

**PROGRAM of the  
INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM**

**Deaconesses:  
Past – Present – Future**

**31 January - 02 February 2020**

ORGANIZED by:



**Symposium subjects:**

- The Rejuvenation of the Order of Deaconesses
- Biblical, liturgical, Patristic, archeological canonical, theological, and historical analysis
- Critical theological assessment of the recent developments in the Orthodox and other Churches

**Applications for distant participation:**

For up to 100 people until January 25, 2020 at the following e-mails: [p.vassiliadis@ihu.edu.gr](mailto:p.vassiliadis@ihu.edu.gr) and [e.vlachopoulou@ihu.edu.gr](mailto:e.vlachopoulou@ihu.edu.gr)

**Organization Committee:**

**Emer. Prof. Petros Vassiliadis**

Director of the MOET program of IHU

**Assos. Prof. Manolis Manoledakis**

International Hellenic University

**Assist. Prof. Petros Panagiotopoulos**

Vice-President of CEMES

**Dr. Aikaterina Drosia**

Member of EC of CEMES



*The selected logo of the symposium is a unique mosaic depiction of the Theotokos above the Altar of St. Sophia Cathedral of Kyiv, from the beginning of the second millennium, not holding Christ, however, but as a deaconess*

**Symposium venue:** Hall A5 of the International Hellenic University

14<sup>th</sup> km. Thessaloniki - N. Moudania | Thermi Thessaloniki

**Symposium urgent phones:** +306973235924, +306984471163 και +306996559216

**INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM  
“DEACONESSES. PAST-PRESENT-FUTURE”**

**Venue: A5 Hall of IHU, Thermi, Thessaloniki**  
(with Zoom interactive coverage)

**Friday 31.1.2020**

**Official Opening**

Chair: Emer. Prof. Petros Vassiliadis

17:00-17:30 Greek Time (15:00-15:30 GMT)

Messages and Greetings from Ecclesiastical Authorities:

H.A.H. the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

H.B. the Patriarch of Alexandria Theodoros

H.B. the Archbishop of Athens Hieronymus

and the Hosting Institutions:

Center of Ecumenical, Missiological and Environmental Studies

“Met. Panteleimon Papageorgiou” (CEMES) &

International Hellenic University (IHU)

17:30-18:30 Greek Time (15:30-16:30 GMT)

Welcoming Addresses by the Co-organizing Academic Institutions:

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDIES CENTER, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

ST. PHILARET’S CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX INSTITUTE

ORTHODOX ACADEMY OF CRETE

ST. PHOEBE CENTER OF DEACONESS

18:30-19:00 Greek Time (16:30-17:00 GMT)

**Introduction to the Symposium**

Rev. Dr. John Chryssavgis – Emer. Prof. Petros Vassiliadis

1st Session

**The Patriarchate of Alexandria’s Initiative and its Reactions**

Chair: Bishop of Amoriou Nikiforos

19:00-19:20 Greek Time (17:00-17:20 GMT)

**The Patriarchate of Alexandria’s Decision to**

**Start the Process of the Re-institution of the Order of Deaconesses**

Metropolitan of Nigeria Alexander

19:20-19:40 Greek Time (17:20-17:40 GMT)

**Orthodox Responses to the Possibility of a Rejuvenated Female Diaconate.**

**The United States Context**

Dr. Teva Regule\*

19:40-19:50 Greek Time (17:40-17:50 GMT)

Discussion

## **Saturday 1.2.2020**

2<sup>nd</sup> Session

### **The Biblical (OT) & Philosophical Background**

Chair: Emer. Prof. Miltiadis Konstantinou

09:00-09:20 Greek Time (07:00-07:20 GMT)

#### **Christ & Gospel in Greek Context. Plato, Christ, Apostle Paul**

Dr. Ioanna Sahinidou\* ENG

09:20-09:40 Greek Time (20:30-21:00 GMT)

#### **What do we do with Eve's curse?**

Dr. Elena Narinskaya ENG

09:40-09:50 Greek Time (7:40-7:50 GMT)

Discussion

3<sup>rd</sup> Session

### **The Biblical (NT) and Archeological Background**

Chair: Prof. Moschos Goutzioudis

09:50-10:10 Greek Time (07:50-08:10 GMT)

#### **Christian Women at the Alter Table:**

#### **Ancient Precedent for the Re-institution of the Order of Deaconesses**

Dr. Ally Kateusz\* ENG

10:10-10:30 Greek Time (08:10-08:30 GMT)

#### **The Gospel References to Women: A Sociological Reminder**

Prof. Dimitrios Passakos GR

10:30-10:50 Greek Time (8:30-8:50 GMT)

#### **The New Theories on Mary Magdalene**

Dr. Aikaterina Drosia GR

10:50-11:05 Greek Time (8:50-9:05 GMT)

Discussion

**Break 11:05-11:30**

4<sup>th</sup> Session

### **The Patristic Theological Background**

Chair: Emer. Prof. George Martzelos

11:35-11:55 Greek Time (09:35-09:55 GMT)

#### **Sexed bodies that matter in the light of the eschatological anthropology of Gregory of Nyssa (c.335 – c.395) and the re-institution of the order of Deaconesses**

Dr. Spyridoula Athanasopoulou-Kypriou ENG

11:55-12:15 Greek Time (09:55-10:15 GMT)

#### **The ontology of gender as a historical mode according to Maximus the Confessor (c. 580-662) and the re-institution of the order of Deaconesses**

Dr. Dionysios Skliris ENG

12:15-12:35 Greek Time (10:15-10:35 GMT)

#### **The person of Deaconess Phoebe in the Work of Church Fathers and Ecclesiastical Writers in Early Christianity**

Dr. Eirini Artemi GR

12:35-12:50 Greek Time (10:35-10:50 GMT)

Discussion

5<sup>th</sup> Session

**The Early & Later Christian Historical Background**

Chair: Prof. Antonia Kyriatzi

16:30-16:50 Greek Time (14:30-14:50 GMT)

**St. Nina and Ordination of Women Deacons in Georgian Tradition**

Fr. Leonide Beka Ebralidze ENG

16:50-17:10 Greek Time (14:50-15:10 GMT)

**The Liturgical Duties of the Ordained Deaconesses in the Byzantine Period**

Drnd. Spyros P. Panagopoulos\* GR

17:10-17:30 Greek Time (15:10-15:30 GMT)

**Female Angels. Holy Women who Lived in Male Monasteries**

Panagiotis Andriopoulos GR

17:30-17:45 Greek Time (15:30-15:45 GMT)

Discussion

**Break 17:45-18:15**

6<sup>th</sup> Session

**The Modern Russian Experience**

Chair: Prof. Petros Panagiotopoulos

18:15-18:35 Greek Time (16:15-16:35 GMT)

**The Order of Deaconesses according to the 1917-18 Sobor Discussions**

Alexander Mramornov\* ENG

18:35-18:55 Greek Time (16:35-16:55 GMT)

**Female Diaconia in the Context of Communal Fraternal Ecclesiology**

Prof. Zoya Dashevskaya ENG

18:55-19:05 Greek Time (16:55-17:05 GMT)

Discussion

7<sup>th</sup> Session

**The (Western) Catholic and the (Eastern) Post-Communist Experience**

Chair: Prof. Theodoros Yagou

19:05-19:25 Greek Time (17:05-17:25 GMT)

**Women Deacons in the Roman Catholic Church**

Prof. Phyllis Zagano\* ENG

19:25-19:45 Greek Time (17:25-17:45 GMT)

**The Discussion about Deaconesses in the Post-communist Environment**

Emer. Prof. Ivan Dimitrov\* ENG

19:45-19:55 Greek Time (17:45-17:55 GMT)

Discussion

## **Sunday 2.2.20**

8:00-10:30 DIVINE LITURGY

8<sup>th</sup> Session

### **Reports from Other Christian Traditions**

Chair: Prof. Niki Papageorgiou

11:00-11:20 Greek Time (9:00-9:20 GMT)

### **Deaconesses in the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church**

Dr. Ihor Shaban\* ENG

11:20-11:40 Greek Time (9:20-9:40 GMT)

### **The Distinctive Diaconate Case in the Anglican Church. An Orthodox Approach.**

Spyridoula-Eleni Mantziou, M.Th.\* ENG

11:40-11:50 Greek Time (9:40-9:50 GMT)

Discussion

9<sup>th</sup> Session

### **The Missiological Dimension of Female Diaconate & Reports from Orthodox Churches**

Chair: Prof. Christos Tsironis

11:50-12:10 Greek Time (9:50-10:10 GMT)

### **Deaconesses under the Prism of Contemporary Orthodox Mission**

Dr. Evi Voulgaraki-Pissina GR

12:10-12:30 Greek Time (10:10-10:30 GMT)

### **Female Deacons in the Patriarchate of Antioch**

Prof. Nicolas Abou Mrad\* ENG

12:30-12:50 Greek Time (10:30-10:50 GMT)

### **Laity & Women's Ministries in the Orthodox Church of Ukraine**

Prof. Cyril Hovorun\* GR

12:50-13:05 Greek Time (10:50-11:50 GMT)

Discussion

10<sup>th</sup> Session

**The Modern Greek Experience**

Chair: Prof. Evaggelia Amoiridou

16:30-16:50 Greek Time (14:30-14:50 GMT)

**The Diaconia of Women in the Church Today**

Aikaterina Karkala, M.Th. GR

16:50-17:10 Greek Time (14:50-15:10 GMT)

**The School of Deaconesses and the Reactions of Church of Greece**

Prof. Vassiliki Stathokosta GR

17:10-17:30 Greek Time (15:10-15:30 GMT)

**St. Nectarios and the Deaconesses**

Dr. Evanthia Adamtziloglou GR

17:30-17:50 Greek Time (15:30-15:50 GMT)

**The Role of Women in the Life of the Church according to St. Amphilochius of Patmos**

Dr. Nikolaos G. Tsirevelos\* GR

17:50-18:10 Greek Time (15:50-16:10 GMT)

Discussion

**Break 18:10-18:30**

Closing Session

Chair: The Organizing Committee (P. Vassiliadis - P. Panagiotopoulos - K. Drosia)

**Conclusion of the Symposium – Message to the Churches**

19:20-20:00 Greek Time (17:20-18:00 GMT)

End of the Symposium

\* With asterisk the distant speakers. GR paper in Greek. ENG paper in English

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**HOSTING ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS**

CENTER OF ECUMENICAL, MISSIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES  
«METROPOLITAN PANTELEIMON PAPAGEORGIOU» (CEMES)  
INTERNATIONAL HELLENIC UNIVERSITY (IHU)

**CO-ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS**

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDIES CENTER OF FORDHAM UNIVERSITY  
St. PHILARET'S CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX INSTITUTE  
ORTHODOX ACADEMY OF CRETE  
St. PHOEBE CENTER FOR THE DEACONESS

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

Fr. JOHN CHRYSSEAVGIS  
Fr. EMMANUEL CLAPSIS  
MILTADIS KONSTANTINOU  
GEORGIOS MARTZELOS

**ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE**

PETROS VASSILIADIS  
MANOLIS MANOLEDAKIS  
PETROS PANAGIOTOPOULOS  
AIKATERINA DROSIA

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**SUPPORTING COMMITTEE**

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REV. PANTELEIMON HANOGLOU  
ANTONIA KYRIATZI

**SECRETARIAT**

ELLI VLACHOPOULOU  
DIMITRIOS NIKIFOROS  
MARIA SERETI