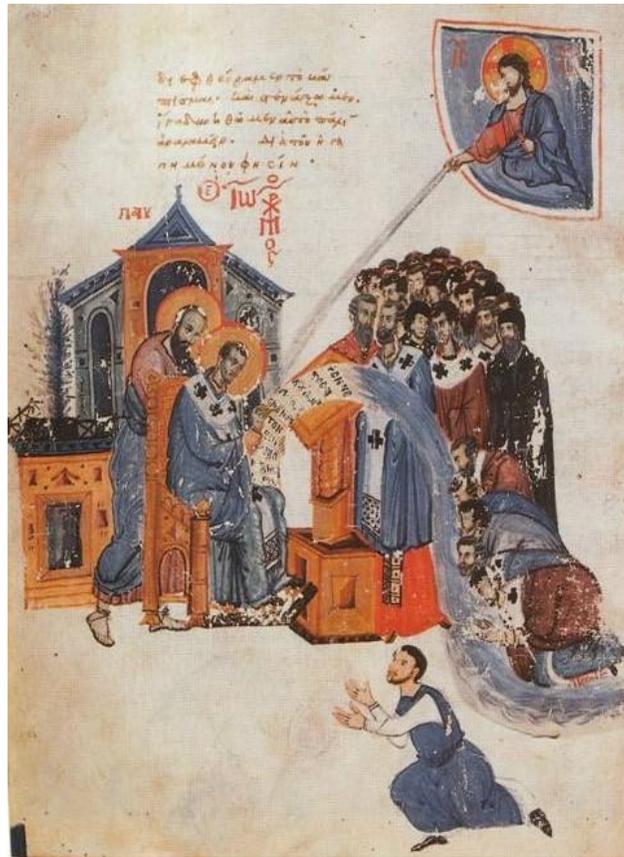


Announcing the Pappas Patristic Institute's Sixth Annual Summer Patristic Studies Program

July 23 – 28, 2012

At Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology
Brookline, Massachusetts



St. John Chrysostom writing with St. Paul looking over his shoulder
Milan, Ambrosian A 172, Sup., fol. 263^v (property of the Biblioteca Ambrosiana);
from Margaret Mitchell, *The Heavenly Trumpet*, plate 4, p. 505

We are again pleased to inform you about our sixth annual week-long Summer Patristic Studies Program on the campus of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, MA on **July 23-28, 2012**. This is a unique opportunity to study and discuss classic texts of the early Church through small group-study led by doctoral candidates and brief lectures led by our instructors. The intended audience for the program includes theology and religious studies students at the masters and undergraduate levels, along with clergy, lay people, and undergraduates with an interest in learning more about the Church Fathers. Students enrolled in an undergraduate or masters program who wish to receive credit for the courses should indicate this on the registration form. Doctoral-level students are also welcome.

The current list of courses for this summer includes:

- *The Philokalia: Exploring a Classic Text in Orthodox Spirituality*,
Dr. Bradley Nassif, North Park University
- *Readings in the Filioque Controversy*,
Dr. Brian Matz, Carroll College
- *Approaches to Prayer in the Early Church*,
Dr. George Tsakiridis, Assistant Professor in Philosophy and Religion at South Dakota State University
- *Economia and Ecology: The Church Fathers on the Creation*,
Dr. David K. Goodin, McGill University, Montreal
- *The Formation of Christian Identity: Unity and Diversity in the Second Century*,
David Jorgensen, Princeton University
- *Augustine and OTHER Orthodox Fathers*,
Anthony Coleman, Boston College, and St. Joseph's College of Maine

In addition, two evening lectures will be offered during the week:

- Dr. Maria Doerfler, Duke University,
"Contributions to the study of Ancient Christianity from the Syriac Christian Tradition"
- Dr. Bruce Beck, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology,
"Contributions to the study of Ancient Christianity from Patristic Sermons: the Art of Analogical Reading"

The program goes from Monday evening, July 23, through Saturday afternoon, July 28. Each course will be offered daily during a three-hour session. Each participant will have the opportunity to take two courses during the week (see below for more details on the schedule and methodology). For attendees needing lodging, housing will be provided on campus. For more information, or to register, please send an email to the Director of the Pappas Institute, Dr. Bruce Beck (pappaspatristic@comcast.net) at your earliest convenience. We will then send you a registration form to fill out. *Please register at your earliest convenience* to facilitate planning.

Program Fees:

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| • Registration (includes lunches): | \$400 |
| • Registration (one course, includes lunch) | \$250 |
| • Room and Board (for 6 nights, Mon – Sat, and meals) | \$250 |

Program Details:

- **Goal:** to provide the opportunity for in-depth, group study of significant theological topics of contemporary relevance based on selected writings of the ancient Church.
- **Primary Audience:** Masters-level students of theology, divinity, or similar programs who wish to further their knowledge of the writings and practices of the early Church. All others interested in coming are also welcome to apply.
- **Pedagogical Method:** each course will study in small groups led by Faculty primary patristic texts on topics. Following the group study of selected texts, the instructor will offer a 20 minute lecture followed by further discussion.

- **Structure of Program**

Check in Monday afternoon, July 23, between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. Orientation will be Monday evening after dinner.

Sessions will be held Tuesday through Saturday, half the sessions in the morning and the other half in the afternoon.

Sessions will consist of group, text-study sessions led by faculty along with doctoral level teaching assistants.

Each session will be 2 ½ hours, consisting of
15 minutes introduction of the texts by instructor
90 minutes group study led by instructor and teaching fellow
Break (30 Minutes)
45 minutes lecture and further discussion

Each participant will choose two courses of study for the week. Each course will meet 5 times (once each day).

Course Descriptions

I. *The Philokalia: Exploring a Classic Text in Orthodox Spirituality*, Dr. Bradley Nassif, North Park University

The Philokalia is a classic collection of monastic texts on the spiritual life taken from the 4th to 14th centuries. Next to the Bible, it is the most widely read book in the Orthodox Church today. It was compiled in the 18th century with the express intent of taking the Gospel out of the monasteries and into the everyday lives of common Christians. The primary focus of The Philokalia is on “inner work” such as watchfulness, stillness and the Jesus Prayer. This course will explore these and other themes through a discussion of the primary sources and the practical implementation of its practices.

II. *Readings in the Filioque Controversy,*
Dr. Brian Matz, Carroll College

Topics covered by this course include:

- Exegesis of John and the Spirit's Procession
- Theology and the Spirit's Procession
- Amplification of the Debate in the Ninth Century

III. *Approaches to Prayer in the Early Church,*
Dr. George Tsakiridis, South Dakota State University

This course will look at prayer in the Early Church by studying a variety of primary readings, ranging from Polycarp to Aphrahat. The student will be exposed to a multitude of approaches to prayer from the first through the fourth centuries from both orthodox and heterodox theologians of the period. Students will examine text with both the method of prayer and the spirituality of prayer in view.

Beginning with Polycarp's prayer of martyrdom, the student will trace a history that moves both geographically and chronologically, covering Clement of Alexandria, Origen, Gregory of Nyssa, John Chrysostom, Evagrius Ponticus, and concluding with readings from Aphrahat and Philoxenus. The student is expected to look for both the intellectual and historical approaches to prayer as well as the emotional, spiritual and confessional aspects of the text. The readings will describe both the meaning of prayer for these theologians, as well as engage actual prayers, bringing both the theoretical and practical approaches to prayer into their studies.

IV. *Economia and Ecology: The Church Fathers on the Creation,*
Dr. David K. Goodin, McGill University, Montreal

In spiritual analogies, homilies, and in direct demonstrations of divine truth, references to the non-human world of Creation appear throughout the Patristic writings. The Fathers were called to defend the visible creation against certain heresies that had sought to represent the physical substance of the created world as intrinsically evil, and thus irredeemable. Incarnational theology and Mariology however explicitly made clear the instrumental place of even base material substance in the redemptive economy. Likewise in their eschatological writings, references can also be found to the place of the non-human world as also sharing in some way that eschaton—plants and animals included. This course will present a survey of these writings, which are to be explored for the eco-theological insights that they may provide. Contemporary commentaries on these works and subjects will be supplied in the supplemental readings. Course objectives include: 1) To foster direct and thoughtful engagement of the Patristic works in relation to the place of the non-human world in the redemptive economy. 2) To encourage new discovery and open dialogue on the meaning and significance of these texts, both with respect to their particular contexts and to contemporary issues. 3) To provide the students with further tools and texts to continue their explorations of these subjects in relation to their own studies and interests.

V. *The Formation of Christian Identity: Unity and Diversity in the Second Century*,
David Jorgensen, Princeton University

This course is an introduction to the unity and diversity of Christian thought and practice in the second century, in the formative years of Christian orthodoxy and orthopraxy. Each day we will focus on one core controversial issue that early Christians had to sort through with one another, often in agonistic terms. As such, some of the texts we will read will not be considered “orthodox” from a 21st century Orthodox perspective. We will attempt to understand what was at stake for the individuals and groups involved in various controversies. The course is not arranged strictly chronologically, but thematically. Occasionally we will dip into a first, third, or even fourth century text when it sheds important light on a second century issue.

VI. *Augustine and OTHER Orthodox Fathers*,
Anthony Coleman, Boston College, and St. Joseph’s College of Maine

This class will examine different systematic topics with a short reading from Augustine contrasted with that from another Church Father. The secondary readings will draw primarily from the book: *Orthodox Readings of Augustine*, (Demacopoulos and Papanikolaou, 2008). For example, a class on the Trinity will consist of an excerpt from St. Augustine's *De Trinitate*, St. Gregory Palamas' 150 Chapters, and an article from the aforementioned book.

Founded by a generous grant from the late Stephen Pappas and his wife Catherine, the goal of the Pappas Patristic Institute is the advancement and promotion of eastern patristic studies in the service of the academy and of the Church.