVENTS

A) FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2007

Orthodox-Reformed Dialogue

Thessalia Conference Center, September 27-October 2, 2007

The tenth session of the International Theological Dialogue between the Orthodox Church and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches was held at the Volos Academy for Theological Studies of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, Greece. The general themes of this dialogue, which started officially in 1988, follow the articles of the Nicean-Constantinopolitan Creed, and are approached in light of the teachings of the Fathers of the Church as well as the confessions of the Reformed Churches. The main theme of the present session was “Eschatology”.

Monologue or Dialogue? Inter-religious Dialogue Meets Fundamentalism

Thessalia Conference Center, December 9-16, 2007

A training seminar on fundamentalism for young Christians and Muslims from Europe and the Middle East, organized by the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe (EYCE), in cooperation with the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) and the Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organizations (FEMYSO), with the support of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, as part of the “All Different-All Equal” European Youth Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation.



B) FROM JANUARY TO JUNE 2008

Theology and Literature II. From Belief to Disbelief, from the Absence to the Presence of God. Authors of the 20th Century

Thessalia Conference Center, February 8-9, 2008

Opening: Friday, February 8, 2008, 17:30

The conference is organized in collaboration with the literary journal *Nea Hestia*

* ON JAMES JOYCE

ARIS BERLIS

Writer, translator

* ON FRANZ KAFKA

SAVVAS MICHAEL

Writer

* ON SAMUEL BECKETT

DR SPIRIDOULA ATHANASOPOULOU-KYPRIOU

*Teaching at the Greek
Open University*

* ON GEORGE BATAILLE

ANTONIS ZERVAS

Writer, literary critic

* ON RAINER MARIA RILKE

KOSTAS KOUTSOURELIS

Writer, essayist

* ON ISAAK BASHEVIS SINGER

STAVROS ZOUMBOULAKIS

*Director of the literary journal
Nea Hestia*

* ON HEINRICH BELL

DR KOSTAS ANDROULIDAKIS

*Professor, Faculty of Philosophy
of the University of Crete*

* ON T. S. ELIOT

CHRISTOS MARSELLOS

*MPhil, University of Paris-Sorbonne,
translator*

* ON MARCEL PROUST

DR PANAGIOTIS POULOS

*Assistant Professor of Philosophy and
Aesthetics, Athens School of Fine Arts*

* ON MIGUEL DE UNAMUNO

DR DIMITRIS AGELIS

Poet

* ON PAUL CLAUDEL

THANASIS CHATZOPOULOS, *Poet*

* ON W. B. YEATS

Rev DR LAMPROS KAMPERIDIS

*Teaching at Concordia University and
Université de Sherbrooke, Montreal*

*** ON JOHN STEINBECK**

CHRISTOPHOROS ARVANITIS
*PhD in the Sociology
of Christianity and Religion*

*** ON ANNA ACHMATOVA**

GEORGE CHAVOUTSAS
Poet

*** ON THOMAS MANN**

DR ILIAS PAPAGIANOPOULOS
Teaching at Panteion University

*** ON ANDRÉ GIDE**

DR IOANNIS DIMITRAKAKIS
Professor of Literature

*** ON ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN**

DR ANTONIS SMYRNAIOS
*School Advisor for Primary Education,
teaching at the University of Thessalia*

*** ON FLANNERY O'CONNOR**

Rev EVANGELOS GANAS
*Theologian, Mechanical Engineer,
Rector of St. Meletios Greek
Orthodox Church, Athens*

*** ON GABRIEL MATZNEFF**

PANTELIS KALAITZIDIS
*Director of Volos Academy for
Theological Studies, Associate at the
Athens Pedagogical Institute*

The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, and Future

Volos, June 8-12, 2008

A meeting of Orthodox women as part of the “Women in Church and Society” program of the World Council of Churches. The purpose of this meeting is to evaluate the participation of Orthodox women in the ecumenical movement past and present, and to plan and organize future initiatives and activities which will strengthen the presence of Orthodox women in the ecumenical context.

*** In order to participate in this meeting, you need to contact the Academy's secretariat in advance.**

Theological Education: A Radical Reappraisal

For more information on the program of this congress, please visit our website or contact our office.

On June 5-6, 2008, Volos Academy for Theological Studies will host an international congress on theological education, organized by the World Conference of Associations of Theological Institutions (WOCATI) in collaboration with the Program on Ecumenical Theological Education (ETE) of the World Council of Churches (WCC).

Meeting the Needs and Challenges of Religious Education Today: Improving Our Pedagogical Methods

Training program for teachers of religious education. Four training courses at Thessalia Conference Center (Volos). March 22, April 5, April 12 and May 10, 2008, 9:00 - 14:00

TRAINERS: DR OLGA GRIZOPOULOU, *author of textbooks for religious education* * PIGI KAZLARI, *former school advisor for secondary school religious educators, author of textbooks for religious education* * APOSTOLOS BARLOS, *MTh, Director of the School for Adults in Larissa, author of textbooks for religious education* * VASO GOGOU, *BA in Theology and Literature, Teacher of Cultural and Aesthetic Education at the School for Adults in Larissa*

The number of participants is limited.

For information and applications:

www.acadimia.gr, info@acadimia.gr, xrparissi@acadimia.gr,

Tel.: +30 24210 93572, +30 24210 93573, +30 697 230 5043, fax: +30 24210 77115

Seminars and Lectures in Bioethics

More information will be available after March 15, 2008, on the Academy's website: www.acadimia.gr

ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

The Academy for Theological Studies of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias functions as an open forum of thought and dialogue between the Orthodox Church and the broader scholarly community of intellectuals worldwide. In its effort to foster interdisciplinary and inter-religious understanding, the Academy has been organizing a series of studies, international seminars, conferences, round tables and publications. In order to meet this objective, the Academy for Theological Studies has collaborated with numerous other institutions, jointly addressing problems and challenges of our time, in a spirit of respect for each other's differences. Thus the Academy has collaborated with institutions like the Boston Theological Institute, the French Institute in Athens, Drury University (USA), the Bossey Ecumenical Institute and the World Council of Churches, the Department of Orthodox Theology of the University of Munich, the Athens Pedagogical Institute, the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy, the Association of Orthodox Women in Europe, the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC), the Ecumenical Youth Council of Europe (EYCE), the Forum of European Muslim Youth Student Organizations (FEMYSO), the Municipal Center of History in Volos, and a number of journals, academic periodicals and publication houses. As a result of this scholarly activity, the Diocese of Demetrias and the city of Volos have become an international meeting place for encounter and dialogue.

Among the topics addressed by the Academy for Theological Studies in previous academic years were: "Church and Eschatology", "Orthodox Christianity and Modernity", "Islam and Fundamentalism-Orthodox Christianity and Globalization", "Orthodox Christianity and Otherness", "Gender and Religion-The Place of Women in the Church", "Women and Religion: The Problem of Violence and Fundamentalism", "Theology and Literature", "Theology and Modern Church Architecture", "Orthodox Christianity and Education-Religious Instruction as a Lesson in Identity and Culture", "Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism", "Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life", "Critical Approaches to the Theology of the '60s", "Church and State", "Orthodox Christianity and Islam-Islam in Europe",

“Orthodox Christianity, Tradition and History”, “Wittgenstein and Apophatic Theology”, “Forgiveness, Reconciliation and Peace”, and more.

The scholarly fruits of these conferences have been published under the following titles: Church and Eschatology, Athens (Kastaniotis Publications), 2003; Islam and Fundamentalism-Orthodox Christianity and Globalization, Athens (Indiktos Publications) 2004; Gender and Religion. The Role of Women in the Church, Athens (Indiktos Publications) 2004; Religion and Literature (Parts I and II) in the literary journal *Nea Hestia* (March 2004 and March 2005, respectively); Orthodox Theology in the 21st century, by Bishop of Diokleia Kallistos Ware, Senior Lecturer at Oxford University, (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2005; Prolegomena on Orthodox Christianity and Modernity, by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2007; Orthodox Christianity and Modernity (collected works), (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2007; Critical Approaches to the Theology of the 60's (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2008. Forthcoming publications of papers presented at our Academy's previous conferences include: Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism, Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life, and Church and State, among others.

For the academic year 2007-2008, the Academy for Theological Studies, keeping with its tradition of presenting cutting-edge scholarly conferences, is addressing the urgent issue of “Eucharist, Church, and the World” which is at the heart of current





theological and ecclesiastical discussions, not only within Orthodox Christianity but in the broader inter-Christian context. The Eucharist is the foremost sacrament of the Church, the sacrament which constitutes the Church and reveals her eschatological identity; it is the sacrament which reveals the Church as the “body of Christ”, the “people of God”, and the “communion of the Holy Spirit”. The Academy will sponsor a series of parallel events, including conferences, interdisciplinary workshops and seminars, which will address the following topics: Theology and Literature: Authors of the 20th Century (in collaboration with the literary journal *Nea Hestia*), The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, and Future (in collaboration with the “Women in Church and Society” program of the WCC), Theological Education: A Radical Reappraisal (in collaboration with WOCATI and the Program of Ecumenical Theological Education of the WCC), Meeting the Needs and Challenges of Religious Education Today: Improving our Pedagogical Methods, and Seminars and Lectures in Bioethics, among others.

Finally, the Academy for Theological Studies, in collaboration with the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias and the Thessalia Conference, is now establishing an online digital Orthodox theological library, with free access to books, scholarly reviews and periodicals, collected works, monographs and theological essays, as well as links to other online digital libraries and websites. Abstracts of all this material will be available in Greek, English, and French.

By Indiktos Publications:

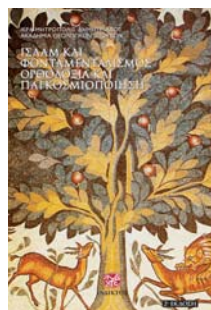
**BISHOP OF DIOKLEIA KALLISTOS WARE,
ORTHODOX THEOLOGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

While in the 20th century the main problem of theology was the ecclesiological one, that is the issue of the identity and nature of the Church, in the 21st century -due to rapid and startling developments in the area of biotechnology, genetic engineering and computer science- the major problem that orthodox theology will deal with is anthropology.



**ISLAM & FUNDAMENTALISM - ORTHODOX
CHRISTIANITY AND GLOBALIZATION
(COLLECTED WORK)**

The rise of political Islam and the reactions of many Orthodox Christians against globalization raise the possibility that despite their significant differences, neither Islam nor Orthodox Christianity, which both find themselves today facing the dilemma “fundamentalism or globalization”, have in fact solved (each for different reasons) the issue of their relationship with modernity.



**GENDER AND RELIGION -
THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH
(COLLECTED WORK)**

A serious theological study -and basically a self-critical discussion- about the whole range of standpoints of orthodox theology and tradition on the critical issue of the place of women in the Church: from the radical questioning and overcoming of any kind of discrimination (including that based on gender) to the undermining and hierarchical subversion of women to men.



PUBLICATIONS OF THE ACADEMY



1. ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY & MODERNITY (COLLECTED WORK)

2. PROLEGOMENA: PANTELIS KALAITZIDIS

Did Orthodox Christianity stop before modernity? Has Orthodox Christianity come to terms with modernity and its consequences at the social and cultural level? Are human rights compatible with the orthodox ethos and to what extent is the emergence of the subject necessarily linked to individualism and negation of communion of persons? Are Orthodox Christianity and Enlightenment necessarily mutually exclusive? What does the Church have to say in the postmodern and multicultural age? What is Orthodox Christianity after all: a religion of the past and a struggle to preserve “historical privileges” or a way of life for the present and the future?

By Kastaniotis Publications:

CHURCH AND ESCHATOLOGY (COLLECTED WORK)

By identifying the Church with the “already”, the realised, and undermining the eschatological dimension, the “not yet”, that which has not yet been realised, the vision of the coming Kingdom of God and the dynamic transformation and renovation of the whole of creation is neglected in favour of an idealised version of Orthodoxy which is trapped in the past.

Literary journal *Nea Hestia*:

RELIGION AND LITERATURE

(1st and 2nd part, March 2004, and March 2005 respectively)

- * Forthcoming publications of papers presented in previous conferences in our Academy include *Critical Approaches to the Theology of the 60's*, *Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism*, *The participation of Laity in Church life*, *Church and State*, etc.