



## 2020 OTSA Annual Meeting: Program Outline (As of 10/27/2020)

### Theme: Theological Anthropology

#### Thursday (11/12) Afternoon 1 (1–3 pm EST)

- Opening Prayer
- Welcome and Opening Remarks (Teva Regule, OTSA President)
- Church and Academy **Panel**
  - Fr. Anthony Roeber, Crina Gschwandtner, Hermina Nedelescu, Fr. Stel Muksuris
  - Respondent – Fr. Anthony Perkins
  - Plenary Discussion
- *Facilitated networking groups (30 min) – Our lives in the Church and the Academy*

#### Thursday (11/12) Afternoon 2 (3:30 – 5:00 pm)

- Papers – *Spirituality/Theosis: Becoming Fully Human*
  - Emil Salim: “Loving Eros: The Soul’s Journey into Love in Apuleius, St. Maximus, and Pseudo-Dionysius”
  - Br. Christopher Savage: “Fulfilling our Destiny in Christ: Reflecting on Personhood from a Contemplative Perspective.”
  - Carrie Frederick-Frost: “Speaking Up for Silence: An Argument for a Popularizing the Jesus Prayer Among the Laity.”
- 5 pm – Vespers TBD
- 6–7pm: *Dinner conversations – Breakout rooms TBD*

#### Thursday (11/12) Evening (7–9 pm EST)

- Papers — *Theosis, Martyrdom, Compassion*
  - Phil Dorroll: “An Arabic Orthodox Humanism: The Theological Anthropology of Theodore Abū Qurrah (ca. 9th cent.)”
  - Maria McDowell: “Martyrdom and Liberation: Who is Our Persecutor?”
  - Fr. John Jones: “The Virtue of Compassion.”
- *Social Breakout groups*

**Friday (11/13) Morning (10:00 am – 12:00 noon EST)**

- Morning Prayer
- *Facilitated networking groups*
- Papers – *Gender, Women, Human Rights*
  - Ashley Purpura: “Spiritual Equals but Jeopardized Humanity? Representing Women in Orthodox Tradition.”
  - Paul Ladouceur: “Orthodox Anthropology and Human Rights.”

\*\*\**Lunch Breakout groups (Thematic – Women in the Church— Coordinator: Carrie Frederick Frost; Ecumenism—Coordinator: Fr. Radu Bordeianu; Other?)*

**Friday (11/13) Afternoon 1 (1:30 pm – 3:00 pm EST)**

• **OTSA Business Meeting** (*Open to **Members in good standing**. Provisional Members may attend but not vote.*)

**Friday (11/13) Afternoon 2 (3:30 pm – 5:30 pm EST)**

- **Panel** – Bridging Voices Panel: Reflections on “Contemporary Eastern Orthodox Identity and the Challenges of Pluralism and Sexual Diversity in a Secular Age – One Year On”
  - Principals: Brandon Gallagher, Aristotle Papanikolaou
  - Co-Ordinator: Gregory Tucker
  - Panelists: David Bradshaw, Peter Bouteneff, Ashley Purpura, Fr. John Jillions
  - Plenary Discussion
- Following Panel: Evening Vespers
- 6–7pm: *Dinner conversations – Breakout rooms TBD*

**Friday (11/13) Evening (7:30 – 9:00 pm EST): **Webinar format (separate registration)****

- Florovsky Lecture - Fr. Michael Plekon, “Community as Church, Church as Community: Death and Resurrection in the Parish Today.”
    - Plenary Discussion/Q+A
- (Breakout rooms for socializing. Zoom Meeting Room.)*

**Saturday (11/14) Morning (10:00 am – 1:00 pm EST)**

- Morning Prayer - Canon for Racial Reconciliation
- Papers - *Race and Otherness*
  - Carla Thomas: “Reflections on the Canon for Racial Reconciliation”
  - Claire Koen: “Evagrius of Pontus, Askesis, and Reckoning with Systemic Racism.”
  - Sarah Riccardi-Swartz: “Reckoning with Alterity and Otherness in Orthodox Theological Anthropology: An Anthropological Intervention.”
- *Plenary – Concluding thoughts*