International Conference

SAINT SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN:
Interdisciplinary Approaches
to the Theology of the Light and Grace

May 26-29, 2022
“Thessalia” Conference Center
Melissatika, Volos, Greece

Program

THURSDAY, MAY 26th, 2022

18:00-18:30: Opening – Greeting messages

SESSION I
Moderator: Pantelis Kalaitzidis

18:30-19:00: Barbara Crostini (Adjunct Professor in Byzantine Greek, Department of Linguistics and Philology, Uppsala University):
St Symeon the New Theologian and Syria:
Exploring Christian Experiences at the Turn of the Millennium

19:00-19:30: Sabino Chialà (Prior at the Monastic Community of Bose, Italy):
Had Symeon the New Theologian read Isaac the Syrian?

19:30-19:45: Courtney Tomaselli (Instructor, Loyola University, Chicago):
“To Such Men authority to bind and loose is given by God....”
St Symeon the New Theologian on Confession in the Psalter. Vat.gr.1927.

19:45-20:30: Discussion
20:30: Dinner

FRIDAY, MAY 27th, 2022

SESSION II (short papers)
Moderator: Nikos Kouremenos
09:30-09:45: **Manolis Patedakis** (Associate Professor in Byzantine Philology, University of Crete):

*The “recreation” (anaplasis) of images about God in Symeon the New Theologian*

09:45-10:00: **Georgios Gousgouriots** (PhD abd, Research Associate at the Patriarchal Institute of Patristic Studies, Thessaloniki):

*The reception of Symeon the New Theologian’s work during the 11th-12th centuries: the case of Vassileios protasekretis’ poems.*

10:00-10:15: **Revd. Evangelos Gkanas** (Priest, parish of Saint Meletios of Sepolia, Electrical Engineer, Licentiate in Theology):

*St Symeon the New Theologian as a witness of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ*

10:15-11:15: Discussion

11:15-12:00: Coffee Break

**SESSION III**

Moderator: Pablo Argárate

12:00-12:30: **Eirini Afentoulidou** (Research Associate, Institute of Medieval Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna):

*Reception of Symeon the New Theologian in the manuscript tradition: Editors, copyists, readers.*

12:30-13:00: **Panayiotis Yfantis** (Professor in Patristic thought and Hagiology, School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki):

*St Symeon the New Theologian in the hagiographical pattern of Eastern Orthodox Tradition*

13:00-13:30: Discussion

13:30-15:00: Lunch

**SESSION IV**

Moderator: Eirini Afentoulidou

15:00-15:30: **Marie-Hélène Congourdeau** (Chargée de recherche honoraire, Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris):

*Urban monasticism in the time of St. Symeon the New Theologian*

15:30-16:00: **Dimitrios Moschos** (Professor in Church History, Faculty of Theology, University of Athens):

*Monastic Theology of St Symeon the New Theologian in relation to the ancient monastic patterns of the East*

16:00-16:30: Discussion

16:45: Excursion to Makrinitza with visit to the Byzantine Museum and dinner.
SATURDAY, MAY 28th, 2022

SESSION V (short papers)
Moderator: Theophilos Abatzidis

09:30-09:45: **Revd. Alexandros Chouliaras** (Adjunct Lecturer of Patristics, Anthropology, and Spirituality, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens):

*St Symeon the New Theologian and St Gregory Palamas on the Experience of God: Implications for Contemporary Christian Life.*

09:45-10:00: **Adalberto Mainardi** (Monastic Community of Cellole):

*St Symeon the New Theologian in the Russian Spirituality*

10:00-10:15: **Revd. Basil Gavrilovic** (PhD abd):

*Eschatological condition according to Gregory of Nyssa and Symeon the New Theologian: A critical analysis of “ἐπέκτασις” and “ἀτέλεστον τέλος.”*

10:15-10:30: **Achilleas Dellopoulos** (Post-Doctoral Researcher, University of Athens)

*The ascesis of human senses as a presupposition of deification in the anthropology of St Symeon the New Theologian*

10:30-11:30: Discussion
11:30-12:00: Coffee-Break

SESSION VI
Moderator: Ekaterini Tsalampouni

12:00-12:30: **Vasilios Tsigkos** (Professor in Dogmatics, School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki):

*The theology of the “whole” man in St Symeon the New Theologian and modern theology.*

12:30-13:00: **Dimitrios Oulis** (Adjunct Lecturer in New Religious Movements, School of Theology, University of Athens):

*The Dialectics of Freedom and Necessity in St Symeon the New Theologian*

13:00-13:30: Discussion
13:30-15:00: Lunch.

SESSION VII
Moderator: Nikolaos Asproulis

15:00-15:30: **Ekaterini Tsalampouni** (Associate Professor in New Testament, School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki):

*The use of New Testament in the writings of St Symeon the New Theologian*

15:30-16:00: **Stavros Yangazoglou** (Associate Professor in Dogmatics, School of Theology, University of Athens):

*Was St Symeon a forerunner of Hesychasm? The vision of God according to St Symeon and St Gregory Palamas*

16:00-16:30: **Istvan Perczel** (Professor in Philosophy and Byzantine History, Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest):

*The role of the body in the vision of God according to St Symeon the New Theologian*

16:30-17:30: Discussion
17:30-18:00: Coffee-Break

SESSION VIII
Moderator: Sabino Chialà

18:00-18:30: **Paul Argárate** (Professor in Patristics and Eastern Orthodox Theology, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz):

*Theosis and Holy Spirit in Symeon the New Theologian*

18:30-19:00: **Theophilos Abatzidis** (Research Associate, Volos Academy):

*Life in Christ as a foretaste of the society of the eschaton. Remarks on the eschatological references of Symeon the New Theologian*

19:00-19:30: **Paul Gavrilyuk** (Professor, St Thomas University, Minnesota, President of IOTA):

*Embodiment and Spiritual Perception in St Symeon the New Theologian*

19:30-20:30: Discussion – Conclusion of the Conference
20:30: Dinner.

**SUNDAY, MAY 29th, 2022**

10:00-11:00 Divine Liturgy in the parish Church of St Constantine and Helena, presided by His Eminence Ignatius, Metropolitan of Demetrias and Almyros