

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” (anaplasia) of images about God in Symeon the New Theologian

09:45-10:00: **Georgios Gousgouriotis** (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 Celiole):

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 asceticism 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, Minesota, 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