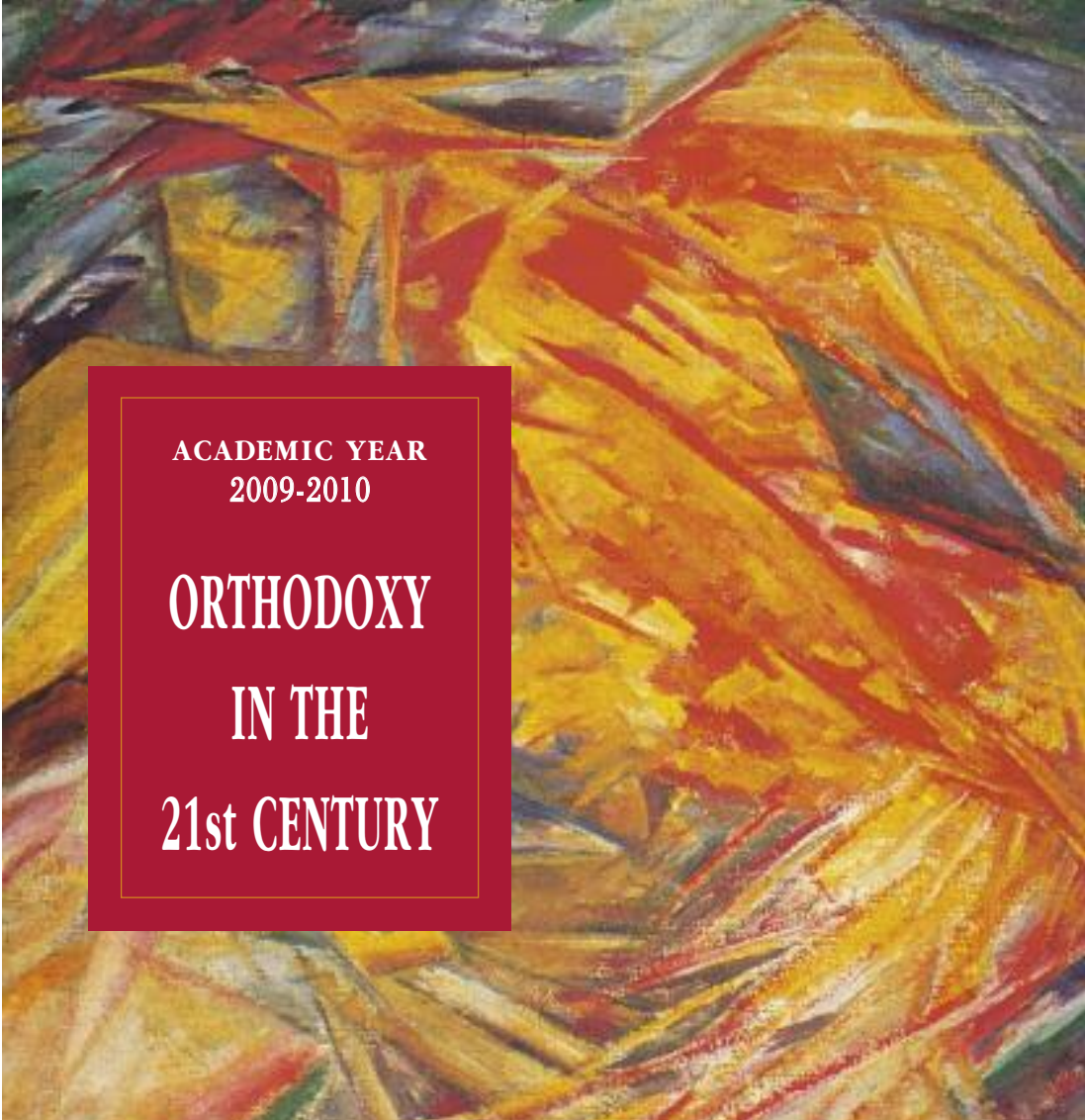




ACADEMIC YEAR
2009-2010

ORTHODOXY
IN THE
21st CENTURY

PROGRAM AND PARALLEL EVENTS



HOLY METROPOLIS OF DEMETRIAS
ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

LOCATION:

Thessalia Conference Center
Melissatika, Volos, Greece

You can participate in our meetings online through the Radio Station
“Orthodoxi Martyria” (104 FM), live on www.acadimia.gr, www.imdradio.gr
sending your comments and questions to our e-mail (see below)

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The non-profit, non-governmental organization, “Academy of Demetrias”



The 20th century was, for Orthodoxy, a period of significant change and upheaval. With the rise of the ecumenical movement, Orthodox theology, particularly within the framework of Orthodox Diaspora, emerged, for the first time, from its introversion and confessional isolation and entered into dialogue with the other major Christian traditions, as well as the challenges of the modern world. This promising process of Orthodox renewal was closely connected to the so-called “neo-patristic synthesis” and noted theological figures such as Fr. Georges Florovsky, Vladimir Lossky, Paul Evdokimov, Fr. Nicholas Afanasiev, Fr. Dumitru Staniloae, Fr. Justin Popovic, Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, Fr. John Meyendorff, and Olivier Clément, as well as the lesser-known contributions of theologians and philosophers of the Diaspora, such as Fr. Sergei Bulgakov and Nikolai Berdyaev. In addition to these figures, one would do well to also remember the contributions, in recent years, of Greek theologians such as Nikos Nisiotis, Savvas Agouridis, Fr. John Romanidis, His Eminence Metropolitan of Pergamon John Zizioulas, Christos Yannaras, Panayiotis Nellas, Fr. Vasilios Gondikakis, Nikos Matsoukas, and George Mantzaridis, among others.

However, in an era of rapid change —i.e. late modernity, globalization, and multi-culturalism—, Orthodoxy is today confronted with radically new challenges that were hitherto unknown and completely different from what it has experienced in its past—challenges that require reflection and creative thinking. Despite the attempt at openness and renewal that began to emerge in the last century, Orthodox theology continues to be virtually absent from the modern theological arena and the international theological discussion, while the phobic reaction and conservative defensiveness of some distinguished Orthodox theologians, which can be observed in response to the challenges of globalization and multi-culturalism, results in an inability or even refusal to engage and entertain the questions that are posed by the modern world. With a few notable exceptions, Orthodox theology continues to avoid a critical and creative encounter with the most significant trends in western theological and philosophical thought, such as the historical-critical method in biblical studies, dialectical theology, existential and hermeneutical theology, the “theological turn” of phenomenology, liberation theologies, feminist theologies—in a word, with the theological expressions and ideas of our time. Meanwhile, it is often unable to overcome an outdated ethnocentric way of thinking about its ecclesiology and unity.

Orthodox theology has often been described as traditional in referring to its basic source of inspiration and foundation, viz. its rich patristic tradition, which often tends to be absolutized into a kind of unique or even infallible criterion of truth and “orthodoxy.” We thus see Orthodox theology bound to methods and principles that require a completely different worldview (such as, for example, that of the Byzantine era), while its language and way of thinking are connected largely if not exclusively with the categories of thought produced by Greek philosophy and ontology.

These comments serve as an introduction to the crucially important question of whether and to what extent Orthodoxy can, while remaining faithful to its rich patristic tradition, engage in dialogue with—or, rather, become incarnate in—the post-modern world of the 21st century, following the example of its incarnate Lord, and thus assuming in practice the theological, anthropological, and histor-

ical/cultural consequences that result from the Incarnation. In other words, the central question to be posed is whether it is inherently possible for Orthodox theology to function not only as a traditional theology but also as a contextual one. This question, however, cannot be answered easily or unequivocally. It requires Orthodox theology to undertake serious and, above all, sincere work, devoid of prejudice, in order to highlight once again those things that contributed to the formulation of the patristic tradition which, in its time, was more contextual than traditional.

Unfortunately, it is not well understood today that the rich patristic tradition—which often is used as an ideological excuse to mask the theological shortcomings of our time—was never a monolithic, ahistorical, and unchanging construct, but was constantly being renewed by the grace of the Spirit, engaging and sanctifying the cultural, social, and historical context of each time. This dynamic seems today to have abated or even been obscured, with the result that theology appears usually as a complete and closed system that comes from without, or is even imposed, and that attempts—with a methodology, language, and way of thinking that belong to irrevocably bygone eras—to offer to the world today the “good news” about the salvation of creation and man. Thus, unaware of its crisis of self-consciousness, the Church continues to preach the word of God in terms borrowed from agrarian pre-modern society. Liturgical and theological symbolisms, the rhetorical models of preaching, the structures of church administration, the Church’s anthropological views and ossified perceptions about the relationship between the sacred and the profane, religion and politics, the Church and society are all connected with this kind of pre-modern society. Orthodoxy everywhere, Greek-speaking or otherwise, still continues to employ classical Greek philosophical categories in its standard theological expression, which, in the Greek case, frequently assumes a blatantly ideological character, as if classical Greek thought were still the predominant philosophy in the world today, or as if there were still room for nostalgia about the glorious “Helleno-Christianity” of the past or ethnocentric fantasies. As a consequence of all this, the Church and theology, remaining often on the fringes of modern developments,

demonstrate unease if not outright hostility to any kind of involvement in the public sphere as part of an equal and open society, instead hiding behind specious arguments from bygone eras.

Keeping in mind this problematic reality, we ought to reflect on this and ask ourselves: can Orthodox theology, at the beginning of this new millennium, continue to preach Jesus Christ "and him crucified" and resurrected (cf. 1 Cor 1:23; 2:2) to contemporary man, remaining faithful to its sources and to its experience of and orientation toward the Holy Spirit, while also ministering to the existential and spiritual needs of the people of our time and not an idealistic state of affairs held over from another time? Will the Church dare to incarnate in our post-modern world the eternal truth of the Gospel, assuming critically and creatively the very flesh of the post-modern world, and not some distant or even illusory "Christian" society? Will it attempt to theologically receive and welcome otherness or will it persist in a fundamentalistic and polemical understanding of its tradition, even to the point of refusing to recognize elements of Christianity and eclesiality in the Christian traditions of the West?

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies will address these issues and the above questions in a series of events that will culminate in an international conference, organized in collaboration with other Institutions, in Volos from 3-6 June on the topic: "Neo-Patristic Synthesis or 'Post-Patristic' Theology: Can Orthodox Theology be Contextual?" In parallel, the Volos Academy will also organize, from February to July 2010, in Greece and abroad, roundtable discussions, public events, new book presentations, seminars, and conferences on topics such as "The Place of Religion in the Public Sphere," "Refugees, Immigrants, and the Church," "The Shifting Versions of Hellenic-Christianity (19th-20th centuries)", "The Renewal of Contemporary Greek Theology: From the Generation of the '60s to the Challenges of Today," and "Issues of Renewal and Reformation facing the Orthodox Church," while also continuing training seminars for religious teachers concerning the place of classes on religion and its curriculum in the new cultural and social environment.



1a

The Place of Religion in the Public Sphere

[Roundtable Discussion]

Participants:

Dr Effie Fokas, Director of the Forum on Religion, London School of Economics

Dr Antonis Manitakis, Professor at the Law School, University of Thessaloniki

Dr Apostolos Papatolias, Prefect of Magnesia

Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Teaching at the Hellenic Open University

Moderator:

Dr Nikos Mouzelis, Professor Emeritus, London School of Economics

This Roundtable discussion is organized in collaboration with the newspaper of Volos "Thessalia", the Prefecture of Magnesia and the Municipal Center for History and Documentation of the City of Volos

Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

"Achilleion" (Pedestrian Zone, Koumoundourou & Iasonos St.)

1b

The same event will be repeated at the bookstore "IANOS" in Athens, Friday, May 14, 2010, 8:30 p.m.

Participants:

Dr Effie Fokas, Director of the Forum on Religion, London School of Economics

Dr Andreas Pantazopoulos, Assistant Professor at the University of Thessaloniki

LECTURES-ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS NEW BOOK PRESENTATIONS

Dr Nikos Kotzias, *Professor at Peiraeus University*

Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis, *Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Teaching at the Hellenic Open University*

Moderator:

Dr Nikos Mouzelis, *Professor Emeritus, London School of Economics*

2

Did Orthodoxy Come to a Halt Before Modernity?

Public lecture by **Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis** at the Babes-Bolyai-University Cluj-Napoca (Romania) on the occasion of the publication of the Romanian translation of his book “Orthodoxy and Modernity – Prolegomena” by Eikon Publications, Theologia Socialis Series.

Roundtable participants:

Dr Radu Preda, *Associate Professor of Orthodox Social Theology at the Babes-Bolyai-University, Cluj-Napoca and Director of the Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional, Inter-Religious Studies (INTER)*

Florin Catalin-Ghit, *Master in Theology, Co-Editor of the Theological Journal “Tabor”, Cluj, Romania*

Monday, May 3, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Orthodox Theological Faculty, Babes-Bolyai-University Cluj-Napoca

This event is organized in collaboration with the Orthodox Theological Faculty of the Babes-Bolyai-University Cluj-Napoca, INTER Institute and Eikon Publications.

3_a

Stem Cell Research: Ethical and Theological Reflections

[Roundtable Discussion]

A presentation of the Bioethics Program, in collaboration with the “Project on Faith, Science, Technology and Ethics”, World Council of Churches and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Roundtable participants:

Dr Vasilios Fanaras, *Project Consultant on Bioethics, Volos Academy for Theological Studies*

Dr Ioan Chirila, *Dean of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology at the Babes-Bolyai-University, Cluj-Napoca, Director of the Bioethics Center*

Dr Stefan Iloaie, *Associate Professor of Orthodox Social Theology at the Babes-Bolyai-University, Cluj-Napoca*

Dr Sebastian Moldovan, *Associate Professor of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology at the Sibiu University*

Dr Radu Preda, *Associate Professor of Orthodox Social Theology at the Babes-Bolyai-University, Cluj-Napoca, Director of INTER*

Tuesday, May 4, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Orthodox Theological Faculty at the Babes-Bolyai-University, Cluj-Napoca

The event is organized in collaboration with the Bioethics Center and the Orthodox Theological Faculty at the Babes-Bolyai-University, Cluj-Napoca

3_b

The same event will be repeated in Sofia (Bulgaria) in cooperation with the Bulgarian Center for Bioethics and the Sofia University

For more information on the participants, the program, and the event location, please visit our website: www.acadimia.gr

Book Presentation

4

**Turmoil in Postwar Theology:
The 'Theology of the '60s'**

(Proceedings of the conference which was held by the Volos Academy in collaboration with the theological journal *Synaxis*), Indiktos Publications, Athens, 2009

The volume will be presented by:

Marcus Bolaris, *Deputy Minister of Economy*

Dr Antonis Manidakis, *Professor at the School of Law, University of Thessaloniki*

Dr Ioannis Kourembeles, *Assistant Professor at the School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki*

LECTURES-ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS NEW BOOK PRESENTATIONS

Rev. Konstantinos Nevrokoplis, *Graduate in Theology, priest of the Ascension of Christ Greek Orthodox Church, Thessaloniki*

Introduction and Moderation:

Dr Athanassios N. Papathanassiou, *Editor-in-Chief of the Theological Journal Synaxis*

Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis, *Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies*

Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:30 p.m.,

«IANOS» Bookstores, Thessaloniki

The event is organized in collaboration with the journal *Synaxis* and “Indiktos” publications

5

Refugees, Immigrants, and the Church

[Roundtable]

Participants:

Rev Theodoros Batakas, *priest of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Volos, Director of “The Crucified,” The Association of Solidarity for Prisoners*

Panagiotis Zarifis, *Master in Political Sciences, Executive Secretary of the State immigration policy*

Dr Antonios Papantoniou, *Director of the Center for the Repatriated and Immigrants, and Ecumenical Program of Refugees for the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece*

Nikos Varalis, *Author-journalist, Manager of the radio station “Orthodox Witness” of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias*

Tuesday, May 18, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Cultural center of the Municipality of Almyros

This event is organized in collaboration with the Municipality of Almyros



1

Shifting Versions of Helleno-Christianity (19th-20th Centuries)

March 12-14, 2010

Opening: Friday, March 12, 2010, 5:30 p.m.

Close: Sunday, March 14, 2010, 1:30 p.m.

“Achilleion” (Pedestrian Zone, Koumoundourou & Iasonos St.)

The conference is organized in collaboration with the Department of History-Archeology and Social Anthropology of the University of Thessaly, the Municipal Center of History of the City of Volos and the literary journal *Nea Hestia*

Dr Dimitri Kyrtatas, Professor at the University of Thessaly, Volos
Neo-Hellenic Christianity: Introductory remarks

Dr Paraskevas Matalas, Independent Scholar
Scenes from Helleno-Christianity

Dr Paris Gounaridis, Professor at the University of Thessaly, Volos
*Spyridon Zambelios and Constantine Paparrigopoulos
on the Problem of Church Schism*

Dr Angelos Giannakopoulos, Teaching at the University of
Konstanz, Germany

*The Greek Theological Brotherhoods in Light of the Theory of
Social Movements: The Social, Political, and Financial Prerequisites
for Their Establishment in Early 20th Century Greek Society*



Dr Chrysostomos Stamoulis, Associate Professor at the School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki

The Desire and Call for a Better Future: Preliminary Remarks on Alexander Tsirintanis' Christian Civilization

Dr Vasilios Makrides, Professor at the School of Theology, University of Erfurt, Germany

The Helleno-Christianity of Alexander Tsirintanis in the context of the European ideologico-political fermentations of his era

Rev Evangelos Ganas, Graduate of Theology, Mechanical Engineer, Priest of St Meletios Greek Orthodox Church, Athens

Helleno-Christianity as a Polemical Reaction in Service of the Search for Identity: Old and New Cases

Dr Niki Papageorgiou, Assistant Professor at the School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki

Religious Discourse and National Ideology: The Appropriation of an Identity

Dr Yorgos Zographidis, Assistant Professor at the School of Philosophy, University of Thessaloniki

Greeks, Christians, Byzantines, and, at Long Last, Europeans: The Incorporation and Use of Byzantine Art in Modern Greece

Dr Demetrios Stamatopoulos, Assistant Professor at the School of Balkan, Slavic, and Eastern Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki

"Weeping by Command": Helleno-Christianity from the Viewpoint of the Empire

Dr Sia Anagnostopoulou, Professor at the Panteion University of Athens

The Authority of the Patriarchate of Constantinople: Broader than "the Authority of the Kings"?

The Critical Years (1919-1922)

Dr Polycarpus Karamouzis, Assistant Professor at the Aegean University, Rhodes

Helleno-Christianity as the Prevailing Politico-Religious

Concept of Hellenism: From the Intelligentsia to the Anti-Communist Ideology

Dr Nektaria Klapaki, Teaching at the University of Thessaly, Volos

Shifting Versions of the Helleno-Christian Ideological Construct in Romantic Greek Prose (1830-1880)

Stavros Zoumboulakis, Director of the literary journal *Nea Hestia*

Hellenism and Christianity in

Alexander Papadiamantis' "The Gypsy Girl"

Dr Spyridoula Athanasopoulou-Kypriou, Teaching at the Hellenic Open University

The Prevailing, Normative Vision of Helleno-Christianity and the Overlooked, Suffering "Helleno-Christianity" of the Left, as Expounded in the Texts from 1940-1950

Dr Antonis Liakos, Professor at the University of Athens
"Homeland as the Copy of Earthly Paradise":

Eschatology and National Ideology

Dr Nikitas Siniosoglou, British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow

Aristotelian Philosophy and Apophaticism:

the Late Byzantine Appropriation of Aristotle and

Contemporary Forms of Helleno-Christianity

Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Teaching at the Hellenic Open University

The Theory of the Uninterrupted Continuity of Hellenic Thought from Heraclitus to Gregory Palamas: A Neo-Orthodox Version of Helleno-Christian Continuity

On Friday, March 12, 2010,

His Eminence Metropolitan **Ignatius** of Demetrias will preside at the Salutations ("Chairetismoι") at 9:00 p.m. at the Ascension of Christ Church, Volos

2

The Renewal of Contemporary Greek Theology: From the Generation of the '60s to the Challenges of Today

International Conference in French and English,
Paris, April 15-16, 2010

Opening: Thursday April 15, 2010, 9:30 a.m.,
Istina Institute, 45 Rue de Glacière, 75013, Paris

2nd day of the Conference: Friday, April 16, 2010 9.30 a.m.
St. Sergius Institute, 93 Rue de Crimée, 75019, Paris

Dr Michel Stavrou, Professor of Dogmatics at the St. Sergius
Institute of Orthodox Theology, Paris, and

Theophilos Abatzidis, Master in Theology

*Modern Greek Orthodoxy and the Challenges of Contemporary
Theology* [in French]

Rev Dr Vasilios Thermos, Theologian and Child Psychiatrist

Spirituality Between Institution and Charisma:

Reflections on the Theology of Fr. John Romanidis

Dr Konstantinos Agoras, Assistant Professor
at the Hellenic Open University

John Zizioulas: A Eucharistic Hermeneutic in Theology [in French]

Rev Dr Hervé Legrand, Professor Emeritus
at the Institut Catholique de Paris

*The Reception of the Ecclesiology of John Zizioulas in
Contemporary Roman Catholic Theology* [in French]

Sotiris Gounelas, Author and poet

*Nikos Nisiotis, Panagiotis Nellas and the Greek Theological
Generation of the '60s* [in French]

Rev Dr Nicholas Loudovikos, Professor at the Ecclesiastical Academy
of Thessaloniki and Visiting Lecturer at the Orthodox Institute in Cambridge

Eros as a Way of Theology and Freedom.

Notes on the Theology of the Person [in French]

Stavros Zouboulakis, Director of the literary journal *Nea Hestia*

*The Theology of Christos Yannaras and the Rejection of
Moralism* [in French]



Dr Miltiadis Konstantinou, Professor at the School of Theology,
University of Thessaloniki

Biblical Studies and the 'Theology of the '60s''

Dr Thanasis Papathanasiou, Editor in chief of the theological
journal *Synaxis*

*The "Generation of the '60s" and the Issue of Mission: Mistrust,
Creativity, and Embarrassment*

Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for
Theological Studies

*The Discovery of Hellenism and Theological Anti-Westernism in
Texts by Greek Theologians of the Generation of the '60s: Fr John
Romanidis, Fr Basil Gondikakis, Christos Yannaras [in French]*

Dr Stavros Yangazoglou, Advisor at the Pedagogical Institute,
Director of the journal *Theologia*

*Eucharistic Ecclesiology and Monastic Spirituality in
Contemporary Greek Orthodox Theology [in French]*

Dr Dimitrios Moschos, Lecturer at the School of Theology,
University of Athens

Theology and Politics: The Lost Opportunity of the Generation of '60s

Dr Haralambos Ventis, Member of the Academic Team of the
Volos Academy for Theological Studies

*Faltering Steps and Hopeful Perspectives in the Trajectory of
Contemporary Greek Theology after the '60s*

The Conference is organized in collaboration with the journal *Istina*, the Institute
of Orthodox Theology "St. Sergius" (Paris) and the journal *Contacts*

Communication Sponsor: www.orthodoxie.com

3

3rd International Conference of the Society of Oriental Liturgy (SOL)

May 26-30, 2010, Thessalia Conference Center, Melissiatika, Volos

The conference is organized by the Society of Oriental Liturgy (SOL), in collaboration with the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies. Fifty or more liturgists of international reputation will participate in this event, presenting their recent research.

This conference is intended for the members of SOL and specialists in oriental liturgy.

In order for others to participate, prior communication with the secretary's office at the Volos Academy is required. Tel. +30-24210 93551, 93572, e-mail: info@acadimia.gr

4

Neo-Patristic Synthesis or Post-Patristic Theology: Can Orthodox Theology Be Contextual?

June 3-6, 2010, Thessalia Conference Center, Melissiatika, Volos
International Conference
(with simultaneous translation in Greek and English)

Metropolitan of Pergamon Dr John Zizioulas, *Member of the Academy of Athens, Ecumenical Patriarchate*

Actuality and Temporality of the Neo-Patristic Synthesis

Archbishop Dr Hilarion Alfeyev of Volokolamsk, *Chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate Department for External Church Relations*

Orthodox Tradition and Contextual Theology

Dr Marcus Plested, *Director of Studies at the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge, U.K.*

The Emergence of the Neo-Patristic Synthesis: Content, Challenges and Limits

Rev Dr Pavel L. Gavriluk, Associate Professor at the University of St. Thomas, Minnesota, USA, Visiting Professor at Harvard Divinity School
Florovsky's Christian Hellenism: A Critical Evaluation

Rev Dr John Behr, Dean of St. Vladimir's Theological Seminary, New York

Going Beyond Neo-Patristic Synthesis

Dr George Martzelos, Professor at the School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki,

The Role of Contextual Theology in Orthodox Tradition

Dr. Assaad Elias Kattan, Director of the Center for Religious Studies and Chair of Orthodox Theology, University of Münster, Germany

Essentialism Reconsidered: The Myth of a Non-Hermeneutical Approach to Orthodox Tradition

Rev Dr Vladan Pericic, Professor of Patrology, Former Dean of the Theological Faculty of the University of Belgrade

Liturgical Theology as Contextual Theology in the Patristic Era and Today

Dr John Fotopoulos, Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Saint Mary's College, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA

Orthodox Theology and the Historical-Critical Method

Dr Daniel Ayuch, Associate Professor at St. John of Damascus Orthodox Theological Institute of University of Balamand, Lebanon

The Relationship Between the Biblical and Theological Disciplines

Dr Monica Herghelegiu, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Theology, University of Tübingen, Germany

The Hierarchical Structure of the Church: Canonical and Biblical Fundaments from the Perspective of Contextual Theology

Dr George Demacopoulos, Associate Professor of Theology, Co-Founding Director, Orthodox Christian Studies Program of Fordham University, New York

History, Post-Colonial Theory, and Some New Possibilities for Retrieving the Theological Past



Rev Dr Demetrios Bathrellos, Visiting Lecturer at the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge, Priest of the Aghia Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, Drafi, Attica, Greece

Systematic Theology as a New Form of Orthodox Theology

Dr Radu Preda, Associate Professor of Social Theology, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Director of the Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional, Inter-Religious Studies (INTER)

Orthodox Social Theology as Contextual Theology

Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou, Associate Professor of Theology, Co-Founding Director, Orthodox Christian Studies Program of Fordham University, New York

Orthodox Liberalism:

Political Theology after the Empires

Dr Peter Bouteneff, Associate Professor at St Vladimir's Theological Seminary, New York

Liberation Theologies: Challenges for Contemporary Orthodoxy from Contextual Theologies

Dr Eleni Kasselouri-Hatzivassiliadi, Teaching at the Hellenic Open University, Member of the Academic Team of Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Feminist Theology and its Contextuality: A Challenge or an Opportunity for Orthodox Theology?

Dr Mihail Neamtu, Senior Fellow of CADI/Eleutheria, Romania

Ethno-Theology as a Particular Case of Contextual Theology

Rev Dr John Panteleimon Manousakis, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the College of Holy Cross, Worcester, USA

God: Being and Event. The Intersection between Theology and Ontology

Rev Dr Alexei V. Nesteruk, Researcher-Lecturer, Department of Mathematics, University of Portsmouth, U. K., Visiting Professor at St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute, Moscow

*Orthodoxy in the Scientific Age:
From the Neo-Patristic Synthesis
to Radical Theological Commitment*

Dr Tamara Grdzeli, Program Executive,
"Faith and Order", WCC, Geneva

*"Contextualisation" of the Church Fathers
in the Context of Ecumenism*

Rev Dr Emmanuel Clapsis, Professor of
Dogmatics, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of
Theology, Boston, USA

Gospel and Cultures:

Toward a Theology of Religions

Dr Athanasios N. Papathanasiou, Editor
in Chief of the Theological Journal Synaxis

*Mission as a Challenge to Orthodox
Contextual Theology*

Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos
Academy for Theological Studies

Toward a Post-Patristic Theology?

The conference is organized in collaboration with the
Chair of Orthodox Theology of Münster University,
(Germany), the Program of Orthodox Christian Studies
of Fordham University (New York), and the Romanian
Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional, Inter-
Religious Studies (INTER) Cluj-Napoca

Starting on Thursday, June 3rd, 6:30 p.m.

Close on Sunday June 6th, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

**For information and to register for the
Conference, please contact the secretary's
office at the Volos Academy:**

Tel. +30-24210 93551, 93572 e-mail:

info@acadimia.gr



1_a**Issues of Renewal
and Reformation in Orthodoxy**

[Seminar and Roundtable Discussion]

Main speaker:**Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis**, *Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies***Roundtable participants:****Dr. Constantinos Delikonstantis**, *Professor at the School of Theology, University of Athens***Dr Athanasios Vletsis**, *Professor at the School of Orthodox Theology, University of Munich***Rev Dr Vasilios Kalliakmanis**, *Professor at the School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki***Rev Meletis Meletiadis**, *Pastor of the Evangelical Church in Volos***Saturday, March 20th, 9:30 a.m.,
Thessalia Conference Center (Melissiatika)****For information and to register for the seminar, please contact the secretary's office of the Volos Academy tel. + 24210-93572, 93573, e-mail: info@acadimia.gr**1_b**The seminar will be repeated in Athens
on April 24th, 9:30p.m. at the bookstore "Armos"****Round Table participants:****Dr Constantinos Delikonstantis**, *Professor at the School of Theology, University of Athens***Rev Antonios Pinakoulas**, *Graduate in Theology and Law, Priest of St. Panteleimon Greek Orthodox Church, Halandri, Athens***Dr Ath. N. Papathanasiou**, *Editor in Chief of the Journal Synaxis*



2

Training programs for teachers of religious education:

Program total duration: 50 hours

Under the auspices of the Pedagogical Institute

25 participants

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, *Master in Theology, Director of the School for Adults in Larissa, Author of textbooks for religious education*

Vaso Gogou, *Graduate in Theology and Literature, Teacher of Cultural and Aesthetic Education at the School for Adults in Larissa*

2a

Facing the Contemporary Need for the Religious Education of Students: Broadening Our Perspectives on Teaching

May 6-9, 2010, Velvendo, Kozani

(at the facilities of the Center for Environmental Education-KPE)

The seminar is organized in collaboration with the journal Leimonarion of the Holy Metropolis of Servia and Kozani

Seats are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

For information and to register for the Conference, please contact the secretary's office at the Volos Academy

Tel. +30-24210 93551, 93572 e-mail: info@acadimia.gr



2_a

The Teacher of Religious Classes as Protagonist of the Subject's Curriculum

**July 2-5, 2010, Thessalia Conference Center,
Mellissiatika, Volos**

**Seats are limited and priority will be given
on the basis of the CVs of the candidates**

**For information and to register for the Conference, please contact
the secretary's office at the Volos Academy
Tel. +30-24210 93551, 93572 e-mail: info@acadimia.gr**

September - December 2009 Events

Stem-Cell Research in the Service of Human Life?: Ethical and Theological Reflections,

**November 9-11, 2009
Thessalia Conference Center - Melissatika, Volos,**

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies, in collaboration with the "Project on Faith, Science, Technology, and Ethics" of the WCC, organized on November 9-11 the global consultation on "Stem-Cell Research in the Service of Human Life?: Ethical and Theological Reflections". About 40 participants from all over the world and various Christian and religious traditions (e.g. Islam) gathered to discuss and reflect on this crucial and ambivalent issue. Special attention was given to including youth delegates. Dr Vasilios Fanaras, an expert on bioethics, is the project consultant on behalf of the Volos 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 School of Theology at the University of Thessaloniki, the Bossey Ecumenical Institute and the World Council of Churches, the Department of Orthodox Theology of the University of Munich, the Faculty of Theology at Heidelberg University, 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 World Student Christian Federation (WSCF), 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 Culture,” “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,” “The New Synaxarion: The Lives of the Saints of the Orthodox Church,” “Toward an Ecumenical Declaration of Just Peace and Reconciliation: An Orthodox Contribution,” “Biblical Liberation Theology, Patristic Theology, and the Ambivalence of Modernity in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective,” “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,” “Eucharist, Church, and the World” “The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, and Future,” 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, II & III) in the literary journal Nea Hestia (March 2004, March 2005 and September 2009); 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), 2009. Forthcoming publications of papers presented at our Academy’s





previous conferences include: Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism, Just Peace and Reconciliation: An Orthodox Contribution, Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life, and Church and State, among others.

For the academic year 2009-2010, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, keeping with its tradition of presenting cutting-edge scholarly events, has organized a major international conference on the subject: “Neo-Patristic Synthesis or Post-Patristic Theology: Can Orthodox Theology be Contextual?”, an issue of vital and decisive importance for the future of Orthodox theology. Various individual conferences, seminars, workshops, book presentations, and training seminars have also been organized in parallel, in which the Volos Academy will address such issues as: “The Place of Religion in the Public Sphere,” “The Shifting Versions of Helleno-Christianity (19th-20th centuries),” “The Renewal of Contemporary Greek Theology: From the Generation of the ‘60s to the Challenges of Today,” and “Issues of Renewal and Reformation facing the Orthodox Church,” while for the fourth consecutive year the Volos Academy will also organize a training seminar for religious teachers in secondary education on the topics: 1. Facing the Contemporary Need for the Religious Education of Students: Broadening Our Perspectives on Teaching, and 2. The Teacher of Religious Classes as Protagonist of the Subject’s Curriculum

Finally, the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, in collaboration with the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, has established an online digital Orthodox theological library (www.imdlibrary.gr), 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 are 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.



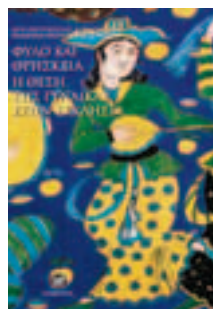
ISLAM & FUNDAMENTALISM – ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY AND GLOBALIZATION (COLLECTED WORK)

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.



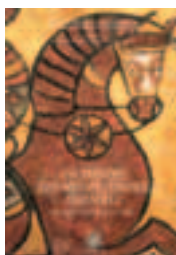
PUBLICATIONS OF THE ACADEMY



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?



CRITICAL APPROACHES TO

THE “THEOLOGY OF THE ’60s” (COLLECTED WORK)

This volume includes the papers (and the discussion) presented at the conference on the “Theology of the ’60s”, which took place in Volos in May 2005, under the auspices of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies and the theological journal *Synaxis*. This collected volume attempts, for the first time, a multi-faceted and critical evaluation of the meaning and the quest of a whole theological generation, which marked the direction of contemporary Orthodox theology in Greece.



Literary journal *Nea Hestia*:

RELIGION AND LITERATURE (COLLECTED WORK)

1st, 2nd and 3rd part

March 2004, March 2005 and September 2009

* Forthcoming publications of papers presented in previous conferences in our Academy include: *Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism, Just Peace and Reconciliation: An Orthodox Contribution, The participation of Laity in Church life, Church and State, etc.*