

Institute for Studies in Eastern Christianity
at Union Theological Seminary
in the City of New York

Engaging Orthodox Christian theology with today's world



Prayer in Eastern Christian Tradition

December 17
Conference Schedule

[Zoom Link](#)

Password: ISEC2021



9:00 – 9:30
President And The Board

Welcome Talk

Virtual James Chapel Main Room

Blessings

Metropolitan Hilarion, ROCOR, NYC

The Significance of Prayer in Eastern Thought

Daniel Buda, Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, Romania

Conversing with God through Prayer

Eirini Artemi, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

9:30 – 10:45

First Short Presentation Section

**The Assembly Panel I (in English):
Prayer in the Philokalia Tradition**

Virtual James Chapel Main Room

The Unknown Master of the Philokalia:
St. Basil of Poiana Marilui

John McGuckin, University of Oxford, UK

Precious Flower of Prayer:

Nilus' Peristeria

Clair McPherson, General Theological Seminary, NYC

Evagrius Ponticus'

Ascent of the Mind to God

Conrad Fischer, Touro College of Medicine, NYC

Moderator: Karenna Gore

Union Theological Seminary, NYC

10:45 – 11:00: Virtual Coffee Room
Virtual Coffee is Served Virtually

11:00 – 12:15:
Second Short Presentation Section
Breakout Rooms

Panel I (in English)
Prayer across Traditions

Virtual James Chapel Main Room

Zen and Christian:
Dual Practice or Dual Belonging?

Lev Smith, The University of Iowa

A Buddhist Reading of Hesychasm

Nicholas Sooy, Fordham University, NYC

Eschatological Body in the Hesychast
and Hindu Traditions

Alina N. Feld, CUNY

Moderator: VK McCarty
General Theological Seminary, NYC

Panel II (in Romanian):
Prayer and Spiritual Life in Patristic Tradition

Virtual Stewart Breakout Room

Our Father - The Evangelical Expression of Fa-
therly Love

IPS Metropolitan Prof. univ. dr. Irineu Ion POPA,
Craiova, Romania

St. Gregory of Nyssa
as Our Father Interpreter

Rev. Lecturer Dr. Adrian PODARU, Cluj Napoca Romania

The Significance of Prayer in two Antiochian
Catechetical Works of 4th Century Antioch

Rev. Prof. Dr. Daniel BUDA, Sibiu, Romania

Moderator: Rev. Prof. Dr. Daniel BUDA,
Sibiu, Romania

Panel III (in Russian)

The Psychic and the Political in Hesychasm

Virtual Bonhoeffer Breakout Room 11:00 – 12:15

Welcome Talk

Eutichius Dovgan, Saints Cyril and Methodius Church
Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies, Moscow; ISEC, NYC

**Patristic Roots of the Jesus Prayer
in the First Millennium**

Adalberto Mainardi, Transfiguration Monastery, Bose, Italy

**Theological Substantiation of Mental Prayer
in the Teaching of St. Gregory Palamas**

Ivan Christov, Sofia University, Sofia, Bulgaria

**Hesychasm as an Antidote
to the Politicization of Christianity**

Vitaly Ignatiev, Kropyvnytskyi
Institute of Municipal Management, Ukraine

Moderator: Serhii Shumylo,
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv

Panel IV (in Greek)

Theological Aspects of Prayer in Hesychasm

Virtual Lampman Chapel Breakout Room 11:00 - 12:15

**The Relation between the Soul
and God according to Gregory of Nyssa**

Theoni Boura, University of Athens, Greece

The Role of Prayer in Palamite Theology

Zygouris Fotios, University of Macedonia
in Thessaloniki, Greece

**The Vision of Uncreated Light
in Gregory Palamas and the Cloud of Dark-
ness in Gregory Nyssa as two Ways of “Seeing”
God**

Eirini Artemi, Israel Institute of Biblical Languages
of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Moderator: Dimitriadou Marina
Hellenic Open University, Greece

**12:15 – 12:30: Virtual Coffee Room
Virtual Cookies are Served Virtually**

**12:30 – 1:45
Third Short Presentation Section**

**Panel I (in English)
The Social and the Phenomenological
Dimensions of Prayer**

Virtual James Chapel Main Room 12:30 - 1:45

**Prayer and the Inner Life
in the Struggle for Justice**

Brandon Paradise, Rutgers University, NJ

**A Theological Phenomenology of Silence:
Ineffable Voice in Silent Prayer**

Vladimir Hrabal, Titus Brandsma Institute, Nijmegen

**The Prayer of the Russian Righteous:
A Sociological Interpretation**

Mariia A. Podlesnaia,

Institute of Sociology of FCTAS RAS, Moscow, Russia

Moderator: William Bellamy,
Georgetown University, DC

**Panel II (in Russian)
Pilgrimage and Prayer in Holy Places**

Virtual Stewart Breakout Room 12:30 – 1:45

**Practice of the Mindful Jesus Prayer in the
Nyametsky and Novo-Nyametsky Monasteries**

Joseph Pavlinchuc, The Sorbonne, Paris, France

Prayer in the Cult of Saint John the New

Eutichius Dovgan, Saints Cyril and Methodius Church
Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies. Moscow. ISEC, NYC

**Pilgrimage to Holy Places
in the Orthodox Tradition:
Prayer or Catechesis?**

Alexander Zanemonets, The University of Haifa, Israel

Moderator: Serhii Shumylo
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine

Panel III (in Greek)
**Eschatological Aspects of Prayer:
Preparation for Life and Death in Orthodoxy**

Virtual Bonhoeffer Breakout Room 12:30 - 1:45

**Our Father: A Daily Prayer or an Eschatological
Text Focusing on the Divine Liturgy?**

Konstantinos Kottis,
University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece

Praying for the Sick

Nikolopoulou Eleni, National
and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

**The Pedagogical Role of Prayer:
The Dramatization of Jonah's Prayer as a
Pedagogical Tool for Cultivating and
Strengthening Empathy and Self-Knowledge
among High School Students**

Dimitriadou Marina, Hellenic Open University, Athens, Greece

Moderator: Theoni Boura
University of Athens, Greece

**Panel IV (in Romanian): Doctrine, Image
and Imageless (Noetic) Prayer**

Virtual Lampman Chapel 12:30-1:45

**Icons' Worship – A Way of Christian Prayer
Manifestation**

Rev. Prof. Dr. Em. Nicolae CHIFĂR, Sibiu, Romania

**Aisthesis Noera – Highlighting the Noetic
Dimension of Eastern Mystics**

Rev. Jun. Prof. Dr. Nicolae MOSOIU, Sibiu, Romania

**The Experience of Prayer as an Experience of
Dogmas in the Orthodox Church**

Prof. Cristinel Ioja, Arad, Romania

Moderator: Rev. Prof. Dr. Daniel BUDA,
Sibiu, Romania

1:45 - 2:00

Virtual Cocktail Party

Virtual Cocktails are Served Virtually

2:00 - 2:30

Fourth Short Presentation Section

**The Assembly Panel II (in English)
ISEC's Publications**

Virtual James Chapel **Main Room** 2:00 - 2:30

ISEC's Commissioned Publications:
Introducing VK McCarty
Judith Scott, ISEC, NYC

Early Christian Women at Prayer:
VK McCarty Previews a New Book from ISEC
VK McCarty, General Theological Seminary, NYC

2:30 - 3:45

Fifth Short Presentation Section

**Panel I (in English):
Prayer and Icons**

Virtual James Chapel Main Room 2:30 - 3:45

Prayer and Ambiguities of Iconoclasm
William Bellamy, Union Theological Seminary, NYC

Icons as Prayers, and Prayer
in the Iconographer's Art
Tatiana Nikolova-Houston, Austin, TX

Communion, Communication and Prayer in the
18th - early 19th Century Iconography of the
Wooden Churches from Maramure (Romania)

Dumitrita-Daniela Filip,
National Museum of Union Alba Iulia, Romania

Moderator: David Pratt
Georgetown University, DC

**Panel II (in Russian):
Prayer across Centuries**

Virtual Stewart Breakout Room 2:30 - 3:45

Typicon-Prayer as a Spiritual Compromise
according to the Teaching
of St. Isaak of Nineveh, Gregory the Sinaite
and Basil of Poiana Marului

Anna Briskina-Mueller,

Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig, Germany

Venerable John Vishensky Svyatogrets
and his Instructions on the Jesus Prayer

Serhii Shumylo, the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine,
Kyiv, Ukraine

Prayer Rule and Ennui:

What the Last Year and a Half Taught Us

Alexander Abramov, Russian Synodal Bioethical Commission,
Moscow, Russia

Moderator: Serhii Shumylo,

National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine

**Panel III (in English)
Hebraic and Christian Underpinnings of
Prayer**

Virtual Bonhoeffer Breakout Room 2:30-3:45

The Lord's Prayer: Christianity's Prayer
from Jesus's Jewish Prayer and Traditions

Judith Scott, ISEC, NYC

The Needed Contribution
of African Americans to Orthodox Worship
Nun Katherine Weston, Fellowship of St. Moses the Black, IN

The Vision of Uncreated Light
in Gregory Palamas
and the Cloud of Darkness in Gregory Nyssa
as two Ways of "Seeing" God

Eirini Artemi, Israel Institute of Biblical Languages
of Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Moderator: Charles Witherspoon
Union Theological Seminary, NYC

**Panel IV (in Romanian):
Prayer, Education and Ministry**

Virtual Lampman Chapel 2:30 - 3:45

Prayer and Knowledge in The Philocalia

Pr. Prof. Univ. Dr. Nicolae Răzvan STAN, Craiova, Romania

**Prayer and Preaching - Causal Connections
from the Perspective of Orthodox Spirituality**

Lecturer Dr. Filip Albu, Arad, Romania

**The Pedagogy of Prayer in the Early Church -
the Model of Spiritual Education**

Rev. Jun. Prof. Dr. Constantin NECULA, Sibiu, Romania

Moderator: Rev. Prof. Dr. Daniel BUDA,
Sibiu, Romania

**Panel V (in Romanian):
Prayer in Biblical and Liturgical Context**

Virtual McGiffert Room 2:30-3:45

**The Hesychasm of the Virgin Mary in the Holy of
Holies, the Principle and Mediator of the Soul's
Invirgination/Restauration through Prayer**

Hieromonk Lect. Dr. Vasile BIRZU, Sibiu, Romania

The Liturgical Background of St John's Revelation

Lecturer Dr. Daniel MIHOC, Sibiu, Romania

**The Presence of the Holy Trinity
in the Prayers of the Holy Liturgy**
Lucian Farcasiu, Aurel Vlaicu University, Arad, Romania

Moderator: Rev. Prof. Dr. Daniel BUDA
Sibiu, Romania

**3:45 – 4:00 Virtual Coffee Room
Virtual Cocktail Party.
Virtual Cocktails are Served Virtually**

**4:00 – 5:15: Sixth Short Presentation Session:
Breakout Rooms**

**Panel I (in Russian)
The Works and Effects of Prayer**

Virtual James Chapel Main Room 4:00-5:15

Prayer as a Way of the Spiritual Transformation
of a Person in the Hesychast Ascetic
Orthodox Tradition

Stefania Ukrainets & Svitlana Humeniuk (Rivne, Ukraine)

Obstacles to the Fulfillment
of our Prayer Requests by God according
to the Teachings of the Holy Scriptures
and the Holy Fathers of the Church
Stefan Pruzinsky, The University of Prešov, Slovakia),

The Practice of Prayer
at St. Gregory the Theologian Parish, NYC

Sergey Trostyanskiy, Marist College, NY

Moderator: Serhii Shumylo
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine

Conclusion and Questions/Answers by Sergey Trostyanskiy
Marist College, NY

Panel II (in English)
Prayer, Liturgy, and Experience

Virtual Stewart Breakout Room 4:00-5:15

Liturgical Prayer of the Rational
and Noetic Soul in St. Maximos the Confessor
Ambrose Inlow

**Two Gregories – The 14th Century
Rehabilitation of Inner Prayer**

Gregory Farman, Saints Constantine & Helen Antiochian
Orthodox Church, Carrollton, Texas

Prayer, Experience, and Contradiction:
Pavel Florensky's Understanding of Prayer,
Liturgy, and Lived Experience
as Antimonious in 'Letter Six'
of The Pillar and Ground of Truth
Alexander Hurtsellers, University of Exeter, UK

Moderator: Lev Smith
The University of Iowa

Panel III (in English)
**The Impact of Prayer
on Being and Spiritual Wellness**

Virtual Bonhoeffer Breakout Room 4:00-5:15

The Subtle Effects of Ritual:
How our Prayer Rule Shapes our Being
Douglas Anthony Perkins, St. Sophia
Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary

The Influence of Prayer
on Depression and Anxiety
Yulianna Zalisna, Medical Clinic, Bern-Yu-Med, Kiev, Ukraine

Praying for the Sick
Nikolopoulou Eleni,
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

Prayer, Digitality,
and the Re-Fashioning of Humanity
Hasan Azad, Columbia University

Moderator: Nicholas Sooy
Fordham University

**Panel IV (in Romanian):
Prayer, Exegesis and Discipleship**
Virtual Lampman Chapel

John Chrysostom: Teacher of Unceasing Prayer
Some Remarks on a Recently Edited Homily:
Sermo de oratione ac de semper precando (CPG 4943)
Rev. Dr. Radu Garbacea, Sibiu, Romania

Romania,
Disciple at Prayer School: The Guidelines of
Antonije of Suroj
V. Rev. Gabriel-Viorel GÂRDAN, Cluj Napoca,

The Lord was There
when he Spoke with Them -
Prayer and Martyrdom
Pr. Lect. Univ. Dr. Lucian Zenoviu BOT, Craiova, Romania

Moderator: Rev. Prof. Dr. Daniel BUDA,
Sibiu, Romania

5:15 – 5:30
Virtual Coffee Room

5:30 – 6:00
The Concluding Presentation Session

Virtual James Chapel Main Room

The “Doctor Thing”: A Perspective on Prayer ‘
at the Bedside and at the End of Life
Adebayo Esan, Brookdale University Hospital, Brooklyn